

# ALL SAINTS CHURCH DEDWORTH

**Annual Report &  
Financial statements  
June 2024 – March 2025**





**I am about to do a new thing;  
now it springs forth,  
do you not perceive it?**

Isaiah 43:19

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## **PART I – Annual Report**

### **I. AIMS and PURPOSES**

All Saints' PCC is responsible, in co-operation with the Vicar, for promoting the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic and social – within the ecclesiastical parish.

The PCC of All Saints' Dedworth is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC exceeds the limits for exception from registering with the Charity Commission and is therefore registered under the name of "Parish of Dedworth." (Charity No. 1183536).

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The membership of the PCC consists of the Vicar, Assistant Curate, Licensed Lay Ministers, Churchwardens, Deanery Synod representatives and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who are members of the congregation are encouraged to register to be on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC if they so wish.

The PCC is aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in "The advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit" and have regard to it in the administration of the parish.

The PCC believes that, by fulfilling its responsibility to work together with the Vicar and co-operate in all matters of concern and importance for the promotion of the whole mission of the Church, it provides a benefit to the public, both to individuals and to society as a whole, by: providing resources and facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both to its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the church offers; promoting Christian values and the service by members of the church to their communities.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we also maintain the fabric of All Saints' church. This review summarises the life of All Saints' church during the calendar year 2024/2025 and highlights a number of events and activities. Again this year, those responsible for many of the church's activities have been invited to contribute.

The PCC met seven times during Jan 2024 to March 2025. During the year the following served as members of the PCC, ex-officio, elected or co-opted/invited to attend.



## **Ex officio members:**

Vicar and Chair	Revd. Paul Walker
Churchwardens	Tanya Applewhite (resigned winter 2024) & Michael Bourne
Curate	Revd. Adam Wingrove
Deanery Synod reps	Joanne Kilner, Sue Morgan & Peter Norris

## **Elected Members (term of election as a parochial representative by each name)**

### **Elected until 2027**

Penny Roche  
John Sturgeon  
Philip Manning  
Wisdom Da Costa

### **Elected until 2026**

Mary Findler  
Barbara Carter  
Gwen Strachan (resigned winter 2024)  
Jackie Wiggins (Parish Safeguarding Officer and PCC Secretary)  
Mike Brooks

### **Elected until 2025**

Andrew Giles  
Astra Parsons  
Paul Watkins  
Angela West

## **2. Electoral Roll Report – Carol Hughes**

The Electoral Roll had to be completely re-written this year, something that happens every six years. Last year we had 131 people and starting again this year we have already 97, which is very good. My grateful thanks go to Reina for compiling the database and to all those involved in passing out or collecting forms, thank you.

### 3. Vicar's Report – Paul Walker

Every year that I read our APCM report, I'm always amazed at just how much God has done in and through us! 2024-5 is by no means an exception: Easter Explored, eco developments, a Year 8 Transition Day, the refurbishment and opening of the Vine and Fig Tree Café and Youth Café, Life Groups, Christmas through the Keyhole, building and tech. improvements, an increase in community partners using the Church Centre, the monthly midweek communions and 5:30 Prayer Meetings to mention a just few examples—all in a year when we've tried to focus on high impact, low intensity missional activities! It's certainly true that God is doing many new things—in and through us.

We, the Church, are one body, with many parts—all with different gifts. While there isn't space here to thank to everyone individually, I would like to give a particular mention to both Adam Wingrove and Reina Mansour, who have contributed so much in many areas of Church life this year. Adam's dedication to the development of the café, as well as to nurturing a team and community has been amazing. Reina has fully settled into her role as Church Administrator and she's brought together so many aspects of both ministry and community, as the groups using the Church centre have increased. Both are just two examples of the sacrificial service God has called us all to, as we make Jesus known. Of course, none of what's reported here would be possible without all that so many of you commit to do, in prayer and by giving so much of your time and talents as you serve. Thank you!

With both the Café and flourishing Youth Café, we're finding new opportunities for the discipleship of people of all ages. It's so important that we do all we can to maintain and grow these relationships in sustainable ways, which, as we're seeing is demanding of our time. Rather than seeking people to fill rotas, I feel the true motivation to serve in these areas best comes out trusting a promise from God, *'The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it!'* (1 Thessalonians 5:24) It is the Lord who calls us, provides everything we need and sustains us as we help make disciples. From that truth, let's continue to step out in faith!

Making Jesus known is at the centre of all we do at All Saints'. I continue to feel so privileged to be serving alongside you all, most importantly as we grow in faith with Jesus together.

Thank you once again and let's praise God for his goodness and provision!

With love and every blessing,



#### 4. Worship and Prayer – Paul Walker & Sue Morgan

Worship and prayer are central to what we do as Christians. We're thankful that we have two main acts of worship on a Sunday morning, that are both different in style, while growing and thriving. The Church is brought together through shared refreshments between the two gatherings and as we met as one, together at Christmas and Easter.

Each morning between 9:00 and 9:30 a group meets in the Church to pray using the Lectio 365 App. This is usually read and adapted by whoever is leading, as prompted by God and is a great time of quiet reflection from which to live the day to the full, being true to God in every way.

We have also started meeting on the third Sunday of the month at 5:30pm for a Prayer Meeting, which incorporates prayer activities and space to reflect with God. This is followed by tea and toast at 6:15pm. These have been attended by all age groups in the Church.

A Communion Service is now held once a month at 11.30am on a Wednesday. This has been particularly helpful for those who are unable to get to Church on a Sunday morning. Since the timing ties in with the opening hours of our Vine and Fig Tree café, people have enjoyed having a coffee before the time of worship and some stay for lunch afterwards.

Prayer and worship also form a central part of our Life Group times of fellowship and are central to all meetings and other times that we spend together.

#### 5. 2024 Financial review – Paul Watkins

##### Statements of the PCC

##### All Saints Church Dedworth – 2024 Financial Report and Accounts

Expenditure exceeded income in 2024, resulting in a deficit of -£2.3k. However, this reflected some one-off costs during the year, such as £7.3k spent on refurbishing the café, and £3k on repairs to the church roof. Importantly, regular monthly giving increased in the year by £10.3k, albeit the number of regular givers to the Parish Giving Scheme and by way of monthly standing order reduced slightly:

	2021	2022	2023	2024	Var. 24/23
<b>Regular Income</b>	Total	Total	Total	Total	+ / -
Standing Orders	10,186	10,426	10,157	9,700	-457
Parish Giving Scheme	31,503	35,453	43,403	52,348	8,945
PGS Tax income	7,336	8,273	9,993	11,979	1,986
Cash Collections (incl. envelopes)	2,872	1,698	2,944	2,814	-130
Sub total of regular giving	51,897	55,850	66,496	76,840	10,344
Hall Hire	6,475	10,145	15,779	15,522	-257
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,372</b>	<b>65,995</b>	<b>82,275</b>	<b>92,363</b>	<b>10,087</b>

A new church administrator was appointed in April resulting in an increase in salary costs of £5k; otherwise general running costs were closely managed without any significant increase.

The Vine and Fig Tree Church Café opened at the beginning of September and, taking into account generous donations for food purchases at launch, has contributed a net income of £1.5k since opening. It has also welcomed new people into the church and has provided opportunities to share the gospel with young people and new families in the community. Despite the small loss for the year, the Church continues to hold £58k in a general fund in reserves which is sufficient to meet forecast costs and expenses in 2025.

## **6. Reserves policy – Paul Watkins**

### **Reserves policy**

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds that equates to at least three months' unrestricted payments; this is equivalent to £35k. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The remaining level of reserves at year end is sufficient to cover budgeted expenditure in 2025 and enables the church to maintain its current level of worship and pastoral support. In the event of surplus funds at the financial year-end, the PCC will consider how these funds might be used for local mission, outreach and charitable giving.

## **7. Fabric – Paul Walker**

Huge progress has been made in developing the centre this year, headed up by an amazing team of volunteers who've given selflessly of their time. Thank you all so much for all you've done! We've benefited from a variety of improvements that reflect both the dedication of those involved and support from the PCC, individuals and various grants.

The garden and grounds are undergoing substantial development, thanks to an eco-grant and the continuous efforts of the gardening team led by Ruth Norris. This has created a welcoming outdoor space for the whole Dedworth community to enjoy. Recently a new bench was added to the garden, generously donated by a member of the Church, once again providing a peaceful spot for people to meet in the Memorial Garden.

In terms of infrastructure, community groups and others now have access to the building via new key safes, fire extinguisher points and escapes have been reviewed and early in the year the felt on flat roof above the foyer was replaced. A defibrillator, kindly donated by Thames Valley Heartbeat, was also installed at the front of the building for wider community use. The Foyer toilets have also been decorated following a donation from a member of the Church community.

We're looking forward to seeing improvements to the heating system, with the introduction of a new HIVE system and radiator upgrade in the Main hall. This upgrade, which was approved by the PCC, has been largely funded by a Diocesan eco grant, to enhance comfort and energy efficiency. We're seeking to urgently fix, replace and upgrade facias and drainage of the external building structure. These projects highlight the commitment to ensure the Church Centre remains a vibrant, functional, and an increasingly eco-friendly place for mission.

Finally, the café has been redeveloped, brought to life by a dedicated team and vision God gave to EJ Manning. The space is now becoming a centre for community, as well as a hub for outreach.

We seek to continue the development of the centre, with the help of a Strategic Development plan. The hope is to bring various projects—such as the refurbishment of the kitchen and purchase of new chairs—together, as we seek further match-funded grants and use the site to both love others in action as we make Jesus known!

## **8. Technology – John Sturgeon**

This year John and Mike Smith have made up the Technology Team. Any of you that have a computer, tablet or a phone will know that it's always time to update this or that. This year we've seen a number of updates that have happened with hopefully no-one noticing – and if that's true then we've succeeded!

Here are a few items we upgraded: the operating system and hardware in the worship PC that's used every Sunday. We installed a flat screen in the chapel connected it to the speakers, purchased another flat screen for the Café Studio, and in the background relocated email services, web hosting and file storage from one hosting platform to another.

Further work is planned for WiFi & network security improvements in the building and even internet connected heating control. The website is regularly updated, and our presence on social media is still daily. The Vine and Fig Tree Café is even on Instagram now thanks to Adam!

## **9. The PCC (what the PCC discussed) – Jackie Wiggins**

In Jan 2024 the PCC held an Away Day where they brainstormed ideas for the future development of ASD. We used Appreciative Enquiry, to reflect on what we liked about All Saints' and from our discussions evolved a long-term plan for the future development of the Church. Aspects of this plan have informed our actions and discussions during 2024-2025, which we reviewed together in March.



The PCC is required to have in place and regularly review certain mandatory policies. During the past year the PCC has reviewed and updated our GDPR, Health and Safety, Lettings and Recruitment policies.

The Vine and Fig café project has been a significant project this year. To stabilise the staffing, the PCC has decided to appoint salaried staff. This has involved our treasurer, Paul Watkins in much research into the formalities of employment from the Church of England and HMRC.

The PCC has addressed the needs of various age groups of the congregation and wider community. The 'Come and See' group welcomes babies and toddlers together with their parents and carers. Sue Morgan has taken up the new post of Voluntary Lay Pastor for the Elderly. Life Groups continue to be held at times to suit the lifestyles of people at different ages and stages of life. The PCC has also discussed and supported various initiatives proposed by the team of Youth leaders.

Other items which have come under discussion at PCC meetings this year are various repairs and improvements to the building, including the development of the Church Garden and reviews of the signage around the church and of fire escape routes and procedures.

Rev Paul has recently requested that we develop a Strategic Growth Plan, to reflect on changes and development initiatives for the church over the next few years. To date, suggestions have been wide and varied, ranging from considering a Church plant and new discipleship initiatives to improvements to the sound system, the renewal of the church kitchen, improved and increased notice board and signage provision, new chairs in the church and more! Prioritising and implementing these will form part of the work of PCC over the coming years!

## **10. Maidenhead and Windsor Deanery Synod – Sue Morgan**

The Deanery Synod meets 3 times a year to give opportunities for the representatives from each parish in our deanery to meet and discuss issues which affect us all. At the most recent meeting, once we had voted in our new deanery secretary, we listened to our good friends, Ainsley Swift and Richard Terrado-Reardon, talking about their calling to work with those living in extreme poverty, and the vulnerable living on the margins of society. This was very thought provoking. Other topics discussed have included discipleship at all stages of life and reflecting on discussions and decisions made by the Diocesan and General Synods.

Our deanery reps are Peter Norris, Joanne Kilner, Sue Morgan and, of course, our clergy - Paul and Adam.

## 11. Safeguarding Report – Jackie Wiggins

The concept and practice of Safeguarding in churches has faced challenges in recent years and the demand for more rigorous implementation of preventative measures has grown. New policies and procedures are making churches safer, but they bring an increase in administration for safeguarding officers and clergy. Safeguarding dashboards were updated last year to simplify tasks. They list safeguarding requirements, and record how a parish meets them. On the basis of this, an action plan is generated to make any improvements needed.

Our performance on the dashboard is encouraging. We have had mandatory safeguarding policies and procedures in place for some years. The PCC is now in the process of systematically reviewing policies and when appropriate, adapting to fit changed circumstances. Some of our risk assessments are also due to be updated.

Another task we are working on is raising the awareness of safeguarding procedures among the congregations and wider community, particularly in those organisations which hire the premises. To this end, displays of safeguarding information and posters are gradually being renewed and elaborated. All groups using the Church need to have safeguarding policies and procedures that are robust and in line with PCC policy.

Members of the congregation who are involved with children, youth or vulnerable adults are required to complete safeguarding training organised by the Church of England. This has to be updated every 3 years and at some point, this year, many church volunteers will need to update their safeguarding training. I would like to thank those who have already done so for their cooperation and support and urge others to do so, in good time.

I end by reminding us all that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and ask that we all please take note of notices and be aware and know how to report concerns. Thank you for your diligence in these areas.

## 12. ECO Church – 2024 Update – Peter Norris

***“Our response to the climate crisis must be nothing less than an ‘ecological conversion’ of every person and every part of society. The earth is God’s gift as well as God’s creation. We are called to be just stewards of creation.”*** Steven Croft, Bishop of Oxford

At All Saints, we acknowledge the need to do much work in to make the building, grounds, congregation and our surrounding environment greener. We are three years into a multi-year project to reduce our Environmental impact as we aim for net zero in the future.

In 2024 we have worked on the following –

- **Reduced our electricity use.** In 2024 we used 10.6K kWh vs 20-22K kWh prior to Covid.
- **Reduced our Gas heating use** by better management of heating and hot water. Our Gas use in 2024 was 53K kWh vs 80K kWh prior to Covid.
- **In 2024 our Carbon Dioxide CO2 emissions were estimated as 15 tonnes.** In 2020 CO2 was estimated at 22 tonnes. *Any further reduction in CO2 will come from stopping our use of Gas for heating. This is a big challenge, as Gas constitutes 83% of the energy we buy.*
- **Putting ECO advice items on our Facebook page** to encourage everyone to focus on ECO items in their homes.
- In September we received the **A-Rocha SILVER ECO Church award** which recognises the work we have done to date
- But there is still a huge amount more we need to do.
- In 2025 we will work on Greening the Grounds and better controlling our Heating system.

**How can you reduce your personal carbon pollution?** Consider the following - and persuade family & friends to do the same.

- **Your home energy use and waste production.** Electricity, gas and water used, where they're sourced from. Whether you recycle or send your waste to landfill.
- **Your Travel.** Use of car, motorbike, cycle, walk, public transport. Flights contribute significantly.
- **Your diet.** The food you eat. Where you source it from. How energy-intensive it is to produce and ship. Do you waste food?
- **Your shopping habits.** Purchase of new items such as electronics, household goods and clothing. The lifespan of these items. Where and how they are produced.
- **Reduce, Reuse, Repair, Recycle, Recover.-** adopt the waste hierarchy.

Please join us on this journey as we work towards becoming an ECO Church with Net Zero carbon emissions.

### 13. Sung Worship – John Sturgeon

As a worship team, none of us are perfect (I can honestly say that!) and yet, we are called to bow before Him, to bow before the only perfect man who lived on this earth all those years ago. And this is because of what Jesus did for us - we are filled with joy when we worship and sing His praises and get out of breath – even when the coffee hasn't quite hit the spot! I also recognise that for some, worship can be tough, as issues are perhaps dealt with, pain

released or seeking forgiveness. I would encourage you to please seek prayer time with others if you find you need to.

We read in the book of Matthew as he re-tells the story of when the wise men met Jesus for the first time, and bowed down and worshiped Him:

*<sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. <sup>11</sup> On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.*

Matthew 2:10-12 NIV

We don't give the Lord presents each time we come before Him, we give Him ourselves – we give Him our heart. Wouldn't it be wonderful to meet Jesus every time we worship Him, for His spirit to be felt moving within each one of us individually and as a body of Christ. I am thankful that we continue to seek His presence through our times together.

I give thanks to God for all the gifts and talents that are brought together during our sung worship – those who lead, those who play an instrument, those who operate the screen, those who sing – even right to the back of the room! We all come together in harmony (most of the time) and honour God in what and how we worship Him.

There have been many times this year when we have extended our worship beyond Sunday mornings and this has been great. Let's continue to find new ways to get closer to God and to use these times to encourage others in their faith. We've continued to meet at a team to worship on a Monday evening and have again introduced some new songs and brought out some older ones. We've also seen new members joining which is great. I once again encourage you to have a chat with me or Paul if you want to get involved in any!

#### **14. Churchwardens' Report – Michael Bourne**

The past year has been filled with many blessings and a sense of God's purpose working through the church family and its leadership. Our vision for a Christ-centred, grace-filled community has been seen in regular worship, in thriving Life Groups, in pastoral care and in the way we seek to be faithful stewards of God's creation. Commitment to and prayer for the varied aspects of church life underpin our mission to the local community. Much of the work that is done by church members is unseen; Christmas through the keyhole, the café development, the work of the fabric team, the Halloween firepit outreach, the launch of the youth café, Shrove Tuesday pancakes and more besides reflect a diverse church community that is truly outward-facing and a channel of God's love.

It is good at the time of the APCM to look back, praising God for his love, peace and presence through the joys and challenges of the past 12 months. But the past year has also been characterised by a focus on developing a sense of how God wants to shape us as a church in the years ahead. The Sunday afternoon prayer meetings will no doubt continue to be central to our hearing God's voice.

I pay particular tribute to the commitment and hard work of Paul, Adam, Reina, the PCC and all who give of their time so generously to the church family. The mission of spreading a culture of grace through the church family and local community always welcomes more volunteers, so do speak to me, Paul or to anyone on the PCC if you'd like to be more involved.

## **ACTIVITIES**

### **15. Support for those Advanced in Years – Sue Morgan**

God is doing a new thing!

As many of you know, now that I have reached the age of 75, I have taken on the mantle of looking out for the older members of our church family. I already see many of you on a Wednesday, or on Sundays, but not everyone is able to leave their home. If you need help, please let Paul, Adam or Reina know, or give me a ring on 07752 479624, It would be good to talk.

The role of Volunteer Seniors Pastor was adopted by the PCC this year. Key responsibilities include supporting the Vicar in leading prayer, vision, and energy for the senior ministry at All Saints' and in the local community. This role seeks to include recruiting and leading a volunteer team, fostering a supportive and inclusive environment for seniors, and encouraging active participation in church life, including those with dementia and complex needs.

The above is most practically worked out in the provision of a Life Group on Wednesday, supporting Paul and Adam in pastoral visiting and the distribution of Holy Communion for the sick, while being around to encourage and support people as needed. If you have any suggestions of ways to develop this further, please do say!



## 16. Children and Youth Work – Michelle Sturgeon and Rebecca Jamilia

It has been a season of change this year for the youth at All Saints. Due to an increase in numbers, we have now split Flames and Firepit on a Sunday. Sheree mostly leads Flames and they have been working their way through the Urban Saints Energise material. Caren and Michelle lead Firepit and in more recent months we have been using some wonderful material from Youthscape which has looked at various bible characters encounters with Jesus. It's called Unfold – every time you unfold it there is a new activity to do!

In flares this year we usually have about ten children from ages 4-9. We started the school year by learning about looking after the earth and everything in it. We have been looking at waiting and preparing with advent and more recently lent. The group have enjoyed learning about these topics through the bible readings and a craft activity.

We felt that God was telling us to rethink evening youth, and in July we stopped the Sunday night youth groups that we had been doing for several years. In September the youth and leaders met for a vision evening where we asked God to fill us with his new ideas. We then met on a Friday evening until Christmas, looking at what these new groups would look like, including processes and values. We eventually came up with two new youth cafes that would meet every Friday. *Wonderfully Youth* for middle school aged young people and *Quay* for upper school age. We launched in February and God has really blessed these evenings. Numbers have dramatically gone up! *Wonderfully Youth* went from 3-5 young people to 25 (more if they all came at once). And we have had 9 new young people at *Quay* as well as our usual lot. It has been wonderful to meet so many new young people and begin to get alongside them in life. We have had the café open with a tuckshop and free hot chocolate. Several young people have been getting work experience behind the counter. In the main hall we have a pool table, table tennis, badminton, giant Jenga and craft. So far we have made slime, stress balls, loom bands, decorated biscuits and chocolate truffles. The chapel turns into a sensory prayer room/emotional health area. We have an optional discussion about Jesus called *Qurious* which has been well attended and often led by the young people.

Summer this year took some of us with our families to New Wine, and then 14 of us went on to Satellites youth festival. It was lovely to get to know each other and God more deeply.

This is a great opportunity for me to thank all our wonderful young people who have been so amazing this year. They have enthusiastically embraced change and helped create these new youth cafés. They have been so faithful in coming along consistently and welcoming so many new people. Finally, thank you to all the leaders and helpers on Sunday mornings and Friday evenings. We have an incredibly strong and committed team that love and enjoy our young people. Having said that, with the ever-rising numbers on a Friday evening this is a huge plea for more help – if God is in anyway stirring you to get involved, however big or small, please do chat with Paul or one of the Youth Team. And most of all thanks to Jesus for this last year – what an adventure!!"

## **17. Come and See (Previously known as GAP) – Reina Mansour**

Previously known as GAP, our toddler and baby group is now called "Come and See." This term, we've welcomed many familiar faces, as well as some new members from the Dedworth community—a few who have joined after attending the Baby CPR group we host once a month. The group is a lovely mix of kids, mums, and grandparents! The team includes: Paul Walker, Adam Wingrove, Ruth Norris, Mary Findler and Reina Mansour leading the group, each bringing their own special touch every week, through reading stories and singing songs, we seek to create a warm, friendly space where God, Church and families come together.

## **18. Schools' Report – Ruth Norris and Paul Walker**

Two major projects dominated 2024 - The Easter trail called **Easter Explored** and **Christmas Through the Keyhole**. Both involved inviting pupils to the Church Centre where zones were carefully set up for them to become immersed in and truly understand the stories unfolded to them on a deeper level. The Easter trail was for the Year 5 pupils at Dedworth Middle School and the Christmas one for First School Year 3 and 4 pupils. None of this would have been possible without the full support and help of a wide array of members of the church for which we give thanks to you and give God the glory.

It was wonderful to see Year 8 from Dedworth Middle School visit for a Transition Day that was put together to help most students prepare for their moves to the Windsor Girls and Boys. Games, questions and ice creams were on the menu, alongside some time to reflect and if the students wanted to, to pray as well. We were so thankful to the students and staff of the upper schools, who came to take part and the plan is currently to do the same again this year!

In-between, contact with the five Community schools in the Parish has been maintained, as well as with Windsor Girls School, where Rev Paul heads up a Chaplaincy Team. The team leads a Big Questions lunchtime club, assemblies, monthly treats for staff and is looking to start a new lunchtime Christian club. A number of clergy and volunteers help to support this relationship with the school where they can.

Paul has been invited to take assemblies in Dedworth Middle School including leading Remembrance, Christmas and Easter assemblies. Paul, Ruth and Adam have continued taking 'festival' assemblies in the First schools – Hilltop, Homer, Dedworth Green and Alexander. In addition, Ruth has been taking monthly assemblies at Alexander First School. The building of relationships is seen as key.

Plans for Easter 2025 were less expansive, but assemblies in all schools have taken place—along the theme of sad and happy times with exciting and engaging content for the younger children. At the Middle School the focus was along the line of Mary being called by her

name by Jesus after his resurrection, reflecting on kindness and the importance of our identity.

Prayers for the future of engagement with the schools are around the need for more team members, at least on an occasional basis, and maybe seeking further opportunities in the possible employment of a part time Children's' and Families worker and development of after school clubs that run alongside the café.

## **19. Life Groups and Pastoral Care – Paul Walker**

Life Groups have now been running for over three years and are well attended. We seek to encourage everyone to be involved with a group where, as these are the most effective bedrock of pastoral support at ASD. There are currently five groups:

**Sung Worship Life Group** – meets on Monday to worship God through music, scripture and song – led by John Sturgeon and Paul Walker

**Wednesday Seniors Life Group** that meets in the morning – led by Sue Morgan

**Thursday Morning Life Group** – led by Ruth Norris

**Wednesday Evening Life Group** – Led by Angela West and supported by Andrew Giles

**Thursday Evening, After Alpha Life Group** – led by Adam Wingrove

There are over 70 members of the Church connected with these groups and we seek to start even more! Please let me know if you would like to host or help lead a group.

In November we held a Memorial Service, to remember with thanks those who have died that we love. It was wonderful to welcome many families back and great to see how many new relationships with the Church have continued to grow since.

This year we've visited people and taken Holy Communion to both the sick and dying. It's been so encouraging to hear that members of the Church have been visiting people too, as we all seek to maintain relationships with those who cannot gather with us to worship easily. Pastoral support isn't only given to those who are unwell or infirm, but to a wide range of people of all ages and stages in life. Those in the pastoral team include: Adam Wingrove, Sue Morgan, Barbara Carter, Jackie Wiggins and Andrew Giles. That said, there are many more involved directly in pastoral care, such as all those who support the youth groups every week. Thank you to so many who seek to support others in so many ways!

## **20. Community Outreach – Reina Mansour**

2024 has been an exciting year since I took over the Admin role from Andrew Giles. We've welcomed new groups, while maintaining good relationships with existing community partners. The GAP group has been renamed as "Come and See," and the Labour Party now meets once a month in the main hall. Saturday mornings, Hannah Dance Fitness has taken over the space.

We continue to be grateful for all the groups do to grow community, as well as the opportunities the café gives for bringing these groups together. The West Windsor Hub, with volunteers from All Saints', continues to partner in supporting the needs of the most vulnerable. To this end, it's been great to see the new Cafe Studio providing a safe space for more pastorally focused conversations.

Baby CPR has held several events offering free CPR and First Aid to the community on Mondays. MP Jack Rankin holds his monthly surgeries at ASD, providing support to the community. We've also newly partnered with Driven Forward Community Fridge, where volunteers from ASD collect food. Penny Roche & Brad Applewhite has been pivotal in coordinating this, with Jackie & John Wiggins managing the collection point, assisted by volunteers including Loice Madotsa-Mandizvidza. More volunteers would be appreciated and some are preparing to come onboard!

Our regular community groups have grown to 21, including long-standing ones like Al-Anon, AA, Crossroads, and others. Sadly, Robot Reg folded, and we're always saddened to see any group go. In addition to these regular groups, we also have infrequent events like Baby CPR, Jack Rankin's surgery, and the Windsor Photographic Society.

This year, we hosted a Thames Valley Heartbeat free Defibrator and CPR training for adults and young people, organised by Mike Brooks, in addition to a Christian Aid Changemakers Conference run by Ruth Norris.

The Church continues to welcome new organizations that align with the values of the Church, focusing on charities and community groups. Many have previously attended major church events, like the Pancake Day and Wonderfully Made, and we're committed to supporting their ongoing work.

## **21. Vine & Fig Tree Café – Adam Wingrove**

What started as a bold vision at the PCC Away Day in January 2024 became a reality by July, with a stunning transformation of the café kitchen and seating area. Freshly designed, reimaged, and refitted with new furniture, the space was ready to welcome the community with warmth and hospitality for the opening in September 2024!

By September 2024, the café was alive with activity—opening its doors Monday through Friday from 10am to 2pm. With a dedicated team of nine volunteers putting in an incredible

200 hours per month, the café quickly became a hub of connection, nourishment, and ministry. What an incredible testimony to God's provision and the dedication of His people!

October saw the team up skill with professional Barista training from Nick Edge of Indigo Valley, ensuring every cup of coffee was served with excellence. Additionally, the team completed essential Intolerance and Allergy Training, provided free of charge by Food and Hygiene England—furthering our commitment to care and quality. As part of our mission to steward God's creation well, we partnered with *Too Good To Go*, successfully preventing 178kg of CO2 emissions and saving 56 meals from waste!

November brought a moment of celebration as the café received its long-awaited inspection from the local food and hygiene team. The result? A shining five-star rating! This outstanding achievement is a testament to the team's dedication, hard work, and pursuit of excellence.

By January 2025, the café expanded its impact beyond the weekday hours, supporting Friday night youth clubs with a tuck shop! Young people enthusiastically embraced this new addition, diving into their favourite sweets and drinks.

February was another milestone as four young people joined us during half-term and on Saturdays, some working towards their Duke of Edinburgh Awards. These budding baristas not only mastered the art of coffee-making but also gained confidence and valuable customer service experience. To date, two young volunteers have successfully used their café training to step into employment opportunities—what a privilege to witness their growth!

The café's community impact continues to flourish! Since reopening in September, we have served a staggering 2,532 hot drinks and 1,921 food items. But beyond the numbers, the café has been a place where lives are changed. Through the warmth of hospitality and the love of Jesus, three people have given their lives to Christ! This is the heartbeat of our mission—welcoming, serving, and witnessing God's transformative love in action.

As we look ahead, the PCC has now approved extending the café's opening hours from 20 to 30 hours per week and has committed to employing three part-time team members to help facilitate this exciting growth. With this expansion, we anticipate even greater opportunities to serve, connect, and minister to the wider community.

A huge thank you to every volunteer, supporter, and those who prayed who has poured their time, energy, and love into this area of ministry. We stand in awe of what God has done and eagerly anticipate the incredible things He has in store for the café in the year ahead!

Let's keep stepping forward in faith and expectancy!



## **PART 2 – Financial Statements of the PCC**

### **1. Independent examiner's report to the members/trustees of the PCC**

#### **Independent Examiner's report to the PCC of All Saint's, Dedworth.**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2024.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Signed:



Name: David Crane

Address: 41 Glendevon Road, Woodley, Reading. Berks. RG5 4PL.

Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025

## 2. All Saints' Church Dedworth – 2024 Financial Report and Accounts

### **INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

#### **YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

#### **INCOME**

<b><u>2023</u></b>			<b><u>2024</u></b>
£53,560	Net Gift Aid Pledges	£62,048	
£13,059	Tax Relief on Gift Aid Pledges	£15,338	
£66,619	Total Pledged Giving		£77,386
£2,944	Church Collections	£2,814	
£15,779	Hall Hire	£15,522	
£18,723			£18,336
£11,076	ODBF Contribution to housing	£18,000	
£11,325	Donations	£6,627	
£314	Fund Raising	£0	
£1,396	Funerals/ Baptisms/ Weddings	£1,896	
£1,750	Grants	£5,135	
£102	Interest and Dividends Received	£1,457	
£0	Miscellaneous	£856	
£5,000	Legacies	£0	
£604	Special Collections	£483	
£801	Youth Group	£919	
	Special Purpose Donation for curate housing	£0	
£32,000			£35,373
£64,368			
£0	Church Café income		£5,658
£149,710	<b><u>TOTAL INCOME</u></b>		<b><u>£136,753</u></b>

## **EXPENSES**

**2023**

**2024**

### **THE CHURCH & SERVICES**

£7,090	Lighting & Heating	£7,382
£2,045	Insurance	£2,131
£0	Refurbishment of Cafe	£7,307
£4,040	Minor repairs & maintenance	£5,810
£461	Miscellaneous	£1,803
£5,413	Upkeep of Services	£6,014
£470	Salaries	£5,406
£19,519		£35,853

### **OTHER EXPENSES**

£18,307	Curate Housing Rent	£24,000
£0	Administration	£0
£2,067	Catering	£971
£1,720	Equipment Purchases	£2,269
£479	Printing	£328
£604	Special Collections	£538
£1,489	Telephone/Internet	£1,419
£1,297	Youth Work	£1,924
£25,963		£31,449

### **PAYMENTS OUTSIDE PARISH**

£68,359	Parish Share	£68,137
£1,241	Charitable Giving	£415
£69,600		£68,552

£0	Church Café expenditure	£3,166
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£115,082	<b><u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u></b>	£139,020
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£34,628	Surplus / (Deficit)	(£2,267)
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## **BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

<b>31/12/2023</b>		<b>31/12/2024</b>
	<b>Assets</b>	
	<b>Diocesan Trustees Investment Account</b>	
<b>£579</b>		<b>£633</b>
	<b>Metro Bank - ASD Current Account</b>	
<b>£33,341</b>		<b>£60,850</b>
	<b>Metro Bank - Running Man Café</b>	
<b>£100</b>		<b>£100</b>
	<b>Metro Bank Instant Access Savings A/c</b>	
<b>£20,014</b>		<b>£20,238</b>
	<b>Metro Bank Fixed Rate Savings A/c</b>	
<b>£30,000</b>		<b>£0</b>
<b>£0</b>	<b>Petty cash</b>	<b>£0</b>
<hr/> <b>£84,034</b> <hr/>		<hr/> <b>£81,821</b> <hr/>
	<b>Apportioned as follows</b>	
	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	
	<b>General Fund</b>	
<b>£50,695</b>		<b>£58,105</b>
	<b>Designated Funds:</b>	
	<b>New Church Administrator Salary</b>	
<b>£7,821</b>		<b>£0</b>
<b>£170</b>	<b>Youth Work Fund</b>	<b>£179</b>
	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	
	<b>Special Purpose Donation (Housing)</b>	
<b>£24,769</b>		<b>£18,769</b>
<b>£579</b>	<b>Perpetual Trust Fund</b>	<b>£633</b>
<b>£0</b>	<b>RBWM Grant - Grounds Fund</b>	<b>£1,400</b>
<b>£0</b>	<b>Prince Philip Trust Grant</b>	<b>£2,735</b>
<hr/> <b>£84,034</b> <hr/>		<hr/> <b>£81,821</b> <hr/>

## **2024 RESERVES TO NET LOSS RECONCILIATION**

<b>Opening Assets</b>	<b>£84,034</b>
<b>Movement in Trustee a/c</b>	<b>£54</b>
<b>Net Gain / (Loss)</b>	<b><u>(£2,267)</u></b>
<b>Total Reserves c/fwd</b>	<b><u>£81,821</u></b>