

**ST  
FRANCIS**

**LIFE WITH GOD**

**Hope**  
CHURCH

# APCM 11.5.25

ANNUAL REPORT & UNAUDITED  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DEC 2024

St Francis & Hope Church  
Salisbury  
Charity Number 1130133

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# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

## TRUSTEES' REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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

#### Church Details

St Francis Church is an Anglican Church in the Diocese of Salisbury. The church building is situated in the northern part of the city, at the junction of Castle Road and Beatrice Road.

Correspondence to the Church, the PCC or its officers can be addressed to:

The Parish Office  
St Francis Church  
Beatrice Road  
Salisbury, SP1 3PN

#### Structure and Management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC registered with the Charity Commission during 2009; our Registration Number is 1130133. The appointment of members of the PCC is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules.

Churchwardens at St Francis are normally elected for a three-year term of office. They can attend training days to make them aware of the responsibilities that they have as Churchwardens, and that the PCC has overall. When necessary and appropriate, individual members of the PCC attend courses to learn about specific issues and to report back to the PCC.

The PCC meets regularly on alternate months; in the intervening months a Standing Committee meets. The Standing Committee comprises the PCC Chair, Treasurer, Operations Manager, and both Churchwardens – one of whom is Vice-Chair. Reports are received by the PCC from Deanery and General Synods, our link missionaries, and PCC Committees. The PCC has appointed sub-committees and task forces for special responsibilities and tasks, as follows:

|                              | <i>Responsibilities</i>   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Building & Grounds Committee | To deal with issues relating to the fabric of the church building and grounds |
| Mission Committee            | To monitor and review all our mission work, and to advise on annual giving    |
| Safeguarding Team            | To report any safeguarding matters arising since the last PCC meeting         |
| Hope Church                  | Report on the Pioneer Church (at Old Sarum) at every PCC meeting              |

Other taskforces are formed as and when they are needed for special events and for the appointment of staff.



# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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#### PCC membership

The following people served on the Parochial Church Council (PCC) during 2023 and consequently formed the Board of Trustees of the PCC during the period:

|                                    |   |  |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Incumbent</b>                   | Reverend Canon Jean de Garis  | Chair of the PCC ( <i>from May 2019</i> )  |
| <b>Assistant Minister</b>          | Reverend Mary Terry   | ( <i>from July 2021</i> )  |
| <b>Assistant Curate</b>            | Reverend Joe Stone  | ( <i>from July 2023</i> )  |
| <b>Pioneer Priest</b>              | Rev Suzie Allen   | St Lawrence & Hope Church<br>( <i>from April 2024</i> )  |
| <b>Churchwardens</b>               | Chris Taylor<br>Tom Wilkins   | ( <i>from September 2020</i> )<br>( <i>from September 2020</i> )   |
| <b>Officers</b>                    | Jane Franchi<br>Mark Venables   | Secretary ( <i>from September 2020</i> )<br>Treasurer ( <i>from April 2019</i> )   |
| <b>Deanery<br/>Representatives</b> | <b>Synod</b> Jean Filtness<br>Sally Reed<br>Keith Leslie  | <i>elected April 2023</i><br><i>elected April 2023</i><br><i>elected April 2024</i>  |
| <b>Elected Members</b>             | Sarah Alford<br>Elizabeth Liversage<br>Mark Venables<br>Becca Inglis<br>Sarah McNicol<br>Sherwin Polius<br>Sara Ferguson<br>Phil George<br>David Storey<br>Brian Webb | <i>elected April 2022 for 3 years</i><br><i>elected April 2022 for 3 years</i><br><i>elected April 2022 for 3 years</i><br><i>elected April 2022 for 3 years</i><br><i>elected April 2023 for 3 years</i><br><i>elected April 2023 for 3 years</i><br><i>elected April 2024 for 3 years</i><br><i>elected April 2024 for 3 years</i><br><i>elected April 2024 for 3 years</i><br><i>elected April 2024 for 3 years</i> |

#### Aim and purpose

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Francis Church is responsible for co-operating with the Vicar, in promoting the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, in the ecclesiastical parish. It is also responsible for overseeing ministry and mission on the Old Sarum and Longhedge estates especially through Hope Church. This missional Community was lay led under licence from the Bishop of Salisbury. In 2020 it was launched as a church plant from St Francis, meeting at Old Sarum Community Centre, offering regular Sunday worship in addition to the previous missional activities. The PCC carries responsibility for the maintenance of the Parish Church and the adjacent Church Hall and Youth Lounge. The PCC is drawn from members of both St Francis Church and Hope Church, and some members regularly worship at both venues. The primary leadership for Hope Church has been exercised by Rev Suzie Allen since her licencing in April 2024.

#### Objectives and activities

The primary objective of the PCC is the proclamation of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrine and practices of the Church of England. St Francis PCC tries to achieve this by co-operating with and supporting our Vicar in promoting the mission of the church to the whole parish.

The Standing Committee (which sets the agenda for meetings of the PCC) seeks to keep a healthy balance in the agenda of meetings to include practical items (including finance, fabric and staffing) with pastoral and evangelistic and developmental priorities (including outreach, children and youth, discipleship, worship and serving our community).

# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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#### Achievements and performance

##### Identity

We have continued to express our life as a church through the strapline “**Life with God.**” As a fellowship of believers, we do not “go to Church” so much as remember that **we are the Church** and that we aim to share every part of our lives as fully as we can with God. Every activity in our church is intended to achieve one or more of our 3 “E” objectives to:

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>Encounter</b> | (meet with God)  |
| <b>Equip</b>     | (train and form us in the likeness of Jesus)                                 |
| <b>Engage</b>    | (understand and serve the world more effectively in the power of the Spirit) |

##### Benefice Connections

Throughout 2024 we have continued to grow as a **united benefice** of three Churches: St Francis, St Lawrence and Hope Church. These three expressions of being church are not in conflict or competition, rather they offer different ways and styles for diverse people to be in vibrant communities of faith. Our three Churches have become much more interdependent, especially in sharing clergy for services each month at St Lawrence. St Lawrence is a separate parish with its own PCC and so publishes its own accounts and is not reported further here.

##### Clergy and Staff Changes

April 2024 Rev Suzie Allen was appointed into a new role of **Pioneer Priest** overseeing both St Lawrence and Hope Church. It has been a great joy to welcome her and her leadership gifts into these two worshipping communities. Rev Joe Stone was ordained **Priest** and has subsequently led services of Holy Communion across the benefice. Joe also leads a new monthly “Men behaving Dadly” Saturday morning breakfast and activity time for dads and their children.

Rev Mary Terry has continued to lead and preach in all three churches across the benefice through the year. Having completed her training curacy in 2024, she is now has the role of **Assistant Minister**. Her pastoral ministry has been especially valued including the **Bereavement Journey** course run several times each year delivered by a team she has assembled. Many people have benefitted from having a safe space to explore and process their grieving.

In February 2024 Emily Stone began working as our new **Children & Families Pastor**. Emily has brought enormous energy and compassion to the role. She has extended the number of Sundays when there are children's groups and she has offered new holiday drop-in provision at St Francis. At the end of 2024 we were delighted to appoint Cat Evans to the role of **Worship Pastor** at St Francis which had been vacant for 2 years. She is responsible for the delivery of our 11 am band-led worship and for growing and resourcing our “music in worship community”.

We are so glad for the enthusiasm, faith and skills of our other staff members. Jane Franchi is our **Operations Manager**. She also oversees communications, PCC policies and supports our HR. Sophie Stokes has continued her excellent work as our part-time **Youth Pastor**. She has increased her hours by 2 hours per week to include some local schools' ministry. Since May 2023 Hope Church has been ably supported in administration and communication by Priscilla Venables as **Hope Church Co-ordinator**. Priscilla has made an excellent contribution to Hope Church comms across different media and well as a range of administrative roles. Priscilla is retiring in March 2025. We thank Priscilla for the creative and outstanding administrative skills she has offered. Charlie Davies our church **Caretaker** has continued to serve faithfully whilst outside bookings have increased his workload in moving furniture and cleaning in 2024. Alan Goldie, who administers **External Bookings**, also shares caretaking part time. We thank God for the joyful ministries of Jo Inman (LLM) and Sophie Ferguson (St Francis Church Ordinand serving at St Lawrence to be ordained June 2025).

The Clergy and Staff Team meet every week for prayers and sharing current activities and future initiatives in ministry. St Francis has a culture of working collaboratively in the daily running of practical ministry and engaging with policies together. Through 2024 and into 2025 the Staff Team is discerning how the PCC **Mission Action Plan** might best be imagined, agreed and implemented coherently and sustainably under God.

We thank the vast number of volunteers who serve God and his people regularly through leading in so many ways. We have teams who lead worship and preach, including the organist and choir, those who read the Bible and lead intercessions, pray for others, offer welcome, serve refreshments, lead groups to serve infants, children and young people, arrange flowers, care for the finances, and fabric of the building and grounds. Our churches simply could not run without the generous and dedicated commitment of the host of volunteers.

# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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#### Safeguarding

Safeguarding is a vital part of our caring for people well: it is an expression of the Gospel. Many people are especially concerned of the need to address this at present time because of past National Church failures. In our benefice we have three **Parish Safeguarding Officers** (PSOs) – one in each church community. We thank **Hannah Wilkins** and **Jean Filtress** for their commitment in this role. Jean Filtress has been especially helpful in re-writing our Safeguarding Policies to ensure they are compliant with current good practice. We convene meetings three times a year with Clergy, Verifiers, Children and Youth Pastors and PSOs to ensure best practice is maintained. We have an annual Safeguarding Sunday which includes basic signposting and training for every church member. We have “safer recruitment” practices, including taking up two references and DBS when appropriate. We currently have well over 100 church members who serve children and vulnerable adults who have been DBS checked. We ensure all have been appropriately trained to the correct level and that their training is up to date. We thank the safeguarding team for their vigilance and care.

Nationally, and in Salisbury Diocese, there is an online **Safeguarding Dashboard** which helps to track the policies and procedures of every Anglican Church. St Francis, Hope Church and St Lawrence are all currently 94% compliant. We hope that by mid-May 2025 we will become 100% compliant.

We must never be complacent about Safeguarding. Unequal power dynamics can easily lead to problems in any human organisation, including churches. We believe and teach that Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

#### ST FRANCIS CHURCH

St Francis Church offers a varied pattern of Sunday worship. These include:

**9.30 am** Holy Communion and **11 am** Informal Worship (with families and youth groups in term time). Each month on Sunday evenings at **7 pm** we have a Bible Focus, Encounter and an Iona Evening Communion. Our range of worship experiences includes a small choir, worship bands, formal liturgy and all-age interactive worship.

Often for the teaching component of worship, age-appropriate groups are formed for some service. The church is blessed with having several excellent, different, venues on site for small-group discipleship.

The **Sunday Teaching Programme** in 2024 included: **Making Jesus known here and now** exploring the Diocesan Vision over the first three months of the year. In April we explored the **Fruit of the Spirit** and we held our APCM on a Sunday morning in a joint service. From May to July we offered a 14 week series on our what it means to be a human being made in God's Image: **Body, Soul (mind, heart, will) Spirit**. The remainder of the year covered teaching on **Prayer, Joshua 1–5**, our annual **Missions' Sunday** “carousel” services, and an exploration of different aspects of our **Confidence** in the Gospel of Jesus and our vocation to help shape and bless the world. **Advent** and **Christmas** helped us prepare to encounter Jesus.

St Francis connects with a large number of **children and young people** each week. This is through a combination of the Sunday programmes and mid-week activities. Thursday “Teddy Bears” serves a large number of local families with young children. St Francis is a safe place to meet, connect with other local families, and enable children to enjoy socialising and playing together. Sadly our **Church Camp** was a weekend with exceptionally stormy weather and it needed to be abandoned. However just under 40 camped for a joyful **New Wine** again at Shepton Mallet in August.

Our **Youth Ministry** includes a Friday night club with 2 sessions (school years 6–9 and 10–13). There is Sunday provision for older and younger youth during services, and a Sunday evening discipleship group each week which includes fun games and eating together. Exciting and creative **excursions** were organised through the year and enjoyed by youth people. Assembling enthusiastic and committed teams of volunteers continues to be crucial in all these activities.

In addition to services in our church buildings, clergy and LPAs take Holy Communion to house-bound members and lead worship every month in five residential homes within our parish. We take assemblies regularly in three local schools and offer support in a variety of ways.

In the Autumn of 2024, the eight-week **Sanctuary Course** supporting good mental health from churches was a valuable resource for those living with mental health challenges, those who care for them and for other interested church members. The was attended by up to 20 church members from across the benefice.

# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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In 2024 we had 235 people on our **Church Electoral Roll** (an annual increase of 25). The **Average Church Attendance** (ACA) through 2024 slightly increased from 160 to 176 adults each Sunday for the 9.30 and 11.00 services combined. Including children the ACA through 2024 was **229**. This numbers increase greatly for main Christian Festivals. Through the summer holidays the additional **Worship on the Green** was popular for families with young children. New church members have come through a combination of moving to the area and wanting to find a new church, some moving to St Francis from other churches, and a small number of people coming to faith and joining us. Though around 176 adults attend most Sundays, through the course of a month, that might well be 250 different people, as a significant number attend only once or twice a month. Those who are new to the Church are invited to a **Welcome Lunch** held each term.

In many ways the life blood of the church is expressed in the 15 mid-week **Life Groups**. These are typically run every fortnight in a church member's home with 8 – 12 members in each. Life Groups are invaluable for growing as disciples of Jesus and caring for one another. There are currently around 140 adults in these groups. Life Group Leaders are invited to a gathering each term to be encouraged and share training resources to help their groups to flourish.

The **Church buildings and Grounds** are extremely well used at all times. An excellent and committed small team keep them in an excellent state of repair as our 2024 **Quinquennial Survey** reported. Our buildings are used not only by the church but in supporting our wider community in a wide variety of ways. **External users** include children's academic support groups. We offer space and a "home" for many community groups such as U3A, a Community Choir, Rainbows, Brownies and Guides, as well as charities and other churches. We also sponsor the **Ladybirds Preschool** in the hall.

### MISSION ACTION PLAN

In the first meeting of the new PCC following the APCM in April 2024, members were invited to consider in groups what they considered the top priorities for the church at this time. Following this, the PCC invited a small working group (Jean Filtness, Jane Franchi and Phil George) to lead the PCC and whole Church through a process of identifying our shared, agreed, realistic goals within a 1–3 year time frame. To this end, every Church group, every outside church user, and every church member was invited to answer some simple but important questions.

The vast amount of data from these many responses was then analysed and synthesised by the working group and offered for fresh consideration to the PCC and the Staff Team. We will take this work forward into 2025 to prioritize our Mission and Ministry strategy and focus our activities. We believe that, under God, if we chose to align ourselves well with what we believe God is calling us into, we will see greater fruitfulness in the years ahead. We thank the members of the MAP Group for their huge commitment of time and wisdom in this demanding process.

### HOPE CHURCH

The most significant change in the life of Hope Church in 2024 was the joyful arrival of **Rev Suzie Allen** as the **Pioneer Priest** leading Hope Church. + Andrew licensed Suzie in April 2024. Suzie has brought energy, wisdom and experience to this newly created post.

The **Navigation Group** (comprising Jean Filtness, April Hall, Tom Rendall, Joy Wilkinson and Priscilla Venables) met each month in 2024 with the Pioneer Priest and Vicar. The NG has continued to offer leadership in overseeing the liturgical, pastoral and missional leadership to Hope Church and the estates they serve at Old Sarum and Longhedge. This has been very demanding but also fruitful. We thank the Navigation Group for their continued dedication and faithfulness to serve Hope Church. An aim for 2025 is to increase the number and diversity of NG members from Hope.

As Suzie is jointly serving Hope Church and St Lawrence Parish, time has been needed to discern the best way of managing quite complicated, diverse rotas that are sometimes competing. In 2024 it has often been a challenge to find people for rotas. There have been some helpful changes through 2024 that make best use of Suzie's gifts whilst allowing her to connect with as wide a range of church members at both churches as possible. Services at Hope have the new pattern through **Sundays of the month**:

1st : **All Age** / 2nd : **Messy Church** / 3rd : **Communion & Children's Groups** / 4th : **Bible Brunch**

# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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This has worked well. It has been helpful to find a new sustainable rhythm of worship. Leading and preaching when Suzie is at St Lawrence, has been very ably led by others, especially Joy Wilkinson. The teaching themes have included “**Why do Christians ..?**” to re-establish some of core values in Hope Church. Suzie has also re-cast how the services of **Holy Communion** are led and administered in a an all-age appropriate way.

Other changes in 2024 included the **Old Sarum Community Centre** (where the Church meets) is now overseen by different body of **Trustees**. It has taken time and care to build up the new relationships of trust and to discover the best ways of working together with them. Priscilla and members of the Navigation Group have been proactive in fostering a good working relationship with them as new Terms and Conditions for the use of the premises were issued. A new Hope **Safeguarding** policy was introduced, and **Food Hygiene** training was taken by church members. New **Volunteer Guidelines** and **Codes of Conduct** have been adopted. New **Fire Evacuation** procedures have been appropriately risk assessed and practiced. Following a review, some changes were made over which charities and agencies are supported by Hope Church members' regular giving. The Navigation Group approved the purchase of additional **AV equipment** for the growing worship group. Through 2024 Hope Youth has continued to develop. There is a monthly men's Games evening in the Beatrice Room. The Hope music group rehearses and leads worship regularly.

#### THE FUTURE

We look forward with confidence to what the journey ahead will look like with each other and with God. There are challenges, especially in the encouraging every church member into offering their time and talents when many are already very busy or stretched in their demanding roles at work or homes. Yet, very many Christians across the benefice continue to give of their resources and of themselves sacrificially. We continue to agree with the apostle Paul when he wrote in Ephesians 3.20 that God “is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.”

#### Financial review

Our accounts for the year are subject to Independent Examination; The PCC's Independent Examiners are Moore Stephens (South) LLP

#### *Reserves policy*

The PCC considers that it should maintain sufficient reserves to cover half of a year's expected general expenditure, which would be about £88,500. The reserves stood at £73,284 at the end of 2023, which is below this level. As sufficient surplus has been generated in the current year, £26,716 has been transferred from the general fund to reserves, to make the new total £100,000, which should be adequate for the medium term going forwards.

On behalf of St Francis PCC:

.....

Reverend Canon Jean de Garis, Vicar and PCC Chairman  
**Trustee**

Date: .....

# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

## STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity 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 judgements 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 charity 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 charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.



# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ST FRANCIS CHURCH

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I report to the trustees on the accounts of the PCC of St Francis Church, Salisbury (charity number 1130133) for the year ended 31 December 2024, which comprise Statement of Financial Activities of all funds, the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the Trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of ACCA.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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**

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 January 2019 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for 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 2019.

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 charity 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.

Dated: .....

# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

|  |       | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2024<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>2024<br>£ | Total<br>2024<br>£ | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2023<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ |
|--|-------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
|  | Notes |                                    |                                  |                    |                                    |                                  |                    |
| <b>Income and endowments from:</b>       |       |                                    |                                  |                    |                                    |                                  |                    |
| Donations and legacies                   | 2     | 302,210                            | 500                              | 302,710            | 241,239                            | 800                              | 242,039            |
| Charitable activities                    | 3     | 42,118                             | -                                | 42,118             | 32,957                             | -                                | 32,957             |
| Investments                              | 4     | 3,183                              | -                                | 3,183              | 1,870                              | -                                | 1,870              |
| Other income                             | 5     | 8,058                              | -                                | 8,058              | 3,084                              | -                                | 3,084              |
| <b>Total income</b>                      |       | <b>355,569</b>                     | <b>500</b>                       | <b>356,069</b>     | <b>279,150</b>                     | <b>800</b>                       | <b>279,950</b>     |
| <b>Expenditure on:</b>                   |       |                                    |                                  |                    |                                    |                                  |                    |
| Charitable activities                    | 6     | 260,594                            | 1,018                            | 261,612            | 246,852                            | -                                | 246,852            |
| Other expenditure                        | 9     | -                                  | 412                              | 412                | -                                  | 1,340                            | 1,340              |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>                 |       | <b>260,594</b>                     | <b>1,430</b>                     | <b>262,024</b>     | <b>246,852</b>                     | <b>1,340</b>                     | <b>248,192</b>     |
| <b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>          |       | <b>94,975</b>                      | <b>(930)</b>                     | <b>94,045</b>      | <b>32,298</b>                      | <b>(540)</b>                     | <b>31,758</b>      |
| Transfers between funds                  |       | (1,011)                            | 1,011                            | -                  | (18,000)                           | 18,000                           | -                  |
| <b>Net movement in funds</b>             |       | <b>93,964</b>                      | <b>81</b>                        | <b>94,045</b>      | <b>14,298</b>                      | <b>17,460</b>                    | <b>31,758</b>      |
| <b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>          |       |                                    |                                  |                    |                                    |                                  |                    |
| Fund balances at 1 January 2024          |       | 86,629                             | 6,551                            | 93,180             | 72,331                             | (10,909)                         | 61,422             |
| <b>Fund balances at 31 December 2024</b> |       | <b>180,593</b>                     | <b>6,632</b>                     | <b>187,225</b>     | <b>86,629</b>                      | <b>6,551</b>                     | <b>93,180</b>      |

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

|   | Notes | 2024<br>£      | £              | 2023<br>£      | £             |
|---|-------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| <b>Current assets</b>                                 |       |                |                |                |               |
| Debtors   | 11    | 49,879         |                | 12,035         |               |
| Cash at bank and in hand                              |       | 139,603        |                | 124,080        |               |
|   |       | <u>189,482</u> |                | <u>136,115</u> |               |
| <b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b> | 13    | (2,257)        |                | (42,935)       |               |
| <b>Net current assets</b>                             |       |                | 187,225        |                | 93,180        |
| <b>The funds of the charity</b>                       |       |                |                |                |               |
| Restricted income funds                               | 15    |                | 6,632          |                | 6,551         |
| Unrestricted funds                                    | 16    |                | 180,593        |                | 86,629        |
|   |       |                | <u>187,225</u> |                | <u>93,180</u> |

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on .....

.....

Trustee



# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

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

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### 1 Accounting policies

#### Charity information

St Francis Church is an Anglican Church in the Diocese of Salisbury. The church building is situated in the northern part of the city, at the junction of Castle Road and Beatrice Road.

Correspondence to the Church, the PCC or its officers can be addressed to The Parish Office, St Francis Church, Beatrice Road, Salisbury, SP1 3PN.

#### 1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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 charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

#### 1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity 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 financial statements.

#### 1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds include funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objectives of the PCC. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.

The General Fund is an unrestricted fund, and most other funds are designated funds, with the exception of restricted funds set up in 2018 for funds raised for the forthcoming roof repair and a fund for amounts raised to support the Soul Survivor event attendance for our young people.

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

#### 1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity 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.

# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

---

#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

All income is recognised once the PCC has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations are recognised when the PCC has been notified in writing of both the amount and the settlement date.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the PCC, which is normally on notification of interest paid or payable by the bank involved.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity 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.

#### 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 a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis. All expenses are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings.

Grants payable to third parties are within the charitable objectives. Where unconditional grants are offered, this is accrued as soon as the recipient is notified of the grant, as this gives rise to a reasonable expectation that the recipient will receive the grants.

#### 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

4 to 10 years straight line

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 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.

#### 1.8 Financial instruments

The charity 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 charity's balance sheet when the charity 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.

# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

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

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### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### **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 charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

#### **Interest free loans**

Interest free loans were generously provided by a number of households in the congregation to assist with cashflow management for the annexe building and roof repair project.

Interest free loans have not been discounted as this is not required for Public Benefit Entities under FRS102.

### 1.9 Taxation

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

### 1.10 Employee benefits

When employees have rendered service to the charity, short-term employee benefits to which the employees are entitled are recognised at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid in exchange for that service.

The charity operates a defined benefit plan for the benefit of its employees. The pension scheme is a multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the T pension scheme is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions are recognised in the period to which they relate.

# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

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

### 2 Income from donations and legacies

|                     | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2024<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>2024<br>£ | Total<br>2024<br>£ | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2023<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Donations and gifts | 271,983                            | 500                              | 272,483            | 241,139                            | 800                              | 241,939            |
| Other               | 30,227                             | -                                | 30,227             | 100                                | -                                | 100                |
|                     | <u>302,210</u>                     | <u>500</u>                       | <u>302,710</u>     | <u>241,239</u>                     | <u>800</u>                       | <u>242,039</u>     |

### 3 Income from charitable activities

|   | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2024<br>£ | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2023<br>£ |
|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sale of goods and services including lettings | <u>42,118</u>                      | <u>32,957</u>                      |

### 4 Income from investments

|                     | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2024<br>£ | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2023<br>£ |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Interest receivable | <u>3,183</u>                       | <u>1,870</u>                       |

### 5 Other income

|              | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2024<br>£ | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2023<br>£ |
|--------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Other income | <u>8,058</u>                       | <u>3,084</u>                       |

# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

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

### 6 Expenditure on charitable activities

|  | Charitable<br>Giving | Activities<br>directly<br>related to<br>church work | Church Hall | Church<br>managemen<br>t and<br>administrati<br>on | Total     |
|--|----------------------|---|-------------|--|-----------|
|  | 2024<br>£            | 2024<br>£   | 2024<br>£   | 2024<br>£  | 2024<br>£ |
| <b>Direct costs</b>                                      |                      |   |             |  |           |
| Staff costs  | -                    | 58,067  | 19,756      | -  | 77,823    |
| Charitable Giving  | 23,950               | -   | -           | -  | 23,950    |
| Church Hall Expenditure                                  | -                    | -   | 11,778      | -  | 11,778    |
| Heat, Light & Water                                      | -                    | 17,480  | -           | -  | 17,480    |
| Repairs & Maintenance                                    | -                    | 9,754   | -           | -  | 9,754     |
| Vicar's & Curate's expenses                              | -                    | 3,946   | -           | -  | 3,946     |
| Link Magazine / Printing                                 | -                    | 4,230   | -           | -  | 4,230     |
| Teddy Bears rent & expenses                              | -                    | 394   | -           | -  | 394       |
| Insurances   | -                    | 3,647   | -           | -  | 3,647     |
| Parish Share   | -                    | 84,446  | -           | -  | 84,446    |
| Hope Church Expenses                                     | -                    | 12,685  | -           | -  | 12,685    |
| Youth Work   | -                    | 5,095   | -           | -  | 5,095     |
| Outreach - events  | -                    | 646   | -           | -  | 646       |
| Upkeep of Services                                       | -                    | 3,583   | -           | -  | 3,583     |
| Donations  | -                    | 1,018   | -           | -  | 1,018     |
| Other charitable expenditure                             | -                    | 57  | -           | -  | 57        |
|  | 23,950               | 205,048   | 31,534      | -  | 260,532   |
| <b>Share of support and governance costs (see note )</b> |                      |   |             |  |           |
| Support  | -                    | -   | -           | 1,080  | 1,080     |
|  | 23,950               | 205,048   | 31,534      | 1,080  | 261,612   |
| <b>Analysis by fund</b>                                  |                      |   |             |  |           |
| Unrestricted funds                                       | 23,950               | 204,030   | 31,534      | 1,080  | 260,594   |
| Restricted funds   | -                    | 1,018   | -           | -  | 1,018     |
|  | 23,950               | 205,048   | 31,534      | 1,080  | 261,612   |

# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

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

### 6 Expenditure on charitable activities

(Continued)

| Previous year:   | Charitable Giving | Activities directly related to church work | Church Hall | Heading #ac988 | Total   |
|--|-------------------|--|-------------|----------------|---------|
|  | 2023              | 2023                                       | 2023        | 2023           | 2023    |
|  | £                 | £  | £           | £              | £       |
| <b>Direct costs</b>                                      |                   |  |             |                |         |
| Staff costs  | -                 | 51,479                                     | 18,549      | -              | 70,028  |
| Charitable Giving  | 21,651            | -  | -           | -              | 21,651  |
| Church Hall Expenditure                                  | -                 | -  | 17,129      | -              | 17,129  |
| Heat, Light & Water                                      | -                 | 13,399                                     | -           | -              | 13,399  |
| Repairs & Maintenance                                    | -                 | 11,355                                     | -           | -              | 11,355  |
| Vicar's & Curate's expenses                              | -                 | 5,702                                      | -           | -              | 5,702   |
| Worship Leader   | -                 | 3,442                                      | -           | -              | 3,442   |
| Link Magazine / Printing                                 | -                 | 2,259                                      | -           | -              | 2,259   |
| Teddy Bears rent & expenses                              | -                 | 215  | -           | -              | 215     |
| Insurances   | -                 | 3,557                                      | -           | -              | 3,557   |
| Parish Share   | -                 | 81,198                                     | -           | -              | 81,198  |
| Old Sarum Expenses                                       | -                 | 9,701                                      | -           | -              | 9,701   |
| Youth Work   | -                 | 3,664                                      | -           | -              | 3,664   |
| Outreach - events  | -                 | 219  | -           | -              | 219     |
| Upkeep of Services                                       | -                 | 2,313                                      | -           | -              | 2,313   |
|  | 21,651            | 188,503                                    | 35,678      | -              | 245,832 |
| <b>Share of support and governance costs (see note )</b> |                   |  |             |                |         |
| Support  | -                 | -  | -           | 1,020          | 1,020   |
|  | 21,651            | 188,503                                    | 35,678      | 1,020          | 246,852 |
| <b>Analysis by fund</b>                                  |                   |  |             |                |         |
| Unrestricted funds                                       | 21,651            | 188,503                                    | 35,678      | 1,020          | 246,852 |

### 7 Trustees

The treasurer's wife has been employed as Hope Church Co-ordinator during the year. The appointment was made under normal conditions and the employee is paid within the normal pay scale for the role, they receive no special treatment as a result of their relationship with key management.

### 8 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

| 2024<br>Number | 2023<br>Number |
|----------------|----------------|
| 6              | 5              |

# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

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

### 8 Employees (Continued)

| Employment costs   | 2024<br>£ | 2023<br>£ |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Wages and salaries | 77,823    | 70,028    |

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

### 9 Other expenditure

|                 | Restricted<br>funds<br>2024<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>2023<br>£ |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Financing costs | 412                              | 1,340                            |

### 10 Taxation

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

### 11 Debtors

|                                      | 2024<br>£ | 2023<br>£ |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Amounts falling due within one year: |           |           |
| Other debtors                        | 37,890    | 12,035    |
| Prepayments and accrued income       | 11,989    | -         |
|                                      | 49,879    | 12,035    |

The Other debtors balance relates to amounts outstanding in relation to the Gift aid reclaim.

### 12 Loans and overdrafts

|                         | 2024<br>£ | 2023<br>£ |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Other loans             | -         | 40,054    |
| Payable within one year | -         | 40,054    |

In 2019 a £50,000 loan was provided by the Diocese with an interest rate of 0.5% above base rate. The loan was fully repaid in 2024.

An interest free loan was provided to the Church to fund an extension to the building, this was fully repaid in 2024.

ST FRANCIS CHURCH

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

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

|                 | 2024<br>£    | 2023<br>£     |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Borrowings      | -            | 40,054        |
| Other creditors | 2,257        | 2,881         |
|                 | <u>2,257</u> | <u>42,935</u> |



Our thanks go to all the volunteers who work so hard to provide and arrange flowers at St Francis every week,  
for the Beatrice Room posies and amazing displays for special festivals and funerals

# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

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

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### 14 Retirement benefit schemes

#### Defined contribution schemes

St Francis PCC participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of CWPF for lay staff. CWPF is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the CWPF assets separately from those of the Employer and other participating employers.

CWPF has two sections:

1. the Defined Benefits Scheme
2. the Pension Builder Scheme, which has two subsections;
  - a. a deferred annuity section known as Pension Builder Classic, and,
  - b. a cash balance section known as Pension Builder 2014.

#### Pension Builder Scheme

Both sections of the Pension Builder Scheme are classed as defined benefit schemes.

**Pension Builder Classic** provides a pension, accumulated from contributions paid and converted into a deferred annuity during employment based on terms set and reviewed by the Church of England Pensions Board from time to time. Discretionary increases may also be added, depending on investment returns and other factors.

**Pension Builder 2014** is a cash balance scheme that provides a lump sum which members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member. Discretionary bonuses may be added before retirement, depending on investment returns and other factors. The account, plus any bonuses declared is payable, unreduced, from age 65.

There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are the contributions payable (2024: £4,159, 2023: £3,412)

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent valuation was carried out as at 31 December 2022.

For the Pension Builder Classic section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £34.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review effective 1 January 2025, the Board chose to grant a discretionary bonus of 6.7% to both pensions not yet in payment and pensions in payment in respect of service prior to April 1997; and a bonus on pensions in payment in respect of post April 2006 service so that the pension increase was 2.7% (where usually it would be calculated based on inflation up to 2.5%). This followed improvements in the funding position over 2024. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The next valuation is due as at 31 December 2025.

For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £8.5m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

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

# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

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

### 15 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

|                             | At 1 January<br>2024         | Incoming<br>resources         | Resources<br>expended         | Transfers            | At 31<br>December<br>2024          |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|
|                             | £                            | £                             | £                             | £                    | £                                  |
| Discretionary Hardship Fund | 7,150                        | 500                           | (1,018)                       | -                    | 6,632                              |
| Roof repair fund            | (599)                        | -                             | (412)                         | 1,011                | -                                  |
|                             | <u>6,551</u>                 | <u>500</u>                    | <u>(1,430)</u>                | <u>1,011</u>         | <u>6,632</u>                       |
|                             | <u><u>6,551</u></u>          | <u><u>500</u></u>             | <u><u>(1,430)</u></u>         | <u><u>1,011</u></u>  | <u><u>6,632</u></u>                |
| <b>Previous year:</b>       | <b>At 1 January<br/>2023</b> | <b>Incoming<br/>resources</b> | <b>Resources<br/>expended</b> | <b>Transfers</b>     | <b>At 31<br/>December<br/>2023</b> |
|                             | £                            | £                             | £                             | £                    | £                                  |
| Discretionary Hardship Fund | 6,350                        | 800                           | -                             | -                    | 7,150                              |
| Roof repair fund            | (17,259)                     | -                             | (1,340)                       | 18,000               | (599)                              |
|                             | <u>(10,909)</u>              | <u>800</u>                    | <u>1,340</u>                  | <u>18,000</u>        | <u>6,551</u>                       |
|                             | <u><u>(10,909)</u></u>       | <u><u>800</u></u>             | <u><u>1,340</u></u>           | <u><u>18,000</u></u> | <u><u>6,551</u></u>                |

### RESTRICTED FUND PURPOSES

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Roof repair fund            | For the repair of the roof at St Francis Church, Salisbury                                 |
| Soul Survivor fund          | For the costs of the Soul Survivor event for young people                                  |
| Discretionary Hardship Fund | To support specific hardship requests from within the St Francis and Hope Church community |

# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

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

### 16 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

|                       | At 1 January<br>2024 | Incoming<br>resources | Resources<br>expended | Transfers       | At 31<br>December<br>2024 |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
|                       | £                    | £                     | £                     | £               | £                         |
| Staffing Fund         | -                    | 2,735                 | (27,068)              | 24,333          | -                         |
| Hope Church Fund      | (15,596)             | 11,553                | (13,622)              | 17,665          | -                         |
| Fabric Fund           | 6,775                | -                     | (11,881)              | 37,254          | 32,148                    |
| Church Extension Fund | 948                  | 1,200                 | -                     | (2,148)         | -                         |
| Flower Fund           | 442                  | 170                   | (198)                 | -               | 414                       |
| Teddy Bears Fund      | 2,345                | 1,536                 | (395)                 | -               | 3,486                     |
| Reserves              | 73,284               | -                     | -                     | 26,716          | 100,000                   |
| General funds         | 18,431               | 338,375               | (207,430)             | (104,831)       | 44,545                    |
|                       | <u>86,629</u>        | <u>355,569</u>        | <u>(260,594)</u>      | <u>(1,011)</u>  | <u>180,593</u>            |
|                       |                      |                       |                       |                 |                           |
| Previous year:        | At 1 January<br>2023 | Incoming<br>resources | Resources<br>expended | Transfers       | At 31<br>December<br>2023 |
|                       | £                    | £                     | £                     | £               | £                         |
| Staffing Fund         | -                    | 8,363                 | (36,098)              | 27,735          | -                         |
| Hope Church Fund      | (16,405)             | 10,510                | (9,701)               | -               | (15,596)                  |
| Fabric Fund           | 1,775                | -                     | -                     | 5,000           | 6,775                     |
| Church Extension Fund | 4,148                | 1,800                 | -                     | (5,000)         | 948                       |
| Flower Fund           | 394                  | 100                   | (52)                  | -               | 442                       |
| Teddy Bears Fund      | 2,808                | 1,752                 | (215)                 | (2,000)         | 2,345                     |
| Reserves              | 73,284               | -                     | -                     | -               | 73,284                    |
| General funds         | 6,327                | 256,625               | (200,786)             | (43,735)        | 18,431                    |
|                       | <u>72,331</u>        | <u>279,150</u>        | <u>246,852</u>        | <u>(18,000)</u> | <u>86,629</u>             |

# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

### 16 Unrestricted funds

(Continued)

|                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Staffing fund                        | Previously Children's and Family Worker fund. To support staff posts at the church engaged in work with youth, children or worship |
| Hope Church (Old Sarum Mission) fund | To support the work at the residential area of Old Sarum, now within the parish boundaries of St Francis.                          |
| Fabric fund                          | For repairs and upkeep of the church site and its buildings  |
| Church Extension fund                | For the building of an annex to the church along the Beatrice Road side  |
| Vicarage Repair fund                 | For repairs and upkeep of the vicarage   |
| Flower fund                          | For flowers and floristry equipment used at the church site  |
| Teddy Bears fund                     | For the Teddy Bears parent and child group   |
| Vicar's Computer fund                | For repairs to or replacement of the vicar's computer and associated equipment   |
| Reserves                             | General reserves   |

### 17 Analysis of net assets between funds

|                              | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2024<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>2024<br>£ | Total<br>2024<br>£    |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>At 31 December 2024:</b>  |                                    |                                  |                       |
| Current assets/(liabilities) | 180,593                            | 6,632                            | 187,225               |
|                              | <u>180,593</u>                     | <u>6,632</u>                     | <u>187,225</u>        |
|                              | <u><u>180,593</u></u>              | <u><u>6,632</u></u>              | <u><u>187,225</u></u> |
|                              | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2023<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£    |
| <b>At 31 December 2023:</b>  |                                    |                                  |                       |
| Current assets/(liabilities) | 86,629                             | 6,551                            | 93,180                |
|                              | <u>86,629</u>                      | <u>6,551</u>                     | <u>93,180</u>         |
|                              | <u><u>86,629</u></u>               | <u><u>6,551</u></u>              | <u><u>93,180</u></u>  |

# ST FRANCIS CHURCH

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

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### 18 Related party transactions

All Trustees give freely of their time and expertise without any form of remuneration or other benefit in cash or kind, and have claimed no expenses.

Any work done by families or associates of Trustees is paid for at market rates against invoices.

Donations were made to the following organisations with links to the following trustees:

£1,200 (2023: £1,200) to Salisbury Street Pastors - Keith Leslie is a trustee

£6,900 (2023: £6,500) to the Bridge Project - Sarah Alford is an employee

Decisions about donations made are proposed by a mission committee and approved by the PCC as a whole.

## CHURCH AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

### 50s and Beyond

**Who are we?** A fellowship and service group focused on people 50+ in age.

Monthly events vary with 15-40 participants from St Francis and the wider community. We are sponsored by the church but about 15% of our attendees are from the wider community.

**What were the 2024 events?** We had a variety of events including Fish and Chips with a Movie, Christmas Tea, Pub Brunch, took an Odeon Tour, quiz lunch, attended a play, and more!

**Who runs the events?** The Steering Committee meets twice a year to plan the schedule, and the members act as host for 1 or 2 activities. We currently have openings on the committee and encourage anyone interested to contact us (at the email below).

**How do I find out about the events?** Watch the Link for upcoming events; or to be added to the email distribution list, contact [Kris@richardson.net](mailto:Kris@richardson.net).



## Music in Worship

We enjoy a breadth of musical styles within our worship at St Francis Church. On Sundays our 9.30 am music is overseen by Susan Carey who chooses hymns and leads the small, committed choir. Nicola Kirsch plays the electronic organ, sometimes supported by Shelley Stokes on the violin. David Stokes deputises for Nicola very ably. The choir would gladly welcome new singers. Many of the choir also help lead the singing for the monthly Evensong service at St Lawrence.

Through 2024 we were delighted to welcome new people into fellowship who were already musically gifted and experienced from previous churches. On Sundays at 11 am the four different band leaders (Adam, Dan, Joe and Jean) were helped by the arrival of Clive and Melanie Williams as band leaders. The worship team also grew to include Jan and Phil, Josh, Benjamin and Miriam, Sam, David and Shelley. We were glad to increase the use of some classical instruments for Communion services and especially for the excellent Christmas Carol orchestra.

The new year (2025) has seen the purchase and installation of the new sound system with In Ear Monitors. We offer special thanks to Adrian Lovegrove and Brian Webb for their huge commitment to this project.

With great joy we welcomed Cat Evans as our new Worship Pastor from January 2025. Being without someone in that role for 2 years added a lot of additional work to others in the team. We are delighted to be able to look forward to Cat's spiritual and musical oversight and creativity in this essential area of our church life in the year ahead.

Jean de Garis



## St Francis Church Choir

At the time of writing, the 11 members of the choir, ably accompanied by Nicola on the organ, have been rehearsing an anthem to sing as a joyful opening to worship at 9.30am on Easter Sunday morning. We all feel it is a privilege to use our musical abilities each week to lead and support the congregation in the singing of hymns which complement the theme of the day and appreciate being included in the Sharing of Peace with friends “downstairs”!

Grateful thanks must go to Nicola for the time spent preparing to play for the hymns and Voluntaries, to David Stokes who deputises on the organ and to Shelley for playing her violin.

The United Benefice Choral Evensong is held at Stratford Church on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month when 5 members of the choir participate by being on the rota for Bible Readings and leading the Intercessions in addition to the singing.

It would be wonderful to welcome new members so come for a “no-obligation” visit upstairs one Sunday!

Susan Carey

## Deanery Synod

St Francis is represented by lay members Sally Reed, Keith Leslie & Jean Filtress with Jean de Garis as the clergy member. Mary Terry also attended the meetings. As Jean is stepping down this year, anyone interested should contact Jean de Garis or Sally for more information. The meetings help one to keep in touch with what is going on in the other parishes in the city. This cross fertilisation of ideas can be beneficial as well as encouraging.

During the 2024 year it was again only possible to hold two meetings, in February & September. This was partly due to the pressure of commitments on the members and officers. However in April there was an evening conference for lay members of the Synod from all 5 deaneries in the Sarum Archdeaconry. This was a splendid occasion held at Sarum College and included a delicious supper. Bishop Stephen was the keynote speaker and began by giving statistics about the numbers of deaneries & parishes, explaining that he was chosen to become our bishop as the people of the diocese wanted a bishop who had a vision/strategic plan – Making Jesus Known. Question & answer sessions covered a wide range of subjects that were causing concern. Anyone interested can ask me for a detailed report.

The February meeting dealt with Mission & Social Justice. The September meeting was concerned with the Making Jesus Known Vision. Updating the Deanery Plan (originally set out in 2018 and in urgent need of revision) and the need for more information from parishes about their active links with Sudan & South Sudan.

The Deanery Synod is still seeking:

- at least one new member for St Francis
- a secretary to produce minutes and to issue members with information about meetings
- a Lay Chair

Sally Reed

Friday Cafe continues to be very popular due to the hard work and excellent baking skills of our volunteers



## Ladybirds Pre-School

2024 was a big year in the life of Ladybirds Pre-School. After nearly 30 years as Manager Barbara Defoe retired in July. We were delighted in April to have been able to recruit Nicola Mann-Rae as the new manager. There was a good hand-over between managers. Helen the former administrator for Ladybirds moved, but Nicola has taken that area of work into her own managerial responsibilities. Nicola has brought fresh energy to the role and she has been proactive in some necessary re-writing of policies, including safeguarding.

There continue to be challenges including the difficult financial background, a national shortage of people working in early years education, and a large number of children who left in the summer of 2024.

However, we have continued to welcome in new children and we have a dedicated staff team who work together well. The St Francis Church fabric team continue to improve the Ladybird's site.

Mrs Kris Richardson-Smith has done an excellent job as treasurer for the last 10 years, but is stepping down in 2025. We thank her for her wonderful commitment and wisdom through this time. We are delighted that Mrs Sharon Goldie has served as the new treasurer and has been taking increasing financial responsibility with the account through the year assisting Kris.

We would love to welcome another church member onto the Management Committee in 2025. Ladybirds Pre-School offers a wonderful local service. There are good facilities and a dedicated staff team. We thank the staff for their compassion, creativity and commitment.

Jean de Garis

Chair of Ladybirds Committee

## St Francis Community Singers

We continue to have good fun singing every week with Suzanne, our lively Musical Director. We have happily grown to 17 members, two of these being male who keep the bass and tenor section going very well! (But we would love some other male singers to come along).

Last year we had a busy December! We sang at the St Thomas's Tree Festival which was very enjoyable, we went with St Francis church youth and their Youth Leader to Braemar Care Home on a Sunday to sing carols with them (and said hello to one of our previous lovely male singers who now resides there), the whole singing group went along to the carol service at Avonbourne Care Home, organised by Revd Mary for the residents, and we finished the year off by singing with the Tidworth Military Wives Choir (which our Musical Director also leads) at a concert in Tidworth which was great fun!

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to performing at the Salisbury Festival of Choirs which will be held on 26th April, again at St Thomas's Church from 10 am to 8pm (we will sing in the morning at 10.30)

For any information about the Singers please contact Di Webb on 07733433615.

Diana Webb





## St. Francis Youth

Younger Youth refers to school years 6-9

Older Youth refers to school years 10-13

### Regular groups (Term Time only):

- Sunday morning groups (younger and older youth)
- 2 x Discipleship groups every other week
- Sunday evening older youth groups every Sunday
- Friday Night Youth (younger and older youth) (we have had a good variety of activities including palates, yoga, wide games and lots of food activities!)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – All age encounter evening or movie night with dinner. Always our most attended Sunday evening!

### Trips/events:

- Jan: Youth Retreat – Youth Lounge sleepover with activities.
- Feb: DJ Jozzy joined us for a silent disco where he shared his testimony.
- June: Bake Off For Bibles event which raised over £400 for new Youth Bibles
- July: Church Camp & the first families lunch where all children and youth can come for a picnic with their family after Church.
- August: New Wine; Satellites Youth Festival; The Hobbit movie marathon and a trip to the New Forest Water Park
- September: families lunch
- December: families lunch; Youth Christmas Trip (Ice Skating, Christmas Market, a movie and dinner) and FNY Christmas Party in aid of Open Doors

### Encouragement to serve:

- We now have young people serving on many teams in the Church services including coffee bar, welcome, kids, worship and some looking to also join tech. Hope Youth have been running some services, they create the plan for the service and then lead, preach, lead worship songs, prayer activities and crafts.
- St Francis Youth all came together to help with the donations for the Harvest Service and Toy Service.
- St Francis & Hope Youth were invited to join the Salisbury Community Singers at Braemar Lodge for carol singing in December. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it
- Youth are leading their own Bible Studies in the Discipleship Group

### Other:

- Sophie has been able to join South Wilts Grammar School and Wyvern St. Edmunds Secondary School for some events and groups as well as supporting St Mark's School and Stratford School prayer events. This is helping to get Sophie's face known
- Mentoring

### Successes:

- The retreat was brilliant with lots of youth making good friends and having a really good time.
- FNY attendees who do not come to Church have been joining in with more of our events which encourages friendships with Church-attending children, we have also had some crossover such as the Open Doors Christmas Party and the DJ Jozzy silent disco where FNY have had a chance to hear testimonies or hear what Christians are facing in other parts of the World
- We had a young lad join us for the Satellites Festival who doesn't go to Church, we bought him a Bible and had some great conversations, he has since begun joining us for a discipleship group
- The youth have really appreciated having different versions of Bibles to look through, especially the dyslexia friendly versions
- We wanted to focus on how to make the transition from children to youth easier, youth serving on kids teams and the families picnics are really helping with this
- We funded a member of older youth to attend an evangelism course which finishes in 2025

### Challenges:

- Although there are a good number of youth attending Church, many stay in Church with their parents and Sophie isn't in St Francis enough to have meaningful conversations with them and help them develop relationships with other young people
- There has been a reduction in number coming on a Sunday evening
- Behavioural challenges have been raised for the FNY group

### Opportunities:

- Potential for more joint events and support with other Churches
- Potential for more schools work
- Young leaders courses



September 7th 2024

Another great St Francis Community Show, with an amazing 77 people entering. We had roses, jams, longest runner beans, chocolate cakes, woodwork, children's cookies, photos, beautiful floral displays and so much more. This year saw the most children we have had entering for sometime, with the under 4 cup won by Kobe Santos, 5-8 cup won by Rory Ferguson and the 9-15 cup won jointly between Louise Hollands and Annie Turner.

It was lovely to see the church full of people having a wander round the entries in the afternoon and enjoying tea and cake. Hopefully picking up ideas for next year's show which will be in its 75th year. Thank you to all the committee for their hard work, it can't happen without you. If anybody would like to get involved ready for next year please contact Emma Turner, [emmalsquire@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:emmalsquire@yahoo.co.uk)  
Emma Turner





## St. Francis Kids

(Babies to school year 5 and their families)

After a short interim of no Children and Families Pastor, Emily started the role in mid-February. One priority was to ensure there was children's provision every Sunday to ensure consistency for children and their families, namely children's groups or an All-Age Service. As some volunteers left, others have joined which makes running groups possible (although sometimes at a stretch – two more leaders would resolve this). We are very grateful for the dedicated volunteers.

There are three groups on a Sunday morning. The Family Time session takes place in the Chapter Room and consists of 0 years to pre-schoolers and their parents and is led by one volunteer and often a member of the Youth. The Younger Group, who meet in the Ladybirds Pre-school, is for children in Reception to Year 2 along with two volunteers and often one or two volunteers from Youth. The Older Group meet in the hall and is made up of children from Year 3 to Year 5, two volunteers and one or two volunteers from Youth. The theme is the same across the three groups but delivered in different ways using various activities such as Bible stories, drama, videos, games, crafts. Every session provides a take-home craft or a question on a sticky label which are intended to encourage further conversation at home. Themes have covered the Fruit of the Spirit, prayer and the Christmas story.

Another priority was to work with volunteers to support our neurodiverse children, for example, introducing a visual timetable and chatting with parents to find out how we can best support their children.



All-Age Services are generally on the second Sunday of the month unless at specific times of the year such as Christmas. The staff team has worked together to develop these and a space for children and families was introduced at the front of the church to encourage children to be involved.

Uniformed Groups, namely 23rd Salisbury, as well as Old Sarum, came to three services (Mother's Day, Remembrance Day and the Toy Service). Emily also led a session with the Old Sarum Beavers who came to visit to work towards their Faith Badge.

Church on the Green took place throughout the summer holidays and followed the journey of a seed to a tree with related Bible teachings and hands-on activities. Another priority has been to provide opportunities for families to come together more. Half-termly BYO picnics were introduced after a service as were Stay & Play sessions on Wednesday afternoons during the holidays.

Teddybears continued to provide a safe, welcoming space for families from the local community to come on Thursday mornings during term-time. Once again, committed volunteers make this much-loved group possible.

Emily linked up with Mrs Hoxey and the Collective Worship Council at St Mark's School and assisted Jean with a session to help them write a school prayer.

Emily worked with Jane and Sophie to improve safeguarding policies, safer recruitment procedures, evacuation policies and allergy awareness which will be embedded throughout 2025.

A special thank you to Margaret Woodhouse who prepares and leads fortnightly crafts at Teddybears, organises the posies for Mothering Sunday and sends out baptism anniversary cards to children who have been baptised at our church.

## Strictly Come Ladies

The group normally meets in the Beatrice Room at 7.30pm on the 3rd Friday of each month except August. This is a monthly event where ladies of all ages can meet and make new friends whilst exploring a variety of activities. We usually arrange one themed evening a year celebrating a particular country's music, history and food. Other activities include flower arranging, crafts, quizzes and shared meals; finishing the year with a film and nibbles at Christmas and of course there is always the chance to chat. We would love to see the group grow and welcome new people guaranteeing a happy and relaxing evening.





## Buildings and Grounds Maintenance

During 2024/25 repairs and maintenance of the buildings and grounds, including electrical work has continued in an effort to keep everything working and safe. The grass & conservation areas are being maintained.

Hall:

- More light fittings changed to LEDs including emergency lights
- There is a drain cover to be replaced in the Ladybirds play area.
- Guttering has been cleaned out and downpipe cleared (LHS)
- The Sycamore tree on the left hand side of the hall has been removed which now keeps the roof safe from damage & the sports court clear of leaves! (We hope!)

Church:

- The wooden doors on the Castle Road entrance have been adjusted to stop them rubbing on the floor.
- We hope the nesting boxes for Swifts will be adopted this season. The recording of swift calls' will be set up in April/May.
- There have been two very useful maintenance days, in November and April, clearing up the site, cleaning the gutters, etc.
- The marking of the timber guides in the car park has been changed to make them easier to see and to park within them.
- The church floor has been re-treated to maintain the hard wearing finish.
- A considerable amount of time has been spent arranging for Solar panels to be fitted to the church roof, this includes applying for Planning Permission and a Faculty. Progress is being made as we are now in the final stages of these permissions. The hope is to start installation in June. Upgrading the lightning protection is included in the works.
- The existing solar panels have been cleaned with distilled water to improve efficiency.
- The sound system has been changed with good results for all to 'hear'
- In November we had our Quinquennial Inspection and no serious problems were highlighted.
- The rainwater hoppers on the new church roof have been cleaned out to prevent any water spillage onto the old roof.

Thanks to Charlie, our Caretaker, for keeping the site 'working'

My thanks, as always, to the mowing team and all those who have helped over the last year.

There is always more to do so please let me know if you have a yearning to help with maintenance of the site.

Brian Webb (Church Gnome)



## Mothers' Union

St Francis' Mothers' Union prayer and fellowship group meets at 09.45 for coffee before our meetings on the second Wednesday of the month. We welcome visitors and are keen to recruit more MU members. We invite a speaker occasionally and enjoy discussions and fellowship. Our meetings are followed by midweek communion at 11.00 which is open to all.

Carole Long

## Life Groups

All of us at Saint Francis are encouraged to be part of a Life Group. Often described as the heart beat of the church - it is where a small group of people (c8-12) meet 2-3 times a month to focus on the Bible, grow in discipleship, faith, pray for one another and make new friends! There are currently 14 life groups meeting either in someone's home or elsewhere. That's over 140 adults from St Francis regularly encouraging and supporting one another in their journey of faith. During the last year the life group leaders have also met once a term (3 times) where we share resources, encourage one another in the leading of life groups including introducing and building up prayer and worship in our groups. If you are not currently in a Life Group, and would be interested to talk to someone about joining one, check the church website and you will find the contact details of Phil and Sue George who oversee them. "Being in a group has been an amazing experience both in growing in my faith and getting to know a great new group of friends at Saint Francis".

To find more about life groups & to join please contact Phil & Sue George:



sue.george23@gmail.com

philgeorge60@icloud.com

## Mission Partners

St Francis continues to actively support some 14 Mission Partners through prayer, finance and active congregational participation. Mission Sunday, held in September, showcases some of the work carried out by our Mission Partners, and we are very grateful for the creative ways in which the representatives inform us about these valuable ministries.

Mary Terry



## **Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

Apologies: Phil and Sue George, Audrey Grobecker, Sara Ferguson, Sarah McNicol.

Jean opened the service with a prayer which was followed by two worship songs.

### Appointment of Church Wardens

Chris Taylor and Tom Wilkins were the only two candidates and were duly elected.

### Appointment of Deanery Synod Member

Keith Leslie was the only candidate and was duly appointed.

### Appointment to the Parochial Church Council (PCC)

The following were elected: Philip George, David Storey, Sara Ferguson.

### Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes were approved with no corrections.

Jean encouraged everybody to read the Annual Report if they had not already done so and commended all those who had carried out so much work last year.

### The Electoral Roll

This has increased to 235 people this year (210 last year). Next year the whole electoral roll will be revised, and everybody will have to sign up again.

### Treasurer's Report

Mark Venables (Treasurer) gave an overview of the previous year's accounts. The roof loan is being re-paid at £18,000 a year (£1,500 per month). Interest is payable on the roof loan, but this is only half a percent above the base rate, and we have been fortunate to have been able to repay at a time when interest rates are so low. Taking the roof loan into account the total surplus for the year is £14,298. This surplus is due to staffing costs being significantly lower than budget as the Worship Pastor (who left in February 2023) has not been replaced.

Parish Share, the money we pay to the Diocese every year, was £81,198 this year. Next year it will increase significantly as we have now appointed a Pioneer Priest at Hope Church shared with St. Lawrence.

Mission giving (the money we tithe to charity from our income) increased to £21,650 this year. Regular giving increased by 2.4%, to note: this has increased substantially during 2024. Gift Aid during the period was £44,595. Mark urged those present to sign a Gift Aid form as this increases every donation by 25%.

### Variants against budget:

- direct giving was less than budgeted but one-off gifts have countered this.
- Room hire has increased significantly over the year with a total of £26,688
- Maintenance costs were higher than anticipated.

Roof project: all loans were paid off by the end of 2022, except for the Diocesan loan which by December 2023 was reduced to £17,054. This sum will be paid by the end of 2024 at which point we will be clear of all loans. Many thanks to all who contributed - the interest free loans from the congregation made all the difference.

Funds: In 2023 a Hope Church Fund was clearly delineated within the accounts (before 2023 we had only allocated expenditure but not income). For 2023 income through giving to Hope Church was approximately £10,000 and expenditure approximately £9,000. It is anticipated that at the end of 2024 the deficit showing for Hope Church can be put back to zero to allow Suzie to start from scratch and have a clear idea of income and expenditure for Hope Church.

The expectation is that we will break even in 2024, presuming there will be a new Worship Pastor in post from June.

Gas and electric will increase significantly as the amazing deal negotiated by Colin Reed four years ago has come to an end and costs are expected to double.

Room hire continues to be strong and regular giving is also slightly ahead of budget at the moment. Thanks were proffered to Sally Reed and Sharon Goldie for all their work doing the banking, salaries and co-ordination of gift aid, and thanks to all members of the congregation who help with finance during the year.

Brian Webb noted that we also receive between £1,000 and £1,200 each year due to the solar panels on the church roof.

Questions from the floor:

- “What will the parish share increase be?”  
Mark noted that Jean had been successful in gaining a grant from the Aldhelm Trust for three years for a total of £45,000 towards the cost of the new Pioneer Priest post. The cost will be divided between Hope Church and St. Lawrence. However, next year the benefice cost will increase by £25,000 and St. Francis will probably pay two-thirds of this, i.e. approximately £18,000 (this is the same amount as we have until now been paying for the roof loan, so Mark does not anticipate any difficulty in meeting this cost.
- “Does this imply that you don’t need an increase in giving?”  
Mark noted that although we have been quite successful in managing costs some bills are much higher than a few years ago, for example, the hall utility bill has increased threefold. We are grateful to anybody who is able to increase their giving.
- “Is the parish share calculation no longer tied to the numbers of people attending?”  
Jean replied that the new calculation is based 60% on the cost of ministry and 40% on Sunday attendance.

Votes to agree accounts as a true record: Mark proposed that the audited accounts should be agreed by those present. This was seconded by Tom Wilkins and duly agreed by those present.

Jean offered his thanks to Mark and all those involved in the day-to-day finances of the church.

### Simplified Statement of Financial Affairs

|                   | Unrestricted | Restricted | Total      |
|-------------------|--------------|------------|------------|
| Income            | £ 279,150    | £ 800      | £ 279,950  |
| Expenditure       | £ 246,852    | £ 1,340    | £ 255,219  |
| Net Income        | £ 32,298     | (£ 540)    | £ 31,758   |
| Transfers - in    |              | £ 18,000   | £ 18,000   |
| Transfers - out   | (£ 18,000)   |            | (£ 18,000) |
| Net Movements     | £ 14,298     | £ 17,460   | £31,758    |
| Funds at 01.01.23 | £ 72,331     | (£ 10,909) | £ 61,422   |
| Funds at 31.12.23 | £ 86,629     | £ 6,551    | £ 93,180   |

### 2023 Key Numbers

|   |                 |                 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
|   |                 | 2022            |
| Parish Share paid<br>(2024 = £84,446.21)          | <b>£81,198</b>  | <b>£78,833</b>  |
| Staffing costs                                    | <b>£80,224</b>  | <b>£92,822</b>  |
| Mission and other Giving                          | <b>£21,650</b>  | <b>£18,898</b>  |
| Regular Monthly Giving<br>(2.3% increase on 2021) | <b>£158,575</b> | <b>£155,059</b> |
| Gift Aid Received                                 | <b>£44,595</b>  | <b>£44,576</b>  |

### Items to note

Key income/expenditure variances to budget in 2023:

|                | Budget   | Actual   | Variance       |
|----------------|----------|----------|----------------|
| Direct giving: | £167,700 | £158,575 | <b>£9,125</b>  |
| Other giving:  | £14,400  | £23,013  | <b>£8,613</b>  |
| Room Hire:     | £20,100  | £26,688  | <b>£6,588</b>  |
| Salary costs:  | £91,600  | £80,224  | <b>£11,376</b> |
| Maintenance:   | £3,120   | £11,535  | <b>£8,415</b>  |
| Total:         |          |          | <b>£9,037</b>  |

### Roof Project Repayment

#### At Start:

|                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| Diocesan Loan      | £50,000 |
| Congregation Loans | £52,000 |

#### At 31.12.22:

|                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| Diocesan Loan      | £33,714 |
| Congregation Loans | -       |

#### At 31.12.23:

|                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| Diocesan Loan      | £17,054 |
| Congregation Loans | -       |

We are on target to repay diocesan loan by 31.12.24  
(paying £1,500 pcm)

### Fund Positions

|                                 | 31.12.23       | 31.12.22       |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| General Fund (u)                | £18,431        | £6,327         |
| Flower Fund (d)                 | £442           | £394           |
| Teddy Bears Fund (d)            | £2,345         | £2,808         |
| Reserves (d)                    | £73,284        | £73,284        |
| Hope Church (d)                 | (£15,596)      | (£16,405)      |
| Fabric Fund (d)                 | £6,775         | £1,174         |
| Extension Fund (d)              | £948           | £4,149         |
| Discretionary Hardship Fund (r) | £7,150         | £6,350         |
| Roof Repair Fund (r)            | (£599)         | (£17,259)      |
| <b>Total Funds:</b>             | <b>£93,180</b> | <b>£61,422</b> |

### Church Wardens Report

Chris Taylor spoke for the Church Wardens, thanking all those volunteers who help to make the church run week by week. In particular he said thank you to the clergy spouses, Sue, Nigel and Emily, for all they do in the background. He also warmly thanked Jean who, this year, had moved mountains to find solutions to the vacancies at Hope Church and St. Lawrence together with the Archdeacon, whilst simultaneously co-ordinating worship in the absence of a Worship Pastor.

## VICAR'S REPORT

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Here we are: Hope Church and St Francis Church. **What is a Church?**

We might think of **Acts 2. 42-47**: a description of the earliest church. A picture of **unity**.

I'd like to share some thoughts on our being Church today in Salisbury.

**Acts 5.12-14**: No one dares join them ... AND ... more and more were added.

People were repulsed AND attracted. It sounds to me like a **Magnet** with two poles.

What is a magnet? **Degrees of alignment** of the atoms in the metal. How is one made?

The attractational force is directly proportional to how aligned the particles inside are.

In the same way, the attractational force of a church is directly proportional to our alignment.

Are we pulling in the same direction? How is a magnet weakened?

By being knocked or over-heated. That's also true for churches.

Alignment isn't accidental. It's a choice and a call for humility from each one of us.

**Phil 2.1-4** As we choose to align in Church, others are attracted to encounter Jesus.

Jesus has called us to be **Salt** and **Light**.

We are just as much "church" midweek as we are here on a Sunday.

**What are the things we especially want to align on?**

At St Francis our strapline is **Life with God**. Encounter, Equip, Engage.

I think right now these might best be expressed through three sets of activities:

**Welcome**. We want to learn to welcome people whatever their background or language.

I hope we can do the Sanctuary Course later this year.

We can partner with others like *Morning Star* supporting those with addictions.

**Discipleship**. Equipped by God's word and being shaped: becoming more like Jesus. Knowing

God's word, and living it out in Community: "formation" who we are becoming.

Vital role of Life Groups: thank you Phil and Sue George

**Lifting up Jesus**. Jesus said, "When I am lifted up, I will draw all people to myself".

It's all about Jesus. Encounter him, be equipped by him, and engaging deeply with others.

Please choose to walk closely with Jesus and to align with others here, so that we pull in the same direction and become ever more attractive to those who don't yet know him.

**As we all know, the Church is people not buildings. Thank you to all who serve:**

Clergy and staff team, Church Wardens and Treasurer

The PCC and Hope Navigation Group

The great army of volunteers, especially everyone who serves or is willing to be on a rota!

**Thank you.**

Mary closed the service in prayer before the final worship song.

# NOTES



# **Annual Parochial Church Meeting Sunday 11th May 2025 at 10.30 am St Francis Church**

## **AGENDA**

- 1** Welcome and opening prayer
  - 2** Apologies for absence
  - 3** Election of Churchwardens
  - 4** Election of Members to serve on the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and Deanery Synod
  - 5** Minutes of the 2024 APCM
  - 6** Matters arising from the Minutes
  - 7** Written Reports
  - 8** Mission Action Plan
  - 9** Safeguarding
  - 10** Any other business
  - 11** Electoral Roll Report
  - 12** Treasurer's Report
    - (i) The Annual Accounts
    - (ii) Appointment of Independent Examiner
  - 13** Churchwardens' Report and Inventory
  - 14** Vicar's Report
- (If you have any item to raise under any other business it will be appreciated if you inform the PCC Secretary, Jane Franchi, before the meeting).