

Trustees' Annual Report for the year-ended 2023

St Mark's Church Haydock and T.A.N.G.O community outreach project

Registered Charity number 1128590



Aims and Purpose & Objectives and Activities

The general functions of the PCC are stated within section 2 of the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

St. Mark's, Haydock, Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

When planning our objectives for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of:

- St. Mark's Church and grounds
- St. Mark's Centre
- T.A.N.G.O. Warehouse
- 303 Park Street, Haydock
- St Mark's Graveyard
- St Mark's field
- St Mark's community garden
- St Mark's car park

T.A.N.G.O. - Staff/Volunteers Community project.

As Christians, we also seek the holistic wellbeing of those who access these services, and opportunities for listening, prayer and connecting with other St Mark's events. Part of becoming whole is being connected to Jesus, and so we seek to live and share life in ways which share his love.

- T.A.N.G.O stands for Together As Neighbours Giving Out
- The aim of T.A.N.G.O. is, "To reach out, serve and help those in need in the community, by building trust and fellowship, mirroring Christian values".
- T.A.N.G.O. is a major part of the outreach strategy of St Mark's in reaching Haydock with the love of Jesus.
- Through providing low-cost furniture, clothes, bric-a-brac, and affordable food and drinks, T.A.N.G.O provides an essential community service particularly to the poorest in our community.

T.A.N.G.O. is coordinated by G. Shaw and the team leaders of T.A.N.G.O., overseen by the PCC's subcommittee.

Other St Mark's community-focused ministries

These groups are focused on community connection and providing spaces of meeting and belonging; the space to meet with others, as well as meeting followers of Jesus, and, at the right moment, being introduced to Him.

- **Voyage Junior** is a missional activity for primary-age children led by the Pioneer Youth worker. The majority of children who attend are from non-church families. This was previously called “Cool Club” but the name change was to make a more definite link between this group and the Wednesday night youth group, which is called Voyage. Due to long-term staff illness, Voyage Junior has been run by the Youth Worker and a team of volunteers.
- **New Creations** – A craft group that meets weekly in the Centre to make cards.
- **Golden Oldies** - Over 60s meet weekly for arts and crafts, following the directive in the New Testament to look after the older members of society with dignity and respect.
- **Light & Life** – Prayer ministry showing Jesus through love, signs, wonders, and miracles. This team are available weekly in the Food Pantry ministry.
- **Gardening** - two teams, the regular gardening team meets weekly and the Cluster team meet one Saturday per month and oversees the Community Garden.
- **Community Garden** – a community space for quiet peaceful contemplation and connection with God. This is affiliated with the Quiet Garden movement.
- **Youth** – Meeting weekly on Sundays (except the first of the month) for Christian teaching. The Wednesday evening group, Voyage, is focused on un-churched young people with various activities and games for a large proportion of the evening and a short talk.
- **The Food Pantry** – Thursday mornings each week to tackle food poverty whilst providing dignity, hope and choice for its members. As well as providing savings on groceries for its members, it is a place of building community and providing support beyond food provision. It also helps to reduce food waste locally from donations by local retailers.

Expressions of church

Every expression of the church listed below exists to help people become better disciples of Jesus and encounter God.

- **Sunday morning at 10 am:** modern worship gatherings
- **Sunday 3 pm:** twice a month for traditional worship gatherings
- **Daily Morning Prayer:** Monday-Saturday at 9.15 am on Zoom run by members of the congregation. This was started during the 2020 lockdown and is still attended daily by a regular cohort of people.
- **Ladies Meeting** – meets weekly on Tuesday afternoons for fellowship and guest speakers, ensuring each meeting has “the four Fs”: Fellowship, Fun and Friendship in a strong Faith setting.
- **Connect groups** – bible study small groups of 6-15 people.
- **Alpha** - an Alpha course was held with a small number of participants exploring the Christian faith. They are all worshipping members of St Mark’s now.
- **Termly Prayer nights** - including *Thy Kingdom Come*

During our Sunday morning teaching, outside of Church festivals and special annual services, we have finished our autumn series focused on “Jesus and...” which concluded with Jesus &...wealth and singleness. Our Spring series explored the Beatitudes before a 6-week series on the Diocesan Rule of life: Called to Pray, Read & Learn, Sent to Tell, Serve and Give. In the Summer term, we reached into the deep theology of cross-exploring themes from John Stott’s classic ‘The Cross of Christ’ and over the summer we explored the book of Ruth. In the autumn term, we launched into a deep dive 11 sermon study on the book of Daniel.

One-off events:

Our one-off events are designed to give social and fun opportunities for the community to be established, joined or experienced. We always offer high-quality hospitality (free wherever possible), great entertainment and something for most age groups, although youth is our current area which we need to develop. At each expression of community, we also offer an encounter with Jesus and people who join us have an opportunity to respond to the call of God on their lives.

- **Pancake Party** – was held in St Mark’s with crafts, activities, games, a bible story and races. With the Together Liverpool grant ‘Feast of Fun’ funding, we were able to provide food for 30 children who attended.
- **LENT course** – a 4-week study from *Live No Lies* by John Mark Comer
- **Easter services**
 - o Passover meal
 - o Good Friday saw a family-friendly service in the morning, and a reflective Hour at The Cross in the afternoon.
 - o Easter Quest – 300 people (including children) joined us in the Centre and grounds. Activities included a ride on two donkeys, Gavin & Stacey, hunting for eggs in our community garden, creating easter gardens with the Gardening Team, and enjoying Easter snacks and drinks. Most importantly for St. Mark’s was people getting ‘hands-on’ exploration of the Easter story through six interactive stations, culminating at the empty tomb where the chocolate eggs were won, and where the Good News was offered in the form of the Bible Society’s Easter book.
 - o Easter Day – starting with a sunrise service on LymeWood country park’s hill with the churches of Haydock, a family communion service in the morning, and Book of Common Prayer traditional communion service in the afternoon.
- **Pentecost Sunday** – Joining together for a Service celebrating the birth of the Church and God’s call to us, as His church today, to be filled with His Spirit as we partner with Him in seeing Haydock, our workplaces and home communities changed by Him.
- **Lego exhibition** – we saw 500 local community members walk through the church doors to explore the local talent of Lego builders from our church and wider local community. **Bricktastic (Lego® exhibition)** – we saw 500 local

community members walk through the church doors to explore the local talent of Lego® builders from our church and wider local community.

- **Community bereavement services** – a service held in June, where bereaved families were invited to come to a dedicated service to remember their loved ones. This year in December we held a darkest night service for those struggling this Christmas.
- **Summer party** – Another well-attended party in 2023 with over 600 people, (including at least 300 children). Bouncy castles, a Bucking Bronco Bull, refreshments, BBQ, and ice cream van and loads of games, with the dance school and football club joining us for part of the day. Prophetic prayer and healing were offered throughout the day, and more than 300 versions of the Good News of Jesus were given out.
- **Summer Football camp** – Our first youth football 3-day holiday club for Years 6-11 (this took the place of our normal primary school holiday club)
- **Remembrance** – celebrated in our morning 10 am service.
- **Light Night** – a non-scary community alternative to Halloween focusing on the light of Jesus. This is an exciting evening of creativity, games, bible story and a message of God’s love and light on a night when others are celebrating darkness.
- **Christmas services**
 - We welcomed Oddment’s Theatre company to perform the family show of Daniel in the Lion’s Den which engaged children and adults of all ages in the story of God’s faithfulness and what standing up for our faith looks like in a worldly society
 - Carols by Candlelight was held with our community scratch choir. Both the choir and the congregation enjoyed a return to normality for one of the church’s favourite, traditional carol service
 - Pop-up Nativity was a well-attended service of congregants dressed up as characters from the nativity ready to join in the fun of the Bible Society script
 - Favourite Carols, a popular 3pm service
 - Carol singing at Tesco with the churches of Haydock, sharing the good news through tracts which included all the Christmas services
 - Book of Common Prayer service on Christmas Eve at 2pm
 - Community Carols was again a roaring success from 4pm on Christmas Eve, including the Christmas jumper competition. It is by far our most popular service of the year
 - Midnight Communion Christmas Eve
 - Christmas morning 10am celebration

St. Mark’s Church commits to tithing its offerings, and so 10% of its income is marked out for charitable purposes when the budget is set for the year. St. Mark’s has a Mission Team who prayerfully consider how to use the tithe each year and send

reports regularly to the PCC to keep them informed. Details are given later in this Report (see “Further Financial Details” section).

St. Mark’s congregation continued to support the Food Pantry throughout 2023, redirecting our Foodbank donations to the stocking of the Food Pantry in the knowledge that the increased contact with Foodbank through the Food Pantry would ensure all food provision is well stocked.

The Wardens are grateful for the unnumbered hours from volunteers that allows jobs to be done like deep cleaning and painting of rooms. They are grateful to their team of assistant wardens/sidespeople for their work on Sundays with monitoring attendance, offerings and general help with congregation and visitors.

The PCC wishes to thank our Wardens for their hundreds of hours of faithful service to St. Mark’s during the year, as without their keen eye and servant hearts, St. Mark’s could not be the church it is.

In 2023, the clergy were Rev Dan Leathers, as the Vicar of St Mark’s, with support from Rev Alison Carson as a Self-supporting Curate and Rev James Wallace as Stipendiary Curate.

St. Mark’s paid staff during 2023 (all part-time) include:

- Office Co-Ordinator
- Children’s Pastor
- Pioneer Youth Worker
- Cleaners (two across Church and T.A.N.G.O.)
- Gardener
- T.A.N.G.O. Coordinator
- T.A.N.G.O. Warehouse operatives (three people)
- T.A.N.G.O. Shop manager
- T.A.N.G.O. Administrator
- T.A.N.G.O. catering staff (three people)

During 2023, staffing changes were:

- Resignation of the Kitchen Café Assistant which will be replaced in 2024
- Resignation of the Office Co-ordinator and appointment of a new Office Co-ordinator
- Resignation of one of the church cleaners, and the replacement

Achievements and Performance

The average attendance figures for our Sunday services were:

- 129 adults and 23 children in church with 20 online

During 2023 there were:

- 15 baptisms
- 0 dedications
- 3 weddings
- 0 wedding blessings
- 24 funerals in church
- 7 funerals at the crematorium
- 12 burials of ashes

We are delighted to have been able to live-stream every 10am service in 2023 and every other major service, which includes offering live-streaming to funeral families.

There are many faithful volunteers across the ministries within St. Mark's. The following section is a snapshot of some of those ministries and their work during the challenge that was 2023. These accounts are written by some of the leaders of these ministries.

Children's ministry- Sunday Stars

This year was marked by the absence of our much-loved children's Pastor, Kay White, as she took time off due to medical problems. The remaining volunteer leaders have worked hard to maintain the momentum of the Sunday Morning Children's work. After prayer, God brought to us some new volunteer leaders and helpers – Praise Him! We have been able to have age-appropriate groups during the Sunday morning service each week in term time except for the All-age Service. We completed three teaching series: - Spring term, Life of Jesus; Summer Term, Jesus and the Apostles; Autumn term, Daniel and David. We are delighted by the children's grasp of the material and the profound comments they make in the discussion times. They also come up with some amazing creations in collage, paint and clay, and enjoy active games in the large room we have available in the church centre. The summer water fight and Christmas party were highlights of the year. We have introduced some ground rules and been helped to rethink our registration and safeguarding procedures. We thank God for his safekeeping of the children and leaders and for their growth in faith.

Voyage Junior

We started a new child after-school group called Voyage Junior in October that is going well, and we have seen growth through our activities and exploration of different bible stories. We meet every Monday after school in the church centre. We usually welcome about ten children mainly from the community. We have studied different bible topics with the children and have given them a space to ask questions regarding faith and biblical topics, we will then have time for group games and crafts that link to the bible topics that we have explored with the children within the session.

Smarties (St. Mark's Tinies)

Smarties is our parent and toddler group which met during term time on Wednesday and Friday mornings. Due to staff long-term sickness, Smarties had to close in the spring and is not currently running as of the end of 2023.

Wider children's ministry

We joined together with T.A.N.G.O café to provide gift bags which included a box of cereal during the half-term holiday.

We held events at Easter and Christmas which have been well attended. Lite Night, our alternative to Halloween, had around twenty children attend, who enjoyed joining in with crafts, songs and dance, a bible story, games and healthy refreshments.

School connections

Our Clergy, Dan, Alison and James, with Josh our Pioneer Youth worker, have been supporting Legh Vale Primary School with monthly assemblies and lessons and continued offering lessons to Grange Valley Primary School. Dan is also a governor at Legh Vale and at Outwood Academy (formerly called Haydock High School).

Our Legh Vale school annual Christingle service held in St Mark's was well received and included our Curate, James, dressing up as a Christingle. There was a Christingle-making relay race, as well as sharing the good news of Jesus with Lego and a special moment of lighting the candles while worshipping God through singing Silent Night.

The second Outwood Academy Christmas Service was also well received and included sharing the good news of Jesus, exciting videos, challenges, carols and prayer. The feedback was that the young people had thoroughly enjoyed their time in Church and the school want to continue this as an annual fixture in the school calendar.

Youth Ministry

This is my opportunity to write a report on all the wonderful things that happened last year 2023. Right after Christmas we started back with our weekly youth group and saw a lot of young people through the centre doors. Nothing has changed for this over the last year. Everything is still free; we still cook a hot meal for them each week and have lots for them to come and do. We have also seen the relationships between the leaders and the young people get stronger and stronger. We have also seen the young people's faith grow and the attitude towards what share each week.

During the summer holiday, we did a sports holiday camp for the first time. This was a mixture of learning new football skills and every day we looked at a different faith-based topic and shared our thoughts on a bible verse each day. We saw around 20 young people each of the 3 days.

There were also several young people at the summer party that we had great conversations with.

Voyager

Voyager is a fresh Worshipping Community which meets the second Sunday of each month at 6 pm in St. Mark's Centre. We have a small team of around twelve people that support the event each month. Voyager Community's Vision is to help anyone who are on the fringes of the church to engage with Jesus in a relevant way.

Voyager is:

- A place to meet
- A place to eat
- A place to create
- A place to experience
- A place to pray
- A place to worship
- A place to connect
- A place for you

Our hope has been that people we are engaging with in the Centre through ministries like: Voyage Youth Group, the Pantry etc. as well as friends, family, work colleagues etc. would find a spiritual home at Voyager. We bring food to eat together, we worship through song, pray creatively using prayer stations, listen to a relevant talk and discuss it in groups. We are currently seeing between thirteen and twenty-five people attending each month, but attendance has been lower in recent months, so prayers are appreciated for how we move forward with this. Finally, this project has been made possible by the Joshua Centre who have given a grant of £4000 in 2023 which has helped us to purchase the equipment needed to run Voyager.

Ladies Meeting

In the nine months of my tenure, I have experienced a deep feeling of love and support in my role with all the volunteers continuing in their specific roles. I have always felt that worship should go hand in hand with action and the fulfilment of this year's programme has been a joyful experience.

The Fellowship meetings offer a prayerful time with the Lord. External speakers have added many facets to our meetings in terms of deeper personal insights into Scripture, experiences of life and sometimes a little humour! We need to mention our enjoyable days out.

In relation to the act of giving, the group has donated with much love to: Willowbrook Hospice, St. Mark's Church fund, Warm Spaces, The Community Garden, Good News Bibles, and U3A Ukulele group's charity.

The membership has maintained its core base numbers and has also welcomed with open hearts new members.

In terms of my own development, I feel that my faith has been deepened. The Spirit has guided me to communicate with the ladies on a more informal basis. From October we started meeting on the first Tuesday of each month for a social afternoon which is proving very popular with some of the ladies.

Through prayers, reading and physical interaction with others at St. Mark's I appreciate more than ever our Lord Jesus' focus on the giving and receiving of Love.

As long as I am physically able and with God's good grace, I hope to continue my work in this ministry.

Jennie Fryer

Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer will soon approach its fourth year, continuing to meet on six mornings a week at 9:00 am until 10:00 am.

Our Zoom meeting provides friendship, fellowship, and reading of God's Word followed by around eight minutes of reflection, song and around 8 minutes of prayer. Followed also by social short time of sharing with each other.

We have a different leader each morning to whom I am extremely grateful for their commitment and the considerable time they devote to preparation and presentation.

Attendance is strong. We have around twenty-five different people who join us for Morning Prayer but don't always come on every morning. But on average we are supported each day by fifteen loyal supporters. However, we do need to generate awareness across the wider church for Morning Prayer and to stimulate an eagerness to take part.

There is a robust bond of friendship, within Morning Prayer, sharing profoundly with each other's sadness and rejoicing in each other's gladness.

We say that when you bring thanks into our morning meeting, we all share that thanks and when you bring a burden, a heartache a prayer request then that prayer request becomes ours. We all own it.

We all have come closer to God and stronger in prayer over the past four years and have received many answered prayers, especially involving children too.

We have learned to be corrected from God's Word that we are privileged to receive each morning, six days a week.

There Can Be No Better Way To Start The Day, Than To Start The Day, With Morning Prayer.

Can't do better than close in the words of the apostle Paul.

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy-meditate on these things. Philippians 4:8 NKJV

Community Garden

The Community Garden is a place where we together share friendship and fellowship and learn from each other as we care for God's creation with our principles and values in mind. 2023 has been a year of challenges and blessings.

One challenge has been the weather with either lots and lots of rain, or it was too hot. We have had reduced volunteers this year, mostly because of sickness or injuries and our wonderful John Robinson has finally hung up his gardening tools after seventeen years of service and we wish him a wonderful and well-deserved retirement.

A great blessing for us has been to bless others with produce from the garden, including edibles given to the Food Pantry and to T.A.N.G.O. Café, and making up and giving away bunches of flowers to those who were sick, Golden Oldies, volunteers in the Food Pantry and members of the church congregation. We have also been blessed by the gift of a new bench from the Golden Oldies and a monetary gift from the Ladies Fellowship which we have used to buy a new rose, "Bring Me Sunshine".

We have been able to welcome old and new visitors to the Garden during the week, and at our open days as part of the Easter Quest and Summer Party, both times making crafts with the children.

The Community Garden has been blessed with a new shed, courtesy of the response and generosity of visitors to our Cake Sale which raised more than £365 and the church generously met the rest of the cost.

During the year, we have received many encouraging comments, cards and gifts, but we will continue to ask God if this ministry is still a God Idea, and for now we are sure that it is, and so it will continue.

Going Deeper Connect Group

Our group aims to find a deeper experience and understanding of God through in-depth study of the bible. We also enjoy wonderful fellowship and mutual support.

The men's connect group

A great evening every other Tuesday meeting to get to share life, worship together and unpack the Bible. Prayer together is particularly powerful. A group of deep honesty and sharing.

St. Mark's worship team

St. Mark's worship team consists of the band, the sound and the visuals teams.

The band consists of ten volunteers who play for three Sundays mornings per month to provide live worship, and iSing continues to be used for one Sunday each month and during the school holidays in the summer. The pattern of services now allows for an extended time of sung worship on the third Sunday of each month, which has been well equally well received by band members and the congregation. Volunteer Sunday did not provide any new members this year, but the team remain hopeful that this may

change in 2024 as three people in the band are also members of the Sound and Streaming team.

The electric drum kit which is no longer used and with permission from PCC, it was sold ,and the money used to purchase new vocal mics.

St. Mark's Sound and Streaming team is unchanged from last year with six volunteers covering all the Sunday morning services and as many other events as work patterns will allow, with help from Rev D Leathers and Rev J Wallace coordinator if needs arise. A new headset radio mic was purchased for use by service leader/preacher. No further expenditure has been necessary as we continue to use rechargeable batteries for headset and hand-held microphones, which is also reducing our environmental impact. Streaming the morning services is still a ministry in itself as comments left by people show that some of our regular online congregants are not confined to the northwest of England but are around the UK and some abroad.

St Mark's **Visuals team** provide the technical support for visuals during the services, including information slides, words for songs and videos within the services as well as operating the iSing software on weeks where a live band is not available. During 2023, the Visuals team remain in its regular routine of each person on the team committing to serve on a particular week of the month for the 10am service on Sundays, and the 3pm Sunday service has one committed member who has been admirably assisted by young Nathaniel Wallace. Nathaniel will be greatly missed next year when Rev J Wallace moves onto his first incumbency.

Food Pantry

The Pantry has completed its 2nd full year of operations, offering 'dignity, choice and hope' to its members over nearly 4,000 visits this year. We only closed for a few weeks to give the team a much-needed break. The need for the pantry has kept increasing and although weekly numbers have plateaued slightly, (around 60 families a week) we know of increasing numbers of people who would love to come (and indeed have been attending regularly) but who are unable to make the 2.5hours a week we are open due to compulsory college, medical appointments, or work. We pray to soon be able to gather enough team and time to open a second evening session to help meet more needs. The pantry has now had 630 families attend.

The community that is in place on a Thursday morning is a joy to be a part of and to witness it grow. The amount of food and toiletries that go through our system is still shocking. So much of this is also saved from landfill. We give many thanks to the Tesco blue token scheme and Torus Foundation who helped us to purchase 2 new cupboards to store everything securely during the week. Many thanks also to Warburtons, the Duchy of Lancaster, Tawd Vale Lions, Bryn Lodge, RSPCA, Haydock Band and the VCA who helped provide money for food or food donations alongside many individuals; we are incredibly grateful for each gift whatever the size. We have opened and improved communications with external organisations who can refer members to us or come in and offer support to our members, particularly we have great links with the local wellbeing and social prescribing teams. Our network of pantries in the St Helens area has grown and we support each other well, we have particularly good links with the mobile pantry and St Matthews.

The Pantry has now offered 2 'Fed Up' slow cooker cooking classes taking 16 people on a journey to discover cheaper, healthier, and tasty new recipes. Due to kind gifts,

donations and grants we have provided each member with a slow cooker, recipe book, ingredients for that week's main meal, and a 'graduation gift' of kitchen basics. Several of those attending have never cooked, everyone has left learning something new and with increased confidence and some firm friendships have been made. At the end of 2023 Torus foundation have made a grant towards the next cooking courses happening as well as paying the Pantry's franchise membership fee to 'Your Local Pantry' for us. We also took part in the big Christmas Give which raised over £700 pounds.

Once again this year we have made Christmas hampers for those we knew were most struggling thanks to kind gifts from church family and the local community, and once more this has greatly blessed those who received and those who got the privilege of delivering them. St Matthews Pantry also shared a massive donation of toys and gifts at Christmas ensuring that each member went home with a gift of their choosing to help with the madness of Christmas.

A massive thank you to everyone who contributes to the work of the Food Pantry. We couldn't do what we do without you especially the team who drives to collect food, sorts on a Wednesday and runs the pantry on Thursdays, all 42 of you are stars!

Brew and Renew - Wellbeing cafe for prayer, support and belonging

April '23 saw the opening of Brew and Renew with two leaders, five hosts, and 11 team members. Offering supportive chats, cake, varying activities and prayerful meditation. 2 attended with a half/half church, community split.

Since then, there's been varied attendance and faces as people find their place, and grow in mental health. Many who attend are now 'regular' in attendance but with new faces almost every week and supportive mental health chats being provided by most of the team. For many weeks we have had full tables, praise the lord!

Activities provided have changed too, adapting to work on projects which collaborate with the church such as the knitting of poppies for our Soldier on Remembrance Day. The craft table too has evolved with set weeks of lessons of creation in particular items i.e. flower wreaths.

The majority of attendance currently is from community people, but open to anyone, always. The most warming thing is to see the friendships forming, the openness to sharing and the coming inside God's house both listening to and sharing in prayer.

Our team have reduced for many good reasons, but our number of visitors continues to increase, we pray that God speaks to the heart of future helpers for our team and to further the group in every way he sees fit!

Financial review

The P.C.C. has established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested (called 'the free reserves') should be sufficient to cover between 4 and 6 months of the general expenditure of the church.

The Statement of Financial Activities is set out on page 30.

At the 31st December 2023, the figures stand as follows:

- Reserves £578,552 (£649,771 in 2022)
- General Purpose funds £360,775 (£388,541 in 2022), which includes Buildings at a value of £246,000 (£246,000 in 2022)
- Restricted Funds £214,677 (£258,260 in 2022), which includes £197,061 in the New Future capital project fund (£197,061 in 2022)
- Permanent Endowment fund £3,100 (£2,970 in 2022)

At the 31st December 2023, the free reserves were £142,541 (£142,541 in 2022).

PCC are aware of a yearly deficit in the budget prepared by the Treasurer. Our budgeted deficit does not take into account unplanned giving particularly in the form of 'gift day' each year which is a significant income to the Church.

Further financial review details

The PCC's principal source of income continues to be gifts and donations from members of the church, supplemented by Gift Aid from eligible people's offerings. Giving by Standing Order is recommended to more robustly generate the estimated income for the year. An envelope scheme for Gift Aid is used by all taxpayers who prefer to give cash. Other sources of income vary throughout the year, but include grants from outside bodies, income generated in the course of the church's outreach work from activities such as T.A.N.G.O. and hire of the premises.

It is the policy of the PCC to invest fund balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit fund.

The PCC actively reviews the major risks and challenges generated within the church by means of monthly meetings of the PCC and monthly meetings of the Standing Committee. The Treasurer gives a formal Report at each meeting of the PCC and provides updates between meetings to Standing Committee, which meets monthly. The inclusion of Buildings Team Updates at every PCC and Standing Committee has become the norm, which supports the Wardens updates and allows each meeting to be aware of larger expenditure which may be expected due to ongoing maintenance costs.

During 2023, the Missions Team were given a budget of £19,543. At the end of December 2023, the expenditure was £23,000 but was in line with the overall guidelines of the church.

All commitments to Global Mission Partners were maintained in 2023.

In addition, there were one-off gifts to:

The Oddments Theatre Company (towards their prison visiting ministry)

Christian Action Research Education (as previously given in 2021)

Word of Life (an organisation supporting new believers from Muslim backgrounds)

For information, the main giving in 2023 was to the following:

Tearfund – Harvest

Tearfund – Ukraine Appeal

Crosslinks, including Geoffrey Japhet in Tanzania and to General Funds

Open Doors (Persecuted Church)

Compassion (2 children in Peru) and contribution to General Funds

Youth with a Mission, Scotland (YWAM) Greg and Shawna Heyes

CMS

CPAS

Hope Centre

Message Trust

New Wine

Hands of Hope, Romania

Good News for Everyone (formerly Gideons)

PCC Activity 2023

During 2023 there were six ordinary meetings and four extraordinary meetings of the full PCC. Standing Committee held ten ordinary meetings and one extraordinary meeting. At each meeting, a Warden's Report, a Finance Report and an update from the Buildings Team has been presented so that PCC is kept aware of the current financial situation as well as appraised of expected maintenance work. The PCC held an away day with all Ministry Leaders on Saturday 25th February 2023.

In January 2023 the final figures for 2022 finances were shared at Standing Committee, and the Treasurer informed them of her struggles to get utilities providers to issue bills for several months and so this money was being held in reserve for when the bill eventually arrives. With a deficit budget of 2023 £43,000 (not including the utilities bill) Standing Committee wanted PCC to be appraised of this at the earliest opportunity. A rebate of £6,000 was later received from British Gas due to billing errors. The Wardens raised concerns that projected spending was being approved by PCC without there being a strategic system to track spending. This will be worked on during the year and Standing Committee would like this tracking of spending embedding as a discipline to support the Treasurer's regular reports of actual spending and suggested each spend be rated as Red/Amber/Green to prioritise spending.

Discussion has been held at both Standing Committee and PCC about how to approach the budget, and how to build in unpredictable costs as there have been significant, unexpected expenditure for the last several years for example slipping voussoir stones and trees that needed felling in the graveyard. The result of these discussions was a reluctance by PCC that they may need to discuss whether it was realistic to pay the full Parish Share for this coming year in view of a deficit budget. PCC had previously asked that St. Mark's Parish Share could be recalculated by the Deanery as they considered our fee to be disproportionate as compared to other

parishes in the Deanery, but as this did not look likely to happen, the PCC took the reluctant decision to hold back half of the predicted deficit from our Parish Share contribution as a short-term measure for the years ahead, with a decision that this will be reviewed annually as St. Mark's has always historically paid its Parish Share in full as PCC recognised the work of the Deanery and the Diocese relied on the Parish Share being paid. The PCC Secretary wrote to the Diocesan Secretary to inform them of this discussion.

There was a discussion as to why a figure for Gift Day was omitted in income section of the budget figures, but because the amount given varies year on year, the Treasurer would rather not put in a figure that might not be realised, which PCC understood. PCC discussed the proposed budget in their March meeting, and significant time had been spent at Standing Committee looking at the overspends, concluding that these were despite the best efforts of all ministries to minimise spending. The conclusions drawn were that the main contributors to the deficit were increased costs from two increases to the National Living Wage, and the reduced capacity for people to increase their giving due to the large increase in the cost of living, in particular food and fuel costs.

Discussion of a Draft Deanery Plan was also held in January, which was detailed for those churches within the Fit for Mission (FFM) pilot scheme but not those outside it, and as St. Mark's has prayerfully decided not to join the Fit for Mission (see reasons in the 2022 Annual Report). The proposed costs in the initial document did not seem to show parity for churches within and outside of FFM and so PCC asked that constructive feedback was sent to the Deanery, which was graciously received, and an updated version was received later in the year.

Changes in weather have also meant that the eight-month contract with the gardening company was insufficient, as the growing year was now longer, and there was extra work required that was not included in the original contract, namely the dog-walking area, play area, and hedges around the church grounds. Rather than pay for these on an ad hoc basis, which had increased the gardening spending by around £3,800 during 2022, PCC discussed various quotations received, and approved that the current gardening firm were given a 12-month fee with the extra areas included, which reduced the total gardening costs for 2023.

PCC approved the purchase of new chairs for use in The Centre which are lighter, foldable, stackable, and can be stored on wheeled trolleys which should improve safety for those moving these chairs on a daily basis. These chairs have also been brought across to church for use at large occasions.

Discussions have been held throughout the year as to the use of the New Futures fund as it was historically considered to be Restricted Funds. On investigation with a previous incumbent and the accountant from the early 1990s when the account was first set up, it was discovered that the fund was classed as designated funds, not restricted funds, and the account was intended to be used for the furtherance of the work of the church. The email confirming this understanding was shared with PCC who formally agreed that the New Futures account could be used for missional activities as approved by PCC.

PCC raised concerns in their March meeting at the large cost of the telephones in church, the Centre and the T.A.N.G.O. Warehouse which amounted to several thousand pounds per annum. Rev D Leathers, Rev J Wallace and S Conway were tasked at looking at alternatives. Their research was presented to PCC who approved VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) phones so that calls were made over the broadband connection reducing the annual cost to around £800. This ultimately proved quite a complex process to negotiate the end of contracts with the previous supplier, and it is expected that the new telephone system will be installed at the start of 2024.

Also in March, PCC was visited by Rev Neil Short who gave a presentation explaining a programme called LyCiG (Leading your Church into Growth). Participating churches were allocated three places on the course, which is usually the vicar and two other people, where the Diocese paid for the Vicar, the Deanery Mission and Growth Fund paid for the first lay member, and PCC would need to fund the third person. Rev D Leathers wanted to include Rev A Carson and said there would be sufficient funds in clergy expenses for her place. PCC discussed this later in the meeting and agreed that they would like to be part of this training, and approved that Rev D Leathers, G Shaw, S Conway and Rev A Carson should go along to the training events and be responsible for running training sessions with PCC and ministry leaders.

As part of St. Mark's desire to be more Eco-friendly, research has been undertaken by S Conway into installing photovoltaics (PVs) in the Centre, Warehouse and Church, and quotes were regularly brought to the attention of PCC. Only one of the companies approached was willing to quote for installing PVs on the church roof, and PCC was not satisfied that the work would be safe for any contractor due to the size of the access in the church roof, and the cost would not be offset. A quote to install 36kW of PVs and batteries for the Centre would cost over £60,000 and would still not fully cover the weekday load from the Café and Food Pantry, so with a 17-year payback time PCC considered this was not a feasible option. A quote for the Warehouse roof had previously been approved by PCC but considering the deficit budget, and the current poor state of the Warehouse roof, PCC voted not to install them at the present time.

In 2022, PCC had asked that of the two printers wanted by the office, only the large colour printer was purchased, and a review of the costs was held. Whilst most of the printing was in black and white, because it was a colour printer there was still some colour toner being used, which meant that it would be more economical to purchase a second printer one that did purely black and white printing, which PCC approved. By the end of 2023, this had significantly reduced printing costs.

A neighbour of St. Mark's Centre was selling some land next to the Centre and had enquired about buying the small strip of land between their land and the Centre which belonged to St. Mark's but was not currently used. As one of our Wardens is a retired surveyor, he undertook significant research including with the diocese, land registry and the local council to find out if it was economically viable to sell the land because of the covenants on it. As the legal costs were expected to be larger than the value of the land, PCC decided that the neighbour be responsible for any legal costs as part of selling the land, and their interest was withdrawn. As a result, PCC approved that a boundary fence be erected to delineate the boundary so that future issues could be prevented if the next buyer mistook the whole area of land to be theirs.

Amazon Smile has given notice that their support of small charities was ceasing, and as St. Mark's had benefitted in a small amount, they sent a one-off donation to mark the end of that service. St. Mark's was set up as a recipient of Easy Fundraising by a previous incumbent, and this is another way of raising money via internet shopping which the few people in St. Mark's who still use this would like it to be more widely advertised so that those who do internet shopping could raise small sums of money for St. Mark's.

At the start of 2023, PCC voiced concern at the high cost of utility bills across the Church, Centre and Warehouse. It was noted that the Youth Worker and Children's Pastor working in the glass room in the extension rather than their usual offices during the winter months had saved 30% of the church gas and electricity bills, and they were thanked for the inconveniences it had caused to their working days. S Conway had spent time researching various heating systems for The Centre and for the Church. The rapidly fluctuating values for gas and electricity were making PCC decisions difficult, but there was a need to make decisions swiftly so the work could be commissioned and completed over the summer so that a more efficient, and thus less costly, heating system was ready for the autumn.

By June 2023, the boiler had been replaced in the Centre and hive valves fitted to the radiators so the building could be heated in zones rather than in its entirety as a way of reducing gas bills. The heating system in the church was replaced in August after fulfilling the Faculty requirement to display the petition to do the work for three weeks. In November 2023, the boiler in the church extension (which includes the offices) failed and so this also needed replacing. The heating engineer suggested that a lower-wattage boiler would be sufficient and would be cheaper to run, and PCC accepted this advice in approving the replacement. In the November PCC meeting, it was reported that the last six months had used only 1MW whereas the same period in 2022 had used 11MW.

The lights in the T.A.N.G.O. Warehouse were replaced with LED lights. The WIFI in the Centre was upgraded, and the T.A.N.G.O. Warehouse was enabled on the church network so that it has high-speed broadband. This has been done by a member of the congregation with appropriate qualifications to save money on buying in a contractor. Issues were found with the boiler in the T.A.N.G.O. Warehouse and work was required to fix that as a matter of urgency in the winter.

At the annual inspection of the lightning conductor, it was discovered that a large section of the copper at the back of the church had been stolen, which had to be replaced as a matter of urgency despite it being an unexpected cost which would just exceed £1,000. The War Memorial outside the church has been repointed, which completes all the work specified on the latest Quinquennial Report. Whilst this was a costly job, around £3,500, PCC felt that the memorial was very important to the community and should be kept in good condition. The Warden had noticed issues with the windows leading up to the plant room, which the architect's visit showed that the exterior wall was coming away from an inner wall and would need to be pinned together. This work was expected to cost around £36,000 and the concern for the Wardens is that the walls around the rest of the church may start to fail in the same way. Due to this large spend, the proposed purchase of new chairs in the church was

postponed for at least the rest of 2023. The Standing Committee noted with concern that these high-cost maintenance jobs were becoming a regular occurrence and had exceeded the building budget for the last few years.

The car park behind the Centre was in a poor state so a volunteer weekend was planned for early December where a mini digger and a compacting plate were hired to assist the volunteers who were going to help fill in the larger holes in the car park. This would only ever be a temporary fix, but the financial situation prevents any more substantial repair at this time.

In July 2023, the Youth Worker gave a presentation to PCC to ask that they consider an increase of his hours of work. Most of this was because of extra work that Outwood Academy (previously Haydock High School) wanted him to do with the pupils there. One of the options was to temporarily cover Cool Club during the Children's Pastor's long-term sickness leave so her work with primary-aged community children was not lost. PCC debated the increase of his hours against the longevity of the money that had been gifted specifically from members of the congregation to provide wages for a Youth Worker, and these had been approached prior to this presentation being made. The proposal was unanimously passed with no abstentions.

The rates to hire the Centre had not been reviewed for several years, and so a proposal was put to PCC for increasing the rates gradually so the few groups who do hire rooms would not start looking elsewhere.

The Food Pantry was being run entirely in a voluntary capacity, and Standing Committee asked that volunteers who do a lot of driving as part of their service should be offered the chance to claim expenses.

Grants received

This year we were awarded several grants to further the work God is doing through us and PCC express their thanks to the people who did the research and administration necessary to get the grant funding.

T.A.N.G.O. Report (including Performance, Achievements and Financial Review)

T.A.N.G.O. (Together As Neighbours Giving Out) is an intentional Community Outreach Project of St Mark's Church, Haydock. The aim of T.A.N.G.O. is to reach out, serve and help those in need in the community, by building trust and fellowship, mirroring Christian values. The Scriptural basis of T.A.N.G.O. is to be found in the book of Isaiah chapter 58.

T.A.N.G.O. Community Project Annual Parochial Council Meeting Report 2023

T.A.N.G.O. is an intentional Community Outreach Project of St Marks Church, Haydock.

The aim of T.A.N.G.O. is to reach out, serve and help those in need in the community, by building trust and fellowship, mirroring Christian values.

The Scriptural basis of T.A.N.G.O. is to be found in the book of Isaiah chapter 58.

2023 has been a good year for T.A.N.G.O, we have focused on building firm foundations within the staff team, and we witnessed connections and community growth. 2023 also brought with it financial challenges, which we ended 2022 praying into. Answer to prayer, in January 2023, we were approached by two organisations that wanted to raise funds for us, The Millenium Group (a local Christian group that chooses a charity and then raises funds for their chosen charity) and CFS Systems (a local business), between both organisations, £6,255 was raised and gifted to T.A.N.G.O.

In 2023 two of the local Hotels were used to temporarily house refugees from all over the world, T.A.N.G.O worked alongside a new group that was set up to specifically help and support our new guests by providing a rack of clothing each week, and some of the refugees showed willing to work and serve, so we welcomed some onto our volunteer teams, they served in the kitchen and warehouse, cooking skills were taught, steel cap safety boots were provided, weekly transport costs were covered and hot meals were provided for each refugee on our volunteers team. Moving in packs and furniture was also provided for all refugees that were moved on to permanent housing.

Giving

We work with external associations to reach people in need within the borough of St Helens, during 2023 T.A.N.G.O. gave the following items:

42 x Wardrobes	29 x Armchairs	45 x Sofas
61 x Chests of Draws	32 x Beds & Mattresses	36 x Table & Chair sets
5 x Fridge / Freezers	189 x Small Furniture Items	52 x Soft Furnisings
99 x Crockery / Cutlery Sets	64 - Other Homeware Items	
95 x Hot Meals	98 x Drinks	

- That works out at an average of more than **16 items given every week**, I am really thrilled to report that with our increased focus on giving and additional funding raised, dedicated to giving, we almost quadrupled our giving in 2023.

In addition to this,

We have served **867** free meals to children during school holidays as part of our 'Kids Eat Free' initiative and have given almost **3** metric tons of free food away to the community. This has been provided to vulnerable people in need and our 'Kids Eat Free' scheme more than quadrupled in demand compared to 2022.

In 2023, T.A.N.G.O. processed a total of **53 metric tons** of unwanted second-hand goods and redistributed this back into the community where needed. We also offer a free collection service on our T.A.N.G.O. van and provided 697 Free Collections to the community.

- One of our Café Assistants successfully completed a Supported Internship with us, this was a course that was led by St Helens Collage and we partnered with them with the aim to get vulnerable adults into the workplace, it was an honour to represent St Marks and T.A.N.G.O whilst attending the certificate presentation in the town hall.

- T.A.N.G.O has been able to aid various families who are in desperate situations and in urgent need of practical help. These have included families without enough furniture for their children, adults fleeing domestic violence, those who have found themselves homeless, and those trapped in high interest rate loans.
- T.A.N.G.O was able to aid the Salvation Army with a large donation of bedding, sheets and duvets etc, this was to help specifically with their homeless hostel based in St Helens.
- One of the local councillors reached out to us and asked to loan our large gazebo for a local fund-raising event. We were happy to help, and they raised over £1,400 for Alzheimer's Research by providing a fantastic 'family fun day' for the local community.
- 2023 was the first year T.A.N.G.O joined with St Marks on the field for the Big Summer Party. We had stalls and a BBQ and there was lots of positive feedback having T.A.N.G.O take part in the event.
- We successfully recruited a replacement Kitchen and Café assistant and welcomed our new recruit onto the team after Christmas.
- 22 bags of clothing were supplied to a charity called Daffodils Dreams based in Wigan, this donation will help this charity in their goal of providing equal opportunities to children in the area.
- We have provided a free school uniform sorting service during 2023, which covers 7 local schools, we receive their school uniform from public donations and the school's lost property, sort through it and offer it to the community free of charge.
- We updated our T.A.N.G.O website with new graphics and text, it also now links to our church website. We continue to build up our Facebook page also, now we have 3,100 people following our page.
- T.A.N.G.O. Café is registered as a 'Warm Space' on the national warm space database and with the St Helens Council, operating alongside our café and open 3 days per week, this service continued throughout the cold months of 2023.
We have extra resources in the Café to help with this initiative and free warm packs were given from the warehouse. From first starting this in 2022 and having volunteers available specifically to listen and talk with the community, a need for a quieter space was identified where people suffering with stress and or anxiety would feel more comfortable / at ease. Being able to identify this need through T.A.N.G.O, a new ministry was started in 2023 to serve the community members who are struggling mentally.

T.A.N.G.O. works alongside the community, we see first-hand, the amount of people struggling, some of the personal situations of the people we have been able to help in 2023 mostly include people struggling with the cost-of-living crisis, people fleeing domestic abuse, homeless people, refugees, assisted living, people with disabilities trying to live independently, people trying to cope with being a carer and people suffering with poor mental health such as stress, depression and anxiety.

Financially, T.A.N.G.O. ended 2023 with a small surplus of funds which will be re-invested back into the community. As we close on 2023, we know that rising utility costs and a larger wage bill is a realistic concern for the next year.

It is very evident that the amount of people struggling is growing, and yet the funding pots across the borough are diminishing. Where there is no funding available to people, T.A.N.G.O. operates a giving policy as demonstrated above. As we manage the financial running of T.A.N.G.O, we pledged in 2022 that we aimed to maintain the same amount of giving or increase it, to meet the demands of the community. We certainly managed that. Going forward into 2024 we are aiming to provide as much

giving to the community as per public demand, this is something we are passionate about achieving and we pray into faithfully.

At the end of 2023, we celebrated with another hugely successful Christmas Fayre, this was even more popular than the year before and we were visited by hundreds of people from the community. There was lots of family fun and laughter, it was a really joyous occasion where the church congregation and community people all pitched in together, so we finished the year by doing what we do best - bringing the community together.

Structure, governance, and management

Description of the charity's trusts

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) operates under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 and the Church Representation Rules.

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and is:

- i) a charity currently excepted by order from registration with the Charity Commission or a charity registered with the Charity Commission.

PCC members are appointed in accordance with the Church of England Representation Rules and are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. All those who attend are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. Individual members of the PCC receive external training as and when deemed appropriate by the PCC.

Day to Day management of the church building, finance and fabric was exercised by the Standing Committee, the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact PCC Business between PCC meetings and considers strategic issues which may affect the church.

Members of the Standing Committee are:

Rev. D Leathers, Incumbent

Rev J Wallace, Curate

Rev A Carson, Non-stipendiary Curate

S Ashcroft, Warden

J Carson, Warden

S Conway, Elected PCC representative

R Heyes, Elected PCC representative

V Jolly, Treasurer

W Conway, PCC Secretary

An information booklet on Trusteeship is given to new PCC members at their first PCC meeting following the APCM, and all are required to have DBS check arranged unless they have a current DBS for another ministry within St. Mark's. New members will review the policies on Safeguarding Children and Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults as part of the annual review at the first PCC meeting after the APCM.

Safeguarding training is held as required, and the PCC have a designated Safeguarding Officer who is the main contact should a disclosure be made. There is also a Safeguarding Administrator who oversees the paperwork associated with arranging DBS checks, Safeguarding training and who keeps a log of all members of St. Mark's that are required to have DBS checks and keeps a log of completed training.

St. Mark's Electoral Roll membership entitles it to have 5 Deanery Synod Representatives and 15 Elected Laity on its PCC. One of our Lay Readers is a Lay Member of General Synod, and so will remain as Ex-Officio on PCC in this capacity.

The Standing Committee was decided by PCC to comprise the following people:

Incumbent

Wardens

PCC Secretary

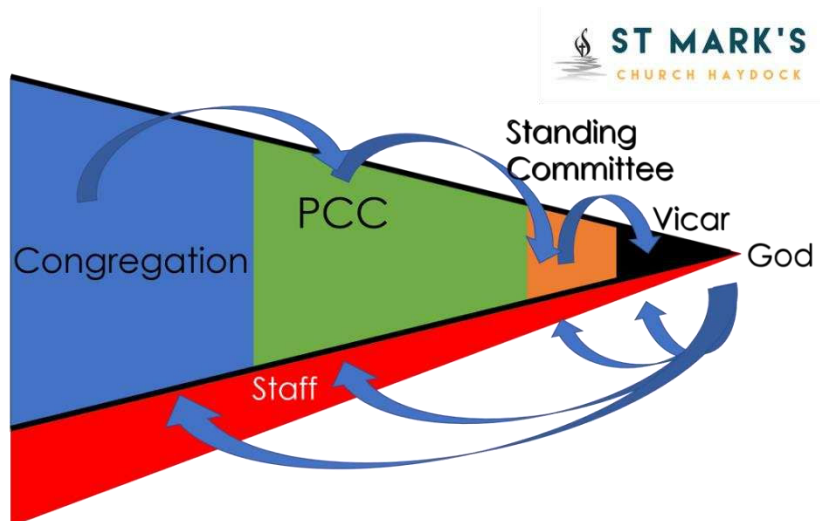
Treasurer

Two lay representatives from PCC

Curate**

Standing Committee is a subcommittee of PCC approved annually, and so this structure will be reviewed in the first meeting of PCC after the 2023 APCM.

For the sake of transparency and shared leadership, the diagram below illustrates the current leadership of St Mark's, which was adopted in May 2019 and continues to be used:



The Vicar uses Standing committee as a sounding board for vision, but also to explore the big issues affecting the church, for strategy and for counsel. All non-confidential items are then brought to PCC, and anything with wider scope is both fed back, and consultation given, to the Congregation. Since initiating this leadership method, the results have been highly effective.

Subcommittees that are annually approved:

- **Standing Committee** (two elected representatives of PCC are voted in at the first meeting after the APCM).
- **TANGO Subcommittee**
St. Mark's PCC will annually appoint a T.A.N.G.O. Subcommittee, which will report to and operate under the authority of the PCC. It is made up of both PCC members, T.A.N.G.O. staff and T.A.N.G.O. volunteers. The subcommittee will have devolved responsibility for the strategy and direction of T.A.N.G.O. operations. Day-to-day management of the project is left with the T.A.N.G.O. coordinator.
- **Mission team**
A team who are responsible for allocating the annual tithe across both our mission partners and other charities St Mark's supports
- **Buildings Team**
Devolved responsibilities include discussing the future needs of the buildings, putting together repair plans, development plans and anything regarding the buildings and fabric of the building. Both wardens sit on this team.
- **Policies Team**
Devolved responsibilities include reviewing current policies and putting together proposals for new policies that are deemed necessary before submitting them to PCC for approval or amendment.
- **Stewardship Team**
This has not been used in 2023 as all members of the Team are on Standing Committee
- **The "Sitting" Team**
In the first meeting of PCC after the APCM, this team was established by Rev D Leathers as many of the chairs in church are beyond their useful life. This team will look at various suppliers and styles of chair and bring the results to PCC in due course

As a church we have affiliations to the:

- Church Missionary Society
- Church Pastoral Aid Society
- Compassion UK
- Crosslinks
- Evangelical Alliance
- Light and Life ministries
- Message Trust
- New Wine
- Open Doors
- St Helens foodbank
- Tearfund
- YWAM
- The Message
- New Wine

St. Mark's pays all employees at the Living Wage rate, and they have the option of joining a workplace pension scheme. Paid staff during 2023 (all part-time until the increase of our Youth Workers hours in October 2023) include:

- Church Office Co-ordinator
- Children's Pastor
- Pioneer Youth Worker (full time from October 2023)
- Cleaner (two people across church and T.A.N.G.O.)
- Gardener
- Maintenance Person
- T.A.N.G.O. Co-ordinator
- T.A.N.G.O. Delivery persons (van driver and an assistant)
- T.A.N.G.O. Warehouse manager
- T.A.N.G.O. Shop manager
- T.A.N.G.O. Administrator
- T.A.N.G.O. catering staff (three people)

(Changes in employment during 2023 are detailed in the "Aims and Purposes" section, above).

Reference and Administration Information

Church name and location	St. Mark's, Haydock			
	The church is part of the Diocese of Liverpool within the Church of England			
Registered charity number	1128590			
Church correspondence address	St. Mark's Church, West End Road			
	Haydock			
	St. Helens	WA11 0AX		
	Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Ex-Officio members
1	Rev D Leathers	Incumbent		
2	Rev James Wallace	Curate (stipendiary)		✓
3	A Carson	Curate (non-stipendiary)		✓
4	R Denno	Lay member General Synod		✓
5	S Ashcroft	Warden		✓
6	J Carson	Warden		✓
7	S Conway	Deanery Synod Rep	From April 2023	✓
		Standing Committee/ PCC Lay Chair	Throughout 2023	
8	L Greenall	Deanery Synod Rep	Until April 2023	
	L Greenall		From April 2023	✓
9	V Jolly	Deanery Synod Rep and Treasurer		✓
9	B Jones	Deanery Synod Rep		✓
10	H Denno	Deanery Synod Rep		✓
11	G Duncan	Deanery Synod Rep	Until April 2023	✓
12	J Thornhill	Deanery Synod Rep	From April 2023	✓
13	R Carson			
14	A Chisnall			
15	L Cockram	Deputy Secretary		
16	W Conway	Secretary		
17	I Duncan			
18	J Dutton		From April 2023	
19	B Lister			
20	K Lister			
21	I McGinn			

22	R Heyes	Standing Committee		
23	L Pearn			
24	G Shaw			
25	K White			
26	L Wilkinson			
27				
28				
29				
30				

	Name	Dates acted if not for the full year	Office held
	M Curran		<i>Safeguarding officer</i>
	L Mather		<i>Electoral Roll officer</i>
	W Conway		<i>PCC Secretary</i>
	G Duncan	Until autumn 2023 This position was still unfilled as of December 2023, and necessary administration was being covered by the church office.	<i>Safeguarding Administrator</i>

Names and addresses of advisers
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Type of adviser	Name	Address
Architect	Mr Peter Williamson	Condy Lofthouse Architects Unit 17 Connect Business Village 24 Derby Road Liverpool L5 9PR
Independent Examiner	Mr M Heaton	K M Accountants Manchester Road Burnley BB11 1JG


Name and address of Bankers and Investments companies eg CCLA
--

The Co-operative Bank P.O. Box 48 1 Balloon Street Manchester M60 1GP	CCLA Investment Management Ltd Senator House 85 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4ET
Any exemptions from disclosure N/Y if Y detail below	Funds held as custodian trustee - Agent transactions-include LDBF clergy fees, special collections, fees for the service of bell ringers, organists, vergers or choir at weddings and for organists, vergers and gravediggers at funerals.
Any funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others N/Y if Y detail below	

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees (PCC) by clergy and laity (laity optional)

Signature(s)	
Full name(s)	Rev. D Leathers
Position	Incumbent/Chair of PCC
Date	30 TH April 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Mark's Church, Haydock

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 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 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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



Mark Heaton FCCA FCIE

KM
Chartered Accountants
Burnley
BB11 1JG

21st May 2024

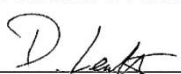
**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF ST MARK'S HAYDOCK**

BALANCE SHEET

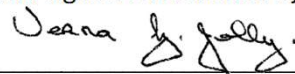
At 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	5a	246,000	246,000
Investment assets	5b	3,100	2,970
		249,100	248,970
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	7,104	7,630
Cash at bank and in hand		342,880	414,899
		349,984	422,529
LIABILITIES			
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	8a	(20,532)	(21,728)
Net current assets		329,452	400,801
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year	8b	0	0
Total assets less current liabilities		578,552	649,771
FUNDS			
Unrestricted	6 9a	358,421	388,541
Restricted	9b	217,031	258,260
Permanent Endowment		3,100	2,970
Total charity funds		578,552	649,771

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 15th May 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



 Trustee



 Trustee

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF ST MARK'S HAYDOCK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
INCOMING AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:						
Donations and legacies	2(a)	208,444	9,960		218,404	221,335
Investments	2(b)	3,870	7,955		11,825	2,744
Church activities	2(c)	24,812	169,723		194,535	175,225
Sale of Assett		-	-		0	70,113
Grants received		1,700	15,922		17,622	13,118
TOTAL		238,826	203,560	-	442,386	482,535
EXPENDITURE ON:						
Grants paid	3(a)	24,080	-		24,080	24,244
Other church activities	3(b)	241,569	247,006		488,575	413,788
Governance costs	3(c)	1,080	-		1,080	860
TOTAL		266,729	247,006	-	513,735	438,892
Net expenditure before transfers		(27,903)	(43,446)	-	(71,349)	43,643
Transfers:						
Gross transfers between funds	9(c)	137	(137)	-	0	-
Net expenditure before other recognised gains and losses		(27,766)	(43,583)	-	(71,349)	43,643
Gains/(losses) on investment assets		-	-	130	130	(298)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR		(27,766)	(43,583)	130	(71,219)	43,345
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		388,541	258,260	2,970	649,771	606,426
Total funds carried forward		360,775	214,677	3,100	578,552	649,771

The notes on pages 32 to 42 form an integral part of these financial statements.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF ST MARK'S HAYDOCK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts, except for the valuation of investment assets which are shown at market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: 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) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 a restatement of comparative items was needed. No restatements were required.

Funds

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used either as unrestricted or restricted funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

Restricted funds represent (a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest, and (b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year must be carried forward for each fund. The PCC invests separately for its major restricted fund, the New Future fund, and interest earned is allocated accordingly.

Unrestricted funds are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Properties purchased for use by the charity out of restricted funds are transferred to general funds once the transaction has been completed.

Where the charity has committed itself to pay grants out of income at a percentage, the balance unpaid is allocated to Designated Funds for payment in the following year.

Income

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Grant income is deferred when grants are received in advance of the performance of the activities to which they relate. Income received under contract or where entitlement to grant funding is subject to specific performance conditions is recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided). Grant income in this category provides funding to support performance activities where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December 2023

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF ST MARK'S HAYDOCK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Expenditure

obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

All resources expended are incurred as part of the charitable activities of the PCC except for the audit fee which is included in Governance Costs.

Fixed Assets

- a) Consecrated land and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with S.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011
- b) Church Hall and land are fully written down in the accounts.
- c) Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected at any reasonable time. For anything acquired before 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.
- d) No depreciation is provided on the curate's, or the assistant vicar's houses, included within freehold land and buildings, or on the Church Centre, included within long leasehold land and buildings, on the grounds that it would be immaterial because the estimated residual values of the land and buildings are not materially different from the amounts shown in the accounts. The valuations of the properties are reviewed annually for impairment.
- e) Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight line basis over 5 years, starting in the year after purchase.
- f) Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December 2023 The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations throughout the year.

Current Assets

Amounts owing to the Charity at 31 December 2023 in respect of fees or other income are shown as debtors less any provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Bank deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds or at a Bank.

Pensions

The pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contribution payable by the charity during the year.

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF ST MARK'S HAYDOCK**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

2 INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
2(a) Donations and grants					
Gift Aid	113,656	4,445	-	118,101	131,048
Parish Giving	15,032	-	-	-	-
Income Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	32,029	1,115	-	33,144	34,974
Collections (open plate) at all services	9,042	770	-	9,812	12,391
Standing Orders not G Aid	18,188	3,630	-	21,818	17,965
Sovereign Giving	13,860	-	-	13,860	14,220
Automated Payments	2,137	-	-	2,137	2,533
Sundry Donations	4,500	-	-	4,500	8,204
Total	208,444	9,960	-	218,404	221,335
2(b) Investment income					
Interest on UK Cash Deposits	3,870	7,955	-	11,825	2,744
2(c) Church activities					
Hardship Fund	944	-	-	944	924
Letter Box Donations	-	-	-	0	350
Ladies Cluster	2,130	-	-	2,130	1,466
Tango Community Project	-	137,526	-	137,526	128,716
Smarties/Cool Club	178	-	-	178	1,375
Wedding/Funeral Fees	12,771	-	-	12,771	11,106
Youth Worker	-	15,000	-	15,000	1,668
Hire of Centre etc	3,095	-	-	3,095	5,308
Food Pantry Income	-	14,073	-	14,073	13,492
Diocesan recharges	5,694	-	-	5,694	9,750
Warm Space/Brew/Renew etc	-	3,124	-	3,124	1,070
Community Garden	-	-	-	0	-
	24,812	169,723	-	194,535	175,225
Profit on Sale of Assets	-	-	-	0	70,113
Food Pantry Grant	-	7,922	-	7,922	8,108
Youth Grant	1,700	-	-	1,700	-
Tango Grant	-	5,000	-	5,000	-
Seekers Grants	-	3,000	-	3,000	5,010
	1,700	15,922	-	17,622	83,231
Total	26,512	185,645	-	212,157	258,456
TOTAL INCOME	238,826	203,560	-	442,386	482,535

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF ST MARK'S HAYDOCK**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

3 EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
3(a) Missions /Grants To Institutions					
CROSSLINKS	5,100	-	-	5,100	5,100
TEAR FUND	3,000	-	-	3,000	3,850
COMPASSION	1,554	-	-	1,554	1,444
CMS	2,000	-	-	2,000	2,000
CPAS	2,000	-	-	2,000	3,000
Poppy Appeal	300	-	-	300	300
St. Luke's Hospital	100	-	-	100	100
Open Doors	1,575	-	-	1,575	1,500
Hope Centre - Foodbank	500	-	-	500	500
Other small donations	671	-	-	671	450
Evangelical Alliance	200	-	-	200	200
God News for Everyone	400	-	-	400	400
North Africans In Mission	-	-	-	-	500
Word of Life	500	-	-	500	-
New Wine	1,000	-	-	1,000	-
Hope Romania	500	-	-	500	500
Message Trust	500	-	-	500	500
Ladies Cluster Donations	1,080	-	-	1,080	1,800
Christian Action Resource Education	500	-	-	500	-
	21,480	0	-	21,480	22,144
To Individuals					
G Heyes YWAM	2,600	-	-	2,600	2,100
	2,600	-	-	2,600	2,100
Total	24,080	0	-	24,080	24,244

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF ST MARK'S HAYDOCK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

3 EXPENDITURE (cont....)

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2022 £	TOTAL 2021 £
3(b) Work of the Church					
Diocesan Stipend & Quota	114,689	-	-	114,689	109,633
Working Expenses of clergy	2,962	-	-	2,962	2,911
Parsonage Houses	3,843	-	-	3,843	3,565
PCC Property	3,862	-	-	3,862	9,705
Assistant Staff	8,431	-	-	8,431	14,901
Youth Worker	-	14,040	-	14,040	10,715
Church Running Expenses	10,921	-	-	10,921	10,293
Church Utilities	5,960	-	-	5,960	4,884
Rebate Ch Gas	(6,000)	-	-	(6,000)	-
Church Maintenance	15,961	-	-	15,961	11,286
New Church Boiler	-	43,226	-	43,226	-
Centre Boiler	-	26,783	-	26,783	-
Centre Chairs	-	4,200	-	4,200	-
Centre Kitchen	-	10,833	-	10,833	-
Upkeep of Services	4,440	-	-	4,440	8,570
Upkeep of Churchyard	12,677	-	-	12,677	13,233
Centre Running Expenses	16,950	-	-	16,950	18,145
Centre M'tce	2,848	-	-	2,848	2,370
Training Costs and support costs	8,161	-	-	8,161	7,215
Tango Costs	-	132,727	-	132,727	123,638
Ladies Cluster	450	-	-	450	966
Hardship	550	-	-	550	-
Smarties/Cool Club	-	-	-	-	1,392
Admin Assistants	15,045	-	-	15,045	17,192
Office Costs	2,373	-	-	2,373	6,095
Sundries	8,173	-	-	8,173	2,604
Boilers & Drains	9,273	-	-	9,273	-
Community Garden/Labyrinth	-	-	-	-	182
Mortgage Interest	-	-	-	-	1,506
Warm Space	-	-	-	-	519
Grant-All Churches Trust	-	-	-	-	4,041
Other Grants	-	3,354	-	3,354	4,887
Pantry Costs	-	11,843	-	11,843	23,340
Total	241,569	247,006	-	488,575	413,788
3(c) Governance Costs					
	1,080	-	-	1,080	860
Independent Examination	1,080	-	-	1,080	860
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	266,729	247,006	-	513,735	438,892

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF ST MARK'S HAYDOCK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
4 STAFF COSTS		
Gross Wages and Salaries	155,029	146,548
Social Security Costs	5,477	3,686
Pension Costs	1,660	1,557
Employers NI Allow 2023/2024	(5,000)	(3,686)
	157,114	148,105

The average number of employees during the year was 10.5 full time equivalents (2022- 11.5).

No employee earned more than £60,000 per annum in the current or previous years.

No member of the PCC received remuneration

No expenses were paid to PCC members in their capacity as trustees.

5 FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY THE CHARITY

	Freehold Land & Buildings £	Long Leasehold Land & Buildings £	Motor Vehicles £	Fixtures & Equipment Fittings £	Total £
5(a) Tangible fixed assets					
Used directly for charitable purposes					
COST					
At 1 January 2023	443,000	153,000	23,220	109,606	728,826
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	443,000	153,000	23,220	109,606	728,826
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 January 2023	(350,000)	-	(23,220)	(109,606)	(482,826)
Charge for the year	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	(350,000)	-	(23,220)	(109,606)	(482,826)
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 December 2022	93,000	153,000	0	0	246,000
At 31 December 2023	93,000	153,000	0	0	246,000

Land & Buildings, including consecrated land, benefited property and movable church fittings that are excluded from Tangible Fixed Assets, have been insured for £13,300,000 (2022 - £8,870,000)

5(b) Investments

	2023	2022
	£	£
Historical Cost	<u><u>3,036</u></u>	<u><u>3,036</u></u>
Market Value	<u><u>3,100</u></u>	<u><u>2,970</u></u>

Fixed asset investments consist of Shares held in CBF Church of England Fixed Interest Securities Fund, a fund registered on the UK Stock Exchange.

The shares are held primarily to provide an investment return.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF ST MARK'S HAYDOCK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

6 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 £
Fixed Assets	246,000	-		246,000	246,000
Net Current Assets	112,421	217,031	3,100	332,552	403,771
Fund balance	358,421	217,031	3,100	578,552	649,771

7 DEBTORS

	2023 £	2022 £
<u>Prepayments & accrued income:</u>		
Income tax recoverable	6,015	7,630
Other debtors:	1,089	-
	<u>7,104</u>	<u>7,630</u>

8a CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Other Creditors	13,678	480
Accruals	6,854	11,248
	<u>20,532</u>	<u>11,728</u>

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF ST MARK'S HAYDOCK**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

9 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1Jan 2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers Total £	At 31 Dec 2023 £
9a UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General Funds	388,541	238,826	(266,729)	137	360,775
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	388,541	238,826	(266,729)	137	360,775

9b RESTRICTED FUNDS

	At 1Jan 2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers Total £	At 31 Dec 2023 £
New Future	197061	17915	(85042)	113	130047
Tango Community Project	39984	142526	(132727)	-	49783
Youth Worker	14851	15000	(14040)	-	15811
Food Pantry Grants/Income	4619	21995	(11843)	-	14771
Other Grants	1,745	6124	(3,354)	(250)	4265
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	258,260	203,560	(247,006)	(137)	214,677