

# **The Parish of Chilthorne Domer**



**Annual Report  
and  
Financial Statements  
of the Parochial Church Council  
for the year ended  
31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

Rector:

Vacancy

Bankers:

Nat West, Yeovil

Independent Examiner:

Mr P Moore

Wilmary Paddock

Chilthorne Domer

BA22 8RD

The Parochial Church Council is an Excepted Charity

# **The Parochial Church Council of St Mary, Chilthorne Domer**

## **Annual Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

### **The aims of S Mary's church council**

St Marys Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, presently a Vacant position, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church building of St Mary's church building.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable this through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Ensuring that the church building is both an accessible and welcoming environment and fit for purpose in people's explorations of 'their gifts in service of others and their worship of God in Christ Jesus'.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St Mary's.

### **2024 – Our Celebrations and Challenges**

Some might think St Mary's is out on the edge of the community, but that would be wrong. Be it through the teams of folks who help with the upkeep of the church and its surrounds or, more so, the volunteers who join with the church community acting in and for the wider community.

Our organist Philip, the churchyard grass and hedge cutters, those who clean and arrange flowers. The choir and readers at Christmas, the village carol and crib services. The helpers at the Village Monday afternoon teas, the Easter café and the joint School bingo night. We celebrate you, one and all!

We also celebrate our regular services and the joy of the school services and festivals. As well as our regular services, we look to serve and care for our community as they celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. Through baptism we thank God for the gift of life, in marriage public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services friends and family express their grief and give thanks for the life which is now complete in this world and to commend the person into God's keeping. We have celebrated 1 baptism and held 3 funerals in our church.

Whilst we celebrate many things we do have some challenges, not least keeping the roof watertight.

## Safeguarding

*“Safeguarding is a Christian imperative and a responsibility that we all must undertake with thoughtfulness, commitment and care. The gospel affirms that every person is made in the image of God and that everybody is therefore valued and loved by God”*

No concerns of safeguarding were reported in 2024

The Parish is registered on the Diocesan Dashboard (for easy record keeping). The PCC has adopted the Diocesan Safeguarding policy, but has no Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) at this time. ‘Basic Awareness’ and ‘Foundation’ level safeguarding training remain the expected training for all PCC members. Details of how to make a report of a Safeguarding issue are displayed in the church

## Deanery Synod Report

The Deanery Synod met 3 times in the last year.

The June meeting was held at Mudford village hall. The presentations were warmly received by the synod on the Street Pastors, insight into the youth work at St Peters Church and community centre and on pioneering work in the diocese.

In October the meeting was held at St Andrews Church Hall. After the opening worship two new members of the clergy were introduced from Coker Ridge and Preston Plucknett. This was followed by a talk from the Diocesan Head of Finance and Operations and a long discussion ensued among the members present.

Synod in February was held at St James Church. Rev, David Keen showed a slide show entitled "Talking Jesus" which asked how Christians had come to faith and how they find talking about their faith. At this meeting the new Rector of Mudford Benefice was welcomed, and prayers were asked for the Five Crosses Benefice as we start to transition from Yeovil Deanery to Ivelchester Deanery.

At all of the meetings there is time for news and updates from the Parishes.

*Sallyanne Batstone*

## Structure, governance and management

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

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Mary's the membership of the PCC consists of the Churchwarden and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

The full PCC met x3 times during the year with an average level of attendance of 95%.

*Thank you to all the PCC members, for meeting, prayers and practical assistance in the Lord's name.*

## **Administrative information**

St Mary's Church is situated in Main Street, Chilthorne Domer, BA22 8RD. It is part of the Diocese of Bath and Wells within the Church of England. The address for correspondence is PCC Secretary, Mrs A Clothier, Pound Farm, Chilthorne Domer, Yeovil.

PCC members who have served at any time from 2024 until the date this report was approved are:

### **Ex Officio members:**

Incumbent: Vacant

Wardens: Mrs Angela Clothier

**Elected members:** Mr Mark Batstone; Mrs Jillian Coe; Mr Ian Gardner; Mrs Sallyann Batstone (Reader welcomed on PCC by the Annual Meeting)

**Treasurer:** Mr Ian Gardner

**Safeguarding Officer:** Vacant

## **St Mary Chilthorne Domer**

### **Financial review and Statements for the year ended 31st December 2024**

#### **Review of 2024**

Total receipts were £9,128 (*a decrease on 2023 of £9,135 – high due to legacy donation and heating grant for CofE*). Income over expenditure saw a deficit of £1,526. Parish share contribution requested for 2024 was £9,804 and the PCC managed to contribute £4,500 towards this amount.

Insurance costs for the church were roughly as in 2023 at £1,081. As with all non-domestic settings the costs of utilities increased significantly in 2024; £829 compared with £529 in 2023 (unfortunately there are no charitable body tariff, only business tariff we can look to). Statutory Fees for Weddings and funerals in the year generated £2,032

#### **Reserves policy**

The balance of the free reserves at the yearend was £30,218 a decrease of £1,526 on the previous year.

*Thank you to Mr Ian Gardener for all his work as treasurer.*

# Independent Examiners report on the accounts

## Independent Examiner's Report To the PCC of St Mary the Virgin, Chilthorne Domer On Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

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

It is my responsibility:

- to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

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

**Independent examiner's statement**

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or

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

Signed:

P. R. Moore

Date:

31/3/25.

Mr. Philip Moore  
Wilmary Paddock  
Chilthorne Domer  
Somerset BA22 8RD

# St Mary Chilthorne Domer: Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

## Chilthorne Domer Parochial Church Council

### Accounts for 2024

2023		2024
£	<u>Income</u>	£
1340.34	Church collections	787.81
	Donations:	
750.80	Gift-aided donations	1,207.55
608.94	Gift aid tax recovery from HMRC	461.55
994.90	Post Office Teas, Raffle etc	1,350.00
9312.00	Other donations	617.60
1839.31	Events	1,152.85
2366.20	Fees	2,032.00
	Parish Council Grant	450.00
500.00	Cof E Energy grant	
551.10	Interest and Dividends	1,068.85
	Other	
18263.59	<b>Total income</b>	9,128.21
	<u>Expenditure</u>	
445.00	Organist / Visiting clergy	632.00
4500.00	Parish share	4,500.00
529.33	Electricity	829.20
1057.50	Insurance	1,081.00
684.89	Charitable donations	247.70
	Expenses of clergy etc	
	Newsletter	
2183.50	Maintenance	3,364.92
	Capital items	
	Other	
9400.22	<b>Total expenditure</b>	10,654.82
8863.37	Surplus/ (Deficit)	-1,526.61
22881.45	Opening Funds	31,744.82
31744.82	<b>Closing Funds</b>	30,218.21
	<u>Bank Reconciliation</u>	
6180.44	Current Account Statement	2485.23
3151.06	Capital Reserve Account Statement	3196.77
22028.93	Liquidity Manager Account Statement	22738.92
863.70	Add: December takings credited in following year	2,115.91
-479.31	Less: Uncashed cheques	-318.62
31744.82	<b>Total funds</b>	30,218.21

Examined:

*P.R. Damer*

Date:

31/3/25