

# ACCOUNTS FOR 2024

I have tried this year to not bombard you with figures but just pick out what I think are the salient points, for which I am sure you will all be very grateful!

## SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL RESULTS

	£
General Fund	6,091
Centre Operations	5,940
Community Café	2,309
TOTAL	14,340

So these are the three principal areas of our finances. You will see that the General Fund made a surplus of just over £6,000, the Church Centre made a surplus of just under £6,000 and the Community Café gave a surplus of £2,300.

## GENERAL FUND

	£
Budget 2024	(11,366)
Actual 2024	6,091
CHANGE	17,457

You may remember that at this time last year, everything was rather doom and gloom. At that stage we were anticipating a significant deficit of over £11,000. What happened during the year that turned that deficit into the surplus of £6,000.

## REASONS FOR THE CHANGE

	£
Planned Giving	4,640
Collections and donations	3,060
Gift Aid Recovered	1,060
Stewardship appeal	3,655
Fund Raising	3,910
Legacy and other income	1,195
TOTAL	17,520

Based on the budget for 2024 you will recall that we initiated a mini stewardship exercise. As a result of that two things happened: some people chose to make a one-off donation, and as you can see that brought in £3,655 including gift aid. Some chose to increase their monthly donations and that increased planned giving by £4,640. Collections and donations brought in just over £3,000 more than budgeted, and both the planned giving and collections and donations contributed to the additional amount of gift aid we were able to recover. The final improvement over budget was the amount raised through fund raising activities – an amazing achievement and due to a lot of hard work by so many people.

## FUND RAISING

	£
Christmas Fair	1,970
Harvest and Parish Lunch	1,756
Table-top sale	859
Murder Mystery Evening	491
Barbecue	761
Others	2,077
TOTAL	7,914

An this is a breakdown of where those funds have been raised. (Talk through)

## DONATIONS TO CHARITY

	£
Children's Society	1,541
Christian Aid	769
Wimborne Foodbank	694
Embrace the Middle East	638
Baptisms	163
Others	888
TOTAL	4,693

I just wanted to turn now to our support for various charities, so during the year we have donated a total of nearly £4,700, and that doesn't include certain hires of the Church Centre where we give a concessionary rate, for example to Project Linus.

## DONATIONS TO CHARITY

	£
General Fund	1,601
Community Café (Lent Lunches and Christmas Lunch)	915
Charities (Children's Society)	2,177
TOTAL	4,693

Those donations are not all from the General Fund. If we are raising money for a specific charity, such as The Children's Society, that goes through our Charities Fund. That is Restricted Fund, in other words people have made donations on the basis that they are for a specific charity and not for the general church. From the General Fund and indeed from the Community Café, these are donations which are made at the discretion of the PCC and will represent a share perhaps of an event – the car wash we shared with the scouts and guides, a share of the cream teas on Music Sunday.

## CHURCH CENTRE OPERATIONS

	£
Income	24,750
Surplus	5,940
Two elections -	1,300
Have installed solar panels	24,170
Sell electricity exported to the grid	

Turning to the Church Centre, our total income, which covers external hirers as well as internal charges we make for the Community Café and Cherubs, was approaching £25,000 and which has generated a surplus of nearly £6,000. Our thanks to Karen now not only keeps the booking system in good order but who is now our housekeeper!

We did have the benefit of two elections last year which brought in £1,300 which I don't think will be repeated this year, although you never know!! We have obviously installed the solar panels which are already showing a reduction in our electricity bills. Incidentally, we have just negotiated a new electricity contract for the supply to the Centre and to the Church which has eliminated the daily standing charge. The unit cost is slightly higher but benefits us significantly. We are also in the process of arranging a contract to be paid for the surplus electricity we send out to the grid.



## COMMUNITY CAFÉ

	£
Income	7,961
Surplus	2,309
Donations made during year to charities	915
Donations based allows us to claim gift aid	

The Community Café continues to thrive. It would be nice to get a few more people in from the community – we have tried and there are a number who come but it is something we are trying to offer to the wider community. The donations basis of payment is working well, and it does mean that anyone who is struggling financially can have something to eat for just a token donation or indeed nothing at all. Part of our mission and outreach.

## LOOKING AHEAD...

	£
Budget deficit on General Fund	(4,500)
New electricity contract to eliminate daily rate	
Small increase in Parish Share	

Finally, a quick look at our expectations for 2025. We are still budgeting a deficit, but that is largely because of caution on my part – not making wild assumptions about income but trying to ensure we are well provided on the expenses side. I am confident that we will better it!

Finally, my thanks to Nigel Butler as always for his assistance, counting money with me and others, paying bills and banking cash. His help is invaluable.