

St Paul's Church (Church of England), Landkey

Parish code: I50478

Annual Report and Financial Statement for 2023



Landkey is situated two miles east of Barnstaple in North Devon

St Paul's Church is part of the Four Ways Mission Community which also includes these churches:

St James, Swimbridge with the Chapel of the Holy Name, Gunn,

St Peter, West Buckland,

St Michael, East Buckland.

It is also part of the Deanery of Shirwell.

Vicar: Revd Cathy Scoffield

Churchwardens: Mrs Hazel Price and Mr Mike Foster

Church website: www.landkeyparishchurch.org

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Vicar's Annual Report

Having been licensed to the parishes mid-June 2023, I reflect on the last 10 months with thanksgiving for the dedicated family of God at St Paul's Landkey. It has been a precious time to journey together and consider where the Holy Spirit may be leading us. This is a journey we are all on together as God's people at this time. There are seasons and chapters of church life, and we are creating a new one together.

Our Annual meeting and Report are a good opportunity to review the year and to say thank you to everyone who freely offers their time and gifts, enabling church life to flourish. Thank you to Charles for his dedication and very comprehensive report of the Church Year, which is much appreciated.

Heartfelt thanks

- for each and everyone who comes to worship and to be together at St Paul's, supporting each other in countless ways. For all those at home, praying and still very much a part of this family of God in Landkey.
- to all the amazing people who provide a good welcome to everyone, lovely refreshments, keep the church clean and provide such beautiful flowers. Special thanks to Margaret and Jeanette for so many delicious cakes and refreshments.
- to all our readers, intercessors, servers and everyone who is part of leading and preparing for our Sunday worship. Thank you, Hazel for being a wonderful sacristan and to Mike, Charles and Andy for their great tech skills that include hours of preparation for music and liturgy.
- our dedicated PCC for bringing their gifts to care for the church family and building with diligence and efficiency. Thank you to Ann for all her commitment and hard work as Treasurer and to Charles as a dedicated and efficient PCC Secretary amongst his other roles within the church.
- our truly wonderful Churchwardens, Hazel and Mike for their faithful, hard work and expertise using their many gifts to lead, encourage and support others. Thank you, Mike and Josie for all your hospitality and for leading bible studies so faithfully.

We are blessed to benefit from the great commitment of other Licensed Lay Ministers and clergy. It's been wonderful to have Anne Foster and Richard Freeman join us during the last few months. Thank you to them both, also to John for his continuing ministry and to Josie and Jackie for all their faithful service at St Paul's. We can celebrate and give thanks for the long and faithful service of so many who keep church life thriving. Not forgetting those who have left such a legacy of faith and commitment for future generations, to build a community of Christian faith that is life-giving and welcoming.

God calls us to be thankful people who freely offer our unique gifts to enable church life to flourish. That can be in a myriad of ways as we are created uniquely with gifts and talents. It's so good to see that happening in very many practical ways and as we look to creative ways for the future of the parish church in Landkey. We certainly don't want people to be overburdened by these tasks but to be able to offer and encourage others to join in. Let's grow!

The Festivals of Christmas and Easter have been great encouragements with extensive congregations. It's a great joy to welcome and engage with Landkey Primary School for Christian Festivals, with their contributions and visits to church. The Christmas season felt so encouraging with different events and brilliant Carol Services. Thank you to Ange and Anne for leading great Nativity services with families and children. We look forward to more in the future as we seek to build this area up with creative ways for outreach and invitational services.

There are so many highlights of the church year that we can each thank God for. The baptisms last year were wonderful highlights with Jax & Eliza's family and with Ken's earlier this year. Please continue to pray for them and all who seek baptism.

It's so important to also recognise the challenges that we face personally in our own lives. Kindness and love within the family of God is a precious blessing and I've been blessed to see this in Landkey church.

As the church family and community, we are also tasked with caring for this incredible ancient building of St Paul's church. This year we will be launching a project to help raise awareness and much-needed funds for the church building and amenities. Thank you to Charles for his initiative and work on grant applications so far. We intend to apply for grants wherever we can but coming together as community to raise funds is incredibly important and encourages people to join in and feel part of it all. As we seek to build the kingdom together spiritually and through the gift of a beautiful church building, we will be discovering and sharing God's gifts for the future. We cannot do this in our own strength and with just a few people, so we pray for the power of the Holy Spirit to nudge, to strengthen, to lead and to guide this precious community of which we are part.

Let's be nudged together as God's people in this place and time, as we prayerfully and practically journey together. Some words to inspire us all, from the song I, the Lord of sea and sky by Daniel Schutte, based on Isaiah 6:

*Here I am Lord. Is it I Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night
I will go Lord, If you lead me
I will hold your people in my heart.*

God bless you all with peace and love and we hold God's people on our hearts,
Cathy

ST PAUL'S CHURCH, LANDKEY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL 2023

St Paul's Church is at the junction of Church Meadow and Bableigh Road, Landkey, Barnstaple EX32 0JJ. The composition of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) as at the end of December 2023 was:

Priest-in-charge: Revd Cathy Scoffield.

Mrs Josie Foster (Reader)

Mr Peter Elder (Electoral Roll Officer)

Mr Mike Foster (Churchwarden)

Mr Adrian Ley

Mrs Hazel Price (Churchwarden, Health & Safety Officer and Safeguarding Officer)

Mrs Carol (Ann) Rumble (*ex officio*) (Treasurer)

Mr Peter Soper

Mr Charles Waldron (Secretary, webmaster, vice chairman and Data Protection Officer)

Bankers: Barclays Bank plc, 38 Boutport Street, Barnstaple

Independent Examiner: David Crick, 15a Silver Street, Barnstaple

St Paul's Church is part of the Four Ways Mission Community which also includes St. James' Church, Swimbridge with the Chapel of the Holy Name, Gunn, St Peter's, West Buckland and St Michael's, East Buckland.

The church year

The year 2023 was one of hope as we welcomed a new Priest-in-Charge, but one that was also tinged with sadness at the passing of several long-standing members of the church.

As the year began, we were pleased to have celebrated Christmas in good heart, with services well supported. Uncertainty remained, though, over the ability of Revd Shaun O'Rourke to continue as Priest-in-Charge. Due to ill health, he had been unable to fulfil his role since Easter 2022. In January 2023, though, it was announced that he had retired with effect from 31st December 2022.

A service to say farewell to Shaun was held on 29th January in St Paul's, with the congregations of the other churches of the Four Ways Mission Community in attendance. In his final sermon, he displayed images on the screens from his earlier life, including from his time as an offshore marine engineer.

A weekly Lent course, based on the film *Chocolat*, was run from 22nd February until 22nd March. It was led by Revd Jackie Giddings, together with Mike and Josie Foster and was well supported.

On 26th March 2023, it was announced that Revd Cathy Scoffield had been appointed as our new Priest-in-Charge. She would be engaged on a half-time basis but, given the length of time that had elapsed since Revd Shaun's ill health prevented him from working, the churchwardens felt that a longer wait for full-time priest would not be in the best interest of the churches of the Mission Community.

It was with sadness, at this time, that we heard of the death of Peter Rozzell. Peter had been a Reader for 50 years and had led services at St Paul's for as many as twenty of those.

On 30th March, a field maple sapling was planted in the garden below the church as part of Queen Elizabeth II's Green Canopy initiative. It was one of 100 offered by the Diocese of Exeter on a first-come-first-served basis and St Paul's had been fortunate to be selected to receive one.

Sadly, on 31st March, Joan Dearle, a member of the congregation for many years, passed away. Her funeral was held in the church on 27th April 2023, with many people in attendance to pay their respects. It included moving tributes from her children, notably from Angela Bellamy who remains a member of the congregation.

During the vacancy for a new priest, and while we awaited Cathy's formal installation, we were grateful for our services to be led by visiting members of the clergy. Among these was Revd Mike Clark, Transitional Support Minister for the Diocese of Exeter. His sermons were invariably engaging, one of which focused on a walking trip to the summit of Mount Snowdon. Other clergy members who provided invaluable assistance were Revd Rosie Austin (Rural Dean), Revd John Thompson, Revd John Ewington and Revd Phil Daniels.

Easter Sunday was celebrated joyfully, with Revd Mike Clark leading the service.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) took place in the church after the service on 14th May. With no Priest available, it fell to me for a second year to chair the meeting and I did so with a feeling of gratitude towards the people who put themselves forward to occupy positions of leadership within the church. Running the business of the church requires dedication and, often, hard work and the fact that, once again, all of the main roles, from churchwardens to PCC members to sidespersons were filled was much appreciated.

Cathy's installation as our Priest-in-Charge took place on 15th June 2023 at a well-attended service in St James' Church, Swimbridge, led by the Bishop of Crediton, the Rt Revd Jackie Searle. Cathy was installed as a Prebendary of Exeter Cathedral at a service there on 27th June.

The first service which Cathy led in her new role was at St Paul's on 18th June. It was a very enjoyable occasion and, afterwards, she was presented with gifts, including a large, planted, hanging basket, by our churchwardens, Hazel and Mike.

Cathy lost no time in bringing fresh ideas to the churches in her charge, or breathing new life into ones which had been placed on the back burner, pending new leadership. At our PCC meeting on 10th July, it was agreed that St Paul's would register for the Parish Giving Scheme and would seek grant funding for mission in new housing developments. It was also agreed that the liturgies used in church services would be reviewed with the aim of incorporating more contemporary language.

On 6th August, after morning service, the field maple in the lower garden was dedicated by Cathy. A commemorative plaque, kindly paid for by Eileen MacCaig, was unveiled as part of the ceremony.

As summer gave way to autumn, an inspection of the church building on behalf of the insurer revealed some problems which would need to be dealt with. The greatest of these was the requirement to remove weed growth from the tower which was causing damage to the stonework. The boiler failed permanently at this time, adding to the challenges facing church leaders.

Encouragement for the ongoing support for the church was evident, though, as regular services and special events were well attended in the latter part of the year. These included Harvest, Remembrance and the full schedule of services held at Christmas. A fuller report on these appears later under Church Worship and Attendance.

They were accompanied by more sadness, though, as we learned, in early December, of the passing of Eric Price. Eric had been a stalwart leader and supporter of St Paul's for many years, bringing skill and experience to the role of treasurer, a position he occupied for much of his time at Landkey. His funeral, on 19th December in the church, was well attended and included moving tributes from family members.

Eric's legacy of financial discipline, love and hope lived on as the year drew to a close and a new year with fresh challenges beckoned.

Church attendance and worship

It was encouraging to find that attendance at services was higher than that experienced in 2022. Despite the departures from the congregation, new worshippers joined the church.

St Paul's submits attendance data annually to the Diocese of Exeter in an exercise known as Statistics for Mission. This includes a count of the size of the congregation each Sunday during October. For the four weeks of October 2023, average attendance was 27, significantly higher than the equivalent figure of 17 for October 2022. Among other data submitted was attendance on Easter Sunday, which was recorded as 35, similar to that for the previous year. As many as 202 (169 in 2022) occupied the pews during Advent and 23 came along to Christmas Mass on 24th December. There was one Christening and, sadly, 7 funerals during the year. The number of people who come to services at St Paul's, referred to as the "worshipping community" was estimated to be 35. Three people left the church while five joined.

The style of worship was reverent with traditional-language liturgies used in most Holy Communion services. During Advent, though, a new liturgy was introduced which made use of more contemporary language. The ability to display these and play the hymns through the audio-visual system provided a modern feel to services. Sermons were often illustrated with images or videos. A service of Morning Prayer was held on Sundays when a member of the clergy was unavailable.

Among the special services held during the year, Easter Sunday was an enjoyable occasion, led by Revd Mike Clark. Later in the year, Harvest service took place on 24th September. A service of Remembrance, led by Revd John Ewington, was held in the village hall at 10 am on 12th November, followed by the Act of Remembrance at the war memorial at 11 am. Christmas events and services were especially enjoyable and very well attended. These began with a concert by the Exmoor Carolers on 8th December, continuing with our Nativity on 17th December. St Paul's joined forces with the local choir, Landkey Sings, organist, Philip Price and Shirleyann, his flautist friend, for our Carols by Candlelight service on 21st December. It attracted a large number of people keen to listen to carols, some of which were lesser-known ones sung by Landkey Sings, and readings. There were as many as 150 in the church that evening. Three services were held on Christmas Eve, as it fell on a Sunday. A "normal" service was held at 10:30am, followed by Christingle at 3pm (very well attended), then Christmas Mass at 10pm.

The members of the clergy invariably prepared thoughtful sermons related to the readings for the day and the time in the Christian calendar. They were enjoyable to listen to and provided congregation members with greater understanding of the word of God.

Mention was made earlier of the invaluable assistance provided by visiting members of the clergy during the period when Revd Shaun was unavailable or had retired. Later in the year, after Revd Cathy's appointment, other clergy members provided support to her by leading the occasional service. Two of these were led by the Archdeacon of Barnstaple, the Ven Verena Breed, who was made to feel very welcome. We were also fortunate, from the autumn, to be joined by Reader Anne Foster to lead services for us.

Members of the congregation assisted with the running of services by giving Bible readings and often led prayers and administered the chalice. The sidespersons are an invaluable presence at each service,

welcoming worshippers and handing out service booklets and hymn books for those who prefer to use them. At the end of each service in 2023, refreshments were provided by willing helpers, among whom were Margaret Perryman and Jeanette Hartnoll.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC)

The role of the PCC is 'to co-operate with the priest-in-charge in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical'.

The PCC met five times in 2023. With the exception of the Annual Meeting, which was held in the church on 14th May, all meetings took place online using the Zoom video conferencing platform as it was convenient to hold meetings remotely in the light of the fact that some PCC members live outside the village of Landkey. The meetings were conducted in a spirit of willingness to work together for the benefit of the church.

The following is a summary of the main matters discussed at each meeting.

20th March 2023. The first meeting of the year was attended by Revd Mike Clark in his role of Transitional Support Minister. In the absence of Revd Shaun O'Rourke, whose retirement with effect from 31st December 2022 had been made known early in the New Year, Mike was helping to lead services.

Mike was asked whether he was aware of any progress towards the appointment of a new priest for the Mission Community. While he was not able to comment directly, he said he believed that matters were progressing.

Mike Foster reported that the Lent course, based on the film, *Chocolat*, was well supported and that a diverse range of subjects had been discussed.

The audio-visual presentations for church services continued to be developed. They were based on Microsoft PowerPoint and Charles offered to extend the resource library of hymns by creating about 100 PowerPoint versions. These would be created from the audio files recorded on 23 CDs of the complete New English Hymnal donated by Peter Elder several years ago.

In her role of treasurer, Ann Rumble reported that income had exceeded expenditure since the start of the year. Payments to the Diocesan Common Fund were now being made by Direct Debit again after having been paid manually during the pandemic to ensure strict control of finances.

Ann also advised members that an inspection of the church building was due to take place and that a pre-visit questionnaire had been received.

14th May 2023. This PCC meeting was held in the church after the Sunday service that day for the purpose of appointing officers following the APCM.

10th July 2023. Revd Cathy Scofield had been installed as the Priest-in-Charge of the Four Ways Mission Community by the time this meeting took place. She was appointed on a half-time basis, but the churchwardens felt, during the selection process, that it would be best to proceed on this basis rather than wait even longer for a full-time appointment. Cathy was welcomed to her first PCC meeting for St Paul's and began with a prayer.

Several items of business had been conducted by email since the previous meeting and these were recorded in the minutes in accordance with the guidance on this procedure by the Diocese of Exeter. Amongst these was the need for a routine inspection of the church's electrical system. Ann had engaged an electrician, Ryan Isaac, who carried out the work at a cost of £450. It was found that a fuse box which conformed to modern standards needed to be fitted, which was duly done at a cost of £617.

It had also been agreed that the church's Participation figure for 2024 would be 25. Eric and Hazel had reviewed the average weekly attendance at Sunday services and had proposed that this number be submitted to the Diocese of Exeter to be used to assess the amount to be paid into the Common Fund. PCC members were content to agree.

Cathy was keen for St Paul's to claim funding of £12000 from the Diocese of Exeter to be used towards resources for mission in housing developments due to be built in Landkey parish in the next decade.

She was also keen to review the liturgies used in church services across the Mission Community. Her intention was to use more contemporary wording (fewer "these" and "thous", for example), while respecting those members of the congregations who prefer traditional wording. PCC members agreed to this review.

A weekly bulletin would be introduced, Cathy announced. It would include the Bible readings for the next service as well as any important information, such as diary dates. It would not be a replacement for the magazine.

Ann reported that income still exceeded expenditure for the year to date, but large bills, especially for insurance, would fall due later in the year.

It was agreed at this meeting that St Paul's would register for the Parish Giving Scheme, a modern and secure method of donating to the church.

Events organised at this meeting included the church's participation in the Devon Historic Churches Open Day on 9th September 2023. Gift Day and Harvest service would take place on 23rd and 24th September, respectively. It was hoped that a plaque to mark the planting of a field maple in the garden below the church as part of the Queen's Green Canopy scheme would be dedicated after the service on 6th August.

19th September 2023. The meeting began with further discussion on the funding for mission proposal, raised by Cathy at the previous meeting. The inclusion of a Welcome Pack which could be delivered to new homeowners/occupiers was felt to be workable. Mike Foster believed that additional technology which could be used outside the church would be worthy of including in the grant funding application.

The installation of a toilet in the church should be given fresh impetus, Cathy felt. At a recent funeral, several attendees had arrived in need of a toilet.

Income had exceeded expenditure by £4100 during the year to date, Ann reported. However, the annual buildings insurance premium would soon fall due and was expected to be of the order of £4500. It was hoped that donations received on the forthcoming Gift Day would help towards costs.

An inspection of the church building on behalf of the insurers was carried out on 19th September, the same day as this meeting was held. The report would be submitted in due course, but two significant items requiring remedial action had been verbally advised. The first was the need to remove weed growth from the tower and repoint the stonework where damage and erosion had occurred. The second item was the need to have a fire safety policy.

Events arranged for the coming months included Remembrance on 12th November as well as a full schedule of services for Christmas.

As part of an effort to update and clarify church policies, Cathy introduced a "Direction" from the Diocese of Exeter on the reading of banns in the churches of the Four Ways Mission Community. This would enable couples "to have their banns read and thereafter marry in any of the churches of the Benefice". PCC members supported the Direction.

14th November 2023. This meeting had the largest amount of business to be dealt with of all those that were held during the year. As much of it related to progress made on matters which had been initiated beforehand, the report which follows will be kept as brief as possible.

It was agreed that two items would form the basis of the application for grant funding for mission. These would be for a Welcome Pack and for equipment required for holding services away from the church building.

In keeping with the agreement made at the meeting on 10th July, Cathy had revised the liturgy to be used during Advent. It made use of contemporary language, with the exception of the Lord's Prayer which many congregation members prefer to say in its traditional wording.

Ann reported that income for the year was approximately equal to expenditure for the same period, after allowing for payment of annual buildings insurance.

St Paul's had recently registered with the Parish Giving Scheme and this had enabled a "Donate" button to be added to the church's website.

Of most pressing concern to PCC members was the report on the inspection of the building carried out on behalf of the insurers in September. Six actions were required to be taken, some of which were relatively minor, such as the need to confirm the absence of asbestos or to remove moss and lichen from the steps leading down to the boiler room.

A fire safety policy was required to be put in place and, by the time of this meeting, Peter Soper had agreed to take on the role of Fire Safety Officer and had already drawn up a draft of a policy.

The weed growth on the tower would not be as simple to deal with, though. A quote of £13500 had been provided by the church's usual builder, Graham Lane, based on accessing the tower by scaffolding. Charles had contacted Trio Access of Braunton for an alternative quote based on access by abseiling. In addition, he had made contact with the Devon Historic Churches Trust to enquire about grant funding.

A matter of concern which arose after the PCC meeting was held was the permanent failure of the boiler. In an effort to establish an appropriate course of action, Cathy had arranged for an energy audit to be carried out early in the New Year.

On a more positive note, a full schedule of Christmas events and services was confirmed at this meeting.

Church building and its contents

The Fabric Committee, comprising members appointed by the PCC, is responsible for advising the PCC on the maintenance tasks that need to be carried out. It is the job of the PCC to decide on the work to be done, based on the advice given and funds available.

As has been reported earlier, the main focus of concern in respect of the building in 2023 was the need to deal with issues raised during an inspection on behalf of the insurers in September. While some of these were dealt with fairly easily, the weeds on the tower would require significant funding to rectify. By the end of the year, quotes for the work were in the process of being obtained and research on funding organisations under way.

The permanent failure of the boiler in the autumn, following heavy rains and the flooding of the boiler house, was a cause of concern also. In order to embark on a plan to provide a replacement heat source, preferably carbon-zero, contact was made with the Diocese of Exeter before Christmas to arrange for an energy audit to be carried out early in the New Year.

Children

One of Cathy's first tasks following her installation was to renew contact with Landkey Primary School. The school made use of the church for celebrations such as Harvest Festival.

Safeguarding

The PCC has a policy in place to enable it to comply with the House of Bishops' (one of the three houses of the Church of England) guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding matters were discussed at all PCC meetings.

Financial matters

Control of finances was a priority in 2023, as indicated earlier in this report.

It is the aim of PCC to pay its share of contributions to the Exeter Diocese's Common Fund. It recognises that it is from this Fund that the costs of providing clergy are paid and that there is an obligation to help meet these.

As in previous years since the Covid pandemic, it was not feasible to organise significant fundraising meaning that, for the majority of its income, St Paul's was reliant on donations from regular contributors. Without them, the church would not have been able to pay its way in 2023 and I take this opportunity to express gratitude on behalf of St Paul's to all who gave of whatever they could during the year to support our parish church.

The level of donations proved to be sufficient for all running costs to be paid as well as for contributions to the Diocesan Common Fund to be settled in full.

Advertising

St Paul's makes use of a range of methods to advertise itself, including its services and events. The website (www.landkeyparishchurch.org) was the principal place in 2023 for members of the congregation as well as the wider public to obtain up to date information on services and events. A steady trickle of enquiries was received throughout the year via the website, often from parents wishing to have their children Christened. The website was operated and maintained by Charles at no cost to the church.

Other means of advertising included Revd Cathy's weekly bulletin (introduced in the summer), the weekly North Devon Journal, the bi-monthly Landkey newsletter as well as posters placed in strategic locations around the village. In addition, St Paul's routinely advertises its services and events on the Church of England website, A Church Near You, and Church-related posts were also placed often on the Landkey Forum Facebook page.

Acknowledgements

The efforts of individuals to support St Paul's were noted in earlier sections. I would like to conclude this report by acknowledging more generally the hard work and diligence of the many people who have enabled our church to function as it should in 2023 despite the challenges involved in doing so.

Considerable effort is required to run services each week, as well as manage the routine business of the church. Until Cathy's appointment, the additional responsibilities which would normally have been carried out by the priest continued largely to be taken on by our churchwardens, Hazel and Mike. Cathy's hard work and inspirational leadership helped to motivate church leaders and other congregation members, offering a new feeling of hope for the future of our church.

The skill of our treasurer, Ann Rumble, and her good work played a significant role in enabling the church to live within its means. The willingness of many congregation members to assist with readings and prayers is also acknowledged, as is the invaluable contribution made by Andy Clayton to the equipping and running of the audio-visual system. The sidespersons who help prepare the church and welcome worshippers do not go unnoticed.

The combined efforts of all manifested itself in services which were always a pleasure to attend and take part in.

Charles Waldron

8th March 2024

Treasurer's Report for 2023

This year we are virtually back to some normality. Our income has exceeded expenditure by £1,643.60 for the year.

During January, the early part of the year our vicar, Shaun O'Rourke, sadly had to retire due to ill health. A collection was made and with an addition from our funds we were able to give a gift of £250.

Our church has been able to pay in full our Common Fund, for the year £8,619 to Exeter Diocese. This is our contribution to the Mission and Ministry of the Church of England in Devon towards provision of Clergy, housing, training and support. Please find thank you letter displayed on Notice Board from the Right Reverend Jackie Searle, acting Bishop of Exeter.

The Landkey United Charities sent us a grant of £319.99 enabling us to provide a Food Bank, covering the cost of the food store. This is now situated in the grounds below St Paul's Church, accessible through the gate from Manor Road. It is with many thanks to Andy, Jackie and contributors for organising this for the people of Landkey.

During the beginning part of the year, we had a very welcome grant of £680 from Exeter Diocese to help with our heating costs. Our total utilities including Water Rates was £2,675. Also we had a grant from Landkey Parish Council of £500 to help with the upkeep of the Churchyard.

Our fund raising for 2023 has been limited to the Fabric Fund, with many thanks to Wendy and Cynthia for the sales of cards they made.

Also with many thanks to Margaret for providing our refreshments after the Sunday Services with the addition of the lovely homemade sponge cakes made by Jeanette and Margaret adding a further £222.90 for the year to our overall income.

It is with much appreciation we have received anonymous donations of £1,446 towards the general expenses for the running of the church.

At the Christingle Christmas services at the end of 2022 and 2023 we received donations of £345 which we have sent on to Christingle Charity.

Finally through the increase of interest on savings we have received an added £723.64 for 2023.

With my sincere thanks to everyone who has helped in every way throughout the year.
Ann

Charles

LANDKEY PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

ACCOUNT SUMMARIES AT 31st DECEMBER 2023

	at 01.01.2022	General Receipts	Grants/ Donations Received	Interest	General Payments	Account Transfers	at 31.12.2023
Unrestricted Reserve Account	18,278.06		2,051.00	559.45		338.70	21,227.21
Restricted Accounts:							-
Fabric - General	12,974.39		185.70		(2,132.70)		11,027.39
Fabric Technical	-						-
Fabric Toilet	1,052.52		15.00		-		1,067.52
Churchyard (a)	25,405.31		500.00	142.74	(1,100.44)		24,947.61
Pullman	1,055.34						1,055.34
Bell Fund (b)	5,890.91	15.00		21.45			5,927.36
Bank and Cash Reconciliation	9,279.73	21,972.66			(20,576.73)	(338.70)	10,336.96
FINAL BALANCE	73,936.26	21,987.66	2,751.70	723.64	(23,809.87)	0.00	75,589.39

(a) Churchyard Account:

Balance as at 01.01.23	25,405.31
Add Interest	142.74
Parish Council Grant for Churchyard	500.00
	<u>26,048.05</u>
Total Graveyard Expenses	<u>1,100.44</u>
	<u>24,947.61</u>

(b) Bell Fund Receipts

Balance as at 01.01.22	5,890.91
Interest	21.45
Donations to Bell Fund	15.00
	<u>5,927.36</u>

Represented by Balances as at 31.12.23

Cash Book Balance	10,336.96
Saver Balance	59,325.07
Santander	5,927.36
	<u>75,589.39</u>

231 Units of Parish Trust Investments are held by the Exeter Board of Finance Limited.

The total value of these units as at 31 December 2023 was £5,221.83.

I certify the Statement of Receipts and Payments for the Landkey P.C.C. has been prepared from the records.

SIGNED.....
D. W. CRICK
Chartered Accountant

DATED 3 April 2024

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for period 1 January to 31 December 2023

INCOME			£
Plate			4,187.42
Envelopes & S. Os.			8,753.00
Social Fund Raising			-
Fees			3,151.00
Church Yard			500.00
Donations			1,416.00
Dividend & Interest			142.74
Gift Aid Refund			3,684.65
Income for Charity			
Misc	Christingle Services 2022 and 2023	345.70	
	Grant Landkey United Charities	319.99	
	Grant Exeter Dioc	680.00	
	Gift Day	1,165.00	
	Donations for Leaving Gift	83.00	
	Fundraising for Fabric Fund	200.70	
	Fundraising for Tech Fund		
	Fundraising for Toilet Fund	15.00	
	Tea Money	222.90	
	Donations to Bell Fund	15.00	
	Other Interest	580.90	3,628.19
TOTAL INCOME			25,463.00
EXPENDITURE			
Common Fund			8,619.00
Church Cleaning			1,460.00
Church Repairs			2,252.70
Churchyard Upkeep			1,045.44
Utilities			2,675.24
Service Expenses			759.03
BT			610.48
Fabric Expenditure			
Tech Expenditure			
Insurance			4,752.80
Misc.	Food Bank Shed	306.00	
	Chrstingle Services 2022 & 2023	345.70	
	Vacuum Cleaner	129.00	
	Voucher/Gifts	280.00	
	Green Bin	55.00	
	Deanery Quota	20.00	
	Fire Extinguisher Service		
	Raffle Licence	20.00	
	Music Licence	132.00	
	Royal British Legion Wreath	50.00	
	Organ Service & Repair	264.00	
	Treasurer's Expenses	33.48	
			1,635.18
TOTAL EXPENDITURE			23,809.87
DEFICIT FOR 1st January to 31st December 2023			1,653.13

LANDKEY PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
RECEIPTS		
<u>Voluntary Income</u>		
Covenants	8,753.00	9,471.16
Collections	<u>4,187.42</u>	<u>2,825.66</u>
	12,940.42	12,296.82
<u>Other Voluntary Income</u>		
Donations for general use	1,416.00	10.00
Donations for Fabric Fund		
Donations for Tech Fund		1,000.00
Exeter Dioc. Grant	680.00	-
Grant from Landkey United Charities	319.99	-
Gift Day	1,165.00	1,350.00
Churchyard Grant ex Landkey PC	500.00	500.00
Fees	<u>3,151.00</u>	<u>2,004.00</u>
	7,231.99	4,864.00
<u>Events and Activities</u>		
Fund Raising	15.00	
Fundraising for Fabric Fund	200.70	20.00
Tea Money	<u>222.90</u>	<u>282.60</u>
	438.60	302.60
<u>Other Income</u>		
Interest for Churchyard	142.74	141.96
Tax & VAT Refund	3,684.65	3,563.21
Fund Raising for Charities	345.70	-
Magazine Money	-	-
War Grave Commission	-	-
Donation for Ukraine		266.00
BT Refund		
Farewell Gift	83.00	-
Donations to Bell Fund	15.00	60.00
Other Interest	580.90	17.27
	4,851.99	4,048.44
<u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u>	<u>25,463.00</u>	<u>21,511.86</u>

LANDKEY PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
PAYMENTS		
Church and Churchyard Upkeep	2,505.44	4,651.44
General Repairs	2,252.70	6,750.00
Insurance	4,752.80	4,446.60
Service Expenses including retd priests' expenses	560.00	125.00
Vicar's Expenses	199.03	409.34
Common Fund	8,619.00	9,164.00
Deanery Quota	20.00	20.00
Utilities	2,675.24	2,646.45
Purchase of Tech Equipment		1,085.40
Charitable Donations	345.70	266.00
Treasurer's Expenses	33.48	39.42
Secretary's Ex[enses		-
Chubb Fire Extinguisher Service		72.62
Music Licence	132.00	123.00
Raffle Permit	20.00	30.50
Collection Envelopes		42.35
Vouchers & Gifts	30.00	30.00
Magazine Money		-
British Legion Wreath	50.00	50.00
Green Bin	55.00	45.00
Architect's Fees		-
BT	610.48	538.47
Leaving Gift	250.00	122.29
Vacuum Cleaner	129.00	-
Food Bank & Shed	306.00	-
Organ Service	264.00	-
<u>TOTAL PAYMENTS</u>	<u>23,809.87</u>	<u>30,657.88</u>

Monthly Cashflow 2023

MONTHLY CASHFLOW 2023

Income	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Plate	246.60	636.20	310.50	286.80	207.00	234.10	279.05	247.31	360.00	262.30	306.35	811.21	4,187.42
Envelopes	160.00	190.00	350.00	260.00	305.00	260.00	351.00	320.00	235.00	295.00	230.00	320.00	3,276.00
S.O. & D.D.	676.00	876.00	566.00	716.00	711.00	156.00	566.00	156.00	156.00	156.00	486.00	256.00	5,477.00
Fees			51.00	244.00				805.00				2,051.00	3,151.00
Donations	85.00		100.00	186.00	15.00		1,000.00	30.00	30.00				1,446.00
Grants		680.00				500.00							1,180.00
Interest		36.08			35.30			35.30			36.06	580.90	723.64
Gift Aid & VAT Refund					3,684.65				1,165.00				4,849.65
Fabric					185.70								185.70
Toilet Funding									15.00				15.00
Tea Money			68.00		63.50				91.40				222.90
Foodbank Grant												319.99	319.99
Misc	162.70	83.00										183.00	428.70
Total =	1,330.30	2,501.28	1,445.50	1,692.80	5,207.15	1,150.10	2,196.05	1,593.61	2,052.40	713.30	1,058.41	4,522.10	25,463.00
Expenditure													
Common Fund	721.00	718.00	718.00	718.00	718.00	718.00	718.00	718.00	718.00	718.00	718.00	718.00	8,619.00
Church Cleaning	80.00	80.00	100.00	120.00	150.00	120.00	120.00	150.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	180.00	1,460.00
Clergy/Organ Expenses		20.00	150.00	65.00	20.00				230.23	35.00	183.80	55.00	759.03
Church Repairs					620.70	882.00					60.00	690.00	2,252.70
Churchyard				20.97		10.47	55.00				990.00	24.00	1,100.44
Charitable Donations										50.00			50.00
Utilities	419.45	437.33	28.28	936.74	375.32	113.18	45.92	44.94	36.43	78.02	47.75	111.88	2,675.24
BT	45.85	45.85	45.85	52.93	52.46	52.46	52.46	52.46	52.46	52.46	52.46	52.78	610.48
Insurance												4,752.80	4,752.80
Organ Service								264.00					264.00
Food Bank												306.00	306.00
Fabric Expenditure													-
Tech Expenditure													-
Toilet Expenditure													-
Misc.	162.70	129.00	250.00			20.00	30.00				33.48	335.00	960.18
Total =	1,429.00	1,430.18	1,292.13	1,913.64	1,936.48	1,916.11	1,021.38	1,229.40	1,157.12	1,053.48	2,205.49	7,225.46	23,809.87

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SHIRWELL DEANERY SYNOD FOR THE YEAR 2023

What is a Deanery Synod?

A deanery synod is a synod convened by the Rural Dean (or Area Dean) and/or the Joint Lay Chair of the Deanery Synod, who is elected by the elected lay members. It consists of all clergy licensed to a benefice (or Mission Community) within the deanery, plus elected lay members. (*Source: Wikipedia*).

Which churches comprise the Shirwell Deanery?

Berrynarbor	St Peter	
Bittadon	St Peter	
Bratton Fleming	St Peters Anglican-Methodist	
Brendon	St Brendan	
Challacombe	Holy Trinity	
Combe Martin	St Peter	
Countisbury	St John the Evangelist	
East Buckland	St Michael	
East Down*	St John the Baptist.	*With Arlington
Ilfracombe	Holy Trinity	
Ilfracombe	St Philip & St James	
Kentisbury	St Thomas	
Landkey	St Paul	
Lee	St Matthew	
Loxhore	St Michael and All Angels	
Lynton	St Mary the Virgin	
Martinhoe	St Martin	
Mortehoe	St Mary	
Parracombe	Christ Church	
Shirwell	St Peter	
Stoke Rivers	St Bartholomew	
Swimbridge	St James Swimbridge (with Gunn, The Holy Name)	
Trentishoe	St Peter	
West Buckland	St Peter	
Woolacombe	St Sabinus	

(Source: Diocese of Exeter)

Purpose of the Deanery Synod

Deanery Synods meet to bring together the views of parishes in the deanery on common opportunities and problems so that they may work together to promote the mission of the Church. Visiting speakers are often invited to help in this. They consider the business of the Diocesan Synod and make common concerns and views known to this wider body.

Deanery Synods are an opportunity to meet with other Christians, to worship together, to learn from each other and to share experiences. They meet 3-4 times each year (in a normal year). Deanery Synod representatives are ex officio members of the PCC and are called to be a link between the parishes in the local area. (Source: Diocese of Exeter website).

Structure of the Shirwell Deanery.

Rural Dean: Revd Prebendary Rosemary Austin

Lay chair: Maureen Richards

St Paul's representatives:

Shirwell Deanery Synod Annual General Meeting 20th February 2024

A report from the Rural Dean...

Thank you all for all your hard work which I know often goes on behind the scenes. I know this to be especially true for those times of vacancy. We are grateful for those who organise and lead services of worship – both lay and clergy – and serve God's mission in a variety of ways.

Special thanks from the deanery for Sam White who as our secretary organises us and sends out all our papers and has kept us in order. She has also been of great help to the parishes of Lyn Valley during their vacancy and we are grateful for all she does. Phil Coole took up the role of lay chair for a short while last year for which we are very grateful but stepped down this summer. The lay chair position remains vacant, if anyone would like to talk to me about understanding the role and taking this on, please do. The standing committee get together before each deanery Synod meeting to plan and to offer their wisdom for which I am very grateful.

We warmly welcomed two members of clergy this year, Revd. Cathy Scofield to the Four Ways Mission Community, and Revd. Susan Oldham to Woolacombe, Lee and Morteheo. Sadly, we said goodbye to Revd. Samantha Stayte who took up a new post in Torquay. Revd. Fran Allison, curate in Ilfracombe, was priested in September.

At our Deanery Synod meeting last January in Lynton, we discussed the cost-of-living crisis, and we heard from Revd. Ann Lewis about the work of the Foodbank and had an update from her about the support given to asylum seekers who had been accommodated in Ilfracombe. In May we met in Bratton Fleming

and welcomed Annie Jefferies to talk about Anna Chaplaincy. Since then, at least three people have responded to this calling. We discussed our pastoral ministry in our churches. And in October, with a last-minute change of venue due to roadworks, we met in Woolacombe with Jeremy Putnam, (Diocesan Mission Enabler) to talk about the 'Come and See' weekend and materials, and with Sharon Blythe who encouraged us in our work with children and families.

We still have one Diocesan vacancies. Sheila Roles is our lay representative, and Revd. Mark Ruoff and Father John Roles are our clergy representatives. Various things have been discussed over this last year in the Diocese, including the challenging route to Net Zero. We are always grateful for Simon Friend's ongoing relationship with us to report on the various goings on at General Synod. Prayers of Love and Faith were approved for use within church services, and discussions around these continue at Synod and within our churches and PCCs. We are aware that many find these conversations challenging, please pray for General Synod, but more for those affected by the decisions made and that we continue to treat one another with kindness even in deep disagreement.

Our hope is that our Deanery Synod is a place where we can share all that God is doing amongst us, share good ideas – and find encouragement when we most need it.

This will be my last year as Rural Dean. It's been a busy six years! All we do is only possible because we work together. We come from different traditions, backgrounds, sizes of church, context etc... but we long to see God's Kingdom here in North Devon.

Blessings,

Rosie Austin (Rural Dean) 15.2.24