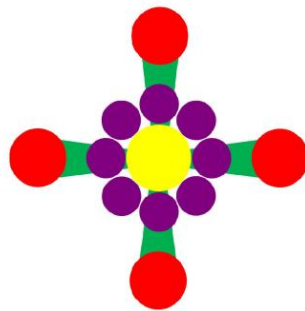


St John the Evangelist Cullingworth

**In the Benefice of Harden and Wilsden,
Cullingworth and Denholme**



**Annual Report of the
Parochial Church Council for the
Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting
4 May 2025**



**Parish Church
of St John the Evangelist
Cullingworth**

Administrative Information

St. John's Church is situated on Station Road, Cullingworth. It is part of the Diocese of Leeds within the Church of England. The correspondence address is 36 The Locks, Bingley, West Yorkshire, BD16 4BG. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2023 until the date this report was approved are:

<i>Interim Team Rector:</i>	The Revd Canon Richard Burge
<i>Team Vicar:</i>	The Revd Alison Wooding
<i>Curate:</i>	The Revd Anna Lumb

<i>Wardens:</i>	Mrs Jill Britton	
	Mr Robert Smith	Team Council Member /Health and Safety

Representatives on the Deanery Synod:

Mr Paul Britton
Mrs Jasmin Smith
Mr Robert Smith

Elected members:

Mrs Brenda Cowan	
Mrs Debbie Child	PCC Secretary and DBS Administrator
Mr Alan Gray	
Mrs Candida McKay	
Mrs Judy Mason	Team Council Member / Safeguarding
Dr Pamela Sides	PCC Treasurer

Structure, governance, and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The Parish is in the Benefice of 'Harden and Wilsden, Cullingworth and Denholme' and the ministry is provided by the Hewenden Team Ministry.

Objectives and activities

St John's PCC has the responsibility of promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical; however, the PCC has three specific objectives:

'To nurture and enable those within the church to grow in faith

'To help those within the church to become more confident in sharing their faith

'To provide continuity in our relationships with young families, wedding couples and others we reach through the occasional offices.'

Achievements and performance

Church Activities

There are 49 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, 5 of whom are not resident within the parish. The average Sunday attendance for 2024 declared to the diocese was 23. The worshipping community has slightly reduced to 50. The festivals of Easter, Harvest and Christmas have all been celebrated with large congregations. Our monthly sessions of Messy Church continue to be successful, and we are filling the St John's Room. The Wednesday morning service of Holy Communion is well attended and supports the Warm Space initiative. We offer morning, evening and night prayers on Facebook and YouTube. In July we welcomed our new Benefice Administrator Nicole Dickinson. A big thank you to all who have offered their services for reading, leading our prayers, administering communion, making refreshments, and cleaning the church.

Review of the year

Revd Canon Richard Burge continues as our Assistant Area Dean and leads the Hewenden Benefice. A big thank you to Richard and our Team Vicar, Revd Alison Young, our Curate Revd Anna Lumb and Associate Priest Revd Liz Moy who have all supported our church this year in worship and leadership. Some members of our church have completed or are taking the Diocesan Personal Growth and Leadership Course. Our Church Warden Jill is undertaking the Lay Worship Leaders Course.

The full PCC met six times, and the Team Council met twice during the year. The APCM was held in the church on May 5th. The PCC agreed and completed a full set of risk assessments. It receives regular reports on safeguarding and maintains and updates a safeguarding dashboard. Thank you to Judy Mason our safeguarding officer and to Debbie Child who has taken on the role of Benefice DBS administrator.

As well as our regular services, we enabled our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. We have celebrated five baptisms and five weddings. We have held five funerals, four in church and we have had two Burials of Ashes.

The St John's room is well used with our monthly Saturday Fellowship Lunch, a busy Craft and Chat Group, a big thank you to Jasmin Smith for organizing. The Art Group runs at full capacity, and we have two Ukelele Groups. The church was used as the Village Polling Station for the General Election in May. A big thank you to Susan Mills for expanding and running our monthly Story Time on Wednesday afternoon. This is for preschool children and has been well received. We continue to provide books and resources. The books can be taken out on loan. We are continuing with the Warm Spaces Initiative and have received further funding from Bradford Council. A lot of bowls of soup have been served along with fellowship.

As a member of Churches Together, we continue to share study courses and worship. We have also supported our local Primary School with assemblies and hosting their Harvest and Christmas celebrations.

The church is generally in a reasonable condition, although we have some concerns about the deterioration of the décor, and we do need to look at the recommendations from last year's quinquennial report and prioritise the work that is required. Thanks go to Paul Britton for his help with the various DIY jobs. Following the service of the clock we identified that remedial work was required on the bushes and pulleys, following a successful fundraising initiative and various grants and donations, organised by Jill we have been able to complete the required work, and the clock will now run successfully for the next 175 years. We have cleared out the first tranche of clutter from the church, we have undertaken pruning on three trees in the graveyard and we are in the process of moving our website from WordPress to

Church Edit, so we standardise across the Benefice. We are looking to start the process to close the churchyard.

We have to watch carefully our usage of gas and electricity to control the high costs. Our supply is now with Pozitive and Crown Gas recommended by Green Energy Consulting as recommended by the Diocese of Leeds.

As part of its mission and evangelism to the village, the church produces a Village Diary each year. This is distributed free of charge to every house in the village. It promotes local businesses and community groups; it gives detailed information about the church and its personnel and the support we can offer to members of the community. For 2025, we have increased our advertisers and revenue to support our church's running costs.

The PCC is grateful for the work done by Margaret Waldron our sacristan and Judy Blezzard, our Organist who brings live music into the church. A big thank you to Sandie Millar for operating and updating the iPad each week for our services and ensuring a paper-free environment.

Financial Review

This year the giving from our church family has been good. We have received a warm space grant of £1,000 from CBMDC and a £750 grant for the clock repair from the Benefact Trust. Income from the diary has helped to support our church costs. This year we held a quiz social event, thanks to Jasmin Smith but we still need to offer more social events so our fundraising is still not where we would like it to be.

We have been able to pay our share of £ 31,401 in full for 2024.

Total receipts were £57,662.60 and are detailed in the financial statements.

£56,924.42 was spent to provide the Christian ministry from St John's Church, including the contribution to the Diocesan Parish Share, which largely provides stipends and housing for the clergy.

The net result for the year was a surplus in receipts of £738.18

Our overall assets have increased by £1,729.07 to £41,461.02.

Reserves Policy

Our policy is to invest our bequest fund balance with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund. Our reserves are made up of the following various fund balances: -

CCLA Memorial Account £17,331.74 (+£130.31)

CCLA Investment £17,791.20 (+£846.13)

We received a large legacy about 19 years ago.

Graves Fund

Many years ago, 3 families made donations to the church to help in the maintenance of family graves. The dividends from these funds contribute to the cost of maintaining the churchyard.

These investments have increased in value by £126.76 to £5,665.06

Approved by the PCC on 30th January 2025 and signed on their behalf by the Revd. Canon Richard Burge.

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St John the Evangelist, Cullingworth

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 1 & 2, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and section 43 of the Charities act 1993 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner

As members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. You consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 43 (2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43 (7) (b) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance 2011 edition, issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishop's Council. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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 respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records per section 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare financial statements, that accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulationshave not been met; or
- 2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: Brenda Quail

Brenda Quail

<u>BALANCE 2024</u>		<u>BALANCE 2023</u>	
Income	£57,662.60	Income	£63,373.51
Spending	£56,924.42	Spending	£60,689.78
Surplus/deficit	£738.18	Surplus/deficit	£2,683.73
	31st December 2024		31st December 2023
Cash in hand	£84.00	Cash in hand	£52.00
Barclays bank	£609.02	Barclays bank	£33.15
CCLA deposit	£17,311.74	CCLA deposit	£17,181.43
	£18,004.76		£17,266.58
2024-2023	£738.18	2023-2022	£2,683.73
<u>Grave Funds</u>		<u>Grave Funds</u>	
	31st December 2024		31st December 2023
Wild	£1,202.38	Wild	£1,175.48
Woodiwiss	£2,659.11	Woodiwiss	£2,599.61
Preston	£1,803.57	Preston	£1,763.21
	£5,665.06		£5,538.30
<u>CCLA accumulation shares</u>		<u>CCLA accumulation shares</u>	
	31st December 2024		31st December 2023
	£17,791.20		£16,927.07
<u>ASSETS 2024</u>		<u>ASSETS 2023</u>	
	31st December 2024		31st December 2023
Cash in hand	£84.00	Cash in hand	£52.00
Barclays account	£609.02	Barclays account	£33.15
CCLA deposit	£17,311.74	CCLA deposit	£17,181.43
Grave Funds	£5,665.06	Grave Funds	£5,538.30
CCLA accumulation shares	£17,791.20	CCLA accumulation shares	£16,927.07
TOTAL	£41,461.02	TOTAL	£39,731.95

INCOMING RESOURCES		Restricted R or Unrestricted UR	2024	2023	
Voluntary income/ receipts					
Tax efficient planned giving	UR		£20,891.74	£20,361.76	2.6%
	R				
Other planned giving	UR		£2,130.90	£1,950.00	9.3%
	R				
Collections at services	UR		£2,782.21	£2,874.05	-3.2%
	R				
All other giving and voluntary receipts, including special appeals, specified donations and coffee Gift Aid recovered	UR		£1,089.29	£1,045.49	-90.1%
	R		£3,734.58	£1,359.03	174.8%
	UR		£6,584.49	£8,992.35	-26.8%
	R				
Legacies received (capital value)	UR				
	R				
Grants (include recurring and one-off)	UR		£2,403.26	£2,337.63	
	R				
Voluntary income:	UR		£33,478.63	£47,561.28	-29.6%
	R		£6,137.84	£1,359.03	351.6%
			£39,616.47	£48,920.31	-19.0%
Activities for generating funds					
Gross income from fundraising activities	UR		£3,816.11	£3,324.32	14.8%
	R				
			£3,816.11	£3,324.32	14.8%
Income from investments					
Dividends, interest, income from property etc.	UR		£918.77	£574.48	59.9%
	R		£205.70	£151.39	35.9%
			£1,124.47	£725.87	54.9%
Church activities					
Statutory fees retained by the PCC (weddings, funerals etc)	UR		£2,084.00	£1,279.01	62.9%
	R				
Gross income from trading (e.g. hall lettings, magazine, bookstall).	UR		£8,814.55	£9,124.00	-3.4%
NOT fundraising. (Room hire & advert income)	R				
			£10,898.55	£10,403.01	4.8%
Other incoming resources					
Any other income/ receipts not already listed					
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES (FROM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)					
Unrestricted			£49,112.06	£61,863.09	-20.6%
Restricted			£6,343.54	£1,510.42	320.0%
TOTAL			£55,455.60	£63,373.51	-12.5%

RESOURCES EXPENDED		Restricted R or Unrestricted UR	2024	2023	
Costs of generating income					
Fund-raising activities (costs and payments)	UR		£613.24	£766.86	-20.0%
	R				
			£613.24	£766.86	-20.0%
Church activities					
Mission giving and donations	UR				
	R		£1,552.00	£1,807.00	-14.1%
Diocesan parish share contribution	UR		£31,401.00	£31,282.00	0.4%
	R				
Salaries, wages and honoraria (Organist)	UR		£1,152.00	£1,088.00	5.9%
	R				
Clergy and staff expenses (Benefice expense & visiting clergy)	UR		£2,744.10	£3,312.00	-17.1%
	R				
Church activities	UR		£35,297.10	£35,682.00	-1.1%
	R		£1,552.00	£1,807.00	-14.1%
			£36,849.10	£37,489.00	-1.7%
Church expenses					
Church expenses: Mission and evangelism costs	UR		£2,620.16	£1,826.17	43.5%
	R				
Church running expenses (M, EN, C, CY, BM, I)	UR		£7,187.96	£10,839.40	-33.7%
Misc. Equip main, Cleaner, Churchyard, Building, Insurance	R				
Church utility bills	UR		£4,056.20	£4,926.95	-17.7%
(Gas, electricity, water)	R				
Cost of trading	UR		£2,245.00	£2,119.40	5.9%
	R				
Church expenses	UR		£16,109.32	£19,711.92	-18.3%
	R				
			£16,109.32	£19,711.92	-18.3%
Major capital expenditure					
Major repairs to the church building	UR		£1,145.76	£2,722.00	-57.9%
	R				
Major repairs to church hall or other PCC property, including redecoration	UR				
	R				
New building work to the church, church hall, clergy housing or other PCC property	UR				
	R				
Major capital expenditure	UR		£1,145.76	£2,722.00	-57.9%
	R		£0.00	£0.00	
			£1,145.76	£2,722.00	-57.9%
Total cost of major capital expenditure					
Governance costs (examination or audit fee)					
Other outgoing resources/ payments					
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED (FROM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)					
Unrestricted			£53,165.42	£58,882.78	-9.7%
Restricted			£1,552.00	£1,807.00	-14.1%
TOTAL			£54,717.42	£60,689.78	-9.8%

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

Each year all Church of England Churches must revise their Electoral Roll.

The number on the roll has increased by one.

The total is 49 as of the 28th of April 2024.

Robert Smith – Electoral Roll Officer

USE OF ST JOHN'S ROOM

We have had good usage of the St John's Room.

The art group meets on a Monday morning.

The Craft n Chat group meet on a Tuesday afternoon.

We have our BCP Communion on a Wednesday morning and throughout the winter we have held our Warm Space with the support of Bradford Council.

Storytime meets once a month on a Wednesday afternoon.

The Ukulele group meeting on Thursday and Friday morning

The St John's Room is used as the Village Polling Station.

The £5,410 income (£1,000 warm space and the £4,100 room hire) is helping to support the running costs of the church.

Jasmin Smith

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHES

The lunches are held usually on the second Saturday of each month. They are open to anyone, and we can have anything between 15 and 20 people attend. Whilst providing fellowship and hospitality, the lunches have also been a useful way of raising £913 to support the running costs of the church.

Jasmin Smith

AIRE AND WORTH DEANERY SYNOD

There were three meetings of the Aire and Worth Deanery Synod in 2024. Paul, Jasmin and Robert are our Deanery Representatives.

The first meeting was held at St Mark's Utleigh, on Tuesday 11th March. We heard about three different nurture courses. Revd Richard Burge first spoke about the Start course. Produced by Leading Your Church Into Growth. The material comprises several videos featuring Robin Gamble, and the six sessions focus on life, God, mess, Jesus, the cross, and onwards. Revd Elspeth Cansdale then spoke about the Moving on course. 7 sessions, discipleship, the body of Christ, going to church, growing, the Holy Spirit, giving of time, talents and money, and a new lifestyle as a Christian. Sue Lawrence and Barbara Downes for St Paul's Shipley spoke about the 'Being With' enquirers course. The course is 10 weeks in length with sessions on meaning, essence, Jesus, church, bible, mission, cross, prayer suffering and reason. This course focuses on listening to others as they offer their contributions and learning from the insight of others.

The second meeting was held at St Michael's Cottingley on Monday 26th June. Revd Richard Burge spoke about the Leadership and Personal Growth course that he led over the previous academic year. A group of 10 people from the benefice met 6 times over the year. Richard said how valuable he had found this course in identifying the skills of those who attended, and he has found it a good way of building people up and encouraging people. an Elections for 1 lay and 3 clergy vacancies to the Diocesan Synod were held. Stuart Eteson was elected to the lay vacancy. Revd Canon Sandra Benham and Revd Lindsay Pearson were elected to the clergy vacancies. We then had an update from Jane Adams, finance manager

with the Diocese about the current financial state of the diocese and the associated challenges. Jane also spoke about the stewardship and support to PCC treasurers that is available.

The third meeting was held at St Peter's Shipley on Wednesday 23rd October. Where we received an update from the Diocesan Synod meeting and feedback from the General Synod. Simone Bennett the Diocesan Director of Education gave a presentation about the opportunities and challenges of working with schools, how partnerships can be mutually beneficial, how collective worship can be supported and identifying how gifts and talents can be shared with schools.

BRADFORD EPISCOPAL AREA FORUM (BEAF)

There was one meeting of the Bradford Episcopal Area Forum at Bradford Cathedral on Tuesday 1st October, we looked at how parishes and diocesan staff have worked well together over the first 10 years of the Diocese to help us in our mission and think about how that can look going forward.

Robert Smith - Deanery Synod and BEAF Representative