

the only committee required by law and has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any general directions given by the Council.

Members of the Parochial Church Council for 2020 were:
(Mid-year changes indicated)

Incumbent: Rev Joachim Foot

Ex officio	Curate:	Paul Salaman
	Associate Priest:	Linda Whetter
	Lay Reader:	Scott Hall
	Churchwarden:	No appointment >>Andy McCartney
	Deanery Synod Reps	Robert Dodd - stepped down
Elected members	Vice – chairman	Robert Dodd – stepped down
	Treasurer	Robert Dodd >>Andy McCartney
	Secretary	Ann Holland

Members: Sue Hall, Caroline John, Richard Heath, Nigel Morris - Joined.

Safe-guarding officer: Eleanor McCartney

Electoral Roll:-

The Electoral Roll for 2023 numbered 55.

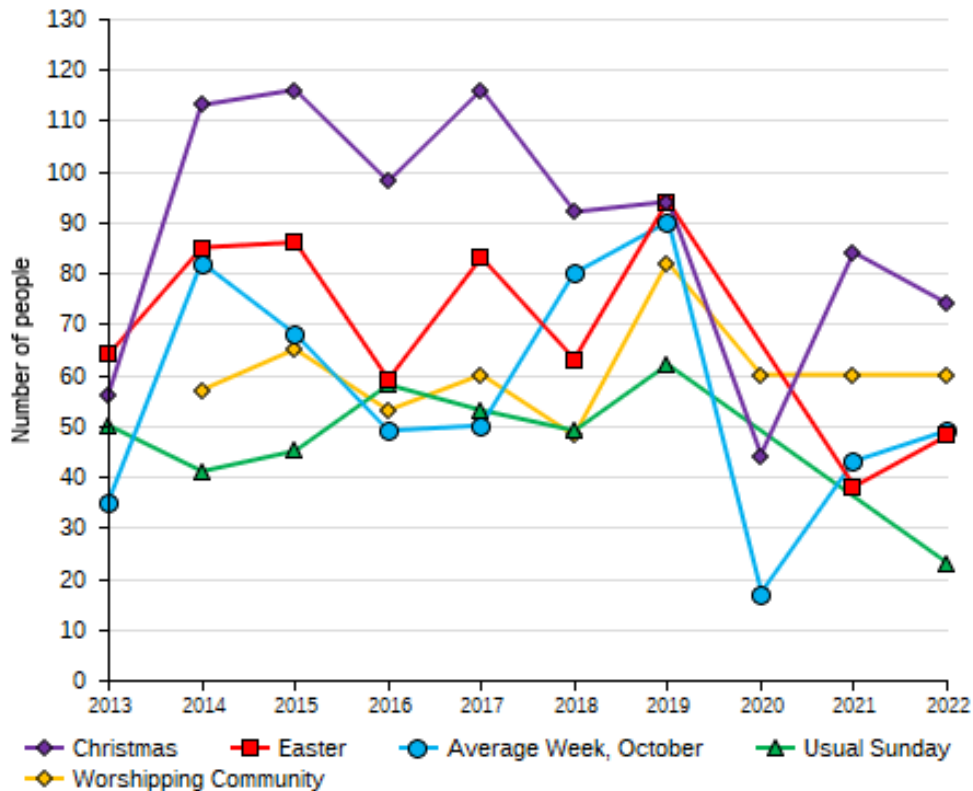
Objectives and Activities

The objective of the Parochial Church Council of Probus Parish Church is to exercise the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, Pastoral, Evangelical, Social and Ecumenical.

We have fulfilled our objectives with the Achievements and Performances within the following activity headings:

Church attendance:

2022 saw a continue in our post-covid bounce back. There are signs of growth which are an encouragement and although numbers are not where they once were many years ago the current direction is upward. Our Christmas figure for 2022 on the table below is artificially low due to the cancellation of the carol service because of bad weather. It has been both a joy to welcome new members over 2022 as well as a great sadness to lose the likes of Neil Staten who is very much missed.



In 2022 there were 3 baptisms, 2 weddings and 6 funerals

Terrier

This is currently under review by the Curate and Churchwarden. It has not been updated since 2020 and so there are some significant changes that need logging as well as a “stock take” of what is there.

Rector’s Report

Local Minister’s Report

2022 saw the start of the implementation of the Deanery On-The-Way plan. Part of this involved the allocation of focal or local ministers to individual churches and I was made local minister to Probus church. This has been a joy as I have attempted to engage myself more deeply in the life of the church and the local community. Before this happened, I had already started looking at the vision of the church and after doing some historical research with help from Neil Staten and Pat Robson, I decided to resurrect and reinterpret the ancient Motto of “Gratia et Probus” or “Grace and Goodness”, launching our new vision on our Patronal Festival. The vision statement “Receiving the grace of Jesus and sharing his goodness with the world” was formerly adopted later by the PCC. Apart from the regular activity of overseeing services, occasional offices, coffee mornings and special events, I have been able in 2022 to start some new initiatives:

Church Review

As someone who is supposed to have their finger on the pulse of church life, I realised the need to try to visit as many of the church community as I can, to gauge the views, gather contact details and review roles in the church. This task will continue well into 2023 however it has already proved useful in terms of getting a better focus on the life of the church and identifying people for special tasks such as pastoral visiting.

Ministry Team

Part of the model of local ministry sees the local minister supported by a small team. It was felt appropriate that this team should consist of our Lay Readers (or those in the process of becoming Lay Readers) and the Churchwarden, totalling five people who could work together assisting me in the task of furthering the vision of the church and overseeing its ministry. The ministry team was formed in 2022 and has started the process of producing a parish plan that would give us specific targets as we seek to direct the activity of the church over the next few years. When complete the plan would be put to the PCC for approval. Other initiatives planned but which by the end of 2022 had not yet come about include: The formation of a creation care group and the signing up of the church to the Kernow Green Church Award, the formation of a pastoral visiting team, the formation of a day-time week-day bible study group and the starting of some form of evening service once a month.

Schools work

We currently have good links both with Grampound Road School (which is technically within the parish yet also has links with Ladock Church, I am a governor there and regularly hold collective worship services) and with Probus School (I also visit roughly 3 times a term but they also visit us for projects and use the church for their events). The 2022 Summer project with Probus School was a particular highlight of the year which I look back on fondly, where I was assisted by Sara Schofield and Neil Staten only a month before Neil Left us.

Changes to services

During 2022 the numbers attending the Tuesday morning Holy Communion service made the service untenable and it was decided that this would no longer continue on a weekly basis but could be occasionally resurrected for special occasions such as holy week. Also during 2022 it was decided to restart our café church services but to hold them on the afternoon of the 4th Sunday of the month rather than on 5th Sundays. This has proved very popular and has become our best attended weekly service without seeming to adversely effect Linda's 4th Sunday Holy Communion service which is also very well attended. It has been encouraging to see a slow upturn in numbers attending our services over 2022. We have welcomed many new members and seen a return to regular attendance of others post covid. As I continue to attempt to "steer the ship" that is Probus Church I am very grateful for all those who give of their time, effort and money to partner with me in this God given task and ask for your continued prayers that all that we do is according to his will and to his glory.

Paul Salaman

Prayer Meeting

In 2022 a small group started meeting in the lady chapel every Friday early in the morning to pray together for the church, its members and activities and for the wider community as well as to pray through prayer requests left on the prayer tree. The group has grown and is open to anyone who wishes to join us. We currently meet at 8am every Friday.

Churchwarden / Treasurer report

Standing again as Churchwarden in the spring of 2022 coincided with the resignation of our Treasurer and this also coincided with a big increase in my own home and family commitments and sadly a close personal bereavement. This has all meant I am spending more time away from the church and the village supporting my family but there are also more Church responsibilities for me to do given there were no offers to take on the role of Treasurer from July.

Probus, historically, has had two churchwardens and I want to be very open that doing this role alone alongside becoming Treasurer for the last half of the year and onwards has not been ideal for either the church or me.

If there are areas of church life or upkeep or management that you would like to become more involved with whether that is building maintenance, creation of teams and rotas for various tasks such as cleaning or the maintenance of the altar linen, revamping of noticeboards or any of the jobs that might be needed for Probus to become a well-run and impactful church please do not hesitate to offer your ideas and time, experience and energy – please do not assume an area where something is not happening is due to a lack of desire for these things to happen well - but more likely a result of insufficient spare time or knowledge on my part – please look on any area seemingly not being looked after well in our church as an opportunity to get involved and make it better. Thank you to Nigel Morris for his willingness to take on the onward management, development, and maintenance of the audio/visual/media equipment and to Dave Meggs for his liaison with trades over various electrical and plumbing faults and the improvement to the daytime lighting.

Thank you to all on the church unlocking/locking rota who help keep our church secure and safe each day.

Throughout 2022 the routine maintenance of our church has continued. We have addressed various faults that have been obvious with slipped roof tiles, blocked gullies and gutters, electrical switch gremlins etc and have continued with the routine safety requirements such as PAT testing, gas heater servicing and lightning conductor checks etc.

None of this maintenance is preventing the gradual decay of the building due to water ingress and the resulting rot and movement. It has been acknowledged by the PCC that they are currently managing the decline of our beautiful building due to a lack of funds to do otherwise and the reality of this now is that the internal plaster is cracking and water damaged in many places. It is hoped that in the near future the church and the village community will realise that without substantial repair works to get watertight the building will not be able to remain safely open and a valuable resource for the community of Probus will be lost.

There are many areas of the church building that are sadly in decline. The roof shows signs of widespread water ingress and the tiles are increasingly insecure due to the wood and the retaining pegs gradually rotting. We are at risk of further and more wide-spread storm damage in the future. There are also long-standing signs of penetrating damp particularly

around the cafe area of church. The general deterioration of the internal decoration is most notable at the tops of the inner supporting walls where the pillars support the roof... these walls are the base of huge V-shaped gullies that have to deal with enormous quantities of rainfall - all of this water is (meant to be) kept from entering the church by the lead lining of these gullies...this lead is now worn out and cracked or holed in many places in both gullies and replacement and renovation is now urgently needed – just as it was urgently needed in 2014 when the specifications were commissioned to re-lead the North gully only

The project to re-lead the North gully only (conceived around 2014) was formally abandoned in 2022 due to lack of funding and so the project if it were to happen will need re-specifying and new quotes sought and will certainly now be a much larger project than it was all those years ago (as both gullies now need full renovation)

The church heating system is now regularly serviced and appears now to be reasonably reliable... it's age and it's fundamental technology means it is both expensive to service and expensive to run - particularly with the step change in gas and electrical prices that we are all having to get used to. Our church is expensive to heat and its old heating system will not last forever regardless of how well we keep it serviced. This will be a big issue in the coming years and in an ideal world we would have the funds to consider whether we should be converting to a modern method of heating where bodies are heated rather than the space and the power source would be green and carbon neutral.

In the spring the church benefited from a generous donation of a sound desk and accompanying technology and this provided a substantial revamp to the church's sound equipment and the ability to host a worship band. A particular advantage is our new ability to record and distribute our services for those that cannot attend in person which has been very useful to various congregation members. A huge thanks to those involved in the personal donations of new equipment and the hard work to install and use the new facilities. The sound improvements have been at zero cost to the church finances in 2022

The Church has remained open daily for private and individual prayer throughout the year with improvements to the background lighting to aid visitors. The church continues to host coffee mornings, toddler groups, organ recitals and the community larder alongside the now well established and stable pattern of Sunday morning, café-church and Messy Church services.

Attendance at services is either stable or growing and this is a truly positive sign that despite our glorious building's current decay and expense there is a living, vibrant and important worshipping community using Probus Church as its base and seeking to engage with and be an important part of the community of Probus.

Thank you to Barbara Honey and the hardworking flower arranging team who make our church look truly beautiful and alive through all the seasons

The illuminated crosses were kindly provided once again and fitted by Kev Cope and Ed Faull and their team with help and support from the village community. Community events such as the Christmas Fayre, tower opening and Carols on the Cobbles were very well attended showing, I believe, how positively the community see our church.

The work of the community larder and various NOGH initiatives goes from strength to strength and whilst its existence or need to exist is not a point of celebration at all I think that the work of this project allied to the church is becoming a vital part of village life for many (see individual report)

The living Churchyard group (again see individual report) started to make real inroads into the overgrown and neglected churchyard in the Autumn of 2022 and it is hoped the community project will become a huge addition to the church and the village community in 2023.

The Church clock continues to be maintained and kept correct by Jon Keam and myself and thanks go to Jon for arranging various emergency repairs and securing the funding for them.

The church purchased the electronic giving machine in the second half of 2022 and this within only 3 months had more than covered its set up costs by attracting more giving especially around visitors, café-church and coffee morning groups.

In terms of church finances please see the accompanying financial statement for 2022. Clearly all of the above issues with the building could be solved with an unlimited stream of income raining down on us from outside but in the absence of that I think it is important to recognise and to openly discuss where Probus church gets its funding from to enable it to afford the valued services of our clergy, to be able to access the support of the diocese and to meet the basic running costs and maintenance of our building.

Probus Church, apart from a longstanding grant it gratefully receives from the Tredenham Trust and income from yearly fundraising events, is almost wholly reliant on the voluntary giving of its congregation to pay its way... It has no assets it can raise rent from apart from the space we all know in the church, no church hall it can manage and develop as an income stream and no accumulated funds providing an investment income. The positive news is that 2022 saw an increase in voluntary giving mainly due to new people arriving and people reassessing their established giving amounts. It is impossible to overstate how important it is that we all look to our own giving regularly and consider what is appropriate for us to give as individuals. To see any giving increase in the current economic climate is a real testament to the commitment of many to maintain or increase their giving levels in real-terms

Do consider the following Bank of England information regarding the value of money today compared to the past. (eg a £45 donation in 2000 would be the same value as a £75 donation in 2022)

	1990	2000	2010	2020	2022
Value of a donation	£3	£4	£5	£6	£7
	£10	£13	£16	£20	£22
	£35	£45	£56	£68	£75

We continue to encourage all those who wish to give on a regular basis and in a planned way to use the **Parish Giving Scheme**. This is a very streamlined system preferred by the Church of England and has the huge advantage of automatically claiming the Gift Aid on any eligible donation for us. Parish Giving also gives you the option to automatically increase your giving to retain its real-terms value each year if you so desire...amounts can be altered at any time of course.

Our voluntary giving must become a more talked about issue as a congregation. It is and will always be private and confidential and of course giving levels will always be unequal as we are all in different positions and stages of life. The reality though is without open conversation about our main area of income we will be in danger of not being able to pay our way in the future as an organisation.

If we are ever to meet even part of the inevitable renovation costs we are facing with Church money we will need to increase our income. If we are to improve the security of our income the base of our giving needs to become much wider and encompass a much greater number of regularly giving households than it does currently.

As a final note the PCC is the group of people who meet to plan and manage how this church operates. There are now several vacancies and the meetings are productive and hopefully enjoyable to attend. If you would like to join the PCC please do make contact with either myself, Joachim or Paul

Andy McCartney

Report of Parish Safeguarding Officer

I am pleased to present my annual report in the role of Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) for the Parish.

I can report that there were 4 cases requiring my involvement in 2022, one requiring referral to social care, one requiring liaison with the Diocese Safeguarding Team and the other two resolved through local discussion and without escalation to teams outside of the Parish.

I continue to act as the local DBS co-Ordinator for the Parish and can confirm the PCC, Clergy and Children / Youth Teams have appropriate DBS checks in place.

You will be aware that there are three levels of Safeguarding skills: Basic Awareness, Foundation and Leadership. Everyone having a role within the Church, should have completed Basic awareness training, and dependent on their specific role, should aim to complete the Foundation course. All PCC members are required to have Basic awareness training – at the end of 2022 1 member was outstanding in completing this (although now completed).

Safeguarding is the concern of everyone, and an enquiring mind, and observation are essential. If you see something that is not quite right or is of concern to you then please contact either me as the PSO or a member of the clergy. You should avoid becoming personally involved. Once reported, the incumbent or the PSO will lead any investigation.

Thank you for your continued support. I will continue to give support and guidance in my role as Parish Safeguarding Officer.

Eleanor McCartney
Parish Safeguarding Officer May 2023

Church Electoral Roll Report

The Electoral Roll* for 2022 has been reviewed and published in accordance with the Church of England Regulations and has been updated for 2023 (and for the purposes of this meeting).

Since last year 2 members of the Church's Electoral Roll have asked to be removed, and sadly 2 members have passed away. In addition, we welcome 2 new members to our Church who have applied and have been added to the 2023 Electoral Roll.

The 2023 Church Electoral Roll has 55 members.

Ann Pattison, Electoral Roll Officer, 25 April 2023

*Being on the Church Electoral Roll shows commitment to our church, and (if you wish to) allows you to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, and to stand for election to the Parochial Church Council.

Deanery Synod Report

In 2022 Robert Dodd stepped down from his role as Deanery Synod Representative alongside other roles within the church. As yet no one has been elected to this position. As the representative of the Probus Mission Area on Powder Deanery Synod Standing Committee I'd like to thank Robert for his previous service in this area and I now endeavour to provide a brief summary of Deanery activity over 2022. Much of this concerned the On-The-Way process, which at the beginning of the year consisted of the consultation process before the deanery plan was then produced, approved and then started to be implemented.

The implementation of the plan impacts Probus church most significantly in 3 ways:

Local Ministry – There has been a move for churches to have a single person appointed to be the local minister working under an oversight minister but with a particular focus on the direction and pastoral care of the church community. Revd Paul was appointed Local minister for Probus while Revd Joachim remains as Rector and oversight minister for the wider benefice.

Tresillian and St Michael Penkivel – The plan looks to the merging of the current benefice with those of Tresillian and St Michael Penkivel however this is a legal process that may take some time.

MMF call – As part of the on-the-way process there was a recognition by all that for our plans to be sustainable then, moving forward all churches must endeavour to meet their MMF calls in full. There has been a move to calculate the call of benefices as a whole according to a cost-based model and then to divide this figure between individual churches

according to an agreed formula. Probus (alongside Ladock and Grampound) would be responsible for 25% of the benefice call.

Revd Paul Salaman

Messy Church Report

Messy Church is still finding it's way back from the restrictions of Covid, but Probus Church has enjoyed a Christmas and an Easter Messy Church since the last APCM.

Messy Church is considered to be a form of church service and as such the attendance numbers are recorded. We were very encouraged to have 43 children celebrating the Easter story on Good Friday. We are beginning to regrow our team of helpers, including having 5 young helpers which is great news. We are so very thankful to everyone who gets down and messy with us! It means we can work towards getting back to having Messy Church more regularly and the re-building of friendships with those families who come along each time.

The next 2 dates are already in the diary for Saturday 27 th June and Friday 11 th August – this being as part of the relaunched Probus Sports and Fun week. Currently Sara Schofield, Eleanor McCartney and Sue Hall co-ordinate Messy Church but would like to increase this team to bring new creative ideas and a sharing of the planning.

Sue Hall

Little Lights and Tower Tots

Little Lights continued to meet throughout 2022 on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 1:30 – 3:15 pm introducing bible stories and songs to the children and parents/grandparents in a short Children's "service" and enjoying crafts, play, refreshments and chat.

Tower Tots has continued on second, fourth and fifth Thursdays, with a more informal structure of play, nursery rhymes, refreshments and chat.

The group was led by Pam Cobbold together with Christine Salaman, Gill Bonnell and Ann Staten until October 2022 when Pam stepped down for family reasons. Christine, Gill and Ann continued.

Both sessions were attended by the same families with numbers fluctuating from 2 to 10 family groups. We have some regular members who thoroughly enjoy the sessions and are very engaged with the stories and songs about Jesus. It is also an opportunity for parents and children to develop friendships and support and encourage one another. A number of families have got involved with other church events such as special services, messy church and coffee mornings.

Some of the highlights of the year were: Easter, when the children arranged the Easter scene at the front of church, learnt about how Jesus died to save us, and enjoyed an Easter egg hunt around the church; our summer party with a picnic in church and a treasure hunt around the church grounds; Christmas, when the children arranged the Christmas scene at the front of church, learnt about the Christmas story and decorated the church Christmas tree.

We value your prayers for the group, that more children and their families will be attracted to come and join us, that more people will come forward to lead, and that children and their families will learn about Jesus and draw closer to God through this work.

Christine Salaman
26/04/2023

Spotlights Youth Club

Spotlights Youth Club continued to meet throughout 2022 on every first and third Sunday evening from 6:30-8:00pm. The club is aimed at young people of secondary school age and is led by Christine Salaman, Revd Paul Salaman and Debbie Cluett. Daniel Salaman also helped to lead until he left for university in Sept 2022. Numbers of young people attending sadly declined over the year as some members became too old for the group and others lost interest. By the end of 2022 we had around 10 regular members.

The sessions are very informal with plenty of time for young people to simply chill with friends in a friendly and safe environment. Regular activities include games such as pool, table football, air hockey and board games, and the increasingly popular craft and bracelet making table. In the middle of the evening we watch a short video or have short talk from Revd Paul relating to faith, and then enjoy some group games and snacks together. Highlights of the year included: several open mic nights where we saw the wonderful and varied talents of our young people; the Great Spotlights Bake Off for the Queen's platinum jubilee with some beautiful jubilee themed cakes; several quizzes and in particular our Christmas quiz and Christmas party.

We value your prayers for the future of the group, especially that more young people will be attracted to join us and not be put off by coming into church, that new leaders will feel called to come forward to help, and that we may be a good witness to our young people.

Christine Salaman
26/4/23

Coffee Mornings Report

Coffee Mornings have a vital role in the church. They facilitate fellowship within the church, are a form of outreach drawing people into the church community, they provide much needed social interaction for the lonely and isolated and can also raise money for the work of the church. During the pandemic coffee mornings were put on hold and of our 3 regular coffee mornings only 2 have managed to bounce back at present.

Tuesday morning – This is now a thriving community of people of all ages (as well as the occasional well-behaved dog). It is not uncommon for over 20 people to attend as people come and go between 10:30 and 12. For some elderly members, this may be their one time of the week when they leave the house and talk to others and we will often get the occasional visitor who just happened to be passing who is welcomed with a smile, a drink and a biscuit or two.

Friday morning – this started as a coffee morning for mums after dropping off kids at the school but has grown over the year as it is scheduled alongside a Community Larder session. This has meant a good cross fertilisation of larder costumers (and helpers) and coffee morning attendees such that there is a good community feel which reduces the stigma for many of coming to the larder. It is planned that during this session services will be made available to get advice from various organisations for larder costumers and the warm

environment generated by the coffee morning will be essential to the success of this initiative.

Saturday morning – Unfortunately the once-a-month Saturday coffee morning has yet to see a bounce back to pre-covid levels and a decision may soon be needed as to whether to have one last attempt to revive it or to knock it on the head.

The provision of tea and coffee is an essential aspect of so many other events at church be it after a service or alongside special events such as the tower opening and I am grateful to all those who help out by giving out drinks, providing biscuits and home baked cakes or rolling their sleeves up to do the washing up.

Revd Paul Salaman

No One Goes Hungry Report

Throughout 2022 NOGH has remained busy and indeed has seen an increase in the number of people using our services as the cost-of-living crisis has deepened, particularly notable has been the increase in pensioners access support which was apparent from Autumn 2022.

The community larder continues to open 4 times a week supplying both food bank staples as well as supermarket surplus. As the winter months started to draw in, we started to provide tea and coffee prior to the sessions so that people were not waiting in the cold. This has also been a chance for volunteers to chat with larder users and provide support / information as appropriate.

An outreach larder session in Tresillian started in November 2022.

The larder is supported by a team of 24 volunteers who man the sessions, and around 20 people who help with collection of surplus food from supermarkets. Each week we see around 120-150 people being supported through food given out at larder sessions.

The Christmas Hampers again provided all the ingredients for a fresh traditional Christmas Dinner to 55 local families – 230 people. The church was a buzz with volunteers on the 23rd of December as almost 30 people helped prepare and transport the hampers.

In 2022 we were delighted to receive financial donations from Cornwall Community Foundation, Mercedes Benz Truro, Tresillian Church and Tresillian Methodist Church and via Cornwall Christmas Giving Catalogue. This is in addition to giving at larder sessions and via the collection tins during the Christmas Hamper period.

At the end of 2022 we were successful in obtaining a funds for mission grant from Truro Diocese to support meal provision for school children during holiday times during 2023. We also started discussions with the Citizens Advice to provide an advisor to attend larder sessions on a regular basis – this is through funding via the Trussell Trust.

Eleanor McCartney
Coordinator NOGH – May 2022

Churchyard Report

The churchyard had been neglected for many years but initial discussions with a number of people who were interested in restoring it finally came to fruition in July. This followed the construction of the excellent new pathway at the front of the church which replaced the dangerous gravel pathway. The grass in the churchyard had become extremely long at this point and Nick Lauder and myself were asked to form a volunteer action group to tackle the overgrowth and endeavour to produce a pleasant and diverse environment appropriate for a living churchyard.

By August, the long grass had been cut and removed into piles to be composted. Several large bags had also been filled with grass and bramble, but their removal proved a problem until November when Cormac agreed to remove them. From September onwards bramble, ivy and overgrown branches of holly and other trees were cut back or removed exposing many gravestones that had been hidden for decades. The team were delighted to reveal some truly wonderful gravestones and monuments which demonstrated the superb skills of stonemasons over the last two centuries. Progress was communicated to residents and others using the monthly "Probus News" magazine and weekly Facebook posts.

In November, crocus bulbs were planted alongside the front path, which we hope will be the first of many bulb planting events. We benefited throughout the year from the advice and support of Robert Moor of the Cornwall Living Churchyard scheme and in December, our "Living Churchyard" sign, kindly donated by Robert, was placed near the front gates.

In addition to the work on the ground, we also intend to create a colony of swifts in the church tower. Suitable nesting sites for these endangered birds have become increasingly rare due to modern building construction methods, and we are very grateful to Phil Heard for making and donating the first two of our swift boxes to be installed.

Steve Dalton

Friends of Probus Church report

The current balance is £3,415.57 after paying for the cabinets for No-one Goes Hungry, with donations coming in of just under £200 in the last 12 months. After 3 years of battling with HSBC to gain full access to the bank account, that has now finally been achieved and Internet Banking has been activated.

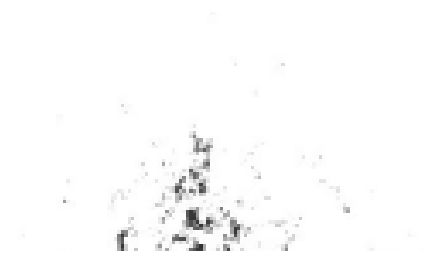
Richard Heath

Parochial Church Council of St Probus and St Grace, Probus

Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

Independent Examiner

Andrew Gilbert





Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Parochial Church Council St Probus and St Grace

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st December 2022 **Charity no
(if any)**

Set out on pages

Insert number. Insert date for prior periods or additional periods

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: 

Date: 09/03/2023

Name: Andrew Gilbert

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

ACCA Member (membership number 4399901)

Address:

26 Princess Avenue
Oakham
LE15 6PQ

	to 30/6	1/07-31/12	2022	(paid in)	
	£	£	£	2021	2022
Income					
Voluntary Income					
Tax efficient Planned Giving	6,833	8444	15,277	7,625	
Other Planned Giving	414	20	434	3,806	
Other Collections at services	545	578	1,123	1,169	
All other giving and voluntary receipts, inc special appeals (recurring and one off)	2,017	1289	3,306	3,500	
All Tax Recovered through Gift Aid	3,376	1477	4,853	2,253	
Legacies Received (capital value)			0	0	
Recurring Grants (paid in more than one financial year)	3,413		3,413	3,505	
Flower fund direct giving	0	33.5	34		
Non-Recurring or one-off grants	0	2484	2,484	0	
	16,598	14,326	30,924	21,858	
Activities for Generating Funds					
Gross Income from Fundraising activities		1,270	1,325	2,595	7,028
Income from Investments					
Interest		51	136	187	14
Church Activities					
Statutory Fees retained by the PCC (weddings, funerals etc)		1,202	365	1,567	1,763
Income from other church activities			1,030	1,030	
TOTAL INCOME	19,122	17,181	36,303	30,662	
EXPENDITURE					
Cost of Generating Funds		104	375	479	2,945
All Mission Giving & Charitable Grants & Donations		45	1,276	1,321	505
Church Activities					
Parish Share Paid to Diocese (MMF)		20,843	3,000	23,843	11,563
Salaries/Honoraria (youth worker, organist, Admin etc)					8,946
Expenses (clergy & Staff)		551	818	1,309	1,058
Mission & Evangelism costs		136	120	256	468
total	21,530	3,938	25,468	22,035	
Regular Church Running Costs					
Insurance		2,406	2,454	4,860	4,604
Cleaning					0
Admin Costs		47		47	127
Maintenance		35	3,527	3,562	2,970
Upkeep of Services		516	388	904	1,083
Upkeep of Churchyard		0	0	0	
Flower arranging		0	69	69	
Heating and Lighting and water costs		1,144	1,253	2,397	2,180
total	4,148	7,691	11,839	10,964	
Cost of Trading (magazines, hall & bookstall etc)					
Governance Costs (audit fee for 2021 accounts)		294			300
Major Capital Expenditure					
Major repairs to the church building inc Redecoration		0	0		0
Major repairs to church hall or other PCC property inc redex		0	0		0
Total Expenditure	26,121	13,380	39,401	36,748	
Income over expenditure from Reports	-6,999	3,901	-3,098	-6,086	

Balances at 31/12/2022	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	
Treasurers account (Cash)	£18,757.35			
Fabric Fund (Lloyds) (Cash)		£2,362.69		
CCLA Roof Repair fund 005D (Cash)			£4,160.12	
CCLA Windows Project 004D (Cash)			£26.22	
CCLA Fabric Fund 001D (Cash)		£3,360.00		
CCLA General Fund 003D (Cash)	£5,813.09			
Flower Fund (Cash)		£65.00		
Total	£24,570.44	£5,722.69	£4,186.34	£34,479

Financial Review

The vast majority of income for St Probus and St Grace remains voluntary giving and this is showing positive signs of being substantially increased compared to 2021. We are continuing to encourage regular givers to use the Parish Giving Scheme

The church continued to benefit from a non-recurring grant of £3413 and also received a contribution towards the increased energy costs that have been seen in 2022 in the form of a grant of £2484 from the Diocese

Our total reported income is £30,924 compared to £21,858 in 2021

In terms of expenditure the Church's running costs are comparable to last year at £11,839 compared to £10,964 in 2021

The change to accounting on the receipts and payment basis has allowed our accounts to be independently examined rather than audited and this has meant that the cost of approving the accounts for 2022 has not been chargeable to the PCC this represents a saving of approximately £300.

In October the PCC purchased a contactless giving machine for approximately £350 to help encourage voluntary giving and income from visitors to our church. From installation in mid-October to the year end this machine collected £431. When money given via the machine is identified as a coffee morning contribution then this is transferred to the fabric fund. All other electronic giving remains in the general fund. Physical coffee morning money and money collected in the north wall Alms box both go to supplement the fabric fund.

The MMF call for 2022 was £21265 of which the PCC paid £7250. All previous year's arrears having been settled in full in 2022 - it is the PCC's intention to pay in full it's MMF call each year from 2023 onwards.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds which equates to at least six months unrestricted payments. This is equivalent to approximately £15,000. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies.

The cash balance of £24570 held in unrestricted funds at the year's end is more than that reserve amount and the PCC will look to understanding the implications of our building's needs before deciding how this money should be used.

Fund Changes over 2022 overview

Treasurers account (Cash)	£6,223.41 – Voluntary giving, grants and activities less running costs and MMF contributions
Fabric Fund (Lloyds) (Cash)	£1,259.29 – Money raised from Tower opening, Coffee mornings and Alms box giving less routine building repair costs (eg loose slates, broken switches, leaks etc)
CCLA Roof Repair fund 005D (Cash)	£54.01 - Interest

CCLA Windows Project 004D (Cash)	£0.34 - Interest
CCLA Fabric Fund 001D (Cash)	£43.62 - Interest
CCLA General Fund 003D (Cash)	-£10,641.41 – Interest less previous year's MMF contributions
Flower Fund	-£36.00 – Focussed giving less flower arranging costs

Accounting policies

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared on the receipts and payment basis in accordance with church accounting regulations and have been examined in accordance with the requirements of the charities Act 2011

Funds

1. **Treasurer's account/general fund**
Represents the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any special restrictions regarding their use and are available for application to the general purpose of the PCC.
2. **Fabric fund (designated).** Purpose is to repair the church building throughout the year income raised during the year is to supplement the fund
3. **Roof repair fund (restricted)** Purpose is to help fund the repair of the church roof outside of general maintenance and patching. Income raised during the year is to supplement the fund
4. **Windows project (restricted)** Purpose is to repair the windows. Income raised during the year is to supplement the fund
5. **Flower fund (designated)** Purpose is to fund the arranging of flowers throughout the year. Income raised during the year is to supplement the fund - this fund is held in cash by the lead flower arranger.

These accounts include all monetary transactions for which the PCC can be held responsible they do not include the accounts for other church groups that owe an affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Assets and Liabilities

The following assets are recognised but not necessarily valued in any statement

- Movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC which require a faculty for disposal, land and buildings held on behalf of the PCC, other fixtures fittings and office equipment where the PCC is free to dispose of such assets without faculty and where the original cost exceeded £1000, investments held beneficially by the PCC


The following assets are recognised and a monetary value given as part of the financial statement

- Any amount owing to the PCC, legacies where formal notification of entitlement and amount has been received by the year end, closing bank balances as shown on the financial statement, any amount owing from the Inland Revenue where a formal claim has been made

The following liabilities are recognised in the financial statement

- Any loans or overdraft advanced to the PCC, any arrears of MMF, creditors for goods or services where the supply is being received

Accounts prepared by

 (30/3/23)

Andy McCartney

Treasurer (1/7/22 onwards)*

*Figures for 1/1/22 to 31/6/22 as received by Robert Dodd (previous Treasurer)

Approved by the Parochial Parish Council (signed on its behalf)

 (30/3/23)

Rev Joachim Foot (Chair)