

The Parish of St. Leonard's, Clawton

Annual Report and Financial Statements

of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ended

31st December 2024

Rector:

Revd. Dr. Paul Fitzpatrick

Great Knowle House, Pyworthy, EX22 6JY

01409 254667 Email: vicar-rubycountry@outlook.com

Bankers:

Lloyds Bank, 3 Broad St, Launceston PL15 8AG

Independent Examiner:

Mrs Maralyn Bailey,

Hilcot, Horslett Hill, Clawton, Holsworthy, Devon EX22 6RS

Treasurer:

Paul Grafton, Higher Sellick Farm, Clawton, Holsworthy, Devon EX22 6PS

01409 271456 Email: paul@devonholidays.org

The Parochial Church Council is an Excepted Charity.

St Leonard's Clawton Annual Report 2024

St. Leonard's is in the small village of Clawton, 4 miles south of Holsworthy in the Torridge area of Devon, on the border with North Cornwall. It is part of the Ruby Country Benefice (formerly Black Torrington and Ashwater), in the Deanery of Holsworthy which is part of the Archdeaconry of Barnstaple (Diocese of Exeter).

The Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of funding and organising activities. The PCC is committed to keeping our Church open and available for worship. To facilitate this work, it is important we maintain the fabric of the Church of St Leonard's and improve its facilities.

Achievements and performance

- *Worship and prayer:* A Methodist service is held in the church usually on the fourth Sunday of each month and either Holy Communion or Morning Prayer on the second Sunday. The Harvest Festival and Christmas Carol Services have been well attended.
- *Safeguarding:* Val Letheren is Safeguarding Officer for the Ruby Country Benefice.
- *Fundraising:* Four fundraising events were held during the year – two Wine and Wisdom quiz nights and two Big Breakfasts. All were well attended and made significant profits for our non-restricted fund.
- *Buildings:* A Quinquennial inspection was made during the year and while there were no major issues work has commenced on rectifying the most urgent items.
- *Bellringing:* The Bellringers continue to practise in the church.
- *Churchyard:* Contractor Colin Davies has again done an excellent job during the year. A Tree Surgeon has inspected our trees and found nothing which needs to be remedied.

Financial review

The Common Fund was paid in full and all other essential expenses such as the insurance for the church have been met.

The Balance Sheet is shown on Page 4, a Statement of Assets and Liabilities on Page 5 and a summary of income and expenditure is on Page 6.

We are as ever extremely grateful to those (not all regular churchgoers at our church) who kindly support our church through regular giving via the Parish Giving scheme. Parish Giving remains our largest regular source of income.

Volunteers

Grateful thanks must go Lorna Bowden leads worship on alternate weeks. Also to Irene Ellis and Lorna Bowden as joint Churchwardens, to Elizabeth Martin and the bellringers and to Chris March out organist.

Thanks also Bill Chantler for holding the keys and locking and unlocking the church, members of the PCC and other supporters who help with the cleaning and flower arranging and at our fundraising events and anyone else who helps in any way big or small. Thank you!

Rector and Rural Dean. 2025 Report. Revd Dr Paul Fitzpatrick

I sit at my desk and look over the rolling North Devon countryside. Henry has decided that his bed in the main house is warmer so stayed put. The sky is grumpy-steel grey, rain is promised soon and I have lit the stove in my garden office. The sun seems a lifetime ago. As I write this, it is Monday of Holy Week and my mind, along with every other clergy person in Devon, is looking forward to Easter sermons, services and planning. Mine is also looking back over a really wonderful Lent and year. Some highlights:

Professor Michael Winter at Black Torrington Parish Hall. Micheal is an expert on Devon rural populations from Exeter University and a practicing Methodist Lay Minister. His presentation was enormously helpful. He covered the 'between the moors' area, which roughly extends from Honiton to Launceston and up to just south of Holsworthy; an area he called 'Ruby Country'. I will limit myself to his evidenced based predictions for the future. We will remain largely livestock based but with a significant increase in forestry (we already have a third of our Benefice under woodland). Larger farms will predominate with commercial ownership, and less small family run farms, together with a significant increase in carbon investment including more energy production. Micheal also suggested that depopulation will continue but with a corresponding rise in illegal living structures and settlements. Much to consider here.

Telling our Stories. This was a one-day seminar focused upon why we need stories, how we live them and why our identities are formed by them. We looked at how Jesus uses them in the Gospels and most importantly, how we can share our faith stories with those who do not understand what it means to be a part of our faith family. Most parishes were present, we had Methodists, Anglicans, Baptists, Roman Catholics and Deanery representation. A genuinely lovely day with young Daisy (rising eight) being an undoubted star.

Tudor Sunday at St Peter. A happier three hours I have not spent this spring. Cathey (our Doctoral historian) and her happy crew, in a 'Devon' contextualised presentation, showed what life was like in Tudor Ashwater. It was a Lecture, fashion show, theological discussion, play, local history retelling, feminist exploration (I now know what strait-laced means) and it didn't shy away from the darker aspects of community/court life. It was simply brilliant and the large audience justified its success.

Mothering Sunday. This at was a deeply, and fully contextualised and moving service but not just in church. I undertook my Easter home communions that week and every home I visited had discussions on motherhood and I always left a small bunch of flowers and a card from the service. A lovely week.

Pioneer Ministry Course. This had a profound effect on me. It was held in Exeter and due to the trains not running I had to leave early, but what was covered here was intensely valuable and will shape my ministry moving forward. I am so glad I attended. The three Deanery clergy had an awayday and this, together with Bishops Mikes new Mission strategy (more of that next month) formed much of our joint working moving forward.

There is so much more that has moved me this, Daisy's confirmation course, St Albans plans for the new Altar space development, St Leonards commitment to mission, community and fundraising, St Mary's homemade and beautiful Palm crosses, and Tetcott's kitchen, roof and new loo. I look forward to Fish and chips at Halwill's APCM and the services still to come this week with Joy. So, I will sign off by saying 'thank you' you have made this a special time, all of you. As you gaze again on the folded clothes in an empty tomb this Easterday, I pray that joy and peace fill you, and those whom you love.

Paul.

Revd Dr Paul Fitzpatrick

Structure Governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Leonard's the membership of the PCC consists of the Rector, churchwardens and volunteers who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services/members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC is responsible for the worship mission, outreach, fabric, safeguarding and finance of St Leonards and for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance in the parish including how the funds of the PCC are spent. The PCC met seven times during the year.

Administrative information

St Leonard's is situated in the village of Clawton, Holsworthy, part of the Ruby Country Benefice. The correspondence address is:

- Rector: Revd. Dr. Paul Fitzpatrick, Great Knowle House, Pyworthy, EX22 6JY
- Churchwardens: Mrs Irene Ellis, Dewy-St, Winterland Lane, Holsworthy, Devon, EX22 6NF
Mrs Lorna Bowden, Riverside Farm, Clawton, Holsworthy, Devon EX22 6QN
- Secretary and Treasurer: Mr Paul Grafton, Higher Sellick, Clawton, Holsworthy, EX22 6PS

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission. PCC members who have served are:

PCC Ex officio members

Rector: Revd. Dr. Paul Fitzpatrick

Churchwardens: Mrs Irene Ellis, Mrs Lorna Bowden

PCC members:

Mrs Anne Mitchell

Mrs Susan Westlake

Mr Les Ellis

Mrs Rosemary Colwill

Mr Paul Grafton *Secretary and Treasurer*

Clawton St. Leonard's Church
Consolidated Balance Sheet
For Year Ending 31st December 2024

| <u>RECEIPTS</u> | Un restricted | Buildings & Church yard | Church yard | Improve ment | Organ Fund | Bell ringers | Total | Prev Year |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Collections | 1761.73 | | | | | | 1761.73 | 2112.84 |
| Donations & Grants | 458.92 | 240.00 | | | | | 698.92 | 4367.16 |
| Fundraising | 1467.67 | | | | | | 1467.67 | 1251.15 |
| Gift Aid & GADS | 1788.84 | | | | | | 1788.84 | 490.52 |
| Parish Giving Scheme | 676.24 | 1630.90 | | | | | 2307.14 | 2278.45 |
| Fees | | 1487.01 | | | | | 1487.01 | 984.00 |
| Legacies | | | | | | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Dividends | 214.83 | 303.07 | 24.47 | | | | 542.37 | 322.54 |
| Other Income | | | | | | | 0.00 | 61.20 |
| TOTAL | 6368.23 | 3660.98 | 24.47 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 10053.68 | 11867.86 |

| <u>PAYMENTS</u> | Un restricted | Buildings & Church yard | Church yard | Improve ment | Organ Fund | Bell ringers | Total | Prev Year |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Common Fund (EDBF) | -732.00 | | | | | | -732.00 | -655.00 |
| Insurance | -2531.06 | | | | | | -2531.06 | -2365.75 |
| Electricity | -1791.19 | | | | | | -1791.19 | -641.59 |
| Benefice (Incumbent) | -50.00 | | | | | | -50.00 | -321.32 |
| Charities | -140.00 | | | | | | -140.00 | -205.00 |
| Maintenance | | -1543.23 | -2265.00 | | | | -3808.23 | -7911.23 |
| Organists | | | | | | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Water | -103.48 | | | | | | -103.48 | -79.40 |
| Other Expenditure | | | | | | | 0.00 | -158.50 |
| TOTAL | -5347.73 | -1543.23 | -2265.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | -9155.96 | -12337.79 |
| Profit/Loss on year | 1020.50 | 2117.75 | -2240.53 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 897.72 | -469.93 |
| Balances brought forward | 9701.40 | 443.28 | 6597.88 | 4179.81 | -164.00 | 497.01 | 21255.38 | |
| Balances carried forward | 10721.90 | 2561.03 | 4357.35 | 4179.81 | -164.00 | 497.01 | 22153.10 | |

NOTES:

1. Fees received include those due to the Diocese which are paid as a single annual sum shown as a negative credit.

Reconciliation to Bank Statement

| | | | Current | Deposit | Total |
|--|-----------|--|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Bank statement as at 31st December 2023 | | | 2173.23 | 18260.52 | 20433.75 |
| | Date | Source/Payee | Amount | | |
| Late receipts | 09-Jan-25 | Interest on Savings A/c | £15.51 | | |
| | 14-Feb-25 | C Dyson Wedding | £531.00 | | |
| | 28-Feb-25 | J E Stacey Funerals Corthine & Redwood | £786.00 | | |
| | 27-Mar-25 | HMRC (GASDS Claim for 2024/25) | £851.96 | | |
| | 27-Mar-25 | HMRC (Gift Aid Claim for 2024/25) | £936.88 | | |
| Late payments | 14-Jan-25 | CD Garden Services (Dec24) | -£375.00 | | |
| | 19-Mar-25 | Dawson Steeplejacks Ltd | -£72.00 | | |
| | 20-Mar-25 | Exeter Diocesan fees for 2024 events | -£955.00 | | |
| | | | 1719.35 | | |
| | | | 3892.58 | 18260.52 | 22153.10 |

| STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES | Un restricted | Buildings & Church yard | Church yard | Improve ment | Organ Fund | Bell ringers | Total | Prev Year |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Assets | | | | | | | | |
| Cash in bank | 10721.90 | 2561.03 | 4357.35 | 4179.81 | -164.00 | 497.01 | 22153.10 | 21255.38 |
| CBF Investment Fund | | 881.61 | 10918.36 | | | | 11799.97 | 10777.16 |
| Total Assets | 10721.90 | 3442.64 | 15275.71 | 4179.81 | -164.00 | 497.01 | 33953.07 | 32032.54 |
| Liabilities | | | | | | | | |
| | 0.00 | | | | | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total Liabilities | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Net Assets | 10721.90 | 3442.64 | 15275.71 | 4179.81 | -164.00 | 497.01 | 33953.07 | 32032.54 |

Named accounts are restricted because they contain funds raised or donated for a specific purpose.

GASDS on cash collections is accounted for in the year claimed

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 31st March 2025
and signed on its behalf by:

P R Grafton
Treasurer



Commentary on Accounts

Total funds show an increase of £897 over the year. Overall funds remain healthy with £22153 cash in the bank of which £10722 is unrestricted, the remainder being largely split between Buildings, Churchyard and Improvements.

The Common Fund was paid in full and a Standing Order covers the current year. This cost will again rise in the coming year with the increased attendance figure.

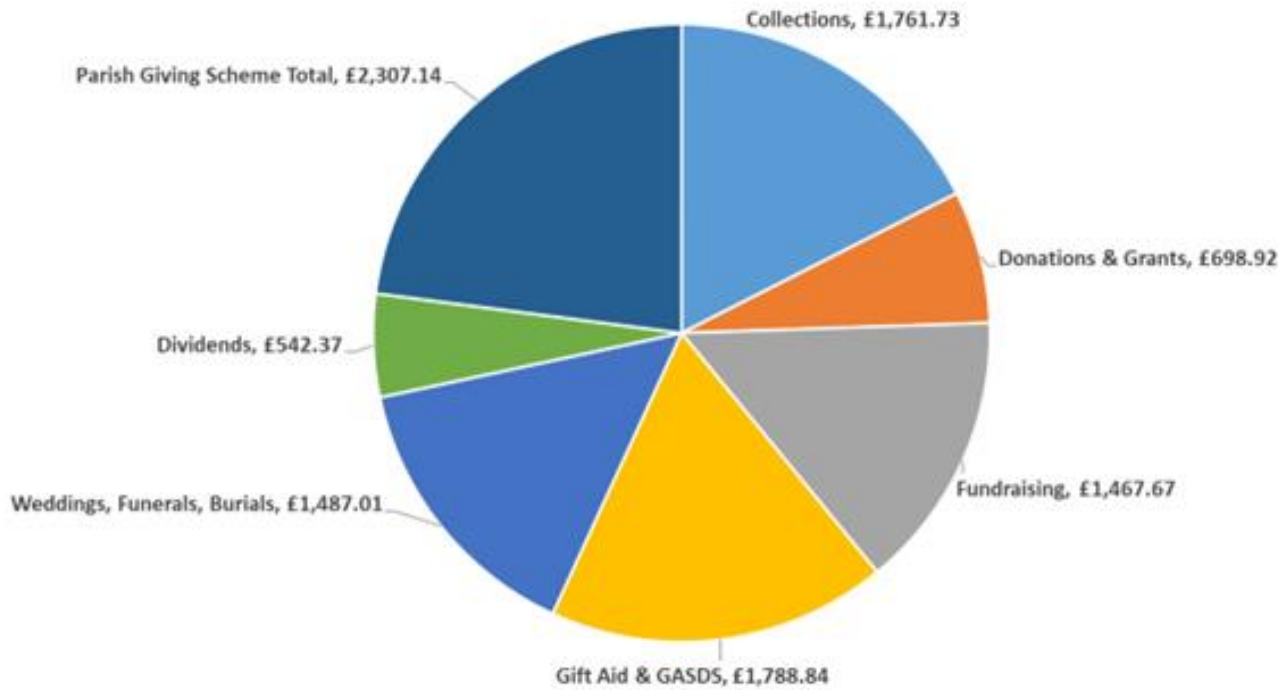
A summary of income and expenditure is shown below as is a pair of charts illustrating key sources of income and areas of expenditure.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY 2024

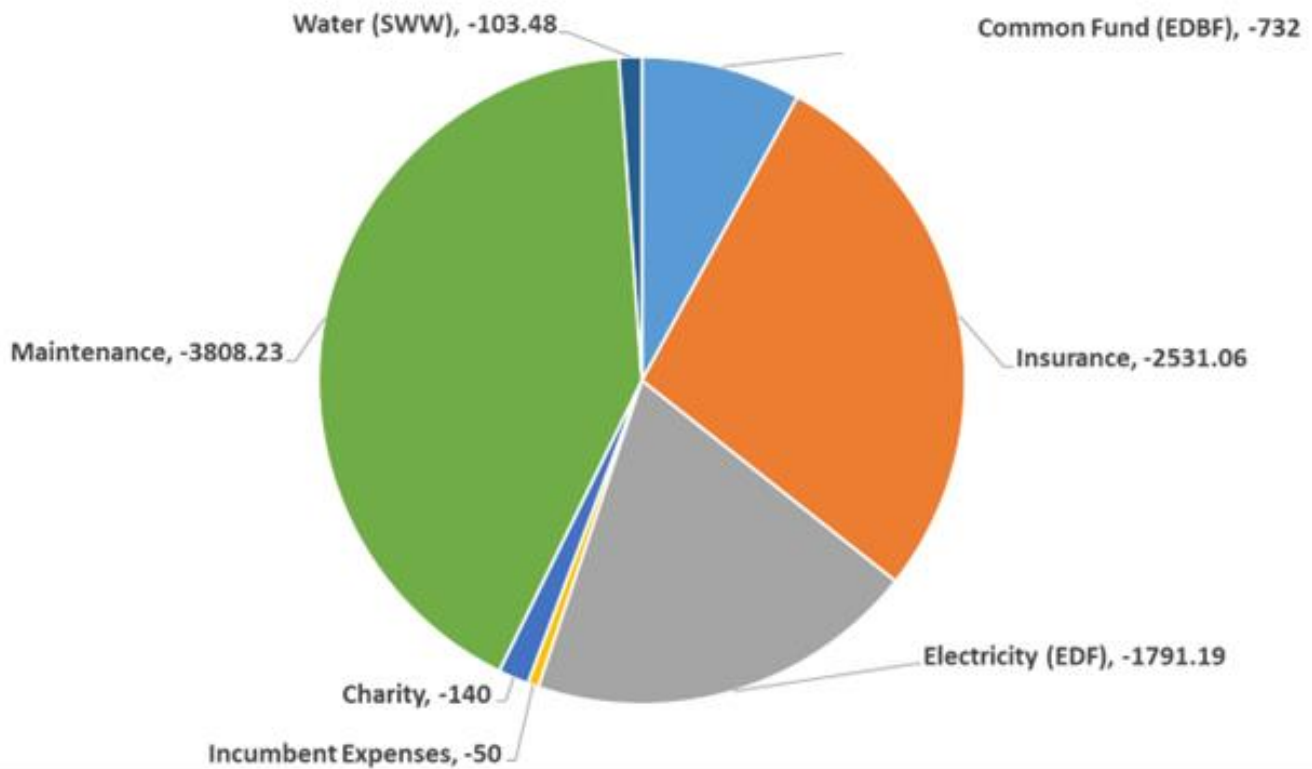
| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Collections | £1,761.73 |
| Donations & Grants Unrestricted | £458.92 |
| Donations & Grants Restricted | £240.00 |
| Fundraising | £1,467.67 |
| Gift Aid & GASDS | £1,788.84 |
| Parish Giving Scheme Un restricted | £676.24 |
| Parish Giving Scheme Buildings & Church yard | £1,630.90 |
| Parish Giving Scheme Church yard | £0.00 |
| Weddings, Funerals, Burials | £1,487.01 |
| Legacies | £0.00 |
| Dividends | £542.37 |
| Other Income | £0.00 |
| TOTAL INCOME | £10,053.68 |
| Parish Giving Scheme Total | £2,307.14 |

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Common Fund (EDBF) | -£732.00 |
| Insurance | -£2,531.06 |
| Electricity (EDF) | -£1,791.19 |
| Incumbent Expenses | -£50.00 |
| Charity | -£140.00 |
| Maintenance | -£3,808.23 |
| Organists | £0.00 |
| Water (SWW) | -£103.48 |
| Other Expenditure | £0.00 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE | -£9,155.96 |

Income Sources 2024



Expenditure 2024



Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Leonard's, Clawton for the Year Ended 31st December, 2024

Section A

This is my report to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish (PCC) of St Leonard's, Clawton, on the annual report for the year ended 31st December 2024 set out in the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The PCC members are responsible for the preparation of the annual reports. The PCC members consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement

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

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

I 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.

Examiner's signature



Examiner's name CAPITALS

MARALYN DOROTHY BAILEY

Date
Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
if any

2nd May 2025

Treasurer at Holsworthy Social Club

Examiner's address

Hilcot, Horslett Hill, Clawton, Holsworthy, Devon EX22 6RS

Independent Examiner’s Report to the PCC of St Leonard’s, Clawton for the Year Ended 31st December, 2024

| Section B | Disclosure |
|---|--|
| | Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners) |
| Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose | |