

ST SAMPSON'S CHURCH SOUTH HILL

ANNUAL REPORT and ACCOUNTS of the PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

For the year ended 31 December 2024



Rev Andy Atkins
Oaklands House
Albaston
Gunnislake
PL18 9EZ

Independent examiner:

Mr Kingsley Mortimore
Kingsley Mortimore Accounting Services
3 Trelissick Gardens
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PL17 7TH

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Our vision is that St Sampson's will be an accessible Christian presence in our 21st century community, drawing people in by its beauty, enfolding them with the warmth of its welcome and enabling them to experience the grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

"Mission Statement" - Reach Out, Welcome In, Tell the Story.

"Let me commend you for your careful stewardship not only of St. Sampson's fabric, but for your passion for its spiritual life."

Bishop Philip

Introduction

Change has been a theme throughout the year of 2024 and St Sampson's has embraced this whilst standing firm on issues which the PCC had concerns. The congregation numbers have remained steady and we have several new members. In April we said goodbye to our Rector, Rev Joe Lannon, who had been in post since January 2021. There was a short vacancy period until September, when we welcomed Rev Andy Atkins and his family to the Kit Hill area. Rev Andy has been appointed as Oversight Minister to both the Callington Cluster and the Tamar Valley Benefice whilst the reorganisation of the East Wivelshire Deanery is ongoing. St Sampson's was privileged to be the venue for Rev Andy's first service – a united benefice Holy Communion – with the opportunity to showcase St Sampson's generous hospitality after the service. In May we introduced a Celtic morning worship on the second Sunday of the month, which has been well received by the congregation. A very special baptism in the river, at Cadsonbury, with Rev Andy up to his waist in water, was another new experience for St Sampson's and a wonderful way to end the year.

St Sampson's continues to look outwards to the community of South Hill with our informal gatherings to pray for the parish on Tuesday mornings. The toddler group, Sampson's Supertots, which meets on Monday mornings, is thriving and the churchyard working party, now known as The Fossickers, has also drawn members from the community to help with the general maintenance of the churchyard. The St Sampson's Unlocked Project (see Report) has continued and progressed, bringing more awareness of our special building to the wider community via concerts and a celebration day in April 2024.

We continue to keep the church open to visitors in daylight hours for people to reflect, pray and explore and from the comments received, we know this is appreciated. The churchyard is also valued by the local community, maintaining it in such a way as to promote a haven for wildflowers and wildlife.

Please keep in mind that this report is for 1 January 2024 – 31 December 2024, therefore developments since the beginning of 2025 are not included.

We are thankful for all who work to keep St Sampson's a special place, including those who provide worship, music, maintenance, tea and cake, cleaning, administration, rotas, record keeping, finance, pastoral care, flowers, safeguarding, communications, fundraising, churchyard care, a warm welcome, advice, enthusiasm, wise words, strong shoulders, and especially friendship, laughter and prayer.

The Parochial Church Council of St Sampson's South Hill

Reference and administrative information

The parish of South Hill is part of the Diocese of Truro and the parish church, St Sampson's, is located at the crossroads, South Hill near Callington, Cornwall. South Hill is one of the four parishes which make up the Callington Cluster. The correspondence address (from September 2024) is Rev Andy Atkins, Oakland House, Albaston, Gunnislake, PL18 9EZ. Rev Joe Lannon was Rector until his resignation at the end of April 2024. The parish was then in vacancy until the beginning of September when Rev Andy Atkins was appointed as Oversight Minister to both the Callington Cluster and the Tamar Valley Benefice. He is Priest in Charge of the Callington Cluster whilst the consultation for the uniting of these two benefices is ongoing. For parish administration, the diocese is structured into two archdeaconries and twelve deaneries. St Sampson's is in the South East Cornwall group of parishes forming the East Wivelshire Deanery, which in turn is part of the Archdeaconry of Bodmin.

Structure governance and management

St Sampson's Parochial Church Council (the PCC) is a corporate body operating under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure 1956 and the Church Representation Rules 2020. The PCC is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

Aims and Purposes

The purpose of the PCC is as defined in the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956: "to co-operate with the Minister in promoting in the Parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical".

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the church building.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St Sampson's. We have a variety of services to appeal to different people, within our parish and beyond, and we hold services weekly. To facilitate our activities it is important that we maintain and improve the fabric and facilities of the Church of St Sampson, South Hill.

Structure

The appointment of PCC members is governed by, and set out in, the Church Representation Rules. Membership of the Parochial Church Council comprises six elected lay members, plus ex-officio members comprising the Parish Clergy, Readers, the Churchwardens and two Deanery Synod Representatives. The PCC may co-opt up to two additional members. A decision of the annual meeting of 2010 is in force that all lay representatives should serve for a period of twelve months in accordance with Provision M16 (2) of the Church Representation Rules 2020. This decision was reviewed at the annual meeting in 2022 and needs to be reviewed again by 2028.

All church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including on how funds of the PCC are to be spent.

PCC Members who served during the year 1 January 2024 – 31 December 2024 were as follows: –

From 1 January – 27 April 2024

Ex Officio members: Rev Joe Lannon - Chair
Mrs Judith Ayers – Churchwarden, Reader, Deanery Synod representative
Mr Chris Beckett– Deanery Synod representative, Electoral Roll Officer
Mr Nigel Cooper – Reader
Mr Robin West – Reader, Lay Chair

Elected members: Mrs Caroline Beckett – Secretary
Mrs Miranda Lawrance-Owen – Safeguarding Officer, Health and Safety Officer
Mr Mike Manaton
Mrs Susan Tunncliffe - Finance Officer

Co-opted members: Mr David Young
Mrs Elaine Young

From 28 April 2024 onwards

Ex Officio members: Rev A Atkins – Chair (from September 2024)
Mrs Judith Ayers – Churchwarden, Reader
Mr Chris Beckett– Deanery Synod representative, Electoral Roll Officer
Mrs Miranda Lawrance-Owen – Deanery Synod representative, Safeguarding Officer
Mrs Jane Newberry - Churchwarden
Mr Robin West – Reader, Lay Chair

Elected members: Mrs Caroline Beckett – Secretary
Mrs Susan Tunncliffe - Finance Officer
Mr Mark Weatherhead
Mr David Young, Health and Safety Officer
Mrs Elaine Young

During the year the full PCC met eight times between 28 April 2024 and 26 March 2025 but also agreed issues and resolutions via e mail and letter when necessary. Topics discussed over the year include worship, finance, safeguarding, upkeep of our building and the restoration project, the upkeep of the churchyard and cluster and deanery matters.

Individual PCC members receive external training as and when deemed appropriate by the PCC. Training is available through the Diocese.

Health & Safety

There is an ongoing programme of risk assessment undertaken by the Health & Safety Officer, David Young, overseen by the Churchwardens and Finance Officer. All risks identified and any action taken are reported to the full PCC which takes any further action needed to manage risks and minimise their impact on the life of the church as a whole.

A risk assessment report will be undertaken in May 2025 and submitted for review at the next PCC meeting, along with the lone worker policy which is also now due for review by the PCC.

There have been no Health and Safety incidents during the year, although there is ongoing concern about the failing ceiling plaster. This will require PCC discussion on remedial action or temporary safety measures to ensure safe use of the affected areas.

Health and safety affects us all, so if there are any issues or concerns relating to health and safety in the church or churchyard please report them to the churchwardens.

David Young
Health & Safety Officer

Safeguarding Report for Year Ending 31 December 2024

The PCC of the Parish of St Sampson's confirms it has complied with the duty to have due regard to the House of Bishop's Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance and reviews its policy annually. The PCC policy was last reviewed and accepted in April 2024.

The PCC uses the Church of England's online 'Parish Dashboard' system to record all safeguarding training and action required by the PCC. The 'PCC Actions' section of the Dashboard is 100% complete.

Nearly all PCC members completed the required safeguarding training courses. One member was unable to do so due to serious illness. Many thanks to all PCC members.

Miranda Lawrance-Owen
Parish Safeguarding and Safer Recruitment Officer

Achievement and Performance

Church Services

Services are normally held every Sunday, as follows:

- 1st Sunday 11.15am Holy Communion (Common Worship)
- 2nd Sunday 11.15am Celtic Morning Worship
- 3rd Sunday 11.15am Morning Worship
- 4th Sunday 10am Sunday with a Difference - with refreshments
- 5th Sunday Joint Cluster Service, at one of our Cluster churches

The aim is to offer a variety of styles of worship each month and to encourage worship together at the cluster services.

There were 24 attendees at Easter Holy Communion, with Rev Heather West presiding. In October we were thrilled to have Bishop Hugh with us at our Harvest Festival service, followed by a 'bring and share' lunch and an auction of produce. Bishop Hugh did an excellent job of auctioneer, with marrows, onions and jars of jam coming under the hammer. The candlelit carol service in December was, as always, well received by the community, 55 people attended and enjoyed mulled wine and mince pies afterwards. Many thanks to Jenny Combe, the organist, and all the people who contributed to making this a wonderful occasion. There were 26 attendees on Christmas Day.

There was one wedding, one funeral, and a very special baptism in the local river. In general Sunday attendance has remained steady with an average of 16 attendees.



Worship Team

The worship team for South Hill in 2024 comprised Judith Ayers, Robin West (Readers), and Miranda Lawrance-Owen, (Lay Worship Leader). The team plan and lead all the services at St Sampson's with the oversight of Rev Andy Atkins. We are also very grateful to Rev Heather West for her regular assistance.

We have welcomed and are thankful for a variety of preachers and priests again this year. They have given us a broad and rich diet of word and sacrament with different service styles, providing variety and a dynamic worship mix. Our Eco status and Celtic origins continue to influence our worship and our new Celtic Morning Worship service has been well received.

Sunday with a Difference, which includes Forest Café Church, takes place on fourth Sundays of the month, and often has an element of outside worship. We once again wassailed the trees at South Hill Community Orchard in February. Even the torrential biblical rain couldn't stop us! We always aim to be different in style and content on fourth Sundays. St Sampson's feast day (28 July) was celebrated with a bring and share lunch and the ceremonial serpent cake.





Bishop Hugh was with us for our Harvest Festival this year and bravely took on the roll of auctioneer at the auction of produce after the service. £166 was raised for the Air Ambulance and Ripple Effect (previously Send a Cow).

In December we held our popular Messy Tingle service, with Christingle making, coffee and cake as well as carols, prayers and a short talk.

Prayer Gathering

A small group of congregation members meets every Tuesday morning at 9.30 am for half an hour, to pray informally for the parish of South Hill and individuals and organisations connected with the parish who have a need for prayer or blessing. There is no particular format to this meeting. There is informal prayer, sometimes written prayers, sometimes silence, often laughter. Bible text is used alongside contemporary writings, depending on the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

The group is open to all members of our congregation and other Christians in the parish. Regular attendance is not a requirement. Anyone is welcome to drop in for all or part of the prayer session at any time. If anyone has a prayer request, please speak to or email Judith or Miranda, or leave your request in an envelope on the prayer table. Anonymity is fine if preferred, but no information about prayer requests is ever shared outside the group.

Readers and Intercessors Rotas

We operate a growing rota of congregation members who read the lessons with conviction and clarity and lead intercessions with integrity for each service. Thank you to all those involved.

If anyone else would like to be included on the rotas, please speak to Miranda Lawrance-Owen. Volunteers can choose whether they do intercessions as well as readings, or just one or the other. Training and support is available.

East Wivelshire (EW) Deanery Report

The parish representatives for 2024-2025 were Miranda Lawrance-Owen and Chris Beckett. The first meeting in 2024 was in June at which Michael Johnson, Rural Dean, shared his initial impressions since his arrival in January, including a strong sense of care for each other and people who are passionate for our churches. A shortfall was reported on 2023 MMF collection (£235k vs £271k target). The target for 2024 was £279k with £19k of mission funding added to meet the Diocesan call for £298k. The aim was to phase out the support from mission funding by 2027.

A further meeting was held in November. This discussed an increase in the MMF call to £311k for 2025 and it was agreed to defer a decision on allocation to parishes until early in 2025.

Diocesan Synod Report

The Diocesan Synod commenced a new three year term on 1 August 2024. East Wivelshire is represented by Roy Cooper, Patrick Newberry, Robin West and Chris Beckett, the last two being members of our PCC.

An introductory meeting was held in September, which included a report from General Synod. A further meeting in November heard from some working with those in need in the diocese. Topics included the parish nurse in Bodmin, Christians Against Poverty (CAP), Camborne Transforming Mission and Penzance Night Church with a piano performance by Rhys Wynne-Jones. Updates were presented by the Safeguarding Officer and the Director of Education (for church schools).

The 2025 budget was presented and agreed (40 for, 9 against, 3 abstained).

Chris Beckett
Deanery Synod Representative for South Hill and
Diocesan Representative for East Wivelshire

Refreshments

In 2024 it was decided to offer refreshments after every Sunday service and this has proved to be a great success. Members of the congregation now stay to chat together every week. It also provides an opportunity for visitors to feel welcomed and for preachers to meet the congregation. It is a very enjoyable time of fellowship and an important extension to church life. We continue to provide refreshments for special services such as the Christmas Carols by Candlelight and community events in the church such as concerts and talks.

Plans for the compact kitchen in the church, which will make the provision of refreshments much easier, are progressing well.

Many thanks to the willing band of volunteers who have helped with refreshments this year.

Flowers

St Sampson's is blessed with a team of dedicated and talented people who ensure that the church is decorated with beautiful arrangements for Sunday services and special occasions such as Easter, Christmas and Harvest.

Most of the arrangers have been part of our team for many years. Sadly two members of the team, Barbara Clemerson and Val Bray, have now decided to step back from weekly arranging duties although Val continues to decorate the church on special occasions. We would like to thank Barbara and Val very much for their beautiful and much appreciated arrangements over the years.



Looking to the future, if anyone is interested in joining the team or knows of someone who may be, please contact Sue Tunnicliffe or Susan Hicks for further information. It is not an arduous job and we are a friendly bunch, always willing to help.

The PCC would like to thank all those who have contributed flowers, foliage and their time to decorate the church or have donated flowers or money.

Chat and clean



Every couple of months, particularly before major festivals, weddings or other events the Chat 'n' Clean Team meet to clean the church, enjoy friendship, company, good coffee and cake. This informal group includes both regular worshippers and other parish residents. Thank you to all who keep the church looking cared for and clean from bats and building work. If you would like to help, contact Judith Ayers. We do our best to keep the church clean and welcoming for services and visitors, which can sometimes be a challenge in the summer with our resident bats.

St Sampson's Unlocked Project

This is our project to repair and improve the church building and make it better fitted for worship and community use in the 21st century. Urgent repair and restoration work is being carried out to make the building warm and dry, and WC facilities, a small kitchen and a small group meeting area will be provided. This will enable the building to be used for hospitality not just for congregation members but also for outreach events to the community and as a community resource for the parish. It will enable the church building to be used and appreciated by the whole community once again and ensure its sustainability in the future. The St Sampson's Unlocked Project started in 2019, with a big vision and a long list! Step by step the project is progressing and despite various setbacks the team continue with enthusiasm to keep moving forwards.

Buildings are a resource for mission, as SSU is proving. The vision we have for the future has caused renewed interest and enthusiasm throughout the community for St Sampson's church and its place in South Hill Parish.



Many thanks to all those involved in fundraising and to our generous individual donors and supporters. During 2024 £75,325 was received from fundraising, grants, and donations and £58,505 was spent. Work included; north side rainwater goods replacement and repair, external masonry repairs, west door and internal tower door repairs, architect and planning costs for WC, kitchen, roof & ceiling. In total as at 31/12/2024 we have raised £374,806 and spent £247,627.



Since we started the project, completed phases are:

2020	mains water and path lights installed, re location of the font and removal of some back pews to create hospitality space
2021	bells dismantled for safety
2021-2023	Hill monument restoration
2021-2023	windows restoration (glazing and stonework)
2022	urgent roof works
2023	new overhead heaters
2024	external masonry repairs
2024	restoration and repair of rainwater goods on north side of the building
2024-25	external & internal door restoration work

In April 2024 we had a wonderful celebration day, with a thanksgiving service, taken by the Archdeacon of Bodmin. Approximately 80 people attended and conversations about all that had been achieved were bouncing off the walls.

Rt Rev Philip Mounstephen, Bishop of Winchester (Bishop of Truro until Sept 2023). said: ***'I am delighted by what you've done at St Sampson's and am inspired by your energy, commitment and passion – it stands as such a wonderful example to others of just what is possible'***.



Dogs chatting about the heritage!

Next steps

The screen doors into the tower will be returned soon, following removal in December 2024 and restoration, and the tomb recess and dragon corbel in the chancel will also be restored in May 2025. Much fundraising is happening, with grant applications and planned events in 2025. If sufficient funds are raised we aim to proceed with the tower part of the project: 'Heritage Restored, Comfort Ensured' (rehanging the bells, pointing the tower and installing an accessible WC). We also hope to begin the Manaton Chapel refurbishment, the nave and Manaton Chapel roof and ceiling repairs and replacement/repair of another section of rainwater goods. Once all that has been done, the kitchenette, floor tiling and general redecoration will be tackled.

A great deal of prayer and work has already gone into the St Sampson's Unlocked project, and we have been overwhelmed by the support received and money raised. As you can see, there is more to be done, and the PCC would value your ongoing prayers.

We are excited for the future as we move into the next phase.



Demonstrating stained glass restoration techniques



Plenty of conversation over good food

CRUX (Cherished, Restored, Unlocked Church).

Many thanks once again to our fundraising and community awareness team for all the hard work they do. In 2024 they raised approximately £4,500 from various events.



In May the “monks of South Hill” joined the procession at Callington Mayfest again with our giant St Sampson and his slain serpent, and had a stall at the fair.

There were three fabulous evening events - an Inspirations Evening of music, poetry and painting, a baroque concert with the Aderyn Quartet and a talk about the old rectory at South Hill. CRUX also organised the annual Medieval Summer Fair and grand draw for the third year running and a dog show and cream tea with Callington Town Band. An amazing effort from all involved.



Wider Activities in the Parish and Community

On Easter Saturday we organised a well attended event for younger children and families with an Easter themed trail around the churchyard, a visit from the Trewassick miniature donkeys and craft activities in the church.

Our plant stalls in Golberdon and at the Horticultural Show in August were once again popular with all the local gardeners.



In the autumn we welcomed Claire our new family worker and enjoyed working with her in October at our light party, with 45 attendees, many activities and a pasty lunch.

During Advent the congregation and community were encouraged to fill shoe boxes for Operation Christmas child.

In December Supertots came to the church for a Christmas visit, with a song, story and gifts for the children from Father Christmas.

Other community events are detailed in the SSU report, CRUX team section.

Individual church members are always encouraged to follow missional calling and are involved in the wider community and the cluster in a variety of ways, belonging to various parish and community organisations, such as the Parish Hall committee, South Hill WI, SHARE, Open the Book at Callington Primary School, the Bell Walking Group and Kelliwik Golowi band.

The PCC extends its thanks to all involved in these activities.

The South Hill Connection (magazine and online version) and St Sampson's Unlocked Facebook page continue to be used to inform the community of church activities. We also use the Callington Cluster face book page and other local pages. St Sampson's Church is also on Trip Advisor, X (Twitter) and Instagram. The PCC is very grateful to Judith Ayers and Jane Newberry for work on this. The cluster website and "A Church Near You" website have all our details, which are updated regularly.



https://www.callingtoncluster.org.uk/Groups/362193/St_Sampsons_South.aspx

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2566/>

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/StSampsons-Church-SouthHill-Cornwall>

<https://www.facebook.com/CRUX.cherished.restored.unlocked.church/>

Sampson's Supertots

During 2024, we have continued to endeavour, to share God's love, by providing a welcoming and safe space for local parents and carers, and their pre-school children. An opportunity for children to socialise and have fun, while adults enjoy a cuppa and adult company; meeting new people and sharing experiences. Getting to know people better has provided opportunities for us, as a Christian community, to support families through prayer, and will hopefully allow us to build meaningful relationships in the future.

There were two significant events during the summer. Firstly, the award of the Mission Grant Funding from the Diocese, has allowed us to continue to offer this facility for free; making it accessible to all. The grant has paid the Parish Hall rent for one academic year and enabled us to replace some of the old worn equipment, and also acquire some new toys and craft materials. Thank you, Judith, for all your hard work in making the application to the Diocese.

Secondly, the appointment of Claire Hodgkins, as the Cluster Family Worker, has brought new ideas and opportunities to share the message of Jesus. The Supertots families were all invited to the Light Party which Claire organised at the Parish Hall in October half-term. It was a tremendous success, with families attending from across the Cluster.

Many people have contributed to the success of Supertots during the year:

- Thanks go to Lucy, Zoe and Marie, who provide crafts and activities to make the sessions enjoyable and stimulating for the children.
- Thank you to Judith and Miranda for organising events at the church, like the Nativity Event.
- Thank you to Lucy Gristy, who has stood in for me in the past, but is understandably stepping down from this role now.
- Thank you to all those members of St. Sampson's and the Cluster, who have voluntarily given their time and skills during the year to support Monday sessions or special events.

Elaine Young

Reports

Vicar's Annual Report for 2024 APCM

Dear Friends in Christ,

Heraclitus is reported to have said "*the only constant in life is change*". For many of you within the Tamar Valley Benefice and Callington Cluster, this is certainly true. During 2024 you have all had to get used to working together within a much larger group of churches. For some this has caused strain, stress and uncertainty. I hope that as we move into 2025 you will all start to feel more certain of our collective way forward, as we start to see the fruit of the Deanery Plan.

I joined you in September and set about trying to get to know you all; this has been and will continue to be a challenge, not least because I have a terrible memory for names. I have tried to visit you all and to become part of your communities. As I am sure you all realise we have a considerable number of services both on a Sunday and during the week. I want to say thank you to all of those who lead services across our 11 churches, both lay and ordained. The two benefices are blessed with some wonderful lay worship leaders, who I cannot praise or thank enough.

2025 will see us all working together to bring the Deanery Plan into fruition. The two Benefices will also be looking towards creating a separate Partial Joint Council for each benefice, to aid in our governance and planning. Wider consultations will continue to take place over the proposed pastoral reorganisation scheme to create a single benefice. The Lent course in 2025 will look at how we can grow as a worshipping community, thinking especially about those groups of people who are missing from our congregations. In the autumn we will commence an enquirers group for those who are beginning to explore what it means to follow Christ. In the summer it is hoped to reintroduce a regular Service of Wholeness and Healing, which I know has been greatly missed. It is also hoped that during the summer months we may be able to introduce a thematic lectionary across our 11 churches, so that we can all share the same biblical teaching based around a monthly theme.

I am so grateful to our churchwardens who carry so much of the burden of the day to day running of our churches. They are ably supported by PCC members and others who all work so diligently, enabling us to maintain an Anglican Christian presence in our communities. Our treasurers endeavour to keep us all financially viable, seeking to do more, with less. Secretaries keep our PCCs functioning, being the link between diocese, deanery and parish. Our safeguarding officers help us all to keep the members of our communities safe and protected. The list of those who help across our churches is long and distinguished – thank you for all you do.

A special note of thanks must go to Rebecca Giles and Andy Farr. Rebecca's help across the 11 churches is invaluable, I hope that everyone has seen what a positive effect Rebecca has had on the smooth running of our two benefices. Andy Farr continues to work diligently behind the scenes, looking after the bank accounts of the Cluster and always being there to offer help and support.

I would like to thank you all for the patience, prayers and loving concern that you have shown to me and my family since we have moved here. You have all been a strength and an inspiration to us.

With Every Blessing, Rev Andy Atkins

Church Wardens' Fabric report for 2023, presented to APCM April 2024

Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1991. Section 5 (1) b

Church Fabric, Fixtures and Fittings

The general condition of the building, fixtures and fittings has improved since our report for the last APCM. Some external pointing, buttress repairs, and rainwater goods on the north side have been completed. Many thanks to Dave for painting the interior of the porch and to Robin for repairing the base of the altar rail.

The St Sampson's Unlocked report details all the work which has been carried out this year and the plans for future work. Twice yearly inspection and maintenance of roof slates, gutters and downpipes has been done by West Access. Three large areas of slipped slates have been repaired. General regular maintenance is carried out in accordance with the St Sampson's maintenance plan, which is regularly updated. Fire extinguishers, electrical, lightning conductor and other necessary testing is carried out in accordance with the PCC's Health and Safety policy. Organ tuning and maintenance was carried out by Lance and Christopher Foy in March.

Regular weekly cleaning is being done by Jude Squires, who the PCC employs. This has continued to make a big difference in the ongoing care of the church interior. Lucy Gristy keeps the porch welcoming and the vestry table clean. More in depth cleaning happens several times a year with the Chat 'n' Clean team. We are very grateful to Jude, Lucy and the cleaning team for all that they do and all church members who assist with cleaning and maintenance indoors and out, during the year.

The router and card payment device has proved to be useful at events.

The Terrier forms and inventory have been brought up to date. Full details of the building and contents, Faculty permissions, and the Quinquennial and other inspection reports, are contained in the Church Property Register. This is available for inspection at any time. Just ask the Churchwardens.

Churchyard

The PCC is committed to maintaining the churchyard for wildlife and bio-diversity, as part of the Cornish Living Churchyards project. A group has been formed and a maintenance plan drawn up.

Much of the churchyard grass is therefore left uncut until the autumn when it is cut back and the cuttings raked away. Close mowing will continue along the path, and around the inscribed stone, with paths through the long grass, in the area for burial of ashes and the burials area currently in use. This year we saw a wonderful blue bell and cow parsley display followed by a profusion of oxeye daisies.

In March a tree surgeon checked the large trees and all is well

During 2024 a monthly working party, ably led by Anthea Lay, and consisting of members of the congregation and wider community, has made a big difference in the churchyard, cutting back brambles, and hedges and strimming and raking around older graves. Yellow rattle seed was sown in specific areas and we wait to see if any has germinated. In the autumn hundreds of daffodil bulbs were planted, which were kindly donated by Fentongollan Farm.



Many thanks to all those who help. Please contact Judith Ayers if you would like to be part of this group.

Our flower planter near the entrance always looks cheerful. Many thanks to Mike and Christine for taking care of this.

Moss removal along the path and around the drainage channels on the outside of the church walls takes place as necessary for safety reasons and for drainage maintenance. The gravel around the church was completely cleared of weeds again this summer by hand, eliminating the need for chemicals.

Our churchyard is a very special ancient place and many people find calm and comfort, spending time here.

Judith Ayers & Jane Newberry
Churchwardens

Electoral Roll Report presented to the APCM April 2024

We have reached the end of the six year cycle for the roll and so a new roll has been compiled for 2025-2031. There were 39 names on the old roll at the date of last year's APCM. The new roll currently has 32 names: 29 people have re-enrolled, and three new people have joined for 2025. Nine members are not resident in the parish. Eight of the non-residents live within the Callington Cluster area.

Names may be added to, or removed from, the roll at any time during the year on request. The list of names is displayed on the church notice board for the prescribed period and a copy is available for inspection on application to the PCC.

Chris Beckett
Electoral Roll Officer 2024-2025

The Doble Trust

The Doble Trust comprises income from a capital fund set up in 1980 on the death of Mr Alfred George Doble, who left the income from his residuary estate in trust for the Rector and Churchwardens of South Hill to be used for "religious purposes in the parish of South Hill". The capital fund remains in the control of Lloyds Bank, as trustees of Mr Doble's estate. We have no access to the capital fund. Dividend Income is paid annually into an account in the name of the Rector and Churchwardens of South Hill, as trustees on behalf of the parish.

Money from the trust is available for use by the PCC or others on request, providing the purpose for which the money is requested falls within the definition of 'religious purposes in the parish of South Hill'. This can be anything which furthers the mission of the church in the parish including church maintenance and repairs. Payment is entirely at the discretion of the Rector and Churchwardens.

Rev Andy Atkins, Jane Newberry and Judith Ayers as Rector and Churchwardens were the trustees responsible for administering the funds in 2024. Miranda Lawrance-Owen (previous Churchwarden) remained as a signatory to the accounts for ease of administration. Two signatories are required for any transaction.

The balance in the fund at December 2024 was £35,885.26.

Trust fund income during the year totalled £2,890.65. Of this, £2,500 was dividend income received from the Lloyds capital fund, the remaining £390.65 was interest on the trustees' investment account. In 2024, the trustees transferred £2,500 from the current account to the

savings account to take advantage of increased interest rates. It is hoped to move the savings account to a higher interest paying account in 2025.

No requests for payment were made to the trustees in the current accounting year to December 2024.

Doble Trust Account for Year Ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
Bank Balances at 1st January	£	£
Treasures' (Current) Account	£686.81	£17,551.82
Instant Access Savings Account	£32,307.80	£13,170.26
	£32,994.61	£30,722.04
Treasures' (Current) Account Lloyds Trust Income Received	£2,500.00	£2,135.03
Savings A/C Interest Received	£390.65	£137.54
Payments made	Nil	Nil
Bank Balance 31 December	£35,885.26	£32,994.61

**Rev Andy Atkins, Judith Ayers, Jane Newberry
Rector and Churchwardens**

Financial Review General Statement

Once again very many thanks to everyone for their support of St Sampson's, both financial and in the time they have given.

We have maintained a steady level of planned giving and gift aid contributions although both slightly decreased from the previous year. Encouragingly the total of church cash collections increased in 2024 so we have continued to pay our Mission and Ministry Fund (MMF) contribution of £6,149 in full (an increase of £656 on the previous year) and have met the general running costs of the church as well as contributing to Cluster expenses. New cost effective electric heaters were installed in the church to heat the church more efficiently and have proved very successful. Charitable donations have been made to Cornwall Air Ambulance, Ripple Effect, The Children's Society and St Petroc's Homeless Charity from special collections at Harvest and the Christmas Carol Service.

The tax recovered through gift aid contributions continues to be a valuable source of income and I encourage anyone who can gift aid their contributions, and hasn't done so, to consider this. Information and forms can be obtained from me or a church warden. Many thanks to everyone who has given so generously and enabled St Sampson's to fulfil its financial commitments again this year.

General Fund: Total Receipts in 2024 were £19,746. Payments were £16,001.

The St Sampson's Unlocked Project has continued to receive grants, funding and donations which have enabled significant progress to be made on various aspects of the project. This has only been made possible by the hard work of Judith Ayers and Miranda Lawrance-Owen together with the CRUX team and support from the local community to drive forward the project's finances.

A high interest investment account was opened in 2024 to hold some of the St Sampson's Unlocked funds to generate a higher level of interest for the future. This currently stands at £102,328.

Many thanks to Elaine Young for keeping the accounts this year and to Kingsley Mortimore our independent examiner. A copy of the accounts is attached to this report.

Reserves Policy

The PCC aims to keep approximately three months running costs (£3,500) in reserve from unrestricted funds in order to cover any unforeseen emergencies that are either (i) out of scope of the purposes of the restricted funds, or (ii) where the restricted funds are insufficient to cover the emergency need.

Finance Officer's general notes in relation to the accounts

Note 1

The Restricted Funds comprise the Building Fund which can only be used for building and maintenance related work and the St Sampson's Unlocked Fund which includes the high interest account and can only be used for project related work and activity.

Note 2

Church running expenses include: Insurance £2401. Electricity £1015. Water £119.

Sue Tunnicliffe
Finance Officer

St Sampsons Church, South Hill
Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

	General (Unrestricted) Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<u>Receipts</u>				
Voluntary Receipts:				
Planned Giving	8406	660	9066	9851
Gift Aid Tax Recovered	3239		3239	3794
Cash Collections in Church	2910		2910	2608
VAT Recovered	627	3524	4151	4308
Gift Days & Sundry Donations	2023	19365	21388	2096
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	17205	23549	40754	22657
Activities for Generating Funds:				
Investment Income		3381	3381	1169
Church Activities	1786		1786	1587
Fundraising		3861	3861	5586
Grants	755	44533	45288	25466
Transfer From General Fund				3794
	-----	-----	-----	-----
<u>Total Receipts</u>	19746	75324	95070	60259
<u>Payments</u>				
Parish Share	6149		6149	5493
Clergy & Staffing Costs	1881		1881	2085
Church Running Expenses	5001		5001	6472
Mission Giving & Donations	311		311	666
Governance Costs(incl. Stationery & Admin)	1407		1407	1393
Transfer To Building Account				3794
Major Repairs		58505	58505	46741
Upkeep of Churchyard	1252		1252	1312
	-----	-----	-----	-----
<u>Total Payments</u>	16001	58505	74506	67956
Surplus/(Deficit) of Receipts				
Overpayments	3745	16819	20564	(7697)
Cash at Bank 1 Jan 2024	4451	116647	121098	128795
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Cash a Bank 31 Dec 2024	8196	133466	141662	121098
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St Sampsons Church, South Hill
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024
Restricted Funds Receipts & Payments Account

	Building Fund £	Unlocked Fund £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Receipts				
Voluntary Receipts				
Planned Giving		660	660	660
VAT Recovered		3524	3524	4308
Gift Days & Sundry Donations		19365	19365	1550
Receipts from Activities for Generating Funds				
Fundraising		3861	3861	5586
Receipts from Grants				
Grants Received		44533	44533	24778
Receipts from Investments				
Interest Received	104	3277	3381	1169
Transfer from General Fund		5480	5480	3794
Total Receipts	<u>104</u>	<u>80700</u>	<u>80804</u>	<u>41845</u>
Payments				
Church Running Expenses				
Transfer to General Fund	5480		5480	25
Repairs		58505	58505	46741
Upkeep of Churchyard				160
Total Payments	<u>5480</u>	<u>58505</u>	<u>63985</u>	<u>46926</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) of Receipts over Payments				
Transfer to General Fund	(5376)	22195	16819	(5081)
Bank Balances at 1 st January 2024	<u>11215</u>	<u>105432</u>	<u>116647</u>	<u>121728</u>
Bank Balances at 31st December 2024	<u>5839</u>	<u>127627</u>	<u>133466</u>	<u>116647</u>

St Sampsons Church. South Hill

Statement of Assets & Liabilities at 31st December 2024

Bank & Investment Balances

	Type of Fund	Bank Accounts	Total	2023
General Fund	Unrestricted	8196	8196	4451
Building Fund	Restricted	5839	5839	11215
St Sampsons Unlocked Fund	Restricted	127627	127627	105432
		141662	141662	121098

Notes:-

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts & Payments basis.
2. The following Assets are recognised but not necessarily valued in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities: Movable Church Furnishings held by the Church Warden on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal.
3. The expenses paid to Clergy may include a small immaterial proportion which relates to their function as PCC members. No other payments were made to PCC members.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 29 JANUARY 2025 and signed on its behalf by

D. S. Twidale
FINANCE OFFICER.

Independent Examiner's Report

To the members/trustees of St Sampsons Church, South Hill

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December, 2024 which are set out on pages 1 to 3.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the Accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:


- 1) Which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with s. 130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Kingsley Mortimore Accountancy Services,

3 Trelissick Gardens,
Callington Cornwall.

PL17 7TH

Dated:


5 April 2025

