

**The Parochial Church Council of Stainton with Hemlington
in the Benefice of Stainton with Hemlington and Hilton
in the Deanery of Stokesley and the Diocese of York**



St Peter & St Paul

**Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31st December 2023**

Parish Church

St Peter and St Paul, Stainton with Hemlington

Vicar

Revd Claire Todd (until 3/1/2023)
Revd Laura Wild (from 27/6/2023)

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
Unit 1, Centre Mall
Middlesbrough
TS1 2NR

Independent examiner

Gresham and Gale LLP
Chartered Certified Accountants
14 Fountain St
Guisborough
TS14 6PP

Inspecting Architect

Mr Chris Cotton
3 Whinfield Terrace, Dam Lane
Leavening
MALTON
YO17 9SH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

This Report relates to the activities for the 2023 calendar year of the Parochial Church Council of Stainton with Hemlington.

On 25th February 2021 the Church Commissioners “made” a Pastoral Scheme to re-unite the Parish of St Timothy, Hemlington, with its Mother Parish of St Peter and St Paul, Stainton-in-Cleveland, to create the new Parish of Stainton with Hemlington in the Benefice of Stainton with Hemlington and Hilton (which is held in Plurality with the Benefice of Brookfield); this Pastoral Scheme came into effect on 1st March 2021.

In addition the Church Commissioners “made” a Pastoral Scheme to close St Timothy’s Church for public worship and to demolish the Church Building which had been declared unsafe for use on 18th March 2019; this Scheme came into effect on 26th January 2021. The demolition of St Timothy’s Church and Hall was completed in June 2023 and on Sunday 20th August 2023 at 3.00pm on the site of St Timothy’s Church our Vicar, Revd Laura Wild, hosted a Service of Reflection and Thanksgiving for the service that St Timothy’s provided to the local population; Revd Laura was assisted by the Venerable Dr Amanda Bloor, Archdeacon of Cleveland. At the time of compiling this report (March 2024) the Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF) and our PCC are in the process of disposing of the “St Timothy’s Site” (the DBF for the Church site and the Parsonage house; and the PCC for the Church Hall site).

In November 2022 our then Vicar, Revd Claire Todd, announced that she would be leaving early in the New Year to take up a post as Parish Priest in a Church in the town of Paarl in the Diocese of Saldanha Bay in South Africa (Saldanha Bay is one of the York Diocesan South African Link Dioceses). Claire’s last service with us was at the Plurality Joint Service at Stainton on New Year’s Day 2023. The Diocese completed the recruitment of a new Incumbent with the Collation and Induction of Revd Laura Wild as Vicar for the three Parishes in the Plurality in a service at St Margaret’s Brookfield on 27th June 2023.

AIMS AND PURPOSES

St Peter and St Paul’s, Stainton with Hemlington Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the Church and the Parish Room which is attached to the Church building.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The object of the PCC of Stainton with Hemlington is to further the work of the Church of England in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Stainton with Hemlington. The PCC of Stainton with Hemlington is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure; it is “excepted” by order from registering with the Charity Commission [this “exception” will end on 31st March 2031 (cf Statutory Instrument SI 2021:25)].

Clergy and Licenced lay workers living in the Parish are *ex-officio* members of the PCC, as are any members of General, Diocesan or Deanery Synods and the Churchwardens who are elected annually at the Annual Meeting of Parishioners. Six other members are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting and all members of the Church electoral roll of Stainton with Hemlington are entitled to vote and, if they have been on the electoral roll for at least six months, stand for election. One third of the elected members are elected each year and members serve for a period of three years.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission’s guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our Church and to become part of our parish community in Hemlington, Maltby, Stainton and Thornton. This has been particularly important during the Covid-19 pandemic. Following the first lockdown in the Spring of 2020 when the Church was closed for public worship the PCC kept in touch with Church members and other interested persons by sending out on Friday a weekly e-Newsletter with a sheet for “worship at home” which included the Lectionary

readings and Collect for the coming Sunday and also some intercessory prayers (printed copies of the e-News were delivered to those Church members and Friends who “don’t do Tech” so that they are not disenfranchised). The publication of the weekly e-Newsletter has continued following the lifting by the Government of the Covid restrictions. The provision of the “worship at home” sheet ceased on the retirement of the Lay Reader with PTO at the end of August 2022, after which the scripture references from the Lectionary for the coming Sunday were included in the e-Newsletter.

The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. The PA “sound system” in the Church includes a CD-player (we do not have a Church organist) with a set of CDs that accompanies the hymn book, and also a “loop system” for those with impaired hearing. During 2023 we have on occasions used a laptop computer, data projector and moveable screen to project liturgy and worship and other videos for non-Eucharist services and events, and we have begun to compile a “Stainton Songbook” of more contemporary worship songs and hymns which are not included in the hymn book.

The PCC runs a pre-school/toddler drop-in – *Coffee and Kids (C&Ks)* – which continues to be very busy each Wednesday morning in school term time, and which meets in the Parish Room where the children can play and the (grand)parents and carers can enjoy fellowship with each other over a mug of coffee/tea. We are now well accustomed new arrivals most weeks, but also when the time comes for a toddler to attend nursery some parents choose for their little one to attend nursery during the afternoon ensuring they can still attend C&Ks on Wednesday mornings.

As we have done since C&Ks started in 2016, we have celebrated the birthdays of those attending with a small gift and a cake. At the Christmas party held in December 2023 we had 20+ children most of whom were excited by our visit from Father Christmas.

Prior to the Covid pandemic C&Ks had contained little spiritual content so when C&Ks was restarted in November 2021 the opportunity was taken to change the format slightly to provide some spiritual content with:

- 30mins playing in the Parish Room;
- 30mins of refreshments in the Chancel with a bible story, short prayers and a worship song or two; and
- 30mins of nursery rhyme singing back in the Parish Room.

We are pleased that the parents/carers who bring their children to C&Ks consider St Peter and St Paul’s as “their Church” and are happy to join in with the short time of worship; in effect they are a “new worshipping community”. We have between eight and twelve children who attend with their carer each week.

Two of the Parents/Carers have been safely recruited as C&Ks Helpers and are now part of the Team.

The PCC is responsible for:

- The financial management of the church of St Peter & St Paul’s Stainton; and
- The care and maintenance of the church fabric of St Peter & St Paul’s Stainton including about 10% of the Chancel structure (the Church Commissioners being responsible for the remaining about 90% of the Chancel structure) and its attached Parish Room.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and Prayer

During 2023 Worship at St Peter and St Paul’s centred on **the weekly service of Holy Communion** (Common Worship) at 11.00am on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays in the month. On **the first Sunday of each month** the Parish joins with members of the sister-Parishes in our Plurality, St Peter’s, Hilton and St Margaret of Scotland’s, Brookfield for a **Joint Service at 10.30am which meets in each Church in turn**. In addition there are other services for the major festivals of the Church year (Advent, Christmas, Lent, Holy Week and Easter). Our newly-appointed Vicar, Revd Laura Wild, has run short study courses in Advent and Lent for the three Church families in the Plurality.

At the Joint Plurality PCC meeting held at St Margaret’s Church, Brookfield on 5th October 2022 the then Vicar asked that we “**pray intentionally for growth in our three churches**”. The Stainton with Hemlington PCC agreed to hold a **weekly Plurality Prayer Gathering** in Stainton Church, facilitated by Julia Ardley our

Authorised Lay Minister (ALM). The first Prayer Gathering was held on Tuesday 1st November 2022 and has continued to meet weekly since then with about six people from across the Plurality gathering in the Church to pray on each occasion. The Prayer Gathering is mentioned in the list of events in the weekly e-Newsletter and it is hoped that other Church members will be joining in the prayers at home.

Deanery Synod

One member of the Stainton with Hemlington PCC is elected to represent the Parish on the Stokesley Deanery Synod (she is also our Authorised Lay Minister). In addition the PCC Secretary is the Deanery Synod Treasurer and as such is an ex-officio member of the Synod and Deanery Leadership Team (DLT). These two people provide the PCC with an important link between the Parish and the wider structures of the church.

The Deanery Synod met on three occasions during 2023; the main topics for discussion were:

8th February 2023 (Ingleby Barwick)

Deanery Update

- **Elections to Diocesan Synod:** Revd Jane Robson (Asst Curate, Great Ayton) and Revd Brenda Forrester (Vicar, Ingleby Barwick) were elected as Clergy Reps to the Diocesan Synod.
- **The Diocesan Strategy “Living Christ’s Story (LCS)”:** The Deanery LCS Plan was given the “green light” by the Bishop and Archdeacon; the Deanery Leadership Team (DLT) encouraged Parishes to drive this forward.
- **Treasurer’s Update – Bob Ardley (Stainton with Hemlington):** The Accounts for 2022 and Budget for 2023 were accepted
- **Deanery Financial Advisor (DFA) – Ken Taylor (Great Ayton):** The 2023 FWO for the Deanery to the Diocesan Common Fund was 3% higher than in 2022 but still 10% lower than the pre-Covid levels. The DFA and Area Dean held a meeting with Deanery Parish Treasurers, the first since 2009!.

Carousel Conversations: Synod Members had the opportunity to “visit” three of the following topics:

- **Children, families and community: “with” not “for”** – led by Revd Ben Gunter (Stokesley) – Looking at ways to engage with this sector of our Church.
- **Reflecting on the pilgrimage in our pastoral and spiritual ministry:** – led by Revd Dr Robert Opala (Whorlton Benefice) – How a pilgrimage can be used to meet different needs in our Church(es).
- **Next generation light and heat:** – David Yates (Yarm) - Addressing the particular challenges of providing well-lit and warm spaces for churches, hall and other buildings.
- **LCS – Thriving Churches and the opportunities of the Easter Season:** – Lay Dean John Dickinson (Great Ayton) – Pulling together the prayer, worship, teaching and fellowship activities that will be available in our parishes up to and beyond Easter.

6th June 2023 (Brookfield)

Deanery Update

- **Clergy Appointments:** Revd Jane Robson (Asst Curate at Great Ayton) was appointed as Priest-in-Charge at St Hilda, Kirkleatham and was Licensed by Bishop Paul on 16th July 2023. Revd Laura Wild (Asst Curate at St Mary the Virgin, Nunthorpe) was appointed as Incumbent at Stainton with Hemlington and Hilton and at Brookfield and was Collated on 27th June 2023.
- **Archdeacon’s Visitations:** Some Parish Visitations by the Archdeacon (with the Area and Lay Deans) had already taken place, and dates fixed for the remaining Parishes.
- **Deanery Service:** This took the form of a Pilgrimage following the River from Stokesley to All Saints’ Church, Great Ayton.
- **Deanery Plan for Living Christ’s Story:** The Plan had been submitted to the Diocese. A one-day “LCS Update” session for Deaneries was hosted by Sam Nicol, Diocesan Director for Strategic Development at the Diocesan Offices on 26th June 2023.
- **Financial Update:** Deanery Treasurer Bob Ardley (Stainton with Hemlington) - Most Parishes have paid their Deanery levy for 2023. Book Grants had been sent to RPAs as well as to Readers in recognition of the support they give to Parishes.
- **Deanery Financial Advisor’s Update:** Ken Taylor (Great Ayton). – The DFA has met individually most of the Parish treasurers. Interest was shown in Grants that are available. Diocese has been provided with 70 “contactless” card readers by the National Church; these are being distributed. Most Parishes have started paying their Free Will Offer (FWO) for 2023.

Carousel Conversations: Synod Members had the opportunity to “visit” the following topics:

- **Creating a church eco culture:** - John Stinson (Newton under Roseberry) – looking at the ways that St Oswald’s Church is becoming more eco-conscious.
- **Mission based PCC:** Revd Darren Moore and David Local (Yarm) – How the whole congregation had been involved in the decision making process in the Parish.
- **“Time to dream”:** Lay Dean John Dickinson (Great Ayton) – If your Church had a significant financial donation – eg a legacy – what would be at the top of the Parish “wish-list”?

18th October 2023 (Kirkby-in-Cleveland)

Deanery Update

- **Archdeacon’s Visitations:** Area Dean Revd Tessa Stephens shared her perspectives on the Visitations and thanked everyone in the Parishes who had involved.
- **Living Christ’s Story (LCS) Update:** John Dickinson reported on LCS stating that we are simply sharing what we are doing and learning from one another.
- **Deanery Treasurer’s Report:** Bob Ardley (Stainton with Hemlington) – 16 out of 20 Parishes had paid their Deanery Levy for 2023; Treasurers of the remaining Parishes will be chased up! Book Grant cheques have been issued to all Deanery Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers) (LLMs) and Authorised Lay Ministers (ALMs).
- **Deanery Financial Adviser’s (DFA) Report:** Ken Taylor (Nunthorpe) – There was concern at the Diocese that some Parishes had not yet submitted their Annual Report and Accounts for 2022 – the DFA issued a plea for this to be done ASAP. Four Parishes in the Deanery had received “contactless” card readers as part of the “Digital Roll-out” by the National Church

Carousel Conversations: Synod Members had the opportunity to “visit” three of the following topics:

- **Obtaining grants for parish work:** Carol McGee (Bisldale Priory)
- **Benefits of a parish/benefice office/administrator:** Revd Laura Wild (BSHH Plurality) and Liz Taylorson, Deanery Secretary (Nunthorpe)
- **What we offer across the Deanery:** Lay Dean John Dickinson (Great Ayton)
- **Outdoor Ministry:** Multiply Minister Revd Nik Stevenson (Ingleby Barwick)

Julia Ardley, Deanery Synod Rep and Bob Ardley, Deanery Treasurer (Report kindly provided by Sally Hamlin, Deanery Synod Rep for our sister Parish of St Peter, Hilton)

Vocations within the Diocese

Julia Ardley would like to make the PCC and wider church aware that she has taken on a voluntary role within the Diocesan Vocations Team. This entails working individually with candidates who are considering a possible call to ordained ministry to help them prepare for attendance at the Bishops’ Advisory Panel, where this will be more formally explored. Through this work Julia is gaining many insights into the Church of England’s National Discernment Process and the way this operates within York Diocese. She feels that she has not only learned much of value about the nature of ordained ministry and its unique demands, but has also grown in personal wisdom through being part of such a compassionate and dedicated team.

Parish Room

The Parish Room is attached to the Church and was built as a Millennium Project. The planning consents preclude the hire of the Room but a number of groups do use it and make a small donation to Church funds.

The Room is used for tea and coffee after services; for the “Coffee and Kids” pre-school (grand)parent/carer and child drop-in; and for PCC meetings. It is also used by the Stainton Women’s Institute (WI) for their monthly committee meetings and by the Hemlington Branch of the Girl Guides (Middlesbrough 52nd Guide Company).

Pastoral Care

About 65 members of St Peter and St Paul's and Friends of the Church have been kept up-to-date with activities in the Parish by receiving a copy of the weekly e-Newsletter. A small proportion of these people (who "don't do Tech") receive printed hard-copies of the e-News.

Some members of our Parish are unable to attend church due to sickness, poor mobility or age. When notified of serious illness and requested our Vicar, Revd Laura Wild, has visited church members at home or in hospital. Prayer Requests raised with anyone of the Ministry Team (*) are - with permission - included faithfully in the weekly Plurality Prayer Gathering. For All Souls a simple service of 'Loving, Losing and Remembering' was held which funeral families were specifically invited to attend. Now that the Government has relaxed all the Covid restrictions the PCC hopes with the new Vicar to review the home visits to those in need, including restarting the provision of Home Communion.

(*) *Secretary's Note*: further details of the Vicar's Ministry Team are given in the Vicar's Report at the end of this Annual Report

Mothers' Union (MU)

In **January** the loss of Elizabeth Revett was felt by us all; she had been the Branch Leader when we restarted the branch in 2009.

During **February** we looked at Marriage through the ages.

The speaker at our **March** meeting was Anne Dewing who has various roles within the Diocese and told us about her work.

Barbara Ford was our speaker in **April** and during April we included the Annual Wave of Prayer in the Sunday Service.

In **May** we held our AGM and looked at the Mothers' Union Study Sheet "*Praying with Purpose*", our new vicar also attended.

Julia Ardley gave us an insight into her work as a school governor at our **June** meeting.

During **July** we held a Strawberry Tea and had a brief history talk on Hemlington given by Joan Mason.

We had no meeting during **August**.

Our Vicar, Revd Laura came to our **September** meeting and told us about "My Life in Lego".

The **October** meeting for various reasons very poorly attended, so a general discussion was held around the work of the Mothers' Union; we also had a look at the key points of the speech given by the World Wide President during the General meeting in York in September.

Our last meeting of the year was held in **November** with an Afternoon Tea and a pre-Advent Reflection. Both Joan Mason and I have attended Deanery and Diocesan meetings during the year and a Deanery Festival in Stokesley Parish Church.

Judith Clare, Branch Leader

Mission and Evangelism

Our Church is a constant presence in the community and we offer a warm welcome to anyone wishing to join us to worship our Lord. Opportunities to share the Gospel arise from contact with Baptism and Wedding couples and their families; some of these contacts have resulted in regular attendance at Sunday services or at the *Coffee and Kids* drop-in.

The open-plate collection at the annual Christmas Crib service (the service with perhaps the highest attendance each year!) is given to support the work of The (Church of England) Children's Society.

Our regular worship liturgy has been revised to mark the Church Seasons faithfully and make significant festivals invitational and accessible to newcomers. The "Carols and Coffee" morning service in December

continued the introduction of varied forms of worship, so as to engage those who don't necessarily worship regularly. Connections with the Hemlington Guiding Unit have brought the Guides, leaders and parents to services at least twice a year (at Easter and at Remembrance) where they are fully included in the worship.

Since the demolition of St. Timothy's Church, Hemlington there have been a number of outreach ventures within Hemlington: a coffee morning at All Nations Church, outdoor carol singing in Advent 2023 and a "prayer walk" in the 2024 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The Vicar led the Harvest Service at Hemlington Hall Academy and welcomed and prayed for all the families attending the school's Nativity in the Church itself.

Our weekly e-Newsletter is e-mailed (or printed and delivered) to most Church members and some Friends of the Church, keeping our parishioners and others informed of the important matters affecting our Church and articles that help develop our knowledge and trust in Jesus (printed copies are delivered to six people and e-copies are sent to 62 e-mail addresses).

Ecumenical Relationships

One aspect of our Mission Action Plan developed in 2016-17 and revised in 2018-19 was to (continue to) "develop our relationship with the Stainton Methodist Church". In previous years we have joined with the Methodists in: an outdoor "Big Sing" event in Meldyke Square in the centre of Stainton village, an event supported by a local silver band; and a Village Carol service held in the Stainton Memorial Hall. Both events were held in 2023. The Act of Remembrance at the Stainton Memorial Hall was prepared in conjunction with our local Methodist Minister, with whom our Vicar has met for mutual encouragement and prayer support.

PARISH FINANCES

Financial Review 2023

At the time of compiling this final draft of the Annual Report for 2023 the PCC Treasurer did not have all the information necessary to complete the Parish Accounts for 2023. It is expected that the Financial Review for 2023 will be available in time for presentation to the APCM on 28th April 2024 and will be included in the copy of the Annual Report for 2023 that is to be submitted to the Diocese.

Colin Mason, PCC Treasurer and Gift Aid Secretary, and Bob Ardley, PCC Secretary

Reserves Policy

At the time of compiling this final draft of the Annual Report for 2023 the PCC Treasurer did not have all the information necessary to propose a Parish Reserves Policy. It is expected that the Reserves Policy will be available in time for presentation to the APCM on 28th April 2024 and will be included in the copy of the Annual Report for 2023 that is to be submitted to the Diocese.

Colin Mason, Treasurer, and Bob Ardley, PCC Secretary

OPTIONAL INFORMATION

Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. In particular we want to mention:

- Our churchwardens Mr Colin Mason and Mr Vernon Clare who have worked so tirelessly on our behalf;
- Our PCC Treasurer Mr Colin Mason who has helped us all to understand the church's accounts and its finances;
- Our Lay Reader *Emerita* Mrs Joan Mason for all her hard work in the Parish over many years - now that she has retired from Readership we are grateful to her for the practical ways she supports the work in the Parish as a member of the congregation. We are also pleased that Joan has joined the Stainton Memorial Hall Committee as a Trustee representing the Parish Church;
- Our Authorised Lay Minister Dr Julia Ardley for her support with worship at Stainton and also at or sister parish of St Peter's Hilton; and
- Our Verger Mrs Glynis Millward for assisting with weddings and funerals and ensuring that the Church is kept clean and tidy.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Parochial Church Council (PCC)

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules 2022 (CRR2022). At St Peter and St Paul's the membership of the PCC consists of: the incumbent (our Vicar), the two churchwardens, and the elected lay member of the Deanery Synod; and lay members elected by those members of the congregation 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. New Electoral Rolls for the period 2019-2025 for Stainton Parish and Hemlington Parish were established in March 2019 and merged on 1st March 2021 on the creation of the new Parish of Stainton with Hemlington.

The Electoral Roll is revised each year in advance of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) as required by the CRR2022. **The ER revision period in 2024 ran from 23rd March to 6th April**; since the last formal revision on 1st April 2023 **five** names were added to the ER; and **five** names were removed from the ER, the member having moved away or stopped attending. **At the end of the formal 2024 revision there are now 41 members on the Electoral Roll.**

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The full PCC met eight times during 2023; in addition there were four Joint Plurality PCC meetings with the Hilton PCC and Brookfield PCC mainly associated with the recruitment of the new Incumbent under the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986 (PBM86) but with also the Diocesan "Growing Healthy Churches "Revitalise" Programme.

The PCC also has a Standing Committee comprised: the Vicar, the two Churchwardens, the Secretary and one elected lay member.

Financial Interests

Members of the PCC are, from time to time, reimbursed minor expenses for Church activities by the Treasurer; none of these reimbursements were significant during 2023. No members of the PCC have declared any conflicts of interest.

Trustee Declarations

PCC members have supplied Trustee Eligibility Declarations and HMRC Fit and Proper Person Declarations.

Parish Child Protection / Safeguarding Representative's Report

Stainton with Hemlington PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the *Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016* (duty to have regard to House of Bishop's guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

There has been much in the news recently about child abuse, including within the Church of England; I hardly need to remind you that **Child Protection and Safeguarding of Vulnerable Adults** is everybody's business, and that we need to ensure that our Church is a safe place for children and vulnerable people to be. The APCM will wish to know that the PCC has procedures in place for this.

The PCC's **Safeguarding Policy Statement** was last reviewed and approved at its meeting on 8th March 2023 and signed off by the two Churchwardens (when the Parish was "in Vacancy" without a Vicar); copies of this Safeguarding Policy Statement have been sent to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team and also displayed in the Church "Parish Room". The Policy Statement will be reviewed and re-adopted at the next PCC meeting. The **Parish Safeguarding file**, which can be found in the Parish Room, contains copies of the Parish Policy and Safeguarding Training Certificates, and copies of documentation from the Diocese and the Church of England including copies of the House of Bishops' Policy Statements.

Along with other Parishes in the Diocese Stainton with Hemlington Parish has signed up to **the Parish (Safeguarding) Dashboard process** which operates a “traffic-light” display to show how well the PCC is complying with various aspects of Safeguarding and also helps with the production of a Safeguarding Action Plan. The Action Plan dated 15/8/2023 was reviewed and adopted by the PCC at its meeting on 22/8/2023. The main actions identified at that time were:

- Two members of the PCC to undertake the “(Awareness of) Domestic Abuse” Pathway on-line training;
- The PSO to provide copies of Section 11 of the Parish Safeguarding Handbook (on A Safe Environment and Activities) to the C&Ks Leaders and Helpers; and
- The PSO to prepare a free-of-charge “Use Agreement” for the Hemlington Guides, to include a Safeguarding Addendum.

The PCC confirmed at the meeting on 22/8/2023 that “Coffee and Kids” is the only Church Activity, and the Hemlington Guide Company use of the Church “Parish Room” is the only non-Church activity that needs to be listed on the Safeguarding Dashboard.

The Parish has signed up to **the on-line DBS checking service** operated by Thirtyone:eight (formerly the Churches Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS)); DBS checks have been requested and received for relevant people working for the PCC in Positions of Trust. Confidential information relating to safeguarding is kept securely in the Church safe. My own DBS Check (Enhanced with checks of both Child and Adult Barring Lists) was renewed in Nov 2023.

The Church of England has “gone live” with its refreshed on-line Safeguarding Training programme comprising:

- the **Basic Awareness Pathway Training** which all members of the Church, including PCC members, are encouraged to undertake; and
- the **Foundation Pathway Training**, to be undertaken by Churchwardens and those working with children and/or vulnerable adults;
- The **(Awareness of) Domestic Abuse Pathway Training**, to be undertaken by Churchwardens and PCC members.

This on-line training can be reached via the CofE Safeguarding Training portal at this URL:

<https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/login/index.php> where you will be able to register for a free user account.

In addition to the on-line training the Diocese provides face-to-face training for the **Leadership Pathway Training** which is aimed at leaders of children’s and vulnerable adults’ groups/activities. The PSR and the Authorised Lay Minister completed this Pathway in January 2022 and March 2023 respectively.
Bob Ardley, Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)

Churchwardens’ Report, including a report on the “Fabric, Goods and Ornaments”

The church, fabric and ornaments are generally in good order.

During April we had the Archdeacons Visitation, where all registers and records were checked to see that they are up to date. The items checked included: the Terrier including all the Silver, the church log book, the Quinquennial Inspection report and plans for carrying out the work and the status of Safeguarding Training.

The “soft spot” on the floor in the Parish Room kitchen has been repaired and we are just waiting for everything to be dry before we repair the floor covering.

The Parish Room still has some problems with water ingress from the roof; your two churchwardens have a plan of action to hopefully resolve the issue once the warmer weather arrives. We also have had a quote for the removal of the large overgrown evergreen tree near the main West door at the Southwest corner of the building; this quote has been accepted and we are just waiting for final approval from the Diocese before undertaking the work.

There was a problem with a blocked gutter gully drain on the North side of the Nave that created some damp issues with the lighting; this has now been cleared and once the weather is warmer and less windy the rest of the gulleys and down comers will be cleaned and checked.

The church heating system has been serviced and is still running efficiently for its age and is still in good order. The emergency lighting in the Parish Room, kitchen, entrance lobby and toilets continue to be checked on a regular basis as is the fire alarm that covers these areas.

The organ has had the usual visits from the Organ tuner and is also in good order.

As ever it has been a challenging year.

Colin Mason and Vernon Clare: Churchwardens

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

St Peter and St Paul's Church, Stainton is situated at the western end of Hemlington Road, Stainton, Middlesbrough TS8 9AJ, and is the Parish Church for the Parish of Stainton with Hemlington; in the Benefice of Stainton with Hemlington and Hilton (held in Plurality with the Benefice of Brookfield); in the Stokesley Deanery; in the Diocese of York; within the Church of England.

The correspondence addresses are:

- PCC Secretary: 26 Meldyke Lane, Stainton, Middlesbrough TS8 9AU;
- Vicar: The Vicarage, 89 Low Lane, Brookfield, Middlesbrough TS5 9EF; and
- Treasurer: 3 Fawcett Avenue, Stainton, Middlesbrough TS8 9AN.

The Stainton with Hemlington PCC is a body corporate established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure 1956 and the Church Representation Rules 2022. The PCC is a Charity which is "excepted" by order from registering with the Charity Commission [this "exception" will end on 31st March 2031 (cf Statutory Instrument SI 2021:25)].

The following served on the PCC as Trustees during the year 2023:

Revd C. Todd (<i>ex officio</i>)	Vicar from 1/3/2021 to 3/1/2023
Revd L Wild (<i>ex officio</i>)	Vicar (from 27/6/2023)
Mr C. Mason (<i>ex officio</i>)	Churchwarden (2022-2023, and 2023-2024) and PCC Treasurer
Mr V. Clare (<i>ex officio</i>)	Churchwarden (2022-2023, and 2023-2024) and PCC Vice-Chairman
Mr R. Ardley (<i>ex officio</i>)	Deanery Synod Representative (2020-2023), Electoral Roll Officer, PCC Secretary and Parish Safeguarding Rep, and Parochial Representative (2023-2026)
Dr J. Ardley (<i>ex officio</i>)	Deanery Synod Representative (2023-2026) and Authorised Lay Minister (ALM)
Mrs J Mason	Lay Reader Emerita (co-opted 2022m09-2023m04) and Parochial Representative (2023-2026)
Mrs J. Clare	Parochial Representative (2021-2024)
Mr D. Gatenby	Parochial Representative (2021-2024)
Mrs E. Revett (*)	Parochial Representative (2021-2023)
Mrs J Sturdy	Parochial Representative (2021-2023)
Vacancy	Parochial Representative (2023-2024)
Vacancy	Parochial Representative (2023-2024)

(*) It is with great sadness that we record the sad death of Elizabeth Revett in January 2023.

VICAR'S REPORT

I am very grateful for the welcome I received into the Plurality of parishes in June 2023 as I was licensed Vicar. In the preceding months, with God's invitation to minister during the vacancy, I was struck by the willingness to serve, gather and pray within the congregations – which has not abated but has increased. Within St. Peter and St. Paul I am humbled by the focus of the PCC and Church Officers and the generosity with which people share their expertise and gifting. Colin Mason and Vernon Clare have continued to complement each other in the role of very capable Churchwardens, who progress things well. Within the worshipping community many contribute in different aspects of worship; reading the bible and as Eucharistic Ministers, providing hymns and music. The Plurality of parishes is faithfully enriched by those of St. Peter and St. Paul's who give their time across the three churches, in safeguarding, administrative support and ministry. Bob Ardley fulfils an invaluable role as Safeguarding Officer and of course Webmaster, which is no small investment of time.

Highlights in the past months have included the Diocese's Celebration of Lay Ministry in September, where Julia Ardley was recognised as an Authorised Lay Minister. I applaud the move to broaden and resource lay ministry and am particularly grateful for Julia's service in leading Hilton's Morning Praise monthly and speaking and leading on occasion in Stainton's variable service pattern too.

The All Saints Revitalise evening was valuable in gathering and exploring where God is prompting us and the opportunities to share the Gospel that God is opening to us. Some tweaks have taken place following our shared discerning; conversations were encouraging and inspiring. Revitalise, the Diocesan Church Growth project that we as a Plurality are part of, is not only a project but a *desire* within our churches, including St. Peter and St. Paul, for revitalisation in order to reach others. Angela Sayer prayerfully created a Revitalise prayer which is used regularly where we pray "help us to be faithful disciples and bear much fruit". A Lent study on Rhythm of Life and an Advent study on Songs of Scripture have encouraged people to look at their whole lives before God, seeking his leading.

I am delighted that monthly Ministry Team meetings are growing, with Julia Ardley, Joan Mason and Revd Marie Edwards all desiring to draw together and collaborate in varying forms of ministry with myself. The year concluded with the announcement of the appointment of Revd Vanessa Kirby as Pioneer Priest within the Plurality and we look expectantly at what God will bring forth in the coming year and trust that many lives within the parish of Stainton with Hemlington are transformed by Jesus.

In the year ahead it is imperative that we all become more confident in sharing our own faith and articulating what we know of God at work in our midst; for our God is faithful in every way (1 Cor. 1:9)!
Revd Laura Wild, Vicar

This spreadsheet for the FY 2022 will be replaced by one for the FY 2023 once prepared by Colin Mason our Treasurer

St Peter and St Paul's Church Stainton						
Income	Actual 2021	Actual 2022	Expenditure	Actual 2021	Actual 2022	
	£			£		
Planned Giving	12268	12037	Unrestricted Charitable Giving	0	0	
Tax recoverable & top up	3247	3581	Parish Share	14400	14400	
Open Plate collections	1443	1683	Ministry Expenses incl. Vicarage	400	1049	
Gift Day	535	0	Utilities	2696	5423	
Sundry Donations	732	880	Cleaning	46	0	
Fees (PCC only)	3832	3258	Insurance	1969	2034	
Fund Raising	215	188	Minor repairs and maintenance			
Interest (excl. Mayman)	810	1845	including Organ tuning	543	555	
Donations-Flowers,Candles	0	20	Flowers & candles	214	237	
		23492	Altar Costs	272	375	
			Books & Publications	14	0	
			Licences	163	170	
From fund raising or			Upkeep of Churchyard	1170	1370	
reserves	557	3,894	Organist	0	0	
			Training	0	0	
LEFT OFF			Office Supplies	0	60	
Giving Appeals			Printing & Stationery	576	467	
Wedding etc fees (except PCC's)			Deanery	40	40	
Mayman Trust Income			Postage and Delivery	9	0	
Major Building repairs			Telephone & broadband	182	207	
Legacies & exceptional donations			Bk chges & accountancy	420	450	
Fuel Grant from Diocese			Children's work	34	13	
			Administrator's wages	491	536	
Total Income	23639	27386	Total Expenditure	23639	27386	
			Balance			