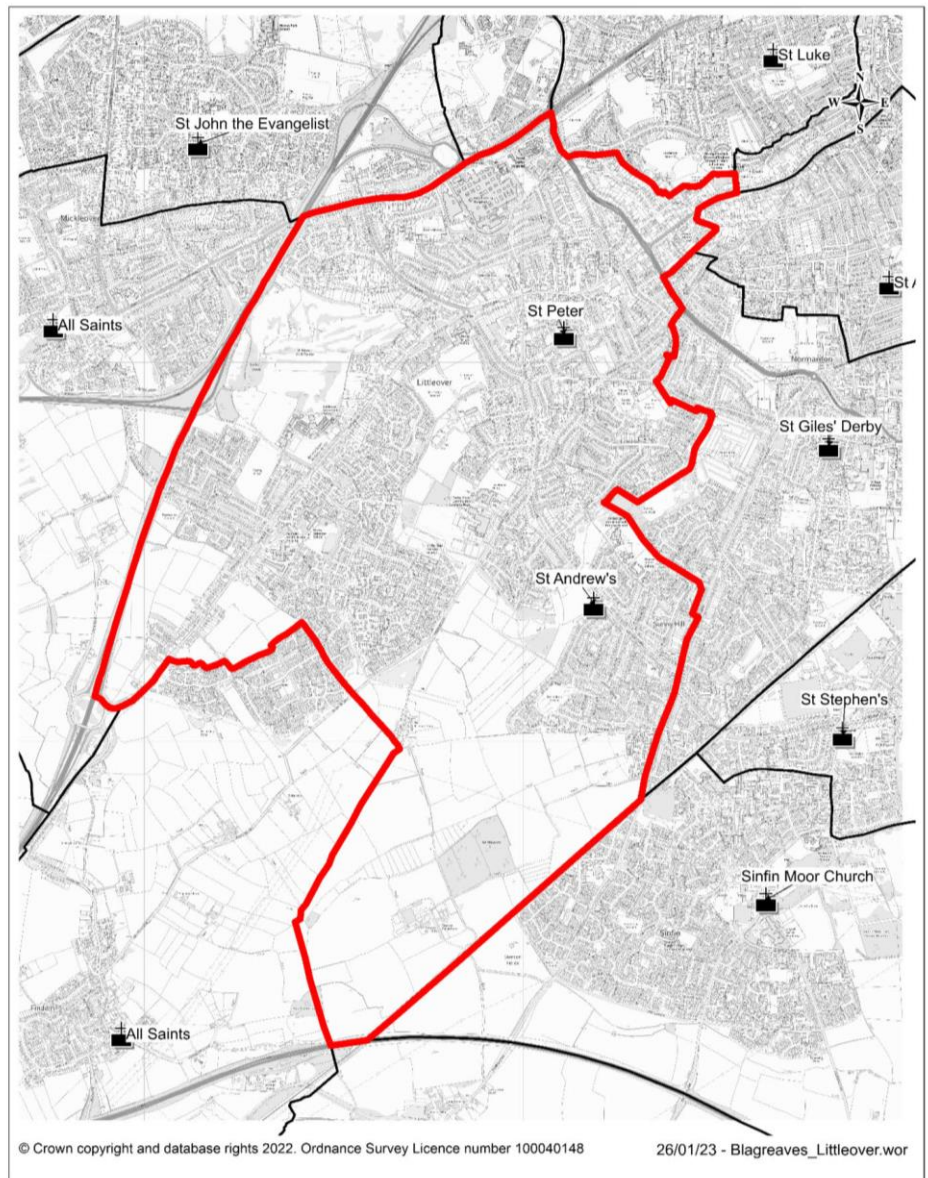


Parish of Littleover & Blagreaves

St Peter's Church

Annual Report 2023



VESTRY MEETING and ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Agenda

Wednesday 24 April 2024 at 7.30pm

St Peter's Church, Littleover

Vestry Meeting

1. Opening worship and prayer
2. Apologies for absence
3. Approve Minutes of the last meeting
(1 January 2023 Vestry meeting section, see back pages)
4. Election of Churchwardens
(nominations to be received in advance of meeting)

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies for absence
2. Approve minutes of last APCM
(1 January 2023 and 26 April 2023), see back pages of this document)
3. Matters arising
4. Electoral Roll Report
5. Election of Churchwardens results
6. Election to the
 - Parochial Church Council
(6 vacancies 1 for one year, 2 for two years, 3 for three years)
 - Deanery Synod (3 vacancies)
(tellers will be appointed to count voting papers if needed)
7. Financial report- Lesley Edwards
8. Reviewing reports – time for questions
9. Results of Elections to PCC and Deanery Synod
10. Safeguarding update
11. Chair's report and vision – Alicia
12. Any other business **NOTE: Please notify any other business in writing to the Vicar or the PCC Secretary (Julie Scott) at least 48 hours in advance – this will guarantee a considered response.**
13. Date of next APCM

14. Closing prayer and worship

Parish of Littleover & Blagreaves
St Peter's Church Church Street Littleover Derby DE23 6GF
Phone 01332 767802 www.stpeterlittleover.org.uk
2023

Structure, Governance and Management

St Peter's Church is situated in Church Street, Littleover, Derby and the previous St Andrew's Blagreaves Church has been redesignated St Andrew's Community Hub from 1 January 2023. They are part of the Diocese of Derby within the Church of England. The charity's working name is St Peter's, Littleover and Blagreaves PCC.

Governing Document

The Parochial Church Council of St Peter's Littleover (PCC) became a registered charity with the Charity Commission on 2 December 2009 (Charity Number 1133061). This charity registration moved to the new parish of Littleover & Blagreaves on 1 January 2023. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure.

Policies and procedures for the appointment of Trustees

The method of appointment of PCC members/trustees is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and Activities

The primary objective of St Peter's Littleover and Blagreaves PCC is the promotion of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC is to co-operate with the minister, the Reverend Alicia Dring, in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical as in accordance with the PCC (Powers) Measure 1956, as amended by the measure of 1969.

Public benefit

Promoting in the Ecclesiastical Parish the whole mission of the Church.

Achievements and performance

Church Attendance

In 2023 there were 174 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, 60 of whom were not resident within the parish.

Closure of Parishes

The Parish of St Andrew's Blagreaves and St Peter's Littleover were both formally closed on 31 December 2022 and the new parish of St Peter's Littleover and Blagreaves came into being on 1 January 2023.

The PCC of St Peter's Church, Littleover and Blagreaves 2023

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission, number 1133061.

The following have served as members of the PCC since the last APCM:



NAME	POSITION	NOTES
Revd Alicia Dring	Vicar and Chair	Appointed September 2013
Revd Rachael Brooks	Curate	Appointed July 2020, ordained September 2020, resigned December 2023
Revd Jason Kennedy	Associate Minister	Appointed, September 2023
Revd Emma Mallord	Curate	Appointed, ordained July 2023
Jeni Baines		Until 2024 meeting
John Bird		Until 2025 meeting
Jim Britland	Warden and Vice Chair	Until 2024 meeting
Bernie Burton	Observer	Non-voting role
Lesley Edwards	Treasurer	From April 2023
Charlie Elston		Until 2025 meeting
Chris Jones	Warden	Awaiting re-election as churchwarden
Sue Limberger	Treasurer	Until April 2023
Heather Newstead		Until 2026 meeting
Helene Roe		Standing as churchwarden
Julie Scott	PCC Secretary	Until 2026 meeting
Margit Staehr		Until 2025 meeting
Robin Wood		Until 2024 meeting
Peter Vincent	Diocesan Synod member	Until Diocesan Synod elections in 2024
Ann Vincent	Deanery Synod	Until 2026

The Standing Committee 2023

NAME	POSITION	ELECTED	RESIGNED
Revd Alicia Dring	Vicar	Appointed 2013	
Jim Britland	Warden		
Chris Jones	Warden		
Lesley Edwards	Treasurer	April 2023	
Sue Limberger	Treasurer		April 2023
Revd Rachael Brooks	Curate	Appointed 2020	December 2023
Revd Emma Mallord	Curate	Appointed 2023	
Jeni Baines	PCC member	Elected 2023	

Service Attendance at St Peter's Littleover 2023

Sunday Services	Holy Communion	Evening Service	
Average over four consecutive weeks in October 2023	10am	6.30pm	
Communicants	76 (74)		
Total Attendees inc children	90 (82)	24	
Wednesday Services			
Average over random four consecutive weeks	Holy Communion		
Holy Communion	30 (27)		
	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	
Easter Sunday 2023	8am	10am	
Communicants	12 (16)	142 (0)	
Total Attendees inc children	12 (16)	154 (132)	
	Christingle	Christingle	Holy Communion
Christmas Eve 2023	3pm	5pm	11.15pm
Communicants			52 (31)
Total Attendees inc children	331 (237)	220 (160)	55 (34)
	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	
Christmas Day 2023	8am	10am	
Communicants	18 (11)	68 (79)	
Total Attendees	19 (14)	73 (88)	

* The 10am Sunday Services generally alternate between Holy Communion and Morning Worship/All Age

(XX) Figures in brackets are for the year 2022

Other Services held at St Peter's during 2022

Baptisms: <i>during the 10am Sunday Service</i>	3	(4)
Funerals/memorial	33	(38)
Weddings	2	(3)
St Peter's School Services	6	(5)
High School Services	0	(2)

Electoral Roll

107 resident in the parish and **61** live outside of the parish = **168 total roll**

Reverend Alicia Dring Vicar to the Parish

It has been a challenging year as we began life as a new parish – the paperwork was a never-ending mountain, but our final service at St Andrew’s with Bishop Libby was full of friends and love and gratitude to God for all that He had achieved over the years. Now is a new season and we have no doubt that through the work of the Mission Action Plan and the Holy Spirit that Spring shoots will come to St Andrew’s once again, as together, we seek to shine with the light of Christ in Blagreaves.

September saw my ten year anniversary as vicar to the parish – you very kindly marked the date with a wonderful card and very generous gift which we hope to use when we return to Norfolk in early summer of 2024. Thank you.

The team grew, and shrank this year, with the arrival of Emma Mallord in July as she was ordained Deacon and then Jason Kennedy as part-time Associate, when he and I were also licensed to All Saints’ Findern and he became half-time Enabling Minister at The Haven Christian Centre. While this is challenging for Jason with so many different congregations to juggle it is a joy to have him working as part of the team in a paid capacity. We also said thank you and farewell to Rachael Brooks as she moved on to become an incumbent in her own right.

Taking on All Saints’ Findern has added to the workload, especially as there are so few in the church to share all the roles that need to be filled. But I’m grateful for the support of colleagues, particularly in staffing the rota. After a very hectic Christmas ensuring we were seen at as many local events as possible, we hope to be able to share things in a different way come 2024.

During 2023, the MAP process has been bearing abundant fruit and I am hugely grateful to John Bird and the teams for all their work as the momentum continues to build and we are reaching out to more and more people across our community with the light of Christ.

However, my abiding memory will be the funerals as we said farewell to so many of our church family over the year. It is never easy saying goodbye, even though we know we will be reunited with them in the future. In the meantime, they go ahead and join the multitudes of faithful servants before them – worshipping God and giving thanks for all He has blessed us with.





Winifred Wormsley



Pam Phillips



Caryl Sharlot



Joyce Fletcher



Mavis Storer



Len Gale



Beryl Angas



Allan Scott



Carole Robison



Eric Ashburner



Shirley Chaffey



Les Wormsley



Phil Rollinson



Audrey Barlow

**Those in our
church family
who died in
2023**

Reverend Jason Kennedy Associate Priest

2023 has been a year of huge changes and new beginnings for us as a family and in my ministry. I started the year as Diocesan Missioner, working as a part of the Discipleship Mission and Ministry Team out of Derby Church House, but at Easter I laid that mantle down. That was the culmination of a period of listening to God and discerning his call, after nine years in a support role within the Church, back into local church ministry.



St Peter's has been a huge part of that discernment. At the end of 2022, I'd been licensed to the church to work in what's called an SSM (Self-Supporting Ministry) role, alongside my paid Missioner role. So, from Easter, I increased my involvement in St Peter's; mainly Sunday ministry in leading and preaching, but also leading the fabulous Outward-Facing team for our Mission Action Plan work and getting involved with the staff team and PCC.

In May, I found myself preparing for two sets of interviews over the space of three days for two half-time roles; as Associate Priest working across the parishes of Littleover & Blagreaves and Findern, and also as Enabling Minister to the Local Ecumenical Project church of Haven Christian Centre in Heatherton. By God's grace, I landed both roles! After what seemed a long wait, on the 14 September 2023, I was licensed to both roles at Haven Christian Centre by Bishop Malcolm Macnaughton, Bishop of Repton (after being with Alicia as she was licensed to Findern at All Saints' Church about an hour before!)

I don't think I have ever felt such a clear call as I have done to local ministry here in the Littleover area. The welcome I have received across all three churches has been beautiful. I am particularly grateful for the support and care of Alicia as she has folded me into parish life with patience and kindness. I know that I am in the community to which God has called me.

That's not to say it has all been plain sailing. After nine years out of parish ministry, it's been a steep learning curve to come back into local church ministry. We live in a changed church and a changed world; new and different church and secular laws and regulations, a culture profoundly impacted by the legacy of the pandemic, the cost of living crisis and turmoil across the globe. Added to this, getting used to working in a church that is a unique blend of Anglican, Baptist, Methodist and United Reformed Churches! I've had to stretch ministry muscles that have lain dormant for some while, including funerals, pastoral visiting and church governance. Perhaps most significantly, I am still rising to the challenge of working across three churches and only being present at St Peter's around once a month. That has been particularly hard, and has led (in part) to my laying down the leading of the MAP group. Steve Dring and Doreen Bird are now leading that wonderfully well!

I want to thank everyone involved at St Peter's for your kindness, patience and welcome. It has been a privilege to serve you and the community that together we all love and serve over these last 12 months, and it continues to be so. I look forward enormously to what our amazing God has in store for us, and what he will do in and through us in the next!

Reverend Emma Mallord Curate

This has been quite the year of change for me! Finishing college, and obtaining my degree, then moving to Littleover, followed by my ordination as Deacon at the Cathedral, and then immersing myself in a new parish and a new area.



Things have certainly been busy, and I have had a lot to learn! I have loved getting to know everyone at St Peter's. Finding out your stories, and histories, as well as seeing your love and commitment to our church and parish. Thank you for being so welcoming. I have also been trying to get to know the local area. And all of this has come by way of a lot of tea and coffee drinking along with the occasional slice of cake! (Insomnia is one of my favourite places both for meetings and for sermon writing!)

My main area of learning over my time so far as a curate has been switching my head from my previous Church Operations role (a bit of a mix of warden, admin, HR, and finance) into the curate role. This along with wearing the dog collar for the first time has all taken a bit of getting used to, but I feel I am starting to embody this new way of being. I've also had to learn more about how to lead from the front of church especially in a way that ensures you can all hear and understand me. Thank you for your patience as I have practiced and developed this skill, and I hope you'll agree I am now much louder and clearer!



The first part of my curacy has been shared with Rachael Brooks, which has been great as I have been able to learn from her experience. The highlights of my first few months have been, along with getting to

know everyone, working with St Peter's School, Confirmation preparation with Phil & Hannah and presenting them at the confirmation service at the Cathedral, my first Christmas in the parish, continuing to build relationships with my fellow Deacons, and generally settling into a new area.

Treasurer

This is the first report that I am presenting to St Peter's Church Family, and the first for the newly formed parish and charity of St Peter's Littleover and Blagreaves, which came into being on 1 January 2023. This year has been a period of transition and consolidation for our Church finances, as the treasurers of St Peter's and St Andrew's during the year passed over the baton to myself and the newly formed Finance Team.

Much of our focus in 2023 has been on closing down the St Andrew's bank accounts and renaming and consolidating our combined parish bank accounts. We have also transferred the new parish financial records onto a combined online accounting package. Given the merger of Parishes there are some aspects to the accounts as presented in the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023, that require further explanation:

- The charity number for the combined parish is the same as that previously used by St Peter's Littleover pre-merger
- Therefore, the opening balances for 2023 in this report relate to the closing Balances for 2022 of St. Peter's Littleover only
- There is a separate entry for the balances transferred from St Andrew's PCC at the commencement of the new parish
- The receipts and payments and closing balances for 2023 relate to the merged parish and charity
- The data for prior year (2022) relates to charity number 1133061 which in 2022 was St Peter's Littleover only.

The family of our church have always been faithful in their giving and 2023 was no exception. The vast majority of giving is by standing order, which we are very grateful for, as it maintains good sustainable cash flow and enables us to pay our bills and commitments. The electronic card reader and online giving continues to be available at all services which enables donations for regular expenditure as well as special collections.

Major items of expenditure in the year related to the purchase of the new chairs at the front of the church costing just under £10,000. Our regular maintenance of both the church and the community hubs buildings saw around £14,000 spent and we were able to meet our Common Fund commitment in full to the diocese of £75,710.

For the 2023 financial year we recorded a surplus of income over expenditure of £28,147.

I would like to thank everybody who has supported me; the Finance Team, Wardens and Alicia. Iona deserves a special mention as she deals with the banking of all cash and cheques, and processes all the paperwork for input to the accounting package on the computer. Arranges the payment of all invoices and expenses of our busy parish amongst many other administrative tasks unrelating to finance to keep everything running smoothly.

Finally, I would like to thank Azets for being our Independent Examiners for 2023 and propose that the accounts be accepted. In line with good practice, we would like to review the costs of the Independent Examination and ask Azets and another two accounting organisations to tender for the Independent Examination of St. Peter's Littleover and Blagreaves financial records for the year end 31.12.2024 for discussion and approval by the PCC at a later date.

Lesley Edwards

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of
St Peter's Littleover and Blagreaves
Receipts and Payments Account at 31 December 2023**

General		Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	2022 £
	Note					
RECEIPTS						
Donations and legacies	1(a)	150,276	-	915	151,191	136,563
Activities for raising funds	1(b)	36,745	-	-	36,745	20,008
Income from investments	1(c)	2,996	598	183	3,777	1,174
Incoming resources from church activities	1(d)	18,057	500	5,576	24,133	15,922
		<u>208,074</u>	<u>1,098</u>	<u>6,674</u>	<u>215,846</u>	<u>173,667</u>
PAYMENTS						
Grants	2(a)	9,286	-	-	9,286	10,127
Church activities	2(b)	162,990	6,423	6,220	175,633	150,437
Governance costs	2(c)	2,780	-	-	2,780	2,976
		<u>175,056</u>	<u>6,423</u>	<u>6,220</u>	<u>187,699</u>	<u>163,540</u>
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS		33,018	(5,325)	454	28,147	10,127
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		(1,826)	1,878	(52)	-	-
INTRODUCED FROM ST. ANDREWS PCC		5,575	29,205	-	34,780	-
NET MOVEMENT		<u>36,767</u>	<u>25,758</u>	<u>402</u>	<u>62,927</u>	<u>10,127</u>
Bank balances brought forward at 1 January 2023		114,827	7,514	7,532	129,873	119,746
Bank balances carried forward at 31 December 2023		<u>151,594</u>	<u>33,272</u>	<u>7,934</u>	<u>192,800</u>	<u>129,873</u>

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter's Littleover and Blagreaves

For the Year Ended 21 December 2023

General	Note	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Funds 2022 £
CASH FUNDS						
Bank current accounts and cash in hand		86,037	3,502	2,374	91,913	65,835
CBF deposit fund		65,557	29,770	5,560	100,887	63,522
Held as Agent		-	-	-	-	516
		<u>151,594</u>	<u>33,272</u>	<u>7,934</u>	<u>192,800</u>	<u>129,873</u>
OTHER MONETARY ASSETS						
Income tax recoverable		6,227	-	-	6,227	5,922
Prepayments and other debtors		-	-	-	-	697
Stock		300	-	-	300	300
		<u>6,527</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,527</u>	<u>6,919</u>
INVESTMENT ASSETS	4	<u>8,680</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,680</u>	<u>7,934</u>
LIABILITIES						
PAYE		-	-	-	-	-
Accruals		2,725	-	-	2,725	2,610
		<u>2,725</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,725</u>	<u>2,610</u>

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on

and signed on its behalf by:

Rev'd. A Dring (Vicar)

L Edwards (Treasurer)

Due to amends needing to be made and the accountants being on holiday (!), the full signed set of accounts will not be available until Sunday 14 April. Please accept our apologies.

Gift Aid for Financial Year 2023

As Chris Woodhams and Peter Vincent passed the mantle for claiming Gift Aid to me in 2023, I would like to start this year's report by formally thanking them both for their many years diligent service and for the extremely smooth hand over during 2023.

For the last financial year, tax recovered on Gift Aided regular giving, one off donations, and claimed under the Gift Aid Small Donations scheme amounted to £27,813. This represented almost 13% of church income.

The figures show what an enormous difference Gift Aid continues to make to the funding of the work of our church, so a huge thank you to everyone who supports the church with donations whether through their bank or through the electronic giving terminal in church.

Please remember that it is very important for you to notify the church office if your contact details change, if your circumstances change and especially if you no longer pay an amount of income and/or capital gains tax equal to the tax that we reclaim on your donations. Further information on Gift Aid is available from the church office.

Paul Cheetham Gift Aid Secretary



PCC Secretary

With effect from 1 January 2023 the Parish of Blagreaves merged with the Parish of Littleover and the new united Parish of Littleover and Blagreaves was created. On that date we held a Special Meeting to elect Church Council Members to the new Parish. Jim Britland and Chris Jones continued as Church Wardens, Dave Hargreaves left and Bernie Burton joined as an observer, otherwise PCC members remained the same. Ann Vincent is the Deanery Synod member and Margit Staehr continued as Safeguarding Lead and Heather Newstead took safeguarding responsibility for vulnerable adults. Lesley Edwards joined the PCC at the APCM in April and undertakes the role of Treasurer.

During 2023 the Parochial Church Council (PCC) Trustees met eight times. PCC meetings included the January special meeting and an extra-ordinary meeting in April to discuss the finances of the new parish. Most of the PCC Action Groups have met through the year and their minutes are provided in advance of every meeting to ensure everyone has the information they need. In addition, the PCC Standing Committee met six times. All meetings start and end in prayer.

Due to personal circumstances, I was unable to attend some of the meetings and I am very grateful to Alicia Dring and those who stood in for me and made sure that PCC records continued to be updated. Your help was very much appreciated.

The Standing Committee and PCC meeting agendas continue to remain in a standard format which includes an action column. Most of the paperwork for the meetings continues to be distributed and stored electronically in an endeavour to save on paper and printing.

The significant topics that the PCC has discussed over the year have included:

- The workings of the new parish, the practicalities and the finance arrangements following our merger with St Andrew's Blagreaves
- Major ongoing projects led by the Fabric Team continue. These included ongoing maintenance of church buildings, churchyard and Glebe land, the new church gates, new chairs in church, and starting the refurbishment of the south aisle and creation of a library area. Many thanks to the small team that work hard in this never-ending job and the involvement of Community Payback
- Our Mission Action Plan (MAP) project moved from the planning phase into ongoing actions. Thanks go to the MAP steering group and the five teams that are busy making sure that objectives are achieved
- Safeguarding – features as an item on every agenda. Thanks go to Margit Staehr (Children and Young People) and Heather Newstead (Vulnerable Adults) for their very important work
- The continuing support to St Peter's Junior School – part of DDAT Academy Trust – and the headteacher Frazer Smith. Our joint street fair in July was very successful and the proceeds enabled the children to go to the pantomime
- Working together with the other churches in Littleover and Blagreaves.

Thank you to all who have served, advised, encouraged and prayed for the PCC during this last year. We are thankful for faithful servants and sufficient resources to follow God's call.

Julie Scott

Churchwardens

What good is it my brothers and sisters, if anyone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? James 2:14

As we sat down to pen this report, it was hard to believe that Jim has completed the final year of his maximum six years allowable as a church warden. Chris will be starting his fourth year.

A key responsibility of the church wardens is caring for the fabric of the church. We retain a significant to do list at all times for the church, the churchyard and glebe lands as well as the St Peter's and St Andrew's Community Hubs. We would just like to thank everybody who has recognised the need to get involved and support the warden's efforts.



During 2023 the churchyard gates were replaced by new oak gates from Allan Scott's bequest, retaining and reworking as much of the ironwork from the old gates as possible. The radiator in church near the coffee area was replaced and a bespoke oak radiator cover fitted. The panelling at the top of the archway between the organ vestry

and the chancel was replaced. Work was done to the churchyard steps after a "lost" taxi damaged them. A major water leak to the church was traced and repaired. The disposal of the green waste produced by the churchyard has been managed by constructing large composting areas at the bottom of the churchyard. Please consider lending a hand as and when we announce the need for support for churchyard clean ups and one or two painting projects we have planned. The to do list remains challenging for 2024.

Another group of people we would like to thank are the Vergers, Duty Wardens, Coffee teams and Welcome teams. We could not manage without these groups of people and would like to thank everybody who has stepped up to assist with this vital piece of ministry.

Chris looks forward to the new year, working with the new Churchwarden who will be appointed at the Vestry Meeting before the APCM. A person who will continue Jim's "hidden" work of managing rotas and arranging faculties.

As we say goodbye to Jim as Churchwarden, it is no escape for him as he plans to continue as an active member of the Fabric Team.

Jim Britland and Chris Jones

Safeguarding Report

Sunday 1 January, 2023 marked the beginning of the new, merged parish of St Peter's Littleover and Blagreaves, resulting in a merger of the administrative side of safeguarding for St Andrew's and for St Peter's. The Diocesan Safeguarding Team's Dave Bowden was helpful with merging the two separate 'dashboards' into one online audit tool that helps PSOs keep track of safeguarding training and various policies. The dashboard uses a traffic light system with green lights giving assurance that we are complying with safeguarding requirements, and amber and red lights highlighting actions which need to be completed. A progress report is given at each PCC meeting where Safeguarding remains a standing agenda item.

Members of the Diocesan Safeguarding Team continue to offer dedicated support to PSOs, whether it be during the monthly drop-in meetings or on the many other occasions when we need their advice on training, eligibility for DBS, risk analyses, or when actual concerns are reported.

Their support is also illustrated by their instigation of a Safeguarding Sunday at Derby Cathedral November 2023 to celebrate the work of PSOs, with the Right Reverend Bishop Malcolm presiding, and their planned Safeguarding Conference next April 2024 with the Rt Reverend Bishop Libby Lane in attendance. Thanks are due to the whole team: Hannah Hogg, Sue Griffin, Judie Fogarty, Nick Harding, Amanda Sandland, Amanda Clarke and Dave Bowden for sharing their invaluable expertise.



Safeguarding Sunday at Derby Cathedral Nov. 2023 celebrating the work of PSOs. Margit and Heather with Nick Harding (left) and Amanda Sandland (right)

Safeguarding Roles

- Margit Staehr was re-appointed PSO on 1 January, 2023 for the new parish of St Peter's Littleover and Blagreaves, with responsibility for Children's and Young People's safeguarding, overall administration of safeguarding training, DBS applications and Volunteer Agreements.
- Heather Newstead agreed mid-year to take on the vacant role of PSO for Vulnerable Adults and is completing the required training for that role. Heather is already a highly valued member of the PCC and of the Prayer Ministry. She brings a wealth of experience from her work as library manager in Derby City.

Safeguarding Training

There was a surge in processing DBS and completing/refreshing safeguarding courses as a result of having a new team of volunteers serving in the newly established children's groups at St Andrew's Hub (after school drop-in) and at St Peter's Hub (a monthly Messy Youth). Work also went into ensuring compliance with Church of England Policy as set out in "Safer Environment and Activities".

Safeguarding courses undergo regular development and finetuning so even though they have to be completed every three years (against five earlier), the courses remain relevant and fresh.

The new version of Domestic Abuse Awareness course was complimented by two attendees, independently of each other, for being both interesting and very well put together. The Safeguarding Leadership course – also a new version - involves a mixture of reading and preparation work, two zoom sessions, and some review and evaluation work. Various team leaders have completed the course, and the new version will be offered to the leaders of the steering group of the MAP team.

Completed safeguarding courses during 2023

- 35 Basic and Foundation modules (self-directed e-learning)
- 7 Team Leaders completed Safeguarding Leadership Training
- 22 completed the Domestic Abuse Awareness training
- 2 completed PSO Induction and
- Refresher –Role Specific Pathway.

DBS – All checks are up to date

- 9 Basic DBS applications
- 16 Enhanced DBS applications.

Safeguarding Queries/Referrals

- A query from somebody with whom St Peter’s has previously had a safeguarding agreement. We are still in conversation
- A safeguarding referral to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team’s Advisor and Case Worker. Flagged up again later in the year and resolved in conjunction with us.

General

- The PCC annually submits a statement to the Diocese indicating that the practice within the Parish adheres to its guidance. This is a formal obligation and ensures compliance with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy discipline measure 2016
- The PSO also submits a statement affirming that appropriate child protection systems and processes are in place.

It remains a privilege to serve St Peter’s and the community in this way.

Margit Staehr, Parish Safeguarding Officer Children and Young People Lead
Heather Newstead, Parish Safeguarding Officer Vulnerable Adults



**Safeguarding
is everyone's
responsibility**

Mission

Our mission work is divided between financial and prayer support for our mission partners and evangelistic/local mission here in the parish. Both are important for us to see beyond our own needs. Further progress on our Mission Action Plan for the new parish is featured later in this report

Mission Partners

We keep up to date with our Mission Partners through monthly articles in Keyhole magazine and they feature in our prayers each month. During the year we welcomed Penny and Juan Carlos de Marces from Peru and Tim and Kate Lee from Jigsaw Kids Ministries. It is always good to touch base with our mission partners and to hear from them directly about the work they undertake.



We are in the middle of our three-year programme of commitment to our mission partners, which will continue until January 2025. We will consult with the congregation later this year to consider our giving for 2026-29.



Mission in the Parish

The work of the Mission Action Plan has taken priority this year and we did not offer an Alpha course. However, we hope to run Alpha, or something similar, in Autumn 2024.

Mission Partner Funding 2022-25	£
LOCAL	
Derby City Mission	500
Food4Thought (foodbank)	200
Borderline Arts	500
NATIONAL	
Care for the Family	500
INTERNATIONAL	
CMS – Lee Family/Jigsaw	1400
Penny & Juan Carlos de Marces	1400
The Bible Society	500
PASH Kenya	500
Open Doors	500
Tearfund	500
Emergency Fund	500
	£7000

MISSION GIVING FOR THE YEAR 2023

Name	Year 2022 Restricted	Year 2022 Unrestricted	Year 2023 Restricted	Year 2023 Unrestricted	Area of work
Bible Society		500		500	Overseas
CMS Jigsaw		1,400		1,400 + 295.48 donation	Overseas
Barnabas Fund/ Open Doors		500		500	Overseas
de Marces		1,400		1,400	Overseas
PASH Kenya		500		500	Overseas
Tearfund		500	605.48 for toilet twinning	500	Overseas
Care for the Family		500		500	National
Derby City Mission	200 for Street Pastors	500		500	Local
Food4Thought	1381 Harvest Appeal	200		200	Local Foodbank Hub
Borderline Arts		500		500	Local
Children's Society		760		989.68	National Christingle
Harvest Appeal Bishop of Derby		0		30	Overseas
Christmas Lunch on Jesus		650		782	Local and Overseas
Royal British Legion		280		209.82	Secular Charity/national
St Peter's School PTFA				657.65 for street fair	Church school
Emergency Fund		500		Not spent	
TOTAL	1581	8690	605.48	9464.63	
	Total 2022	10271	Total 2023	10070.11	

Mission Action Plan

By the end of 2022, the mission plan was written and ready to be implemented and at the Mission Service in January 2023, church family were invited to join one of the five mission teams. These had emerged from the consultations with the community and the church family:

- Outward Facing
- Community Engagement
- Children, Young People and Families
- Communications
- Creation Care.

The response was very good indeed, more than 80 people became team members and the mission Steering Group (SG) was created to co-ordinate and guide the whole project, to monitor progress and to report regularly to the PCC. The group held its first meeting on 18 February and since then, has met monthly either face to face or on Zoom, plus some half-days and an awayday. This first year of implementation has been a valuable learning experience where the SG has learned much about its role, the interrelationship between the five teams in practice and the constantly changing needs of the community.

The SG has:

- established a scheme for a monthly mission update each third Sunday in the month from one of the five mission teams
- put in place a risk assessment procedure for mission activities
- set up a process for accessing church mission funds
- examined the process of cultural change and the SG role in that.

The five mission teams started their work, each with a list of practical mission goals which had been suggested by the church family and the wider community. They worked very hard through the year exploring what could be done relatively easily and what would need more time to put into practice. Over the year the five teams achieved the following:

- established a valued support prayer team who meet regularly. Actual or virtual prayer walks occur, and use of the Blessings Book series aids their prayers and words for the community
- set up the 'Welcoming New Neighbours' scheme with information sheets and welcome bags stored ready to be used by members of the church family
- re-established the Giveaway Days at St Andrew's Hub
- built a database which lists a large number of advice agencies across the city, to be used in future signposting conversations with people in need



- discussed the employment of a Children, Youth & Families worker. Looked into the viability of employing a student / pre-qualified children worker with the Diocese
- met with the Diocesan Youth Advisor regarding provision for young people going forward and examined our options
- set up the Messy Youth Group - meeting for Y7 – Y11 on Sunday evening once a month at St Peters Hub
- set up Hot Chocolate and Toast Drop-in Cafe at St Andrew's Hub fortnightly on Wednesday after school, for 11-14 year olds
- increased the number of Messy Church dates in the calendar
- established a continuing liaison regarding children's books in the new church Library
- implemented the new logos representing our new parish of Littleover and Blagreaves
- started work on the new church website
- updated the church web page on the Diocese 'A Church Near You' national website
- worked together with the other mission teams to support them with their communications
- gave monthly updates to the church family about mission
- worked closely with the AA team on creation related themes such as Fairtrade, recycling and Harvest
- helped Friends of Littleover Parks plant wild flower plugs and organised a walk with litter pick in June
- school uniform recycling continues to be successful
- ran a Fairtrade stall at St Peter's School Fair
- considered a car share to church scheme – can have an informal one but not an organised one because of safeguarding and insurance issues
- hedgehog boxes were placed in the churchyard
- successfully raised enough money to twin all our church toilets using an international scheme
- organised a communal church Christmas card to try to reduce unrecyclable cards.



By the end of 2023, the mission had moved forward significantly in its understandings, its actions and achievements. Huge thanks are due to the team leaders for their commitment and energy and to the team members without whom nothing would be possible. There is much still to enjoy, learn and do with much to be gained personally from taking part in the mission activities, we need and welcome further volunteers, just contact the team of your choice to join in.

These are exciting times. We look forward to what God will ask of us in 2024.

John Bird

Fabric Resources Team

The Fabric Team included: Chris Jones, Bernie Burton, Dave Hargreaves, Jim Britland, Jan Jackson. With Allan Scott and Lee Smith for part of the year. Throughout the year we had five meetings.

Church

- New Library area, near kitchen. Radiator (3m double) replaced by BlueFlame with a smaller more efficient (2m triple) radiator, August. Allows space for bookcases either side of radiator. To protect children, a bespoke cover in oak faced MDF was supplied by Michael Pepper Joinery at £1380. Fitted by Sully of Master Joinery in November
- Top of the archway Chancel to the Organ Vestry. To replace torn expanded metal screen with oak faced MDF (same as above radiator screen with Fleur de Lys cutouts), supplied by Michael Pepper Joinery, cost £666 fitted by Sully of Master Joinery
- Church Alarm fitted by Chubb, February. Has dual communication by 4G and IP connections. Expensive second BT line no longer needed. Teething problems with random error messages
- Downstairs Toilets. One painting session by team
- Upper clerestory windows (in Church roof valleys) need attention. Tony Roe quoted £780 for repairs to damaged window sills (North and South side)
- Church office radiators not getting hot. Found to be a ball cock in the header tank stuck in the down position. Would have happened when radiator was replaced
- Office Lighting. Fluorescents replaced by LED equivalents
- Emergency Lights. North entrance vestibule and stairs to office. All three replaced by LED's with three hours battery back-up
- Gullies and gutters around Church cleared by Tony Roe
- Street Fair in July – signage for Road Closed; Diversion and Disabled Car Park erected and dismantled
- PAT testing done by Fitzpatrick in April
- Lightening conductors tested February
- Upper Chancel stained glass. Backlight box in kitchen given two coats of paint
- Circuit Breakers replaced fuseboard in North entrance vestibule Nick Northover
- Boiler serviced by BlueFlame in June.



Churchyard

- Community Payback had decided not to come again because of accumulation of grass. After Ed Bentley removed the mounds of surplus gardening waste in the churchyard CP agreed to resume in May. Grass removal required three times a year. Pile initially relocated to path to Barncroft for better access, though it looked unsightly. Community Payback have built four compost piles at the bottom of the Churchyard with pallets and stones. Two are for sticks and twigs which compost too slowly. If compost turned every two weeks this should produce a good quality compost without the need for removal
- A tree stump had displaced one of the walls surrounding the war memorial. The wall was partially disassembled to give access to tree stump roots. Then re-built and mortared, a bigger job than first thought. The path to the memorial and around it was cleared. Completed September

- Churchyard Gates. Project started by Allan Scott and completed as his bequest. Gates made by Colin Tatlow in European Oak. Cast iron furniture modified and re-used from old gates. Metalwork given two coats Hammerite paint. Wood three coats Danish Oil. Gates removed and adjusted to minimize the gap



- There were eight Churchyard Clean-Ups from March to October, including a BBQ in September
- Maintenance of all hedges around the Church should be the responsibility of the residents. Jim advised all resident Church neighbours by letter
- Tree management. Ed Bentley quoted competitively and cut back hedge and laurel tree bordering on 6 Normanton Lane. Pollarded lime and maple trees to the South and east of Churchyard. Removed a maple tree which was rotten at the base. Reduced the height of a fir tree obscuring light from above the flat above Cosy Café
- Sycamore tree by Cosy Café managed by Fabric Team with hand lopper
- Churchyard steps. Damaged by a taxi driving round the west and south of the Church and through the gates to Normanton Lane. Steps bull-nosed and a piece rebated in by Cooper-Whyte Conservation at a cost of £715. Driver yet to pay the bill
- Water Leak in November. Noticed when taking the monthly water meter reading that the dial was spinning round. Severn Trent advised we were losing 300 litres of water an hour. Last bill was £1200 for the month, but nothing can be seen on the ground. Water could be heard running near the Mortuary shed external tap. There was a repair near the gas meter shed some years ago. Our insurers have rejected liability as wear and tear. Severn Trent offered a partial refund in 2024. NB in future may have to employ Brendan Hargreaves to oversee groundwork. Work done by Leighton
- We have taken on the responsibility of the Scout Hut grounds, not the Scout Hut which the Scouts own. Ed Bentley did a tree survey and for £520 removed a damaged maple tree. Fabric team cut down a holly tree bordering Churchyard and Scout Hut grounds. Cut into logs for the Vicarage
- The War Graves Commission is now complete. Chris Drury provided a Littleover War Memorial booklet contains pictures and locations of the war memorials in St Peter's Churchyard. He has placed a wooden cross on the graves before each memorial service over a number of years but feels he no longer is able to do this. Both Church Wardens agreed that this could be recorded in the minutes and carried out in the future by them each November
- Mortuary Shed cleared of unwanted and broken tools. 25kg of lead pipe recycled for £38
- Gas meter Shed. Cleared of unwanted tiles and slates
- Street Light by north east corner of Church. Bulb replaced by another fluorescent as LED not yet available. Works on a timer
- A Stihl strimmer at £340, a Mountfield mower at £365 and two wheelbarrows were purchased. Stored in Mortuary shed for use of Fabric Team and Community Payback.

St Peter's Hub

- Church Hub car park. Largest holes filled. Bag of Tarmac available to fill minor holes in car park
- Boiler serviced by BlueFlame in June
- Drainage covers to rear of Kitchen. Five drains cleared of soil. Raised area built around 3 of the drains to prevent soil falling in
- LED tube in entrance vestibule replaced with new tube and fitting
- Gutters repaired and Barge boards painted by Tony Roe £590
- Water filters purchased and fitted (Church and Church Hub)
- Security light bulbs replaced by LED's on two corners of large hall. Also above door to entrance.

St Andrew's Hub

- New fire doors were fitted. Subsequently were sticking but Bernie and Jim sorted
- Water heater was leaking. A replacement was fitted
- PAT testing done by Fitzpatrick in April
- Fridge Freezer replaced.

Thanks to all who took part throughout 2023

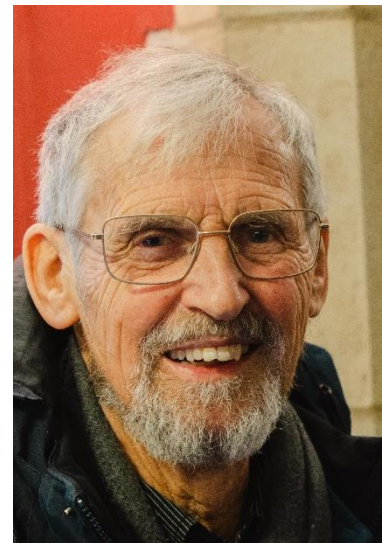
Jan Jackson and Chris Jones

Worship group

This has been an excellent year for the worship team at St Peters. We have continued to provide worship of a varied nature for the morning services. In addition, we had the new challenge from May of providing more intense worship for the new Evening Services; these have been very successful.

We had a new guitarist Phil Batten join at the beginning of the year and more recently have acquired a new female singer Rachael Smith. Both have filled gaps in our line-up beautifully.

Phil Eley stood down from leading worship at the end of the year and we thank him for his long years of dedicated service. Many people have commented on the unity the Group enjoy and I think our friendships and willingness to submit to one another in Christ are the key to any success we may have enjoyed. We hope to continue leading the people of St Peter's into ever deeper worship in the years to come.



David Barker and Peter Goodman

Data Protection

The church operates within our GDPR guidelines, only keeping and using data as required. This is an ongoing job as we address lists held outside of the church office and the appropriate security needed to safeguard people's personal details. If you hold any lists, please can you consult with Iona about how you store details to ensure we continue to be compliant. If you have any feedback that you think may help us with this, please contact Iona Hague in the Church Office.

Alicia Dring

Church Administrator

As I have stated many times before, I really do enjoy my role as Administrator here at St Peter's Church, and I particularly like interacting with church family members and visitors alike, whether this be in person, on the phone or via email.

The work I do continues to be varied and sometimes very challenging, especially during peak times such as Easter and Christmas, but we all pull together as a team to make sure everything gets done on time.

There have been a few changes in the office this year; firstly the PCC made the decision to stop hiring the Church halls for 'One Off' lets, which freed up some of my time. However, this time was then quickly swallowed up as I became part of the newly formed Finance team, with Lesley Edwards and Paul Cheetham. Between us, we now look after all the banking, pay any bills, keep the accounts up to date, and produce the reports for PCC meetings. Although I come from a Banking background, the accounting side of things has been a steep learning curve but, with the help of Paul, I'm getting the hang of it.

We also had a new digital phone system installed into the office and vicarage, which, after a few false starts, eventually went live in June. It always takes a little while to get used to anything new, but I think Alicia and I managed to get the hang of the new phones quite quickly, without cutting off too many people in the process!

Finally, we said Goodbye to Rev Rachael, who was a joy to work with, and we welcomed Rev Emma, who I'm sure will be a great asset and I look forward to working with her over the next few years.

Iona Hague

Keyhole

Our monthly church magazine Keyhole continues to offer reflections and pictures on things that have happened in the parish, along with updates from MAP, Creation Care and our Mission Partners. The new logo has been introduced and we are now considering how we may change the look of the magazine into the future.

Alicia Dring



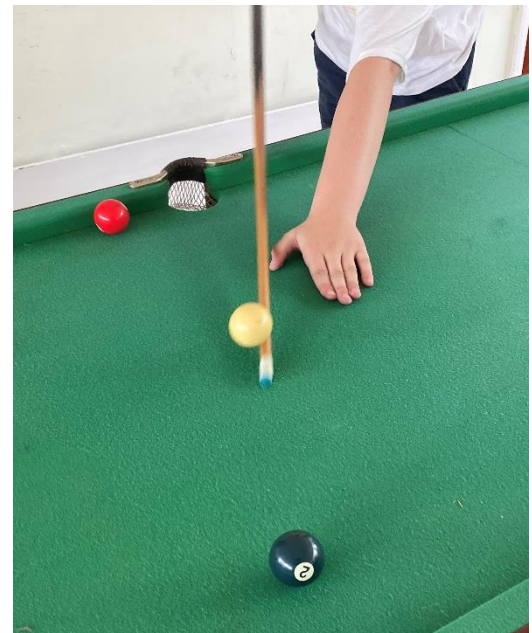
Messy Church

We have held Messy Church five times this year with lots of families attending from church, Tiddlywinks and St Andrew's Preschool. We provide crafts, baking, painting and puzzles on a Biblical theme followed by a song and talk and then finishing either with a buffet tea, baked potatoes, pizza or pancakes.

We introduced a games room in the top hall with table tennis, Jenga, snooker, plus older age crafts, for the 11+ age group. They can use both rooms as they wish and we have a lot of the older children enjoying this. Many of them have been attending over the last ten years and still enjoy the atmosphere of Messy Church.

We also provide crafts for the King George V Preschool harvest service and St Peter's Junior School Christmas fair. Thank you for contributing to the advent calendars at Christmas, they have a booklet of the Christmas story which we give to the children at messy church. Any spare calendars are given out to Tiddlywinks families.

Thank you to Joan, Fiona and Paul, Charlie and Ruth, Chris and Linsey, Ann and Bernie, Dave and Irene, Ann, Joy, Sue and Jane, for all the help in preparing the crafts games and refreshments.



Liz Eley

Tiddlywinks

Tiddlywinks have a regular group of mums and grandmas who together with the children, enjoy the toys, songs and story. It's great to see some of our families coming to messy church and Christmas services. Thank you to Liz S, Fiona, Di and Irene for all your support.

Liz Eley

Diddy Disciples



Diddy Disciples

Diddy Disciples have completed another year. We have a regular team of Ruth Elston, Ann Lunn and Fiona Taylor, and also occasional helpers, Joy Pomroy and Sarah Sherrington.

We have sought to share the love of Jesus with our small group of under 5s, one regular member and 2-3 other children who join us from time to time. We aim to get to know Jesus a little better week by week, always to have fun and know that church is a happy place to be. Our regular member has grown in confidence hugely over the year and appears more confident in taking her place in church family.

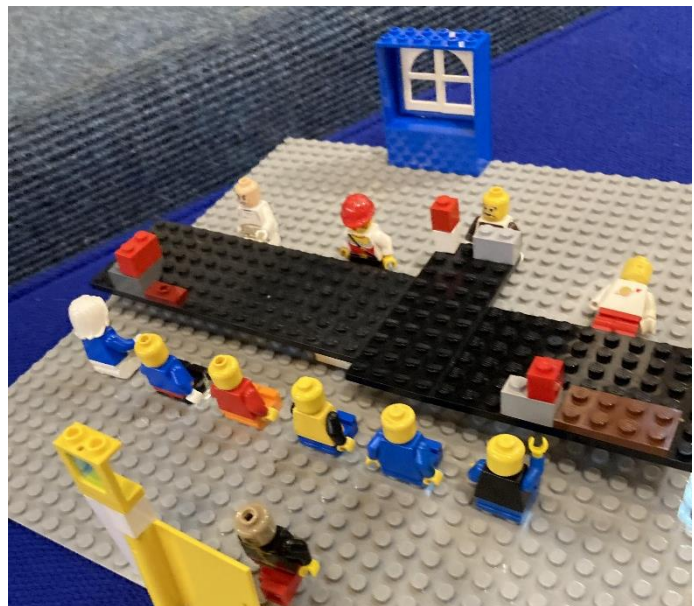
It is great to have our own meeting room within the body of the church building as this means that small children and parents never feel far from one another. We look forward to another year and want to be available to support and encourage other children as God brings them to us. We are grateful to the church family for their kindness, love and support that is extended to our members.

Ruth Elston, Ann Lunn, and Fiona Taylor

Energise and Go!

Energise (2nd and 4th Sundays) uses storytelling, drama, crafts, puzzles, questions and games to help to share a Bible story with the children and young people. We use themes like relationships, Bible characters and festivals.

Go (3rd and 5th Sundays) is Lego© themed and the children have a story, think about what it means and create their response to the story using Lego. It's a great way to enter into the story and it helps them to remember.



The children always enjoy coming back into church and sharing what they have done and the wider congregation love to see the children in church and their families.

Thank you to Richard, Rachael, Joy and Ann for being on the teams and all the work you do.

Liz Eley

ReCreate

2023 was an encouraging year for ReCreate. The group has grown, gaining members from St Peter's, other churches and some who aren't presently attending and we have now moved into the lower hall, to create space for further growth.



We continue to explore different aspects of our God given creativity each session. This might involve responding creatively to a Bible passage or Biblical theme, or exploring a particular craft activity. The sessions always open and close with prayer, with quiet worship music playing whilst we create. We were blessed by Maggie leading several sessions and hope in time to have more weeks led by group members. Using money donated by the group, we have built up a good supply of craft basics and specialised items, so everyone is able to explore something new.

A highlight for many people was our creative day in November, led by Karen Herrick from Harlequin Arts. Our Advent based theme was 'Making Space for Our Saviour'. Being on a Saturday, it meant we could be joined by people who aren't free midweek. After very positive feedback, we hope to run something similar in the future. (Due to having to expand our original plans, as a result of high demand for places, the day ran at a profit. We gave a donation to Church and are holding the rest to potentially subsidise future events.)

We look forward to seeing where God will lead us in the future.

Joy, Carole and Sal

Recreate Finances

Donations + Creative day profit	£294.35
Expenditure	£100.82
In hand	£193.53

Pastoral Visitors

Our parish team of Pastoral visitors met during the year and guidelines were shared to help support visitors when visiting particularly vulnerable people. I am particularly grateful for the many hours spent calling, emailing and visiting those who are isolated due to health or life circumstances. With particular thanks to David, Joan and Jenny.

Alicia Dring

Parish Prayers

For the first five months of the year Parish Prayers continued twice a month in the church Zoom room on the first and third Sundays 6.00-7.00pm with an extra meeting on the Tuesday of the 'Thy Kingdom Come' season of prayer in May. From June, with the introduction of the new Evening Service on the first Sunday, we have continued to meet on zoom on the remaining third Sunday.



These gatherings are for anyone and everyone who is available to meet together in the presence of God to listen and to pray for the church, our community and our city and such other things that God lays on our hearts or that are requested. The Mission Action Plan has been a particular focus for our prayers this year.

Jenny Cooper

Homegroups

Our weekly and fortnightly homegroups continue to be supportive and active communities where we can share and grow together. The studies are usually linked to the Sunday sermon series and this usually works well unless the Vicar chooses a rubbish study! As new people have joined the church it has been great to welcome them into homegroups where they can grow in confidence and relationship.

As ever I am indebted to our faithful leaders and co-ordinators who nurture and encourage their groups during the year.

Alicia Dring

Ministry in local Residential and Nursing Homes

Ann Vincent and I continued to take a service regularly at Cedar Tree Care Home on Blagreaves Lane in the past year. We aim to do one each month singing familiar hymns, having Bible readings and prayers and celebrating the festivals of the church year. We usually meet together in a dining room but when we celebrate the festivals we have a service in the spacious lounge. We have also been able to have celebrations of Holy Communion. It is a real joy to share in these times with the residents and we are grateful for all the staff who welcome us and help and enable these services to take place.

Jenny Cooper

In addition, communion has been regularly shared with residents at Brookfield's Nursing Home on Burton Road and Derby Heights on Rykneld Road. We also shared a Christmas service at the new Heatherton Care Home. This is a ministry that is both rewarding and inspiring, please speak to Alicia if you would like to be involved.

Alicia Dring

Prayer Ministry Team

“This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us – whatever we ask – we know that we have what we asked of him.” 1 John 5 v 14 & 15

It is a tremendous privilege to share your concerns and to be able to pray with you each week and with the leading and encouragement of the Holy Spirit.

The prayer team pray with each other before each service and listen to God and when we receive any pictures or words, we give them to the leader of the service who may mention these during or at the end of the service in the invitation to come for prayer.

“Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”
Isaiah 40 v 31

There are so many wonderful verses of hope and peace in the Bible that come up time and again as we pray and are so encouraging for us all. We love to hear your feedback, when you are able to, or share your testimony.



You may have noticed that we have introduced an additional member of the prayer team as a ‘Facilitator’ to stand at the opening to the prayer space. They have a lanyard around their neck displaying a yellow badge saying “Need help with prayer?” This is to enable visitors to the church find the prayer space and also, if our team of two is already busy, then the Facilitator will ask you to kindly wait while they find another two members of the prayer team to pray with you confidentially. This is a wonderful way to be able to support visitors and the church family through the trials in life whether it is a prayer need for yourself or others close to you.

We also offer prayer at the Sunday evening worship service, the first Sunday of the month, either in the pews or at the rail as required.

We enjoy meeting as a team throughout the year for breakfast, sharing together and praying together. All members of the team do Safeguarding training before they are able to minister in Church and the training is renewed every three years. While all prayer is in confidence, if a safeguarding disclosure is made, they are required by law to refer it to the Parish Safeguarding Officer and/or the clergy.

I would like to thank the following special people on the Prayer Ministry Team for their commitment to this ministry: Ruth, Bill, Maggie, Julie, Les, Phil, Irene, Heather, Joy and Robin.

Lesley Edwards

Knit and Natter

This year has found our 'knit and natter' group busy knitting hats for babies, teddies for children in need, blankets for the hospital and crocheting items including owls and other toys. We also have our own projects and enjoy sharing new ideas. Our mammoth task is still to come, by taking poppies off the chicken wire frames and attaching them to material.

At the summer fete event last year we managed to cover tables with our goodies which thanks to the generosity we made just over £200. We hope to be able to do well for charity this year as well.

We really enjoy the fellowship of each other's company and always welcome new folk.



Di Learman

Crossed Keys Cafe

Crossed Keys café opens on a Monday morning from 9:30am until approximately 12:30pm and we really enjoy serving the Church and our local community. We are also delighted to serve the members of the Singing Together group every week, who relish the break with a coffee and some cake (or bacon roll). We also have a small number of loyal regular customers as well as some passing trade. From time to time we are asked to host the members of a walking group from Mickleover which roughly doubles our customer numbers.

We have endeavoured to maintain our low prices despite the cost of many of our supplies increasing and have been able to contribute £1669.26 to Church funds for the year January to December 2023 in addition to £400 for hall hire.

We must record our thanks to all who have helped us out in the last year, especially Ann Dean for regularly supplying cakes, and Jacqueline Woodhams, Irene Hargreaves and Joan Ditch who have helped out with washing up. A special thanks to Linsey Jones who has always been available to help and who has provided us with some delicious cakes.

As part of the Church's mission outreach we have a vision to use the cafe as a meeting place where people from the local community can not only get a hot drink and nice cake at a reasonable price but also, more importantly, have access to information that can help them at their point of need. We need church members to pray for this ministry as it develops, and also to make our facilities more widely known. Why not drop in yourself on a Monday morning for a drink, a bite to eat and a chat?

Paul and Fiona Taylor

Lunch Club

After 20 years of dedicated and tireless service, Ann and Patrick “retired” from Lunch Club in the summer of 2023. They worked week in week out to prepare the hall and cook lunch for our guests and helpers. Four assistant cooks were asked if they were prepared to take over the cooking between them so that lunch club would continue, all nervously said yes!! We were able to say a huge thank you to Ann and Patrick at the afternoon tea in July and there were many tokens of appreciation from grateful guests and helpers and serenaded by ‘Elvis’ no less!!



Returning in September 2023 after the summer break, the four new teams became the main cooks assisted ably by a team of dedicated helpers. Without the team of volunteers, the weekly meal would not be possible. We have welcomed some new guests although sadly some have passed away. For a number of guests Lunch Club is the only interaction and fellowship with others over the week. The family of Les Wormsley made a generous donation in his memory which covered the cost of the Christmas lunch.

The short service before the meal is served continues on a monthly basis, led by Alicia, Emma, or David with Phil Eley providing the music. We all have different strengths and skills to bring to the team and very much as a team our focus is on serving God and offering a warm welcome to our guests.

We can accommodate a few more guests and if anyone wanted to come and join us to see ‘what happens’ you would be very welcome. Lunch Club has its place in the Mission Action Plan as part of the local community and beyond, listening ears and prayer are there for anyone. The whole team of which there are MANY are very pleased we are carrying on, learning as we go still, offering a hot meal, fellowship and a chance for all to chat and catch up.

Sarah Sherrington

Lunch Club Income and Expenditure 2023		
Income from guests	£5376	
Donation	£200	
	£5576	TOTAL income
Expenditure	£4689	
Equipment	£80	
Hall Hire	£640	
	-£5409	TOTAL expenditure
Cash 1.1.23	£724	
Cash 31.12.23	£891	
	£167	Net cash inflow for 2023

Thirsty Thursday

These monthly meetings for the men of the church at The White Swan continued in 2023, taking place every second Thursday of the month. The pub is always very welcoming and reserve us a table. We sadly said farewell to our former Honorary Secretary Les Wormsley, but raised a pint in remembrance. Numbers fluctuate but conversation, like the beer, always flows.

Steve Dring

Churches Together in Littleover and Blagreaves

The year started with a service on 22 January, during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity when church leaders from Littleover Methodist Church, Newmount Methodist Church, Littleover Baptist Church, The Haven Christian Centre and the new parish of St Peter's Littleover and Blagreaves Anglican Church signed the Littleover and Blagreaves Churches Covenant to renew the Covenant between them.

Littleover and Blagreaves Churches Covenant

What we believe in:

- The Trinitarian theology of Father, Son and Holy Spirit as shown in Scripture
- The universal church as set out in the Apostle's and Nicene Creeds
- Working together to share the Gospel in Littleover and Blagreaves.

We Covenant with God and one another to share the Gospel by:

- Shared services and public witness at major Christian festivals
- Supporting Christian work in local schools
- Providing publicity about the churches to the local community
- Publicising each other's events when appropriate
- Sharing resources for mission to build the Kingdom of God
- Ministers meeting and praying together regularly.

There have been some ministerial changes during the year including Revd Ellie Ake moving on from LBC and Revd Jason Kennedy being appointed to The Haven as Enabling Minister.

During Holy Week services were held in the churches in the evening culminating in the Good Friday morning Walk of Witness through Littleover. At Christmas there was Carol Singing outside the Co-op in Littleover and One Stop at the bottom of Blagreaves Lane and at two local pubs.

A more regular pattern was established for the ministers to meet for friendship, prayer, planning and information exchange and to encourage one another at monthly breakfast meetings in the community room at the Insomnia Café at the Littleover Co-op.

Events are published in Littleover Life and through the churches to inform and invite members and the community to participate. God is on the move.

Jenny Cooper

Deanery Synod

The February meeting was the first Deanery Synod with our new Derby City Area Dean Rev Sarah Watson and Assistant Area Dean Rev Mina Munns. A report was offered about the Living in Love and Faith debate from General Synod explaining the motion from the House of Bishops, the process of the 8.5 hour long debates and the final vote.

The mission focus for the Synod was Growing Faith and Schools, and the members visited two out of several 'talking carousels' to discuss and learn about various aspects of working in schools, such as collective worship, school chaplaincy, mental health support and prayer spaces in schools, followed by a plenary session to share what people had learned.

At the May meeting, Sarah Watson introduced Rev Aiden Watson, the Strategic Lead for Youth Ministry in the Diocese, who said that he would be sending out a survey to Deanery Synod members, to get information on schools their church was working in. This will now include secondary schools.

Matt Barnes, Director of Discipleship, Mission and Ministry, introduced the main item, a presentation on the Licensed Lay Ministry Course, which is aimed at helping people to develop their discipleship. Rev Susie Curtis explained that the course is very flexible, to fit round people's own circumstances and life-styles. There are several modules, each of which consists of 10 sessions, 7 of which are on line, and 3 of which are Study days, conducted via Zoom. Each participant has a tutor and can attend tutorials. Each module costs £25. Modules include Everyday Faith, Opening up the Bible, Pastoral care, Mission and Evangelism, and can be assessed and a certificate awarded, to lead to Licensed Lay (Reader) Ministry, or non-assessed, purely to develop a person's faith.

The September meeting was the first meeting of the new Synod. Rev Canon Julian Hollywell gave a presentation on how Synodical Government works, from PCCs, to Deanery Synods, to Diocesan Synods, to General Synod. The Area Dean spoke on Safeguarding, urging churches to put posters on their toilet doors giving details of numbers people could ring if they needed help with their mental health. Bishop Malcolm then commissioned the new Synod and we shared communion.

Ann Vincent

St Peter's School

This report will be available at the APCM

The Joyce Harpur Charity

Background: The Joyce Harpur Charity was set up in the 16th century to benefit the poor of the parish and over the centuries has shared financial support with individuals in desperate need. The applicants must live within the parochial parish boundaries of St Peter's Littleover and Blagreaves and each application is assessed in the strictest confidence on a case-by-case basis. Grants are given out just before Christmas at the discretion of the trustees.

2023 has been another busy year for the charity – especially through December as the effects of the ever-rising cost of living is sadly affecting people in our parish and beyond, although we received less applications this year than last.

The current Board of Trustees comprises of seven people plus the clerk. There are five members from St Peter's Littleover and Blagreaves: our vicar, both church wardens, one church member and our curate. Two councillors appointed by Derby City Council, Emily Lonsdale and Ruth Skelton.

The AGM is held in the spring and the annual accounts are received at this time. Once accepted, the accounts are audited, many thanks to Tiffany Hey and submitted to the Charity Commission as part of the annual return. The Trustees meeting that followed on from the AGM reviewed the previous year's application process (along with the application form) and make plans for the autumn application window. At the November meeting, the finances and grants are reviewed.

In 2023, 19 applications were received including 1 out of area and 15 grants given. 24 children received gifts from the Derby City Mission Christmas Connection, 17 adults had gifts from Derby City Council's Secret Santa and 13 families received Reversed Advent Calendar Food Hampers donated by church members. On top of this 7 people were encouraged to visit the Jubilee Debt Clinic and 13 people were encouraged to apply for Christmas Lunch on Jesus, who provide a Christmas Day Hamper and a voucher to buy meat.

A lot of people from the congregation have made a huge difference through their generosity to those struggling in our parish at Christmas, so THANK YOU.

If you would like to know anything further about the work of the Charity, please do ask.

Ellen Goodman, Clerk to Joyce Harpur

Special meeting

Parish of Littleover and Blagreaves

Sunday 1 January 2023 Minutes

Present in Church: Revd Alicia Dring, Revd Rachael Brooks, Revd Jason Kennedy, Jenifer Baines, David Barker, John Bird, Doreen Bird, Jim Britland, Andrew Brooks, Patrick Dean, Ann Dean, Jen Downing, Steve Dring, Janet Edwards, Michael Edwards, Charlie Elston, David Elston, Linda Elston, Ruth Elston, Michael Furniss, Janet Guy, Jane Hughes, Hana King, Michael King, Jane Lunn, Heather Newstead, Jon Russell, Julie Scott, Rachael Smith, Joy Stanwell, Margit Staehr, Sarah Taylor, Paul Taylor.

Apologies for Absence: Chris Jones joined the meeting via zoom rather than in person, due to holiday. Robin Wood.

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer

Rev Alicia Dring welcomed everyone and explained the voting rules. She then opened the meeting with the following prayer:

Lord God, thank you for this opportunity to gather and give thanks for all that has brought us here today. For the meetings and paperwork so carefully undertaken. We pray that as we begin as a new parish, that we will be attentive to your voice calling to serve the work of your kingdom, rather than our own ideas. Give us courage for the coming days, compassion as we say goodbye to the worshipping life of St Andrew's and joy together as we seek to share your light and love with the people of Littleover and Blagreaves. AMEN

2. Vestry meeting

This was held to elect the churchwardens for the new parish. Two roles are available and nominations have been received from **Jim Britland** and **Chris Jones**. All voted in favour, none voted against and there were no abstentions and so Jim and Chris were duly elected as churchwardens to the parish of Littleover and Blagreaves.

3. Presentation of the new Electoral Roll

Jane Hughes presented the new roll – the amalgamation of the rolls from the previous parishes of Littleover and Blagreaves.

Jane thanked everyone for checking the roll and said a special thank you to those who helped produce it.

There are 107 residents and 57 non-residents from the St Peter's Electoral Roll and 5 residents and 7 non-residents from the St Andrew's Electoral Role, making a total of 176. There were however 2 duplicate names that appeared on both registers so the actual total is 174.

Jane Hughes proposed that the Electoral Roll be accepted as a true and accurate record. This was passed unanimously and the roll was therefore officially declared as the roll for the new parish of Littleover and Blagreaves.

Alicia thanked Jane for her time and work and Jane confirmed that she is happy to continue in her role.

4. Parish meeting

Election to PCC

The election of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) members for the new parish was then undertaken. There are 12 places available and nominations have been received from the following people:

Jeni Baines

John Bird

Bernie Burton

Charlie Elston

Heather Newstead

Helene Roe

Julie Scott

Margit Staehr

Robin Wood (absent due to holiday)

Alicia confirmed that no further nominations had been submitted before the start of the meeting

All voted in favour of these proposed people to serve as our new PCC.

No one voted against and there were no abstentions.

Alicia therefore declared that Jeni, John, Bernie, Charlie, Heather, Helene, Julie, Margit and Robin are duly elected to the PCC of the parish of Littleover and Blagreaves.

Election to Deanery Synod

The election of the Deanery Synod members for the new parish was then undertaken.

There are 4 places available and 1 nomination has been received from **Ann Vincent**.

Alicia confirmed that no further nominations had been submitted before the start of the meeting.

All voted in favour for Ann to serve as a member of Deanery Synod and therefore the PCC.

No one voted against and there were no abstentions.

Alicia therefore declared that Ann is duly elected to the Deanery Synod and to PCC of the parish of Littleover and Blagreaves.

Additional member of PCC due to place on Diocesan Synod

Peter Vincent is a member of the Diocesan Synod and so is automatically on the parish PCC. A vote is therefore not required.

Safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults

Alicia thanked Margit Staehr for her time and work as parish lead for the safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults and asked if she is willing to continue in this role. Margit confirmed that she is happy to continue in her role.

Alicia therefore declared that **Margit Staehr** is the Parish Safeguarding Lead for the Parish of Littleover and Blagreaves.

5. Mission Plan

Alicia referred to the leaflet about the parish of Littleover and Blagreaves Mission Plan. She asked that everyone prayerfully read the five key Mission Objectives shown in it and consider which one we would each like to help with. She invited all to attend the service on Sunday 29 January where more will be explained and to talk to her, Rachael Brooks or John Bird if more information is required.

6. Closing prayer

Alicia closed the meeting with the following prayer:

Thank you, Lord for our new wardens, new PCC and Parish Safeguarding Lead. Thank you that our new parish is immediately compliant with appropriate staff ready to begin what you are calling us to. Thank you for all who have given up their time, energy and skills to be at this meeting and to serve the parish in this way.

Be with us Lord as we embark on a new road, one that embraces more people and increased need. May we be attentive to your voice and calling as we look ahead. May we trust in your purposes, move with the wind of your Holy Spirit and serve with your hands and heart of compassion and love. That we may share the light of Christ with the people entrusted to our care.

In Jesus' name we pray. AMEN

All members of the new and present PCC were invited to a short meeting following this Special Meeting to elect a Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and members of the Standing Committee.

Minutes of the Special Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) of the Parish of St Peter's and Blagreaves Littleover 26 April 2023

Present: Revd Alicia Dring, Jenifer Baines, John Bird, Jim Britland, Sally Britland, Andrew Brooks, Rachael Brooks, Deidre Cheetham, Paul Cheetham, Jenny Cooper, Julia Cross, Philip Cross, Patrick Dean, Ann Dean, Carole Dickinson, Les Dickinson, Margaret Ditchfield, Neville Ditchfield, Jen Downing, Steve Dring, Lesley Edwards, Charlie Elston, David Elston, Lynn Elston, Ruth Elston, Liz Eley, Phil Eley, Michael Furniss (Zoom), Ellen Goodman, Peter Goodman, Janet Guy, Penny Halfpenny, Dave Hargreaves, Irene Hargreaves, Jonathon Hemingray, Jane Hughes, Chris Jones, Jason Kennedy, Di Learman, Aubrey Learman, Sue Limberger, Heather Newstead, Helene Roe, Jon Russell, Julie Scott (Zoom), Joy Stanwell, Margit Staehr, Christine Taylor (Zoom), Ann Vincent, Peter Vincent, Rachel Whitehorn.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Sarah Sherrington, Robin Wood.

Revd Alicia Dring chaired the meeting and Jason read from Philippians 1v 3

2. **Minutes of previous St Peter's meeting (27.4.22)**

Approved with 1 abstention

3. **Minutes of previous St Andrew's meeting (9.4.22)**

Approved.

4. **Matters Arising**

None

5. **Elections to the PCC**

Alicia gave thanks to Ellen Goodman and Wendy Gretton whose terms of office have come to an end. Helene Roe has stepped down as a member of Deanery Synod and Tiffany Hey retired in July 2021.

There are 3 PCC vacancies for 3 years

3 Deanery Synod vacancies for 1 year

Nominations for PCC are:

- Lesley Edwards – Proposer: Rachel Whitehorn Second: Jenifer Baines
Lesley was unanimously elected to the PCC.

There were no nominations for Deanery Synod this year.

Alicia encouraged everyone to pray about the role of Deanery Synod membership.

Alicia thanked every member for their work on the PCC in the last year.

6. St Peter's Financial Report – Sue Limberger

This is the third and final report I am presenting to St Peter's Church Family, as Tim and I felt God was calling us to pastures new, and we are now settling into our new home in Shropshire. It has been a privilege to serve St Peters for several years and we will miss this very special church family.

The family of St Peter's has always been faithful in their giving and 2022 was no exception. The majority of giving is now by standing order. However, the electronic card reader which is available at all services has been an invaluable asset allowing any church family and visitors to the church to easily make donations.

As usual each year brings financial challenges and opportunities. At the end of 2021 it was agreed that a new audio-visual system would be purchased and this was completed in May 2022, at a cost of just over £20,000, This would have not been possible without the generous donations from the church family, which covered over $\frac{3}{4}$ of the cost, with only a relatively small short fall needing to be met by Church funds. This was a big factor in enabling us to balance our accounts with an overall net surplus.

I would like to thank everybody who has supported me, especially Jim and Alicia, and of course a big thank you to Iona who took over the banking of all cash and cheques in 2022, which enabled me to continue to support the church as treasurer whilst no longer living in Derby.

I would like to propose that the 2022 accounts be accepted and that the PCC will readdress the appointment of an auditor for the new parish.

Seconded by Jim Britland. Unanimous

Robin Wood's name was duplicated, this will be amended for the final accounts.

7. St Andrew's Financial Report – Peter Vincent

Those of you who have been used to the detailed summary of the accounts which previous Vicars requested me to give at St. Andrew's APCMs, will probably be relieved to hear that on this occasion what I have to say is far shorter!

At the time the St. Andrew's report and accounts for 2022 were printed the Independent Examiner's report was not available, but if anyone wishes to see her Report, please ask me.

Can I first express my thanks, on behalf of the St Andrew's PCC to all those who continued to make their offerings to the Church throughout the year, in spite of the fact that no regular services were being held in the building. This enabled us to meet our obligations, to make donations to Missions and Charities, and to increase our Reserves.

At the end of 2022, as well as approximately 3 months expenditure being held in the General Fund, as is recommended practice, we had a significant sum in the Building Reserve Fund, which has been built up over the years.

Whilst the money in the General Fund is being merged with that from St. Peter's to fund the new Parish's activities, the new PCC has agreed that the Building Reserve Fund should remain designated to major repairs or improvements of the St. Andrew's building. Before I close can I please make my customary remarks on Gift Aid, which are relevant to the whole Parish.

If you currently have a Gift Aid declaration in force, but as a result of a change of circumstances or tax law you cease to pay income tax, please let the Church know promptly via the Church Office, so that we can cancel the declaration.

Conversely if you do not currently make your offerings under Gift Aid, but do pay income tax, please sign a Gift Aid declaration, which will increase the value of your offerings by a quarter, at no additional cost to you.

You have the St. Andrew's report and accounts for 2022, but if there are any questions, I will endeavour to answer them.

I would like to propose that the 2022 accounts be accepted.

Seconded by Charlie Elston. Unanimous

No questions.

Alicia thanked all involved for their work, time and efforts and flowers were presented to both Sue and Peter.

8. Reviewing Reports

No questions prior to APCM.

Apologies given to Knit and Natter whose report was omitted but a flyer containing this report and other amendments was available.

9. Election Results

Not applicable – see point 5

10. Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adult Procedures

The report was published in the Annual Report.

Margit responsible for Children and Young People and Janet stepped down at the APCM in January, so there is a vacancy for the Vulnerable Adults role.

Margit thanked everyone for their attitude to safeguarding and their awareness of its importance.

Alicia thanked them both.

No questions.

11. Thank you

Alicia thanked everyone involved with activities during 2022 and contribution of reports however big or small and work done in the background, especially Janet, Sue and Peter. It was also mentioned that there would going forward be a Finance Team, including Lesley Edwards who will report to the PCC along with Paul Cheetham and Iona Hague who will be processing the paperwork and banking any monies.

12. Chair's Report and Vision – Alicia

"I can't believe we have achieved so much in the last year" – this was what someone said in response to this years' annual report. Clearly, I should go on sabbatical more often. And of course, they are right. So much has been achieved. Not least the parish merger and our new Mission Action Plan. A huge thank you to all who have been involved in making ideas become reality.

In addition to a new parish, we have added to our staff team with the arrival of Reverend Jason Kennedy as our Associate Priest. And later this year we will welcome Emma

Mallord as our new curate. Rachael did a cracking job while I was away last year and already, she is making a big difference in the parishes of St Edmund's Allestree and St Matthew's Darley Abbey – all in preparation for moving to her own parish sometime before Christmas.

Through the year we have lost some treasured friends – Margaret Stevenson, Ena Miller, Eileen Smith, Winifred Wormsley and Stacey Elliott. And only in the last couple of days we have said goodbye to Mavis Storer and Pam Phillips.

May we stand together and hold a moment of silence in tribute to those saints who have gone before us.
Thank you.

I also wish to record my thanks to our wardens Jim Britland and Chris Jones who not only do the warden duties but also lead the fabric team in keeping our buildings in order. Jim, please take care as you continue your recovery. And I'm delighted to announce that Helene Roe will be working alongside Jim in the coming year, looking to step into his shoes at the APCM as warden in 2024.

A huge thank you too to our PCC and the many teams across the church who give so much time, prayer and energy to our corporate life. Whether that's managing paperwork, planning worship and sermons, leading our children and young people's work with such care and creativity or simply helping our visitors to feel welcomed and valued. All of these things weave together to make St Peter's the church family that it is.

For the future we have plenty in the pipeline through the work of our MAP teams. There are five key mission objectives:

- Being outward facing – that will impact across all of our work
- Engaging with the local community
- Improving our provision for children, families and young people
- Addressing our communication
- And continuing our commitment to the environment.

Many of you are involved with these teams or are praying for the work they are undertaking – thank you. It takes a whole church family to do these things.

Regarding communication we have been doing some work towards communication by considering a new logo.

St Andrew's will now be known as St Andrew's Community Hub

And our church halls will be known as St Peter's Community Hub – do you know that the current sign actually says Littleover Church Hall?

Anyway, working with a graphic designer, who is also a priest we have put together a new logo which can be adapted to cover our hubs as well.

So, here's the church logo

The swoosh of colour to bring energy

The acorn leaf as the apostrophe

And the name of the parish too

And here it is for the St Andrew's hub and the St Peter's hub

The colours are not finalised yet, but you get the idea.

This will impact our signage, general publicity and website design, but it will take time to prepare and roll out so please be patient with us.

A question was asked about the oak leaf apostrophe and it was explained that it was a link to the many trees in Littleover and the new Creation Care initiative.

I believe we are in a liminal time – a time where God is on the move. Where the space between earth and heaven is thin. A time where we need to be attentive to what God is calling us to do, while at the same time being vigilant and praying for God's protection and inspiration.

Any Other Business – All members of the new and present PCC were invited to a short meeting following the APCM to elect a Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and members of the Standing Committee.

13. Date of Next APCM Meeting – 24 April 2024

14. Closing Prayer, Worship and Blessing – Rev Alicia Dring

The meeting closed at approx. 8.10pm

