



St James, Oddingley

**HADZOR with ODDINGLEY and TIBBERTON
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

(Comprising the parish churches of St James, Oddingley
and St Peter ad Vincula, Tibberton)

Annual Report and Accounts

31 December 2024



St Peter ad Vincula, Tibberton

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS – 31 DECEMBER 2024

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2024 ANNUAL REPORT and ACCOUNTS of HADZOR with ODDINGLEY and TIBBERTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL ("PCC")

The PCC is pleased to present its report for 2024.

1 Aim and purposes

Our purpose as congregations is the manifestation of our shared Christian faith. The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, Rev Richard Sandland, 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 buildings in Oddingley and Tibberton.

2 Objectives and activities

Towards achieving these aims and purposes, the PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our churches and to become part of our parish community. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. When planning our activities we bear in mind the Charity Commission's requirements re public benefit, and achieve this by:

- Services of public worship and study groups to learn about the Gospel and develop knowledge and trust in Jesus;
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;
- A programme of social events;
- Welcoming and supporting those coming to us for Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals;
- Keeping our churches always open for private solitude, prayer, relaxation and refuge;
- Co-operation with the other churches in the Bowbrook Benefice and with the wider Church;
- Giving financial and other support to carefully selected charities.

To enable the foregoing it is important that we maintain the fabric of the churches.

The church is important to people living in the area and seeks to serve the community. Details of church activities can be found in the Bowbrook News magazine, on the churches' websites, (www.oddingleychurch.org and www.tibbertonchurch.org), on church and village notice boards and are distributed by email.

Each church continues to be managed on a day-to-day basis largely by its Local Church Council ("LCC") subject to supervision by the PCC through the receipt of their minutes and a report on their activities presented to the PCC at its meetings.

3 Achievements and performance

The two highlights of the year were the installation of Rev Richard Sandland as Rector of the Bowbrook Benefice in a packed Hanbury church on 3rd March and the perceptible growing closeness of our two congregations. Richard has settled in quickly and is making his mark on our activities in a very positive way,

This is an appropriate place to say "Thank you" to all those who volunteer in a myriad of ways to make our churches vibrant and lively and beautifully kept.

Worship in the parish is planned by the incumbent and ministerial team, with consideration of the wishes of the individual church membership as appropriate. The Bowbrook Group Administrator sources ministers to lead services and distributes monthly rotas to the churches and to the Editor of the Benefice magazine, the Bowbrook News. She also produces service booklets and purchases essential supplies such as communion wine. The services in the parish have continued on a regular monthly pattern with at least one service each Sunday and shared services resulting in a welcome companionship between members of the congregations of Oddingley and Tibberton.

The year began with the Benefice in Interregnum following the departure of Rev David Morris in 2023. We contributed a representative to the process of selecting his replacement and arranging the Service of Licensing. In our parish it has for some time been difficult to recruit people willing to be on the PCC and thus share in the

responsibility for ensuring the future of our churches and it has been particularly hard to fill administrative posts. However, we have been encouraged by Richard's understanding of the situation and his optimistic and caring approach. There is further encouragement from the recent Diocesan initiatives to support small, rural churches and to open discussions on ways to reduce the time involved in administration by sharing, both to reduce the burden and to create 'space' for our primary task of mission. This is supported by the Dean for Smaller churches Alison Maddocks, and diocesan officers with expertise in specific areas.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, i.e. the duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Regular meetings of the Council were held on:

- 11th March
- 3rd June
- 22nd October

All meetings were held in the new Tibberton Village Hall. Urgent matters between meetings were addressed by email.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) was held on 30th July 2024 in Tibberton Church and was attended by a number of parishioners in addition to PCC members. The 2023 Annual Report and Accounts were presented. Dr Tobias Thornes was elected to serve another year as Lay Chairman, Mr John Gearey as Treasurer and Mrs Lynne Morton as Secretary.

Fundraising and social activity was led by Tibberton who were able to take advantage of the facilities offered by the new Village Hall. This adds an important relationship between the Church and the local community. Monthly "nights out", usually at The Bridge in Tibberton, open to all, have continued and regular "Drop-ins" take place.

4 Reports from the Local Church Councils

St Peter ad Vincula, Tibberton

The TLCC has met quarterly throughout the year, with one extra organisational meeting called in January. The nine members of the committee take it in turn to host the meetings, chair them and take the minutes. Attendance at meetings has been good.

We were delighted to welcome our new incumbent on Sunday March 3rd, with many of our congregation present at the licensing service. Richard has quickly settled into his role and he and his wife have already become valued members of our community. Since then the monthly pattern of services has gradually evolved into being an 'open service', lay led; one Holy Communion; and another monthly communion service alternating between us and Oddingley. Special services during the year have included an outdoor service for Rogation Sunday, a Harvest Festival, a Christingle Service and the service of Nine Lessons and Carols.

During the year there have been no weddings; the baptism of Harriet Alice Bott on the 26th June; funeral services and burials of Alan Groves and Teresa Aldridge; a funeral service prior to cremation for Stuart Barrett; and interment of ashes of Gordon Mardell, Keith Wallis, Sylvia Mardell, Mike Evans, and Diane Hine; there was also a service of thanksgiving for the life of Alexander Kay.

A great deal of discussion at the TLCC meetings has concerned installing a toilet, kitchen renovation, repairs to the porch and the associated costs/fund raising. Preliminary work with architects, builders and representatives from the diocese has taken place but work has not yet commenced. After cancellations due to inclement weather the Churchyard "Big Clean Up" eventually took place on 23rd June, was considered to be a success and is planned to be repeated in subsequent years. The heavy mowing continues to be done by professionals three times a year paid for by an annual donation; one parishioner mows the walkways and the Garden of Remembrance; and another does periodic work on the southern boundary hedge.

The Church's input into the village school continues to be strong; Lynn Dickens and Christina Robinson continuing with the much loved "Open the Book" on a weekly basis and Rich taking assemblies. Lynn continues to be a

Foundation Governor. The annual outdoor Rogation Service Walk took place and pupils from the school contributed to the Christingle Service and Christmas Eve Children's Service.

Social/fundraising events in 2024 included a Beetle Drive on the 1st March, a Harvest Festival Lunch on the 29th September and Carol Singing at the Village Hall on the evening of the 20th December. John Gearey reported that for us to 'balance the books' we need a quarterly major fund raising event and as we were unable to have the usual Christmas Draw this year we ended the year with a deficit of £817. It is hoped to restore the Christmas Draw in future years.

A small ageing congregation continues to shoulder the burden of the physical, financial and spiritual needs of the church, do outreach work in the community, plan and execute the rotas for sidesmen, readers, church flowers and cleaning. Our prayer is that with Richard's enthusiastic positivity we will move forward with renewed vigour and attract some younger members of the village into the Church.

St James, Oddingley

Services and Ministry

Rev Richard Sandland has settled in very well and has been ably assisted by Rev Sue Pollard, the associate priest. Bill Sumner, Authorised Lay Minister, has regularly led our monthly Evensong and services of Matins were led occasionally by Toby Thornes when he was home from his ministerial training in Oxford. Inevitably, entering Interregnum had involved a reduction in the number of services possible and it was decided that we should share some with Tibberton, rather than each of us having a service every week. This has continued throughout 2024 and the movement between the two churches has been a good experience, despite only a few from each congregation wishing to "commute" on a regular basis. Those of us who have done so feel that it has brought the Parish together in a beneficial way and enriched our worship. A huge vote of thanks is due to Helen Volak, the Benefice Administrator, who worked so hard to recruit clergy to take services and we have valued the input of a range of visiting priests, including the Archdeacons and retired ministers. We have been grateful to Des George who has continued to play the organ for us. Also many thanks go to our Churchwarden Lynne Morton for the many tasks she undertook to ensure the church stayed alive for another year.

Special services during the year were:

- 10th April – Funeral and Burial: John Talbot. Rev David Morris officiated
- 5th May – Holy Baptism: Dempsey Howard. Rev Sue Pollard officiated
- 30th June – Holy Baptism: Jorge & Connie Wilkinson. Rev Richard Sandland officiated
- 30th June – Bowbrook Group Eucharist: 10am Rev Sue Pollard & Rev Richard Sandland officiated
- 6th September – Wedding: Amy Hall and Martin Dyas. Rev Richard Sandland officiated
- 13th October – Harvest Evensong. Rev Richard Sandland officiated
- 10th November – Remembrance Matins (shared with Tibberton). Rev Richard Sandland officiated
- 22nd December – Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. Dr Tobias Thornes officiated
- 25th December – Christmas Day Holy Communion. Rev Richard Sandland officiated

Fabric and Maintenance

The issues raised in the Quinquennial Inspection in 2021 still need to be addressed but church and churchyard are in generally good order. The hedges have been cut and the churchyard mown regularly. A fallen tree on the east boundary was cleared in February. The church gate was repaired October and the church organ tuned.

Congregation, Social events and Fundraising

Sadly our numbers have continued to decrease and there are fewer of us to do the usual jobs. A small group form the Oddingley Local Church Council (OLCC) which meets to consider local church matters and make reports and recommendations to the PCC. Ride and Stride, the annual sponsored event in support of The Historic Churches Trust, took place on the 14th September and St James was open all day with refreshments on offer but the numbers participating were very few this year. One of our congregation participated and raised £202, half of which goes to the Worcestershire & Dudley Historic Churches Trust and half was returned to us. On a positive note we had good numbers attending our Carol Service and we have many regular returning visitors to the church who leave

appreciative messages in the Visitors' Book and donations in the wall safe. We have also, on occasions, been joined at services by holiday makers on the canal.

5 A word from the Rector

As I write these notes, it is very nearly a year since my appointment as Rector of the Bowbrook Benefice. How very quickly a year passes, when one feels a welcome such as that which Kath and I have received!

One naturally approaches a 'Post of First Responsibility' with a certain amount of trepidation. It seems such a slender thread of trust and prayer from both sides on which to base such a commitment; a new incumbent and the people of a Benefice, through their representatives on an interview panel, take such a lot on trust. The incumbent reads the diligently prepared Parish Profiles, and the Benefice reads the Application Form; and then, on that basis, and the experience of an interview of a *single hour*, life changes are made and very many arrangements on both parts follow on. From my point of view, this was made very smooth, and very easy, for which my thanks.

I am profoundly aware that I am still learning the ins-and-outs of the Benefice; at interview, I said that I would need to listen, watch and learn for a year. This timescale now seems an underestimate, given the richness and complexity of our Benefice, and, as that anniversary approaches, I am aware that there is still much more for me to do in this regard, and so I am extending my personal 'listening' deadline - probably indefinitely!

So, this is a record of aspects of that which I have seen and felt as I negotiate the steep learning curve that a First Incumbency, and especially one in a multi-parish benefice, represents. I apologise in advance for omissions.

Rather than produce a Report for each individual church, I have written some general thoughts. This is not to save time, although anything that can provide more time is welcome, and much of our life is reported elsewhere in the APCM literature for each church. Rather, I am keen to celebrate the communitarian character of our Benefice; we are one people, worshipping in eight churches. It is always a joy to see people being prepared to share their own witness in churches that they don't habitually go to; I regard that as a healthy sign of Christ's work in our midst, and long may it continue.

The worship rota has settled into a fixed pattern, with seasonal variations. I would love to expand it, but any expansion needs to be fair, proportionate, appropriate and 'healthy and sustainable.' One distinctiveness of such a large Benefice is that any congregation doesn't see either me or our friend Sue Pollard, and our other ministers, as often as they (and as we) might wish. A quirk in a rota, a week's holiday, or an event that might cancel a Service, such as the Worcester Marathon or the Crowle 10K, any of these interruptions might result in a congregation not seeing Sue, or me, or other of our ministers, for quite some time. This is a cause for regret, but if any congregation feels that they 'never see the vicar', please be assured that you see all of your ministers as much as anyone else in the Benefice does, and that such gaps are occasionally inevitable in a multi-parish Benefice. We do our very best to see everyone as often as possible. We like to see you too!

While I'm on the subject of ministry, I note that a recent Sunday reading is Isaiah 6: 1-8. Have a read to remind yourself of it; I would encourage anyone who might feel a calling to lead Services, and to perhaps therefore consider ALM training, to be in touch with me, or to mention it to your Wardens and Vergers. Don't be afraid - I never thought I would lead services, and look what happened; it is possible! Any expansion of the rota will naturally rely on the availability of all ministries, and so, to an extent, it's in your own hands. Is He calling you in this way?

An emerging emphasis for me has been pastoral visiting, in response to Jesus's plea to us all to recognise that "I am with you always, even to the end of the world" (Matt. 28:20). As I recall, this promise constituted just about the last thing I said at my Installation Service, with Archdeacon Mark muttering 'yes, Lord', slightly disconcertingly, alongside me, as we stood at the West Door of St Mary the Virgin, Hanbury. Mediating the possibility of Christ's love in our communities is a huge task, but no less a privilege for all that, and I have barely touched the surface yet; it is an increasing ministry, and is one where I need the help of you all, who have lived here for some time. Local knowledge, eyes and ears in the parishes, is invaluable, indeed, essential if we are to care for those we don't see very often. Please continue to be vigilant in this regard, in your own communities; loneliness is a terrible thing, and if we can help to alleviate it, that must be good. We have many people who might undertake pastoral visits, subject to the usual safeguarding and DBS checks, if undertaken on behalf of a PCC/LCC.

I'm very grateful to those who have taken the initiative in starting and maintaining our 'Bible Study and Fellowship Group.' I get to these as often as I can, and always come away enriched, as I know others do too, and I would encourage people to attend if they can. No biblical knowledge, and certainly no 'competence in Theology', is necessary. We just talk about God, and listen for how he speaks to us; and it is another instance where we can share ideas across the whole Benefice.

A particular joy has been getting to know people in our schools – those at Tibberton, Himbleton, Crowle, Hanbury, and at Crowle Pre-School. Although a fairly large proportion of families live away from the benefice, and so are only able to attend our churches on school & church special occasions (Harvest, Easter, Christmas, etc) we must regard our schools as mustard-seed places where a lifelong faith is nurtured; our grace is all the more potent if we don't ourselves, necessarily, see that nurture translate into regular numbers in our churches, but we can give thanks for this opportunity to give young people a glimpse of the glories of a life of faith. My thanks to Alex and Rhiannon at Tibberton, Kirsty and Sarah at Himbleton, Martina at Crowle, Aaron at Hanbury and Victoria at Crowle Pre-school for making me so welcome, and to the members of our church communities who are called by God to visit and support our schools; this is vital, missional, heart-warming work. Speaking for myself, as one who used to wake in a cold sweat if I knew I had an assembly to take that morning, the kindness shown has translated this into a lukewarm sweat instead. Progress indeed!

It has been a tumultuous year, a terrible year, for the Church of England, and I'm sure I'm not the only one who has tuned into the evening news hoping against hope that there isn't an item about our Church. Quite often it has felt like our church has been running on two levels; the vitality and joy that we all saw at our Christmas Services, the pleasure and rooted-ness that people seemed to feel in attending those Services, and Services throughout the year, seems to be light years away from the troubles that we hear about in our senior leadership. In the face of such horror stories, all we can do as Christ's people is to return to prayer; we pray for the victims, and as people of forgiveness, we must also, willingly, pray for the perpetrators. We may say different prayers for each, but pray we must. And then we must go out and show people what it is to be people of Christ - that is, to welcome the stranger into our churches in safety, in Christ's name; to offer hospitality, to support, especially when that support entails knowing when we must signpost people to statutory help. All of this is made much, much easier if we embrace the principles, rooted in Christ's teaching as they are, of Safeguarding, and yes, the Diocesan processes in Safeguarding too. I truly believe that the offer of a safe place for vulnerable people is to be just about as Christlike as a community can be. So please embrace this so-essential ministry of safeguarding and offer it as worship, in His name and by His grace. The word 'safeguarding' itself needs a makeover, I think – how about calling what we do 'Christian Care' instead? Might that change how we sometimes view this ministry?

Coming, as I do, from a musical background, one of the many joys of this year has been to see the variety of musicians that grace our churches. My thanks go to Keith, Des, Ann, Myra, Kath, Bill, Darren, Toby and Alan for their ministry to us all in our music. Thanks too to people who provide digital music, which is to my mind quite the most challenging job in a church, especially in areas where Wi-Fi reception is potentially poor. We have also welcomed visitors, such as the Ballard singers, the Crowle singers and others into our churches; St Cecilia would be proud of us all. Music quite often takes us all to places that words can't; and although I have looked in vain for an explicit reference to music by Christ Jesus, well, I can't help thinking that he would have loved it here too, being saturated with the music of the psalms as he was.

It seems too soon, after just one year, to be thinking about the future, especially as the present is such a joy. But look we must. Many of us have read or been aware of Alison Maddocks's excellent document regarding the model of 'Diocesan Joint Councils'. This is an initiative by our Diocese (echoed in others too) which is concerned with the long-term flourishing of all of our churches; simply put, it seeks to ensure that, with the (country-wide) lessening of numbers of Church Officers (Wardens, Vergers, PCC members and Secretaries, etc), our small churches, by that scheme, can continue to exist and flourish.

We have recently shared fruitful discussions on the Constitution of our own well-established Bowbrook Group Council, which continues to oversee various aspects of our life together. The 'Diocesan Joint' model is rather different to our 'Bowbrook Group' model, as each has different aims and objectives. I shall continue to explore with the Diocese, and with our congregations, whether the 'Diocesan Joint' model is better for us all, long-term. As things stand now, I don't know if that model would be best, or if it wouldn't; but rest assured that we shall have conversations, in which all voices will be welcome, as we try to discern what God is showing us in these areas. It is important to remember that the Diocese is our friend in all of this; without the Parishes, there would be no Diocese, after all – if we flourish, they flourish.

I would like to express my thanks to wardens, vergers, lay and ordained and visiting minsters, church officers, treasurers, flower arrangers, refreshment providers, fundraisers and the many 'un-titled' people who undertake a myriad of jobs and roles in our churches; 1 Corinthians 12 says this;

¹² There is one body, but it has many parts. But all its many parts make up one body. It is the same with Christ. ¹³ We were all baptized by one Holy Spirit. And so we are formed into one body. It didn't matter whether we were Jews or Gentiles, slaves or free people. We were all given the same Spirit to drink. ¹⁴ So the body is not made up of just one part. It has many parts...the parts of the body will not take sides. All of them will take care of one another. ²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it. If one part is honoured, every part shares in its joy.'

We have scriptural warrant for our common discipleship as people of the Bowbrook Benefice, as Christ's church in this place, and I thank you all for all that you have given this year.

In Christ's name.

Rev Richard Sandland

6 Electoral roll and usual Sunday attendance

The number on the electoral roll reported to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 30th July 2024 was 55, unchanged from 2023.

		2024	2023	2022
Oddingley	Average attendance per Sunday	14	11	11
Tibberton	Average attendance per Sunday	16	13	14

7 Finance

The PCC would like to express its sincere thanks to the members of both congregations for their continuing support for the maintenance, upkeep and witness of our churches through their giving. As you are aware, the only reason we can pay our bills is through our own efforts, and voluntary income meets about 50% of those costs, so this support is vital; we receive no subsidies or grants from the government or local authority to help us continue representing God's presence in our villages. So, a very big 'Thank you'.

2024 was a mirror image of 2023 with the exception that the earlier year had seen £29,000 (net of grants) spent on major repairs at Tibberton.

Income for the General fund increased by £2,400 over 2023 to £34,079. This increase was made up of a legacy of £500, fund raising £400, investment income £700 and Bowbrook News and wedding and funeral fees £900, but a small drop in voluntary income of £100.

Expenditure was £900 less than in 2023. This can all be attributed to a reduction in Ministry Share as the formula adopted within the Bowbrook Group, to align Ministry Share proportionately with a parish's income, adjusts the contributions of each parish. The variance from 2023 of no other heading of expenditure exceeded £500.

Our long-term investments appreciated by £11,000, so the end result was that our general funds ended with a deficit of £6,794 (2023 - £22,992) whilst our restricted funds had a surplus of £1,158 (2023 - £11,686 deficit) and the endowment funds a surplus of £21,324 (2023 - £50,590).

At the year end, our total funds carried forward into 2025 were:

	2024	2023	2022
	£	£	£
General Funds (unrestricted)	122,560	129,354	152,346
Restricted Funds	4,656	3,498	15,184
Endowment Funds	517,622	496,298	445,708
Total funds	£644,838	£629,150	£613,238

It would be nice to be able to say that because our total funds are rising, then financially all is well. What this overlooks is that the majority of our funds are endowment funds. This means we cannot spend these funds themselves, but only income which they generate by way of interest and dividends. The consequence is that in considering our ability to pay our bills and grow our mission we can only use our general and restricted funds, and these are steadily reducing; by small amounts in a year when there are no major repairs or other unexpected costs, by a large amount in those years we do have such expenditure. This is not sustainable long-term or even medium-term. It also means that any major expenditure requires seeking grants to help to defray the cost.

The annual report last year said that if average attendances rose to 12 to 15 in both churches we would pay our way. The attendance numbers above show that that has been achieved. However, the increase is not from new members but a factor of our congregations being willing to travel when there is no service in their 'home' church. The numbers have increased, but from a redistribution of the same number of people. What can we do to arrest this drain on our funds? As a start we can invite those reading this report to prayerfully ask themselves (i) do I regard my giving to the church as a membership fee or is it a grateful 'Thank you' to God for His gifts to me? (ii) does my giving recognise that the costs of maintaining our churches and witness continue even when I'm not worshipping in church, and (iii) when did I last review my giving?

8 Reserves

The PCC considers it prudent to have reserves equivalent to six months' expenditure plus the estimated amount required to carry out the maintenance advised in the Quinquennial Inspection Reports (QI) and a margin of £5,000. i.e. £50,000. Our free reserves amounted to £122,560, so, for the time being we have adequate reserves.

9 Members of the Parochial Church Council ("PCC") from 1 January 2024 to the date of this report

Rector	Reverend Richard Sandland (from 3 rd March 2024)				
Churchwarden	Mrs Lynne Morton	O	Secretary	SC	
ALM Worship Leader	Mr Richard Barrett	T			
Elected members	Mrs Frances Campbell	T			2023-2026
	Mrs Lynn Dickens	T	School Liaison	SC	2024-2027
	Mr John Gearey	O	Treasurer	SC	2023-2026
	Professor John Thornes	O	Deanery Synod representative		2023-2026
	Dr Tobias Thornes	O	Lay Chairman		2022-2025
	Mrs Linda Warren	T			2024-2027
	Miss Janet Thomlinson (from 30.07.24)	T	Tibberton Local Treasurer	SC	2024-2027
Representatives to Bowbrook Group Council	Mrs Frances Campbell Mrs Lynne Morton Mr John Gearey				

Key:- O-Oddingley, T-Tibberton, SC-member of the Standing Committee

10 Other Officers, Advisers etc.

Electoral roll officer Mrs Elizabeth Cornelissen

Bankers Lloyds Bank plc
P O Box 1000
BX1 1LT

Independent examiner

David Heywood, B.Sc, ACA
Medlar Cottage, Eastbury Manor Court
Lower Broadheath
Worcestershire WR2 6PB

Architect

Alan A Simcox Dip Arch (Leics), AABC
Nick Joyce Architects LLP
5 Barbourne Road
Worcester WR1 1RS

11 Constitutional Matters.

The parish is in the Pershore & Evesham Deanery in the Diocese of Worcester, and together with five other parishes constitutes the Bowbrook Benefice. There are two churches, St James, Church Lane, Oddingley, Droitwich Spa, WR9 7NE and St Peter ad Vincula, Church Lane, Tibberton, Droitwich Spa, WR9 7NW. The PCC is a corporate body established by The Church of England. It operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and is a charity, but is currently excepted from registration with the Charity Commission because its annual income is less than £100,000. The method of appointment of PCC members from the electoral roll of the parish, is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All those who attend our services are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll so that they can vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting or special meetings.

Members of the PCC are management trustees as defined by the Charities Act. This Act and associated legislation requires the PCC to prepare accounts to 31 December each year which give a true and fair view of the financial position at the end of the financial year and of the financial activities for the year.

The PCC as a legal minimum is responsible for:

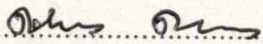
- The financial management of the parish;
- The care and maintenance of the churches' fabric and churchyards; and
- The appointment of trustees to any separate trusts connected with the parish.

12 Conclusion

We are thankful to end 2024 in a better place than in January and pray for the continued provision of the people and resources needed to maintain and grow the work of the Church in this parish for the years to come. Looking forward, we believe that the welcome closeness of our two congregations, each contributing from our respective strengths, will continue to grow and enrich our worship and other joint enterprises. Under God's guidance this may prove to be a blueprint for closer working arrangements in the wider Benefice and help us to fulfil our missional aims.

We pray that we can remain steadfast in our conviction that God is with us in all the twists and turns of life and maintain our faith in Him to guide us through the coming year.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council
and signed on its behalf


.....

(Dr Tobias Thornes)

1 April 2025

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Hadzor with Oddingley and Tibberton Parochial Church Council (PCC)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Hadzor with Oddingley and Tibberton Parochial Church Council (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2024 set out on pages 10 to 19.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

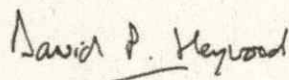
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



David P Heywood, B.Sc ACA

1 April 2025

Medlar Cottage, Eastbury Manor Court
Lower Broadheath
Worcestershire
WR2 6PB

HADZOR with ODDINGLEY and TIBBERTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - Year ended 31 December 2024


Income	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	
		£	£	£	2024 £	2023 £
Voluntary income	2	21,505	300		21,805	27,346
Fund raising events	3	2,171	128		2,299	1,774
Income from investments	4	5,221	4,258	10,424	19,903	18,790
Income from church activities	5	5,182			5,182	4,319
Total income		34,079	4,686	10,424	49,189	52,229
Expenditure						
Cost of church activities	6	(40,829)	(3,702)		(44,531)	(78,325)
Net (expenditure) income before transfers		74,908	8,388	10,424	93,720	130,554
Transfers between funds		(174)	174		0	0
Net (expenditure) income before investment gains		74,734	8,562	10,424	93,720	130,554
Gains on revaluation of investments	7	130		10,900	11,030	42,008
Net movement in funds		74,864	8,562	21,324	104,750	172,562
Fund balances brought forward from previous year		129,354	3,498	496,298	629,150	613,238
Fund balances carried forward to next year		£204,218	£12,060	£517,622	£733,900	£785,800

HADZOR with ODDINGLEY and TIBBERTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET - 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds	
					2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets						
Investments	7	5,305	170	486,375	491,850	480,820
Current assets						
Income tax recoverable		1,605			1,605	3,499
Debtors and prepayments		344			344	405
Bank, cash and CBF deposit balances		118,969	4,486	31,247	154,702	148,393
		120,918	4,486	31,247	156,651	152,297
Liabilities: amounts falling due within one year						
Accruals for utilities and other costs		(967)			(967)	(915)
Charitable giving provision		(1,667)			(1,667)	(2,125)
Other amounts owing		(1,029)			(1,029)	(927)
		(3,663)			(3,663)	(3,967)
Net current assets		117,255	4,486	31,247	152,988	148,330
Total net assets		£122,560	£4,656	£517,622	£644,838	£629,150
Funds						
Unrestricted	8	122,560			122,560	129,354
Restricted	9		12,060		12,060	3,498
Endowment	10			517,622	517,622	496,298
		£122,560	£12,060	£517,622	£652,242	£629,150

The financial statements were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 1 April 2025

 Chairman
(Dr Tobias Thornes)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 December 2024

1 Accounting policies*(a) Basis of preparation*

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, as well as with applicable accounting standards and with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), using, with the exception of investments (which are included at market value), the historical cost convention and the accruals basis; that is, with the exception noted in (b) below, income and expenditure is brought into account in the period to which it relates, which is not necessarily the same period in which it is received or paid.

In order to give a complete picture of the affairs of the parish, these accounts include the transactions, assets and liabilities representing our shares of Bowbrook Group and Bowbrook News.

(b) Income

With the exception of gift aid tax recoverable, which is accrued, income is only brought into account when it is received and recorded or legal title exists. For fund raising events the proceeds are accounted for gross with any associated costs (if material) being shown separately.

(c) Missionary and charitable giving

Donations are made to other charities of a percentage of the gross income of the General fund and they are accounted for at the earlier of the time of payment or when awarded.

*(d) Tangible fixed assets**Consecrated property and movable church furnishings*

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by sections 10 (2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for their disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the respective church's Inventory which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For inalienable property acquired prior to 1 January 2000, there is insufficient cost information available and therefore, such assets are not valued in the accounts. Items acquired since 1 January 2000 and costing more than £1,000 are capitalised.

Other land and buildings, fixtures, fittings and equipment

If the cost of an individual item is less than £500 its cost is written off at the time of purchase.

Depreciation is provided so as to write the cost of fixed assets down to their estimated residual value in equal annual instalments at the following rates:

Computers	33 1/3%
Other assets	20%

(e) Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The SOFA includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 December 2024

(f) Fund accounting

Unrestricted general funds

The Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects of the PCC at the discretion of the PCC. In practice, these are the funds we use for day to day expenditure. In addition, funds designated by the PCC for a particular purpose are also unrestricted.

Designated funds

These comprise income which the PCC has resolved should be transferred from the Unrestricted fund together with interest on the investments in which these funds are invested. In particular, allocations are made to the Fabric funds from time to time to provide for the cost of the major repairs revealed by Quinquennial Inspections and to enable enhancements to or replacement of consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings.

Restricted funds

These funds, which arise from grants or donations made for a specific purpose, can only be used for that particular purpose within the objects of the PCC. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or grantor or where funds are raised for a particular publicised purpose.

Where monies are received towards expenditure on tangible fixed assets then the depreciation applicable to that proportion of the expenditure financed by the restricted fund is charged against that fund.

Endowment funds

These comprise:

(i) the following funds the capital of which cannot be spent:

(a) the Fabric Endowment funds which were created by the dissolution of The Tibberton and Oddingley Church Buildings Trust and the distribution of its assets;

(b) the Oddingley Churchyard Endowment Fund, created by a donation of £40,000 with the stipulation that the income from which is to pay for the upkeep of Oddingley churchyard; and

(ii) the ex-Hall proceeds which can be spent for the ecclesiastical purposes of the parish.

HADZOR with ODDINGLEY and TIBBERTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds 2024 £	2023 £
2 Voluntary income					
Gift aided	13,205			13,205	13,991
Income tax recoverable thereon	3,405			3,405	3,552
Collections (open plate) at all services	2,375			2,375	2,530
Donations	2,020	300		2,320	1,523
Grants					
Lasletts Charity	0			0	2,000
Benefact Trust	0			0	1,750
Legacy	500			500	2,000
	£21,505	£300		£21,805	£27,346
3 Fund raising events					
Beetle Drive	600			600	0
Carol singing	78	78		156	54
Children's carol service	0			0	69
Christingle service	0	50		50	0
Christmas raffle	40			40	763
Coffee mornings	500			500	590
Harvest lunch	815			815	0
Lent lunch	0			0	218
Ride and Stride	103			103	80
Summer Fayre	35			35	0
	£2,171	£128		£2,299	£1,774
4 Income from investments					
CBF Investment Fund dividends	174	4,073	9,131	13,378	12,055
Bank and CBF Deposit interest	5,047	185	1,293	6,525	6,735
	£5,221	£4,258	£10,424	£19,903	£18,790
5 Income from church activities					
Bowbrook News sales and advertising	2,178			2,178	1,962
Wedding and funeral fees	3,004			3,004	2,357
	£5,182			£5,182	£4,319

HADZOR with ODDINGLEY and TIBBERTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 December 2024

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds	
					2024 £	2023 £
6 Cost of church activities						
Missionary and charitable giving						
Acorn's Children's Hospice		250			250	0
Children's Society			128		128	0
DEC Earthquake Appeal			218		218	0
Droitwich Food Bank		350	25		375	0
Farmers' Overseas Action Group		250			250	0
Friends of Mengo Hospital (Uganda)		250			250	0
Maggs Day Centre		350	132		482	0
RAF Benevolent Fund			120		120	0
Royal British Legion		250	60		310	0
St Richard's Hospice		250			250	0
Ukraine Appeal			95		95	0
Increase (decrease) in Charitable giving provision		(390)			(390)	1,385
		1,560	778		2,338	1,385
Ministry						
Ministry share (note 11)		24,415			24,415	25,331
Clergy expenses		619			619	547
		25,034			25,034	25,878
Running costs						
Heat, light and water		2,867			2,867	2,560
Insurance		2,736			2,736	2,666
Group office		567			567	864
		6,170			6,170	6,090
Repairs, replacements & maintenance						
Buildings		72	210		282	33,280
Furnishings and equipment		0	198		198	394
Churchyard		0	2,516		2,516	3,096
		72	2,924		2,996	36,770
Carried forward		32,836	3,702		36,538	70,123

HADZOR with ODDINGLEY and TIBBERTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds	
				2024 £	2023 £
6 Cost of church activities - continued					
<i>Brought forward</i>	32,836	3,702		36,538	70,123
<i>Services</i>					
<i>Organists</i>	1,285			1,285	1,751
<i>Supplies</i>	226			226	0
	1,511			1,511	1,751
<i>Administration</i>					
<i>Printing, postage and stationery</i>	2,253			2,253	0
<i>Bowbrook News - editor's and treasurer's honoraria</i>	235			235	0
<i>Group administrator</i>	3,311			3,311	6,451
<i>Sundries</i>	683			683	0
	6,482			6,482	6,451
<i>Total cost of church activities</i>	£40,829	£3,702		£44,531	£78,325

HADZOR with ODDINGLEY and TIBBERTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 December 2024

7 Investments

CBF Church of England Investment Fund

Market value at 1 January 2024

Gains (losses) on revaluation

Market value at 31 December 2024

Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds 2024 £
5,175	170	475,475	480,820
130		10,900	11,030
£5,305	£170	£486,375	£491,850

The investments originally cost £309,200 (2023 - £309,200)

8 Summary of fund movements - Unrestricted

	Oddingley General £	General £	Tibberton ----- Designated ----- Fabric Toilet £ £	
Balances at 1 January 2024	99,437	9,629	11,718	4,185
Income	15,619	15,389	607	219
Expenditure	(19,685)	(13,551)	(72)	
Investment gains	115		15	
Transfers between funds	(2,719)	(2,593)		
Balances at 31 December 2024	£92,767	£8,874	£12,268	£4,404

	Bowbrook Group Designated £	Total £
Balances at 1 January 2024	4,385	129,354
Income	2,245	34,079
Expenditure	(7,521)	(40,829)
Investment gains		130
Transfers between funds	5,138	(174)
Balances at 31 December 2024	£4,247	£122,560

HADZOR with ODDINGLEY and TIBBERTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 December 2024

9 Summary of fund movements - Restricted

	Oddingley Fabric £	Tibberton Fabric £	Oddingley Churchyard £	Tibberton Churchyard £
Balances at 1 January 2024	1,330		1,138	
Income	830	1,112	2,289	301
Expenditure	(408)		(2,266)	(250)
Transfers between funds				174
Balances at 31 December 2024	£1,752	£1,112	£1,161	£225

	Oddingley Special collections £	Tibberton Special collections £	Tibberton Toilet £	Total £
Balances at 1 January 2024	202	439	389	3,498
Income	3	134	17	4,686
Expenditure	(205)	(573)		(3,702)
Transfers between funds				174
Balances at 31 December 2024	£0	£0	£406	£4,656

10 Summary of fund movements - Endowment

	Oddingley Fabric £	Tibberton Fabric £	Oddingley Ex-Hall £	Oddingley Churchyard £	Total £
Balances at 1 January 2024	26,875	39,300	349,748	80,375	496,298
Income			10,424	1,840	12,264
Investment gains	625	900	7,535		9,060
Balances at 31 December 2024	£27,500	£40,200	£367,707	£82,215	£517,622

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 December 2024

11 Ministry Share

This was paid in full in both 2024 and 2023.

12 Insured value

At 31 December 2024 the church buildings and their contents were insured for:

Oddingley £3,330,000

Tibberton £3,330,000