

Annual Review for the St J's Group 2024



Rector's Report

In the last twelve months, since our last APCM in April 2023, we have witnessed the coronation of King Charles III (May 6 2023), India becoming the fourth country to land a spacecraft on the moon, the warmest global summer since record keeping began, flooding in Libya, the loss of the submersible Titan, Spain's women's team clinching the first Women's World Cup and renewed conflict in Gaza.

In the benefice we have celebrated 130 years of continuous worship at St John's Peasedown on Sunday June 25th 2023. We have witnessed the continuing growth of the All Age Worship service at Wellow, Little Ones and Fun Times in Peasedown as well as the successful launch of Bubble Church on Sunday December 3rd 2023 at St John's Peasedown. We welcomed Caroline McKinnell, a student from Sarum College, who was on placement with us for eight weeks and we also said farewell to Jo and Jerry Curd, to the Webb family and to Shaula Reilly our curate, as well as Ed Pope who sadly died in January 2024. We continue to delight in hearing the testimony from many about how God has moved and changed their lives in the last twelve months for the better.

Our teaching programme for 2023 focussed on 'One Body: many parts' - Paul reminded us: *The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ ... Now the body is not made up of one part but of many ... Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.* (1 Corinthians 12:12,14,27) It has been a continued pleasure, in the last twelve months, to journey alongside the four church families of the St J's Group. Without question God has gifted each and every one of us uniquely. We have different personalities, skills and experiences. We also have different capacities, vulnerabilities and circumstances. As every part of the benefice body has played their part in the last twelve months, it has been a delight to witness the whole benefice continuing to mature in Christ.

Matthew Street – Rector



St J's Group Deanery Synod Report

Jane Street – MSN Deanery Synod Secretary

Deanery Synod and the Deanery MPG (leadership team) have continued to meet regularly. Matthew Street is still Area Dean having been appointed for a further six year term. The post of Lay Dean is currently vacant but with confirmation of Matthew's reappointment, a new Lay Dean can be appointed and vacancies on the DMPG filled. The MSN Deanery 5-year plan continues to be under discussion.

There have been no major changes around the MSN Deanery apart from the arrival of Nathanael Worsley as curate in the Waterside Benefice. As well as Shaula, other curates from the deanery will be moving on by the end of June apart from Philip Hopper who is staying at St John's Midsomer Norton as a self supporting minister.

The 2023 Annual Deanery Service took place on Sunday 30th July in St John's Midsomer Norton, lead by Ian Rousell and was an opportunity to hear from members of each benefice what God has been doing.

The 2024 Deanery Service will take place on Sunday 28th July.

A pulpit swap took place on 10th September with churches having the opportunity to experience something different as we seek to strengthen our bond as one church with many parts. This will not be repeated in 2024.

There is now a regular monthly newsletter sent to all Deanery Synod members and a link to this is in the StJ's Group E-news to share news around the deanery.

A new synod was elected in 2023, running until 2026 and the members elected from this benefice are:

St J's Group PCC

Jo Vening and Jane Street

Wellow PCC

Pat Caudle

Namings, Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

In 2023 we once again had the privilege of coming alongside many individuals and families at significant moments in their life. Specifically, across the St Js Group with Wellow we have taken:

- 12 dedications for the birth of a child
- 7 weddings
- 1 renewal of marriage vows
- 10 Funerals

St J's Group

Income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £s	Total 2022 £s
Church Hall Hire	2733	0	2733	1834
Events Income	1973	0	1973	1231
Fee Income	4301	0	4301	4725
Hardship Giving	0	0	0	1891
Individual Giving (including Gift Aid)	115932	0	115932	103669
Investment Income	14842	0	14842	13914
Ministries Income	3465	0	3465	14041
Organisational Giving (Non gift Aid)	465	0	465	2450
Re-charged Expenditure	8495	0	8495	4645
Other Cash Income	337	0	337	171
Friends of Foxcote Income	0	2847	2847	4842
Food Bank Income	0	33621	33621	25374
Movement Income	0	14481	14481	14921
The Hive Income	0	135447	135447	80312
Total Income	152543	186396	338939	274020

Expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £s	Total 2022 £s
27 Laxton Way Costs	155	0	155	178
Church and Hall Costs	17623	0	17623	17929
Events Costs	1299	0	1299	1567
Hardship Payments	0	0	0	1234
Marriage, Funeral and Christening Costs	1491	0	1491	1461
Ministry Activity Costs	35306	0	35306	46182
Parish Share	38680	0	38680	37574
PSJ Open Access Youth Work	2000	0	2000	2000
Sunday Service Costs	1352	0	1352	1068
Tithe Out	9186	0	9186	9312
Vicars Expenses	2412	0	2412	1871
Verger, Priest and Organist Costs	595	0	595	380
Other Costs	308	0	308	251
Support Costs	40632	0	40632	36320
Friends of Foxcote Costs	0	2230	2230	2333
Food Bank Costs	0	18623	18623	14310
Movement Costs	0	20809	20809	23977
The Hive Costs	0	113054	113054	86524
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	151039	154716	305755	284471
NET INCOME	1504	31680	33184	-10451

St J's Group Reports...

From the Churchwardens

Richard Downing and Nigel Vening – Churchwardens

It's been an action packed year since the last APCM. Please take a moment to read some of the things that have been going on in the last 12 months.

All four Benefice Church Wardens attended a Church Wardens day at Flourish House in Wells towards the end of 2023. It was good to hear from other Benefices around the area and compare notes. We all came away feeling very blessed.

As with other years, Rob Bubyer and his team put on seven excellent Fun Times mornings this year and both were a great success. Thank you Rob and team.

It was great to welcome Bishop Michael to Peasedown not once but twice this year.

We have finished 'The Body' sermon series and are now well into the fabulous new 'Your Mission' sermon series Matthew has put together. Thank you Matthew.

The Remembrance Service went very well with a completely full church. Thank you to all who helped make it run so smoothly.

The Christmas programme was equally well attended with highlights being the Christingle service, Carols at the Red Post, Sing the Christmas Story and a wonderful concert by the Mendip Male Voice Choir.

For those not attending the 10.30, starting in January and continuing on the 1st Sunday of the month, Bubble Church is on from 9-9.45, but families are having so much fun they are still around at 10.15!

Bishop Michael attended one of these and was very impressed.

We are very excited to welcome The Learning Tree Day Nursery starting up in the Church Hall after Easter. It will be very exciting to see and hear them enjoying this wonderful new space.

It was sad to say goodbye to Shaula at the beginning of this year as she has moved to her new Parish in Norfolk. We wish her well in all she does for her new Church.

And lastly, many thanks to Matthew and Jane for all that they do for us, mostly unseen.

Secretary report

Jo Vening – PCC Secretary

- **There have been three PCC meetings during 2023. The main topics of discussion were:**
- **Transfer to a hard federation of Foxcote with Shoscombe and Peasedown St John, which happened after the APCM.**
- **Finances including approval of the budget for 2024 and reviewing of gas and electricity prices.**
- **The Hive – 2024 budget, update on the lease and the move of the Post Office from the building**
- **The launch of Bubble Church**
- **Safeguarding**

Parish of Peasedown St. John with Foxcote & Shoscombe

Rob Bubyer – Electoral Roll Officer

There are 83 names on the Electoral Roll.

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Council meeting

St John's Church, Sunday 26 March 2023 during the 10.30am service

1. **Members of the PCC present were:**
Matthew Street (Chair), Joy Fraser,
Nigel Vening, Jo Vening, Heather
Morgan, Sally Cummings, Bob Goode,
Margaret Coles, Ben Attenborough and
Jane Street.

2. **Minutes of last year's meeting**
The minutes of last year's meeting were
agreed and signed.

3. **The Finance Report & Approval of
Accounts including Questions**
Matthew thanked Sally Cummings
for her work as Treasurer and Claire
Carr for all her work as Bookkeeper.
He also thanked Dick Beath for his
work as Auditor. The accounts have
been presented to the PCC and were
approved at their meeting on Thursday,
23 February 2023. There were no
questions.

Richard Downing proposed that we
accept the accounts and this was
seconded by Jean Burgin. They were
approved unanimously.

4. **Questions about other Reports**
A booklet has been produced which
contains all the reports for StJ's Group
and on the front cover are photos of
some of the events and activities of
2022. Rob Doble has put it all together
and thanks were expressed to him.
There were no questions on the reports.

5. **Elections for Five Representatives to
the PCC**

For a 3 Year Term serving until 2025:

We have a PCC of nine members five
of whom are remaining: Mary Warren,
Sally Cummings, Heather Morgan,
Bob Goode and Margaret Coles. The
remaining four are due for re-election
having served their three year term:
Catherine Aherne, Ben Attenborough,
Sarah Bubyer and Ed Pope. Matthew
thanked all the PCC members for all
that they have done over the last year.

We have therefore four spaces to fill:

Ben Attenborough is standing:
Proposed by Jane Newland and
Seconded by Peter Morgan

Sarah Bubyer is standing:
Proposed by Helen Attenborough and
Seconded by Alona Zubko

Joy Fraser is standing:
Proposed by Nigel Vening and Seconded
by Jeff Cottle. Joy was an ex-officio
member of PCC as Church Warden,
hence is standing as a PCC member.

Claire Mitchell is standing:
Proposed by Sally Cummings and
Seconded by Jane Street

Ben, Sarah, Joy and Claire are duly
elected to the PCC for a three year term
until 2026.

Minutes of the vestry meeting

**St John's Church, Sunday 26 March 2023
during the 10.30am service**

6. Election for Two representatives for Deanery Synod

Matthew explained that the Church of England works on Synodical Government – at the bottom is PCC, then Deanery Synod, Diocesan Synod and General Synod at the top. Also, he explained that a new Deanery Synod is elected every three years and thanked Jane Street and Jo Vening for serving Peasedown St John over the last three years as Deanery Synod representatives.

Jane Street is standing:

proposed by Heather Morgan and seconded by Jean Burgin

Jo Vening is standing:

proposed by Claire Mitchell and seconded by Kate Mayo

Jane and Jo are duly elected.

7. Date of Next Meeting

Sunday, 17 March 2024
(5th Sunday of Lent)

1. Appointment of the Clerk to the Meeting

Jo Vening was appointed as Clerk to the Vestry Meeting and the APCM

2. Minutes of last year's meeting

The minutes of last year's meeting were agreed and signed.

3. Nominations and elections of Parish Wardens for 2023/24

Matthew expressed his thanks to Joy Fraser, who has completed her second six year in office and Nigel Vening, who has completed his third year, for their hard work over the past year. It is not an easy job as they are Matthew's critical friends and are responsible to the bishop. They do a lot of work behind the scenes.

Nigel Vening is nominated by Joy Fraser and seconded by Denise Burrows.

Richard Downing has been nominated by Nigel Vening and seconded by Claire Mitchell.

Nigel and Richard were elected unanimously as Church Wardens.

4. Date of Next Meeting

Sunday 17 March 2024.

Income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £s	Total 2022 £s
Regular giving received from individuals: Standing orders plus CAF	10553	0	10553	9290
Giving received from collections	2452	0	2452	3734
Sum up Donations	1823		1823	0
Special collections	210	0	210	775
Giving received from the wallbox in the church and sundry income	973	0	973	1040
Other income (Conygre)	25	0	25	25
Tax rebate - gift aid	3141	0	3141	2169
Fund raising (money received from Christmas fair, quiz etc)	1011	0	1011	1329
Friends of St Julian's ®	0	1709	1709	2324
Fees from weddings and funerals	6907	0	6907	2877
Newsletter	150	0	150	325
Horton Fawkes income and interest ®	0	1643	1643	1552
Deposit accounts (General, belfry, friends and fabric) interest ®	0	1349	1349	608
Bank interest (Nat West)	227	0	227	17
Utilities Refund	378	0	378	773
Donation towards Loo & Kitchen project ®	0	40000	40000	0
Total Income	27850	44701	72551	26838

Expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £s	Total 2022 £s
Parish share	9612	0	9612	9424
Vicars expenses plus staff salaries and expenses	3112	0	3112	2929
Roof Alarm	1292		1292	598
Organist fees (regular services)	415	0	415	225
Utilities (electricity, water)	2045	0	2045	1990
Insurance (church building)	2557	0	2557	2205
Works related to the church building & architect ®	0	6655	6655	3211
Friends of St Julian's Costs (including on building) ®	0	780	780	96
Other church expenses and Conygre Rent	3252	0	3252	2816
Fees out (weddings and funerals - organist, verger etc)	60	0	60	40
Diocesan fees out	1553	0	1553	690
Mission and outreach incl Special collections	844	0	844	463
Cost of events - refreshments, flowers, candles etc	113	0	113	0
Organ maintenance	357	0	357	700
Portaloo	77	0	77	108
Newsletter	240	0	240	423
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	25529	7435	32964	25918
NET INCOME	2321	44701	39587	920

Wellow Reports...

From the Churchwardens

Pam Pike and Jane Rees – Churchwardens

Twelve months have passed and sadly we are still awaiting permission to install kitchen/toilet facilities that St Julian's so desperately needs.

A card reader has been installed and is working well.

Unfortunately St Julian's suffered criminal damage to a large number of its windows quite recently. Also a bench in the North field was damaged beyond repair. Installation of CCTV cameras are being looked into.

During heavy rain and wind there is still a problem with rain coming in through the roof. It is proving very difficult to resolve/identify exactly why this is happening.

The Christmas Bazaar held in November was a joyful occasion enjoyed by many in the Parish. Also the Sparkle Party, organised by the friends of St Julian's was a huge success.

All of the Christmas services were well attended and four Weddings took place in 2023.

The Bells continue to ring for special Services and they have a strong band of ringers who meet to practice fortnightly at St Julian's.

At present there are seven members on the PCC with two members of the Church family showing an interest in joining.

The All Age Worship team, going into its third year, continue to hold a service once a month which is enjoyed by everyone.

At St Julian's there is a strong team of volunteers from the local community and the regular congregation who work together in many roles to help keep our Church up and running for everyone.

Secretary report

Lynne Williams – PCC Secretary

Project to create toilet and small kitchenette facilities inside the Church.

It is disappointing to report that despite several years of trying to get this building project underway the PCC is struggling to obtain a Faculty from the DAC to permit the necessary building works. While the need to protect the Grade 1 listed status of St. Julian's Church is fully appreciated, it is also right to remember the function of the Church. There is an urgent need for the very basic sanitary and hospitality facilities we are striving to introduce inside the Church. We pray that the DAC will actively help us to make swift progress with this building project. At present there is a sense that more obstacles than stepping stones are being placed in the way of success in achieving this project.

General

At St. Julian's we are so fortunate to have the active support of kind people who do so much voluntarily to keep the Church going. The PCC is very grateful to the dedicated helpers who clean the Church, maintain the grounds, provide beautiful floral arrangements and carry out many other tasks.

Grateful thanks also go to our wonderful Church Wardens and bell ringers.

I know that our excellent Treasurer fully supports this expression of grateful thanks to Ruth Brown, Book Keeper, who quietly and diligently works so hard on our behalf.

The card reader introduced in the Church is proving a success with more donations being made using that payment method. The PCC is monitoring the situation.

Unfortunately there has been a recent spate of vandalism in Wellow. In the case of St. Julian's Church this necessitated repair to windows and a commemorative bench. It has also prompted a review of security and current investigation into an appropriate CCTV installation.

As a result of Shaula Reilly's departure we are without a Curate. This will no doubt add to Matthew Street's considerable time pressures so the PCC will be standing by to help him wherever possible.

Parish of Wellow

Rob Bubyer – Electoral Roll Officer

There are 36 names on the Electoral Roll.

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Council meeting

St. Julian's Church on Sunday, 26th March 2023

Members of the Parochial Church Council present:- Jonathan Wyld, Pam Pike, Jane Rees, Lynne Williams.

1. **Minutes of last year's Annual Parochial Church meeting held on Sunday, the 3rd April 2022.**
These minutes were agreed and signed by Shaula Reilly.
2. **Financial Report and Approval of Accounts, including any questions.**
The accounts were approved by the PCC at their meeting on Thursday, 9th February 2023 for presentation to this Annual Parochial Church meeting. Shaula Reilly thanked Jonathan Wyld (Treasurer), Ruth Brown (Book Keeper) and Dick Beath (Auditor) for all their hard work and professionalism in looking after the Church's accounts. It was proposed by Jane Rees and seconded by Jenny Matthews that the accounts be approved. With one person abstaining, the meeting approved the accounts.
3. **Church Warden's report.**
Shaula Reilly read out to the meeting a report prepared by Pam Pike highlighting events in the Church during the past year. That report was noted with grateful thanks to Pam Pike. Any questions. Shaula Reilly invited

those present to raise any questions they may have regarding any report to this APCM. No questions were raised.

4. **Election of Five representatives to the Parochial Church Council for a 3 year term serving until 2026.**
As Stewart Cole has stepped down as a member of the PCC, Shaula Reilly thanked Stewart for all he has contributed to that body and the considerable on-going help he continues to provide to the Church.

It was proposed by Lynne Williams, seconded by Jenny Matthews and agreed that *Jonathan Wyld* be appointed to the PCC for three years, until 2026.

It was proposed by Pam Pike, seconded by Jane Rees and agreed that *Rachel Kotchie* be appointed to the PCC for three years, until 2026.

It was proposed by Jonathan Wyld, seconded by Julia Wyld and agreed that *Caroline Thomas* be appointed to the PCC for three years, until 2026.

It was proposed by Pauline Preddy, seconded by Rachel Kotchie and agreed that *Jane Isaac* be appointed to the PCC for three years, until 2026. (Note: Having been elected Church Wardens at the Vestry meeting which immediately

Minutes of the vestry meeting

**St. Julian's Church on Sunday,
26th March 2023**

preceded this APCM both Pam Pike and Jane Rees are automatically PCC members.)

5. Election of Two representatives on the Deanery Synod for a 3 years term serving until 2026.

Shaula Reilly advised the meeting that as a result of the resignations of Lyn Doman and David Cox there are two vacancies for representatives on the Deanery Synod.

It was proposed by Jonathan Wyld, seconded by Jane Rees and agreed that *Pat Caudle* be appointed as representative on the Deanery Synod.

6. Date of the next APCM.

This will take place on Sunday, 17th March 2024 (5th Sunday of Lent).

1. Appointment of Clerk to both the Vestry meeting and the following Annual Parochial Church meeting. Lynne Williams was appointed as Clerk.

2. Minutes of last year's meeting held on the 3rd April 2022. These minutes were approved and signed by Shaula Reilly.

3. Election of Parish Warden for 2023/24. Shaula Reilly expressed the gratitude of all those present in Church for Pam Pike's outstanding hard work in her role as Church Warden. Pam received a round of applause. The meeting was delighted to note that Jane Rees had agreed to stand as one of the two Parish Wardens. It was proposed by Jane Rees, seconded by Richard Holland and unanimously agreed that Pam Pike be appointed as Church Warden for 2023/24. It was proposed by Clover Holland, seconded by Chris Corp and unanimously agreed that Jane Rees be appointed as Church Warden for 2023/24.

4. Date of next Vestry meeting. This will take place on Sunday, 17th March 2024 (5th Sunday of Lent).

Find out more at
www.stjsgroup.church

