



# Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the parish of Ashford Hill with Headley

For the year ended 31st December 2023



*The Lord is my strength and my shield;  
my heart trusts in him, and he helps me.  
My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him.  
Psalm 28:7*

## Administrative information

The parish of Ashford Hill with Headley is one of two parishes which together make up the United Benefice of Kingsclere and Ashford Hill with Headley, within the Diocese of Winchester, within the Church of England. Until June 2023 the benefice was in a vacancy. Rev. Pete Williams was appointed as Priest-in-Charge from June 2023.

Ashford Hill with Headley Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission. There are two parish churches – St Peter’s Headley and St Paul’s Ashford Hill. The correspondence address is 37 George Street, Kingsclere, Newbury, Berks, RG20 5NH.

The membership of the PCC during 2023 was as follows.

Vicar	Vacant to June 2023 Rev Pete Williams from June 2023
Churchwardens	Penny Stewart (H) Patrick Taylor (AH)
LLM	Bryony White (until October 2023)
Deanery Synod Rep	Patrick Taylor
Elected Members (6)	Rachel Chamings (from Apr 22) Colin Scott-Malden (from Apr 22) Terry Richardson (from Apr 22) Jane Loveless (until July 2023) Lorraine Cusworth (from Apr 22) Alison Goodyer (until Sept 2023)
Co-opted Member	Rev Rupert Shelley (until April 2023)
Secretary	Emma Rivers (non-voting member)

## Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. Members are elected for a 3 year term. All regular worshippers are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

## Officers of the PCC

Chair: Penny Stewart and Patrick Taylor (Jan-June).

From June - Rev Pete Williams

Treasurer: Colin Scott-Malden

Safeguarding Officer: Emma Rivers

Electoral Roll Officer: Rachel Chamings

Secretary: Emma Rivers - Benefice Administrator (non-voting)

## Objectives

The Ashford Hill with Headley PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the parish churches and their churchyards. Our benefice vision is defined as: "Follow Jesus, Love God's Family, Bless Others".

## Annual report of PCC

The PCC met 5 times during the year. The average attendance was 68%.

During the year, the PCC:

- Managed the appointment of Rev Pete Williams
- Worked closely with Kingsclere PCC throughout the appointment process, planned services and dealt with benefice-wide issues.
- Carried out essential maintenance on our church buildings including an upgrade to the sound system and repairs to the flooring at St Paul's as well as the start of a project to repair the roof at St Peter's.
- Celebrated the Coronation of King Charles with a "watch party"
- Received regular reports on the finances of the PCC
- Installed a new accounting system for PCC funds.
- Held regular services throughout the year as well as special services for festivals and other celebrations,
- Welcomed Ashford Hill school in church for Christmas services
- Supported Patrick Taylor as he completed the BCM training and was licenced in October 2023.
- Supported Beverley Williams who began her LLM training in September 2023.
- Supported an Alpha Course in the Autumn Term

## Safeguarding

Throughout the year the PCC have complied with their duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy & Practice Guidance.

This report was adopted by the PCC 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024



Rev Pete Williams - Priest in Charge

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**TO**  
**THE PCC OF ASHFORD HILL WITH HEADLEY**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 which are set out on pages .

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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

Signed .....  .....

R. Hopes, FCA

Bell House, Ashford Hill, Thatcham, Berks. RG19 8BB

Dated ..... 19/3/2024 .....

# Kingsclere, Ashford Hill and Headley Churches

## Statement of Financial Activities

Financial Year: 2023

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Prior Year
<b>Incoming Resources</b>					
Donations & Legacies	25,046.26	0.00	0.00	25,046.26	0.00
Charitable Activities	9,168.00	0.00	0.00	9,168.00	0.00
Investments	1,060.20	0.00	0.00	1,060.20	0.00
Trading Activities	2,551.00	0.00	0.00	2,551.00	0.00
Other	10,833.84	542.13	0.00	11,375.97	0.00
Total incoming resources	48,659.30	542.13	0.00	49,201.43	0.00
<b>Resources Used</b>					
Charitable Activities	51,783.22	0.00	0.00	51,783.22	0.00
Raising Funds	7,035.00	0.00	0.00	7,035.00	0.00
Other Activities	9,151.98	0.00	0.00	9,151.98	0.00
Support	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total resources used	67,970.20	0.00	0.00	67,970.20	0.00
Net Incoming / Ongoing Resources (before transfers)	-19,310.90	542.13	0.00	-18,768.77	0.00
Fund Transfers In	4,234.80	0.00	0.00	4,234.80	0.00
Fund Transfers Out	4,234.80	0.00	0.00	4,234.80	0.00
Net Movement of Funds	-15,075.10	-1,692.67	0.00	-16,767.77	0.00
Total Funds Brought Forward	115,812.43	16,915.46	0.00	132,727.89	0.00
Total Funds Carried Forward	100,736.33	13,222.79	0.00	113,959.12	0.00
<b>Represented By</b>					
Current Account (Unrestricted)	27,302.43	0.00	0.00	27,302.43	0.00
Deposit (Unrestricted)	38,375.57	0.00	0.00	38,375.57	0.00
McSwiney Deposit (Restricted)	0.00	13,222.79	0.00	13,222.79	0.00
Building fund (Designated)	35,058.33	0.00	0.00	35,058.33	0.00