

**St Leonard, Malinslee**  
**District Church Annual General Meeting**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April, after 11.15am service**

**AGENDA**

*Please note that items of Any Other Business should be given to the Chair (Revd Scott Edwards) prior to the start of the meeting.*

1. Opening Prayer
2. Attendance and Apologies
3. Minutes of last District Church AGM and any matters arising
4. Reports for the AGM, including the Electoral Roll report, for 2023
6. Treasurer's Report for Holy Trinity, Dawley for 2023
7. Safeguarding
8. Elections:-
  - District church wardens (up to 2)
  - DCC members (max 8 in total including 2 district wardens)
  - Nominated PCC reps (2 including at least one District Warden)
9. AOB
10. Closing Prayer

Note: The election of the DCC Treasurer and Secretary can take place at either the next DCC meeting, or at a short DCC meeting held after the AGM (note, only DCC members vote on these posts)

ST LEONARD'S CHURCH, MALINSLEE

MINUTES OF DISTRICT CHURCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

16<sup>TH</sup> April 2023, following the morning service

Present: Thirteen members present.

<p><b>Opening Prayer:</b> Led by JF</p>	
<p><b>Apologies:</b> Graham Bould, Dave and Jan Broome and Sheena and Louise Ireland</p>	
<p><b>Minutes of previous meeting:</b> Proposed by JF, seconded by SE</p>	
<p><b>Reports for the AGM, including the Electoral Roll report for 2022:</b> Overview of all reports including finance 2022 given by JF. (Enc)</p> <p>Electoral Roll report – 32 members. Attendance for the average Sunday = 23 Christmas Eve/Day = 52 Easter Eve/Day = 56</p>	
<p><b>Treasurer's report:</b> Attached (Enc). Incoming resources are £30,474.00 which is down from the previous year, but there was some significant grant income included in the previous years' income. Expenditure was £37,889, but this included expenditure on the projects for which grant income was received in the previous year There is £8500 in St Leonard's bank account. Finances are relatively healthy and we paid our share of the Common Fund in full. The Common Fund payments are worked out differently to previous. St. Leonard's for the following year will be £17000</p> <p>An opportunity for questions was offered, but none were forthcoming.</p> <p>A thank you was given to DB for his work as Treasurer as he is standing down after many years of service in this role.</p> <p>The accounts report is approved. (ENC)</p>	
<p><b>Safeguarding:</b> The process is well on the way for all those who need to complete Safeguarding Training.</p> <p>There is a parish Safeguarding Policy which needs highlighting and reading out on an annual basis. This was carried out by JF.</p>	

<p>The parish has a safeguarding officer, Hannah Yapp, with each church having its own safeguarding person. For St. Leonard's it is LG</p>	
<p><b>Elections:</b>          Thanks given to JH, our churchwarden, who worked extremely hard during the interregnum.</p> <p>DCC – RS and his family are returning to India. We will miss them. Thanks are given to RS for his time serving on the DCC and playing the organ for our Sunday morning services.</p> <p>RB has decided not to stand for the DCC this year. Thanks to her for her work while serving on the DCC.</p> <p>This year the number of nominations for the DCC are the same as the number of vacancies so effectively there is not any contest.</p> <p>District Church Wardens (up to two) JH, LG          DCC members (max of eight in total including two district wardens) – DB, SE, JF, LG, JH, CP          Deanery Synod rep - DB</p>	
<p><b>Any other business:</b>          There are fourteen people currently on the church rotas – many thanks to them all for all their hard work.</p>	
<p><b>Closing prayer:</b>          All joined in with the Grace.</p>	

## ST LEONARD'S CHURCH, MALINSLEE: ANNUAL REPORTS – 2023

Team rector's report (for the whole parish)

Looking back at 2023, I am grateful to God for his faithfulness to us in Central Telford Parish. Our parish verse for 2023 was 'Jesus said "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life"' from John 8.12. In a world that seems increasing chaotic and uncertain, our prayer has been that our churches, and us as individuals, will have confidence that the light of Christ will guide us through these times. At the heart of this is a sense of our own responsibility to 'shine as lights' in the world enabling others to encounter the love of God. At times, our churches can seem fragile when we look at our financial situation and the numbers attending our services. However, I think that we have seen many glimmers of light in 2023 to give us confidence that God is at work among us, revealing the kind of churches that we are called to be at this time and in this place.

We had our Mission Plan as our guide but throughout the year it seemed that God was calling us to have a time to 'be still and know that I am God'. I think that this has been a blessing for us: to have a time to draw breath, to continue to rebuild post-Covid, and particularly to make sure that we look after one another and don't get over busy. This was particularly important during the vacancy for a Team Vicar, and has also been a real help to me since being asked to become Acting Archdeacon at very short notice in October 2023.

It was a joy to welcome Revd Scott Edwards as Team Vicar in March, and at the same time to welcome Chris Prescott as a Reader and I am grateful for all that they bring to the parish. I know that the occasionally ministry of my husband Revd Roger Farnworth has been appreciated since he



received Permission to Officiate, along with some other visiting clergy, Readers and lay ministers. We are also blessed with lay worship leaders who lead some Sunday morning services, evensong at Holy Trinity and other occasional services. It was also a delight to have Joe Grogan on placement with us as part of his training for ordination. Margaret Cartwright decided to step back from active Reader ministry during the year, which was a sadness for us, but it is important to recognise that God calls us into different ministries at different seasons of our life and we pray that Margaret will discover God's new call in the fullness of time.

I am grateful to all those who volunteer in so many different ways – some in very public roles and others who are quietly doing jobs in the background. It is a great blessing to our churches and our wider communities that so many are willing to serve God in many different ways. It is wonderful to be part of a parish where it's not expected that the Team Rector, or the Team Vicar, will do everything!

While we have said goodbye to some in our congregations, we have also welcomed new people into our church families. We have been able to pay our Common Fund in full and have been working hard to exercise good stewardship with our finances which is starting to move us on to a more secure footing. A lot of work has been done over the year to make sure that our churches are safe places, in terms of safeguarding, looking after the buildings and churchyards, and working towards having all the necessary policies and procedures in place.

We had a 'Season of Generosity' in the autumn to focus on how we can respond to the abundance of God's love which is given to us so freely. As part of this, everyone was asked to consider their financial generosity to the church, and also whether they could offer their particularly skills. We had a good response, and I am particularly looking forward to us enabling those who offered their time and talents to do so in the coming year.

I hope that as you read through the reports from our wardens and group leaders, that you will recognise the number of different opportunities that are offered to help people to grow in faith and to worship, to share in the love of God through practical actions, to have fun and build friendships. My prayer is that in 2024 we continue to be aware of God blessing us by enabling us to be a parish where prayer and worship is at our heart, where we care for one another, where we see growth in our numbers and in our faith, where all have confidence to use their God-given talents, where all are welcome and where the good news of Jesus Christ and the love of God is encountered in all that we do.

*Revd Prebendary Jo Farnworth*

#### **St Leonard's wardens' report:**

On behalf of the congregation of St. Leonard's we would like to extend thanks to Rev. Jo and Rev. Scott for the hard work they do for us all at St. Leonard's. There is much work needed to keep a church functioning and progressing much of which Jo and Scott carry out 'behind the scenes'. Without their commitment and constancy (and Scott's sense of humour) life at St. Leonard's would be very different. We are indeed fortunate God guided them to us.

Thanks must and should be given to others who help St. Leonard's to function:

- Those who regularly turn up early each Sunday to help prepare the church and help ensure our services run smoothly.
- All those who do our readings, act as welcomers, operate the music and serve us with tea and coffee following the service. We currently have thirteen people on the rota and encouragingly the number of volunteer readers has grown.
- A special thanks is extended to those who serve our refreshments as it is mostly the same people who regularly do this for us. More volunteers are badly needed for this.
- All those who donate tea, coffee, milk and biscuits/cake so we may enjoy our refreshments.



- Everyone who contributes in anyway to our annual summer and Christmas Fairs. These events are undeniably hard work, but the sense of teamwork, dedication, friendship and fun more than makes up for this and it is a privilege to be a part of this team.

We continue to have Holy Communion on each Sunday with the first Sunday of the month being dedicated to Family Worship with Holy Communion. Where there are five Sundays in a month the last Sunday continues to be a united service with all the churches within Central Telford Parish. Until mid-November our congregation numbers were between twenty to twenty-five. However, since then it is so encouraging to be able to say this has risen to approximately thirty-four each week. It is exciting to be able to say this includes children! To ensure the children feel welcome and included which they are, Rev. Jo provides service co-ordinated colouring/puzzle activity sheets for them each week.

It was very welcome news we were able to pay our share of the Common Fund in full this year. In April we had a concert by the Military Wives Choir (postponed from last September) which was something different and a very pleasant evening. Our summer fair was held in July and although some money was raised it did seem disproportionate to the amount of hard work it takes to run a fair. In November we had a concert by the Shifnal Male Voice Choir. They were excellent and treated us to a good variety of different music to cater for all tastes. The concert was fairly well attended and enjoyed by all. The Christmas Fair in December raised over £900.00. Needless to say everyone was thrilled by this achievement. There was a good sum of this raised by the raffle. This year tickets were officially printed and church members asked to try and sell these to friends and family. Coupled with donations of wonderful prizes this worked well. We extend grateful thanks to Jane for her commitment and hardwork in organizing our annual fairs.

*Jane Hill and Lorraine Granger*

#### **DCC secretary's report:**

There were 7 DCC meetings in 2023 and the topics discussed included: mission and ministry, future hopes for the church building, maintenance of the church, fundraising events, finances.

#### **Fabric Report:**

Our church yard continues to be maintained by Telford and Wrekin Council. There are ongoing issues with minimum fly tipping and erratic emptying of our refuse bins, but we are well supported by Dawley Town Council with this, but they do say larger bins are no longer available.

During the summer months our floor tiles, in the centre of the church, became displaced. These were removed and have been made temporarily safe so we can continue our services and use of St. Leonard's. Plans for the repair and replacement of these are ongoing.

Our electrical system was inspected during October and November. Although some parts of this need attention there is nothing urgent or dangerous which needs immediate attention.

Our lightning conductor failed its inspection which was carried out in November. Again there is nothing urgent or dangerous needing immediate attention.

Most notably, our gas boiler was condemned in October/November leaving us without heating just as the coldest months were beginning! Well done to all who were able to continue attending our Sunday worship even if it did take the promise of blankets and hot water bottles! God wonderfully provided for us and we have been able to have a temporary boiler installed which the Lichfield Diocese are very kindly funding for us. This boiler has not been without issues though and it ceased to function leaving us with a very cold Christmas. Again well done to all who still attended our superb Christmas services. The issue had been a drop in pressure which was rectified on 2nd January 2024. *Since then it has worked efficiently. We are now in the process of waiting for quotes to enable the installation of a new permanent boiler.*

The quinquennial inspection was carried out in November 2023. At the time of writing this report the report from the inspection had not arrived. Once this report has been received we will know if there are any major issues with our church building. The architect will then advise us on the order of priority of any repairs needed, including the electrics and lightning conductor.

### **Monday Food bank drop in – St Leonard’s**

This group continues and does serve the need of the twelve plus people attending each week. Those attending are appreciative of the chance of being somewhere warm and being provided with a warm drink. It is also appreciated as somewhere they are able to go to for a chat knowing they will be listened too. Huge thanks must be given to all those who help with this group: Becky, Jackie, Jane and Mike. A special thanks to Graham for his unwavering commitment to collecting the food from the supermarkets and delivering it to St. Leonard’s each Sunday. Due to unforeseen circumstances this group is in great need of more volunteer helpers.

### **Coffee and Company – St Leonard’s**

A new venture which started in 2023 and takes place the first Saturday morning of each month. This is spearheaded by Rev. Scott and Chris. It is still in its infancy and started off with people attending and enjoying coffee and company! It has been well attended by a regular few who enjoy some lively and often amusing conversation. It is also a time when those who need it may have more in-depth conversations. It has progressed to activities being provided for those who enjoy this and has a lot of potential for development. All are welcome on the appropriate Saturdays between 10.00am-12.00. Refreshments are free

### **Exercise Class – St Leonard’s**

This class has continued and bravely kept going during the period when there was no heating! Well done! There are twenty-two people on their register with an average attendance of twelve. There have been no issues reported.

### **Pensioners’ Lunches and Party**

Due to unforeseen circumstances the annual pensioners party was unable to go ahead this year ‘and similarly the monthly lunches have been unable to carry on.

### **Baby Babble – St Leonard’s**

This group is run by Great Dawley Town Council on the last Tuesday of each month from approximately 13.00-15.00. This has become very popular with local families and it is good to welcome people into our church. While the church building was without heating though this group did not meet.

### **Electoral Roll**

The electoral roll currently has 31 members

### **Services:**

In 2023, attendances at services were:

Average Sunday	24
Easter Eve/Day	64
Christmas Eve/Day	21
Carol Services	66



The following baptisms, wedding and funerals took place:

Baptisms	8
Weddings	2
Funerals*	14
Interments	15

\*Includes funerals at crematorium for people living in the district

### **Safeguarding**

There have been no safeguarding incidents reported in the parish in 2023. When Hannah Yapp was appointed as our new Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator, a safeguarding audit of each church was carried out to ensure that that our practice is as it should be. As a PCC, it was agreed that all new volunteers in the parish working with children/young people and vulnerable adults must go through the safer recruitment process before they start their role and this is not happening. We are ensuring that all of our Trustees and volunteers have a current DBS (when appropriate) and keep their Safeguarding Training up to date

### **Finance Report**

As ever, we are blessed at St Leonard's by the generosity of our church family and wider circle of friends. We rely on the income from regular giving, occasional gifts and fundraising to enable us to pay our Common Fund (to cover ministry costs), maintain and run the building, and support the various activities that take place. In 2023, our total income was £25,261 (compared to £30,474 in 2022). Our total expenditure in 2023 was £25,136 (compared to £38,865 in 2022). At the end of the year, we held £8,624.90 in our bank account (compared to £8,500 in 2022). While this looks relatively healthy, our income from regular donations has dropped in 2023. We received a payment of recovered income tax from Gift Aided donations which dated back to 2021 which boosted our income. Going forward, we do need to keep a careful eye on our finances and look at ways of increasing our income. We will have some significant amounts of expenditure in 2024, particularly due to some high fuel costs in early 2024, the need to replace our boiler and carry out works which will be identified in the Quinquennial Inspection of the building. We do not currently have a Treasurer and are very grateful to Revd Roger Farnworth who is acting as our book-keeper.

## St Leonard's Malinslee CTP

### Analysis of income and expenditure Selected period: 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
<b>Incoming resources</b>						
<b>Donations and legacies</b>						
0101 - Gift Aid Envelopes/Donations	9,762.50	-	-	-	9,762.50	9,585.00
0110 - Direct Giving Envelopes - non gift aid	920.00	-	-	-	920.00	2,433.00
0150 - Payments received from other CTP accts	-	-	-	-	-	600.00
0301 - Plate Collections	2,822.67	-	-	-	2,822.67	2,521.18
0303 - Sundry Donations	557.21	-	-	-	557.21	4,698.39
0550 - Donations appeals etc	203.00	-	-	-	203.00	-
0601 - Recoverable Income Tax	7,457.87	-	-	-	7,457.87	-
0850 - Grants	-	-	-	-	-	2,200.00
08A1 - Non-recurring one-off grants	750.00	-	-	-	750.00	1,650.00
1211 - Special Appeals gross fundraising income	45.00	-	-	-	45.00	-
<b>Donations and legacies Totals</b>	<b>22,518.25</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,518.25</b>	<b>23,687.57</b>
<b>Income from charitable activities</b>						
1210 - Gross income from fund raising	1,854.08	-	-	-	1,854.08	5,706.71
1213 - Special Restricted Projects income	-	-	16.88	-	16.88	3.13
1240 - Church Hall lettings and rent	395.00	-	-	-	395.00	231.00
<b>Income from charitable activities Totals</b>	<b>2,249.08</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16.88</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,265.96</b>	<b>5,940.84</b>
<b>Other trading activities</b>						
1206 - Sale of items	475.00	-	-	-	475.00	-
<b>Other trading activities Totals</b>	<b>475.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>475.00</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Investments</b>						
1020 - Bank/Building Society Interest	-	1.67	-	-	1.67	0.70
<b>Investments Totals</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1.67</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1.67</b>	<b>0.70</b>
<b>Other income</b>						
1401 - Insurance Claims	-	-	-	-	-	845.00
<b>Other income Totals</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>845.00</b>
<b>Incoming resources Grand totals</b>	<b>25,242.33</b>	<b>1.67</b>	<b>16.88</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,260.88</b>	<b>30,474.11</b>

## Resources used

### Expenditure on charitable activities

1871 - Christian Aid donations	50.00	-	-	-	50.00	-
2100 - Donations/Gifts	502.91	-	-	-	502.91	405.00
2150 - Payments made to other CTP accts	-	-	-	-	-	500.00
2201 - Training	51.00	-	-	-	51.00	-
2312 - Quinquennial inspections	1,524.00	-	-	-	1,524.00	-
2320 - Payment of parish share to the Diocese	16,435.50	-	-	-	16,435.50	19,100.00



	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
2330 - Running costs (inc Gas, Water, Electric)	3,228.63	-	-	-	3,228.63	4,668.45
2331 - Repairs/replacements/new items	387.14	-	-	-	387.14	11,924.75
2345 - Churchyard maintenance	60.00	-	-	-	60.00	-
2355 - Insurance	2,349.82	-	-	-	2,349.82	2,187.29
2370 - Children and Young People	12.80	-	-	-	12.80	8.52
2380 - Church items purchased	172.28	-	-	-	172.28	23.24
2401 - Costs of fund raising	345.00	-	-	-	345.00	47.94
2411 - Printing / Copying / Publicity	17.20	-	-	-	17.20	-
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities Totals</b>	<b>25,136.28</b>	-	-	-	<b>25,136.28</b>	<b>38,865.19</b>
<b>Resources used Grand totals</b>	<b>25,136.28</b>	-	-	-	<b>25,136.28</b>	<b>38,865.19</b>

**St Leonard's Malinslee CTP**

**Balance Sheet (Summary)**

	As at 31/12/2023	As at 31/12/2022
<b>Fixed assets</b>	-	-
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash At Bank And In Hand	8,450.11	8,500.30
	<b>8,450.11</b>	<b>8,500.30</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due In One Year	(174.79)	-
	<b>(174.79)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net current assets less current liabilities</b>	<b>8,624.90</b>	<b>8,500.30</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>	<b>8,624.90</b>	<b>8,500.30</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
	-	-
<b>Total net assets less liabilities</b>	<b>8,624.90</b>	<b>8,500.30</b>
<b>Represented by</b>		
<b>Unrestricted</b>		
Unrestricted - General Funds	4,166.97	(5,512.56)
<b>Designated</b>		
Designated - CTP Parish Share Squirrel Fund	233.64	231.90
<b>Restricted</b>		
Restricted - Special Projects fund	4,224.29	13,780.96
<b>Fund Totals</b>	<b>8,624.90</b>	<b>8,500.30</b>



**St Leonard's Malinslee CTP**

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by fund)  
As at: 31 December 2023**

			<b>Balance</b>	<b>Previous balance</b>
<hr/>				
<b>Cash At Bank And In Hand</b>				
<b>6501: Bank current account</b>				
General fund	Unrestricted		4,166.97	4,160.92
Special Projects fund	Restricted		4,224.29	(250.00)
CTP Parish Share Squirrel Fund	Designated		233.64	(100.00)
Agency collection	Restricted		(174.79)	-
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			<b>8,450.11</b>	<b>3,810.92</b>
 <b>6505: Bank deposit account</b>				
General fund	Unrestricted		-	(9,573.55)
Special Projects fund	Restricted		-	14,030.96
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			-	<b>4,457.41</b>
 <b>6590: CTP Share account</b>				
General fund	Unrestricted		-	(99.93)
CTP Parish Share Squirrel Fund	Designated		-	331.90
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			-	<b>231.97</b>
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			<b>Cash At Bank And In Hand</b>	<b>8,450.11</b>
				<b>8,500.30</b>
 <b>Agency Accounts</b>				
<b>6699: Agency collections</b>				
Agency collection	Restricted		(174.79)	-
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			<b>(174.79)</b>	<b>-</b>
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			<b>Agency Accounts</b>	<b>(174.79)</b>
				<b>-</b>
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>8,624.90</b>
				<b>8,500.30</b>