



# Annual Report and Financial Statement of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2024

# St Peter's Parish Church

# Chapel Lane, Carlton Colville, Lowestoft Suffolk NR33 8AT

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2022) and a charity.

#### Correspondence Address:

The Rectory, Rectory Road, Carlton Colville NR33 8BB 01502 817082

PCC members who have served at any time from April 2024 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members:

- Incumbent: Rev'd Andrea Woods (Licenced September 2024 ) Chair
- Bob Filer (Church Warden and Safeguarding named person Vulnerable adults,

Fabric Officer

- Carol Browning (Church Warden)
- Mark Ellis (Lay Minister and Treasurer)
- Linda Filer (PCC Secretary and Office Administrator)

Elected Members:

- Sally Krykant (AWA)
- Jenny Foyster
- Mary Corker
- Roland Worrell
- Sharon Brown (Benefice Safeguarding Officer Named person Children and Young People

and APA)

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#### Annual Meeting of Parishioners

- 1. Opening prayer, and short homily.
- 2. Minutes of the last AMP.
- 3. Nominations read.
- 4. Election of Churchwardens.

#### Annual Parochial Church Meeting

- 1. Apologies for absence.
- 2. Minutes of the last APCM.
- 3. Matters arising from these minutes.
- 4. Acceptance of the reports for 2024, contained within the Annual Report document.
- 5. Elections to the PCC.
  - a. Elections to Deanery Synod (if required)
  - b. Elections to PCC
- 6. Any questions from the meeting to be considered by the PCC.
- 7. Closing prayers.

#### First PCC Meeting

- 1. Opening prayer.
- 2. Apologies for absence.
- 3. Minutes of the last PCC meeting.
- 4. Matters arising.
- 5. Appointment of officers: Lay Chair of PCC, Secretary, Treasurer, Electoral Roll Officer, Independent Examiner, Parish Safeguarding Officer, and Deanery Synod Representative(s).
- 6. Co-option of members to the PCC until the next APCM.
- 7. The Standing Committee is constituted in accordance with the CRR rules M31.
- 8. Statutory items: Safeguarding, Health and Safety and Data Protection.
- 9. Important and urgent AOB.
- 10. Date of next meeting.

## Minutes for the Annual Vestry Meeting held on 28th April 2024.

Election of Church Wardens: Mr. R. Filer and Mrs. C. Browning were both re-elected unopposed.

#### Minutes for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting Held on Sunday 28th April 2024 at 12.00 pm.

Mrs. S Brown (vice chair) opened the meeting with a reading from Colossians 3:12-17 followed by a short prayer.

The reports for the year ending 2023 had been made available before the meeting.

Questions arising from the reports:- None had been submitted.

Questions arising from the financial report: - None had been submitted.

#### **Election of PCC Members:**

Mrs. R Mayn was stepping down and Mr. M. Ellis and Mr. R. Worrall were elected for a period of three (3) years.

Mrs M. Hobbs was stepping down from a one (1) year post and Mrs. S. Krykant was elected in her place.

There is till a Deanery Synod vacancy and Mrs. S. Brown was re-elected as the standing member.

The Safeguarding Officers were re-elected. Mrs. S. Brown for children and young people and Mr. R. Filer for vulnerable adults.

Assistant Church Wardens Mrs. S. Syprus and Mrs. J. Foyster were duly re-elected.

There are still vacancies for Deanery Synod and PCC Members. Please speak to a Church Officer if you would like to be considered for any of these posts.

**A.O.B.** The treasurer said there was a need for an independent examiner and if anyone on the electoral roll knew of, or was interested in the post to speak to Mark or a PCC member.

APCM: the date for the next APCM has been recorded as 27th April 2025 after the 10.30 am service.

Date changed at the Pcc meeting of January 25<sup>th</sup> 2025 to **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 7pm** 



#### Independent Examiners Certificate

Report to the trustees/ members of:

On accounts for the year ended:

Charity no (if any):

ise	DECEMBER	2024
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I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/25

#### 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.

#### Independent examiner's statement

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_]]. Delete [] if not applicable.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below.\*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- · the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:	Me	2	Date:	114125	
Name:	KEVIN	PINNOCK		n en	

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# APCM: Notes to Carlton Colville PCC Financial Statement 2024

The PCC extends its sincere thanks to you for your generosity throughout 2024 in supporting the work of St. Peter's Church. Your financial support has enabled the church to continue its role within Parish Ministry and pastoral work, and overseas Mission, as well supporting the Diocese financially towards clergy salary and training, and church schools, through our Parish Share contributions. But please do read on!

A summary of the Carlton Colville PCC 2024 accounts for income and expenditure follows overleaf. Income for 2024 of £60408.75 was a decrease of £7712.75, 11% from the previous year. This is of real concern; if actual giving continues to fall at this rate year on year, then putting a Treasurer finger in the air, the church will cease to be financially viable within the next 10 years!

Heading back to the present, as a consequence, we were unable to provide any additional contribution to the Parish Share for a second year, and our contribution remained at £32000. Whilst we thank God for the arrival of Rev Andrea, I have a concern that without meeting our obligations to the Diocese, and with a balanced set of accounts, we may not be in the position next time to be 'awarded' our own Rector, that's if we still exist. For 2025 the Diocese has calculated a Benefice Share of £63238, of which Carlton Colville is allocated £56914, but given our current financial statement I have budgeted again for just £32000 towards this (that's just 56% of the asking).

A word (or two) on methods of giving.

Firstly, I do thank those who have reviewed their giving over 2024. I did raise this as an issue earlier in the year but as can be seen above we have still have yet much to do.

The Treasurer loves incoming Standing Orders, and paying our bills by BACS! Standing Orders are totally in your control but allow me to plan and budget more accurately. On top of that they cost you and the church nothing. A reminder that we do run the correct Charities account with our bankers, HSBC, but that incurs a £5 monthly charge, plus a charge of 40p for every £200 cashed, and an additional charge of 40p per cheque cashed or issued, so the more we can receive and pay out using these methods the better.

Giving envelopes: You will notice in the accounts that giving by all envelopes are now recorded as planned giving. This means that I can attempt to budget ahead according to your giving. They are planned weekly giving so with 52 dated envelopes provided I can budget for your annual giving to be 52 x your weekly giving. Please do use them to give weekly, I have no issues receiving in advance or receiving belatedly.

It wouldn't be a financial report without mentioning the price of electricity and it was good to see the bills paid within this year falling ever so slightly (£5425 / £5506) but it's not a time to be complacent here and to note that there is a financial cost to doing Parish Mission in the winter. A comparison of the electricity used in December 2024 (3245 units) compared to December 2023 (2481 units) shows a large increase in units. This has been due to the holding of the Lowestoft Shantymen concert, a Coffee morning, and Scouts Carol Service where heating and lighting usage have been additional to that of last year. This might mean that our Electricity bills in 2025 will be slightly above again!

Read on to the full accounts for more revelations and questions....

Mark Ellis, Treasurer, Carlton Colville PCC

# **Carlton Colville PCC**

#### Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 Receipts and Payments Accounts

	Note U	nrestricted [ Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Endowment Fund £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £	Treasurer Note
Receipts								
Voluntary receipts:								
Collections at Services	3	2416.90 -		-	<u>.</u>	2416.90	5822.20	(a)
Planned giving	3	27414.49 -		-	-	27414.49	20248.00	(a)
All other giving/voluntary receipts	з	11598.32 -		-	-	11598.32	18801.14	
Grant Income	3 -	-		-	-	-	-	
Legacies Received (Capital Value)		-		-	~	-	-	
Gift Aid recovered	_	8709.31 -			-		9194.33	(b)
	_	50139.02 -		-	•		54065.67	
Activities for generating funds	3	1850.13 -		-	-		2368.56	
Investment income		716.10 -		-	-	716.10	705.27	
Church activities	3	7686.00 -		-	-		10982.00	
Other income	3	17.50 -		-	-	17.50		
Total receipts		60408.75 -		-	-	60408.75	68121.50	
Payments								
Church activities:								
Parish share		32000.00 -			-	32000.00	32000.00	
Clergy and Staffing costs	4	7088.81 -		-	-	7088.81	7212.61	
Church running expenses	4	9420.74 -		-	-	9420.74	10848.30	
Mission giving and donations	4	5663.05 -		121		5663.05	7082.43	
Building work and repairs	4 -	-		( <b>T</b> )	-	-	11660.11	
Administration Costs	4	7487.36 -		-			4366.85	
Other expenditure	4	3668.93 -		-	-	3668.93	1063.07	
	_	65328.89 -		•	-	65328.89	74233.37	
Costs of generating funds	4 -	-		-	-	-	-	_
Total Payments		65328.89 -		-	-	65328.89	74233.37	
Excess of payments over receipts		-4920.14 -		-	-	-4920.14	-6111.87	
Transfers between funds	_	1076.71	274.30	-1,351.01	-	0.00	-	-
		-3843.43	274.30	-1,351.01	-	-4920.14	-6111.87	
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 Jan		20893.38	18,554.74	12,422.80	) -	51870.92	57882.79	-
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 Dec	_	17049.95	18,829.04	11,071.79	9 -	46950.78	51870.92	-

#### Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	Note	Unrestricted Fund	Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2024.00	Total 2023.00
Cash Funds		£	£	£	£	£	£
Bank Current Account Bank Savings Account	5	13127.36		-		13127.36	15246.77
Deposit Account	6	3822.59 <b>16949.95</b>	18,829.04	11,071.79	-	33723.42	36524.15
		10949.95	18,829.04	11,071.79	-	46850.78	51770.92

#### Notes

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

2. The movement in designated and restricted funds during the year were:

Restricted	Bal b/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Bal c/fwd
Restricted Music	51.5	55 -	-	-	51.55
Restricted Re-Ordering	0.0	01 -	-	-0.01	
Restricted Fabric	6144.	71 -	-	-0.01	6144.71
Restricted Compassion	4707.8	39 -	-	-1,686.00	3021.89
Parish Ministry Restricted	1152.5	59 -	-	335	1487.59
Restricted Mission	36.2	36.24 -		-	36.24
Restricted Childrens	329.8	31 -	-	-	329.81
	12422.8	30 -	-	-1,351.01	11071.79
Designated	Bal b/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Bal c/fwd
Fabric	450.1	7 -	-	-	450.17
Mission	2158.2	3 -	-	-1.200.00	
Compassion	7137 5	1		4 250 00	000120

	18554.74 -	-		274.3	18829.04
Childrens	116.99 -	-		124.3	241.29
Parish Ministry Deposit	8595.27 -	-	-		8595.27
3	96.57 -	-	-		96.57
Discretionary	And a state of the			1,550.00	
Compassion	7137.51 -	-		1.350.00	8487.51

Fabric - A designated fund for the fabric of St Peter's

Mission - A designated fund for the outward mission of St Peter's

Compassion - A designated fund for the support of the work of Compassion UK from St Peter's

Discretionary - A designated discretionary fund available to the incumbent for the provision of charity to others

Parish Ministry Deposit - A designated fund to support the Minstry within the Parish of St Peter's

Restricted Music - A restricted fund for the provision of music to St Peter's (eg replacement of the av equipment) Restricted Re-Ordering - A restricted fund to see the church fit for purpose in the 21st Century.

Restricted Fabric - A restricted fund for the fabric of St Peter's

Restricted Compassion - A restricted fund for the support of the work of Compassion UK from St Peter's

Parish Ministry Restricted - A restricted fund to support the Ministry within the Parish of St Peter's Restricted Mission - A restricted fund for the outward mission of St Peter's

Restricted Childrens - A restricted fund for the support of childrens work within St Peter's

Childrens - A designated fund for the support of childrens work within St Peter's

3. Receipts	Unrestricted Fund	Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2024.00	Total 2023.00	
COLLECTIONS AT SERVICES	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Sunday Collections	2231.75						
Weekday Collections	165.15		-	-		5 5677.80	(a)
Wedding and Funeral Collections	20.00			-	165.15		
	20.00			-	20.00	) 144.40	
	2416.90	-	-	-	2416.90	5822.20	
PLANNED GIVING							
Standing Order	1050.00 -						
Standing Order Gift Aid - Parish Ministry Fund	280.00 -				1050.00		
Standing Order Gift Aid - General	17504.00 -		8	-	280.00		
Envelopes (Non Gift Aid)	3735.49 -		•	-		18883.00	
Envelopes (Gift Aid)					3735.49		(a)
	4845.00 -				4845.00	-	(a)
	27414.49 -	-			27414.49	20248.00	
GIFT AID RECOVERED							
Gift Aid Reclaim	8709.31 -				12:0:070 10		
	0/09.51 -	-			8709.31	9194.33	(b)
	8709.31 -				8709.31	9194.33	
ALL OTHER GIVING/VOLUNTARY RECEIPTS							
Donations							
Gift Aid Envelopes	1223.98 -	-		ē	1223.98	5306.46	
Donations - Gift Aided		-	-		•	5370.85	(a)
Wall Boxes	10281.00 -	-	-		10281.00	8015.00	
Wait boxes	93.34 -	-	-		93.34	108.83	
	11598.32 -	-	-		11598.32	18801.14	
ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS							
Churches Together Bike Ride	123.50 -						
Sales	24.00 -	-	-		123.50		
Other Fundraising	1702.63 -	-	-		24.00	285.50	
	1702.03 -	-	-		1702.63	2083.06	
	1850.13 -	-	-		1850.13	2368.56	
CHURCH ACTIVITIES							
Use of Church building	17.50 -						
Fees - Statutory		-	-		17.50	315.00	
Fees - Additional	6956.00 -	-	-		6956.00	9373.00	
	730.00 -	-	-		730.00	1294.00	
	7703.50 -	-	-		7703.50	10982.00	
INVESTMENT INCOME							
Dividends and Interest	716.10 -	-			716.10	705.27	
	The second s				/ 10.10	105.27	
	716.10 -	•			716.10	705.27	

4. Payments	Unrestricted Fund	Fund	Restricted Fund	Fund	Total 2024.00	Total 2023.00
CLERGY AND STAFFING COSTS	£	£	£	£	£	£
Administrator Parish/Benefice	5000 00					
Clergy Expenses	5906.98		-	-	5906.98	
Salaries	269.83		-	-	269.83	627.14
Sudres	912.00	•			912.00	912.00
	7088.81		-	-	7088.81	7212.61
CHURCH RUNNING EXPENSES						
Cleaning	4.00		-	-	4.00	
Gas and Electricity Bill	5425.02 -		-	-	5425.02	
Insurance	1849.08 -		-	-	1849.08	
Service Costs	166.83 -		-	-	166.83	
Maintenance	1137.55 -		-		1137.55	
Telephone	838.26 -				838.26	
	9420.74 -			-	9420.74	10848.30
MISSION GIVING AND DONATIONS						
Charities - Home (UK)	1127.05 -				4407.05	1000 10
Charities - Overseas	4336.00 -			-	1127.05	1022.43
Charities - Christian Relief	200.00 -			-	4336.00	
	200.00				200.00	-
	5663.05 -	-	•	•	5663.05	7082.43
BUILDING WORK AND REPAIRS						
Church - Major repairs and Redecorations						
		-				11660.11
		-		-	•	11660.11
ADMINISTRATION COSTS						
Bank charges	129.61 -				129.61	152.38
Printing	278.70 -	-		2	278.70	
Stationery	121.72 -	-			121.72	30.74
Support Costs	2501.33 -	-			2501.33	961.42
Computer	295.00 -	-			295.00	539.31
Fees returned to Norwich DBF	4161.00 -				4161.00	2683.00
	7487.36 -	-			7487.36	4366.85
		and the second second second				
OTHER EXPENDITURE						
Mission and Evangelism Costs	282.85 -	-			282.85	110.20
Churchyard Expenses	3386.08 -	-	8		3386.08	952.87
	3668.93 -	-	-		3668.93	1063.07

5. Bank Current Account Current Account	Unrestricted Fund £ 13127.36	Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Endowment Fund £	2024.00 £	Total 2023.00 £ 15246.77
	13127.36	•	•	-	13127.36	15246.77
6. Deposit Account	Unrestricted Fund	Fund	Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2024.00	Total 2023.00
Deposit Account	<b>£</b> 3822.59	<b>£</b> 18,829.04	<b>£</b> 11,071.79	£	<b>£</b> 33723.42	<b>£</b> 36524.15
	3822.59	18,829.04	11,071.79	-	33723.42	36524.15

#### **Treasurer's Notes**

(a) Giving through envelopes was corrected during 2024 as Planned Giving(b) Gift Aid - a few planned givers fell out of paying income tax during 2024, so gift aid recovered fell

## **Rectors Report**

Thessalonians 5:18 Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will in Christ Jesus.

As I look back on the last 6 months since I was licenced as Rector, I see much to give thanks for. Tim and I are so thankful for your welcome, support and prayer as we have settled in. I also must say a massive thank you to the Wardens and to Mark, Sally and Sharon who in their roles as licenced and authorised officers have worked really hard to keep things going in the vacancy.

Sally has decided that she will not renew her licence as AWA. We are very grateful for all she has contributed to the life of the church in Carlton Colville and wish her well as she considers what God has planned for her next.

Bob Filer will also be standing down from his duties as Church Warden at St Peter's as well as his roles of fabric officer and Safeguarding officer for vulnerable adults, due to ill health. We are so thankful for all that Bob has contributed to the life of the church and the benefice. Sharon Brown has agreed to take on both the role of Safeguarding officer for children and young people as well as vulnerable adults. This is a great undertaking, and we are extremely grateful to her.

#### Safeguarding

Ensuring our churches are places of where all people can feel safe to grow and flourish in their life and faith is vitally important - It is an act of love at it's most practical.

I thank all those of you who have completed the safe guarding training required. If you still need to please do so, if you need any help and support with the technology please speak to Sharon Brown. I understand that for some of you this has not been easy but I would stress again that this is not just a tick box exercise it is about gaining an awareness of how we and others behave and how we ensure that we protect ourselves and others.

Even if you are not required to do safe guarding training please note that the PCC is signed up to and following the church of England's safeguarding policy and take time to read the information on display in our church and on our website.

#### Changes

Somebody once said that the only certainty in life is change. As God's people we are called to be pilgrims, to be constantly moving forward and growing in our love and knowledge of God in Jesus Christ. In the last 6 months there have been some changes to the way we worship in both churches in our liturgy and the administration of Holy Communion. Thank you for your grace and understanding. I have no doubt that as we seek God's will together for his church here, through prayer and discussion we will, as we change see growth and flourishing in our communities.

#### The Body of Christ

Since I have arrived, I have observed and give thanks for so many people playing their part in the life and work of our parishes and sometimes in more than one role. We all have different gifts and talents, and we are all called to use them as we work together for the ministry and mission of God's church, so that all people may be transformed by Christ prayerful, pastoral and prophetic.(\*Diocese of Norwich vision \*)

#### Finances

I give thanks to God for all of you who give so generously of your money towards the mission and ministry of the church. We have a generous God who gave his all for us so that we can live in freedom and peace and enjoy relationship with him through Jesus Christ. Mission, Ministry and maintenance of our buildings all cost money. However, as St Paul tells us in Colossians 3:23-24

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters. Since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is Christ you are serving.

So, whether we are supporting a mission agency, funding a building project or getting involved with our communities, all of it is for the Lord and for the Gospel.

We would all love to see our churches growing in the numbers, service and discipleship so please do prayerfully consider a regular review of your giving. Whatever the Lord calls you to give no matter the amount the important thing is to give regularly, this allows treasurers and pcc's to budget more accurately so that we can plan ahead.

Paying by Standing order also means that we avoid bank charges but there are other ways to give regularly so please speak to your treasurer if you wish to know more.

Finally, there is always much to do within the life of the church so please take time to be. Be all that you are and all that God wants for you both as churches and as individuals.

In everything

'Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful'

I look forward to the privilege of serving you and working with you all in the coming year.

With every blessing

Andrea

## Warden's Report 2024

All we need to do is sew the seed of His word and God will handle the growth.

Nothing can be done without the help of others. Over the last year we have had new low energy lamps installed by Rounce Electrical in the Parish Room, they also fitted a new water heater in the kitchen and carried the annual P.A.T. testing of our electrical equipment.

We have extended the ashes plot by having Stuart Brown install new posts round the perimeter, thus giving us around 100 extra spaces.

A skip was delivered back in the summer to enable us to get rid of all the old masonry, brick rubble and clear out the sheds.

A.E.D. were call in the repair a fault with the new screen and thank the Lord it was only a loose electrical connection.

As we try to work to the best of our abilities keeping services running smoothly, keeping order and also making sure there is always a toilet roll in place.

The post of Church Warden has changed over the years and both Carol and I think for the better. The leadership course opens your eyes to the changing times, as we look to your safety and wellbeing. Sometimes we may think that the rules are a little over the top, but we can assure you they are not.

Bob and Carol. 2024

#### Fabric Report 2024

I will build my Church and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.

Gods Community meet at St. Peter's and we are blessed with a beautiful building. The Normans were very skilled artisans, but like everything time takes it's toll.

2025 will bring another Quinquennial Inspection, so we will get another report on the state of the building from our architect. In the meantime I have measured the crack on the South wall next to the West window of the Nave, the gap, as expected is moving.

The crack on the West wall inside of the tower is also expanding, but as the building has been here since the 14<sup>th</sup> century, I don't think there is cause for panic.

Over the winter there have been some tiles from the roof, these will be replaced in due course.

Bob. 2024

## Safeguarding Report

Bob and I have been keeping abreast of the changes required for meeting the safeguarding requirements and reporting these to the PCC. We have been reminding, encouraging and assisting people in the congregation that require to complete safeguarding training in line with their roles and the requirements of the church of England. Safeguarding for children and vulnerable adults is very important and we continue to be available for advice or help if you need it.

Sharon Brown and Robert Filer

## Electoral Roll

The total number on the Electoral roll in 2024 was 59, consisting of 35 resident in the parish and 35 non- resident.

However, that number at the end of 2024 fell to 58 as one of our number is now at rest with the Lord.

Nelly Baxter (Electoral roll officer)

2025 is a completely new electoral roll. If you did not sign up to be on the electoral roll before the Apcm it is now closed until after the apcm if would like to be included please talk to Nelly after the Apcm when it will re open.

#### Deanery Synod

The Deanery synod meets 3 times a year after the Norwich Diocesan Synod so that feedback can be disseminated from the diocese to the deanery. The meetings are friendly informative and a great way to find out what else is happening in the churches around us. It is also used as an opportunity for the churches to work together and plan joint actions of Christian witness. This year we have had a talk from Tim Sweeting about his walk with Christ, his current role as Diocesan Secretary, and the role of the parish support team. He explained how the Parish Support Team's core purpose is to support mission and ministry. He expanded on the budgetary pressures running across all areas of the C of E. and how money collected from Parish share has reduced by 25% since 2019 making it very difficult to budget; and therefore how the Diocese is looking to utilize it's resources in a more cost effective way in order to maintain the level of services that are currently enjoyed.

We have planned for the Bishops Pilgrimage to the deanery on 12th June 2025 which will be followed in the evening by a Deanery service with questions and answers with Bishop Graham.

We are planning a saint's trail for the deanery for on All Saints' Day or another day during the October half term 2025. This will be an evangelistic and missional activity day where different churches will be encouraged to take part each providing information and activities to enable their visitors to learn more about more recent saints such as William Wilberforce, Corrie Ten Boom, Mother Theresa.

There remains another place on the Deanery synod should anyone wish to join me.

Sharon Brown

## **Bible Study Groups**

#### Jesus is Alive

This group has been meeting since summer 2022

We meet every other Friday from 2-3.30pm in St Peter's church hall and 10 people from both churches attend.

We began by exploring Celtic Christianity, and since then have studied and discussed 1 and 2 Timothy, Ephesians, King David and Ruth.

Currently we are looking at the origins of the bible, history, and the early church.

We use study guides, reference books and internet sources.

The meeting begins with tea/coffee and ends with prayer.

Rachel Ullmer

#### Young at heart

We are a friendly group, but we do have some lively discussions. 6 people meet on a Tuesday fortnightly. Nothing is set in stone and everyone is at ease to contribute. Everything discussed in the group stays in the group.

We are currently studying 'A Purpose Driven Life' this book has opened our minds to the way we live our lives. For 2025 we ask God to bring us closer together and closer to Jesus as He makes us more like Him.

Bob. 2024

#### Fishnets and Friendships

2024 was another year of ups and downs, with another interregnum and numbers up and down depending on the weather and input of residents from Carlton Hall. The subs collected from over the year were divided between St. Peter's and Crohn's and Colitis UK to the value of £80 per charity.

The craft work of the group is varied, we have knitters, card makers, painting and sewing. All are made welcome and can bring along whatever craft they like to do or use the collection of craft materials that we have available.

We discontinued the share lunch because of the fluctuation in numbers. We now meet on the first Tuesday of each month from 10.00 - 12.00

Carol and Linda 2024

#### St Peter's Flower Team

This team consists of 6 ladies form the congregation.

Unfortunately, fresh flowers have become very expensive so, we now use silk flowers more often.

We always use fresh flowers on special occasions. We greatly appreciate donations in memory of a loved one at Easter which enables us to have beautiful Easter Lilies.

We love to decorate St Peter's and do our best for the glory of our God.

Heather

## Missionary Committee

The Missionary Group comprises of 4 members of the congregation.

10% of the Church giving is passed to the mission fund, which is then delegated to the appropriate charities and needs as they arise. We continue to support Bible Society, Church Army, Tearfund and Compassion. We currently support 4 children Ihabwickuzo, Patrick, Dimany, and Edwin. Gifty left the project earlier in the year for reasons unknown to us and Daniella graduated from the project. The children from Nicaragua are only supported until they are 16 yrs of age (this includes Dimany) whereas our other children continue until they are 21yrs.

Please remember to read the letters from the children in the folders at the back of Church and to pray for each child and their families.

This year we have been able to support the Tearfund Gaza/Israel appeal and The Kirkley Pantry as well as the Children's Society through the giving at the Christingle Service held in December.

We welcome any new members with new ideas on how to go forward in the future, so if anyone is interested in joining us please let Sue know. Sue Cummings 2025

#### Prayer Focus

The meetings have been held on the third Thursday of the month at 10am until the arrival of the new Rector when they were moved to the third Friday at 10am.

This hour- long group includes Bible readings and prayers around various topics and needs. At present various people lead these meetings each time.

As the people of God it is good to meet together to prayer for the needs of the world and the needs of the local community and for God's Church here in Carlton Colville.

It would be good to have more people joining with us in this important and central core of the church's life.

#### Quiet Time

"Be still and know that I am God." Psalm 46:10 "Come to me all who are weary and I will give you rest" Matthew 11:28

On the first Thursday of every month and led by Heather, this group has met for a time of quiet rest with music, providing a space to be still and draw nearer to God.

## Schools Work

During 2024 Both Grove and Carlton Primary schools came to the church to celebrate Harvest Christmas and Easter.

We were also invited into the school to participate in Re lessons relating to Christianity. We hope that we will be able to grow this work in 2025 and pray that more children will beable to experience Christianity and the church in a positive way and lead them to want to know more of what it means to follow Jesus.

Andrea Woods and Mark Ellis

# Upside Down Group

We are a group for the bereaved. We meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month in Parish Room between 12and 2pm with a sharing lunch.

At present we have 17 ladies ( no men at moment)

It's a time for talking , sharing and togetherness whether in the large group or a quieter personal chat .

Occasionally we visit a garden centre or have lunch out together.

Please 'spread the word' that we exist for anyone who needs us.

We've been going around 16 years now , and the ladies often say how much they enjoy being together with others who have experienced the loss of a loved one .

Heather