



The Parish of St Mary and All Saints, Haselor

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

Address for Correspondence:

Mrs S Foster, PCC Secretary, The Old Vicarage, Walcote, Alcester, B49 6LY

Rector:

Reverend Katie L Cross

Bankers:

Lloyds Bank, 22 Bridge Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6AG

Independent Examiner:

Derek Layton, Orchard Rise, Walcote, Alcester B49 6LZ

The Parochial Church Council is an Excepted Charity

Contents

	Page
2024 Annual Report	3
Appendix 1: Rector's Report	8
Appendix 2: Minster Reports	11
Appendix 3: Church Officers' reports	17

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2024

The Parochial Church Council of St Mary and All Saints, Haselor

Administrative Information

The Church is situated on a hill between the villages of Haselor and Walcote. The formal address is: 1 Orchard Corner, Haselor B49 6LX. However, the church has no letterbox. Sandy Foster, the PCC Secretary, can be contacted at The Old Vicarage, Walcote, Alcester, B49 6LY.

The email address for the church is: haselorchurch@gmail.com

The church is part of the Alcester Deanery in the Diocese of Coventry.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2020) and is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2024, except as noted, until the date this report was approved are:

EX Officio members:

Rector:	Rev'd Katie Louise Cross	Chair
Associate Ministers:	Rev'd Daniel Corlett Rev'd Steve Kelly` Rev'd Julie Lindsay	
Churchwardens:	Christopher Corbett Hamish Gray-Cheape	Vice Chairman
Deanery Synod Reps:	Martyn Davey	
Elected Members:	Sandy Foster George Gray-Cheape Martyn Davey Sandy Foster Sandy Foster Jean Harris	Secretary Treasurer Deputy Treasurer Electoral Roll Officer Parish Safeguarding Lead Member

Approved by the PCC on 26th March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
.....

Rev'd Katie L Cross [Chairman]

Christopher Corbett [on behalf of Vice-chairman]

Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The membership of the above PCC consists of the Incumbent, the Churchwardens and other members elected at the Annual Parochial Church meeting by those persons named on the electoral roll.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance in the parish for the church buildings and financial matters. They are also responsible for the maintenance of their own church. The Benefice as a whole, undertakes joint work through Minster Council with membership comprising members from each PCC. They report back to Parochial Church Councils with minutes of their meetings.

Each PCC contributes to the joint costs of the Benefice via a joint agreement in which all five PCCs share running costs proportionately.

The PCC has held 6 meetings during the year.

There are 53 parishioners on the church electoral roll of whom 19 are not resident within the parish.

Safeguarding

The PCC has complied with their duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). Our Parish Safeguarding Officer liaises with her counterparts in the Minster and keeps the PCC informed of developments through the Parish Safeguarding Lead.

Aim and Purpose

This PCC works to consult and co-operate with the Minister, to enable God's mission and to care for the people, buildings and churchyard of the local community within the compliance of the law.

Objectives and Activities

Alcester Minster has adopted a vision of L.I.F.E. which compliments the Diocesan vision and strategy, to shape its objectives and activities.

L – Loving God wholeheartedly

I - Investing in our Christian journey

F - Flourishing in our community

E -Everyone is welcome

Jesus said, "I come to give life—life in all its fullness." John10:10 NCV

Achievements and Performance

Our pattern of services has largely remained the same, ie twice a month, Holy Communion alternating with Morning Prayer or a Festival Service. Our Festival Services are family-run as was the case in our previously named Family Services. It has been agreed that, on a trial basis, we will use BCP for our Morning Prayer Services in future. The average attendance during the year was 17. When children attended a service they averaged 3 in number. There have not been any baptisms, weddings or funerals but there has been one burial of ashes.

During 2024 we have concentrated on:

- **Growing our Relationship with the Community**

As we note at the beginning of each PCC meeting in the section 'Sharing Signs of Life', we are forging closer links with the village and the school. Among the activities enjoyed by all are the Plant Sale, the Fete, a Rounders Match, a Bonfire Party, a Rhythm & Blues Concert and monthly Coffee, Cake & Chat mornings organised by the Parish Council and held in the church. These events not only raise considerable contributions to church funds, but they also create excellent ties with villagers who may not necessarily attend services but value the importance of having a well-maintained church. Some parishioners, having enjoyed the experience of attending events in the church, are now attending services. Practical help such as decorating the church for the Christmas services has been both sociable and invaluable.

- **Policies, Health & Safety and Risk Assessments**

Considerable effort is put into keeping this area up-to-date.

- **Safeguarding**

Following the appointment of a new PSO, the training schedule and dashboard have been updated.

- **Services**

As well as our regular pattern of services, special festival services were held to commemorate Plough Sunday, Mothering Sunday, Easter, Rogation, Lammas, Harvest, Remembrance Day, Crib Service, Carol Service and Christmas Day. Members of the PCC played an important part in leading services, reading lessons and leading intercessions. The Carol Service was very well-supported and several villagers contributed to the service in a variety of ways. The collection was given to Myton Hospice in memory of a village friend.

- **Toy Boxes**

In response to the initiative of the Minster's Children & Families Worker, we have refreshed our toy boxes and produced laminated family welcome sheets. The intention is to make families with young children feel welcome and relaxed when attending services.

- **Quinquennial Inspection & related repairs**

Repairs highlighted in the Quinquennial Report have begun. Roof repairs, the painting of the downpipes & gutters, and the regilding of the church clock have been carried out. Following receipt of a Faculty, The mowing shed has been repaired. In preparation for the mortar repairs to the stonework, the church elevations have been surveyed. Tenders have been received and the work should be completed during 2025.

- **Surge Protection Device**

This has been installed to protect the electrical circuits in church.

- **Alcester Minster's Mission Action Plan & L.I.F.E. Vision**

Actions in accordance with the Minster's L.I.F.E. vision are considered on a regular basis and some are already being achieved.

- **Open the Book**

This popular form of extended outreach is being enjoyed by 4 local primary schools. It is supported by a member of our committee.

- **Charitable Giving**

The sub-committee allocated £750 to ex-parochial giving. In addition to the donation to Myton Hospice following the Carol Service, several donations were distributed to charities according to the Code of Fundraising Practice.

For more information, please refer to the reports that follow.

Deanery Synod

Haselor PCC has one member on the Alcester Deanery Synod. Reports have provided the PCC with a link to the churches around us, and also to the Diocese as a whole. Reports are also received from the Diocesan and General Synod. For more information about the business of the Deanery Synod please see the synopsis at Appendix 2.

Volunteers

The members of the PCC would like to thank all the volunteers throughout the Alcester Minister Benefice who work tirelessly to make our churches lively and vibrant communities. For more information please see the synopsis at Appendix 3.

Financial Review

Total receipts on the unrestricted General Fund were £24,012, and total payments were £26,409, resulting in a deficit of £2,397. This reflects a 21% increase in revenue and 31% increase in payments compared with last year.

Of note with regard to the increase in revenue was the timing of Gift Aid receipts increasing revenue by £4,134 on the previous year.

In June 2023 an electronic giving station was installed into the church, receiving £300 in the 6 months, during 2024 it collected £936.

Costs increased substantially during the period predominantly due to minor works and repairs to the clock (£6,060) and repairs to the mower shed (£3,480).

A plant sale fundraising event raised £5,182 for the Maintenance Fund and the Fete raised £4,179 for the General Fund.

Total receipts into the restricted Heritage Fund were £5,613, including £735 raised from a concert event.

During the year the church made donations totalling £750 to several charities as shown within the Financial Statement supporting worthy causes recommended to the PCC by our Charity Committee.

Reserves Policy

The PCC's Policy is to keep £5,000 acting as a reserve within the Lloyds Current Account in order to meet payments or to cover emergency situations.

The PCC's Investment Policy is to invest available funds within The CBF Church of England Investment Fund - Income, which is "Suitable for all of a Church of England charity's long-term funds where the charity is looking for a good level of distributions and long-term protection from inflation. Aims to provide a long-term total return comprising growth in capital and distributions."

Financial Statements

Please see the Financial Statement for 2024 circulated to the committee on 26th March, 2024.

Please see the Benefice reports for 2024 circulated to the committee on 26th March, 2024.

Independent Examiner's Report

Please see the Independent Examiner's Report appended to the Financial Statements for 2024.

Alcester Minster Parishes

The Parish of St Mary and All Saints, Haselor

Rector's Report 2024

2024 has been a year full of **joy** and **sadness**. Our regular services have largely continued to **grow**, with a number of new people walking through our doors looking for support and prayer. We have grown by another 10% this past year. We spent 2024 looking at **Mark's Gospel** in detail and enjoying the various events throughout the year that helped us to engage and understand Mark better. Who can forget the amazing presentation by Matt Brittan just before Easter or Dave Allen giving us insight into Marks' writing. Over the year we gave away roughly 200 copies of Mark's Gospel. We continued to engage with families through **St Nicks@9** and **Messy Church**, with some of our regulars are now making new steps in faith. **Breathing Space**, a reflective Christian meditation at Weethley, continues to go from strength to strength with a committed group attending.

With the help of Steve and Kathy Burch we were able to run **ALPHA** this year, resulting in a number of people joined our Church family and choosing to get confirmed and baptised. We ran this alongside Youth ALPHA which has also birthed a Youth group called **RARA** now meeting monthly.

We have built on the **connections** we have built with our local communities, offering Civic and Court Leet services, services around Remembrance, partnering for coffee mornings and wonderful events such as the Haselor Plant Sale, Wings over Weethley, Alcester Food Festival and the Summer fetes. We welcomed over 2,300 people coming to share the joy of Christmas with us, including a special outdoor **Christingle** at Arrow.

Our local **primary schools** have continued to benefit from our support over this year, particularly our Children and Families worker Jen. *See Jen's report for information about all the projects and people she has been working with over the year.* We have led **Collective Worship** and services for the schools in churches and St Nicholas Primary school sent children from each year group to engage more deeply with their R.E. topics in the church building. Our **Open the Book** team have been sharing Bible stories with the children. We have delivered Experience Easter and Harvest, transition lessons with year six pupils, including a poignant leavers event with **Prayer Stations** at Coughton. We also invited **ISingPop** to lead us in a back-to-school event for the Autumn term. This year we also partnered with **CrossTeach** to offer a Christmas Experience to year 7 pupils from Alcester Academy. Our Church of England Primary schools continue to be well supported by our foundation governors, who give their time and expertise willingly.

The **Rural Mission Hub** continues to offer support and training across our area, with us hosting events and gatherings, including Greenhouse as well as offering advice and ideas for those seeking to do new things. *See Daniel's report for more details.*

We celebrated with Julie as she was **ordained** as a Priest in Coventry Cathedral and continue to look forward to her monthly reflections in Around the Minster. We have partnered with **ACT** to walk on Good Friday, join the World Day of Prayer, as well as send Christmas greetings to the community.

We have increased the number of our **LIFE Groups**. Steve Kelly led us in an inspiring Lent course 'One Thing' which we followed with the 'BLESS' course at the end of the year, and Great Alne hosted a **Sanctuary Day** for the Minster.

We have celebrated with five couples as they got **married**, blessed one couple in thanksgiving for their wedding, we gave thanks as fifteen people were **baptised**, thirteen people were **confirmed** and we **comforted** and supported over forty-five families as they faced the death of a loved one.

We welcomed **Bishop Ruth** as she led our Confirmation service and later in the year **Bishop Sophie** as her appointment as our new Diocesan Bishop was announced.

We had many poignant deaths this year, but our hearts will fondly remember Steve and Kathy Burch who were tragically killed over the summer. Their funeral at the Cathedral is one that will remain with us for some time. We also said **goodbye** to Steve and Maggie Kelly at the end of the year, as they moved on to Leamington to begin a new ministry there.

Sing Inn Praise, our monthly worship gathering in the Alcester Inn, came to an end after we reviewed its purpose, as did **Fun and Chat**, both of which have brought life to our minster for the season they were operating. We thank everyone who was involved in both these ventures.

We continue on the journey towards establishing a **Joint PCC**. It has taken us much longer than we anticipated, but we are hopeful we will be in a position to bring a proposal soon. The aim is still to streamline various activities, ease the administrative burden on the parishes, and in doing so to reduce our workload. As ever, our **buildings** continue to be a source of delight and frustration with growing maintenance needs and limited resources. We continue to move towards becoming net zero carbon in our churches.

We continue with our **Vision of L.I.F.E.**

L – Loving God wholeheartedly

I - Investing in our Christian journey

F - Flourishing in our community

E -Everyone is welcome

It is testament to God's blessing that all our parishes have been able to pay their **Parish Share in full**, as well as their contribution to the Minster pot and general running costs.

I would finally like to say a huge **thank you** to all the volunteers and staff we have working across our Minster Churches. We are so grateful to our churchwardens who keep things moving on the ground, our diligent treasurers, secretaries, PCC members, and all those who offer music, prayer, leading worship, preaching, flowers and cleaning, ringing bells and pastoral visiting in our localities, amongst many other roles. So many of you give so much in time energy and financially, that we really couldn't continue without you.

We are **excited** that God is working in our midst and give thanks for his many blessings and are ever thankful for his grace to us this past year. Let us be hopeful for all that is ahead, the new people we are ready to welcome and the old friends we continue to journey with. **Life in all its fullness**, as Jesus promised.

Rev Katie Cross Rector

Minster Reports

Deanery Synod 2024

The Deanery acts as the conduit between individual parishes and the larger organisations, passing information downwards and carrying views and requests upwards. Deanery Synod meetings are essentially divided into two halves; the first section being a visiting speaker and the second half deals with Deanery business.

This year there were 3 meetings. The speakers and topics included:

Nicola Perryman, (Forest Church Practitioner) and Colin Angus, (Coventry Diocese Net Zero Carbon Project) – The Eco Church Journey and Zero Carbon Aim

The Venerable Barry Dugmore, (Archdeacon Missioner) and Gareth Fitzpatrick (Mission & Evangelism Enabler) – The ‘Talking Jesus Report 2022’

The Reverend Canon for Worship & Welcome, Nitano Muller (Canon for Worship and Welcome at Coventry Cathedral) – A Lifetime Journey of Faith

During the year Reverend Katie Cross became the Area Dean, succeeding Reverend Kate Mier, who had performed the leadership role for the previous 5 years.

Rural Mission Hub report 2024

The Rural Mission Hub’s purpose is to enable missional growth in the Minster, across our deanery, and in rural multi-parish ministry across the diocese. A mixture of conferences, training, learning communities, mentoring and coaching are designed to **release capacity** in the church, **share experience** from those who have pioneered new ways of working, and **explore possibilities** for doing church in new ways that reach new people.

A major focus of 2024 was the conference “A Future for Rural Churches” which attracted over 100 delegates and offered inspiration, training and networking through its mix of guest speakers, workshops and hosted conversations. Archdeacon Missioner, the Ven. Barry Dugmore said “What was so encouraging on the day is the energy, wisdom, and the warm stories we heard which served to encourage us and help those praying about next steps in their own communities.” One delegate wrote that they were encouraged by “the enthusiasm of a generation to give rural ministry a chance of a future”

The Clergy Prayer Network has continued, including a breakfast event with Bishop Ruth, in which ministers gather to share good news stories and to pray for renewal and the increased health of our churches. This has been a lifeline of prayerful support for many of the clergy who attend.

The first Greenhouse Rural cohort continued with two, six-monthly learning communities for teams from rural churches looking to develop or grow new missional initiatives. We have been excited to see

the work God is doing in rural churches to reach out to new people. Projects led by these teams include a village café event, toddler groups, Brick Church (Lego), outdoor church and more..

In June, we offered a whole day of learning on Outdoor Church, with practitioners from across the West Midlands demonstrating a very wide range of ways of worshipping in the outdoors, aimed at reaching those who don't normally participate in church. It has given fresh inspiration to those who attended and encouraged those who were already exploring the opportunities presented in our outdoor spaces.

In May, we hosted a Deanery Showcase in order to attract would-be applicants to clergy posts in our deanery. We supported all four vacant benefices in strategically reshaping their clergy roles, to ensure we could attract high quality, collaborative ministers who will not only lead their own churches well, but will also contribute to the mission of the wider deanery. By the beginning of 2025, two of the vacancies will have been filled.

We have also been training curates who are considering rural ministry, meeting with rural colleagues for 1:1 coaching and support, and attending PCCs and Deanery Synods across the diocese to speak about rural mission. Katie and Daniel's involvement in diocesan-wide committees and working groups enables them to represent and advocate for rural churches where strategic, financial and operational decisions are being made.

Joy this year has come in the form of many churches, especially those in vacancy or even those facing existential challenges, sharing stories of God at work, of new ways of being church that are starting to connect with people, and of hope for their futures.

Rev Daniel Corlett, Mission Hub Associate

Children and Families Ministry 2024

2024 saw another busy year for children and families in the Minster and there has been much to celebrate as a result of their encounters with God.

Messy Church

Messy Church continues to be a regular place of worship for families and we now have a fairly consistent cohort who come intentionally because this is where they and their children can access teachings about the bible. Whilst we have seen numbers of attendees drop I am not disheartened as those who come are making a concerted effort to come and are feeling a more profound impact at services and the team of volunteers have far greater opportunities to talk about Jesus. Numbers may have decreased but engagement has increased and I don't judge the success of Messy Church, or any service indeed, by counting heads.

I was delighted when one of our Messy Church couples felt such a connection to Jesus that they both joined Alpha groups to find out more and have subsequently both been baptised. One has been confirmed, the other is embarking on the confirmation journey AND they are due to be married at St Nicholas Church with a "Messy Wedding". This particular couple has now become such a big part of our church family and have gone on to publicly share their faith with others.

St Nicks at Nine

St Nicks at Nine continues once a month. Whilst numbers aren't vast we do have families and other regular churchgoers who choose to attend this service due to its unique style offering prayer stations and time to engage in prayer in a different, more hands-on way. Its accessible nature appeals to all ages and supports people with a different spiritual style to the more "wordy" or structured services.

Of those who do choose to attend St Nicks at Nine, one regular family asked to have their son baptised during the service as it was special to them and the result was a very intimate and poignant welcome to God's family for a young boy and his parents who are held dear to the St Nicks at Nine team. This particular family connected with St Nicks at Nine having first come to Messy Church.

People who attend this service still want to see an increase in its frequency so that they can worship more frequently and feel truly valued as part of the wider church family. The drop in numbers is reflected by families who have gone elsewhere where there is more on offer for them.

Schools

Collective Worship, Open the Book, lessons in church and school led services in church continue to be the main contact points with our church schools.

In an academic year we presently offer each year group at St Nicholas Primary an opportunity to come and learn a topic in church. These topics include belonging (which involves a mock wedding for the reception pupils), an introduction to what church is, Experience Easter, Experience Harvest, creation, the Gospel, incarnation and Advent. We have recently offered these lessons to Coughton Primary and this year I was pleased to go into their school with Gail Laband to teach the Easter story and make palm crosses and to lead a lesson on the symbolism behind the Christingle. Both lessons were received well and pupils were really engaged.

We continue to connect with the other primary schools in the Minster with Open the Book going in regularly and inviting them to use the church where appropriate and I am in regular email contact with all of the schools where I share events that their pupils may wish to come to.

And, of course, there is social media. I regularly tag schools in posts to highlight our ongoing relationships with them and to outwardly show the public that we support the schools (both Primary, Secondary, church school, community school, SEND and our local Catholic schools) in thought, deed and prayer.

Community

In July our community was rocked by the tragic death of a young boy who drowned in the river off the Conway playing fields on a family walk. I became a contact point for the family through one of my voluntary roles at the time and made the connection that they had recently been attending St Nicks at Nine. With Katie's blessing I approached the family to offer them time in St Nicholas Church for a candlelit vigil and space for a book of condolences. This was not just an important time for his devastated family but also for a community that was reeling at such a tragedy. The evening vigil was

attended by Joshua's family and friends, community and the emergency services who had been on call on night he died.

This year I did not run the Give a Gift scheme; returning to our traditional Gift Service instead. Having run Give a Gift for the last two years it really was a labour of love and it did help many but it came with its own set of challenges – where to store all the gifts safely being just one of them! This year we heard that a local supermarket was running an identical scheme covering Alcester and there was also a newly formed charity from Evesham also helping Alcester families with Christmas presents. It was right for us to step back and free up my capacity to do other things.

I mustn't forget Summer Praise. Our Praise Party that came off the back of last year's Diocesan party - ALIVE. Thanks to a £500 Mustard Seed Grant from the Diocese of Coventry I was thrilled to work with Emma from ISingPop on a day workshop/show for children across the Alcester Deanery. On the day before schools returned in September we welcomed children from across the Minster, Arden Marches and Heart Parishes to The Greig Hall for an enjoyable day learning more about Jesus through singing. The day was themed around Jesus calming the storm and how we can be strong and face our fears if we have faith in Him and children enjoyed crafts, learned new songs, shared lunch and then put on an incredible performance to their parents.

Aside from what I do as Children & Families Worker, I continue to show love to the community by connecting with the Arden Foodbank, being an Acts435 Advocate alongside Steve Tash and volunteering on Alcester Town Council's Health & Wellbeing group with a particular focus on supporting SEND families.

So, what's next?

With so much happening it is hard to see what more I can possibly squeeze in but in 2025 I will be looking at how we can, as a Minster, further our offerings to families so as to offer them more opportunities to connect with God. There are still plans to start St Nicks with Bricks (I have the Lego ready to go!) and I have hopes of starting an outdoor worship in one of our more rural churches where children & families can connect with God through nature. I have the seeds germinating for trails around some of our churches for those who may be passing to encourage them to spend some time with their family in the Lord's space. Of course, my plans require resources in the form of volunteers and funding so my ongoing job is asking people to consider offering an hour or two a month to help make these things happen. We are at a critical point in the Church when it comes to investing heavily in children and families and I will need the help of our existing Minster family to help me to create more welcoming spaces for them and to help fund this vital mission.

Jen Hopkins – Children and Families Worker

Work and ministry with Youth across the Minster

In Spring 2024, a Youth Alpha course was launched, designed for young people aged 10 to 18. The course attracted a diverse group of attendees, ranging from those preparing for confirmation to others eager to explore faith and learn more about Jesus. A committed core group of 10 to 12 participants attended regularly, and feedback from the young people was overwhelmingly positive. Led by a dedicated team of clergy and laity, the weekly sessions proved to be a meaningful journey, culminating in several participants being both baptised and confirmed at the confirmation service at St Nicholas in July 2024.

Following the course, there was a strong desire among the group to continue meeting, leading to the formation of a monthly youth club. Named *RARA* (Revival, Action, Restoration, Association) by its members, the club launched in September 2024 and has since established a steady core group of around six young people. While some were part of the original Youth Alpha course, the club has also welcomed new members. In December, RARA took an active role in the community by hosting a promotional stall at St Nicholas Night, where members engaged with visitors to the stall.



Though still in its early stages, RARA is steadily growing, with a strong foundation of committed members. Plans are in place to further promote the club and build connections with other youth groups across the deanery. This marks an exciting new chapter in youth ministry within our Minster, offering a vibrant space for young people to grow in faith and fellowship throughout 2025 and beyond.

Rev Julie Lindsay, Emma Berry, Matt Berry, Hannah Cross





Reports of Church Officers

The Church buildings and Churchyard (Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church)

We have had a busy year with maintenance on and around the church this year.

Further to the Quinquennial report last year the mower store on the north side has been repaired and is now operational. The Church Clock has been regilded and is looking smart now! All the gutters and downpipes were painted. Roof tiles have been replaced where necessary and some lead work has been readjusted. A faculty has been approved for the external stonework repairs. This is now programmed for later in 2025. Our next major project will be the repair of the organ. We are very appreciative of our organist, John Newbold. He not only plays beautifully but has also supported the maintenance of the organ over the years. It is now time for a more major overhaul.

General maintenance work has been carried out throughout the year, with particular emphasis on the churchyard. This area has been looked after by a dedicated team of volunteers.

Eco/Environmental Review

The PCC recognises its duty to protect and care for the environment. In Jan 21 the PCC created an Environmental Team to deliver the PCC's environmental commitments as set out within its Environmental Policy Statement. The Team undertakes an annual review of its Objectives and Targets (see Haselor Church Environmental Policy & Assessments document).

In 2024 the PCC achieved all of its targets across electricity usage, travel/fuel, waste, biodiversity, net zero and education and awareness. New challenging targets have been set for 2025.

During 2024 the church emitted 0.7T of CO2 which was offset through the Climate Stewardship scheme, resulting in the church becoming Net Carbon Zero 6 years prior to its target of 2030. The PCC intends to continue to challenge itself in this area and maintain its Net Zero status.

The PCC has recently formed a collaborative initiative with the village school to engage and involve pupils in setting aside parts of the churchyard for biodiversity projects to benefit nature.

The PCC was recertified with the Eco Church Bronze Award confirming its significant progress in our care for the environment across the categories of Worship and Teaching, Buildings and Energy, Land and Nature and Lifestyle.

Volunteers

The PCC wish to thank the many members of the Haselor and Walcote community who commit so much time and effort in supporting our church. Our church relies entirely on its volunteers and we are lucky to have such a wonderfully willing and supportive community.

This year has seen multiple community events arranged by our enthusiastic volunteers to raise funds for the Heritage Fund enabling the protection and maintenance of the fabric of the building for the benefit of future generations.

The PCC also wish to thank all the hard-working volunteers who support in keeping our church clean and tidy and so welcoming to the public, with the day-to-day tasks activities such as mowing, cleaning and flower arranging; all of which create the environment in which we all have so much pride.

Chris Corbett and Hamish Gray-Cheape - Churchwardens