

The Parish of Saint Giles-in-Reading

Report of the Churchwardens to the Annual Parochial Meeting 8th May 2022

The current churchwardens would like to thank all who give so freely of their time to ensure the smooth running of the church. The last year has been a challenge due to the continuation of the Covid pandemic affecting society in so many ways.

Repairs to and care of the Church. Due to the continuation of the Covid-19 viral pandemic little new work has been undertaken in church in 2021 but the usual round of routine maintenance has been completed. The heating system has worked well through a rather mild winter. Work is required on the lightning conductor which is scheduled for January 2022

Sidesmen. The office of sidesman is an ancient one, but is still very important today. Every new person who comes into church on Sunday morning needs to be greeted and made to feel welcome. During this time of Covid pandemic the role of sidesman has been undertaken by stewards who have felt able to oversee entry to church for the Parish Mass and some weekday services. Each steward has received relevant training and only operated if personal circumstances have allowed. We all owe these stewards a huge vote of thanks, for without their efforts we would not have been able to open for divine worship as frequently as we have or for as many people to attend services without this essential help.

Mission. The Church has not been able to be open to casual visitors in 2021 and this is a great sorrow. However, the pandemic has given us the chance to broadcast our main services live, on-line and this has enabled many of our regular worshipers to keep together as a congregation either by participating via video or joining in by phone. The daily offices have also been broadcast on-line and it is wonderful to report that new people have found us through our on-line presence. We did manage to arrange for people to be in church for Holy Week and Easter Day with reduced numbers. Later in the year the move towards more people being admitted to services in church was a welcome step forward to a more normal environment. The ringing of the church bells has continued as national guidelines have allowed and we thank our dedicated group of church bellringers for their welcome efforts during this time. Work in supporting CIRDIC at this time has continued as normal.

Finances. THE ST GILES CHURCH LANDS CHARITY, registered charity number 1086383. A copy of audited accounts is presented. In common with many others some of our tenants have been unable to undertake business activities during the whole of 2021 but rental income has been received on a regular basis from the majority of our tenanted properties.

S. E. Mott
Churchwarden

S. G. Gooding
Churchwarden

Registered Charity No 1086383

Receipts and Payments Account for the Year ended 31st December 2021

2020 £		2021 £	2020 £	2021 £
	<u>Receipts</u>			<u>Payments</u>
34,259	Rental Income	35,544.00	2,000	Church Heating
20,493	Dividends and Interest	20,900.12	0	Church Electrics
5,000	Miscellaneous	845.00	3,721	Church Fabric, other
			9,074	Insurance
			0	Property Expenses
			1,099	Rates
			4,413	Miscellaneous Expenditure
-	Excess of Payments over Receipts	-	39,445	Excess of Receipts over Payments
£ 59,752		£ 57,289.12	£ 59,752	£ 57,289.12

Notes :

- 1 Rental incomes are shown gross as received, with expenditure relating to those properties, entered as expenses.
- 2 The Charity comprises the historical estate (set out in the 1599 inquisition), and the Walmsley, Griffin and Melrose Bequests.
- 3 The Churchwardens as trustees of the St Giles Church Lands Charity own : 54-58 (even), 80 and 104 London Street all subject to building leases with more than 100 years unexpired : and 70 Southampton Street, the frontage let to a car dealer, and the rear car park let to the County Dancing School.

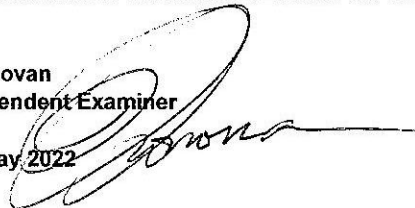
Examiner's Certificate

I have examined the Books of Account of the St Giles Church Lands Charity together with the Receipts and Vouchers for the year ended 31 December 2021.

In my opinion the attached Receipts and Payments Account, showing a surplus for the year of £35,767.12 and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities give a true and fair representation of the financial state of the Charity's funds as at 31 December 2021.

I. Donovan
Independent Examiner

8th May 2022

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'I. Donovan', is written over the text of the examiner's name and date.