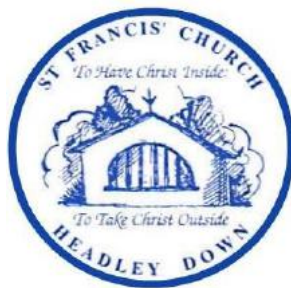




ST. FRANCIS COMMUNITY CHURCH

Headley Down



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

St. Francis Community Church

Eddey's Lane, Headley Down, GU35 8HU

www.stfrancisheadleydown.com

Registered Charity No. 1095819

Team St Francis ~ the Church in HD

Trustees

Richard Fortescue – Chair of Trustees

Marc Nuttall

John Ryland

Fiona Ryland

Pastoral Leadership Team

Martin Firman

Pauline Firman

Julian Gilbertson

Rev Elizabeth Knifton

Marc Nuttall

Cathie Russell

John Russell

<u>Pastoral Care and Hall Bookings</u>	Cathie Russell
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<u>Junior Church Co-coordinator</u>	Eileen Matthews
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<u>Treasurer</u>	Allan Revers
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<u>Buildings Manager</u>	Steve Ford
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ANNUAL REPORT - APRIL 2021

INTRODUCTION

The Annual Report for 2020-2021 has been collated by Paul Whitley.

Contained within each item in this report are the following elements:

A short factual report of an activity.

An appreciation of the contributions so many people make to church life ~ (Should you not see your name in print somewhere it is probably because you are one of the many unsung heroes in the church. Thank you for who you are, as much as for what you do.)

Questions and issues that may require consideration.

The report is presented under 6-headings and will be introduced at the AGM, when it takes place, as follows:

Practical	<i>(Page 4)</i>
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Children & Youth	<i>(Page 17)</i>
Administrative & Other Services	<i>(Page 17)</i>
Finance	<i>(Pages 21 and Appendix 1)</i>

The world has remained in the grip of the corona virus pandemic right through 2020, affecting each and every person in the world. Some activities have not been able to run this year and therefore this will be a foreshortened report containing the necessary elements to satisfy our charity commission obligations. The church has not been able to run in normal way giving way to our weekly on-line service which has been a great success. With this in mind, enjoy the reports that have been posted in the life of St Francis for 2020/2021.

Paul Whitley - Editor

1. Practical

Committee Activities

The challenges of the pandemic over the last year have meant that many of the activities that I would normally initiate and be responsible for have either been postponed or put on hold.

Two events that did take place and were almost completed were the Alpha Course that started in early 2020 but became a casualty of the pandemic with only a few weeks to go when one of the participants was tested Covid positive. The first national Lockdown soon followed.

Then, later in the year national lockdown restrictions were lifted to the point where we were able to initiate the viewing of season one of The Chosen, a television mini-series on the life of Christ. We were able to view all but the last episode before we had to close down activities within the church building.

We plan to hold an Alpha course later this year and hope that those who attended the 2020 course will choose to attend that one. We also plan to continue with The Chosen, which is currently releasing episodes for season two. The Chosen serves the role that The "Jesus" Film did in the nineties and onward in presenting the story of Christ in an accessible way for those who might not know or have heard and not understood.

So, the challenges of lockdown were three-fold. First, how do we keep some semblance of "gathering" and keep the identity of the church intact. Secondly, how do we continue the prayer life of the church in a meaningful way and finally how do we lead the people in a way that keeps them encouraged and helps them pursue their own faith.

1. The Gathering.

It became clear very quickly when we knew that the pandemic was going to impinge on our ability to gather as church that we would need to look to technology in order to continue. In short, we took the weekly service online and put most of the elements of a weekly service into a pre-recorded video service that was and continues to be available on our website and also on YouTube.

This meant learning new skills that many of us had never been near or experienced before. Fortunately, my background of working in the music business had exposed me to the world of video several years before and was a real help in pointing the way forward. This was true of others in the team but the reality was that for all of us we had to learn how to do it. Looking back over the "viewing statistics" on YouTube, it's clear that the video service has been accessed by more folk than would normally gather at the church. On average the online service has been viewed by 65 people per week. My grateful thanks to all those who met the challenge head on and learned the skills.

A hugely important part of the weekly gathering is the social aspect of the meeting, before and after the main worship service. For that we turned to technology once again and like so many churches learnt how to use the now ubiquitous teleconferencing software called "Zoom"

Zoom enables us to set up a video conference environment where we are able to gather those who had access to the software and devices that it ran on to meet at 11:00am every Sunday after many had watched the service online and simply spend time with each other socialising.

The biggest challenge throughout has been to do everything possible to find ways for those without access to the tech, to be able to participate. In some cases, it meant providing a suitable phone or tablet device.

2. Prayer Meetings

Zoom came to the rescue when it came to the prayer meetings, which have happened twice weekly throughout the pandemic on a Wednesday and Saturday morning at 9:00am. The attendance and spiritual depth of the prayer meetings have grown throughout the pandemic and we are now adding a monthly evening meeting for those who can't attend the morning prayer meetings but would like to be a part of this very important area of church life.

When we are able to meet again face to face and interact with each other once lockdown restrictions are lifted, there will still be those who will value joining the prayer times remotely and we will need to find a way to integrate both online and offline meetings.

3. Leading the church

Finally, as will no doubt be noted elsewhere using Zoom technology has enabled the leadership teams of the church to meet relatively normally but it was important to communicate with the people regularly to keep them updated on events and inspired to pursue their faith in the face of the various lockdowns. A twice weekly pattern emerged where I would email the larger church family words of encouragement, stories of faith and give them codes for the various Zoom meetings that were to take place during the week. Many have found these emails to be a real help during lockdown as a way of connecting to the wider church.

At the same time Pauline Firman set up a WhatsApp group that has been used for all kinds of conversations and has proven to be a great way of staying connected to the wider church.

To conclude, 2020 has been extremely challenging for everyone but we have sensed the Lord's guidance throughout and found our place of security in Him. We have all felt that post pandemic, there will be many and different challenges as the people of Headley Down and the church seek to deal with the new normal. It won't be the same as before and that is a good thing. Isaiah 43:18,19 says, *'Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?*

The Lord is encouraging us to "seize the day". We will need to integrate much of what we have learned in the last year into church life as we move forward

John Russell - Committee Chairman.

Trustee Report 2021.

Hi everyone, this has been yet again another strange year, the like of which we have never seen before but God has remained faithful. We pray for his healing hand to restore our land with peace and love.

Let us again thank the Pastoral and Worship teams for their on-line services and the way in which they have harnessed new technology in God's service in this time of lock down. Also, thanks to the Food Bank people who have been working hard to show God's love to local people. We cannot pick out any one person because so many have stepped up to serve the Lord. We thank everyone who is making a positive contribution to the life of God's Church on Headley Down.

Overall, it has been a year of blessing with God's Holy Spirit very present in both meetings and individually. The Prayer meetings have been well attended, God is making his presence felt and showing us the way forward. These meetings have been truly blessed and we are beginning to understand how the Lord is working his purpose out on Headley Down.

We have again had Trustee meetings combined with the Pastoral Leadership Team and they have been very harmonious, showing us the way forward, so that we continue to be working from the same hymn sheet and towards Gods aims and not our own.

We had decided that that we will have Church Meetings a few times a year (quarterly) to let the fellowship know what is going on and let everyone have a voice in any changes proposed. The meetings will take the form of praise meetings, short and to the point but as an enjoyable time to consider Gods work in our church. The AGM has been postponed until now and we hope that as we return to some sort of "normal", we can have more praise sessions like this.

For those who don't know, the Trustees comprise John Ryland, Marc Nuttall, Fiona Ryland and Myself. We have the legal responsibility for the Church affairs, and liaise with the Pastoral Leadership Team. As the Trustees are also members of the Church Leadership Team, we have an active role in the day to day running of the Church.

Finally, we are all now living in "different" times and we have to learn to trust our Lord and step forward in faith.

Richard Fortescue
Chair of Trustees

Health and Safety

Health and Safety continues to be at the forefront of all our professional and practical work done at St Francis.

The main aim, as before, is to try to utilise contractors who conform to current Health and Safety requirements especially as regards their documentation. This is more expensive than 'doing it ourselves' but with the new legislation such as CDM (Construction Design and Management) regulations and the requirement to be covered by professionals with standards and indemnities means that we have to increasingly consider these issues whenever the committee makes a decision. The church strives to adhere to and conform to H & S guidelines when dealing with contractors and our own volunteers alike. External contractors should have the appropriate insurance and safety measures in place. Any volunteer work in the church, such as work days, is preceded by an element of H&S awareness.

2020 has brought new challenges in preparing the church for live services during the pandemic. In line with government guidelines, socially distanced seats were arranged precisely so that the live service could go ahead.

We have a Health and Safety policy document, a copy of which is on the main noticeboard. It would be worth looking at this notice before anyone goes ahead to do work in or on the building. Please could anyone who notices something that is unsafe or hazardous bring it to the attention of a committee member or Steve Ford so that it can be sorted. The policy makes it clear that we are all involved in making sure our church premises are safe.

Paul Whitley

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is a necessary and important aspect of caring for all in our church community but especially children and vulnerable adults and so to this end we continue to do all we can to provide a safe and suitable environment for the different activities and meetings that take place at, and in the name of St Francis Community Church. We are members of thirtyone:eight, the Safeguarding Body that provides guidelines, policies, support and training for individuals to give safe and good practice. The current Safeguarding Policy remains in place and will be approved and signed by the trustees for this coming year. Children and young peoples' activities have been put on hold during most of 2020, but will recommence when lockdown restrictions have been lifted and the church fellowship can gather again. Revd. Elizabeth Knifton is Safeguarding Coordinator with Cathie Russell as deputy. Cathie remains responsible for DBS applications. Some have been renewed over this year and most remain valid, but because activities are not taking place, renewing any outstanding DBS certificates will wait until nearer the time of need when volunteers and leaders can confirm their intention to be involved in the activities.

Revd. Elizabeth Knifton Safeguarding Coordinator
Cathie Russell Deputy Safeguarding Coordinator

Buildings

Although the church has been closed to live services for most of 2020, maintenance has still taken place.

Vestry Roof.

This has been a continuing problem for some time and in spite of attempts to fix the leak, the roof has had to be completely resurfaced professionally. The good news, apart from the leak being fixed, is that the roof timbers are still robust and solid and have not been affected by water damage. The ceiling needs to be repaired with new plasterboard and a coat of finishing plaster. This will be done in the coming year.

Consumer Units

With thanks to Peter Knifton, new, modern consumer units were fitted into the church electricity supply bringing the fuse board up to a modern, safe and legal status. This does not include the wiring which is functional, but as old as the church and probably out dated.

The Cabin

With the new consumer unit in place, power has been installed, via armoured cable, to the cabin with its own consumer unit.

All accessories have now been fitted to the inside and outside of the cabin making it fit for purpose. This includes steps, ramps, balustrade, guttering, blinds, heaters, improved lighting and racking. There is still cosmetic work to be done to the wheelchair access ramp railings but this does not affect their use or safety.

Paul Whitley

2. Spiritual

Church Membership

As mentioned firstly in the 2020 Annual Report the Church has continued its discussions with the Charity Commissioners with regard to the creation of a new Constitution to replace the 1921 Trust Deed, which over time has become impractical in the running of the modern- day church. Having been written so long ago it no longer reflects the way that a church – or come to that any other charitable trust – needs to act in this day and age. As part of that process the membership of the Church is currently under review as we transition to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Martin Firman – Pastoral Leader.



Pastoral Leadership Team

Although this has been the most challenging of years for many, the newly formed Pastoral Leadership Team at St Francis Church has continued to be excited about the possibilities and responsibilities of growing God's Kingdom here on Headley Down and the surrounding villages.

As an independent and non-denominational church serving this local community, this has raised all sorts of issues during the pandemic, particularly as to whether to keep the church open for services, when allowed following government guidelines, or whether to hold the responsibility of the health and safety of our church fellowship close, and only hold our services on-line.

So, although we did open the church for some Sunday services between lockdowns and restricting the numbers attending as required by law, we felt it absolutely necessary to maintain our on-line presence throughout. This has meant we have recorded over 52 weeks of our online services.

What brought great encouragement to the Pastoral Leadership Team was when we realised that the number of people watching the on-line services exceeded the number of people who would normally attend the church in person. We have since enquired about this and found that, among other things, the additional viewers were pleased to be able to watch the services at a time more suitable for them rather than at 10.15 on a Sunday morning, reflecting of course the change in culture over the years as to how people spend their weekends.

As a missional church this was Good News to see the growth our outreach and it was also encouraging to hear the feedback that we were reaching to people of all ages and backgrounds who appreciated that our services were always in modern language with mostly contemporary worship songs, whilst still holding on to valued traditional hymns, and always ensuring that our preaching is true to Biblical values.

The “quality” of the online services improved over time with experience and our thanks go out to all those involved in recording and putting together the services which go out each week.

The Pastoral Leadership Team have continued to meet using Zoom facilities at least every month to ensure the continuation of our pastoral care and serving our local community in as many ways as possible, particularly keeping in touch with those living on their own. We are grateful for the tremendous work carried out so faithfully by the members of our Food Bank Team who have extended their activities in line with the huge growth in the number of families they are supporting each and every week.

We look forward to being able to gather in the church again for our regular church services and prayer meetings, as well as our social activities with our Friday Coffee Plus and The Hub lunches. In fact, there is excitement with thoughts to expand these important ministries as we wave good bye to the restrictions of this last year.

As always, the Pastoral Leadership Team are appreciative of the help given by so many members of the fellowship in assisting the smooth running of the church especially during the difficult times of the past year, and we look forward to the new start as God calls us to do - to serve him and all the people in this and the surrounding villages.

Martin Firman and the Pastoral Leadership Team

Vision Statement

GOD'S VISION ~ OUR VISION

- **We believe God's purpose is to renew the life of our Church**

(See: The prophetic scripture of Isaiah 43:18 & 19 'I am doing a new thing! Do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.')

- **We will be a growing church that includes the present missing generations**

(See Isaiah.54:2 & 3 'Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes, for you will spread out to the right and the left...')

- **We will seek to follow the Biblical model for Church leadership.**

In the vision that God is laying before us, we recognise that there is need, sometime in the near future for St Francis to engage a leader, full or part time, to help guide us into that vision.

(See numerous OT & NT examples of whenever God gives a vision He then raises up leaders to fulfil the vision ~ e.g. Abraham, Joshua, David, the prophets, John the Baptist, Peter & Paul etc.)

- **We will have a new church building**

with 21st Century ministry resources that facilitates a wider breadth of ministry than the present. The aim is that a new building will be completed as soon as feasible and celebrated as part of Church's Centenary celebrations 2021.

- **We will have a developed approach to Church & Community Pastoral Care**

- **We will be a Church at the centre of the community**

IN SUMMARY:

VISION IS GOD INITIATED, CHRIST CENTRED, & MINISTRY LED

Music and Worship

Throughout the year, when it has been possible, the worship team has led the church in worship and we are grateful for their continuing service, especially when we were only allowed 6-people at the front, following government guidelines, late last year, meaning that some had to step down at times. At other times, when we weren't able to meet together, Marc Kieran and I have pre-recorded musical items for the online services.

Thank you to all those who, as always have gone the extra mile in serving in this ministry, particularly when they had to be at the church for 9:15 to setup and rehearse. Our thanks go to Martin, Pauline, John and Fiona, Paul, Marc and Kieran.

John Russell - Pastoral Leadership Team

Home Groups

Home groups have not been able to meet this year.

Prayer

Personal and corporate prayer is the lifeblood of the church, and the oxygen that gives and sustains life. We continue to seek to encourage one another in our relationship with God through a variety of means and ask folk to avail themselves of opportunities to pray whenever they present themselves both privately and corporately. These days it means using video conferencing.

Prayer Meetings

Prayer has become the core of our work at St. Francis. Following our initial push in October, 2018, prayer in 2020 is at the forefront of everything we do in St Francis. Our established prayer meetings on Wednesday and Saturday mornings consistently draw between 12 and 25 people to prayer. Coffee and chat gatherings on Sunday morning also have a spiritual, prayerful feel to them.

It became the catalyst for a fresh experience of God's presence amongst us with many saying how "energising" the experience has been. It has also helped get a fresh perspective on the things that are important to the Lord as the Head of the Church and what our role as His body should be. We will be working out the practical implications of these things in the coming months but one of the overriding themes has been of looking outward rather than inward and expecting His Kingdom to come and His will to be done amongst us.

Experiencing the presence of God in this way has made some comment that they never thought a prayer meeting could be so much fun.

We have seen a unity within the church as a result of our continuing emphasis on prayer and have become proficient in using video conferencing utilities for these gatherings.

John Russell - Pastoral Leadership Team

The Weekly Bulletin

The weekly bulletin lists those who have indicated a desire to be remembered in prayer and is refreshed largely on a monthly basis in order to keep the list meaningful. It also contains the weekly prayer diary and a list of upcoming events. Included are other items of interest to the members and friends of St Francis. The weekly bulletin is posted on the St Francis Community Church website and is currently also emailed to the wider church family.

John Russell - Pastoral Leadership Team

Samaritans Purse (Shoe Box Appeal)

Doubts were raised during 2020 as to whether we would be collecting again for shoeboxes at Christmas because of the pandemic. However, we needn't have feared, because thanks to everyone's generosity, we were able to collect lots of items for the boxes, donated remotely via Linda's house. Many people donated money, which enabled us to buy any extra items to complete boxes. Many ladies used their time in lock down knitting and crocheting hats, scarves and gloves and we had enough for every box that was sent out. We also sent out crocheted hearts which went in every box. A symbol of love, in any language!



This year, we sent out 165 boxes which was truly amazing bearing in mind the circumstances. St Luke's Church joined forces with us and supplied 28 boxes. This year, the boxes from our area went to Albania and Bosnia.

Despite all odds, the numbers of boxes exceeded all expectation and was better than last year! So, thank you to everyone who donated and helped pack the boxes ready for delivery. Keep knitting and we look forward to sending more boxes to children again in 2021.

Linda Wickenden & Pauline Firman

3. Community

Outreach

Outreach to neighbours and friends is an important part of the life of a church and for us, it is demonstrated with many of the activities described elsewhere in this report. To share our faith and the Good News of Jesus Christ is one of the highest callings of a Christian Community and a response to Jesus' call to "Go make disciples" in Matthew 28:18-20

The place where relationships are built is the place where "good news" can take root over time. It is important to understand that seed takes time to grow. Relationships are built slowly and don't happen instantly. What we seek to do is seize the moment when that moment comes and not back off sharing our faith with others. Those of us who have discovered the amazing truth about Jesus must all recognise that we have responsibility in this. Thinking creatively about how we use modern technology to reach others in a season of "social distancing" has become an absolute priority.

John Russell - Pastoral Leadership Team

Pastoral Co-Ordinator

I continue as Pastoral Co-Ordinator to oversee any pastoral needs of the church. An informal structure of pastoral care is in place within the home groups and various interest and friendship groups, and generally this works extremely well with people looking out for each other. We therefore want to encourage individuals to continue to care for others in this way. However, as the church has developed and grown, it is important to have a point of contact for everyone, to ensure that no one is missed, and to add to the support already offered to an individual if necessary. As this year of lockdown and social distancing has isolated many of our church community increasing loneliness and anxiety, I am thankful to individuals who have committed, alongside myself, to keep in regular contact with those who would welcome a phone call and chance to chat. The PLT recognise the need to come together for worship and social events as soon as it is safe to do so for the benefit of all and we look forward to meeting face to face in the near future. We hope to offer additional support in this coming year and further details will be given when ready. For any pastoral concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Cathie Russell Mobile: 07964764494.

Cathie Russell

Food Bank

We continue to collect food from Fareshare in Southampton, the local doctors at Grayshott, the Co-op and Sainsbury's at Grayshott, One Stop on Headley Down and Foods of Europe. Bordon Food Bank still continue to support us in exchange for collection and transportation of food from Sainsbury's in Liphook and also Waitrose in Petersfield.

The Counter in Grayshott support us on a monthly basis with a financial donation – customers pay £1 and buy a virtual loaf of bread. Also, Headley Fine Foods have a donation box which is very well supported.

Bags of food are delivered to Martin and Pauline's home every week. General financial donations have been very forthcoming which has supported us and helped us to provide extra Tesco vouchers at Christmas time and during school holidays.

We were unable to have a Christmas party this year or a visit from Father Christmas but children were treated to a gift from one of Santa's reindeer! The Bordon and Liphook Charity donated extra Tesco vouchers and we received financial help from St Luke's Church. Large Christmas hampers were once again prepared and given out. Tesco's also provided toys for the children again this year.



The Hygiene Bank continued to support us throughout the year. At Christmas time, they collected handbags for the ladies and toilet bags for the men and filled them with essential toiletries and some special items for Christmas.

During 2020 the Food Bank has had to change the way it operates because of Covid regulations. There are now 2 groups of 3 people working 2 days a week, packing and giving out food. We are now regularly packing food for 63 families (approximately 90 adults +69 children). Each family gets an ambient bag containing tins, packets etc., a bag with fresh fruit and vegetables and also a bag containing dairy/frozen food. In all, we pack approximately 189 bags of food each week. We continue to deliver bags to people who are self- isolating or who do not have any transport of their own.

We have also helped children with home school learning, providing computers where families were having to share. St Luke's Church provided funds to P C Man in Grayshott and anyone could donate old computers. P C Man would refurbish them with the latest software. They were then donated to schools in the area and also to the local Food Banks.

At the beginning of the summer term, we were able to help a large family with school uniforms and the necessary equipment to start the new school term.

The support for the Food Bank has been immense and donations of all kinds have literally been too numerous to mention. If you have donated or helped the Food Bank in any way and I have not given you a mention, please accept a huge thank you for all you have donated this year.

The Food Bank will resume in the usual way, inviting folk to stay, have a cup of tea and a chat, as soon as we are able.

Pauline Firman

Community Communication

St Francis Community Church Cards

Prior to the pandemic, the cards to invite the community to key events, were going out as planned; the last one being the Christmas card, promoting events such as Carols by Candlelight. The cards, which are produced by John Russell and the PLT, will resume after the Covid-19 restrictions are lifted.

John Ryland

Website: www.stfrancisheadleydown.com and YouTube Channel

The website and YouTube channel continues with the day-to-day work being done with a high level of commitment by Kieran Menon, whose work included successfully resolving a copyright question in a cordial manner with the owner.

The on-line services have been uploaded successfully during the year, with a steady increase in technical standards as we become more used to the process. The content is exceptional and captures the unique nature of the church.

John Ryland

4. Children & Youth

Children's and youth activities, including Kraftikids, have not been able to meet this year.

5. Administrative & Other Services

Church Cleaning

The church has been cleaned regularly each week and in February 2020, we held a Work Day when extra cleaning and tidying up was completed. The church was thoroughly cleaned for any live services that took place between lockdowns. I am looking forward to resuming again as soon as possible when the national lockdown has been lifted.

Eileen Matthews

Lighting and Audio-Visual Infrastructure

Work continues to find ways to make the equipment less intrusive and more effective.

John Ryland

Building Project – The Cabin

The cabin is complete and ready for use. One end is equipped for the Food Bank and the other end for Youth Work. After the provision of the cabin itself by Johnsons Leisure Ltd, a large amount of voluntary work by Paul Whitley and many others, was put in to provide weatherproofing, lighting, heating and racking.

John Ryland

Building Project – The Main Building

Focus is now shifting to the regenerating the main physical infrastructure on-site to enable the church further its ministry, as well as addressing the age and condition of the existing infrastructure.

The Practical Building Group has reformed as The Building Action Group and is presently dealing with challenges, ranging from Tree Preservation Orders to setting the scope of the work budget and drawing up a Business Plan, in preparation for fund raising.

Applying the cliché "Time is Money", considerable resources continue to be poured into this aspect of our church life in the form of time spent making progress. The value of this time is probably far greater than we will ever realise and it is important that it is not allowed to go to waste.

John Ryland

A New Sign

Back in the summer of 2020, Lindford Church was refurbished and they had an old notice board that was surplus to requirements. The notice board was quite substantial and made from solid mahogany wood. With the help of John Ryland and Keith White, it was transported to Paul Whitley's brand- new garage/workshop facility in Havant for refurbishing and repurpose.

The intension was to create a large signboard for the south car park entrance to St Francis. The project brought together many skills including the value of teamwork.



As received with glazed doors removed.



signboard refurbished



Signboard primed and painted



Signwriting



Signboard, complete with tagline.



Signboard erected by Paul, Martin and Steve.

The process took about three weeks to complete the priming, painting and sign writing. The signboard was transported back to St Francis together with posts in August. It was a fine day in November that Martin, Steve and Paul met to finally erect the completed sign, precicely as planned.

Paul Whitley

New Building Project

The new cabin was installed in place during October 2020. This was a long-awaited project, the origin of which began in January 2020, to expand the space required for our Youth activities and our vital Food Bank facility.

The building, installed by Johnsons, is a solid and robust timber structure, complete with veranda, that is guaranteed for 25 years. To maintain the guarantee requirements, the bare timber structure had to be painted with special paint, supplied by Johnsons.



This was achieved in a working party on a Saturday morning where, observing social distancing guidelines, the cabin was completely covered in a base coat of light grey paint, a very rubbery substance as I remember. Again, one of those social occasions when it was nice to see other people, all with a common purpose. Over

the next week or so, the slate grey top coat was painted onto the cabin by willing workers, rendering the guarantee effective.

The inside walls and ceiling of the cabin were also covered in a good quality satin varnish.



Health and safety required there to be a veranda balustrade to prevent people falling off the veranda. This was installed in December, together with steps to the south of the veranda and the wheelchair access to the north.



Following new consumer units fitted in the church, power was fed to the cabin in January. Food bank storage shelving was installed in February. The finishing touch was guttering installed in March to make the building complete and functional in all aspects. Thank you to all those who helped in creating such a valuable asset to our church ministry.

Paul Whitley

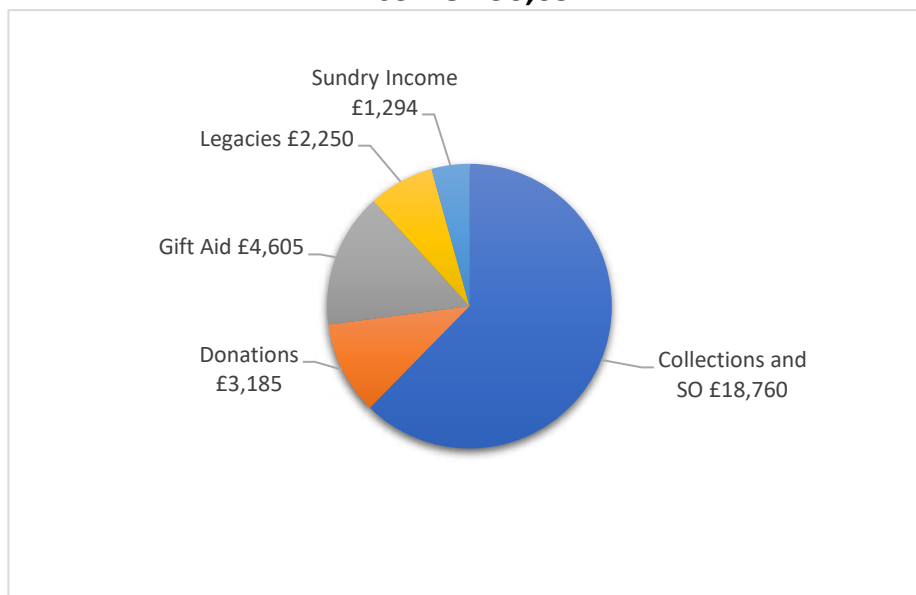


6. Finance

General Fund Income and Expenditure

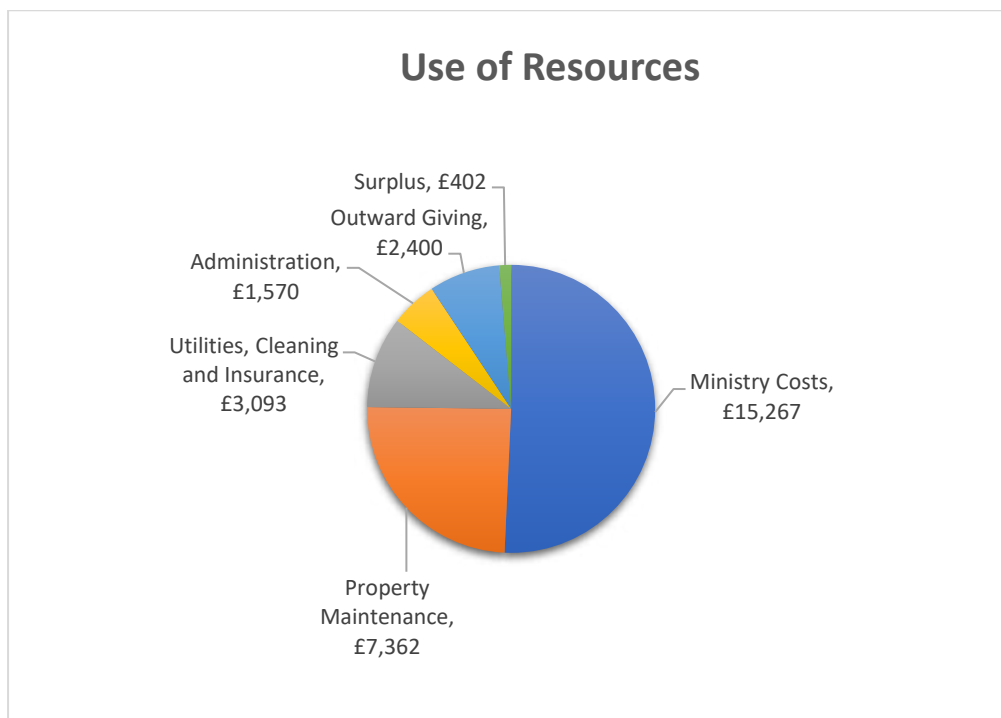
Thank you to each and every donor for your generous giving during 2020. Although the church was closed for the majority of the year, income from standing orders continued and was further enhanced by additional donations and some legacies.

Income £30,094



The chart below shows how the incoming resources were used. Expenditure on electricity and cleaning was lower than usual whilst the church was closed. Property maintenance costs included £2,520 for repairing the Vestry roof and an increase of £2,500 in the general repairs and maintenance provision to £7,000

Use of Resources



Food Bank Fund (Restricted)

The accounts now show income and expenditure within a separate fund for the Food Bank, rather than just an amount owing to it within the balance sheet.

There was a considerable increase in activity in 2020 to help a growing number of families in need and this was superbly supported by the community in the form of personal and corporate donations. Our thanks go to all donors for their kind and generous contributions.

Total income was £13,668 plus £1,000 granted by the Hampshire and Isle of White Community Foundation for school uniforms. Expenditure was £8,185 covering food and utility vouchers, food and school uniform purchases, and distribution costs paid to FareShare who supply food free of charge.

The closing value of the fund carried forward to 2021 was £11,044

The Cabin

The need for extra space to accommodate the food bank and youth activity became apparent in 2019. Donated funds of £16,443 were set aside for the purchase of an outdoor wooden cabin in last year's accounts.

In 2020 the church received grants of £1,500 in total from EHDC and Radian Housing towards the initiative.

The cabin has been purchased and erected and will be commissioned in 2021 after internal fittings have been completed. Expenditure to date of £17,363 is in the balance sheet under Capital Work in Progress within general Funds.

Building Fund (Restricted)

A total of £2,573 was added to the Church and Hall Building Fund in 2020 bringing the total to £153,843

Gift Aid

Gift Aid of £5,008 was recovered from HMRC for the tax year 2019-20. This was allocated to general and building funds in proportion to the underlying donations received. We are very grateful to all who gift aid their donations to the church. The figure quoted includes the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme which applies to anonymous individual cash donations up to £20 each.

Reserves

The **General Fund** is unrestricted and represents the financial reserves of the church. It is available for all general expenses incurred by the Church.

The total on 31st December 2020 was £41,309.

Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet

Accounts for the year ended 31st Dec 2020 are in the appendix to this report.

Allan Revers, Treasurer

St Francis Community Church
Registered Charity No.1095819

**Accounts for the year ended
31 December 2020**

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ST FRANCIS COMMUNITY CHURCH – Registered Charity No.1095819

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31st December 2020**

	General Funds	Food Bank Funds	Building Fund	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources					
Collections at Church	834.50	2,158.92		2,993.42	3,364.78
Collections Direct to Bank	17,925.00			17,925.00	20,215.00
Sub Total	18,759.50	2,158.92		20,918.42	23,579.78
Donations	3,185.47	11,508.60		14,694.07	13,329.43
Grants (3)		1,000.00		1,000.00	500.00
Legacies	2,250.00			2,250.00	
Insurance Claim					732.80
Event Donations & Fundraising	474.26			474.26	3,913.92
San Fran Clubs			417.25	417.25	1,416.00
Gift Aid (8)	4,605.32		402.40	5,007.72	6,700.64
Hall Lettings	190.00			190.00	1,405.00
Sundry Income	310.21			310.21	247.81
Interest Received	319.22		1,753.53	2,072.75	2,309.75
Total Incoming Resources	30,093.98	14,667.52	2,573.18	47,334.68	54,135.13
Resources Used					
Clergy Fees					250.00
Pastoral Assistant and Expenses	15,081.86			15,081.86	15,195.01
Food and Consumables	185.15	1,021.34		1,206.49	916.47
Administration Costs	871.68	1,342.99		2,214.67	1,927.20
IT and St Francis Website	501.48			501.48	214.77
Electricity and Water	1,510.42			1,510.42	2,429.63
Insurance	868.94			868.94	851.68
Cleaning	713.30			713.30	1,338.36
Property Repairs & Maintenance	6,766.73			6,766.73	5,726.82
Grounds Maintenance	595.43			595.43	1,262.40
Event Expenses	176.05			176.05	1,633.74
Youth Activities	20.80			20.80	1,052.55
Outward Giving (4)	2,400.00	5,820.77		8,220.77	4,928.61
Total Resources Used	29,691.84	8,185.10	0.00	37,876.94	37,727.24
Net Movement In Funds	402.14	6,482.42	2,573.18	9,457.74	16,407.89

ST FRANCIS COMMUNITY CHURCH – Registered Charity No.1095819

BALANCE SHEET at 31st December 2020

	General Funds	Food Bank Funds	Building Fund	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Capital Work In Progress (5)	17,362.77			17,362.77	
Current Assets					
Bank Current Accounts	2,937.99		36.15	2,974.14	1,940.26
Cambridge & Counties Bank a/c			83,500.00	83,500.00	83,500.00
Ecology Building Society a/c			70,307.35	70,307.35	67,750.81
Nationwide Business Savings	31,345.45	10,654.55		42,000.00	50,097.88
Cash in Hand		389.50		389.50	343.07
Total Current Assets	34,283.44	11,044.05	153,843.50	199,170.99	203,632.02
Current Liabilities (6)	(8837.00)			(8837.00)	(6893.00)
Deferred Income (7)	(1500.00)			(1500.00)	
Total Assets	41,309.21	11,044.05	153,843.50	206,196.76	196,739.02
Reserves					
Surplus for year	402.14	6,482.42	2,573.18	9,457.74	16,407.89
Brought forward	40,907.07	4,561.63	151,270.32	196,739.02	180,331.13
Total Reserves	41,309.21	11,044.05	153,843.50	206,196.76	196,739.02
Represented by Funds (9)					
Unrestricted	41,309.21			41,309.21	24,463.86
Restricted		11,044.05	153,843.50	164,887.55	155,831.95
Designated					16,443.21
Total	41,309.21	11,044.05	153,843.50	206,196.76	196,739.02

Approved by:



R T Fortescue, Chair of Trustees

Date:

29th March 2021

ST FRANCIS COMMUNITY CHURCH – Registered Charity No.1095819

Notes to the Accounts

1) Accounting Policies

The financial statement has been prepared in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice

2) Food Bank Fund and Restatement of 2019 Accounts

Food Bank activity has grown considerably in 2020 and all transactions are now accounted for in the statement of financial activities as a separate and restricted fund. Historically the fund balance was shown only in the balance sheet as a current liability representing the amount owed to the Food Bank. The 2019 accounts have been restated on the fund basis adopted in 2020.

3) Grants

A Grant of £1,000 to the Food Bank was received from the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Community Foundation for the purchase of school uniforms. A balance of £784.23 was carried forward in the Food Bank Fund at year end.

4) Outward Giving

	General Funds	Food Bank Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
To Charities:				
1 st Headley Scout Group	150.00		150.00	150.00
Action For Children	100.00		100.00	100.00
Connect	300.00		300.00	300.00
Crisis	150.00		150.00	138.00
Christians Against Poverty	100.00		100.00	150.00
Church Mission Society	100.00		100.00	150.00
Home-Start Hampshire	150.00		150.00	150.00
Hope For Justice	100.00		100.00	100.00
Kings World Trust for Children	150.00		150.00	0.00
Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice	150.00		150.00	100.00
Samaritan's Purse	200.00		200.00	200.00
Sightsavers	100.00		100.00	100.00
Step By Step Aldershot	150.00		150.00	150.00
Street Angels Guildford	150.00		150.00	150.00
Support EFSL (Sierra Leone)	100.00		100.00	300.00
Tear Fund	100.00		100.00	100.00
The Rosemary Foundation	150.00		150.00	0.00
Others	0.00		0.00	2,205.61
To Food Bank Recipients:				
Food Vouchers		3,725.00	3,725.00	130.00
Utility Cards		1,880.00	1,880.00	255.00
School Uniforms		215.77	215.77	0.00
Total Outward Giving	2,400.00	5,820.77	8,220.77	4,928.61

ST FRANCIS COMMUNITY CHURCH – Registered Charity No.1095819

Notes to the Accounts - continued

5) Capital Work In Progress

Capital Work In Progress represents the expenditure to date on a wooden cabin erected in the church grounds. It is complete except for some internal fixtures and fittings and will be operative in 2021 for use by the Food Bank and for Youth Activities.

6) Current Liabilities

	General Funds	Food Bank Funds	Building Fund	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Property Repairs Provision	(7000.00)			(7000.00)	(4500.00)
Accruals	(1837.00)			(1837.00)	(2393.00)
Total	(8837.00)	0.00	0.00	(8837.00)	(6893.00)

Property Repairs and Maintenance Provision

The church and hall buildings are old and require a significant level of ongoing repairs and maintenance. Until they are rebuilt a general provision is held to help mitigate the financial impact of repairs and maintenance in any one year.

Accruals

- £680 for specific repair works not completed by year end
- £700 estimated costs for tree survey and maintenance not completed by year end
- £357 donated for Youth Activity in 2019 but not yet expended
- £100 estimated unbilled electricity consumption to year end

7) Deferred Income

Grants of £1,000 from East Hampshire District Council and £500 from Radian Housing were received in 2020 for the new Cabin. This income will be amortised over the future useful life of the asset.

8) Gift Aid

Income includes gift aid received for the tax year ended 5th April 2020.

Current Assets do not include a debtor amount for the gift aid recoverable on eligible donations from 6th April to 31st December 2020. This amount will be claimed for the tax year ended 5th April 2021 and included within income in the 2021 accounts.

9) Funds

General funds are unrestricted.

The Food Bank Fund is restricted to Food Bank activity.

The Building Fund is restricted to the rebuilding of the existing Church and Hall.

The designated fund of £16,443 in 2019 was used to purchase the cabin in 2020 (see note 5).

ST FRANCIS COMMUNITY CHURCH – Registered Charity No.1095819

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the St Francis Community Church ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2020

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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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.

9th April 2021

K P MENON



CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANT
COPPICE WOOD
30 FAIRVIEW ROAD
HEADLEY DOWN
HANTS
GU35 8HG

