THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST GREGORY, SEATON

England & Wales · Charity number 1127403

Details

Other names	SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2009-01-07
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	The Vicarage Colyford Road Seaton EX12 2DF
Phone	0129723656
Email	seatonchurch@hotmail.co.uk
Website	www.coastalchurch,org.uk

Activities

Objects: Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

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Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

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Geography

- **Area of benefit:** SEATON
- Devon

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£85,649	£149,738	-	-
2023-12-31	£70,074	£83,546	-	-
2022-12-31	£66,834	£73,252	-	-
2021-12-31	£50,244	£47,905	-	-
2020-12-31	£51,481	£84,964	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
David Bryan Dickinson		2013-04-06
David House		2022-05-22
Judith Vanessa Brewer		2024-04-21
Julie Ann Newbery		2025-05-07
Michael Tabeart		2023-06-18
Shuna George		2024-04-16

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England & Wales - Charity number 1127403

Accounts

'To know God and share the wonder of His love'

St Gregory's Church, Seaton

Annual Reports & Accounts

SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Registered Charity No: 1127403

for the year ending 31st December 2024

Coastal Mission Community

St Gregory's, Seaton & St Michael's, Beer

Coastal Benefice of Seaton & Beer
Vicar: Rev'd Justin Montague
The Church Office, Colyford Road, Seaton, Devon, EX12 2DF
(01297) 23656

SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Administrative information

St Gregory's Church is situated off the Colyford Road, Seaton. It is part of The Coastal Mission Community with the parish of Beer, in the Diocese of Exeter within the Church of England. Correspondence may be addressed to The Church Office, The Church Centre, Colyford Road, Seaton, EX12 2DF. Telephone 01297 23656; email seatonchurch@hotmail.co.uk

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission:
The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Gregory's Seaton –
Reg Charity No: 1127403.

Background

Seaton Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church: pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church and the Church Centre. Responsibility for the maintenance of the churchyard has devolved upon East Devon District Council.

Governance

Members of the PCC are either ex officio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules, or co-opted by the PCC. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

During the year, the following served as members of the PCC:

Incumbent and Chairman	Revd. Justin Montague
Assistant Priest	Revd. Chris Thacker
Local Pioneer Minister	Revd. Shuna George
Churchwardens	1. Mr David House 2. Mr David Dickinson
Deanery Synod Representatives	Mr Paul Barns
PCC Treasurer	Mrs Sharon Bruce (Until April 2024) Mr David Mason (From May 2024) - Duties supported Parish Finance Officer & PCC Finance Committee)
Secretary	Mrs Judi Brewer
Other PCC Members	
Mr Michael Tabeart	Mrs Mary Casey

(The PCC is allowed up to 12 elected members, including those holding other offices, such as Treasurer)

Assistant Clergy

The parish benefits from having the services of the Revd. Chris Thacker (retired), as well as support from other retired clergy for services and occasional offices, including the Revd. Barry Brewer, Revd. Karen Curnock, Revd. Nigel Freathy, Revd. Geoffrey Walsh and Revd Mary Harding.

The parish also benefits from the service of Mrs Sue Price, Reader Emeritus

Church Activity Groups

A number of organisations and volunteer teams operate within the church family, including:

3-2-1 for Jesus
Anna Chaplaincy
Axe Valley Christians Against Poverty
Bell Ringers
Choir
Church Cleaners
Church Flower Arrangers
Discussion Groups (Lent onwards)
FREE*dom* Café
Friends of St Gregory's
Greg's Music Makers
Hand bell Ringers
Hospitality Team
Julian Group
'Knit & Natter'
Mothers' Union Group
Music Group
Table Tennis Club

We also have contact with a number of outside organisations through members of our church family, including:

Christian Aid
Christians Together in Seaton
Messy Church
Seaton Foodbank

Committees

The PCC meets in alternate months, six times a year. For certain aspects of the council's business, there are sub-committees which meet when necessary to formulate recommendations that are brought to the full PCC. All other matters are dealt with directly by the PCC.

Finance Sub-Committee – oversees the financial management of St Gregory's Church and encourages good financial stewardship. It comprises the Vicar, the Treasurer, Church Administrator, and three other members of the PCC and one other member of the Electoral Roll.

Fabric Sub-Committee – A Quinquennial Inspection report was received in November 2022. This related to the church and churchyard. Responsibility for maintenance and development of the church lies with the PCC. Responsibility for maintenance of the churchyard lies with East Devon District Council. Works arising from the QI report have been categorized according to the various permissions required to address them.

Health and Safety Sub-Committee - A health and safety policy is in place and regularly updated. Health and Safety has an agenda item at each PCC meeting. The committee is a minimum of the Health and Safety Officer and the Church Warden(s).

Friends of St Gregory's Sub-Committee (FOSG)
The mission of FOSG is to ensure the continued existence of the St Gregory's Grade 1 listed Church building as a feature of Seaton for the benefit of the whole community. It also provides financial support for the upkeep of the building to ensure the advancement of the Christian religion. 5 members are appointed annually under the auspices of the PCC.

Pastoral Team – undertakes to ensure that appropriate pastoral care is offered to members of the congregation and wider community. We provide home communion services and visits to individuals and local residential/nursing homes. The Pastoral Team primarily consists of the clergy, Lay Minister Emeritus, Anna Chaplains and other associated laity.

Other working parties or sub-committees are set up for particular projects as and when necessary.

Safeguarding - The PCC places a high priority on its responsibilities towards children and vulnerable adults. It ensures that all those working with these groups undergo appropriate checks. Safeguarding has an agenda item at each PCC meeting. All volunteers, clergy and staff are required to complete Church specific Safeguarding Training appropriate to their role without exception, as per guidelines by the Diocese of Exeter Safeguarding Team. The PCC has complied with the 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).

Review of the Year

PCC Meeting January 17th 2024:
Balance Sheet was presented by Sharon Bruce, who was thanked as she was stepping down from April as PCC Finance Officer.
It was decided to increase the hire charges for the use of the Church Centre from April 2024.
We're hoping to run a couple of Lent Courses and Rev Shuna George Pritchard and her husband are prepared to run a small Alpha Course in their home. Shuna is also signed up to the CANVA publishing site.
Finance Committee recommended that we plan our Charitable giving, ie how much and to whom. PCC to suggest charities to be recipients.
On 13th Jan we hosted a well attended Safeguarding Awareness Course.
Justin will be running from John O'Groats to Lands End in March to raise money for the churches and other charities.

April 3rd Meeting:
Defibrillator now installed outside Church Centre, paid for by a legacy and grants.
New 'Bench Policy' agreed.

Statement was read in church on 17 Dec and 3 March that sadly following a serious incident Revd Alison Finch had been asked to step back from all duties and responsibilities in the Mission Community.
Giving had increased by 4.5% following Stewardship Campaign and we had paid 70% of our Parish Share.
Revd Julie Lomas has been appointed our new Rural Dean and Revd Karen Curnock is to be Deanery Secretary.

April 24th Joint PCC Meeting with St Michael's Beer:
In the absence of Revd Justin Montague, David House read a message which stated that the Bishop of Crediton had spoken with the Revd Alison Finch today and had subsequently withdrawn her Permission to Officiate (PTO).

May 22nd Meeting:
David Mason presented a proposal for necessary building works on church tower and internal walls, guttering and electrical work. Estimated cost £47,139+VAT and £5000 contingency, to be taken from restricted funds and investments. Grants to be applied for.
'Early Third informal service to begin on 16th June at 9.30am in Church Centre; also Crafternoons for families at Half Term.
Pentecost Picnic held at Pecorama with garden walks, train rides, ending with worship led by a Christian band.
All PCC completed Safeguarding training. FoSG Spring Bazaar raised £830.

July 24th Meeting:
Anna Chaplains are starting a monthly Memory Church in Church Centre for those finding it difficult to attend regular services.
PCC looked at all the Safeguarding policies which were up for annual review and agreed to adopt them all except the 'Use of Social Media' which needed revision.
Linda Joy was presented with flowers and thanks at her final Greg's Music Makers.
AVCAP (Axe Valley Christians Against Poverty) had their busiest year yet with 16 new clients supported by 11 Befrienders, 2 Debt Coaches (Alix newly trained).

September 11th Meeting:
We have received a free portrait of King Charles, to be place in the Church Centre.
Anna Chaplain, Mary Casey, attended Study Day in Exeter and National Training Day online.
Amy Dare was appointed as Church Family Worker from September.
PCC received an update on repair work currently being undertaken and costs now increased to £64,733. PCC agreed that £45,000 be released from CBF Income – Investment Account.
FoSG – 60 people attended talk on Seaton Hoard and £270 raised for the church.

November 27th Meeting:
Justin had drawn up Safeguarding Policy for Small Groups agreed by PCC. He also asked members to comment on a draft Small Groups Leader's Manual.
PCC agreed the Budget for 2025. David House and David Mason were to meet with Diocesan Board of Finance for advice in managing our finances.
Contactless machine had cost £250 but has raised about £1,000.
Justin wrote to all parishioners re the Makin Report and resignation of the Archbishop of Canterbury.
Fire extinguishers/blankets yearly service completed. Fire safety and evacuation plan updated.
Anna Chaplains – Sue Craker was commissioned as an Anna Chaplain and Mary Casey recommissioned on 24th November.
AVCAP – Justin noted several encouragements with the work.
Repair work virtually completed and 3 grants received.
Postcards with all the Christmas services on are being produced.
Thanks to Bruce Roberts who is retiring as Tower Captain and also to Revd Chris Thacker who is retiring from Assistant Priest but retaining her PTO.

Judi Brewer (PCC Secretary)

Charity Commission

The PCC has been registered as a charity with the Charity Commission since 07 January 2009. The Charity Trustees for 2024 were:

Revd Shuna George Pritchard (Ex Officio)
Mr David Dickinson (Ex Officio)
Mr David House (Ex Officio)
Mr Michael Tabeart (wef 2023)
Mrs Mary Casey (wef 2022)
Mr Paul Barns (wef 2022) (Deanery Synod Rep)
Mrs Judi Brewer (wef 2024) (Secretary)

Financial Review

The PCC determined to pay its Common Fund request in part for 2024 (71.5%) when it set the budget in November 2023. The PCC were able to fulfil this.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the PCC to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds (if possible), which equates to approximately three months' unrestricted payments, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. In general, it is our policy to invest our funds balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund.

Public Benefit

The Trustees consider they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 and have paid due regard to the guidance published by the Charities Commission with regard to the public benefit which the charity provides throughout Britain. Our aims make it clear that the church is to be actively involved in the community in which it is situated. We provide a place of worship that is open for all to attend and clearly advertise our weekly worship services. We understand that to be an effective Christian witness our existence is not only for the benefit of the church attendees, but for the community as a whole.

We look forward to 2025 in faith and hope.

Signed:



Revd Justin Montague
Priest-in-Charge

CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name St Gregory's Church PCC		
On accounts for the year ended	31st December 2024	**Charity no (if any)**	1127403
Set out on pages	10–13		

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:	K. Silcox	**Date:**	01/04/2025
Name:	Karen Silcox		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	AAT Licenced Accountant Registration Number 1003207		
Address:	19 Beverley Close, Exeter, EX2 5NJ		

Receipts and Payments account
For the year ended 31st December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Fund	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Incoming Resources	£		£	£	£
Voluntary Income					
Planned Giving	20,037		600	20,637	19,235
Collections, donations and other givi	10,154		14,702	24,856	22,626
Income Tax Recovered	6,610		478	7,088	4,899
Legacies	0		0	0	2,000
Grants	273		12,266	12,539	2,382
Activities for generating funds				0	0
Magazine/Bookstall sales/Hall letting	2,820			2,820	4,566
Income from Other Properties	764			764	843
Annual fete/events	3,007		1,985	4,992	3,723
Investment Income					
Dividends & Interest Income	4,094			4,094	4,247
from charitable activities					
Parochial Fees	5,091			5,091	5,176
Other Incoming resources					
Insurance claims				0	0
Gain on disposal of fixed asset				0	0
Loans received in year				0	0
Other	2,756		12	2,768	377
Total Incoming resources	55,606	0	30,043	85,649	70,074
Resources Expended					
Church Activities					
Donations/Grants to charities	740		0	740	6,600
Mission & Evangelism	1,206		955	2,161	1,833
Parish Share	33,432		0	33,432	33,432
Clergy expenses	745		0	745	883
Church running expenses	5,430		631	6,061	4,948
Churchyard maintenance	0		0	0	0
Cost of raising funds	2,358		30	2,388	3,233
Support Costs	376		577	953	1,252
Administration costs	14,815		9,327	24,142	24,909
Accountancy fees	0		0	0	125
Other	4,470		39	4,509	3,565
Governance Costs	125		0	125	2,766
Major Expenditure					
Repairs to church buildings			68,779	68,779	0
Repairs to other property			2,936	2,936	0
Parochial Fees remitted	2,767			2,767	0
Total resources expended	66,464	0	83,274	149,738	83,546
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	(10,858)	0	(53,231)	(64,089)	(13,472)
Gain/(Loss) on Investment Assets	0		3,053	3,053	2,876
Loans repaid in Year	0		0	0	0
Transfer Between Funds	(130)		130	0	0
Parochial Fees Due	0		0	0	(659)
					0
Net Movements in funds	(10,988)	0	(50,048)	(61,036)	(11,255)
Accumulated funds at the start of the year	25,924	0	119,584	145,508	156,764
Accumulated funds at the end of the year	£14,936	£0	£69,536	£84,472	£145,509

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 December 2024

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2008, together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP 2005.

(b) Income

The accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis.

2. Fixed Assets

No value is ascribed to the following:-

The Church of St Gregory and its contents
The Churchyard
The Vicarage
The Church Hall and contents
The reasons for this are as follows:-

The Church and Churchyard are "consecrated" property and the vicarage is a benefice property. These properties are regarded as "inalienable" and are excluded from PCC accounts in compliance with the Charities Act 2011.

The contents of the Church are also to be treated as inalienable assets, in accordance with the CGB guidance (para 5.4)and are also excluded.

The Church Hall is a leasehold property and is legally vested in the Exeter Diocesan Board of Finance Limited as Custodian Trustee. The lease is for a term of 1000 years running from 1826 and its terms would be breached if the use of the hall for Sunday school purposes were to cease. Although the hall is not consecrated property, it is a dedicated building, and so bound up with the worship, mission and ministry of the Church, that it is unthinkable that the Church could operate without it. It is therefore appropriate and legitimate to treat it for accounting purposes as an inalienable asset in the same way as consecrated property.

The values of the contents of the Hall are regarded as insufficiently material to include in the accounts.

Funds

Unrestricted Funds may be used by the PCC for any if its ordinary purposes. The movement in the funds are shown in the Receipts and Payments account.

Designated funds represent sums set aside, out of ordinary unrestricted funds, for specific designated purposes, but they can be transferred back into general funds at any time.

Restricted funds are those funds which must be spent on restricted purposes for which they were given. In this Financial Statement any Expendable Endowments are included in this category.

Also within the Restricted fund there is £2198 which belongs to AVCAP and is solely for their use.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST GREGORY, SEATON

England & Wales - Charity number 1127403

Accounts

'To know God and share the wonder of His love'

St Gregory's Church Seaton

Annual Reports & Accounts

SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Registered Charity No: 1127403

for the year ending 31st December 2023

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St Gregory's, Seaton & St Michael's, Beer

Coastal Benefice of Seaton & Beer
Vicar: Rev'd Justin Montague
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SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

TRUSTEES'ANNUALREPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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Deanery Synod Representatives	Mr Paul Barns
PCC Treasurer	Mrs Sharon Bruce (duties supported by Parish Finance Officer & PCC Finance Committee)
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Church membership

The church electoral roll as reported at the 2022 Annual Parochial Church meeting (held in April 2023) stood at 79. A full range of services were held in 2023, with average attendances as follows: 8am BCP Eucharist (10), 11am Eucharist (58), 11am Morning Worship (54), 6.30pm BCP Evensong (17). In addition we hosted three United Benefice Eucharists (75), celebrated Easter Day (93), welcomed the town community for Remembrance (131), and during Advent and Christmas held an Advent Carols Service (64), a service of 9 Lessons & Carols (104) and a Christingle (161).

Review of the Year

February Meeting: thanks were expressed to the Rev Simon Hitchcock who had stepped down as a licensed member of the Mission Community. Thanks were also expressed to Stephen Page who had stepped down from the PCC and Finance Committee. Matters discussed:- purchasing a defibrillator, progress of the Anna Chaplaincy, Quinquennial inspections carried out, offer from Diocese for a Mission Community health check.

March meeting: the MC Health Check survey was announced to lead into a meeting with Diocesan facilitators, followed by a Vision day for both PCCs in June. Plans were made to have a simple presentation at the APCM about our financial situation to encourage more realistic giving. Contactless Giving Machine to be permanent. A Green Team was looking at ways to realise Net Zero. Plans being made for Coronation W/E, Mission Bus outreach, Flower Festival in May.

May meeting: Plans were discussed regarding obtaining a Defibrillator to be placed outside the Church centre; David Dickinson attended a Diocesan Safety Course; PCC were reminded of importance of undertaking Safeguarding training; Anna Chaplains taking HC to several Homes and first Anna's Place held in Beer; successful Flower Festival held.

July meeting: it was announced that Helen Knight had been appointed as the new Administrator and Helen Moulding the Finance Officer. The new MC website would soon be up and running, thanks especially to Kirstine House. Following the Vision Day the three areas earmarked for attention were Communication, Children & Families and Discipleship.
Rev Ali Finch gave notice of her resignation as Associate Priest, although with a PTO she would continue to support Justin and continue her Anna chaplaincy work.

October meeting: a legacy payment was received towards the defibrillator costs. Sue Price retired from her LLM role and thanks were expressed (with a gift) at a special service. Sermons on stewardship were planned. Concerts arranged by David and Kirstine House raised £726 this year for church funds.
Rev Shuna George appointed as a Pioneer minister with special interest in outreach, children and families and would be introduced at a United Service.

November meeting: Discussions held with FoSG to clarify handling oftheirfundraising and agreed the money raised would cover this year's insurance. Budget for 2024 presented and hopes to pay greater percentage of Common Fund payments. After recent Stewardship Campaign regular planned giving had increased to £22,000. Sue Craker appointed as new MC Safeguarding Officer. Diocesan heating advisors visiting. Energy audits received. FoSG are planning a Nativity Crib Festival. Greg's Music Makers are planning their own Christingle followed by soup and rolls.

Charity Commission
The PCC has been registered as a charity with the Charity Commission since 07 January 2009. The Charity Trustees for 2023 were:

Mr David Bruce (wef 2023)
Mrs Sharon Bruce (wef 2023)
Revd Alison Finch (till September 2023) (Ex Officio)
Revd Shuna George Pritchard (from September 2023) (Ex Officio)

Mr David Dickinson (Ex Officio)
Mr David House (Ex Officio)
Mr Michael Tabeart (wet 2023)
Mr Ann Roberts (D. Synod)
Mr Bruce Roberts (D. Synod)
Mr Peter Burrows (wet 2021)
Mrs Mary Casey (wet 2022)
Mr Paul Barns (wet 2022)

Financial Review

The PCC determined to pay its Common Fund request in part for 2023 (70%) when it set the budget in 2022. The PCC were able to fulfil this.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the PCC to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds (if possible), which equates to approximately three months' unrestricted payments, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. In general, it is our policy to invest our funds balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund.

Public Benefit

The Trustees consider they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 and have paid due regard to the guidance published by the Charities Commission with regard to the_ public benefit which the charity provides throughout Britain. Our aims make it clear that the church is to be actively involved in the community in which it is situated. We provide a place of worship that is open for all to attend and clearly advertise our weekly worship services. We understand that to be an effective Christian witness our existence is not only for the benefit of the church attendees, but for the community as a whole.

We look forward to 2024 in faith and hope.

Signed:



Revd Justin Montague
Priest-in-Charge

SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

FINANCIAL REPORTS

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

Seaton Parochial Church Council
Receipts and Payments account
For the year ended 31st December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Fund	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Incoming Resources	£		£	£	£
Voluntary Income					
Planned Giving	18,560		675	19,235	18,554
Collections, donations & other giving	15,178		9,830	25,008	18,470
Income Tax Recovered	4,899			4,899	5,278
Legacies	2,000			2,000	2,003
Activities for generating funds					
Magazine/Bookstall sales/Hall lettings	4,566			4,566	4,395
Income from Other Properties	843			843	835
Annual fete/events	1,967		1,756	3,723	1,582
Investment Income					
Dividends & Interest	4,247			4,247	4,739
Income from charitable activities					
Parochial Fees	5,176			5,176	7,725
Other Incoming resources					
Insurance claims	0			0	0
Gain on disposal of fixed asset	0			0	0
Loans received in year	0			0	0
Other	389		-12	377	3,253
Total Incoming resources	**57,825**	**0**	**12,249**	**70,074**	**66,834**
Resources Expended					
Church Activities					
Donations/Grants to charities	740		5,860	6,600	3,088
Mission & Evangelism	1,116		717	1,833	1,359
Parish Share	33,432			33,432	28,571
Clergy expenses	883			883	433
Church running expenses	4,948			4,948	6,600
Churchyard maintenance	0			0	0
Cost of raising funds	3,176		57	3,233	2,850
Support Costs	272		980	1,252	613
Administration costs	16,108		8,801	24,909	24,713
Accountancy fees	125			125	161
Other	3,565			3,565	4,864
Governance Costs	180		2,586	2,766	0
Major Expenditure					
Repairs to church buildings	0			0	0
Repairs to other property	0			0	0
Parochial Fees remitted	0			0	0
Total resources expended	**64,545**	**0**	**19,001**	**83,546**	**73,252**
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	(6,720)	0	(6,752)	(13,472)	(6,418)
Gain/(Loss) on Investment Assets			2,876	2,876	(9,262)
Loans repaid in Year	0			0	0
Transfer Between Funds	(113)	0	113	0	0
Balance due to DBF	(659)			(659)	(1,162)
Net Movements in funds	(7,492)	0	(3,763)	(11,255)	(16,842)
Accumulated funds at the start of the year	33,416	0	123,348	156,764	173,606
Accumulated funds at the end of the year	**£25,924**	**£0**	**119,585**	**£145,509**	**£156,764**

Seaton Parochial Church Council
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
As at 31st December 2023

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Investment Assets				
CBF Income Units	0	46,727	46,727	42,676
M&G Charifund Units	0	48 798	48 798	49,972
	0	95,525	95,525	92,648
Monetary Assets				
Lloyds Current Account	18,859	2,896	21,755	23,118
CAF Bank Current Account	7,065	17,428	24,493	33,821
CAF Bank Deposit Account	0	0	0	0
CBF Deposit May Smith	0	0	0	0
CBF Deposit Graves Fund	0	0	0	0
Shawbrook Savings Account	0	0	0	0
Friends of St Gregorys Church	0	3 736	3 736	7,177
	25 924	24,060	49984	64,116
Accumulated funds at the end of the year			145.509	
Other Assets				
Gift Aid Claim	1,734		1,734	0
Beer PCC - Various	1,921		1,921	653
Invoices Outstanding	0		0	0
Liabilities				
Parochial Fees - EDBF	1,569		1,569	1,389
Parochial Fees - Beer PCC	807		807	914
Governance,	125		125	125
Gift Aid Refund to Friends of St Greg	0		0	71
Exeter Sans/Children's Society	0		0	128
Contingent Liabilities				
Donations to Charities	740		740	0
Parish Share	46,772		46,772	47,775

These accounts were approved by the Seaton Parochial Church Council on 3rd April 2024 and were signed on their behalf by :



Signature

03-04-2024

Seaton Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 December 2023

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2008, together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP 2005.

(b) Income

The accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis.

2. Fixed Assets

No value is ascribed to the following:-

The Church of St Gregory and its contents
The Churchyard
The Vicarage
The Church Hall and contents

The reasons for this are as follows:-

The Church and Churchyard are "consecrated" property and the vicarage is a benefice property. These properties are regarded as "inalienable" and are excluded from PCC accounts in compliance with the Charities Act 2011.

The contents of the Church are also to be treated as inalienable assets, in accordance with the CGB guidance (para 5.4)and are also excluded.

The Church Hall is a leasehold property and is legally vested in the Exeter Diocesan Board of Finance Limited as Custodian Trustee. The lease is for a term of 1000 years running from 1826 and its terms would be breached if the use of the hall for Sunday school purposes were to cease. Although the hall is not consecrated property, it is a dedicated building, and so bound up with the worship, mission and ministry of the Church, that it is unthinkable that the Church could operate without it. It is therefore appropriate and legitimate to treat it for accounting purposes as an inalienable asset in the same was as consecrated property.

The values of the contents of the Hall are regarded as insufficiently material to include in the accounts.

3. Funds

Unrestricted Funds may be used by the PCC for any ifits ordinary purposes. The movement in the funds are shown in the Receipts and Payments account.

Designated funds represent sums set aside, out of ordinary unrestricted funds, for specific designated purposes, but they can be transferred back into general funds at any time.

Restricted funds are those funds which must be spent on restricted purposes for which they were given. In this Financial Statement any Expendable Endowments are included in this category.

Also within the restricted funds is £2,384 which belongs to AVCAP and is solely for their use.

The CBF Deposit May Smith Account, CBF Income Units and M&G Charifund units, for the residue of a bequest by May Smith in 1983. Any interest or dividends from these investments are unrestricted, the capital proceeds are designated as Expendable Endowments with use restricted "for the maintenance and upkeep and benefit in general of the Church and associated buildings and land"

The Graves Trust is held in one CBF deposit account and is designated as an Expendable Endowment, the interest being retained within the account. Its use is "for the upkeep of the Church generally" although the main aim is the upkeep of five specific graves.

Quoted investments are valued at bid prices at 31 December 2023.

4. Employees

In 2023 the PCC employed five persons part-time throughout the year - a Church Administrator, Finance Officer, a hall cleaner, an organist/ a choir master and an AVCAP administrator. The total remuneration of all employees in 2023 was £15,724.

5 . **Separate funds held by church organisations**

	Opening Balance	Receipts	Payments		Closing Balance	
			to Pee	to Other	2023	2022
					£	£
Church Flower Arranging	21.69	115.00	0.00	103.35	33.34	21.69
The Table Tennis Club	3.57	443.52	0.00	99.46	347.63	3.57
Handbell Ringers	279.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	279.38	279.38
Coffee Team	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Julian Group	0.00	52.00	0.00	52.00	0.00	0.00
Total funds not incorporated in the PCC accounts					**660.35**	**304.64**

6. Separate funds not included in Receipts and Payments account

	Opening Balance	Receipts	Payments		Closing Balance	
			to Pee	to Other	2023	2022
FREEdom Cafe	265.27	1,464.11	0 00	1,206.55	522.83	265.27

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TOSEATONPAROCHIALCHURCHCOUNCIL
ST GREGORY'S CHURCH, SEATON - REG. CHARITY NO: 1127403

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner
As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charities Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(I) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



WAYNE COOK **FMAAT, CIMA Adv Dip MA, AATQB**
Wayne's World of Accountancy
14 Mead Way
Seaton, Devon, EX12 2NR

DATED 13th Mar 2024

‘To know God and share the wonder of His love’

St Gregory’s Church, Seaton

Group Reports

SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Registered Charity No: 1127403

for the year ending 31st December 2023

Coastal Mission Community

St Gregory's, Seaton & St Michael's, Beer

Coastal Benefice of Seaton & Beer

Vicar: Rev Justin Montague

The Church Office, The Church Centre, Colyford Road, Seaton, Devon, EX12 2DF

(01297) 23656

INCUMBENT'S REPORT - 2023
Report from the Reverend Justin Montague, Priest-in-Charge

The Annual General Meeting (APCM) is a time for us all to look back and reflect on the year, giving thanks to God for all that has happened and also a time for us all to look to the future and what we would like to see happening in the coming year. As Priest-in-Charge, I am invited to share something of a review of the previous year and a prayer-shaped vison for the future. Throughout his earthly ministry Jesus took time aside in order to reflect and pray. There is great value in reflecting prayerfully on the way we work, minister and serve together as churches in the Coastal Mission Community, using it as a springboard for growth.
It seems rather strange that I am writing a report in March 2024, for a meeting in April 2024 about the year 2023 and to keep that focus of reflection solely on the period of the last year. The church year for the APCM is the calendar year, in this case from January 2023 until December 2023. Of course we look forward too, at the opportunities and possibilities, praying where God might be leading us as his people on this beautiful part of our Island, on the East Devon coast.

This Incumbent's Report is my second in post, as I fast approach two years as the Priest-in-Charge of the Coastal Mission Community. As I write this, I have carefully considered the progress we have made together in many areas of our church life, with green shoots aplenty and that should really encourage us all, as well as areas for continual development and growth.

I mentioned last year in my report how my first twelve months had flown by; particularly when I peek into the vicarage study and still see boxes waiting to be unpacked. These last twelve months have been no different and I must duly confess church families, those boxes are still waiting for my attention. However, our cats would very much like the 'box towers' to remain as they are.

I would like to also reiterate my understanding to you of the office I hold as your Priest and incumbent. I believe I am responsible ultimately to God for the ministry that has been entrusted to me; that I am also accountable to His Church and to you all in the way I exercise my office. I consider my life as a Priest, a humbling experience and wear that responsibility on my heart and sleeve, each and every day, constantly reminding myself of the teaching of St Paul about ministerial leadership in his pastoral letters to many of the early churches he helped establish. It is a high calling indeed and with that comes high responsibility.
I can reassure you brothers and sisters, your expectations of me are unlikely to be above my own expectations of myself, and yet I recognise the only way I can stay healthy, grow, and be the Priest God has called me to be, and that you desire me to be, is by keeping close to Jesus myself. I ask one thing of you and that is to pray for your clergy and of course, to pray for one another. Ministry is a gift and a trust for which every one of us must give account.
The life of every church is made up of many pieces. Not all of us see all the pieces, so we often get a narrow picture of what is happening in our parishes. I hope this report and those alongside it, enable you to see what wonderful places of worship St. Gregory's and St Michael's are, and maybe see the part where we fit into our communities. Let us also remember that the church is a family, and like any family we have highs and lows, joys and challenges but we have Jesus Christ as our head, our strength and foundation, and with him nothing is impossible.
So, what of the last year, 2023?

Farewells, retirements, and welcomes
In 2023, there were significant changes around our churches. We had the retirement of Keith Izzard (treasurer) and Gayle Chapple (churchwarden) in Beer and David Bruce (churchwarden) in Seaton, accumulating over 55years of wholehearted service between them. David and Gayle still remain integral parts of the mission and ministry of our churches, providing generous support to our new churchwardens and a continued active presence in the parishes. In April we welcomed Dave Dickinson and Penny Grant as our new churchwardens in Seaton and Beer respectively. Each have brought their unique gifts to their office, demonstrated exceptional leadership with a calm authority and distinct care for people of our churches. Alongside our other churchwarden, David House in Seaton, the three have been a tremendous support to me as incumbent, in our oversight of the welfare of our churches.

In June 2023 we said goodbye to our Parish Administrator, Tracey Voysey who, after the conclusion of her own curacy in the Axe Valley Mission Community, began the next chapter of her ministry as a full-time incumbent in Honiton. Though this was not unexpected due to the impending conclusion of her curacy, it was a loss that would leave a significant gap in the day-to-day running of our churches. In my first 14 mths as the CMC incumbent, Tracey was a steady presence and a great support and encouragement. As well as being our parish administrator, Tracey also managed the financial affairs of Seaton PCC. She also took on the short-term management of Beer PCC finances following Keith's retirement. As a result, we had three vacant positions at the same time.

Seaton and Beer PCCs thoughtfully discussed our next steps regarding these vacancies and, after prayer and consultation, concluded to advertise for two positions, a parish administrator and a parish finance officer. Role descriptions and contracts were created and agreed by the PCCs. Both churchwardens Penny Grant and David House and I oversaw the recruitment process. We were absolutely delighted to appoint Helen Knight as parish administrator and Helen Moulding as parish finance officer in July 2023, the day after Tracey's departure. This was a most profound answer to our prayers, with Helen and Helen already active members of Seaton church. Both have brought so much to their respective roles through their experience, skills and unique gifts, slotting into the life of the mission community almost seamlessly and becoming integral parts of our new mission community team.

In October 2023, Lay Minister Sue Price officially retired with a special service led by Revd Canon Karen Curnock and the Archdeacon of Exeter, Andrew Beane. Sue Price has served our church families faithfully for many years, both publicly and privately, corporately and pastorally. Her ministry to the housebound and sick often goes unseen, but definitely not unrecognised. Sue has brought the love and presence of Christ to many individuals in their homes and residences, who have long been unable physically to attend the church in-person. She has further led a monthly Julian group, which many people attend and are spiritually nourished by through a contemplative mode of prayer. Sue has been given the well-deserved honorary title of Lay Minister Emeritus by the Archdeacon. Whilst this step represents a pivot in Sue's ministry, she continues to serve wholeheartedly, visiting people in their homes in Seaton and Beer, leading the Julian Group and Compline services and remains very much a part of the life of the church and an important member of the core team. May I take this opportunity to offer Sue our heartfelt thanks for her service.

Occasional Offices

The average age in our area of Devon is high. Seaton specifically has risen to 61yrs compared to 54 in 2011. We have 8 residential care homes, as well as multiple assisted living premises for older people in our parishes.

Early in my tenure we identified ministry to older people as a unique part of the context we are called to be Christ's church in Seaton and Beer. Therefore, funeral ministry is a significant part of our ministry, including end of life spiritual care, home visits and pastoral ministry to older people. At St Michael's Church for a local person's funeral, it is normally the case that we have 200+ people in attendance, something very unique to a village community like Beer.

In 2023, the ministry of our churches supported individuals, couples and families with well over 60 Funerals, including Burials of Ashes, 5 Weddings, a wedding blessing and a renewal of wedding vows service. This is an increase on the same time in 2022. Further, we had 6 baptisms, including one adult, as well as a confirmation candidate who was confirmed at Ottery St Mary parish church. This again is an increase on 2022.

Life-events are a vitally important part of our ministry and outreach, the value of which cannot be underestimated. For many people these events may be the first contact they have with the church, and our relationships with the families we come alongside are significant and witnesses to the God of love and hope we serve and share, whether in times of joy or times of sadness.

In March 2023, the Coastal Mission Community and Holyford Mission Community came together to host a joint Marriage Preparation Day. Fr Steven and I hosted 11 couples for a great day discussing the marriage service itself, preparation for the big day and a focussed session on communication in marriage. This was followed by a shared lunch and was a huge success.

Local Community and Outreach

We have a Church of England Primary school in Beer, where I am a governor and lead fortnightly assemblies, with Open-the-Book being delivered on alternate weeks. We welcomed Beer Primary School to the church for services at Easter, Year 6 leavers, Harvest and Christmas. An Ofsted inspection was carried out in November 2023 at the school with an overall 'Good' rating, with one area deemed 'Outstanding'. This was a most excellent conclusion and represents the exceptional culture of the school and the hard work of staff, pupils and governors.

There is great potential and opportunity to build on our established and growing relationships with the school as the village church. We aim to launch a new family service in 2024 in Beer and likewise an all-age service in Seaton. As governor at Beer Primary, I am a subject monitor for RE, PHSE and the school vision, periodically meeting the Headteacher and a pupil voice to review progress in these areas.

In Seaton, there is a great opportunity to build on relationships between church and school, that have recently been re-established, after they were limited due to the pandemic and other factors.

Following the commissioning of our Anna Chaplains Mary Casey and Alison Finch, their ministry in providing spiritual care to older people in Seaton and Beer had a swift impact across our communities. The Anna Chaplains and Anna volunteers regularly visited almost every Residential Care Home in our parishes throughout 2023, providing services for residents, as well as one-to-one spiritual care.

Following a family move to Seaton, Revd Shuna George-Pritchard joined the Mission Community team in the Autumn to serve as a Local Pioneer Minister, focused primarily on community engagement and outreach. This included work with the church leadership team to develop and action the 3 targets for growth from the mission community survey and vision day. Shuna's impact has been immediate and positive. Throughout the autumn and the season of Advent in the ministry and outreach of the church, Shuna has been actively involved in children and families work and church services. Demonstrating her creative skills, Shuna produced excellent posters, cards and other literature for events and services throughout Advent and Christmas.

After relaunching in December 2022, the monthly Freedom Café with '321 for Jesus' has gone from strength to strength. Led by Helen Moulding and the core team, alongside a fantastic team of volunteers, it is an incredibly popular outreach and always busy. The kingdom principles on which it was founded and run, around generosity, hospitality, welcome and worship, is a privilege to observe.

Services and Worship

There are two main services each week in our churches, 9.30am Sundays in Beer and 11am in Seaton. There is an additional 8am BCP Holy Communion service on the 1st (Beer) and 4th Sundays (Seaton) respectively. On the second Wednesday of the month in Beer at 10am and the 4th Wednesday in Seaton there are also Holy Communion services. Whilst the average attendances in Beer have more or less remained the same in 2023, in Seaton there has been an increase in attendees. Churchwarden Penny began a contemplative prayer service at St Michael's at 10am on the 1st Wednesday of the month, which has been positively received and presents a great addition to our monthly services. Sue Price leads a monthly Compline service on the 3rd Wednesday at St Gregory's at 7pm.

During Advent and Christmas services across the mission community exceeded expectations. Attendees increased across all our traditional services, including Carol, Christingle & Crib services. We had 'Carols in the Barrel' in Beer (Carols in the Pub), as well as carols sung on the streets of the village. At St Gregory's

we hosted a special Tree of Light service for Seaton Hospice Care at Home for bereaved families - an emotive and moving event.
We live streamed our Sunday Services on Facebook through the respective Facebook church pages in 2023. In Seaton this was a more recent addition, whereas Beer having been streaming for a few years. This is one way we can open a window to the world and our communities and has assisted members of our own congregations who are unable to attend in person to connect with our worship. It is not complicated, but we do need to grow a local technical team to take it over, which is one of our parish aims. We hope to raise our social media presence and improve our connection and communications with our communities in this digital age.

In the last year a denominational church in Seaton sadly closed and the local Methodist Church minister departed to take on the incumbency in a new parish. Relationships between the different churches and leaders are excellent across our parishes and we are presented with opportunities to explore mission and ministry together. On Mothering Sunday, members of Beer Congregational Church joined us at St Michael's for a joint service of worship. During the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Christians Together in Seaton held a united ecumenical service at St Gregory's Church.

In January 2023, I began a weekly prayer gathering each Tuesday 9-10am at St Gregory's church for all churches in the area. We specifically pray for the needs of the churches in Seaton and Beer and all are welcome to attend. Regular attendees represent most of the local churches in Seaton including Crossroads, St Gregory's, St Augustine's RC and the United Reformed Churches.

Other
In 2023 the Coastal Mission Community launched a brand new website and introduced the ChurchSuite management software into our administration.
To enable us to shape vision for the future, the PCCs ran a Mission Community Survey supported by the Diocesan Ministry and Mission team to gather feedback on people's perceptions of our churches. This was followed by a 'Next Steps' feedback session led by Jon Curtis from Exeter Diocese. This proved to be a valuable experience, highlighting areas we are doing well and areas for growth and improvement.
A vision day followed in the summer led by the Diocese Transitions minister Revd Mike Clark, at which we spent some time focussing upon those identified areas for growth from the survey. This was further supplemented by discussions during our PCC meetings. Finally, in November 2023, a group from the respective PCCs, alongside additional others, met together to identify opportunities and specific points of focus in our areas of growth for 2024.
Here is a summary of the year of prayerful discernment and significant discussions, identifying 1-2 things we desire to focus upon during 2024 in each of the areas of growth:

COASTAL **M**ISSION **C**OMMUNITY
Communicating the message
Making Disciples
Creating Community

COMMUNICATING THE MESSAGE
Who we are and the Good News we have to share.

Signage and Welcome
(to include improving signs to show location of St Gregory's
and welcome once inside church (display table, photos of leaders etc)

Tech Team
(to continue to develop website, other social media and means of
contacting all members by e mail or physically, with up-to-date information.)

MAKING DISCIPLES

Growing as followers of Christ

Internally – more Lent Home Groups leading to more permanent groups.
Externally – 1 or 2 outreach Events (Christian speaker or musician)

CREATING COMMUNITY
Children and Families
Intergenerational (Greg's Music Makers and Anna Chaplaincy)
Soup for the Soul (Soup after Music Makers?)
Breakfast Worship (9.30am 3rd Sunday in Parish Centre)

Finances
Clearly the current cost of living crisis has had an impact on us all individually and as churches. One of the significant areas of concern has been the increases in energy prices, insurance and other administrative resources. The PCCs took the decision to implement Energy Audits provided by Inspired Efficiency, and further requested visits from the DAC, including specialist heating advisors to ensure we can plan effectively in the short-term and get the best information possible in our decisions for the long-term. Our energy costs are unsustainable, particularly in Beer, and represent substantial amounts of our total outgoings. Tough decisions need to be made, with both PCCs taking the initiative in seeking the professional advice made available by Exeter Diocese around energy usage in our buildings and other matters around repair and maintenance.

Both parishes have been committed to paying our Common Fund requests. In Seaton, the finance committee produced a 5yr financial plan, working towards sustainability and growth and projected increases in our Common Fund payments. In 2023, Beer PCC paid 100% of its request once more. Both PCCs are currently using reserves in our attempts to cover our annual payments.
In October 2023 I led a stewardship campaign, including a generosity sermon series. May I take this opportunity to say an open-hearted thank-you for your response. The generosity in giving to support the ministry and mission of St Gregory's and St Michael's for the glory of God and His kingdom in Seaton and Beer, is valued and appreciated.

The End
I would like to take this opportunity to thank our respective PCCs, sub committees and ministry teams for your service to our churches. Thank-you to our clergy for all you do in leading and sharing the Word of God in our churches, namely Revd Chris, Revd Ali, Revd Shuna, Revd Barry and LLM Sue Price. To our Anna Chaplain Mary Casey, Church officers Penny, David H and Dave D, Parish Administrator Helen K and Finance Officer Helen M. To our laity and volunteers, bell-ringers and cleaners, choristers and sides-persons, fabric, hospitality and outreach teams, Altar Guild and pastoral visitors. And to so many more who give of themselves for God and the building of His kingdom in Seaton and Beer – Thank-you.
Your support for me, and for the mission and ministry of the Coastal Mission Community has been wonderful. Together, we have made a difference. We are growing churches in areas where churches are not all growing. We have a great ministry team, that is newly established, of committed and gifted people who pull together. As two church families we have a visible growing bond that is inspiring, and I believe will lead to great things together. We need to remember that as churches we have been around for hundreds of years, yet the baton is ours today; we will one day hand it on faithfully to the next generation. May we continue to be generous and faithful in our time.

There are many saints within our church who quietly go about their kingdom service, visiting people around our parishes in their homes, serving, volunteering, caring and sharing. Many are individuals who have been members of our churches, but who are no longer able to physically attend for a variety of reasons. So, through their provision and presence, these individuals bring the church to people in their homes or residential living accommodation, either through Holy Communion, prayer or fellowship, with many of unnamed laity, who do this significant, yet often unseen ministry.

I am going to end this Incumbent's report as I did last year, as I believe it is great reminder about who we are as the church and why we exist. If any church were looking for a manifesto of what it means to be a Christian community, they need look no further than the early church, as described in Acts 2 and 4. This is something I described to our PCCs early on in my tenure, expounding further during one of my sermons at a United Service in 2022. The characteristics of that first church are timeless and present a solid and biblical foundation upon which we can grow inwards, grow upwards and grow outwards for God's Kingdom's sake.

So as I close my annual review once more, this time looking ahead to 2024, may I invite you to be praying about what it means for us to be:
A Belonging People
A Sharing People
A Growing People
A Worshipping People
A Serving People
A Giving People.

And 'May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God'. (Romans 15: 5-7).
Go well, God bless. ***Revd.Justin***

CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT
Our pattern of services has continued as in previous years with Sunday services of 8am BCP Eucharist, 11am CW Eucharist, 11am Morning Worship and BCP Evensongs. In addition there are United Benefice services held on a 5th Sunday, and regular weekday communion services and compline. We offer our grateful thanks to all those who have enabled this to happen, in particular the clergy team of Justin Montague, Alison Finch, and Chris Thacker, ably supported by Sue Price. Towards the end of the year we were delighted to welcome Revd. Shuna George- Pritchard to our Mission Community as newly designated "Local Pioneer Minister". We look forward to the blessings she will bring to us.

As well as our own regular services we were delighted to host an ecumenical service during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in January, many of the local community at the Remembrance Service in November, and a Tree of Light service with the Seaton Hospice at Home team in December. A kind donation of the magnificent Christmas tree was made in connection with the Tree of Light service.

A regular feature of our weekly pattern of prayer and worship has been 9am prayers in church on a Monday morning. During 2023 Revd Justin added to this by initiating a prayer meeting on a Tuesday, also at 9am, which is open to members of all the churches in the area. This is an excellent way in which we share our Christian life with others in the town.

Through the year Alison Finch and Mary Casey undertook ministry as Anna Chaplains, including developing Anna's Place in St Michael's Beer. This is a special 30 minute time of worship for older people, followed by refreshments, music and memories.

Our contactless machine [to enable financial gifts to be made by card] was given a permanent home in a wooden case specifically designed for it and made by members of the Beer Mens' Shed. It is now always ready for donations at the entrance to the church.

Following the success of the Flower Festival held in 2022 it was decided to repeat the event, and it proved a great occasion for outreach with community groups being involved and many new visitors to the church.

Grateful thanks to many volunteers who made this event possible, following the overall vision and direction of Sharon Bruce.

The PCC members have worked hard to support the various aspects of church life and it has been heartening to see the church continue its family feel, welcoming new members and encouraging existing members into resuming roles within our services and weekly activities. At the 2023 APCM David Bruce stepped down as Churchwarden. He has undertaken this role for several years and we are immensely grateful for the gentle way in which he has supported us all and, in particular, been our first welcoming face at the porch. We are delighted that he will continue to be our chief "welcomer". David House was re-elected as Churchwarden and was joined at the APCM by Dave Dickinson. Dave has already contributed to the upkeep of the fabric of our church building [as well as singing in the choir] and his experience and level-headed approach will be valuable to us. Both Churchwardens would especially like to extend their grateful thanks to the welcoming team of sidespeople for their weekly presence at services. In addition there is now a long list of members of our congregation who assist in so many ways with services and events: from bell ringing, to cleaning, being part of the lay worship team, the coffee team, producing the magazine, serving, flower arranging, and general duties of upkeep among many other tasks. Thank you all for your time, effort and love in service to our church family.

We also extend our thanks to Tracey Voysey, our administrator up until June 2023, who dealt with matters spiritual and temporal with equal amounts of efficiency and diplomacy, and with plenty of good humour. We were sorry to receive Tracey's resignation in the middle of the year, but delighted that the reason for this was her taking on the post of incumbent at St. Paul's Honiton to cover a period of sabbatical. It was decided to divide her responsibilities within our parish into two areas: administration and finance. Both of these are shared with St. Michael's, Beer, and we were pleased to appoint two members of our own congregation to these roles: Helen Knight as administrator and Helen Moulding as Finance Officer. In some ways both felt they had jumped in at the deep end, but by the time we reached the end of the year they were undertaking all tasks as though they had been doing them for years. Towards the end of the year we were also delighted that Sue Craker has taken on the role of Safeguarding Officer. A morning's safeguarding training was arranged so that those involved in voluntary and leadership roles were further aware of their responsibilities in this area.

The care of the church fabric continues to be a major issue and following the Quinquennial inspection in 2022 further specialist advice has been sought, and we are now in a position to begin some of this. In addition we have had two energy audits during the year, to start our thinking about how to balance the need to keep our church warm with the Church of England commitment to being energy efficient, and working towards NetZero carbon emissions. A separate fabric report outlines the detail.

The coronation of King Charles III in May was a momentous event in our nation's history, and as a church we were pleased to celebrate with special prayers, the choir singing an anthem specially composed and which was sung in churches around the country, and a special toast with Prosecco during the after service coffee.

Freedom Café completed a successful year, after resuming its work at the end of 2022. Thanks to the team who run this, under the leadership of Helen Moulding.

Through the Spring and into the Summer we were able to begin the process of looking ahead for our Parish, starting with a survey of attitudes to the church [undertaken by members of the congregation and of the larger local community]; this was then followed up with a feedback evening led by Diocesan Outreach members, and finally a Vision Day. This was very much a Benefice event, with equal participation from St. Gregory's and St. Michael's. Many many ideas and thoughts were put forward, discussed and considered. They fall within three main areas: Communication / Developing Discipleship/Children and Families.

Led by sermons from Rev'd Justin we have also undertaken a Stewardship campaign, with a focus on a re-evaluation of our giving – both financial and of our time.

A special service was held at the start of October to recognise and give thanks for the lay ministry of Sue Price – for many years our Licensed Lay Minister [formerly known as “Reader”] – as Sue has decided to step down from this role. She is now referred to as Reader Emeritus! It was a pleasure to welcome Rev’d Canon Karen Curnock to preside at the service, and Archdeacon Andrew Beane to preach. A presentation was made to Sue at the end of the service [Dartington crystal vase], and in the Church Centre we enjoyed Prosecco and cake to round the occasion off.

Sadly, the Archdeacon of Exeter communicated to us that as a result of a serious incident at the end of the year, he had to instruct Rev Alison Finch to step back from her ministry within our Mission Community.

Having been put away in a drawer for nearly four years we were able to bring out our church Visitors’ book in April. During 2023 St. Gregory’s received visitors from Devon (Colyford, Sidmouth, Exmouth, South Brent), the rest of the UK (Petersfield, Milton Keynes, Leicester, Bournemouth), and much further afield (Switzerland, New Zealand, Australia, Vienna and the Bahamas). This reminds us all of how we are a worldwide family of believers.

Our “wandering warden”, David House, was pleased to complete his pilgrimage around the churches of the Honiton Deanery, all with an informative write up in the monthly magazine.
The year ended with Christmas services and celebrations including a Christingle service which saw the church full of families, and an engaging version of the Christmas story told jointly by Rev Shuna and Rev Justin. This, and the other Advent and Christmas services, was a great way to end 2023 and look forward to 2024.
David House and David Dickinson

CHARITIES COMMISSION OFFICER
There have been several changes to the PCC since the last report submitted to the Charities Commission. So the updates were reported to the Charities Commission in July 2023. The Annual Report and Accounts were filed with the Charity Commission on 1st August 2023 and thus our required compliance is up to date.
Wayne Cook

ELECTORAL ROLL
Report to be given at the APCM
Katie Mason

FINANCIAL REVIEW 2023
Our financial year started with £33416 in the General Fund. Total receipts into the unrestricted General Fund were £57825 and payments from this fund totalled £64545 resulting in a deficit for the year of £6720.

Income for the year through “Planned Giving” (Parish Giving Scheme, standing order and weekly envelopes) increased by around 4.5% and there was an increase in donations following the Stewardship campaign in Autumn 2023. Total income through giving including donations and church collections totalled £38.5k. Other income during the year included Hall lettings (£3.5k), Parochial Fees income of £5k (down from last year), Fundraising Events £1.9k, Dividends/Interest £4.2k and a legacy of £2k.

The Friends of St Gregory helped to raise funds and during the year gave approx. £5.8k towards insurance costs, repairs, fire equipment works and Energy Audit costs.

Our expenditure for the year totalled £64545 from the General Fund. In 2023 we paid 70% of the Common Fund request (£33.4k), an increase on the 60% paid in 2022. The contract for our Utility Bills came to an end in November 2023 and therefore utility costs will increase going forward.

At the end of the year there was a total of £25924 in our General Fund. Our General Fund reserves are depleting, and this is not sustainable. We must look at how we can change the balance between income and expenditure in a positive way moving forward.

Thank you to all those who give to our church so readily.

Helen Moulding, Parish Finance Officer
Coastal Mission Community

All Other Church Group Reports

ANNA CHAPLAIN
As an Anna Chaplain I volunteer in our local Mission Community, offering spiritual care and support to older people and their families, including people with dementia. After completing the training to become an Anna Chaplain I was commissioned at Exeter by Bishop Jackie in December 2022.

What is Spiritual care? My role as an Anna Chaplain is to listen to the stories of older people and help them make sense of their lives. For those who have a faith, it means helping them stay connected to their faith community. For those who don't have a faith, it's about listening and helping them explore the many questions of life. I am community based, going to wherever older people are – in their own homes, in care homes, or at groups and activities older people attend.

December 2022 – December 2023
This year I have made 145 visits to people living at home or in a care setting. Each visit lasts for at least an hour. Referrals for visits come from many sources, including Anna Chaplaincy national, regional, social services, carers, family and neighbours.

My visits and worship have taken me into homes of people living alone and mostly isolated. Care home lounges, dining rooms and corridors, and the private rooms of those living in our care homes.

I regularly visit six care homes in Seaton offering monthly dementia supportive worship, including an activity based on a bible reading. I am very grateful for the support of my two volunteers Jean and Mary who help me with the worship in the care homes. The worship is called Anna's place – my mobile church. The old white lace tablecloth, Bible, Candle, and wooden cross I made from driftwood off our beach, goes with me on all my visits to care homes. The symbols help the residents recognise when we gather together, we are church.

ANNA'S PLACE – St Michael's Beer. It has been a blessing to prepare and lead worship monthly at Beer with Anna's Place. This is evolving into something very different from my initial vision. A small group gathers each month in café style worship. We sing a couple of hymns, reflect on a bible story, share prayers and communion together. This is followed by refreshments and many a 'do you remember' story! My thanks to the ladies of Beer church for the refreshments and support each month.

In addition to the visits, there are many hours spent in preparation and administration. There is a responsibility to the people I visit, and to the volunteers, and with that accountability and safeguarding. My

training has enabled me to offer advocacy support, end of life care, time for the bereaved and funeral support.

Financially, Anna Chaplaincy has received three donations this year to help cover costs, and both Seaton and Beer PCC have budgeted to support this ministry, for which I am very grateful.

To find out more about Anna Chaplaincy national go to *annachaplaincy.org.uk*
LOCAL ANNA CHAPLAIN – ***Mary Casey*** email: caseymary119@gmail.com Mobile:07805655335 A message can be left at the church office 01297 23656

AVCAP
Wow - such an exciting year! Busy times caring for people with complex needs. Our Outreach is sitting with people in need of Financial and Debt help and loving them with God's love.
During the Year, we have cared for about 20 people - some individuals and half of which are families with young children. All ages from 28 - 79 years old. All with different experiences from their childhood, changes of their health, ability to work, bereavement and changes in relationships.

CAP Head Office worked hard preparing sustainable Budgets for our Client Friends and also Options to complete their Journey Out of Debt. Locally, we support people; meeting with them, sharing a cuppa and lots of chats. We make telephone calls to organisations and accompany Client Friends to other meetings with Creditors, Honiton Jobcentre, Health visits etc. Several Client Friends have come along to our Church events and Worship at St Gregory's, Musbury Church, at Andrew's Church in Colyton, River Church in Axminster, Pippins and the Waffle Church family in Axminster. We pray with many face to face and indeed everyone is prayed for with our Monthly Prayer Lists prepared by Team Member Jill and circulated to many Church families. We also have people praying by way of a Whatsapp group and Sharon popping on messages.

During the Year, another 5 Client Friends became Debt Free, lifting some £25,000 from their worries. We continue to guide them all with learning to manage their Budgets which are still tight. Our care includes education and empowerment as often this has not happened and many have not had parents to help guide them.

In October 2022. following Justin's Worship and Talk, a Client friend came and spoke to Justin after the Service and like a miracle a new Befriender came forward. By May 2023, we had worked alongside and cared for this new Client Friend and helped them to complete the CAP Head Office process and their Journey Out of Debt. God is indeed creating miracles in this place at this time! Thanks be to God!!

In September, River Church family in Axminster hosted a Summer Celebration for our Client friends, Befrienders and Team members. River Church Worship and events are hosted at Weycroft Hall which is located just outside Axminster. It's a fabulous Mansion style home....like a National Trust Home, and sits in magnificent gardens. So the young ones had a Bouncy Castle to enjoy for the afternoon. They prepared a super feast of a meal which was served in a Hall fit for King Arthur and his Knights. We all felt like Kings and Queens...it was a super indulgence for our Client friends. We celebrated that several of our Client friends had completed their Journey Out of Debt by ringing a bell which CAP Head Office does every time someone goes Debt Free! It's joyous and brought a smile and a giggle as I rang my little bell so enthusiastically, the dinger fell off!!

In October, it was lovely to share with our two Coastal Churches in our United Service, some news about our AVCAP Outreach and the help we have given with God's grace and to again Ring a Bell in celebration.

We have received sponsorship and donations throughout the Year and also new Befrienders. One of our new Befrienders has helped with Admin work too and expressed an interest in becoming an Assistant

Manager. Thanks be to God for equipping us and guiding people to generously support us in all manner of ways.

Thanks to our Client friends for their courage in asking for help and then committing to the process.

Thanks to our Team members, Befrienders, Prayer Coordinator Jill and our Prayer Teams, our Church Families and Individual sponsors, those who have given donations and Seaton Town Council for their grant. Also thanks to the Waffle Houses of Axminster and Seaton and Pippins Community Centre of Axminster for offering their meeting rooms.

We have great connections with other local support organisations and our special thanks to the Foodbanks of Seaton and Axminster who have generously cared for our Client friends. Also to East Devon District Council for their financial support and also guidance with payment plans for the payment of Rent and Council Tax.

The need continues to be great and if you can help, please do - with prayers, becoming a Befriender and with becoming a Sponsor or giving a donation.

CAP - Their aims include : Transformed lives. Thriving churches. An end to UK poverty.
We have several local Churches including St Gregory's who are in Partnership with CAP and other local Churches. Thanks Be To God for his Holy Spirit moving in the Axe Valley.
Sharon Bruce

BELL RINGERS
This has been a quiet year for weddings, and so far no notifications for this year.
The band has rung for service ringing and there have been few occasions where we have not managed to ring, albeit occasionally with reduced numbers and sometimes we have resorted to the Ellacombe chimes I put a long splice in one of the bell ropes and it is now in position on number one bell and is OK. We have one spare new rope and have two to order.

Hand bells
The hand bells progress. Our new Ringers put up a creditable performance at the Carol Service and held their nerves well. They have come a long way since they started. Well done Ladies.
Bruce Roberts

CHOIR
The choir has continued to provide music for the whole range of services during 2023. Through the year a full choir consisted of nine singers, one more than in 2022. David House continues as organist and choirmaster.

We continue to provide a reflective anthem or short liturgical piece at the end of the distribution of communion – the music for these has been from a range of composers, and we also lead the congregation in singing the “Parish Mass” by Peter Jones. Monthly Evensong services are a feature of our work, with the music including sung responses, psalms and a setting of the Magnificat. During June 2023 we made a special feature of music and as well as singing music by Elgar and John Rutter we learned a new anthem, by Joanna Forbes L’Estrange, to celebrate the coronation of Charles III. As well as this we provided a lead for an unaccompanied musical setting of the service of Compline, and were delighted to be joined by members of the Colyton Grammar School Chamber Choir for a service of Evensong. Special Carol services for Advent and Christmas were led by the choir, and included some additional singers. We have been able to join with the choir of St. Michael’s Beer for several united benefice services – usually singing an anthem on these occasions. We look forward to continuing in our musical service of the parish

– please do contact me directly if you would like to know more about the music in our services, and particularly if you would like to join us as a singer.
David House

CHRISTIAN AID
We have hosted several events throughout 2023 and various Churches and Halls. Many thanks to those organising and serving, offering home-made delights of soup and desserts.
Several Lunches were offered during Lent, Harvest and Christmas time at the United Reformed Church Hall in Seaton. Good gatherings at all of them with delicious food and warm
friendship. Thank you to the Church family of the United Reformed Church
for the use of their Hall which is in a great location in the Town.
We hosted Stainer's 'Crucifixion' Service in the Seaton Methodist Church with beautiful music and another Music Event in September in St Gregory's Church.

Thanks to our loyal supporters who give generously, raising some £2000. These much needed funds are used by Christian Aid to provide essential items to those experiencing Wars and Crisis situations of Extreme Weather, and also to educate and empower Women to develop their own businesses to feed and care for their families.
Praise to God for equipping us to share his love for others locally and internationally.
Sharon Bruce
CHURCH CLEANING
I would like to thank the members of our two cleaning teams who regularly give their time to maintain a clean and welcoming atmosphere for all who use and visit our lovely church. Also special thanks to the other church members who have provided additional help cleaning difficult to access areas that required attention.
Julie Ballard

CHURCH FLOWERS
We are very grateful to all those who continue to help make our church look beautiful with flowers. If anyone is interested in joining this small group of people, please let me know.
John Anning

FABRIC COMMITTEE
The Fabric Team have worked to formulate a plan that addresses the issues raised in the December 2022 QI report. Working Parties have taken place on a regular basis dealing with numerous items throughout the year both in the form of group working parties and individual volunteers doing jobs as and when required.

We have focused on the priority items and we have taken advice from the Church Buildings Council, our architect and various specialists. This has involved detailed meetings and discussions. The DAC have stipulated after much correspondence that the guttering replacement/repairs must be Cast iron, as a result a specification will be written for a quote to be obtained. Electrical quotations for LED lighting both in the Church and the Church Centre have been recently requested and a specialist quotation has been obtained for wall repairs as highlighted by the QI report. Further quotes will be requested for the Timber work repairs which are necessary. We will be making some amendments in the form of an additional thermostat and valve to the existing boiler and heating system but overall the existing system will remain in place.

We will decide on the order of works, assess what we can afford and then explore the possibility of grants.

As mentioned previously I am sure you will appreciate this is a lengthy process but it is essential to approach in the right order as often one decision directly has an effect on another.
David Mason On behalf of the Fabric Committee

FREEDOM CAFÉ
FREEdom Café opens in the Church Centre on the 3rd Saturday of each month (except August) to offer free food and drink to the community. It is run by a Core Team assisted by volunteers who assist with jobs such as cake making, waiting tables and washing up.

FUNDING: The cafe remains able to fully fund itself through the generous donations in our prayer baskets each month. Running costs are around £80 per month. This amount covers the purchase of our food and provisions as well as training volunteers for food hygiene certificates. Allowance is also made for equipment repairs and servicing of the dishwasher. Funds in excess of running costs are donated back to local charities on a regular basis.
Total donations received during 2023 were £1460 and running costs were £805.
During the year, the Core Team approved charity donations totalling £400 - £50 to the Stroke Association and £50 to the Rainbow Project in Plymouth (both in memory of our dear Core Team member Ange who sadly passed away in July 2023). £150 was donated to Seaton Foodbank and £150 was donated to St Petrock's Homelessness charity in Exeter.
The Core Team approved purchase of new tablecloths to be purchased in Jaunary 2024 to replace the original ones which had "yellowed" over lockdown. The team will also be looking at the purchase of new polo shirts to replace those bought over 10 years ago and then making further donations to charities early in 2024.

OUR YEAR:
The year got off to a steady start after FREEdom café reopening in December 2022. Visitor numbers have increased steadily during the year and although they are still a fair bit lower than before the shutdown during COVID, the donations received in our prayer baskets in the latter part of the year were at a similar level to 2019. In the early part of the year, the café was very quiet for the first hour and then everyone seemed to arrive at once! Things have been much steadier in the latter part of the year with the increase in numbers spread across the opening times. The volunteer team were extremely saddened by the passing of Core Team member Ange in July but continued to run the café that month in the belief that Ange would have wanted us to continue our work.
We have been able to welcome new visitors and volunteers to FREEdom Café during this year, many of whom have stayed for 321 for Jesus. There is a real buzz in the Church Centre during the morning and many people have commented on this.
Thank you to Revd Justin for his support with FREEdom Café both in setting up the hall and making the time to chat to our visitors and volunteers. The Core Team are extremely grateful to all their volunteers and supporters without whom the café couldn't run.
Helen Moulding (Finance/Secretary) Nessa Rutherford, Jean Hoskin, Emma Lloyd-Davis, Wayne Cook, Gloria Polley– Freedom CAFÉ Core team January 2024

3.2.1 FOR JESUS
After re-opening in December 2022, this was our first full year post covid. This is what the format for **3.2.1 for Jesus** looks like:
3.2.1 for Jesus, 15 minutes of simple uncomplicated Celtic style Christian worship, some **'FOOD FOR THOUGHT'**. Freedom CAFÉ. feeds the body, and we hope **3.2.1 for Jesus** helps to feed the soul. We welcome you!!

We begin our worship at 1.45pm in the church centre on the third Saturday of each month, excluding August. It is usually lay led by members of the **Freedom CAFÉ** core team, with others present taking part either with a reading, a prayer, or lighting the candles. **3.2.1 for Jesus** gives us an opportunity to give thanks and praise to our Lord for his hospitality at **Freedom CAFÉ** and the wider community.

We have three minutes of music (this varies according to the worship each month), two readings, generally a reading from the Gospel, and possibly a poem. We also say our **Freedom CAFÉ** thanksgiving prayer, and end with a Celtic Christian Blessing said together.

Our greatest joy has been seeing people from our community (who do not attend any church) staying for the worship, and coming back! For some this is their first 'taste' of our Lord and their only church. We deliberately close the café at 1.30pm and make an announcement that **3.2.1 for Jesus** will begin at 1.45pm, this re-enforces our message there is 'no catch' for receiving freely at **Freedom CAFÉ..**

We have had a very positive response to our re-opening and have averaged 34 people attending each month. In fact only 2 months have been below 30 and December saw a record number of 44 people attend. Reverend Justin led the first worship back in January and thank you to him for leading this and assisting throughout the year.

Wayne would like to say thank you to those who have prayed and supported him in the preparation and leading of this ministry with **3.2.1 for Jesus.**
Wayne Cook (Core team) February 2024

THE FRIENDS OF ST GREGORY'S
The Friends of St Gregory's Church hosted two events in 2023, a Summer Bazaar in August and a combined Nativity Crib Festival and Christmas Fayre in December. The Bazaar raised £1,125 and the Christmas event £480. Both events were well supported and the Friends were very grateful to those who offered help, those who donated items for the stalls, loaned Nativity Cribs and to everyone who came along on the day.

In the past year the Friends have also received regular and one-off donations of £705, that have been very generously given. All funds raised by The Friends go towards the upkeep and maintenance costs of our Church building. In 2023, the Friends funds have been able to cover the costs of the following: Fire extinguisher works, electrics for the contactless device, a new St George's flag, roofing repairs, an energy report for the Church and the Church Centre and insurance costs for the Church.

The events hosted by the Friends are not only to raise funds for the maintenance of our Grade 1 listed Parish Church for the benefit of the whole community of Seaton, but also to bring people together, from both our Church family and the wider community.
Katie Mason

GENERAL FUND-RAISING
We have hosted various events during 2023 including 9 Coffee Mornings and Table Top Sales on the 1st Saturday monthly, in the Church Centre. Many thanks to those organising and serving and to all those who come along and support. Special thanks to Lesley, our Master Baker, for her delicious lemon drizzle cakes, Victoria Sponges and other delights. Thank you to Jessica and Jasmine for their smiles and help.

In addition, we hosted another Flower Festival in the Church with the Theme of the King's Coronation. Many beautiful displays and creations were on show in the Church sharing an appreciation of the Royal colours, history and heritage. Great thanks to our Creative designers and their hard work. A great collaboration as some of the designers were from our Community and some from our Church family. All ages created displays including the very young ones of Seaton Brownies and Greg's Music Makers. Thank you to the strong foundation of our first Flower Festival put in place by our Shirley.

Thank you for the generous donations totalling some £2,000 which have been essential to help us have funds towards our running costs and Outreach costs.
Our events share our beautiful Church buildings and facilities with our Community. People coming in can feel God's love and feel the Music, Songs, Prayers and Worship that have taken place over centuries and also appreciate the rich history and heritage of our Grade 1 listed Church. Thanks be to God for blessing us, inspiring us and strengthening us with our

GREG'S MUSIC MAKERS
We have such fun each Thursday during Term-time, caring for local young families, with music, friendship, and delicious home-made cake by our Master Baker, Lesley. The session runs from 10am to 11.30am.

Linda is our Family Worker leading the Music and supporting the Families. Great encouragement and support is offered during the chatter and over a cuppa, during the Play-time. Thanks to Linda for her skills and gifts. We welcome all from our Church family to join us for a cuppa and chat - between 10.45am and 11.30am.

Our Team has included Mary Scott, Patricia, Katie, Amanda and Paul, Shuna and Sharon. It's been fabulous having extra helpers able to give support when some of us are away. With caring for between 25 and up to 50 children and adults each session, it's becoming necessary to have 3 of us each Thursday where before we have managed with 2 of us. Thanks for the energy and commitment of our volunteers.

It's an incredible Outreach to families with young ones, many of whom are babies and toddlers up to 4 years. We gave out posies to celebrate Greg's Mothering. We gathered at Easter with an Easter Egg Hunt and Christmas time in the Church with making Christingles. We did this in the Lady Chapel with the sun shining through the beautiful windows. Thanks to Shuna for organising and leading this. At Christmas, thank you to those from our Church family that came along and shared in this joyous Greg's Christingle Gathering. God loves the little children and indeed we feel his love like honey being poured out over all of us.

We welcome new ideas for events so please chat to Justin or our Churchwardens.
Sharon Bruce

HONITON DEANERY SYNOD
The Honiton Deanery Synod is a group of representatives, both lay members and clergy, from all the parishes in the Honiton Deanery, which includes Beer and Seaton. Lay representatives are elected by their parishes every 3 years at the APCM, with 2 places per parish. Bruce and Ann Roberts were the elected representatives for the first part of 2023 and on their retirement, Paul Barns was elected as Deanery Synod rep at the July meeting of the PCC.

The Synod provides a link between the parishes in this area and between them and the Diocese of Exeter, through meetings at which we worship and share news, views and information about events in the Deanery and the Church of England more widely.

Ann and Bruce Roberts attended a meeting at the beginning of the year where the meeting focused on looking after our planet and steps that could be taken in our churches and churchyards to work towards Net Zero. No further meetings took place during 2023 due to the lack of a Deanery Synod secretary. It was hoped to rectify this matter during 2024.
Paul Barns

HOSPITALITY
Many thanks to the loyal and devoted Teams who serve offering refreshments each Sunday after Church in the Church centre. It's lovely to gather together and chat over a cuppa. Where 2 or 3 are gathered, so God is there with us.
We have been blessed with new volunteers coming forward to strengthen the Teams. Thank you. Thank you for all the donations of refreshments and funds.
Sharon Bruce

JULIAN MEETINGS
The Julian Meetings continue to meet at the home of Revd. Chris Thacker at No 2, Case Gardens, Seaton at 7.20 for 7.30pm on the second Monday of each month. We continue to have a regular attendance of 6 – 8 people who value the chance to develop our practice
of contemplative prayer together. After a brief relaxation, we have a short spiritual reading followed by half an hour of silent prayer. We conclude the quiet time with the collect for the week, the Lord's prayer, and the Grace. Staying for tea/coffee/hot chocolate is optional for
fellowship afterwards. The leadership is shared between me, Chris and any willing volunteer! We find it can help us to concentrate on silent prayer in a supportive group. If anyone would like to come along for a 'taster' do just come or contact me or Chris for more information either in church or our details are on the back of the magazine.

We ask for a small donation to cover the cost of membership of the National organization and the cost of a periodic newsletter and magazine which I get a 'hard' copy of and can send a copy by email to members. Our donations amounted to £52. We paid £12 for the subscription and gave £40 as a donation to help with the cost of administration and the newsletter. We therefore had a balance of £0 at the end of the year. The organisation is run by volunteers. The Julian Website explains more about our meetings and is well worth a browse at
www.thejulianmeetings.net

With blessings from Julian of Norwich
Sue Price

MOTHERS' UNION
A small number of us continue to meet regularly as a Diocesan Members Group on the second Wednesday of each month. We have prayers, refreshments and afterwards a "knit and natter", all of which is enjoyed by those who attend. We continue to contribute knitted items to various charities, and would welcome anyone, even if non members, to join us.
Julie Ballard

PASTORAL CARE
Since the pandemic pastoral care visits have been steadily increasing. Revd. Justin now does a lot of pastoral visits along with those needed for weddings, baptisms, and funerals.
Anna chaplaincy has been growing. Last year Revd. Ali and Mary Casey gradually increased their visiting and ministry and this year Mary continues to develop her role in this work and will do her own report on the work.

I continue to do several regular home visits to take Holy Communion to the housebound on 6 days a month for 13 people at the moment and drive to bring a couple of people to church one on a Sunday and one to our monthly midweek service. It would be good to have some volunteer drivers to help with transport.

Justin is in the process of developing a Pastoral Care team and I think (and maybe hope!) that in future he will lead reporting on this vital part of church ministry. If you are interested in helping with this work in some way, please see Justin.

If you notice that someone is not attending church, please help us by 'flagging this up' so that we don't miss a pastoral need. In the first instance, notify Justin directly or via the church office. When he is away Revds. Chris, Shuna, Mary or I will visit as deemed appropriate.
Like our Christian journeys this remains a 'work in progress'.
Sue Price

RNIB USED STAMPS
So far, we have collected over 2 kg worth of stamps and raised a separate £17 by selling off some of the more specialised items. However, we did very well over the Christmas period with collecting just over a half kilo of stamps plus we had a donation of a large bag of USA stamps.

Postcards have proved to be popular especially older versions, so please keep them coming.

It takes1 kg of used stamps to raise £20 so please do save them from your cards/post to help this cause with something that you might perhaps throw away. We will also take new stamps, old postcards, stamp albums and we will always collect.

Please help the Royal National Institute of Blind People and place the items in the box or contact me.
Stephen Page 07792 914121 *spage147@btinternet.com*

SEATON FOODBANK
We have continued to get a steady stream of contributions coming into our storage area and like previous years both Easter and Christmas proved to be a very busy time

We are eternally grateful for all those contributions we get whether they are left in the various supermarket bins or just dropped in when we are open. However, because of the increasing numbers, we are having to purchase additional food on a weekly basis.
In terms of numbers -

In 2022 we gave out 18512 meals to 950 adults and children
In 2023 we gave out 21789 meals to 1125 adults and children
This is an 18% increase year on year.

These numbers will only increase again this year, but we are being helped by various Food community groups operating in both Seaton and Beer.

We are continuing to give out meat vouchers from Normans and veggie vouchers from Little Gems and our thanks go out to these local shops for their help and assistance. Thanks also to Pebbles who continue to help us support our homeless clients with hot meals and for their successful Christmas event.

Again, similar to last year, we were able to give out Advent Calendars and leaflets and all our clients in December received a Christmas Hamper to brighten their lives and like last year we will also be giving out Real Easter Eggs to the children.

At the beginning of December, we had a huge FareShare collection from Tesco; our thanks go out to Jordon and Rhoda and all the staff of Tesco who helped our volunteers enormously.

Our client referrals are generated by several Voucher Partners including the East Devon District Council's various departments, Citizens Advice, local churches, children's groups including schools, GP surgeries, social workers and district Nurses which have amounted to over thirty-five different sources in the past year.

Unlike other food community groups, we try to ensure that our clients are receiving help and guidance to remove them from the Food Crisis situation they find themselves in when coming to our door.

We have at present a terrific group of volunteers, but we are still desperately in need of additional Duty Managers, owing to one recently retiring and we have a change of Chairperson, after six years, with Julie Dunon taking over in the spring from Stephen Page.

As a member of the CTIS (Christians Together In Seaton) group we are looking for help and guidance from their organisation. Certainly, if you know of anyone who is an organised person used to making key decisions then we would desperately like to meet them, explain what's involved in the role and introduce them to our Foodbank organisation.

foodbankseaton@gmail.com 07598 927997
Stephen Page on behalf of Seaton Foodbank Team

TABLE TENNIS CLUB
The table tennis club continues to meet most Fridays in the church centre, from 10 – 12 noon, with 7-14 per session. Cost is £1 per session towards refreshments and for the use of the Centre. ***Jo Bull*** (01297 20347 or jobull311@btinternet.com) ***Carol Gosling*** and ***Paul Barns*****.**

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST GREGORY, SEATON

England & Wales - Charity number 1127403

Accounts

'To know God and share the wonder of His love'

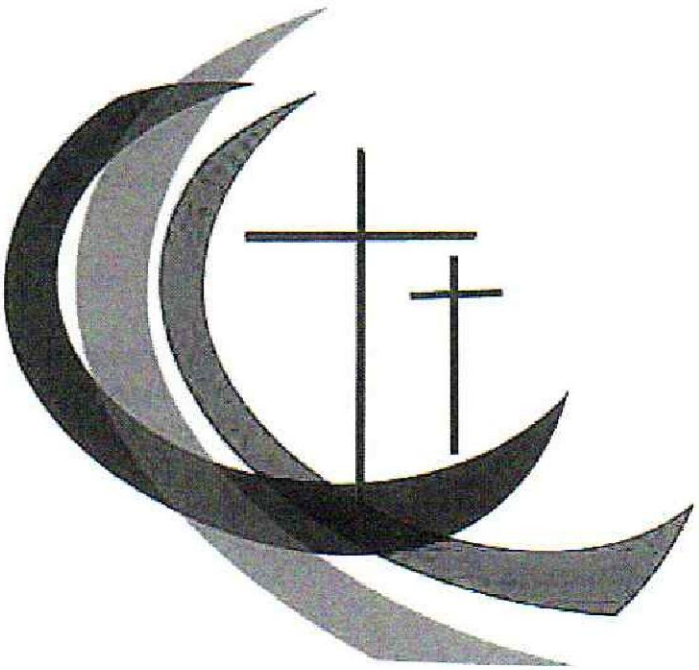
St Gregory's Church Seaton

Annual Reports & Accounts

SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Registered Charity No: 1127403

for the year ending 31st December 2022



Coastal Benefice of Seaton & Beer

Vicar: Rev'd Justin Montague

The Church Office, Colyford Road, Seaton, Devon, EX12 2DF

(01297) 23656

SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Administrative information

St Gregory's Church is situated off the Colyford Road, Seaton. It is part of The Coastal Mission Community with the parish of Beer, in the Diocese of Exeter within the Church of England. Correspondence may be addressed to The Church Office, The Church Centre, Colyford Road, Seaton EX12 2DF. Telephone 01297 23656; email seatonchurch@hotmail.co.uk

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission:
The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Gregory's Seaton –
Reg Charity No: 1127403.

Background

Seaton Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church: pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church and the Church Centre. Responsibility for the maintenance of the churchyard has devolved upon East Devon District Council.

Governance

Members of the PCC are either ex officio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules, or co-opted by the PCC. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

During the year, the following served as members of the PCC:

Incumbent and Chairman	Revd. Justin Montague
Associate Priest	Rev'd Simon Hitchcock till December 2022 Rev'd Alison Finch
Churchwarden	1. Mr David Bruce 2. Mr David House
Deanery Synod Representatives	Mr Bruce Roberts Mrs Ann Roberts
Treasurer	Mrs Sharon Bruce (duties shared with Church Administrator and the PCC Finance Committee)
Secretary	Vacancy

Other PCC Members

Mr David Dickinson
Mr Peter Burrows
Mrs Mary Casey (elected 2022)
Mrs Shirley Holder (retired 2022)
Mr David Mason (end of term 2022)
Mr Paul Barns (elected 2022)
Mrs Katie Mason (end of term 2022)
Mr Stephen Page.
(The PCC is allowed up to 12 elected members, including those holding other offices, such as Treasurer)

Assistant Clergy

The parish benefits from having the services the Rev'd Chris Thacker (retired), as well as support from other retired clergy for occasional offices.

The parish also benefits from the service of Mrs Sue Price, Reader.

Church Activity Groups

A number of organisations and volunteer teams operate within the church family, including:

3-2-1 for Jesus
Bell Ringers
Choir
Church Cleaners
Church Flower Arrangers
Coffee Team
Discussion Groups (Lent onwards)
FREE*dom* Café
Friends of St Gregory's
Hand bell Ringers
Julian Group
Mothers' Union Group
Music Group
Table Tennis Club
Greg's Music Makers

We also have contact with a number of outside organisations through members of our church family, including:

Bible Society
Christian Aid
Christians Together in Seaton
Messy Church
Open the Book
Seaton Foodbank

Committees

The PCC meets in alternate months, six times a year. For certain aspects of the council's business, there are sub-committees which meet when necessary to formulate recommendations that are brought to the full PCC. All other matters are dealt with directly by the PCC.

Finance Sub-Committee – oversees the financial management of St Gregory's Church and encourages good financial stewardship. It comprises the Vicar, the Treasurer, Church Administrator, and three other members of the PCC and one other member of the Electoral Roll.

Fabric Sub-Committee – A Quinquennial Inspection report was received in January 2018. This related to the church and churchyard. Responsibility for maintenance and development of the church lies with the PCC. Responsibility for maintenance of the churchyard lies with East Devon District Council. Works arising from the QI report have been categorized according to the various permissions required to address them. The new quinquennial report, following the inspection is Autumn 2022 is expected in early 2023.

Health and Safety Sub-Committee - A health and safety policy is in place and regularly updated.
Health and Safety has an agenda item at each PCC meeting. The committee is a minimum of the Health and Safety Officer and the Church Warden(s).

Friends of St Gregory's Sub-Committee (FOSG)

The mission of FOSG is to ensure the continued existence of the St Gregory's Grade 1 listed Church building as a feature of Seaton for the benefit of the whole community. It also provides financial support for the upkeep of the building to ensure the advancement of the Christian religion. 5 members are appointed annually under the auspices of the PCC.

Pastoral Team – undertakes to ensure that appropriate pastoral care is offered to members of the congregation and wider community. We provide home communion services and visits to individuals and groups at local residential/nursing homes, with limited access at the start of the year due to Covid which lifted as the year progressed. The Pastoral Team primarily consists of the clergy, Lay Minister, Anna Chaplains and other associated laity.

Other working parties or sub-committees are set up for particular projects as and when necessary.

Safeguarding - The PCC places a high priority on its responsibilities towards children and vulnerable adults. It ensures that all those working with these groups undergo appropriate checks. Safeguarding has an agenda item at each PCC meeting. The PCC has complied with the 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).

Church membership

The church electoral roll as reported at the 2021 Annual Parochial Church meeting stood at 77. A full range of services returned in 2022, with average attendances as follows: 8am BCP Eucharist (10), 11am Eucharist (54), 11am Morning Worship (40), 6.30pm BCP Evensong (17). In addition we hosted two United Benefice Eucharists (71), celebrated Easter Day (93), held a service of Commemoration for Queen Elizabeth II (47), welcomed the town community for Remembrance (210), and held our first Christingle service for three years (150).

Review of the Year

The PCC met in January discussing the terms of reference for the Finance Committee, plans for the Flower Festival, and arrangements for the Licensing service for Rev. Justin Montague. In addition a presentation was made to Linda Veith in recognition of her service as PCC secretary, as she stepped down from the position.

In March various fabric matters were discussed ahead of a working party, and the installation of new external noticeboards on the Church Centre. Also related to fabric was the approval of £14.5K of funds for use on various repairs highlighted in Stephen Page's excellent assessment of work from the previous quinquennial inspection (QI). Final details relating to the Licensing service and welcome for Justin and Melissa were agreed.

In May, the new Priest-in-Charge Justin chaired his first meeting. Fabric matters include employing a new architect and further guidance from the Archdeacon for the assessed QI works from the previous inspection. Planned events were discussed for the Queens Jubilee and about pastoral ministry to the over 55's and care home, a large proportion of the population in Seaton. Finances highlighted deficits to the payment of the Common Fund from 2020 to date.

At the PCC in July, new PCC members were welcomed onto the church council and appointments made for the Treasurer, Vice Chair and sides-people. A revision was agreed to the Terms of reference (TOR) for the Finance Committee (FC), to increase the laity on the FC from 2-3. David Mason, Stephen Page and Mary Casey were appointed. The PCC agreed to release £20,000 from the CBF investments for the new QI and existing building works from the previous QI, and redesignate the £14500 previously ring fenced for fabric work back to the General Fund. It was also discussed and agreed a contribution of £3068.16 be made from the Friends of St. Gregory's (FOSG) to fabric costs. An additional Common Fund payment of £7760 was made to the Common Fund with a further review due in November. All decisions were recommended by the FC.

In Septembers PCC, the PCC approved new TOR for both the FC and FOSG. Both income and expenditure were above budget for the year to date. A new expenses form and procedure was approved. Also fees for the Hall Hire and non-statutory fees for weddings and funerals, were increased as recommended by the FC. Safeguarding (SG) Policies were reviewed and agreed by the PCC and a reminder of that all PCC members are required to complete their SG training and DBS clearance. A new architect has been appointed Mr Matthew Rayner with the QI to take place in the Autumn.

At the final PCC of the year in November, the predominant agenda item was the budget for 2023. Following extensive discussion, the PCC agreed the budget proposed by the Finance Committee with two amendments proposed and agreed. Firstly, an additional Common Fund payment for 2022 of £8051, thus bringing our 2022 contribution to £28,571, 60% of the request. Secondly, to adjust the 2023 budget so the Common Fund payment will be a total of £33,442, 70% of the request. The budget for 2023 would be a deficit budget, with a contingency of at least 3months reserves and the FC to work with Dioceasan support on a 5yr financial plan. Mary Casey and Rev. Alison Finch will be licensed as 'Anna Chaplains' in December at a special service.

Charity Commission

The PCC has been registered as a charity with the Charity Commission since 07 January 2009. The current Charity Trustees are:

Mr David Bruce
Mrs Sharon Bruce
Rev'd Simon Hitchcock (retired 2022)
Mr David Dickinson
Mrs Shirley Holder (retired 2022)
Mr David Mason (end of term 2022)
Mrs Katie Mason (end of term 2022)
Mr Stephen Page
Mr Peter Burrows
Mrs Ann Roberts
Mr Bruce Roberts
Mrs Mary Casey (elected PCC 2022)
Mr Paul Barns (elected PCC 2022

Financial Review

The PCC determined to pay its Common Fund request in part for 2022 when it set the budget in 2021. The PCC were able to fulfil this and make some additional payments.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the PCC to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds (if possible), which equates to approximately three months' unrestricted payments, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. In general, it is our policy to invest our funds balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund.

Public Benefit

The Trustees consider they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 and have paid due regard to the guidance published by the Charities Commission with regard to the public benefit which the charity provides throughout Britain. Our aims make it clear that the church is to be actively involved in the community in which it is situated. We provide a place of worship that is open for all to attend and clearly advertise our weekly worship services. We understand that to be an effective Christian witness our existence is not only for the benefit of the church attendees, but for the community as a whole.

We look forward to 2023 in faith and hope.

Signed: 

29.03.2023

Revd Justin Montague
Priest-in-Charge

Approved by the PCC on 29th March 2023 and signed on its behalf by Revd Justin Montague

SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

FINANCIAL REPORTS

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

Seaton Parochial Church Council
Receipts and Payments account
For the year ended 31st December 2022

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Fund	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
Incoming Resources	£		£	£	£
Voluntary Income					
Planned Giving	17,759		795	18,554	19,665
Collections, donations and other givir	14,349		4,121	18,470	10,531
Income Tax Recovered	5,278			5,278	4,835
Legacies	2,003			2,003	0
Activities for generating funds					
Magazine/Bookstall sales/Hall letting:	4,395			4,395	1,741
Income from Other Properties	835			835	718
Annual fete/events	628		954	1,582	1,030
Investment Income					
Dividends & Interest	4,739			4,739	4,270
Income from charitable activities					
Parochial Fees	7,725			7,725	6,708
Other Incoming resources					
Insurance claims	0			0	0
Gain on disposal of fixed asset	0			0	0
Loans received in year	0			0	0
Other	3,253			3,253	746
Total Incoming resources	**60,964**	**0**	**5,870**	**66,834**	**50,244**
Resources Expended					
Church Activities					
Donations/Grants to charities	20		3,068	3,088	1,070
Mission & Evangelism	1,359			1,359	1,151
Parish Share	28,571			28,571	18,270
Clergy expenses	433			433	892
Church running expenses	6,600			6,600	3,118
Churchyard maintenance	0			0	52
Cost of raising funds	2,850			2,850	2,658
Support Costs	613			613	500
Administration costs	19,499		5,214	24,713	16,402
Accountancy fees	161			161	125
Other	4,864			4,864	3,667
Governance Costs	0			0	0
Major Expenditure					
Repairs to church buildings	0			0	0
Repairs to other property	0			0	0
Parochial Fees remitted	0			0	0
Total resources expended	**64,970**	**0**	**8,282**	**73,252**	**47,905**
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	(4,006)	0	(2,412)	(6,418)	2,339
Gain/(Loss) on Investment Assets			(9,262)	(9,262)	14,917
Loans repaid in Year	0			0	0
Transfer Between Funds	12,775	0	(12,775)	0	0
Balance due to DBF	(1,162)			(1,162)	136
Net Movements in funds	7,607	0	(24,449)	(16,842)	17,392
Accumulated funds at the start of the year	25,809	0	147,797	173,606	156,214
Accumulated funds at the end of the year	**£33,416**	**£0**	**123,348**	**£156,764**	**£173,606**

Seaton Parochial Church Council
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
As at 31st December 2022

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Investment Assets				
CBF Income Units	0	42,676	42,676	68,991
M&G Charifund Units	0	49,972	49,972	52,920
	0	92,648	92,648	121,910
Monetary Assets				
Lloyds Current Account	19,595	3,523	23,118	10,071
CAF Bank Current Account	13,821	20,000	33,821	16,966
CAF Bank Deposit Account	0	0	0	0
CBF Deposit May Smith	0	0	0	0
CBF Deposit Graves Fund	0	0	0	0
Shorebrook Savings Account	0	0	0	16,553
Friends of St Gregorys Church	0	7,177	7,177	8,106
	33,416	30,700	64,116	51,695
Accumulated funds at the end of the year			156,764	173,606
Other Assets				
Income Tax Claim	0		0	0
Beer PCC - Various	653		653	843
Invoices Outstanding	0		0	0
Liabilities				
Parochial Fees - EDBF	1,389		1,389	2,094
Parochial Fees - Beer PCC	914		914	1,113
Governance	125		125	125
Gift Aid Refund to Friends of St Gre	71		71	0
Watson Fuels	0		0	630
Exeter Sans/Choldrens Society	128		128	0
Contingent Liabilities				
Donations to Charities	0		0	0
Parish Share	47,775		47,775	47,619

These accounts were approved by the Seaton Parochial Church Council on 29th March 2023 and were signed on their behalf by :



Signature

29-03-2023

Seaton Parochial Church Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 December 2022

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2008, together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP 2005.

(b) Income

The accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis.

2. Fixed Assets

No value is ascribed to the following:-

- The Church of St Gregory and its contents
- The Churchyard
- The Vicarage
- The Church Hall and contents

The reasons for this are as follows:-

The Church and Churchyard are "consecrated" property and the vicarage is a benefice property. These properties are regarded as "inalienable" and are excluded from PCC accounts in compliance with the Charities Act 2011.

The contents of the Church are also to be treated as inalienable assets, in accordance with the CGB guidance (para 5.4)and are also excluded.

The Church Hall is a leasehold property and is legally vested in the Exeter Diocesan Board of Finance Limited as Custodian Trustee. The lease is for a term of 1000 years running from 1826 and its terms would be breached if the use of the hall for Sunday school purposes were to cease. Although the hall is not consecrated property, it is a dedicated building, and so bound up with the worship, mission and ministry of the Church, that it is unthinkable that the Church could operate without it. It is therefore appropriate and legitimate to treat it for accounting purposes as an inalienable asset in the same was as consecrated property.

The values of the contents of the Hall are regarded as insufficiently material to include in the accounts.

3. Funds

Unrestricted Funds may be used by the PCC for any if its ordinary purposes. The movement in the funds are shown in the Receipts and Payments account.

Designated funds represent sums set aside, out of ordinary unrestricted funds, for specific designated purposes, but they can be transferred back into general funds at any time.

Restricted funds are those funds which must be spent on restricted purposes for which they were given. In this Financial Statement any Expendable Endowments are included in this category.

Also within the restricted funds is £3,023 which belongs to AVCAP and is solely for their use.

The CBF Deposit May Smith Account, CBF Income Units and M&G Charifund units, for the residue of a bequest by May Smith in 1983. Any interest or dividends from these investments are unrestricted, the capital proceeds are designated as Expendable Endowments with use restricted "for the maintenance and upkeep and benefit in general of the Church and associated buildings and land"

The Graves Trust is held in one CBF deposit account and is designated as an Expendable Endowment, the interest being retained within the account. Its use is "for the upkeep of the Church generally" although the main aim is the upkeep of five specific graves.

Quoted investments are valued at bid prices at 31 December 2022.

4. Employees

In 2022 the PCC employed six persons part-time throughout the year - a Church Administrator, a hall cleaner, an organist, a verger, a choir master and an AVCAP administrator. The total remuneration of all employees in 2022 was £17,966.

5. Separate funds held by church organisations

	Opening Balance	Receipts	Payments		Closing Balance	
			to Pcc	to Other	2022	2021
					£	£
Church Flower Arrange	27.31	115.00	0.00	120.62	21.69	27.31
The Table Tennis Club	92.34	408.64	400.00	97.41	3.57	92.34
Handbell Ringers	279.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	279.38	279.38
Coffee Team	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Julian Group	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
Total funds not incorporated in the PCC accounts					**304.64**	**399.03**

6. Separate funds not included in Receipts and Payments account

	Opening Balance	Receipts	Payments		Closing Balance	
			to Pcc	to Other	2022	2021
FREEdom Café	289.74	137.81	0.00	162.28	265.27	289.74

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ST GREGORY'S CHURCH, SEATON – REG. CHARITY NO: 1127403

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 7 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner
As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charities Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

WAYNE COOK FMAAT, CIMA Adv Dip MA, AATQB
Wayne's World of Accountancy
14 Mead Way
Seaton, Devon, EX12 2NR

DATED 13th Feb 2023

'To know God and share the wonder of His love'

St Gregory's Church Seaton

Group Reports

SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Registered Charity No: 1127403

for the year ending 31st December 2022



Coastal Benefice of Seaton & Beer

Vicar: Revd Justin Montague

The Church Office, The Church Centre, Colyford Road, Seaton, Devon, EX12 2DF

(01297) 23656

INCUMBENTS REPORT

Report from the Reverend Justin Montague, Priest-in-Charge

The Annual General Meeting (APCM) is a time to look back and reflect on the year, giving thanks to God for all that has happened and also a time for us all to look to the future and what we would like to see happening in the coming year. As Priest-in-Charge I am invited to share something of a review of the previous year and a vision for the future.

This annual Report is the very first I am writing as the Priest-in-Charge of the Coastal Mission Community. As I write this, I reflect upon a near calendar year here in East Devon. This appears to me rather surreal as these first twelve months have flown by; particularly when I peak into the vicarage study and still see boxes waiting to be unpacked. And yet, the things that have happened, the blessings that have been poured out on us, the events that have taken place and the relationships that have been built, have enabled Melissa and I to feel both settled and at very much at home.

I strongly believe that God has bought Melissa and I to Seaton and Beer, and over the last year I have seen many signs of affirmation, both from inside the church and outside in the wider community. Part of my own prayerful discernment was the desire to come to a place where I could lay down deep roots, and lead, enable and nurture followers of Christ to grow in their faith as we seek together those who do not know Jesus. What I see right across our two churches is gifted people, servant-hearted people, generous people, Jesus loving people, and a growing sense of the kingdom potential ready to be lit up across Seaton and Beer.

In many ways, life as a Priest is a humbling experience. I remind myself daily of what St Paul said to his young ministerial protege Timothy (1 Timothy 3), that church leadership is a high calling and with that comes high responsibility, before he goes on to outline various virtues to strive for and vices to avoid. I can reassure you brothers and sisters, your expectations of me, are unlikely to be above my own expectations of myself, and yet I recognise the only way I can stay healthy, grow, and be the Priest God has called me to be and you desire me to be, is by keeping close to Jesus myself. I ask one thing of you and that is to pray for your clergy and of course for one another.

What of last year? In 2022, we saw three Prime Ministers in office and the celebration of Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee. However, celebration turned to commemoration a few months later, as we mourned Her Majesty's death. In June across our churches, we celebrated with a prayer breakfast, a flower festival, a choral concert and a Jubilee cream tea. Come September, we held special memorial services for the Queen during the official time of mourning, St Michael's hosting Beer Primary school in their service of remembrance.

As PCC's we took a huge 'digital' step in embracing contactless giving, our new devices landing in the churches in the Autumn enabling visitors to give to the work of the church through card or digital device donations. A special thanks to Beer Men's Shed for creating the wooden stands in which we house the machines. Since the Autumn, a team from both churches have been working with a graphic designer on a new Mission Community website,

soon to be launched. This is the 'virtual' front door of our churches and the often the first place where new people will 'enter in' to find out more about who we are.

In 2022 the ministry of our churches supported individuals, couples and families with 55 Funerals, including Burial of Ashes, 5 Weddings, 1 Wedding blessing, and 2 baptisms. Life-events are a vitally important part of our ministry and outreach, the value of which cannot be underestimated. For many people, these events may be the first contact they have with the church and our relationships with the families we come alongside are significant and witnesses to the God of love and hope we serve and share; whether in times of joy or times of sadness.

Equally significant is our pastoral ministry. There are many saints within our church who quietly go about their kingdom service, visiting people around our parishes in their homes. Many are individuals, who have been members of our churches, but who are no longer able to physically attend for a variety of reasons. So through their provision of spiritual care, these individuals bring the church to people in their homes or residential living accommodation, either through Holy Communion, prayer or fellowship. I extend a special thanks to our Lay Minister Sue Price and our newly appointed Anna Chaplains Mary Casey and Ali Finch, and many of our laity who do this significant, yet often unseen ministry.

2022 was also a time of sadness as we said goodbye and gave special thanks to Margaret Abrahams our organist at St Gregory's for an incredible 67 years and also Keith Izzard, treasurer at St Michael's for well over 20 years of faithful service. We also recognised the long service of Gaynor and Ann through their many roles within the church, currently both are in the St Gregory's choir, with Ann additionally serving as a bell ringer.

Our engagement with young families and children through Greg's and Mickey's Music Makers goes from strength to strength, and the Open the Book Team continues to visit Beer Primary school, a ministry enjoyed by all. In my role as school governor at Beer Primary and through leading fortnightly assemblies, I continue to build relationships at the school with pupils and staff. Welcoming the school to St Michael's Church for Easter and Christmas services, their Year 6 leavers presentation and to our memorial service for HM Queen Elizabeth were notable events in 2022. Some might say your Priest dressed up as a mouse for the Christingle services was rather notable too (?!!).

I would like to extend a special thanks to Gayle Chapple, David House, David and Sharon Bruce and Tracey for their support, communications and preparation prior to my arrival in April, and further in during the transition afterwards. In the early months, I was like a sponge, trying to absorb as much information as I could and their patience, availability and reliability was immense. In their roles as Church officers and parish administrator, their faithfulness, hard work and experience has been immeasurable.

For our clergy and ministry team, Revd.'s Ali and Chris, LLM Sue, and Anna Chaplain and server Mary Casey, I offer my heartfelt gratitude for their wisdom, willingness and dedication. This church is blessed by their commitment and ministry.

Our PCC's once again oversaw all of our work, ensuring that our parishes are properly governed and run. Jean Smith has been an excellent PCC secretary at St Michael's and to have her alongside me throughout each meeting has been invaluable, as has all her

preparatory and consolidatory work before and afterwards. The role of PCC secretary at St Gregory's was in vacancy throughout 2022, though I am grateful for all those who have stepped in to record minutes for each meeting.

December 2022 saw the welcome return of the Freedom Café' and 3,2,1 Jesus, following a time of prayerful discernment and preparation. It has been a pleasure for me to see the team thrive and the solid foundations on which it was built a decade ago. I have enjoyed attending and welcoming guests, a large number of whom are from the wider community. In December at St Michael's, we hosted our hugely successful Christmas Fayre, with table top sellers from many local businesses and charities, as well as our own church family hosting refreshments, tombola, guess the weight of the cake and a raffle. Even Father Christmas arrived all the way from…Seaton and welcomed children big and small into his grotto, namely the Revd. Canon John Holder and his assistant Shirley Holder.

And so, we look upon the present day and ahead to the future. 2023 will see our parishes take part in a survey known as the 'Mission Community Health Check'. This presents a unique opportunity for each member of our churches to reflect on who we are as their local church, as well inviting people across the wider communities of Seaton and Beer to also share their thoughts. This will be an insightful and informative process and the conclusions will be presented to the Mission Community in late May. Furthermore, the survey will inform us as we host a Vision Away Day and together develop a Mission Action Plan (MAP) throughout the summer.

I believe if any church were looking for a manifesto of what it means to be a Christian community, they need look no further than the early church, as described in Acts 2 and 4. This is something I described to our PCC's early on in my tenure, expounding further during one of my sermons at a United Service last year. The characteristics of that first church are timeless and present a solid and biblical foundation upon which we can grow inwards, grow upwards and grow outwards for God's kingdom sake. So as I close this annual review, may I invite you to be praying about what it means for us to be:

- A Belonging People
- A Sharing People
- A Growing People
- A Worshipping People
- A Serving People
- A Giving People.

And 'May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God'. (Romans 15: 5-7).

Grace and Peace
Rev. Justin

CHURCH WARDENS REPORT for year ending December 2022

The year has seen the church community resume the pattern of worship and activities which we had been used to pre-pandemic. We began the year with a feeling of faith and fellowship renewed, and a sense of expectation following the appointment of Rev. Justin Montague as Priest-in-charge.

Our pattern of services continued in the first three months of the year, with Sunday services of 8am BCP Eucharist, 11am CW Eucharist, 11am Morning Worship and BCP Evensongs. In addition regular weekday communion services and compline have been welcomed back. We offer our grateful thanks to all those who have enabled this to happen, in particular the clergy team of Alison Finch, Simon Hitchcock, and Chris Thacker, ably supported by Sue Price. During the final months of the vacancy we were pleased to welcome the Archdeacon and Rural Dean to take services, including a wedding.

There was a great feeling of working together with the congregation of St. Michael's, Beer ahead of the licensing and installation of Rev. Justin Montague on Tuesday 5th April 2022. The service was led by Bishop Jackie and a full church welcomed Justin and Melissa into our benefice, with many members of the local community in attendance. Justin began work in the benefice straightaway, the following Sunday being Palm Sunday leading in to Holy Week and Easter. Sadly, work on the vicarage dragged on and Justin and Melissa were unable to move in properly for some weeks. As a congregation we were delighted that they opened their garden to us after moving in for a "Pimms and Hymns" celebration. Justin and Melissa have been welcomed into our church family and it has been wonderful to feel the care of a clergy leader following the period of vacancy.

After an absence of many years, we were thrilled to hold a Flower Festival in early June coinciding with Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. As well as the floral decorations there was much music, including organ recitals during the day and a special concert by the St. David's Singers. We also welcomed our local community to a special Jubilee tea. Grateful thanks to many volunteers who made this event possible, following the overall vision and direction of Shirley Holder.

The PCC members have worked hard to support the various aspects of church life and it has been heartening to see the church continue its family feel, welcoming new members and encouraging existing members into resuming roles within our services and weekly activities. Both Churchwardens, David Bruce and David House, would like to extend their grateful thanks to the welcoming team of sidespeople for their weekly presence at services. In addition there is now a long list of members of our congregation who assist in so many ways with services and events: from bell ringing, to cleaning, being part of the lay worship team, the coffee team, producing the magazine, serving, flower arranging, and general duties of upkeep among many other tasks. Thank you all for your time, effort and love in service to our church family. Finally to Tracey Voysey, our administrator, who deals with matters spiritual and temporal with equal amounts of efficiency and diplomacy, and with plenty of good humour.

The care of the church fabric continues to be a major issue, and in the autumn our Quinquennial inspection took place. A separate report outlines some of the detail of this, and more will become clear in due course.

The death of Queen Elizabeth II in September was a momentous event in our nation's history, and as a church we were pleased to provide a place for people to spend some time in quiet reflection on Her Majesty's life and service to the country, in addition special services were arranged and a book of condolence made available for signing. This all took place whilst our Priest-in-charge and both Churchwardens were on holiday, and so we offer our special thanks to anyone who assisted in making any of these events possible – in particular Rev. Alison Finch.

We were sorry to hear of the decision of Rev. Simon Hitchcock to step down as Associate Priest in the autumn. We will miss his ministry to our benefice. We were also sad to learn that after 67 years as Organist of St. Gregory's Margaret Abrahams felt the time had come to step down. A special long service certificate was presented to Margaret, cards of thanks were signed and a collection held, after which we were able to buy her chocolates, flowers and a Dartington crystal vase.

After several meetings in the second half of the year it was wonderful to see Freedom Café resume operations in the latter part of 2022. Thanks to the team who run this, under the leadership of Helen Moulding.

Through the year Alison Finch and Mary Casey undertook training as Anna Chaplain's and were commissioned at a special service in Exeter in December 2022. We look forward to seeing this ministry develop in 2023.

The year ended with Christmas services and celebrations including a Christingle service which saw the church full of families, and our first sighting of "Monty Mouse"! This was a great way to end 2022 and to look to 2023 with spirit of optimism, hope and faith.

David Bruce and David House

ELECTORAL ROLL

Report to be given at the APCM
Katie Mason

FINANCIAL REVIEW 2022

It's been a year of celebration with the welcome of our new Vicar, Justin and restarting many of our regular Church events and activities. So a year that our Budget and actual results have been dramatically different! Indeed positive in many ways.

Our Church income totalled about £58K and came in over the budget forecast by £17K. The good news is that this was due to various reasons including Church family giving totalling £34K, a legacy of £2K, Hall lettings up to £3.5K, busier Church funerals and weddings totalling £8K, Dividends/Interest of £5K and others of £5.5K. Thanks to all who give by way of the vital Parish Giving Scheme, standing orders, envelope and cash giving.

Please can we ask more to give by way of the Parish Giving Scheme - this provides a secure income which increases annually. Forms and information are available by speaking to our Vicar, Justin, or Church Administrator, Tracey or Treasurer.

Our Church expenses totalled about £65K - hence you can see the challenge. This resulted in a deficit for the year of some £7K. We were able to pay the majority of our bills but not all of them. We paid only 60% of the Common Fund request - £29K. It is vital we increase this payment in order that we continue to receive the care from our Vicar Justin and the Worship Team. We are blessed that our Vicar has only two Church families as all the other Mission Communities in the Deanery, have between 4-6 Church families to care for. The Church Committee as responsible Stewards are working out ways to manage this challenge and we very much need your support. Over the years, we continue to obtain competitive rates for our fuel costs and other costs. Paper costs alone have dramatically increased in 2022 and so we are looking at ways to reduce our usage.

The Friends helped raise funds and give approx. £3K towards roof repairs and other repair costs.

During the next 12 months, our Reserves for the Church running costs will be depleted. Please think about your giving and please review how you can help. Help with fund raising and other creative ideas is vital and can be fun.

Please come forward as we can all help. Thank you.

Deuteronomy 15:10
Give generously to them and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this
the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to work.'

Sharon Bruce

PCC SECRETARY REPORT - Vacancy

CHARITIES COMMISSION OFFICER

There were no updates to report to the Charities commission in 2022. The Annual Report and Accounts were filed with the Charity Commission on 18th October 2022 just before the deadline and thus our required compliance is up to date.

Wayne Cook

PASTORAL CARE

During 2022 although the Pandemic lockdowns were over, we had to do a lateral flow test, wear a mask and gel before doing Pastoral visits. The care homes did not want us in and at times were again closed to visitors due to outbreaks of Covid infection among residents or staff.
Taking due care, I was able to take Holy Communion to people in their homes which I do regularly for 6 mornings a month. Later in the year I was able to take Holy Communion to one resident in his room at Check House. Likewise Rev Alison was able to do pastoral visits along with pastoral care for weddings and funerals. Rev. Justin began to visit Thornfield residential care home soon after he arrived, providing Holy Communion for the residents. Pastoral care with families around funerals and bereavement is a significant part of pastoral ministry through our church. Rev. Simon began his sabbatical break.
It can help if members of the congregation help us in noticing people who stop attending church or are known to be in need and would value a home visit or telephone call.
Care homes are now happy to be visited again and as Ali and Mary begin their work as Anna Chaplains. They have written a separate report on their training and ministry. Good News!
It is our aim to build a pastoral team in 2023 once again. If you would like to find out more about this vital ministry in our church life, please contact Justin, myself or the Anna chaplaincy team.
Sue Price

All other Church Group reports

ANNA CHAPLAINCY

As Anna Chaplaincy is new to our Coastal Mission Community of Seaton and Beer, we hope the information below will give a clearer understanding of the ministry and training undertaken by Ali and Mary, your Anna Chaplains.

Anna Chaplains may be members of any Christian denomination. They may be lay or ordained, paid or voluntary, male and female. They must be recognised by their churches as having the necessary qualities and training for Anna Chaplaincy ministry. All Anna Chaplains have a ministry specification which includes details of their line management and supervision from the local church(s). They are safely recruited, hold an enhanced DBS and are trained in safeguarding. They are then commissioned and sent by their church to serve the local community. Anna Chaplains become members of the national ANNA Chaplaincy network.

The focus of all Anna Chaplaincy ministry is offering unconditional spiritual care to older people in the community. It serves people living independently in their own homes, in sheltered housing and retirement complexes and in residential and nursing homes. It is an accompanying, person-centred ministry of spiritual care for older people of all faiths and none, and for their families and carers. The ministry is founded in prayer.

Mary and Ali completed their training in December 2022 and were commissioned at a lovely service in Exeter, on December 18th by Bishop Jackie.

Plans for the first quarter of 2023 include Introductory letters to Care Homes, setting up our administration with the Church Office. We plan one fund raising event. Rev Justin has asked us to speak at the United Benefice Service in January, and we are planning worship services in Church for St Gregory's and St Michael's for February and March. Completion of Level 2 Food Safety in the Workplace. We will also be exploring café church (in Seaton and Beer) including appropriate worship for older people, under the possible name, Anna's Place.

Mary and Ali have both received a three year licence in this Voluntary role as an Anna Chaplain, and a Ministry Working Agreement is currently being drawn up for each of them.

The Anna Chaplaincy Prayer is:

Faithful God, you have promised in Christ to be
with us to the end of time. Come closer to those
who have lived long and experienced much.
Help them to continue to be faithful and, within
the all-age kingdom of God, to find ways to go
on giving and receiving your grace, day by day.
For your glory and your kingdom.
Amen

Contact: Ali Finch 07762 744977. Mary Casey 07805 65535

Email: AnnaChaplainsCMC@hotmail.com

Mary Casey and Ali Finch

BELL- RINGERS

Much as per last year, service ringing and some practice evenings (Monday 7.30 pm, new or "rusty" ringers always welcome). We have had a quiet year on the wedding front, looks like 1 request for the coming year so far plus a TBC. We have had one new / rusty ringer join us. Last summer, I changed out the No1 and No7 ropes and sent them to Mendip ropes, (near Taunton) to have new tail ends put on, these are now our "standby ropes". That's all folks!!

HAND BELLS

There are now only 2 who are "old hands". Our last years "Improver" is still an improver, due owing to the fact that we have not been able to practice. However we do need hand bell ringers. I am a great believer that "one volunteer is worth 10 pressed men". So two volunteers please. Practice in the vestry 9.30am Friday. No need to read music just the ability to read numbers required!!
Bruce Roberts

BIBLE SOCIETY

For many years there has been a 'Seaton and District Support Group' for Bible Society with representatives from local churches seeking to raise money to donate to their work. Angela Scoble and Sheila Wilsdon have been representatives for St. Gregory's.
Sadly, this local support group has now been disbanded, largely due to age and infirmity, and will no longer be organising fund-raising activities. Thank you to the many who have come to Coffee Mornings and Cream Teas and had collecting boxes to donate to this work of the Lord.
Bible Society itself is still very active and donations would still be welcome via the Headquarters:
Bible Society, Stonehill Green, Westlea, Swindon SN5 7DG

CHOIR

The choir has continued to provide music for the whole range of services during 2022. Through the year a full choir consisted of eight singers, and until October was accompanied by Margaret at the organ. We were sorry that Margaret stepped down from her organist duties after 67 years of faithful service, but were glad to be able to mark her contribution to the musical life of St. Gregory's with a long service certificate, cards and gifts. We also presented long service certificates to Gaynor Mason and Ann Roberts in recognition of their continued service in the choir. David House has taken on the role of organist and choirmaster.

Special Carol services for Advent and Christmas were led by the choir, including some additional singers. Monthly Evensong services are a feature of our work, with the music including sung responses, psalms and a setting of the Magnificat. We continue to provide a reflective anthem or short liturgical piece at the end of the distribution of communion, and the use of "A Parish Mass" by Peter Jones is now an established part of our communion services. We have been able to join with the choir of St. Michael's Beer for several united benefice services – usually singing an anthem on these occasions. We look forward to continuing in our musical service of the parish – please do contact me directly if you would like to know more about the music in our services, and particularly if you would like to join us as a singer.

David House

CHRISTIAN AID 2022

It's been an exciting year and we have been able to offer lunches during Lent, Harvest and Christmas.
Many returned to help serve and support. We offer home-made delicious food and friendship. Over the year, we raised about £2,000! Thank you.

How you can help - we need waitresses please and your ongoing support. Thanks.
The funds raised helps to provide fresh water and food. Their work also helps people set up businesses to be self-sufficient by growing food that are resistant to drought. And the funds raised helps people in Crisis - in countries suffering severe events of war, drought and earthquakes.

Many thanks to all who help and support the great work of Christian Aid. ***Sharon Bruce***

CHURCH CLEANERS
As far as I can tell everyone is happy with last year's arrangements, and the same two teams clean every other week. My thanks to all involved with this good work. ***Julie Ballard***

COFFEE TEAM
It has been wonderful to start offering coffee after Church again during the year. Many thanks to the 4 Teams we now have. This is an important way to share fellowship and give much needed funds to the Church
How you can help - please volunteer and take your turn to offer tea and coffee - just once in a while would be great.
Our team members are precious Gems - please love them.
Sharon Bruce

COFFEE TEAM – Saturday Morning Coffee
We are delighted to enjoy refreshments and friendship on the first Saturday of each month. During the months of February through to July and then October to December.
We also have a regular Team of about 4 Community people who come along and share and sell their beautiful crafts, and attract their followers to come along.
How you can help - please come along to share friendship and help support this important and much needed fund-raising. Thank you.
Sharon Bruce

CHURCH FLOWERS
We are very grateful to all those who continue to help make our church look beautiful with flowers. If anyone is interested in joining this small group of people, please let me know.
John Anning

HONITON DEANERY SYNOD
The Honiton Deanery Synod is a group of representatives, both lay members and clergy, from all the parishes in the Honiton Deanery, which includes Beer and Seaton. Lay representatives are elected by their parishes every 3 years at the APCM, with 2 places per parish. Bruce and Ann Roberts are the elected Deanery Synod representatives for St Gregory's Church, Seaton.

The synod provides a link between the parishes in this area, and between them and the Diocese of Exeter, through meetings at which we worship and share news, views, and information about events in the Deanery and in the Church of England more widely. There were 3 meetings during the year.

One feature of this year's meetings has been a regular sharing of news about forthcoming events at member churches. The synod also made efforts to draw up a "skills audit", with the aim of sharing members' particular aptitudes with each other.

Safeguarding has been a regular agenda item; and at the end of 2022 the synod agreed to give particular attention to the Church of England's commitment to meeting net zero targets by 2030.

FABRIC COMMITTEE

In 2022 a Fabric Team was established in order to carry out interviews for a new architect as Russ Palmer had retired at the end of 2021. I am pleased to report that as a result of this interview process we have appointed Matthew Rayner of HMAD Architects based in Devon. We instructed Matthew to carry out a Quinquennial Inspection which we are now in receipt of, this is a very lengthy and detailed report.

At the recent Fabric Committee Meeting it was agreed to focus on the recommended numerous specialist inspections required, and then the priority items listed as 'A' (Immediate attention) & 'B' (Requires attention within 12 months), totalling 21 items for St Gregory's (out of a total of 200+ items overall).

Justin has approached and is waiting to hear whether Clinton Devon Estates, (Patron to Beer) have any expertise they can offer us.

We are also currently in the process of taking advice from the Church Buildings Council, then specific surveys will be undertaken and once these reports have been obtained we will decide on the order of works, obtain quotes and then explore the possibility of grants.

We will also always be taking into account, that as part of the ministry and mission of our Church, we need as good stewards in our generation to be able to create coherence and integrity through our future proposals for reordering, therefore honouring the history and purpose of the place and making the Church fit for purpose in the future.

As I am sure you will appreciate this will be a lengthy process but it is essential to approach in the right order as often one decision directly has an effect on another.

David Mason on behalf of the Fabric Committee

FREEDOM CAFÉ

Nearly Two thousand years ago a friend of mine fed lunch to a crowd of people he cared for. The loaves and fishes went down a treat. He's doing the same today through FREE*dom* CAFÉ.

Having been closed since March 2020, FREEdom Café was finally able to re-open its doors to welcome visitors on Saturday 17th December 2022.

FUNDING:
When the decision was made to restart the café, there was a sum of £289.74 available in the Yorkshire Building Society account. £150 of this was withdrawn to cover costs of supplies needed for the first café and also to pay for renewed Level 2 Food Hygiene certificates for the Core Team. It is hoped that the café will be able to fully fund itself due through donations received in the prayer basket each month. However, the team agreed to start up on a smaller scale to gauge interest and support and to review this after 3 months to see if donations would cover running costs.

Before the Pandemic, running costs were estimated to be around £120 per month to cover purchase of food, drink, consumable items, equipment maintenance and Food Hygiene training for Core Team volunteers for food hygiene certificates.

OUR YEAR:

The Core Team first met in March 2022 to discuss the possibility of re-opening FREEdom Cafe. It was generally agreed that whilst the team would like to start up again, it would be a good idea to wait until Rev. Justin Montague started in post at the end of April 2022.

On 4th August, a meeting was arranged with the Core Team, Justin, Mary Casey and Chris Thacker. Justin had been able to look through the scrap book/guest book and café accounts and his key questions were: What position was the café in when forced to close? Were we still well supported by volunteers and used by the community? The answer to those questions was "Yes" on all counts, we were still receiving enough funds in our prayer baskets to run the café with funds left over to donate to local charities.

The Core Team with Justin's support were then involved in regular meetings with a view to reopening in December 2022. This gave time to contact volunteers and enlist their support, look at re-training for volunteers and Core Team in relation to Food Hygiene regulations, deep clean the kitchen and also to complete safeguarding training.

When we opened our doors on 17th December, it was a quiet start to the morning which gave the volunteers a bit of a chance to catch up with colleagues and the first visitors. The morning got a little busier as we headed towards 12:00 and then quietened again around 1pm. There were 62 visitors to the café that morning which would be about half the number of visitors before the pandemic. However, there was an amazing £136.60 in our prayer baskets which was a great start!

The core team would like to say a very BIG thank you to all our volunteers and other supporters. If you would like to find out more about FREE*dom* CAFÉ, please contact any of the core team.

Helen Moulding (Administration/Finance,) Nessa Rutherford , Jean Hoskin, Angela Scoble, Emma Lloyd-Davis, Wayne Cook, Gloria Polley–* Free*dom* CAFÉ *Core team January 2023

3.2.1 FOR JESUS

After nearly 2 years of not operating due to Covid-19 we were able to re-commence in December 2022. This is what the format for 3.2.1 for Jesus looks like:

3.2.1 for Jesus, 15 minutes of simple uncomplicated Celtic style Christian worship, some **'FOOD FOR THOUGHT'. Free*dom* CAFÉ**. feeds the body, and we hope **3.2.1 for Jesus** helps to feed the soul. **We welcome you!!**

We begin our worship at 1.45pm in the church centre on the third Saturday of each month, excluding August. It is usually lay led by members of the **Free*dom* CAFÉ** core team, with others present taking part either with a reading, a prayer, or lighting the candles. **3.2.1 for Jesus** gives us an opportunity to give thanks and praise to our Lord for his hospitality at **Free*dom* CAFÉ** and the wider community.

We have three minutes of music (this varies according to the worship each month), two readings, generally a reading from the Gospel, and possibly a poem. We also say our **Free*dom* CAFÉ** thanks giving prayer, and end with a Celtic Christian Blessing said together.

Our greatest joy has been seeing people from our community (who do not attend any church) staying for the worship, and coming back! For some this is their first 'taste' of our Lord and their only church. We deliberately close the café at 1.30pm and make an announcement that **3.2.1 for Jesus** will begin at 1.45pm, this re-enforces our message there is 'no catch' for receiving freely at **Free*dom* CAFÉ.**.

We had a very positive response to our re-opening looking at the reflection "It's a new start (or is it?). A total of 24 people attended the worship.

Wayne would like to say thank you to those who have prayed and supported him in the preparation and leading of this ministry with **3.2.1 for Jesus.**

Wayne Cook (Core team) February 2023

THE FRIENDS OF ST GREGORY'S PARISH CHURCH SEATON

It has been a wonderful year and we have been able to host an Easter fair and a Christmas fair, in the Church centre. We always have a fabulous array of crafts, cakes, tombola and other delights.

Many thanks to those in our Church family and community with their wonderful talents, and for supporting the events.

We extend a special thanks to those who give financially through regular planned gifts, either monthly by standing order or other means. This is a huge support for our mission and supports our planning.

We can all care for the care of our beautiful Grade 1 listed Church - the repairs are always so costly. It is important to preserve this place of peace and joy. The building is full of songs, music, and prayers. This year we have contributed towards repairs to the sound system, electrics, organ, noticeboards and other smaller items that needed on-going maintenance.

We raise about £2,000 each year and these funds help pay for roof repairs and other Church repairs and renovations.

How you can help? - Just come along and enjoy the fun. Thanks.

Sharon Bruce

GREGS YOUNG ONES – MUSIC MAKERS AND GREGS @4 FAMILY WORSHIP FAMILY ACTIVITIES REPORT

For another successful year, we continue with our weekly Thursday Greg's Music Makers group, during Term-time, in our Church Centre. Our Families Worker, Linda, offers music and movement, support and great care.
We have between 20-30 attend each week, enjoying fun and friendship.
In December, we hosted the Christingle Service in the Church, which was a special gathering that everyone was invited to and we gave out Advent Calendars with the Christmas story.
We hope to host an Easter Service in Church, with Easter eggs and the Easter story.
Please look out for the dates in the weekly notice sheet and Church magazine and come along.
We welcome you to join us for delicious refreshments and a chat with our young families.
The Family routine of life has changed and it is important for us to meet our families with their needs.
God's love meets us wherever we are and on any day of the week - Thanks Be to God for his all-encompassing Love.

Sharon Bruce

JULIAN MEETINGS

This year we have been able to meet monthly on the second Monday of each month in the home of Rev. Chris Thacker without any restrictions which has been great after the disruption of the Pandemic era! We thank Chris for her generous hospitality enabling us to meet in comfort and warmth. Our membership remains very constant with 6 to 9 people attending each meeting which is led by myself, Chris and other willing volunteers.

I ask for a voluntary donation to cover the cost of the Julian Magazine that I get a hard copy of to share and an email version that I can forward to members. We pay for our membership of '*The Julian Meetings*' and make a donation towards the administration of this voluntary organisation. We collected £50; paid the membership fee of £12 and donated the remaining £38 to support the administration and cost of the magazine. Our balance at the end of the year was therefore £0. We aim only to cover expenses which we do each year.

The aim of Julian Meetings is to develop and encourage the prayer of contemplation which asks us to 'Be still and know that I am God' to spend a period of time in silence to draw close to God and aim to listen to and hear God's voice. Ideally, we practice at home as well, but we find it can help us to concentrate in the silence and company of a group. For more information, do speak to me or Rev. Chris or come along and give us a try and/or read more on the Julian website*; the julianmeetings.net*

Blessings from Julian of Norwich. ***Sue Price***

LENT GROUPS

At the beginning of Lent last year, we were still in the interregnum. Rev. Justin was licensed with us on 5th April and his first service was on Palm Sunday 10th April. Legal Covid restrictions had not long been lifted. It was decided to hold just one Lent Group for St. Gregory's in the Church Centre.

I led a 6 week course based on *'The Joy of the Gospel'* by Paula Gooder. In this book Paula opens up Pope Francis' inspiring and acclaimed reflections on sharing the love of God. Published as *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel), it is widely recognized as being full of realistic wisdom and infectious enthusiasm for reaching out to others with the enduring joy that comes from a personal encounter with Jesus Christ.

The course aimed to give us as individuals and a group time to rediscover the joy of encountering the good news of Jesus in the Bible and the transformation that is possible when we communicate that good news in the world today. Each session included a prayer, a guided reflection on a Bible passage and a framework for exploring one of the key themes of sharing faith, such as its communal nature, the role of the Holy Spirit and the social justice dimension of the good news. As Paula Gooder writes, '*It is the joy of the gospel that radiates from Pope Francis himself and offers us a beacon of what we might become if only we can take this message seriously*'.

I cannot claim that we met all these aims but it did help us to return to the bible, reflect on it, to wrestle with it, to pray and renew our commitment to our faith during the time of Lent as we prepared to welcome Jesus anew at Easter. Ten people joined in these sessions and it was a pleasure to meet together again as a group from our church.

'Rejoice in the Lord always'

Sue Price

MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church meets on the 2nd Friday of each term-time month at Seaton Methodist Church, from 3.30-5.30 (a light meal is provided at 5 p.m.) Helpers go earlier to prepare beforehand and help clear up afterwards. Arts and crafts, Bible stories, singing etc. for Primary School children with a parent/carer. New helpers welcome. Contact Deacon Becky Lovatt at deaconbecky@outlook.com

Jo Bull

OPEN THE BOOK

Open the Book has not resumed.

Jo Bull

SEATON BRANCH MOTHERS UNION

Mother's Union Group meet on the second Wednesday in the month in the Church Hall, 2pm – 4pm.

We have a Prayer Session led by one of us for about half an hour. Then we have a knit and natter session and tea or coffee and biscuits.

Marilyn Coates on behalf of the Diocesan Members Group.

TABLE TENNIS GROUP

The table tennis club meets on Fridays 10 – 12 noon, with 7-12 members. Cost is £1 per session for refreshments and to pay towards the use of the hall.

Jo Bull, Carol Gosling and Paul Baines.

SEATON FOODBANK

We have continued to get a steady stream of contributions coming into our storage area and like previous years both Easter and Christmas proved to be a very busy time

We are eternally grateful for all those contributions we get whether they are left in the various supermarket bins or just dropped in when we are open. However, because of the increasing numbers we are having to purchase additional food on a weekly basis.

In terms of numbers, we have given out 18512 meals during the year to 950 adults and children. Some clients only visit once, some are referred for three or four weeks at a time. These numbers are very similar to the previous year, but we can foresee a steady increase over the next few months as household bills are on the rise.

We are continuing to give out meat vouchers from Normans and veggie vouchers from Little Gems and our thanks go out to these local shops for their help and assistance. Thanks also to Pebbles who continue to help us support our homeless clients with hot meals.

We have been able to give out Advent Calendars and leaflets and all our clients in December received a Christmas Hamper to brighten their lives and like last year we will also be giving out Real Easter Eggs to the children.

Like last year we had a huge FareShare collection from Tesco in both June and December our thanks go out to the staff of Tesco who helped our volunteers enormousl

Our client referrals are generated by several Voucher Partners including the East Devon District Council's various departments, local churches, children's groups including schools, GP surgeries, social workers and district Nurses which have amounted to over thirty-five different sources in the past year.

We have at present a terrific group of volunteers, but we are still desperately in need of additional Duty Managers. Recently due to illness and holidays we were down to just one Duty Manager and clearly that's not enough.

As a member of the CTIS (Christians Together in Seaton) group we are looking for help and guidance from their organisation. Certainly, if you know of anyone who is an organised person used to making key decisions then we would desperately like to meet them, explain what's involved in the role and introduce them to our Foodbank organisation. If you would like to know more then please contact Stephen and Lesley

foodbankseaton@gmail.com **07598 927997**

AXE VALLEY CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY - AVCAP REPORT

Since we started this important Outreach in the Axe Valley in April 2021, we are now helping many people and young families on their Journeys Out of Debt. Their situations are often complex and involve broken relationships, life-changing and hence long-term health situations, anxiety and stress.

We offer people light and hope, friendship and support which continues for as long as they want us to be by their side. To date, we have kept in contact with all of them. Some are now or almost debt-free, by way of Debt Management Plans - where they have been able to repay their debts from their income and some through Insolvency Options including Debt Relief Orders and Bankruptcy. To see the relief in their faces and calm in managing sustainable budgets as they restart their lives is inspirational and certainly keeps me going when the stories are dark and overwhelming.

With your Prayers, we are being enabled by an amazing 11 Befrienders, about a dozen Whatsapp Prayer members and a Management Team of about 6, our spiritual and caring Church Line Manager and the expertise of the CAP Head Office. CAP has 25 years of experience and knowledge and have helped thousands of people out of debt, giving them new life.

How can you continue to help - prayers please, and donations to help cover our minimal running costs. Every £1 helps a life. We now have plenty of Befrienders - our needs are for a Treasurer and Assistant Manager.

Thanks be to God for his life-giving strength, calm and love.

Sharon Bruce

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST GREGORY, SEATON

England & Wales - Charity number 1127403

Accounts

'To know God and share the wonder of His love'

St Gregory's Church Seaton

Group Reports

SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Registered Charity No: 1127403

for the year ending 31st December 2021

Coastal Benefice of Seaton & Beer

Vicar: Vacancy

The Church Office, The Church Centre, Colyford Road, Seaton, Devon, EX12 2DF

(01297) 23656

INCUMBENTS REPORT – *No Report due to Vacancy*

CHURCH WARDENS REPORT for year ending December 2021

The early part of the year was taken up with the news that Jeremy Trew was to leave our benefice and move to become Team Rector in Saffron Walden. Despite the restrictions which Covid forced upon us there was an opportunity to say farewell during a live-streamed and socially-distanced service, as we wished Jeremy, Alison and the family all the best for their move and setting up life in a new area.

Our pattern of services continued and we offer our grateful thanks to all those who have enabled this to happen, in particular our clergy team of Alison Finch, Simon Hitchcock, Chris Thacker and John Holder, ably supported by Sue Price. At the end of the year John Holder presided over his final service at St. Michael's Beer, his ministry with us has been much valued and he is now a regular member of the St. Gregory's choir.

A committee was set up to prepare for the process of attracting a new Vicar. Gradually we were aware that the Diocesan reorganisation plan would result in us having a Priest-in-charge, and after many meetings it was decided to pursue the recommendation of our Archdeacon to investigate the application of Rev. Justin Montague [curate in Tiverton]. After an interview in November 2021 we were delighted to appoint Justin as Priest-in-charge to take up his post in the spring of 2022.

The PCC have maintained a careful oversight of church matters, initially under the leadership of David Bruce as Churchwarden and then joined in this role in the Spring of 2021 by David House. The care of the church fabric has been a major issue, with potential upkeep as listed by the most recent quinquennial report forming a large part of budgeting debate. The PCC members have worked hard to support the various aspects of church life and it has been heartening to see the church regain much of its family feel, welcoming new members and encouraging existing members into resuming roles within our services and weekly activities.

Particular thanks in the period of the vacancy are due to Tracey Voysey, our administrator, who has dealt with matters spiritual and temporal with equal amounts of efficiency and diplomacy, and with plenty of good humour.

This year has seen the church community emerge from a lockdown situation with no "in-person" services, to something resuming the pattern of worship which we had been used to pre-pandemic. This included a return to congregational singing and the reappearance of 8am BCP Communion. Looking forward to 2022 and the licensing and installation of our new Priest-in-charge is an exciting prospect and we also anticipate the resumption of many activities which have had to be put into hibernation due to Covid restrictions. We move forward into the year with faith and fellowship renewed.

ELECTORAL ROLL

Report to be given at the APCM

Katie Mason

FINANCIAL REVIEW 2021

'It's been such an extraordinary year again and certainly one of greater joy and time together. Thanks be to God for his grace and love.

Thanks to our Church Administrator, Tracey, for her hard work and creativity, our Finance Team for their care and guidance, and our Church family, community and visitors who give generously.

This Report is to confirm, and try to explain the sections of our Church Accounts including the Receipts, the Payments, the Church Assets, Church repairs, and our Charitable donations, for which we are honoured to be Stewards.
Each year, we review our running costs of the Church and the Centre, and achieve the most favourable deals, to minimise our running costs.

RECEIPTS - Our main source of receipts are essentially made up of 'Our Giving' by way of Standing Orders, Parish Giving by Direct Debit and cash given in the Offertory and Church box. For 2021, Our Giving totalled £35K, Many thanks to all who contributed to this throughout the year. No legacies were received for 2021.

PAYMENTS - Our main payment is the Parish Share. We paid out of our funds just over £18K. The requested amount from Exeter Diocese was £46,646. This figure is based on each of us giving approximately £600/year. Our total giving does not cover the requested amount and we encourage everyone to review their giving. It must be repeated that over the next 1-5 years, our reserves will be used up. Historically, for 20 years+, St Gregory's Church have not been able to pay the annual Parish share from regular giving and have met the shortfall from reserves. Long-term, this is not sustainable. This decision has been difficult and the PCC regularly reviewed our monthly payments and the possibility of paying more.

ASSETS - One of our assets , the Church centre, is being hired more frequently and although our expenses exceeded our hire income in 2021, we are confident in the future, it will achieve break even.
Our other Investment assets total £122K bringing in dividend income of £4.3K.
The Friends funds total £8K of which £1K was raised through the year with our Spring and Christmas Fairs. Our events also offer friendship and fun.

CHURCH REPAIRS - We are working through the list of Church repairs that need to be carried out according to the Quinquennial Report of 2018 and other maintenance work in care of our stunning Grade 1 listed Church building. Estimated costs total £106.4K

CHARITABLE DONATIONS - We made three donations 1) the International Charity - Christian Aid, 2)the National Charity - the Salvation Army and 3) local Charity - Seaton Friends Hospiscare @ Home, each of £350.

We are encouraged in
2 Corinthians 9:6-8
Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.'

Sharon Bruce

PCC SECRETARY REPORT

Our first meeting of the Year was chaired by Rev'd Jeremy Trew. This was to be his last meeting with us as Rector of St Gregory's.

At the beginning of the Vacancy Revd Alison Finch took the chair and led us until Mr David House was elected to the vacant position of Churchwarden, alongside David Bruce.

The PCC worked hard throughout the year to keep on top of their responsibilities in the Vacancy.

Linda Vieth

CHARITIES COMMISSION OFFICER

Updates to the trustees were reported in May 2021. The Annual Report and Accounts were filed with the Charity Commission on 11th October 2021 just before the deadline and thus our required compliance is up to date.

Wayne Cook

PASTORAL CARE

No report received

All other Church Group reports

BELL- RINGERS

Much as per last year, service ringing and some practice evenings (Monday 7.30 pm, new or "rusty" ringers always welcome). We have had a quiet year on the wedding front, looks like 1 request for the coming year so far. We have had one new / rusty ringer join us. We still have Lewis as a learner, now good on both hand and back stroke he now needs to put them together Before summer, once again, I propose to change out the No1 and No7 ropes and take them to Mendip ropes, (near Taunton) to have new tail ends put on. I have had two new muffles made for us by one of our ringers at half the price of commercial ones. Thank you Leanne. Hopefully we will soon be able to restart practice nights on a Monday. That's all folks!!

HAND BELLS

There are still only 3 of us who are "old hands". Our last years "Improver" is still an improver, due owing to the fact that we have not been able to practice. However due to medical problems, (nothing to do with the "virus") we could do with more hand bell ringers. I am a great believer that "one volunteer is worth 10 pressed men". So two volunteers please. Practice in the vestry 9.30am Friday. No need to read music just the ability to read numbers required!!

Bruce Roberts

BIBLE SOCIETY

Angela Scoble and Sheila Wilsdon are your representatives for St Gregory's Church, where with the other churches in Seaton we raise funds for the Bible Society by Coffee Mornings and Cream Teas. Due to the pandemic this not been possible in 2021 or so far in 2022. Sheila is now receiving boxes for counting.

We, as a group, will hope to reconvene, hopefully, prayerfully, in 2022. As ever, Sheila and I are happy to receive donations anytime. Thankyou.

CHOIR

The choir has continued to provide music for the whole range of services during the past year. During the months of Covid restrictions during services much of the singing was of a few verses of hymns only – and frequently led by a duet. Whilst this provided a superb opportunity for the congregation to reflect during this time, it was very liberating for them to resume singing. It was also exciting for the choir to emerge from the restrictions and we are pleased to have gained some singers subsequently – now a full choir consists of eight singers, accompanied by Margaret at the organ. We have been able to join with the choir of St. Michael's Beer for several united benefice services – usually singing an anthem then. It was fantastic to be able to put on special Carol services for Advent and Christmas too. Evensong has also returned to our service rota and the choir sings the psalms and a setting of the Magnificat. We continue to provide a reflective anthem or short liturgical piece at the end of the distribution of communion, and have taken the opportunity to lead the congregation in the introduction of a new setting of the ordinary [Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus and Agnus Dei] - A Parish Mass by Peter Jones. We look forward to continuing in our musical service of the parish – please do contact me directly if you would like to know more about the music in our services, and particularly if you would like to join us as a singer.

David House

CHRISTIAN AID 2021

It's been a quiet year and we have not been able to host our usual lunches and events. This is due to the Pandemic and that we do not have enough volunteers.

However, we have reached out asking for donations through our church families and the local newspaper. We also hosted a Charity Afternoon Tea at our home in November. In total, for 2021, we raised £1009.65 - many generous donations despite a challenging year.

This helps to provide fresh water and food. Their work also helps people set up businesses to be self-sufficient by growing food that are resistant to drought.

Many thanks to all who help and support the great work of Christian Aid.

Sharon Bruce

CHURCH CLEANERS

This year I am pleased to report that we have two excellent cleaning teams who alternate on Friday mornings. In the past we have struggled to maintain a clean and welcoming atmosphere in St. Gregory's, but thanks to Sue Price and her team, the church now looks clean, tidy and welcoming to all who visit.

Julie Ballard

COFFEE TEAM

It has been wonderful to start offering coffee after Church again during the year. Many thanks to the 4 Teams we now have.

Many thanks to all who help and also give support by coming along an enjoying drinks and friendship.

Our pastoral care is so important.

Sharon Bruce

COFFEE TEAM – Saturday Morning Coffee

We realize that social contact is important for our church, but unfortunately at the moment the situation for group meetings doesn't feel completely safe. If and when volunteer's come forward and when the situation becomes more favourable, we will resume.

Julie Ballard

CHURCH FLOWERS

No report

CHURCH LIBRARY

No report

HONITON DEANERY SYNOD 2020

Ann and Bruce Roberts

FREEDOM CAFÉ

Nearly Two thousand years ago a friend of mine fed lunch to a crowd of people he cared for. The loaves and fishes went down a treat. He's doing the same today through FREE*dom* CAFÉ.

OUR YEAR:

Sadly there is nothing to report from the FREEdom Café team for 2021. Due to COVID we were unable to re-open the café during the year. The Core Team met in July 2021 to discuss the possibility of re-opening but decided that it would not be safe for volunteers and visitors to meet in such a confined space when COVID rates were still high. FREEdom Café funds were all moved into the Yorkshire Building Society until a decision is made about re-opening. The team agreed that the café would remain closed for the foreseeable future but are reviewing the situation in March 2022.

The core team would like to say a very BIG thank you to all volunteers and other supporters.

Nessa Rutherford (Administration), Helen Moulding (Finance,) Jean Hoskin, Angela Scoble, Emma Lloyd-Davis, Wayne Cook, Gloria Polley– **Free*dom* CAFÉ** ***Core team***

3.2.1 FOR JESUS

Unfortunately as a result of Covid-19 and in the interests of safety we have not been able to operate in 2021.

Wayne would like to say thank you to those who have prayed and supported him in the preparation and leading of this ministry with **3.2.1 for Jesus** previously. Please continue to pray and hopefully this worship will be able to re-commence in the near future.

This is what 3.2.1. for Jesus format looks like.

3.2.1 for Jesus, 15 minutes of simple uncomplicated Celtic style Christian worship, some **'FOOD FOR THOUGHT'. Free*dom* CAFÉ**. feeds the body, and we hope **3.2.1 for Jesus** helps to feed the soul. **We welcome you!!**

We begin our worship at 1.45pm in the church centre on the third Saturday of each month, excluding August. It is usually lay led by members of the **Free*dom* CAFÉ** core team, with others present taking part either with a reading, a prayer, or lighting the candles. **3.2.1 for Jesus** gives us an opportunity to give thanks and praise to our Lord for his hospitality at **Free*dom* CAFÉ** and the wider community.

We have three minutes of music (this varies according to the worship each month), two readings, generally a reading from the Gospel, and possibly a poem. We also say our **Free*dom* CAFÉ** thanks giving prayer, and end with a Celtic Christian Blessing said together.

The average number worshipping each month is 30 people. Our greatest joy has been seeing people from our community (who do not attend any church) staying for the worship, and coming back! For some this is their first 'taste' of our Lord and their only church. We deliberately close the café at 1.30pm and make an announcement that **3.2.1 for Jesus** will begin at 1.45pm, this re-enforces our message there is 'no catch' for receiving freely at **Free*dom* CAFÉ**..

Wayne Cook (Core team) February 202

THE FRIENDS OF ST GREGORY'S PARISH CHURCH SEATON

It has been a wonderful year and we have been able to host an Easter fair and a Christmas fair, in the Church centre.
We always have a fabulous array of crafts, cakes, tombola and other delights.
Many thanks to those in our Church family and community with their wonderful talents, and for supporting the events.
Many thanks to those who give monthly by standing order.
We can all care for the care of our beautiful Grade 1 listed Church - the repairs are always so costly. It is important to preserve this place of peace and joy. The building is full of songs, music, and prayers.
We raised for 2021, £800 from the events and another £800 from regular givers (Tracey - I am unsure if this is correct - please can you check the amount of the regular givers - thanks.)
In total, we have £8,106 which will be much needed for the works that need to be carried out in the short-term future.
Dave Dickinson and Sharon Bruce

GREGS YOUNG ONES – MUSIC MAKERS AND GREGS @4 FAMILY WORSHIP FAMILY ACTIVITIES REPORT

For another successful year, we continue with our weekly Thursday Greg's Music Makers group, during Term-time, in our Church centre.
Our Families Worker, Linda, offers music and movement, support and great care.
We have between 20-30 attend each week, enjoying fun and friendship.
In December, we hosted the Christingle Service in the Church, which was a special gathering, that everyone was invited to.
We gave out Advent Calendars with the Christmas story.
We hope to host a Mother's day and Easter Service in Church, with flowers and Easter eggs and the Easter story.
Please look out for the dates in the weekly notice sheet and Church magazine and come along.
We have also hosted a couple of Cafe Church at Beer Church, at 4pm. Linda and Gayle organise crafts and worship. And we enjoy delicious refreshments.
Sharon Bruce

JULIAN MEETINGS

The Julian meetings have continued over the last year in three different ways. In the period of 'lockdown' I emailed the details of a meeting to everyone and we shared the reading and period of silent prayer in our own homes at the same time. In this way we continued our fellowship and commitment to prayer. At this time 2 'new' people joined us for prayer and I was able to send it to a previous member of our group who has moved away and has enjoyed continuing to share our time together.

In July and August as restrictions eased, we met together again in the Lady Chapel at church. This did not prove ideal as it is the night for bell-ringing practise! In October we resumed meeting at the home of Revd. Chris Thacker in Case Gardens. We thank Chris for her generous hospitality which we always enjoy. There are usually between 6 and 8 of us. Should our number increase, we might need to meet in the Church Centre or consider a second group maybe in the daytime? If anyone one would be interested in this, please see or contact Sue. Leadership of each meeting is shared between Chris and me and others who volunteer – no pressure I promise!

If anyone is interested in finding out more about contemplative prayer, please give us a try or speak to me or Chris. The Julian website explains more and is worth a browse at www.thejulianmeetings.net.

Our donations amounted to £42. I paid the Julian registration subscription of £12 and we agreed to give the remaining £30 as a donation to 'The Julian Meetings' which is the National organisation run by volunteers and includes a periodic newsletter and magazine which I can email to people for a voluntary donation. Our balance at the end of the year is therefore £0.

Blessings from Julian of Norwich.

Sue Price
Sue Price

Reader

LENT GROUPS

Owing to Covid restrictions no Lent Groups were held last year.

Sue Price

MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church is now meeting again on the 2nd Friday of each term time month at Seaton Methodist Church, from 3.30-5.30pm. (Helpers go to prepare beforehand and stay to clear up afterwards) Arts and crafts, Bible stories etc for Primary school children with a parent or carer. New helpers welcome. Contact Deacon Becky Lovatt at deaconbecky@outlook.com

Jo Bull

OPEN THE BOOK

Open the Book has not resumed because of the pandemic.

Jo Bull

SEATON BRANCH MOTHERS UNION

Mother's Union Group have started meeting again on the second Wednesday in the month in the Church Hall, 2pm – 4pm.

We have a Prayer Session led by one of us for about half an hour. Then we have a knit and natter session and tea or coffee and biscuits.

We are making Trauma Teddies at the moment, plus anything else the ladies wish to do. There are about 10 of us in the group.

Marilyn Coates on behalf of the Diocesan Members Group.

TABLE TENNIS GROUP

The Table tennis club re-started on Friday, April 3rd, after the pandemic restrictions eased. We meet in St. Greg's Church Centre from 10-12 noon (on Fridays only) We now have a good number (7-11) people per session. Cost is £1 per session (for refreshments and to pay towards our use of the hall)

Jo Bull and Carol Gosling.

SEATON FOODBANK

This past year has been a real mixture in terms of trying to operate out of Crossroad's Number One in Harepath Road, we have certainly seen more of an emphasis on delivering to clients rather than them coming to collect. But as a new year starts the situation is changing back to more visiting clients on a Wednesday afternoon

We have been in inundated with food contributions all year long with a steady stream coming into our storage area, but like previous years both Easter and Christmas proved to be a very busy time

We are eternally grateful for all the contributions we get whether they are left in the various supermarket bins or just dropped in when we are open.

In terms of numbers, we have given out some 17661 meals during the year to 841 adults and children. Some clients only visit once, some are referred for three or four weeks at a time.

These numbers are very similar to the previous year, but we can foresee a steady increase over the next few months as household bills are on the rise

We are continuing to give out meat vouchers from Normans and veggie vouchers from Little Gems and our thanks go out to these local shops for their help and assistance. Thanks also to Pebbles who continue to help us support our homeless clients with hot meals

Also, we have been able to give out Advent Calendars and leaflets and all our clients in December received a Christmas Hamper to brighten their lives and like last year we will also be giving out to children Real Easter Eggs.

In June we underwent some changes in how we operate with the Tesco store, they went into partnership with an organisation called FareShare, we were provided with a much larger collection bins at the store exit and generally it worked out very well for us, although we have to record more about what we collect and generate a monthly return.

Our client referrals are generated by several Voucher Partners including the East Devon District Council's various departments, local churches, children's groups including schools, GP surgeries, social workers and district Nurses which have amounted to over thirty-five different sources in the past year

We have decided not to take on any further volunteer at the present, but we are still desperately looking for another one or two Duty Managers
Stephen Page on behalf of Seaton Foodbank Team

AXE VALLEY CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY - AVCAP REPORT

It was very exciting to open our local centre on the 1st of April. Alison Finch offered the free services from April to July and we began helping our first client. Due to a change of health, Alison had to step down. Our heartfelt thanks to Alison for her great work. From July to October, we prayed for a new Centre Manager. In November, Sharon Bruce began her training and was appointed centre Manager. AVCAP restarted on the 10th of January 2022. During 2021, Alison hosted a Befrienders Training, in the June. 2 Befrienders came forward and we have a Management Team of about 6. In December, we hosted an Information/Relaunch Evening. We continue to pray and reach out to people in the Axe Valley - the towns of Seaton, Kilmington and Axminster and all the parishes in between. 7 local Churches and organisations support financially and with volunteers. We are making connections with support services including Foodbank. Axminster Jobclub, local Doctors' surgeries and the Waffle Community Cafe.
AVCAP offer free financial services helping people out of poverty. The Head office support the local centre with Budgets and Financial Statements for clients. They provide training and guidance for the centre manager.
Please pray for our much needed work and for clients to come forward.
Sharon Bruce

'THE CHURCH BANK 'GARDENING GROUP

Diana Hill did some gardening on the church bank during the year. She has now moved away and there are not other volunteers helping at the moment. We thank Diana for her time and gardening skills and wish her every happiness in her new home near one of her daughters. ***Sue Price***

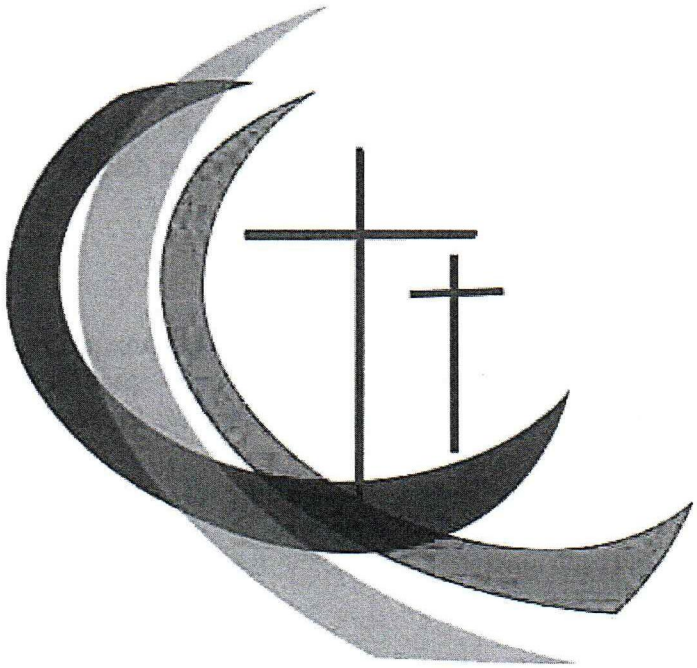
'To know God and share the wonder of His love'

St Gregory's Church Seaton

Annual Reports & Accounts

SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Registered Charity No: 1127403

for the year ending 31st December 2021



Coastal Benefice of Seaton & Beer
Vicar: Vacancy
The Church Office, Colyford Road, Seaton, Devon, EX12 2DF
(01297) 23656

SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Administrative information

St Gregory's Church is situated off the Colyford Road, Seaton. It is part of The Coastal Mission Community with the parish of Beer, in the Diocese of Exeter within the Church of England. Correspondence may be addressed to The Church Office, The Church Centre, Colyford Road, Seaton EX12 2DF. Telephone 01297 23656; email seatonchurch@hotmail.co.uk

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission:
The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Gregory's Seaton –
Reg Charity No: 1127403.

Background

Seaton Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church: pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church and the Church Centre. Responsibility for the maintenance of the churchyard has devolved upon East Devon District Council.

Governance

Members of the PCC are either ex officio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules, or co-opted by the PCC. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

During the year, the following served as members of the PCC:

Incumbent and Chairman	Revd. Jeremy Trew till February 2021
Associate Priest	Rev'd Simon Hitchcock Rev'd Alison Finch
Churchwarden	1. Mr David Bruce 2. Mr David House from May 2021
Deanery Synod Representatives	Mr Bruce Roberts Mrs Ann Roberts
Treasurer	Mrs Sharon Bruce (duties shared with Church Administrator and the PCC Finance Committee)
Secretary	Mrs Linda Vieth

Other PCC Members

Mr David Dickinson
Mrs Shirley Holder
Mrs Katie Mason
Mr Peter Burrows
Mr David Mason
Mr Stephen Page

(The PCC is allowed up to 12 elected members, including those holding other offices, such as Treasurer)

Assistant Clergy

The parish benefits from having the services of two retired clergy;, Rev'd Canon John Holder, and Rev'd Chris Thacker.

The parish also benefits from the service of Mrs Sue Price, Reader.

Church Activity Groups

A number of organisations and volunteer teams operate within the church family, including:

3-2-1 for Jesus
Church Bank Working Party
Bell Ringers
Choir
Church Cleaners
Church Flower Arrangers
Coffee Team
Discussion Groups (Lent onwards)
FREE*dom* Café
Friends of St Gregory's
Hand bell Ringers
Julian Group
Mothers' Union Group
Music Group
Table Tennis Club
Greg's Music Makers
Greg's @4 Children's Parties

We also have contact with a number of outside organisations through members of our church family, including:

Bible Society
Christian Aid
Christians Together in Seaton
Messy Church
Open the Book
Seaton Foodbank

Committees

The PCC meets in alternate months, six times a year. For certain aspects of the council's business, there are sub-committees which meet when necessary to formulate recommendations that are brought to the full PCC. All other matters are dealt with directly by the PCC. However, due to the pandemic PCC meetings have been more challenging this year meeting over Zoom where possible. The PCC has also gathered at other times to discuss the continuing Pandemic and St Gregory's response to it.

Finance Sub-Committee – oversees the financial management of St Gregory's Church and encourages good financial stewardship. It comprises the Vicar, the Treasurer, Church Administrator, and one other member of the PCC and one other member of the Electoral Roll.

Fabric Sub-Committee – A Quinquennial Inspection report was received in January 2018. This related to the church and churchyard. Responsibility for maintenance and development of the church lies with the PCC. Responsibility for maintenance of the churchyard lies with East Devon District Council. Works arising from the QI report have been categorized according to the various permissions required to address them. Some minor works have been undertaken and work on the roof of the Lady Chapel has been undertaken. He is also advising on some internal works and possibilities for a minor reordering. The aim of the reordering would be to increase visibility and space at the front of the nave, and to create a more adaptable space underneath the balcony.

Health and Safety Sub-Committee - A health and safety policy is in place and regularly updated.
Health and Safety has an agenda item at each PCC meeting. The committee is a minimum of the Health and Safety Officer and the Church Warden(s).

Safeguarding - The PCC places a high priority on its responsibilities towards children and vulnerable adults. It ensures that all those working with these groups undergo appropriate checks. Safeguarding has an agenda item at each PCC meeting. The PCC has complied with the 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).

Pastoral Committee – undertakes to ensure that appropriate pastoral care is offered to members of the congregation and wider community. We provide home communion services and visits to individuals and local residential/nursing homes, but as with everything else this year the Pandemic has influenced this too.
Other working parties or sub-committees are set up for particular projects as and when necessary.

Church membership

The church electoral roll as reported at the 2020 Annual Parochial Church meeting stood at 75. Attendances at Sunday services have been hugely different this year due to the continuing pandemic with St Gregory's being closed for worship for part of the year. When services have been held the average attendance has been around 30. Online pre- recorded services have been made available, but it not easy to estimate viewing numbers.

Review of the Year

Our first meeting in January was Chaired by Jeremy who said that he was pleased with the services we had to offer during lockdown and the responses of people to these. Jeremy also announces that he would be leaving in February and a discussion was held on responsibilities during the Vacancy.

On the 22nd of March Alison Finch Chaired our meeting. We were told that Church services could be held in Church after the 31st of March. It was agreed that the first service would be on the 4th of April.

Linda our Children's Worker continued to offer weekly Zoom meetings. Stephen and his team had looked at the Quinquennial report and would carry out works during the year.

At the meeting held on 25th May, voting took place for a sub-committee to discuss with Beer the profile for our new Vicar. Services during the Vacancy have been carried out by Simon, Alison, Chris and John also helped. Thanks to them all for all the work involved.

We were also told that David House was now in a position to become a Church Warden.

Lesley & Stephen were thanked for hosting several Fairs during Spring raising funds for our beautiful Church. This year we also hosted, for the first time, a Cream Tea in aid of Christian Aid.

At our meeting on June the 14th David House was nominated as a Church Warden and this was carried unanimously with 44 votes.

During July Alison Finch was unwell and the PCC agreed to send her flowers.

In September it was agreed to spend £14,500 on cosmetic work under the Quinquennial report. Shirley proposed a Flower Festival for the Queen's Jubilee

and The Friends hosted several events this year, on 5th September generous funds given totalled £289.20.

An Extraordinary meeting was held on 10th October to elect 2 members to the interview panel for the Vacancy. David Mason and David House were carried unanimously.

At our meeting on 25th November David House was Chair. Sharon handed out balance sheets and budget sheet and discussed these with the PCC. Also this month an interview took place for the Vacancy.

AVCAP - Sharon will complete her training on the 3rd December and the Centre opened on 6th December.

Charity Commission

The PCC has been registered as a charity with the Charity Commission since 07 January 2009. The current Charity Trustees are:

Rev'd Jeremy Trew till February 2021
Mr David Bruce
Mrs Sharon Bruce
Rev'd Simon Hitchcock
Mr David Dickinson
Mrs Shirley Holder
Mr David Mason
Mrs Katherine Mason
Mr Ron Phillips
Mr Stephen Page
Mr Peter Burrows
Mrs Ann Roberts
Mr Bruce Roberts

Financial Review

The PCC determined to pay its Common Fund request in part for 2021 when it set the budget in 2020. The PCC were able to fulfil this.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the PCC to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds (if possible), which equates to approximately three months' unrestricted payments, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. In general, it is our policy to invest our funds balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund.

Public Benefit

The Trustees consider they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 and have paid due regard to the guidance published by the Charities Commission with regard to the public benefit which the charity provides throughout Britain. Our aims make it clear that the church is to be actively involved in the community in which it is situated. We provide a place of worship that is open for all to attend and clearly advertise our weekly worship services. We understand that to be an effective Christian witness our existence is not only for the benefit of the church attendees, but for the community as a whole.

We look forward to 2022 in faith and hope.

Signed:

David House 4/5/22

Mr David House
Churchwarden

Approved by the PCC on 4th May 2022 and signed on its behalf by Mr D House (chairman)

SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

FINANCIAL REPORTS

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

Seaton Parochial Church Council
Receipts and Payments account
For the year ended 31st December 2021

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Fund	Restricted Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
Incoming Resources	£		£	£	£
Voluntary Income					
Planned Giving	18,765		900	19,665	23,225
Collections, donations and other givin	3,949		6,582	10,531	7,674
Income Tax Recovered	4,835			4,835	6,046
Legacies	0			0	42
Activities for generating funds					
Magazine/Bookstall sales/Hall lettings	1,741			1,741	1,868
Income from Other Properties	718			718	799
Annual fete/events	0		1,030	1,030	666
Investment Income					
Dividends & Interest	4,270			4,270	4,343
Income from charitable activities					
Parochial Fees	6,708			6,708	3,974
Other Incoming resources					
Insurance claims	0			0	0
Gain on disposal of fixed asset	0			0	0
Loans received in year	0			0	0
Other	746			746	2,844
Total Incoming resources	**41,732**	**0**	**8,512**	**50,244**	**51,481**
Resources Expended					
Church Activities					
Donations/Grants to charities	1,070			1,070	20
Mission & Evangelism	1,151			1,151	1,403
Parish Share	18,270			18,270	39,905
Clergy expenses	892			892	1,849
Church running expenses	3,118			3,118	2,885
Churchyard maintenance	52			52	0
Cost of raising funds	2,600		58	2,658	2,211
Support Costs	500			500	240
Administration costs	13,666		2,736	16,402	13,790
Accountancy fees	125			125	125
Other	3,667			3,667	3,988
Governance Costs	0			0	0
Major Expenditure					
Repairs to church buildings	0			0	18,208
Repairs to other property	0			0	340
Parochial Fees remitted	0			0	0
Total resources expended	**45,111**	**0**	**2,794**	**47,905**	**84,964**
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	(3,379)	0	5,718	2,339	(33,484)
Gain/(Loss) on Investment Assets			14,917	14,917	(5,901)
Loans repaid in Year	0			0	0
Transfer Between Funds	(885)	0	885	0	0
Balance due to DBF	136			136	(357)
Net Movements in funds	(4,128)	0	21,520	17,392	(39,742)
Accumulated funds at the start of the year	29,937	0	126,277	156,214	195,955
Accumulated funds at the end of the year	**£25,809**	**£0**	**147,797**	**£173,606**	**£156,214**

Seaton Parochial Church Council
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
As at 31st December 2021

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Investment Assets				
CBF Income Units	0	68,991	68,991	60,318
M&G Charifund Units	0	52,920	52,920	46,675
	0	121,910	121,910	106,993
Monetary Assets				
Lloyds Current Account	6,858	3,212	10,071	4,031
CAF Bank Current Account	16,966	0	16,966	22,737
CAF Bank Deposit Account	0	0	0	0
CBF Deposit May Smith	0	0	0	0
CBF Deposit Graves Fund	0	0	0	0
Shorebrook Savings Account	16,553	0	16,553	16,553
Friends of St Gregorys Church	0	8,106	8,106	5,901
	40,377	11,319	51,695	49,222
Accumulated funds at the end of the year			173,606	156,214
Other Assets				
Income Tax Claim	0		0	690
Beer PCC - Various	843		843	0
Invoices Outstanding	0		0	13
Liabilities				
Parochial Fees - EDBF	2,094		2,094	1,774
Parochial Fees - Beer PCC	1,113		1,113	0
Governance	125		125	125
British Gas	0		0	150
Watson Fuels	630		630	0
Contingent Liabilities				
Donations to Charities	0		0	1,500
Parish Share	47,619		47,619	46,646

These accounts were approved by the Seaton Parochial Church Council on 4th May 2022 and were signed on their behalf by :

David Hawe ---------- Signature 4/5/22

Seaton Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 December 2021

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2008, together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP 2005.

(b) Income

The accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis.

2. Fixed Assets

No value is ascribed to the following:-

The Church of St Gregory and its contents
The Churchyard
The Vicarage
The Church Hall and contents

The reasons for this are as follows:-

The Church and Churchyard are "consecrated" property and the vicarage is a benefice property. These properties are regarded as "inalienable" and are excluded from PCC accounts in compliance with the Charities Act 2011.

The contents of the Church are also to be treated as inalienable assets, in accordance with the CGB guidance (para 5.4)and are also excluded.

The Church Hall is a leasehold property and is legally vested in the Exeter Diocesan Board of Finance Limited as Custodian Trustee. The lease is for a term of 1000 years running from 1826 and its terms would be breached if the use of the hall for Sunday school purposes were to cease. Although the hall is not consecrated property, it is a dedicated building, and so bound up with the worship, mission and ministry of the Church, that it is unthinkable that the Church could operate without it. It is therefore appropriate and legitimate to treat it for accounting purposes as an inalienable asset in the same was as consecrated property.

The values of the contents of the Hall are regarded as insufficiently material to include in the accounts.

3. Funds

Unrestricted Funds may be used by the PCC for any if its ordinary purposes. The movement in the funds are shown in the Receipts and Payments account.

Designated funds represent sums set aside, out of ordinary unrestricted funds, for specific designated purposes, but they can be transferred back into general funds at any time.

Restricted funds are those funds which must be spent on restricted purposes for which they were given. In this Financial Statement any Expendable Endowments are included in this category.

The CBF Deposit May Smith Account, CBF Income Units and M&G Charifund units, for the residue of a bequest by May Smith in 1983. Any interest or dividends from these investments are unrestricted, the capital proceeds are designated as Expendable Endowments with use restricted "for the maintenance and upkeep and benefit in general of the Church and associated buildings and land"

The Graves Trust is held in one CBF deposit account and is designated as an Expendable Endowment, the interest being retained within the account. Its use is "for the upkeep of the Church generally" although the main aim is the upkeep of five specific graves.

Quoted investments are valued at bid prices at 31 December 2021.

4. Employees

In 2021 the PCC employed six persons part-time throughout the year - a Church Administrator, a hall cleaner, an organist, a verger, a choir master and an AVCAP administrator. The total remuneration of all employees in 2021 was £14,734.

5. Separate funds held by church organisations

	Opening Balance	Receipts	Payments		Closing Balance	
			to Pcc	to Other	2021	2020
					£	£
Church Flower Arrangers	66.01	0.00	0.00	38.70	27.31	66.01
The Table Tennis Club	94.63	197.71	200.00	0.00	92.34	94.63
Handbell Ringers	279.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	279.38	279.38
Coffee Team	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Julian Group	0.00	42.00	0.00	42.00	0.00	0.00
Total funds not incorporated in the PCC accounts					**399.03**	**440.02**

6. Separate funds not included in Receipts and Payments account

	Opening Balance	Receipts	Payments		Closing Balance	
			to Pcc	to Other	2021	2020
FREEdom Café	289.35	0.39	0.00	0.00	289.74	289.35

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ST GREGORY'S CHURCH, SEATON – REG. CHARITY NO: 1127403

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 2 to 4.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner
As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charities Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

WAYNE COOK FMAAT, CIMA Adv Dip MA, AATQB
Wayne's World of Accountancy
14 Mead Way
Seaton, Devon, EX12 2NR

DATED 23rd Feb 2021

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST GREGORY, SEATON

England & Wales - Charity number 1127403

Accounts

'To know God and share the wonder of His love'

St Gregory's Church Seaton

Group Reports

SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Registered Charity No: 1127403

for the year ending 31st December 2020

Coastal Benefice of Seaton & Beer

Vicar: Vacancy

The Church Office, The Church Centre, Colyford Road, Seaton, Devon, EX12 2DF

(01297) 23656

INCUMBENTS REPORT – No Report

CHURCH WARDENS REPORT

I don't think that none of us will forget the last 12 months and its challenges for everyone not least, our DIY & IT skills! Now we also have our Vicar Vacancy to contend with following Jeremy and family moving to Saffron Walden. Change, however, often brings new opportunities with it and I am looking forward to that as I hope we all are. I am pleased we were able to carry on services for a while thanks to all those who were able to help to ensure we followed the sensible rules and guidance given by our leaders. As far as I know we did not have any track or trace problems and I should know as I was the keeper of the list of who came. There are so many to thank so forgive me if I forget to mention you.

I must mention a few, however, Sue Price for organising the opening of the church for the midweek morning for Prayer and Solace. Mary Scott, Carole Gosling & Sheila Wilsdon for continued salespeople's duties. Ron Phillips for taking on Churchwarden duties for a while whilst his personal circumstances allowed. Stephen & Leslie Page who still managed some successful fund-raising events at their home with their wonderful cooking & woodwork skills. I look upon Stephen and Ron as my Assistants when required which is a great help. David House has been tremendous with our music which we have been blessed to listen to. Tracey for keeping us on track in the office and our day-to-day needs - we are lucky to have her. Bruce & Ann Roberts have continued to look after the bells and church building with their normal love & care. Jeremy has guided us safely through the Pandemic and we wish him & his lovely Alison and their beautiful daughters Eleanor & Rachel every happiness and good health in their pastures new. Last but, not least, I must thank my gorgeous wife Sharon for her love and support and energy which keeps me going I can tell you. She & Linda Joy have continued their popular Music Mornings with young Seaton families throughout Covid.

Hopefully, we have all been properly jabbed and can soon look forward to returning to near normality as possible. I will try to keep you informed in our Monthly Magazine with Elizabeth Clare's continued help and the local press, who I want to do a monthly article of whats happening about the Vacancy and what our two churches are organising etc. We are extremely fortunate that Alison Finch and Simon Hitchcock will continue to lead most of our Services with support from our amazing Morning Praise team and our retired clergy of Chris Thacker and John & Shirley Holder. We have a wonderful and enthusiastic and experienced PCC who, with our excellent Secretary, Linda Vieth will make sure we proceed with caution and common sense. As Captain Sir Tom Moore often said " TOMORROW WILL BE A GOOD DAY "

Thanks for listening.

David Bruce, Dip FBA

NB : People mainly know that I am a retired Bank Manager but not that I have a Diploma in Farm Business Administration from Wye College in Kent. I just thought I would mention it.

ELECTORAL ROLL

Report to be given at the APCM

Katie Mason

FINANCIAL REVIEW 2020

Firstly, thanks be to God for the Life of our Church family and Communities. And many thanks for all those who donated by standing orders, direct debits, envelopes, cash and cheques. This totaled approx. £37K. This is our major source of income and most needed to pay towards our annual Common Fund request which for the year was £48K, of which we managed to pay £40K. Whilst for most of the year our church building was temporarily closed, we offered online services only, this meant we saw a decline in cash collections. We also felt the financial impact of the postponement of many weddings. However, the financial giving by others rose and our main income streams as mentioned above remained steady. This is the first time in my 5 years of being Treasurer that we have had to make this most difficult decision followed by also being unable to make any charitable donations.

Our Church Worship and Outreach cannot be sustained with our present levels of giving. Please can I ask for each of us to review our giving. To provide strong foundations, more giving needs to be given on a regular standing order or direct debit basis please. (even £5 or £10/month please).

We have asked again for guidance and support from the Finance Team at Exeter, as we did in 2015, when I first became Treasurer. This was because annually, the Church deficits historically ranged from £20k-£30K, going back 20 years+.

Essential roof repairs were carried out this year to the Lady Chapel roof and further repairs to the rest of the Church needs to be carried out, as detailed in the Quinquennial Report/Survey dated January 2018. Our reserves of some £160K will be utilized for this work and also to cover regular Church and Church centre costs. Our estimates show that in the next 1-5 years, all our reserves will be used up.

Many thanks to our Finance Team and the PCC for the decisions being made and the hard work and professionalism of Tracey, our Church Administrator. She endeavors to secure the best rates for all our running costs of electricity, oil, telephone, and printing. Our staff salaries have remained the same for the past 2 years, in order to contain costs and during the year we made use of the Governments furlough scheme where we could, to save money. Indeed, our magazine advertising rates have also remained the same. We are trying hard to keep our running costs to the minimum but of course this cannot continue.

Going Concern

The pandemic has impacted on St Gregory's finances in 2020. However, the PCC has reviewed budgets and forecasts for income and expenditure for 2021 and is working with the Diocesan finance team to secure the future of the church.

Our deepest appreciation to those who have worked hard to offer Worship, Pastoral care and our Family activities of the Music Group and Family Worship.

Many thanks to all who give of their time and energy as volunteers to care for our Church and Community. If you have any questions, please ask Tracey or Sharon.
John 3 verse 16, For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Many thanks and love
Sharon Bruce

PCC SECRETARY REPORT

Due to the Pandemic this year PCC meetings have been different than any other year previously.

Our first meeting on 22nd January was conducted as normal, but on the 16th March we held our last face to face meeting before lockdown, However, we had to remain socially distant. It was agreed, in the interim, that meetings would be postponed

When fully in lockdown many PCC meetings were conducted through Zoom. Finances, the protocol for re-opening of St Gregory's Church and the days on which we would open were all discussed and adopted. It was also agreed to hold a PCC meeting in the Church building to arrange the APCM, as and when guidelines dictated.

The APCM was held much later the usual, the Bishop of Exeter having given permission for this to be allowed. It was finally held in the Church on 18th October, with the additional facility of allowing people to Zoom in if they felt uneasy about attending in person.

Linda Vieth

CHARITIES COMMISSION OFFICER

There were several changes to the trustees and so we had to wait until after the APCM before filing. The Annual Report and Accounts with updates to the PCC Trustees were filed with the Charity Commission on 20th October 2020 just before the deadline and thus our required compliance is up to date.

Wayne Cook

PASTORAL CARE

No report received

All other Church Group reports

BELL- RINGERS

Well hasn't this been a year to remember. Very little ringing due to lock downs and other restrictions. We did manage to give some sort of ringing by splitting the ringers into two groups to get the required distancing. Team "A" were on 1,3,5,7 on one week and team "B" on 1,2,4,6,8 the next. At times of more restriction Ann and I operated the Ellacombe Chimes which at least made the Church's presence heard. Our young ringers have not been able to do their practice and the changing of ropes has not been carried out due to Covid restrictions. Hopefully we will be able to get on with this when restrictions are eased.

HAND BELLS

We unfortunately had to shut this activity down due to the Covid and we have not been able to practice due to distancing requirements. Hopefully, we will resume this year when the spread of Covid is arrested. (With the help of the Lord and two strong policemen)

Bruce Roberts

BIBLE SOCIETY

Angela Scoble and Sheila Wilsdon are your representatives for St Gregory's Church where with the other churches in Seaton we raise funds for the Bible Society.

Due to the Covid pandemic we could not meet or arrange fund raising meetings in 2020. Sheila is now receiving box donations thank you. We as a group will reconvene when able to – maybe in 2021.

Meanwhile, if you want to give a gift Sheila and I are happy to receive donations

CHOIR

No report received.

CHRISTIAN AID 2020

Thank you from Christian Aid to all our merry band of workers and supporters. We hosted one Lent lunch in March at the United Reformed Church and then received donations by post during CA week in May. Further donations were also received at Christmas bringing the total for the year to £870.50. This will save some lives and transform others! If you can help, please let Sharon know. Thanks.

'Let us love, not in word or speech but in truth and action' (1 John 3:18).

Sharon Bruce

CHURCH CLEANERS

Not a lot to report regarding church cleaning this past year, so looking ahead to when the church will be open again to resume normal services, our teams are willing to continue cleaning provided more help can be found to support Sue Price's team and our one also. None of the team members are getting any younger, so we would really appreciate some more help please.

Julie Ballard

COFFEE TEAM

Nothing to report due to Covid.

Alan Clark

COFFEE TEAM – Saturday Morning Coffee

Unfortunately, over the past year we have been unable to hold our popular monthly Saturday morning coffee get together. So, looking to the future, having spoken to church members who regularly supported this event in the church centre we are keen to resume when conditions allow. As we all need the social interaction, which is important for our well-being, so hopefully we can return in the not-too-distant future.

Julie Ballard

CHURCH FLOWERS

Nothing to report due to lockdown.

John and Sandra Anning

CHURCH LIBRARY

Barry Wood stood down during the year.

HONITON DEANERY SYNOD 2020

As some of you will be aware Ann and I were the only candidates for the Deanery Synod. We have "attended" the one and only meeting since our appointment by "Zoom" and found it very instructive in the way that other Parishes conducted their overall methods of working and thinking. I look forward to the future arrangements for this parish and for the future organisation of the Deanery and when we have some concrete news, we will make sure everyone is aware of it, that is assuming we are re-elected at the APCM. Be safe one and all.

Ann and Bruce Roberts

FREEDOM CAFÉ

Nearly Two thousand years ago a friend of mine fed a crowd of people he cared for lunch. The loaves and fishes went down a treat. He's doing the same today through FREEdom CAFÉ.

The FREEdom Café year started well with well-supported cafes in January and February and then came the COVID-19 pandemic and everything ground to a halt!

FUNDING: The cafe remains able to fully fund itself due to generous regular donations and through the prayer baskets each month. Running costs are around £120 per month. This amount covers the purchase of our food, training volunteers for food hygiene certificate and a donation to the PCC for administration costs. At the start of the year, we were able to give a donation to SENSE, Seaton a local care home. We were also able to make a donation of £49.80 in the form of food supplies to the Seaton Foodbank and £50 to the Safe House to purchase pillows.

A further donation of £49.50 in grocery/personal care supplies was made to the Seaton Foodbank during April 2020 as there was a growing call on the Foodbank caused by the pandemic. We were also able to donate tinned food items and other non-perishable items that would not be used in the Café.

In early December, we looked at the FREEdom Café finances and felt able to make further donations of £150 to Seaton Foodbank and £150 to the CRISIS UK Christmas Appeal. This leaves the café with funds available in our cash tin to run a café when we can re-open.

OUR YEAR:

The year got off to a good start with a busy café in January, February was a bit quieter due to poor weather. The March café had been planned and was due to take place on Saturday 21st March 2020 but due to rising Coronavirus figures, the Core Team took the decision to cancel the café in the safety interests of our volunteers and visitors.

The Core Team held a meeting with Jeremy in September to discuss whether it would be possible to open the café but did not feel it would be safe to do so and would have to run with extremely limited numbers. We have kept in touch with our volunteers over the course of the past 10 months but unfortunately, we are not likely to be able to open anytime soon.

The core team would like to say a very BIG thank you to all our volunteers and other supporters. If you would like to find out more about Freedom CAFÉ, please contact any of the core team.

Nessa Rutherford (Administration), Helen Moulding (Finance,) Jean Hoskin, Angela Scoble, Emma Lloyd-Davis, Wayne Cook, Gloria Polley – Freedom CAFÉ Core team January 2021

3.2.1 FOR JESUS

3.2.1 for Jesus, 15 minutes of simple uncomplicated Celtic style Christian worship, some 'FOOD FOR THOUGHT'. Freedom CAFÉ. feeds the body, and we hope 3.2.1 for Jesus

helps to feed the soul. We welcome you!!

We begin our worship at 1.45pm in the church centre on the third Saturday of each month, excluding August. It is usually lay led by members of the Freedom CAFÉ core team, with others present taking part either with a reading, a prayer, or lighting the candles. 3.2.1 for Jesus gives us an opportunity to give thanks and praise to our Lord for his hospitality at Freedom CAFÉ and the wider community.

We have three minutes of music (this varies according to the worship each month), two readings, generally a reading from the Gospel, and possibly a poem. We also say our Freedom CAFÉ thanks giving prayer, and end with a Celtic Christian Blessing said together.

The average number worshipping each month is 30 people. Our greatest joy has been seeing people from our community (who do not attend any church) staying for the worship, and coming back! For some this is their first 'taste 'of our Lord and their only church. We deliberately close the café at 1.30pm and make an announcement that 3.2.1 for Jesus will begin at 1.45pm, this re-enforces our message there is 'no catch 'for receiving freely at Freedom CAFÉ..

We had a very positive start to the year looking at God's abundant love in January and then looking at His kingdom in February. Then Covid-19 struck and so in the interests of safety March's worship was cancelled and unfortunately, we will not be able to restart anytime soon.

Wayne would like to say thank you to those who have prayed and supported him in the preparation and leading of this ministry with 3.2.1 for Jesus.

Wayne Cook (Core team)

THE FRIENDS OF ST GREGORY'S PARISH CHURCH SEATON

The Friends hosted two events during October and December, thanks to the generosity of Lesley and Stephen. Many thanks to this special couple for hosting on their driveway, fabulous Festivals of baking delights - yummy cakes and delicious jams of Lesley and others, and the delightful plants and wooden creations of Stephen - The Owls, Snowmen, Rabbits, Father Christmas.....something for everyone to enjoy! Thanks also to the Knitting Ladies for their creations. The funds raised totalled £2,014.53 which included standing order donations of £1290. The Friends donated £5,000 towards the Church roofing costs, to help maintain our stunning Grade 1 listed building.

Our events are to encourage care for each other by bringing people together and to care for our Community Parish Church. If you can help with hosting an event or activity, please let Sharon know. Many, many thanks to everyone for all you do in supporting each other and sharing the love.

Dave Dickinson and Sharon Bruce

GREGS YOUNG ONES – MUSIC MAKERS AND GREGS @4 FAMILY WORSHIP

FAMILY ACTIVITIES REPORT

We have been blessed with the weekly music sessions that our Family Worker, Linda, offers on Thursday and Friday mornings. Up to March, this was held at St Gregory's Church centre, Seaton and St Michael's Church, Beer. From the middle of March, Linda, hosted them by 'Zoom' continuing throughout August, to give support and care for our families. At Easter time, the Fairtrade Eggs with the Easter story were delivered and then at the end of November, Linda delivered the Advent Calendars with the Christmas story. This important Outreach attracts to the 2 sessions about 20 families or more locally and nationally, as families of local families can join in by 'Zoom!' Technology has been incredible for connecting more people. In October, we even hosted a Family worship at Beer Church, with a Treasure Hunt, individual craft packs and worship.

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." (Matthew 19: 14)

Sharon Bruce

JULIAN MEETINGS

In 2020 the Julian group only met physically twice before 'Lockdown'. In January and February we met at Rev Chris Thacker's home in Case Gardens which has a very comfortable ambience. Since then, I have emailed a programme for a Julian Contemplative Prayer time at home so that we have been able to pray together at the usual time and date of our meetings – the second Monday of each month at 7.30pm. I have delivered a 'hard copy 'to a member who does not have email. Tracey has also put the programme on our Coastal Benefice website.

The programme gives the date and time for prayer, a suggestion to sit and relax before praying then a short reading followed by a time of silent contemplative prayer and ending with the collect of the week, the Lord's Prayer and The Grace. I know that our 'regular 'group have appreciated this way of praying together. We find this regular commitment to meet together helps develop our concentration and prayer life. I have not done any research to evaluate any wider uptake of the prayer time – I might ask for feedback next month! We look forward to meeting together again when we are able.

We only had £6.50 in donations before lockdown so I made this up to the £12 needed for our National Julian group membership which is due at the end of the year and added a personal donation. So, our balance at the end of the year was zero.

The UK Julian website is www.thejulianmeetings.net where you can find more information about the meetings and contemplative prayer. Do have a look at it and consider joining us? You would be welcome.

Sue Price

Reader

LENT GROUPS
Jeremy and Simon were planning to run a Lent Group last year but the lockdown in March prevented them from running.

Sue Price

MESSY CHURCH
No report due to the pandemic.

Jo Bull

OPEN THE BOOK
No report due to the pandemic.

Jo Bull

SEATON BRANCH MOTHERS UNION
Nobody available to report as this branch is no longer running.

TABLE TENNIS GROUP
No report due to the pandemic.

Jo Bull, on behalf of the Table-Tennis club

SEATON FOODBANK

It has certainty been a very strange year normally we would start the year with low stocks of food after the previous Christmas rush, stocks would then build, and the numbers of people would steadily increase throughout the year.

This year the flow of people and stocks of food has oscillated up and down between Covid 19 lock downs and the start-up of the community Hub, ReStore and the Save Food organisation at one point there was some five organisations giving out food in Seaton

However, we have been blessed with lots of donation of both food stuff, personal and household hygiene necessities, and the financial donations which has left us in a healthy position. A big thank to the people of Seaton and the surrounding areas for their generosity

The lock down situation has meant that for most of the year we were the only users of Number One in Harepath Road and so we will be paying the Community Church for the heating and lighting costs for the year.

This latest lock down has meant we are no longer having visiting clients and have gone over to an all-delivery situation again involving our volunteers in a lot more phone calls and paperwork

In terms of numbers, we have given out some 17,896 meals during the year to 608 adults and 274 children. Some clients only visit once, some are referred for three or four weeks at a time. The peak times were at Easter and at Christmas when some 40 adults and children were helped through their food crisis in one particular week.

We are now able to give out meat and veg vouchers more regularly. These are £5 for a single person and £10 for a family and over the past year these have amounted to some £820. Also, we have again be able to give out Advent Calendars and leaflets and all our clients in December received a Christmas Hamper to brighten their lives.

Our client referrals are generated by several Voucher Partners including the East Devon District Council's various departments, local churches, children's groups including schools, GP surgeries, social workers and district Nurses which have amounted to over thirty-five different sources in the past year

We have decided not to take on any further volunteers at the present, but we are still looking for another Duty Manager and a secretary.

We are hoping and praying that next year will be easier and life will get back to normal, sometime.

Seaton Foodbank Team

AXE VALLEY CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY - AVCAP REPORT

Various Churches, organisations and individuals have offered financial commitment to this exciting new Support Centre for the Axe Valley including Seaton, Axminster, Kilmington and the parishes and villages in between. The aims include: a) The relief of poverty for persons in the United Kingdom and elsewhere who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress by reason of their social and/or economic circumstances, by providing and promoting advice and other services. b) The advancement of education of the public in all matters relating to the management of their personal finances. c) The advancement of the Christian faith. d) Raising awareness of debt, poverty and its causes in the UK and inspiring churches and individuals to partner with us. CAP is an international organisation that will support and oversee our local centre, which will be based in St Gregory's Church centre.

Retired Vicar, Alison Finch, has offered to be the Centre Manager and will be interviewed early 2021, then undergo training in readiness for the Centre to open on the 1st of April 2021. Volunteers will be needed, and details will be available of the roles. Please pray for Alison and the Team and for the clients. If you want more information or want to make a donation, please contact Alison or Sharon.

Sharon Bruce

'THE CHURCH BANK 'GARDENING GROUP

No report received.

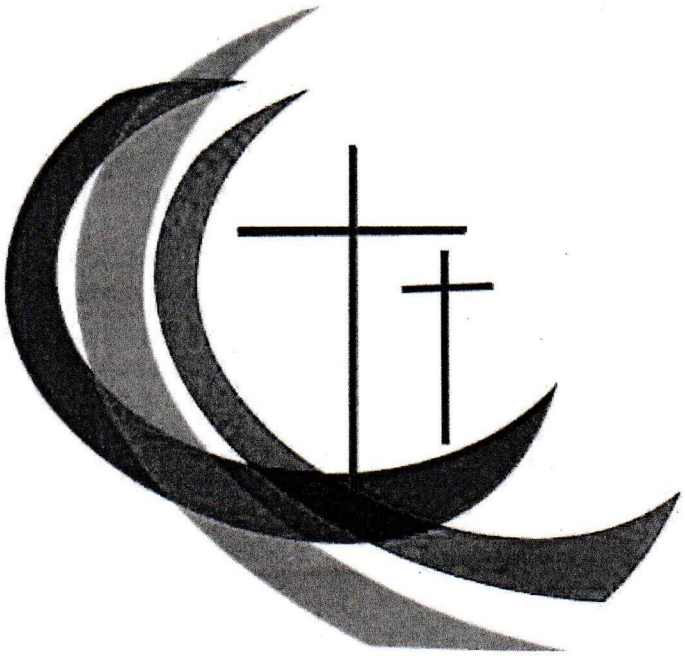
'To know God and share the wonder of His love'

St Gregory's Church Seaton

Annual Reports & Accounts

SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Registered Charity No: 1127403

for the year ending 31st December 2020



Coastal Benefice of Seaton & Beer
Vicar: Vacancy
The Church Office, Colyford Road, Seaton, Devon, EX12 2DF
(01297) 23656

SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Administrative information

St Gregory's Church is situated off the Colyford Road, Seaton. It is part of The Coastal Mission Community with the parish of Beer, in the Diocese of Exeter within the Church of England. Correspondence may be addressed to The Church Office, The Church Centre, Colyford Road, Seaton EX12 2DF. Telephone 01297 23656; email seatonchurch@hotmail.co.uk

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission:
The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Gregory's Seaton –
Reg Charity No: 1127403.

Background

Seaton Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church: pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church and the Church Centre. Responsibility for the maintenance of the churchyard has devolved upon East Devon District Council.

Governance

Members of the PCC are either ex officio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules, or co-opted by the PCC. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

During the year, the following served as members of the PCC:

Incumbent and Chairman	Revd. Jeremy Trew (from April 2007)
Assistant Curate **Assistant Priest**	Rev'd Simon Hitchcock till 07.09.2020 Rev'd Simon Hitchcock from 08.09.2020
Churchwarden	1. Mr David Bruce 2. Mr Ron Phillips
Deanery Synod Representatives	Mr Bruce Roberts Mrs Ann Roberts
Treasurer	Mrs Sharon Bruce (duties shared with Church Administrator and the PCC Finance Committee)
Secretary	Mrs Linda Vieth

Other PCC Members

Mr Alan Clark	Mrs Ann Clark
Mr David Dickinson	Mr Peter Burrows
Mrs Shirley Holder	Mr David Mason
Mrs Katie Mason	Mr Stephen Page

(The PCC is allowed up to 12 elected members, including those holding other offices, such as Treasurer)

Assistant Clergy

The parish benefits from having the services of four retired clergy; Rev'd Canon Karen Curnock till August 2020, Rev'd Alison Finch, Rev'd Canon John Holder, and Rev'd Barry Wood.

The parish also benefits from the service of Mrs Sue Price, Reader.

Church Activity Groups

A number of organisations and volunteer teams operate within the church family, including:

3-2-1 for Jesus
Church Bank Working Party
Bell Ringers
Choir
Church Cleaners
Church Flower Arrangers
Coffee Team
Discussion Groups (Lent onwards)
FREE*dom* Café
Friends of St Gregory's
Hand bell Ringers
Julian Group
Mothers' Union Group
Music Group
Table Tennis Club
Greg's Music Makers
Greg's @4 Children's Parties

We also have contact with a number of outside organisations through members of our church family, including:

Bible Society
Christian Aid
Christians Together in Seaton
Messy Church
Open the Book
Seaton Foodbank

Committees

The PCC meets in alternate months, six times a year. For certain aspects of the council's business, there are sub-committees which meet when necessary to formulate recommendations that are brought to the full PCC. All other matters are dealt with directly by the PCC. However, due to the pandemic PCC meetings have been more challenging this year meeting over Zoom where possible. The PCC has also gathered at other times to discuss the continuing Pandemic and St Gregory's response to it.

Finance Sub-Committee – oversees the financial management of St Gregory's Church and encourages good financial stewardship. It comprises the Vicar, the Treasurer, Church Administrator, and one other member of the PCC and one other member of the Electoral Roll.

Fabric Sub-Committee – A Quinquennial Inspection report was received in January 2018. This related to the church and churchyard. Responsibility for maintenance and development of the church lies with the PCC. Responsibility for maintenance of the churchyard lies with East Devon District Council. Works arising from the QI report have been categorized according to the various permissions required to address them. Some minor works have been undertaken and work on the roof of the Lady Chapel has been undertaken. He is also advising on some internal works and possibilities for a minor reordering. The aim of the reordering would be to increase visibility and space at the front of the nave, and to create a more adaptable space underneath the balcony.

Health and Safety Sub-Committee - A health and safety policy is in place and regularly updated.
Health and Safety has an agenda item at each PCC meeting. The committee is a minimum of the Health and Safety Officer and the Church Warden(s).

Safeguarding - The PCC places a high priority on its responsibilities towards children and vulnerable adults. It ensures that all those working with these groups undergo appropriate checks. Safeguarding has an agenda item at each PCC meeting. The PCC has complied with the 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).

Pastoral Committee – undertakes to ensure that appropriate pastoral care is offered to members of the congregation and wider community. We provide home communion services and visits to individuals and local residential/nursing homes, but as with everything else this year the Pandemic has influenced this too.
Other working parties or sub-committees are set up for particular projects as and when necessary.

Church membership

The church electoral roll as reported at the 2020 Annual Parochial Church meeting stood at 76. Attendances at Sunday services have been hugely different this year due to the pandemic with St Gregory's being closed for worship for a significant portion of the year. When services have been held the average attendance has been around 30. Online pre- recorded services have been made available, but it not easy to estimate viewing numbers.

Review of the Year

- We were informed that a leak in the Vestry roof had been repaired and work on the Lady Chapel would commence in February. Planning was also made for special events to be held across 2020.

- In March we heard details from the Axe Valley Churches on the CAP Project (Christians against poverty). The PCC agreed that meetings would be postponed but services would continue with social distancing within the Church. Coffee after the service would be cancelled and also Open the Book.

- The PCC regularly discussed the possible re-opening of St Gregory's Church for worship and private prayer. As we navigated the various guidelines the Church buildings were opened in July for Baptisms, weddings and funerals with a maximum of 30 people. After this socially distanced services with the wearing of face masks took place and it was agreed in August to restart Holy Communion alternating with St. Michael's Church Beer.

- Simon Hitchcock had formally completed his title post and was now Assistant Priest in this Benefice. Alison Finch had been retired but felt she would like to be Licensed to our Benefice.

- Tracey Voysey was Ordained Deacon in the Cathedral but because of restrictions still in place only a small congregation was allowed. Tracey continues to work for us.

- The Church then closed again for Worship in November for the second lockdown and pre-recorded services remained our main way of worshipping together. These really uplifting services were filmed in different locations in beautiful Devon.

- In December the pandemic and government guideline dictated what our Christmas Worship could look like. Because of the cleaning/santising issues we held no live Christingle Service or Midnight Communion, just having worship on Christmas morning.

To sum up this has been a very difficult year, but solutions have been found to overcome the challenges we faced.

Charity Commission

The PCC has been registered as a charity with the Charity Commission since 07 January 2009. The current Charity Trustees are:

Rev'd Jeremy Trew
Mr David Bruce
Mrs Sharon Bruce
Mr Alan Clark
Mrs Ann Clark
Rev'd Simon Hitchcock
Mr David Dickinson
Mr Adrian Sellick
Mrs Shirley Holder
Mr David Mason

Mrs Katherine Mason
Mr Ron Phillips
Mr Stephen Page
Mr Peter Burrows

Financial Review

The PCC determined to pay its Common Fund request in full in 2020 when it set the budget in 2019. However, the PCC was not able to fulfil the full request.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the PCC to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds (if possible), which equates to approximately three months' unrestricted payments, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. In genera . it is our policy to invest our funds balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund.

Public Benefit

The Trustees consider they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 and have paid due regard to the guidance published by the Charities Commission with regard to the public benefit which the charity provides throughout Britain. Our aims make it clear that the church is to be actively involved in the community in which it is situated. We provide a place of worship that is open for all to attend and clearly advertise our weekly worship services. We understand that to be an effective Christian witness our existence is not only for the benefit of the church attendees, but for the community as a whole.

We look forward to 2021 in faith and hope.



Signed:
Mr David Bruce
Churchwarden

Approved by the PCC on Monday 22nd March 2021 and signed on its behalf by Mr D Bruce (chairman)

SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

FINANCIAL REPORTS

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

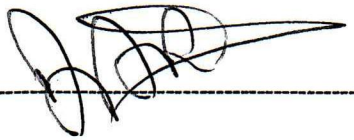
Seaton Parochial Church Council
Receipts and Payments account
For the year ended 31st December 2020

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Fund	Restricted Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
Incoming Resources	£		£	£	£
Voluntary Income					
Planned Giving	22,205		1,020	23,225	22,052
Collections, donations and other givin	7,064		610	7,674	9,167
Income Tax Recovered	6,046			6,046	7,088
Legacies	42			42	29,787
Activities for generating funds					
Magazine/Bookstall sales/Hall lettings	1,868			1,868	3,647
Income from Other Properties	799			799	799
Annual fete/events	65		601	666	828
Investment Income					
Dividends & Interest	4,343			4,343	4,959
Income from charitable activities					
Parochial Fees	3,974			3,974	7,031
Other Incoming resources					
Insurance claims	0			0	0
Gain on disposal of fixed asset	0			0	0
Loans received in year	0			0	0
Other	2,844			2,844	3,669
Total Incoming resources	**49,250**	**0**	**2,231**	**51,481**	**89,027**
Resources Expended					
Church Activities					
Donations/Grants to charities	20			20	1,670
Mission & Evangelism	1,403			1,403	1,305
Parish Share	39,905			39,905	54,029
Clergy expenses	1,849			1,849	1,875
Church running expenses	2,885			2,885	7,099
Churchyard maintenance	0			0	0
Cost of raising funds	2,211			2,211	3,787
Support Costs	240			240	763
Administration costs	13,790			13,790	16,692
Accountancy fees	125			125	125
Other	3,988			3,988	2,602
Governance Costs	0			0	0
Major Expenditure					
Repairs to church buildings	18,208			18,208	1,879
Repairs to other property	340			340	0
Parochial Fees remitted	0			0	0
Total resources expended	**84,964**	**0**	**0**	**84,964**	**91,826**
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	(35,714)	0	2,231	(33,483)	(2,800)
Gain/(Loss) on Investment Assets			(5,901)	(5,901)	16,946
Loans repaid in Year	0			0	0
Transfer Between Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Balance due to DBF	(357)			(357)	(558)
Net Movements in funds	(36,071)	0	(3,670)	(39,741)	13,589
Accumulated funds at the start of the year	66,008	0	129,947	195,955	182,366
Accumulated funds at the end of the year	**£29,937**	**£0**	**126,277**	**£156,214**	**£195,955**

Seaton Parochial Church Council
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
As at 31st December 2020

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Investment Assets				
CBF Income Units	0	60,318	60,318	56,422
M&G Charifund Units	0	46,675	46,675	56,473
	0	106,993	106,993	112,894
Monetary Assets				
Lloyds Current Account	3,691	340	4,031	9,946
CAF Bank Current Account	22,737	0	22,737	2,570
CAF Bank Deposit Account	0	0	0	2,006
CBF Deposit May Smith	0	0	0	3,644
CBF Deposit Graves Fund	0	0	0	4,801
Shorebrook Savings Account	16,553	0	16,553	51,206
Friends of St Gregorys Church	0	5,901	5,901	8,887
	42,980	6,241	49,222	83,060
Accumulated funds at the end of the year			156,214	195,955
Other Assets				
Income Tax Claim	690		690	1,208
Beer PCC - Copying	0		0	1,066
Photocopier Overcharge	0		0	750
Feed in Tarrif	0		0	66
Invoices Outstanding	13		13	0
Liabilities				
G Hall - Boiler Repair	0		0	850
Parochial Fees	1,774		1,774	0
Governance	125		125	125
British Gas	150		150	0
Contingent Liabilities				
Donations to Charities	0		1,500	1,500
Parish Share	46,646		43,907	43,907

These accounts were approved by the Seaton Parochial Church Council on 22nd March 2021 and were signed on their behalf by : DAVID ALLAN BRUCE, CHURCHWARDEN



---------- Signature ----------

Seaton Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 December 2020

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2008, together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP 2005.

(b) Income

The accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis.

2. Fixed Assets

No value is ascribed to the following:-

The Church of St Gregory and its contents
The Churchyard
The Vicarage
The Church Hall and contents

The reasons for this are as follows:-

The Church and Churchyard are "consecrated" property and the vicarage is a benefice property. These properties are regarded as "inalienable" and are excluded from PCC accounts in compliance with the Charities Act 2011.

The contents of the Church are also to be treated as inalienable assets, in accordance with the CGB guidance (para 5.4)and are also excluded.

The Church Hall is a leasehold property and is legally vested in the Exeter Diocesan Board of Finance Limited as Custodian Trustee. The lease is for a term of 1000 years running from 1826 and its terms would be breached if the use of the hall for Sunday school purposes were to cease. Although the hall is not consecrated property, it is a dedicated building, and so bound up with the worship, mission and ministry of the Church, that it is unthinkable that the Church could operate without it. It is therefore appropriate and legitimate to treat it for accounting purposes as an inalienable asset in the same was as consecrated property.

The values of the contents of the Hall are regarded as insufficiently material to include in the accounts.

3. Funds

Unrestricted Funds may be used by the PCC for any if its ordinary purposes. The movement in the funds are shown in the Receipts and Payments account.

Designated funds represent sums set aside, out of ordinary unrestricted funds, for specific designated purposes, but they can be transferred back into general funds at any time.

Restricted funds are those funds which must be spent on restricted purposes for which they were given. In this Financial Statement any Expendable Endowments are included in this category.

The CBF Deposit May Smith Account, CBF Income Units and M&G Charifund units, for the residue of a bequest by May Smith in 1983. Any interest or dividends from these investments are unrestricted, the capital proceeds are designated as Expendable Endowments with use restricted "for the maintenance and upkeep and benefit in general of the Church and associated buildings and land"

The Graves Trust is held in one CBF deposit account and is designated as an Expendable Endowment, the interest being retained within the account. Its use is "for the upkeep of the Church generally" although the main aim is the upkeep of five specific graves.

Quoted investments are valued at bid prices at 31 December 2020.

4. Employees

In 2020 the PCC employed five persons part-time throughout the year - a Church Administrator, a hall cleaner, an organist, a verger and a choir master. The total remuneration of all employees in 2020 was £10,520.

5. Separate funds held by church organisations

	Opening Balance	Receipts	Payments		Closing Balance	
			to Pcc	to Other	2020	2019
					£	£
Church Flower Arrangers	34.91	50.00	0.00	18.90	66.01	34.91
The Table Tennis Club	41.90	52.73	0.00	0.00	94.63	41.90
Handbell Ringers	283.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	283.47	283.47
Coffee Team	18.28	173.23	191.51	0.00	0.00	18.28
Julian Group	0.00	24.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	0.00
Total funds not incorporated in the PCC accounts					**444.11**	**378.56**

6. Separate funds not included in Receipts and Payments account

	Opening Balance	Receipts	Payments		Closing Balance	
			to Pcc	to Other	2020	2019
FREEdom Café	578.16	461.10	30.00	719.91	289.35	578.16

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO SEATON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ST GREGORY'S CHURCH, SEATON – REG. CHARITY NO: 1127403

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages to .

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner
As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charities Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

WAYNE COOK FMAAT, CIMA Adv Dip MA, AATQB
Wayne's World of Accountancy
14 Mead Way
Seaton, Devon, EX12 2NR

DATED 23rd Feb 2021