



**Trustees' Report and Organisation Reports for
submission to
Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2021
To be held on Wednesday 27th April 2022**

Churchwarden's report.

2021 in many ways brought a new hope for the future. A year on from the uncertainty and need for people to adapt in order to live during a pandemic, the skills of the medical profession were able to widely offer vaccinations as a first step to giving people back the freedom to continue with their lives and again meet with loved ones they had been separated from.

Children were able to return to school, people back to work and slowly a degree of normality returned.

The ability for people to return to Church for live services was approached with every safety measure taken into consideration. Especially with the numbers involved for the Family Service where it was appropriate to initially split the service and issue tickets through Eventbrite to ensure that Church did not become overcrowded. Sanitising measures were implemented and maintained, and social distancing rules were followed in accordance with Government guidelines to ensure the safety of everybody within the Church premises.

Life was returning to normal but then the next challenge arrived when the Rector, Alan Kennedy announced that he had made the decision to retire. Although Alan had previously spoken about retirement, this news came about 12 months sooner than expected.

The Kennedy family had been a part of the Church for nearly 15 years and brought enormous changes, probably the most noticeable being the introduction of the Family Service which saw the congregation multiply with new families coming to Church and engaging to the point children were dancing for joy to the music around the Church. Children were making new friends and learning in Sunday School. Behind the scenes Jane was putting together services using computer graphics and introducing people to the latest Christian worship songs.

As the pandemic took hold, the Church provided online services and following return to physical Church, Alan continued with these services for a time, reaching out to people who were still not ready to come back to the building.

Alan loved to talk from the heart. He found it difficult to stand behind structured course notes if he was leading a course. He related to people on a personal level and was constantly enthused over ideas he had, wanting to inspire others around him.

In true Mossley Hill style, Alan received a farewell party in Church and as many people as possible attended to thank the Kennedy family for all they had done and enjoy an evening together, although there were still restrictions and concern over numbers due to Covid as a lot more would have liked to attend. Standing Committee also marked the Kennedy's leaving with a meal at Justino's.

Alan officially retired on 26th October 2021 following a period of annual leave, Alan preaching his final service in Church on 26th September to a largely attended and very lively combined service which concluded in a round of applause.

The Church has been very blessed during the years Alan was the minister and in 2021 waved goodbye to a very special person.

Introduction

This report is prepared as required by the Church Accounting Regulations, 2006

1.Our Buildings

The Church was built in 1875 of Woolton Quarry sandstone and was restored in the 1950s following major war damage. An adjoining church hall was built in 1975 as part of the centenary celebrations.

A new vicarage was built adjacent to the church grounds in 1986.

A major programme of refurbishment of the Church buildings was undertaken in the 1990s, costing in excess of £100,000 and this was aided by a grant from English Heritage.

In developing our vision plans, we have carried out enhancement works, which include: electrical wiring, lighting, a new heating system, a dais and an improved sound system. A new glazed screen has been installed in the Memorial Chapel in the last few years. This has enabled an improved environment for small services, prayer and ministry. The works were funded through a number of bequests and donations.

In 2014 screens, projection and cameras were installed to enhance services. During 2016, we installed a kitchen, toilets, and a new technical studio at the back of church. We also replaced our pews with upholstered chairs, and had the floor sanded and re-sealed.

2017 saw the completion of the extension and refurbishment of the Church rooms, which has been well used and has created a valued community hub.

2. Our Parish and Community

The church is located at the south end of the parish boundary so the natural catchment area of the parish is not reflected in the boundary.

We can attract people who live outside our parish but feel that this is where they belong.

It is a long way from the 2 farthest ends and people at these extremes tend to look to nearer churches in the first instance.

This has the potential to impact on involvement in and relationship to some areas in our community. We see this as an exciting challenge and another opportunity for growth.

Mossley Hill is a popular family friendly residential suburb with a strong sense of community located to the south of the city.

It is a lovely area of Liverpool, combining gorgeous green areas, famous roads and lots of independent, local businesses.

The area has a great selection of properties available, with lots of semi-detached houses, some detached properties and terraced streets.

Rose Lane is a pretty part of Mossley Hill, with cafes, a pub, restaurants, shops and a dental practice dotted along its length.

Linking Aigburth Road and Allerton Road, it's a popular destination and thoroughfare.

There is a large Tesco store on this road, as well as other local convenience stores along the way.

The parish and catchment area is expected to boom in numbers in the coming few years with University Halls of residence (Carnatic and IM Marsh) closing to become residential housing.

There has already been a significant housing development across the road from the church and we are starting to welcome some of the new residents.

This will be an exciting time for us for mission and growth.

Mossley Hill Athletic Club is next door to the church and is one of the leading sporting and social clubs in South Liverpool and part of the community since 1924.

There are over 1,000 members playing archery, bowls, cricket, football, hockey, rugby, running & tennis.

We maintain good links with the club.

There are a number of highly-rated schools in the area with 2 schools in the Parish itself.

Liverpool College is an Academy taking children from primary through to secondary.

They have good links with us and use the church for a number of services and concerts.

The other is **Greenbank Primary school** which is close to the park area.

We have welcomed classes from the school to sing at concerts and to visit the church to learn about our history and our faith.

The area close to the parish is well served by several other excellent primary and secondary schools.

Our buildings have been regularly used by many community groups including a Pre school, a Dance school, Slimming World, an Art group, a Befriending group, Pilates, Baby ballet, Adult ballet and a Parkinsons group plus many "one off" hirers.

We have worked hard to build links with all the groups who used our premises and extend generosity at times when it might be needed.

How we interact with people using our premises is important to us and we try to show God's love through kindness, support and compassion in our dealings. We see this as an essential part of our community outreach.

Electoral Roll Numbers at 31 December 2022 were 243

During this year our average Sunday attendance across our usual services was 164.

This reflected the difficulties faced due to Covid with the need to restrict numbers who could attend services through a booking system and some initial hesitancy of people to return to in church services.

We held 16 baptisms in church.

There were 6 weddings, 1 blessing, 5 funerals in church, 6 funeral services at the crematorium and 4 burial of ashes.

1.2 Administrative information

1.2.1 Name and Address of Church

St Matthew and St James, Rose Lane, Mossley Hill, L18 8DB Parish no 653, Liverpool South Childwall Deanery.

The church administrator is working from home and there is a new post box on the wall by the Hilltop Centre doors which is checked regularly.

1.2.2 Correspondence address for Parochial Church Council

Parochial Church Council Secretary: Susan Mason, PCC Lay Chair: Lynn Halliday
c/o church administrator- Kathryn Topping tel. 07544 882529,
email: mossleyhillchurchoffice@gmail.com

Kathryn works from home and her working hours are Monday/ Tuesday/Thursday/Friday between 9.00 and 1.00pm (closed Wednesday)

1.2.3 PCC membership

Clergy: Rector: Revd Alan Kennedy (retired 26th October 2021)
Associate minister: Sally Mason, appointed in June 2019

Church Wardens: Yvonne Watson (re-elected APCM 2020)

Elected Members: Debbie Chadwick, Susan Mason, Brian Ellison, Jeanette Hindley, Pat Kennick, Jill Pope, Louise Jones, Sarah Lee, Sue Bishop, Keri Owen, Irene Mills, Graeme Tolmaer, Angie Kenny.

Debbie Chadwick, Sue Mason, and Brian Ellison were re-elected for a further 3 years and we welcome Jan Mcloughlin for 3 years and Maggie Swinson who was elected for 1 year, as our new PCC members.

Ex Officio:

Deanery Synod: David Bishop, Lynn Halliday and Pat Kennick were elected for a further 2 years and Maggie Swinson (from Autumn 2021) was elected for 3 years.

Diocesan Synod: David Bishop, and Michael Swinson

General Synod: Margaret Swinson until Autumn 2021.

1.2.4 Bankers

Barclays Bank

1.2.5 Independent Examiner

Brian Hodson

1.2.6 Day to Day Managerial Control

Day to day managerial control of the Church was exercised by the Rector, Revd. Alan Kennedy (retired October 2021) and by our Churchwarden, Yvonne Watson who is contactable via the church administrator on 07544 882529

Structure, Management and Governance

1.3.1 PCC Constitution

The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure 1956. The PCC became a registered charity (1128486) which was effective from 11th March 2009.

1.3.2 Related Trusts

- Milne Bequest
- Holmes Bequest
- Clock Fund
- Monuments Upkeep Fund
- Gate Fund
- Gladstone Buckley Trust Fund
- Memorial Fund
- Ritchie Bequest Fund
- Church Institute Trust Fund
- Mossley Hill Church School Fund

1.3.3 PCC Appointments

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

At its first meeting, on 11th May 2021 the following PCC officers were elected:

- PCC Lay Chair: Lynn Halliday
- PCC Treasurer: Keri Owen
- PCC Secretary: Susan Mason
- Standing Committee Elected Representative: Pat Kennick; co opted Sue Bishop

Other officers are:

- Gift Aid Officer: Pat Kennick
- Electoral Roll Officer: Alison Thompson
- Safeguarding Officer : Charlie Jones
- Clerk of Works: Graeme Tolmaer
- Health and Safety Officer: post vacant

1.3.4 Training

The PCC officers and members aim to take advantage of training courses, when provided by Liverpool Diocese concerning management, finance, protection policies.

Members of Church involve themselves in various appropriate training sessions such as Pastoral Care, Bereavement Training and Safeguarding.

Marriage Preparation and Children Group Leaders etc. meet occasionally and have engaged in informal training within their groups.

1.3.5 PCC Organisation

PCC has up to 15 members elected at the Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting is also a celebration of achievements, mission and an opportunity to outline plans for the future. We endeavour not only to deal with business, but to have a time of worship and have a social gathering as well. Elected members serve a maximum 3-year term, with a third of the members elected each year.

PCC Ex-officio members consist of:

- Rector-Revd Alan Kennedy (retired October 2021)
- 4 Deanery Synod Members-3 in post from December 2020 and 1 in post from Autumn 2021
- 2 Diocesan Synod Members
- 1 Churchwarden-Yvonne Watson

Brian Ellison, Keri Owen and the Finance Group, provide information to the PCC and this input is much appreciated.

Eight PCC meetings were held on zoom and were chaired by the elected Lay Chair, Lynn Halliday. The following PCC meetings were held via Zoom, as follows:

12 January, 2nd March, 23rd March, 6th April, 11th May, 13th July, 7th September and 16th November, plus the AGM for 2021 on 21st April.

Throughout 2021 the Standing Committee continued to meet weekly via Zoom and regular church updates were sent to the parishioners via newsletters and social media.

As we went into interregnum from 26th October 2021 the SC had one meeting in 2021 with the Archdeacon as part of the process to be followed towards recruiting a replacement for the Rector.

PCC agendas are prepared by Standing Committee, which consists of:

- Rector, Revd Alan Kennedy (retired on 26th October 2021)
- 1 Churchwarden-Yvonne Watson
- Treasurer- Keri Owen
- Lay Chair-Lynn Halliday
- Secretary – Susan Mason
- Elected Lay Member: Pat Kennick; co opted Sue Bishop

Other officers are:

- Gift Aid Officer: Pat Kennick
- Electoral Roll Officer: Alison Thompson
- Safeguarding Officer : Charlie Jones
- Clerk of Works: Graeme Tolmaer
- Health and Safety Officer: post vacant

1.3.6 Assessment of Risks

The PCC holds Public Liability Insurance (Ecclesiastical Parishguard). Risk assessments are undertaken as required and Health and Safety is considered within the PCC agenda. The Church has prepared an Asbestos Register, as required by the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2006.

1.4 Objectives and Activities

1.4.1 Primary Aims and Objectives

The PCC (Powers) Measure 1956 states the PCC is “to cooperate with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical”. When planning our activities for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission’s guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance to charities concerned with the advancement of religion.

At St Matthew and St James, we have a Church Mission Statement which confirms our mission to promote the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. *‘EMPOWERING, ENABLING AND EQUIPPING PEOPLE FOR WHOLE LIFE DISCIPLESHIP’*. We are seeking to place this at the heart of all our development plans, outreach and mission to our own and the wider community. In this year ahead, our main objective is to develop our mission to the community.

For many years we have been working to achieve growth in our diocese. We have used different ways to express this but the aim and direction of travel has remained the same – consistent with the whole of the Church of England. When Bishop Paul was installed he adopted our growth agenda refreshing it by saying ***‘we are asking God for a bigger church so we can make a bigger difference; more people knowing Jesus more justice in the world’***

To do this we are calling every Christian to -

1. Sign up to the Bishop of Liverpool’s rule of life which will encourage and support us to Pray, Read, Learn, Tell, Serve, Give,
2. Bring 1 person into the regular worshipping and serving life of the church
3. Do 10 acts of service or find 10 new points of connection beyond the walls of the church.

1.4.1 Main Achievements for the Year 2021

2021 continued to be a difficult year for us all due to Covid and lockdowns but despite this we were able to make some things happen.

Alpha courses and courses online:

We ran 2 Alpha courses and a Mental Health course on line.

During Lent we ran “Rector and Friends” on Zoom. On each Wednesday in Lent this was the opportunity to meet together virtually and hear an interview with various invited guests.

Our invited guests included The Bishop of Warrington and The Archbishop of York!

These sessions were very popular and we were delighted to have been able to hear from so many interesting people.

Makers Markets:

We were not able to hold our planned Makers Market in March but did hold another Makers Market on Saturday 6th November.

It was a great success and proved to be a popular community event .

We have the next one booked for Saturday 2nd April 2022

Post Covid recovery

We were successful in our application for a post covid recovery grant from the Heritage lottery which enabled us to undertake a number of maintenance jobs including redecoration of the Hilltop Centre, deep cleaning of the floors and windows, repairs to handrails and to the roof before we reopened the buildings.

Vision Project

Our gardening team continued to work throughout the lockdown periods and have made great progress with clearing the land behind and around the Memorial Garden. We hope that it may be possible to develop this further.

A partition was put in place in the Hilltop Centre during the summer to make the Coffee bar area a separate space. This has been very successful as it provides a less noisy, more peaceful and warmer environment for users.

Peregrine Falcons.

Due to the installation of a new platform, the two parent falcons were successfully able to rear 4 chicks, which successfully fledged.

Comfort and Joy bags

We identified that some of our congregation were isolated, lonely, living alone or had been unwell or going through difficult times. As an encouragement we put together "Comfort and Joy" bags at Lent to let people know that they were still in our thoughts. These were safely delivered and we have had some lovely messages of thanks.

Remembrance Sunday

On Sunday 14th November 2021 we were able to hold our usual special service in church to commemorate the souls lost in both World Wars and of more recent conflicts.

This service was also available to be viewed on line and was enjoyed by many.

Gardens

Our church gardens continue to look beautiful due to the hard work of the gardening team which has continued throughout the year. Our thanks go to everyone who has faithfully tended the gardens and mowed the lawns

This year we were able to enjoy a display of wild flowers which had been seeded in the memorial garden.

JAM and School application Forms.

We are continuing to grow our families at the Sunday Family services. During lock down at the beginning of the year (10th January until 18th April) we held services on line and Kacey Jones presented weekly online JAM services for children.

Thanks go to Charlie Jones, Kacey Jones, Jan McGloughlin and all the JAM teachers for all the work that they have done with the children

Families attending the Sunday Family Service have needed to pre-book on 'Eventbrite', which has made recording the attendance of children much easier.

We wish to thank Jan McLoughlin, Ali Seddon and Kathryn Topping who have been involved in registering attendance.

Holiday Club.

This was a scaled down Holiday club which and was organized very quickly. It received a very good response and was very successful. A great deal was learnt from this format which will be taken forward for future Holiday Club planning. It was felt that in future it may work better to have more groups with fewer children in each group and that group leaders will need more training in advance to achieve this. It is important therefore to start asking for volunteers quite soon (this year we had some new leaders, which was encouraging)

Thanks go to everyone involved in making this happen.

Feast of Fun

With the award of a grant from Together Liverpool we held a healthy eating event in October in the Hilltop Centre. This was aimed at pre school children and was based on the Very Hungry Caterpillar. The Preschool also joined in with the event.

Children and families enjoyed learning about healthy food with songs, a story, games and crafts. Everyone took home a bag containing the recipe and ingredients for a basic family meal. We were also able to send some of these bags to our local food bank. Thanks go to all the volunteers who helped make the event a success and to Together Liverpool for the funds to do this.

Christmas Services

In December the church was open with appropriate safe restrictions for 4 services in Advent. These included services in which the candles in the Advent Crown were lit and the Crib was blessed, a Christingle and Midnight Holy Communion on Christmas Eve, Christmas morning Family Holy Communion and Sunday services following Christmas which looked towards the new year.

These were well attended.

Music for the more traditional services was provided by our organist Dr Colin Porter and carols were sung by the choir and congregation. For the family Carol service everyone was encouraged to wear Christmas jumpers. We were very fortunate in having Bishop Beverley, Bishop of Warrington, to officiate at the Christmas morning Holy Communion.

Coffee bar

We have an amazing well equipped coffee bar space in the Hilltop Centre. During 2021 we had a partition put in place which provides a space which separates the Coffee bar area and the main hall. It has proved to be very successful addition. Unfortunately we have not been

able to resume the usual coffee bar refreshments after each Sunday service due to the various Covid restrictions.

We have been blessed by the enthusiasm of many who have volunteered to run the coffee bar in the past and once we are able to open the coffee bar in 2022, we would appreciate some new volunteers.

Eco-church.

We are now a thriving eco-church!

We have an Eco Church group led by Don Thompson who are working hard to ensure that we consider the environment in everything we do.

To coincide with the COP 26 conference in November one of our main services focused on this .

The website has a separate section in which the activities of the Eco church group are posted.

Re-Opening of Church for Services

It was disappointing to have to close church again during 2021 due to Covid restrictions.

Once again we were unable to have services in church during Lent and Easter but instead we engaged through online activities instead. We had a Lent Lego challenge, baking through Lent and how to make Resurrection rolls, painting Easter stones and on Easter Saturday we met outside to place daffodils in the Easter cross which was displayed at the church boundary.

Through Lent we had weekly Zoom "Rector and Friends" meetings during which we were able to interview some really interesting people including The Bishop of Warrington and even the Archbishop of York.

We continued to do services on line and even when we were able to return to in church services we have continued our online presence through social media and live streaming the 11.00am service. We are unable to live stream the 9.30am service due to music copyright.

The pastoral side of the need to keep connected was very important as we knew that some of our congregation were living in isolation. We were very aware that a number of our congregation did not use or have access to internet information so we ensured they were kept informed through phone calls and mail shots.

We had a small team who had a list of those we knew to live alone, isolated, had been unwell or who were in potentially vulnerable situations and they kept a check on them. During Lent we delivered Bags of Joy to this group and they were really well received.

We would like to thank everyone who has worked tirelessly to maintain our church buildings and premises during lockdown and for those who have planned and have been involved in enabling us to re-open for church services safely.

We have worked hard to make sure that we have kept everyone safe when it was possible to reopen church and kept communication a priority.

Hiring of Church and Hilltop Centre for Events

Once we were able to safely re-open the buildings, we were pleased to see that the majority of our regular paying Hilltop Centre groups were willing and able to resume their classes.

We did lose a couple of groups though, due largely to the success of their online offering during restrictions which they felt happy to continue with.

Fortunately, we have been able to offer those vacant time slots to new groups, Yোগalities and 1st Class Learning, so are almost up to full capacity again.

The Sunday afternoon slot for children's birthday parties has proved really popular as families and friends felt able to gather again for celebrations.

Our flexible space in Church was home to a variety of events during the year, including a visit from Opera Viva, another Makers Market in November and wonderful concert performances by both the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir and the Liverpool Mozart Orchestra.

Our ability to host larger events is impacted by the number of volunteers we have to help with event management, in particular opening and closing the buildings and helping with moving chairs before and after the event. We continue to look for additional volunteers so that we can truly open up the church space to be a cultural community hub

1.4.3 Strategies and Objectives for 2022

- We hope to complete sending out **welcome packs** to all those who have moved into the Elan development during 2022 and to hold some sort of **welcome event** for them
- We intend to continue **Alpha online** further during 2022 and run more courses
- We will run the **Mossley Hill@Home series of online courses** over the coming year and beyond.
- Following the success of "Rector and Friends" last year we are repeating this with 3 "**Mossley Hill and Friends**" sessions during Lent in which we interview someone from overseas who is in a Leadership position in their church.
 - We are really fortunate to have some interesting people and their stories to hear. Archbishop Hosam Naoum, the Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem will focus on life and ministry in an area which stretches cross 5 political areas Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon.
 - John Payne will be interviewed by David Bishop whilst visiting in Canada. John is a Pastor in the New Frontiers Church and will talk about leaving the UK to live in Vancouver to church plant just before Covid hit the world and how that has been affected.
 - Archbishop Philip Richardson, Primate and Archbishop of the New Zealand Dioceses will talk about the New Zealand church with its unique organisational structure and the impact of climate change which is particularly felt by the Polynesian communities.
- We have been really encouraged by the response to the **social lunches and events** we have run and we plan to try to hold such events during 2022 taking into account any further Covid restrictions
- We intend to progress with the planned **development of the Memorial Garden**
- A future aim is undertaking the **repairs to the church tower**. (Phase 5) This is a priority. This work will require grant applications and other fund raising activities. Volunteers are needed to help with these applications.
- Like every other aspect of church life and related activities, 2021 saw yet more downturn in the **hirings and lettings** business. Our objective for 2022 is to continue the work we have done to rebuild our user base and welcome back our regular groups in as safe a manner as possible.

- We now have a Stewards Team formed during Covid to ensure we could open church safely and guide the congregation appropriately. We plan to expand/develop this team to ensure we can provide a welcome to all.
- We will complete work on the **church clock** and the recently identified problem with the auto-winder as this is an asset to the community
- We will develop **a creche for the under 3's**, to be held during the Family service.
- We will develop a variety of special events to **Celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee**. Working with the Scouts and the Woodland Trust, we are expecting a variety of trees/bushes which can be planted in time for 'A tree for the Jubilee.'

1.5.1 Significant Contributions by Volunteers

Under normal circumstances the church operates with a significant number of volunteers who are involved in many activities. Indeed the involvement of volunteers is a vital aspect of our mission and ministry, both in contributing to weekly worship, and serving our church family and wider community. Under normal circumstances these are the areas in which we have people volunteering:

- **Children's and Youth work:** JAM- Sunday school; Holiday Club.
- **Music:** Adult Choir; Music Group.
- **Church fellowship groups:** CAMEO; Christian Contact Club; Women's Fellowship; Mid-week Lunch after Communion "Quiet Space" group; Small Groups; Lent Groups.
- **Mission:** Children's Society; Mission and Overseas Committee; Christian Aid; Operation Christmas Child; Asylum Link
- **Creative Arts:** Sewing Group, Flower Arrangers
- **Ministry:** 'Space to think'-Marriage preparation; Baptism vestry hour and visiting families
- **Involvement in services:** Reading, leading prayers, preaching; communion administration; prayer ministry during communion services; collation of prayer diary; sound desk operations; sidespersons and deputy wardens; Sunday catering Teams
- **Service in the community:** Pastoral Care committee; Hospital visiting, home visiting. listening to readers in Greenbank School; Food and flowers donated at Harvest parade to those in need in the community; and carol singing in nursing homes. Fairtrade stall staff
- **Buildings' and Grounds' Maintenance:** Cleaning rotas; garden maintenance; work days; Full reports are provided as an appendix to this report for some of our many church organisations.
- **Hospitality and Events:** Teams who provide refreshments and catering for fund raising events. Teams who help organise events for church both social and fund raising.

We wish to thank all our volunteers and emphasize that a lot of these activities still took place but in a different format and we relied heavily on volunteers helping out in different ways. Hopefully a great deal of the above activities which have had to cease this year will resume in 2022.

We thank Revd. Graeme Amey; Revd. Bill Letheren and Capt. David Boyle (Church Army, retired) and appreciate their continued support

Other parish news

DBS checks

The Diocese of Liverpool now requires that all PCC members, Church Wardens, and Trustees have an Enhanced DBS Certificate for both Children and Adults. This process is completed by using the 'thirtyone:eight' (formerly CCPAS) website which the Diocese of Liverpool continues to use for the processing of DBS enhanced Certificates and advising on all matters relating to Safeguarding.

This process is overseen by Charlie Jones, who is always very eager to help those of us whose IT skills are not quite what they should be.

Sadly we mourned the loss of the following:

Leslie Lewtas, Robert Poole, Raymond Smith, John Milton, Leslie Davies, Jean Johansen, Keith Clement, Geoffrey Urnston, Christopher Melia, Hilda Cosgrove, Brenda Hughes

May God keep them and all others who have passed in 2021, but not named above, safe in his keeping.

Clerk of Works

Clerk of Works report 2021

January

The year started with an inspection of the shared drains we have with Kilimatinde House as their cellar had been occasional flooding. The problem was found not to be on church land and so no expense or further involvement was required.

The Rhododendrons on the front lawn were cut down special thanks to Don Thompson and all who helped with this.

February

A crack across the ceiling in the coffee bar appeared to be getting bigger, this was filled and then sanded down seems now to be ok. Perhaps just settlement from the extension.

Both the boiler flue guards had corroded (quinquennial report) so were replaced. The flushing mechanism on one of the toilets also needed replacing.

March

In the bell tower one of the window bar/hand rails had been removed at some point, and this also was mentioned on the quinquennial report it, is now refitted.

A new lawn mower was purchased as the old one had become unreliable, though it is still working has been fitted with a new blade and will be kept as a spare.

Vodafone /O2 were informed that the position of the new equipment they wanted to install in the clock room would have to be slightly relocated due to the peregrine nest box now occupying that space, photos were sent to their planners as requested this I was informed would not cause any problem.

The concrete decorative wall in front of the memorial garden was knocked down and taken to the tip in preparation for the planting of the wildflower seeds.

April

Work to partition off the coffee bar was completed with extra storage space also created to

store a good number of tables previously stacked each side of the church link doorway. The large amount of stored tree branches began to be cut down into smaller logs, this is still an ongoing project ,with any logs still free for collection.

Saturday 10th a workday was arranged to give the church a good clean, thanks to all who helped.

Now with the coffee bar partition wall in place the emergency light was relocated above the new doors as advised.

Towards the end of the month the wildflower seeds were planted.Thanks to Rhoda for arranging this.

June

The hall and coffee bar was repainted with scaffolding required for the ceilings , also the white edges to the steps at the west and north doors were painted.

The drains had blocked around the inspection chamber at the entrance doorway to the hall/foyer. This was cleared after the removal of large amounts of paper towels and the odd disposable nappy. Extra signage may be required if this happens again.The broken plastic rain water pipe was also replaced outside the coffee bar (another quinquennial requirement).

The church was given a full electrical safety test certificate along with P.A.T. testing of appliances and fire alarm certification. An extra light was fitted just inside the entrance to the vestry to help brighten up that area.

Most of the plastic handles to the blinds in the hall had now broken off, replacements were sought and fitted .

July.

A new door mat needed to be laid at the entrance to the church rooms as the existing one no longer fitted after removal of the secondary glass swinging doors, also the internal bolt lock required a repair on the main door. The strip lighting outside the tech room and church kitchen had to be refitted to the walls as they were peeling away.

Turf donated by our church neighbours was laid around the boundaries and has taken extremely well, thanks to Brian, Lesley and Keri all their hard work .After the success of the repairs to the driveway last year using coldlay tarmac, two more large areas around one of the gates facing North Mossley Hill Road were filled in.

August.

One of the fuse boards kept randomly tripping out about once a week , this was traced to a small old halogen light over the car park, this was replaced along with the one facing the north lawn with more energy efficient L.E.D.lighting solving the problem.

New hardwood handrails were fitted to the steps up to the vestry and steps at the north doors .Before the expected autumnal leaves deluge the gutters and hoppers around the hall and coffee bar were cleaned.

September

Two new double electric sockets were installed to the outside of the technical room and church kitchen, thanks to Chris Tetley for his expertise.

October

Another Saturday church tidy day was arranged, thanks to all who assisted with this.

Scaffolding was erected to clean out the guttering above the memorial chapel along with several broken tiles being replaced at the same time while access available. A missing tile also fitted to the hall roof after high winds.The hall and coffee bar gutters were cleared again.

November

Pallets were used to construct a place for the storage of the excessive amount of leaves we clear up this time of year as most weeks the green bins are full.

A door closer was fitted to the main hall doors to help keep the foyer warmer and stop leaves blowing in. This was fitted on a trial basis but hasn't caused any problems to date.

December

The clock repair was finally given the go ahead but an on site survey discovered a problem with the auto winder which also needed to be addressed. The extra costs were agreed and the work is planned in for end of January 2022.

Preschool were provided with an air quality monitor from the council and asked for it to be fitted in the hall

Special thanks again for all the help provided cleaning the church and keeping on top of the church grounds. (I won't mention all the names for fear of missing anyone out)

Graeme Tolmaer.

1.6.1 The Financial Position

The Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021 show the General Fund has made a surplus of £22,002 in the year. At the start of the year we had just £711 in general reserves and this surplus has enabled us to increase the reserves to 22,713. In addition, we have been able to re-instate the policy of giving away a proportion of our income, with £5,543 set aside out of 2021 income to be allocated and paid out in due course.

The church was closed during the lockdown for 14 weeks at the beginning of 2021, affecting our cash and contactless card receipts. However, we continued to be faithfully supported by those who give to the church by regular bank transfer and those who made other arrangements to pass in their usual envelope donations.

Income from lettings recovered partially in 2021 from the severe downturn in 2020 caused by the first lockdowns, and occupancy of the premises is now recovering.

We are grateful to the Church Commissioners for their grant to the diocese which enabled the diocese to reduce our Parish Share, which would have been £98,721, by way of a grant of £29,522 in the year. In addition, we successfully applied to the Culture Recovery Fund for Heritage for a grant of £9,450 which enabled us to carry out certain maintenance work prior to re-opening after lockdown.

A large proportion of our income continues to be provided by a relatively small number of people, and we encourage all those connected with us to regularly consider and review their giving to the church. The last two years have shown the importance to the church of receiving its giving from members by regular bank payment.

The national economy will continue to present challenges in personal finances for all who currently give to the church, but giving based on Christian principles is to be encouraged.

As we recover from the effects of the pandemic, as always, we face the challenge to maintain and increase our total income from giving and from other sources whilst continuing the tight control over our expenditure.

1.6.2 Statement and explanation of reserves policy

The policy of the PCC, through the Budget and Finance Group, is to work towards re-instating and maintaining a basic level of reserves through responsible financial control and the encouragement of Christian giving.

Deanery Synod Review 2021

St Matthew & St James belongs to Liverpool South Deanery which consists of 17 parishes. The Deanery Synod acts as an intermediary between there PCC of each of the parishes and the Diocesan Synod. The meetings are chaired by the Area Dean and Lay Dean who are supported by the Deanery Leadership Team.

St Matthew & St James has representatives on Deanery Synod. David Bishop, Lynn Halliday, Maggie Swinson, Michael Swinson, Pat Kennick , the Reverend Alan Kennedy (until his retirement in October) & the Reverend Sally Mason.

The Deanery is currently developing a plan 'Fit for Mission' to ensure we have affordable mission and ministry in the future.

As a result of the pandemic, the number of people attending church has fallen both across the Deanery and nationally. Consequently church finances have suffered. This issue has presented a major problem to be addressed by the Deanery: how best to ensure we have a sustainable way forward for mission and growth.

In order to address the issue, the Deanery undertook an initial review of clergy numbers and church buildings. To assist this review, Mike Eastwood, Diocesan Secretary, attended the Deanery meeting in January 2021 to explain the finances of our Deanery.

The Diocese had also obtained a grant from The Church Commissioners to help church financially. This was allocated by the Diocese, following advise from the Deanery, and grants were given out in 2021 by reducing Parish Share payments during the year.

In September, when face to face meetings resumed, a paper prepared by the Deanery Leadership Team was presented to the Deanery. This outlined a number of possible sustainable options for the future: changes to parish boundaries, creating larger parishes, and reducing clergy numbers. Another change identified was a plan for the parishes within the Deanery to work closer together to support each other in some key areas, which would enable us to work more effectively, resulting in the overall aim of a **Bigger Church making a Bigger difference.**

At our November Synod we discussed in more detail how we could work together and churches were asked to take a lead on some key areas. We at Mossley Hill offered to support churches to change their worship styles to promote growth amongst other initiatives.

The Deanery Synod will continue to developing 'Fit for mission' over the next few years to ensure a positive future for our churches and parishioners

Please pray for us and with us – the Deanery Leadership Team wants prayer to be the foundation of all that we do.

ST MATTHEW & ST JAMES, MOSSLEY HILL
(Charity No 1128486)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF THE
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
FOR THE
YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER 2021

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- 3. Statement of Financial Activities
- 4. Balance Sheet
- 5 - 10. Notes to the Financial Statements

**Independent Examiner's Report
to the PCC of St Matthew & St James, Mossley Hill**

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2021, which are set out on pages 3 to 10, is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounting Regulations 2016 ("the Regulations") and s43 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and s144 of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s145(5) of the Act. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering 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 which 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
 - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with s130 of the Act; and
 - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations 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.

Brian Hodson

28th March 2022

[illegible]

BALANCE SHEET					
AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2021					
				2021	2020
	Note			£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible fixed assets	4			253,269	253,269
Investments	5			134,902	119,695
				388,171	372,964
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors and prepayments	7	5,240			4,678
Cash at bank and in hand		258,890			224,429
		264,130			229,107
LIABILITIES:AMOUNTS FALLING DUE					
WITHIN ONE YEAR					
		106,195			96,052
		106,195			96,052
NET CURRENT ASSETS				157,935	133,055
				546,106	506,019
FUNDS					
Unrestricted	8			275,982	253,980
Designated				0	0
Restricted				64,597	61,923
Endowment				205,527	190,116
				546,106	506,019
Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 29th March 2022 and signed on its behalf by:					
Lynn Halliday - Lay Chair					
Keri Owen - Treasurer					
The notes on pages 5 to 10 form part of these accounts					

Lynn Halliday - Lay Chair

Keri Owen - Treasurer

The notes on pages 5 to 10 form part of these accounts

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2016 together with applicable Accounting Standards and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2015. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investments and buildings referred to below.

Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC which are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Restricted funds can only be applied on the purposes specified by the fund.

Endowment funds can only be applied to the extent of the income of the fund.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable under gift aid is recognised when the income is received.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for when the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the amount due.

Funds raised from fund raising and other activities are accounted for gross and any associated expenditure is included in resources used.

Other ordinary income

The financial statements include the gross income and associated expenditure of various church organisations.

Income from investments

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains and losses are recognised when investments are sold.

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation of the investments at the balance sheet date.

Resources used

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when their payment is approved.

Activities directly relating to the work of the church and Church management and administration

Expenditure is accounted for when payable.

Fixed assets

Consecrated land and buildings and moveable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

No value is placed on moveable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, as the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings and moveable church furnishings is written off as expenditure in statement of financial activities.

Other fixtures fittings and office equipment

Purchased equipment is depreciated on a straight line basis over 3 years.

Other buildings

The church room is included in the balance sheet at its insurance valuation as at 31st December 1997, the date of its first inclusion in the financial statements.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at the balance sheet date.

[illegible]

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021[illegible]

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS								
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021								

[illegible]

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS								
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021								

[illegible]

THE PCC OF ST MATTHEW & ST JAMES, MOSSLEY HILL (Charity No 1128486)

**Independent Examiner's Report
to the PCC of St Matthew & St James, Mossley Hill**

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Brian Hodson

28th March 2022