THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. MARY'S IFFLEY

England & Wales · Charity number 1128523

Details

Other names	Iffley PCC, ST.MARY'S IFFLEY
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2009-03-12
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Iffley PCC c/o Vestry Building St Mary's Church Church Way Iffley Oxford OX4 4EG
Phone	01865 777257
Email	office@iffleychurch.org
Website	www.iffleychurch.org.uk

Activities

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

Activities: Three church services on Sundays with two or more additional ones on weekdays. Work with young people and with children, donations to overseas and UK charitable NGOs, work with the local community (e.g. primary school and special school and advice centres), educational work such as lectures and morning seminars.

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Other Finance, Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Religious Activities, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Oxfordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£171,231	£170,647	-	-
2023-12-31	£186,440	£179,183	-	-
2022-12-31	£147,253	£154,639	-	-
2021-12-31	£136,816	£148,909	-	-
2020-12-31	£112,935	£113,354	-	-

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Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ALICE LAWHEAD		2023-05-09
Alexander John Marshall		2018-04-24
Anne Victoria Towey Wagner		2023-05-09
Dr Alexander Jacoby		2023-05-09
Dr David Malcolm Patrick		2026-01-28
Dr Sarah Beaver		2020-10-18
Elizabeth Catherine Roberts		2024-05-07
Elizabeth Harre		2021-05-02
Joseph Edward Bruce KIdman		2025-04-29
Katharine Shirra Patrick		2024-05-07
Kevin Michael Armstrong		2024-05-07
Margaret Viola Wilson		2023-05-09
Rachel Shaw		2026-05-17
Rev Clare Hayns		2024-05-07
Ruth Sarah Winnifrith		2025-04-29
Tom Halvarsson		2026-04-26
William John Alden		2024-05-07

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. MARY'S IFFLEY

England & Wales - Charity number 1128523

Accounts

St Mary's Church

Iffley | Rose Hill | Donnington

Annual Report and Financial Statements

of the Parochial Church Council

for the year end 31 December 2024

Incumbent

The Revd Clare Hayns (from April 2024)
The Rectory, Mill Lane, OX4 4EJ

Bank

Lloyds Bank, Keen House, Anton Mill Road, Andover

SP10 2NQ

Independent Examiner

Mr John McLintock, 12 Mill Lane, Iffley, Oxford, OX4 4EJ

TRUSTEES' REPORT

2024 Report and Accounts for the Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin Iffley

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Aims and Purposes

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has responsibility with the incumbent, the Reverend Clare Hayns (from 25 April 2024), for promoting the ecclesiastical parish, which covers Iffley, Rose Hill and Donnington, and the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. In addition to the maintenance of the church and its churchyard, the PCC is also responsible for the Iffley Parish Hall and the management and maintenance of Church House, Rose Hill.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish. In addition to encouraging and supporting its regular worshipping community on their Christian journey through ensuring that a regular pattern of worship is maintained, the PCC is committed to enabling and encouraging as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St Mary the Virgin.

When planning our activities over the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We therefore seek to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Regular worship and prayer; studying scripture, and developing their Christian faith
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Missionary and outreach work.

The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the fabric of an outstanding Norman church and, through its active and varied Living Stones programme, promotes knowledge and appreciation of all aspects of the church's heritage. Although Oxford City Council has ultimate responsibility for the churchyard's maintenance because it is closed to new burials, the PCC effectively also carries out most of the day to day maintenance of it and leads on the development of plans relating to it. The PCC is also responsible for the Church Hall, itself a Grade II listed building and an important facility which is well used by the wider local community and private hirers as well as for church purposes. It is also responsible for the maintenance of Church House on Rose Hill, originally built to accommodate clergy or church workers but currently let until December 2025 to private tenants.

Safeguarding

We take safeguarding very seriously at St Mary's and are committed to safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults to worship and grow in Christ safely. Our Parish Safeguarding Officer ensures all our volunteers have the requisite training and DBS certificates are up to date. Safeguarding is on the agenda of every PCC, Ministry Team and Standing Committee agenda. During the vacancy (May 2023-May 2024) the Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) worked with the support of the lay pastoral assistant in assessing, recognising and managing risk. Since the arrival of the new vicar consultations between her and PSO have been regular and mutually supportive. Prevention of harm was, as always, at the forefront of our endeavours. The PSO updated her Safer Recruitment training.

Achievements and Performance

Worship

After an eleven months' vacancy during which the Assistant Clergy, with support from other clergy in the deanery and diocese and the authorised lay preachers ensured that the regular pattern of worship was largely maintained, we were very pleased to welcome the Reverend Clare Hayns as the new Vicar of Iffley, Rose Hill and Donnington at the end of April 2024.

During the course of 2024 at least 3 services were held each week in the church, with additional services for major festivals. In addition, there were 5 marriages, 8 funerals and 6 interments of ashes, 14 baptisms, as well as home communion for those unable to attend services in church. The principal attendance continued to be at the 10.00 am service on Sundays with numbers attending the regular Sunday services slightly up on the last year. The introduction from November of a monthly Eventide service attracted some new, including younger, worshippers.

Our ministry towards children and young people is important to our mission as a church family, and our Sunday 'Fish and Chip Club' met weekly in term time, with a small, but faithful, attendance. Towards the end of the year a team was being gathered, alongside Rose Hill Methodist Church, to start a new family focussed 'Messy Church', which begins in January 2025.

Easter and Christmas services were all well attended, with particularly high numbers coming to the family Crib Service on Christmas Eve.

Music continued to be an important part of our weekly worship and St Mary's Choir sang at the monthly choral evensong, with Christ Church College Choir at the vicar's induction, and at special services to mark the major Christian festivals and Remembrance Sunday. There was also less formal singing at the monthly Taizé services and at the new Eventide services.

A silent retreat took place at St Mary's Wantage in April.

Volunteers

The PCC would like to thank the Assistant Clergy, Lay Preachers, and all the many volunteers who have contributed in so many different ways to the life of our church community during the course of the year.

Mission and Evangelism

We have been pleased to welcome a number of new members to our congregation in the course of 2024 but, while some 39 of the 132 people on the electoral roll at the end of 2024 live outside the parish, the Rose Hill and Donnington areas of the parish are currently under-represented in our worshipping community. The PCC is keen to address this and we have been considering with our new incumbent how we can more effectively engage with people living in these areas, particularly children, young people, and families.

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We are also aware of the importance of our online presence in mission and evangelism and in 2024 we commissioned a designer to rebrand both our logo and our website. Our logo now includes 'Iffley, Rose Hill and Donnington', rather than just Iffley as before. Our new website went 'live' in October and is modern, welcoming and easy to navigate. We have 151 subscribers to the website who receive sermons and other announcements.

As part of its outreach to the wider community we hosted the play 'Beloved Son' by Henri Nouwen which attracted an audition of 80 people. We also held a 'Beer and Carols' evening was held in the Prince of Wales Pub, which attracted many who do not normally attend services. A carol service was held in the Sanctuary Care Residential Home and plans are in place to continue this four times a year.

There are several prayer and study groups which meet regularly, either in homes or in the church hall. These include bible study groups, a Julian Prayer group, and a poetry group. These provide opportunities for deeper reflection and prayer, and for pastoral support.

Pastoral Care

The small dedicated team of lay, as well as ordained clergy, continued to provide ongoing pastoral care to members of the congregation who are unable to attend church. This group leads the regular service in the local Care Home, visits people in homes and hospitals, and coordinates support for those who need Home Communion.

Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod assists the various parishes within the Deanery to work together and, most importantly, allocates the annual deanery share, which is levied by the Diocese of Oxford, between the parishes. We have representatives from the PCC who attend this, and who feed back any relevant information.

Ecumenical Relationships

St Mary's continued to work in close partnership with the Rose Hill Methodist Church to run the Community Cupboard (Foodbank) each Wednesday where those attending are offered a hot meal and friendly support as well as food to take away. Many members of the St Mary's congregation again celebrated that partnership by attending a joint service at the Methodist Church at the start of the week of prayer for Christian unity. St Mary's also worked with the Methodist church on the development of plans to start a joint Messy Church in 2025.

Charities Activity

The PCC continued to support local charities through grants from its operating budget. The Church also raised a further £17,289 for Christian Aid, for Ripple Effect's work in Kenya through its harvest appeal, for the Porch (a homeless charity in Oxford) through its Christmas Appeal, and for Community Cupboard with its monthly coffee collections and other fund-raising, and the Church of England's Children's Society with its Christingle service on Christmas Eve.

Buildings and Fabric

As part of the preparation for the arrival of the new incumbent, the Parish Office was relocated from the Rectory to the Vestry Building and permission obtained from the Landmark Trust for access to additional storage.

The PCC also oversaw the development of plans to address key recommendations from the 2023 Quinquennial Inspection.

Plans for the first phase of the enhancement of the churchyard were revised following the removal in February of the ancient box hedge at the west end of the churchyard. Financial support from the Gladiator Trust and from the University of Oxford's Van Houten Fund as well as from individual donors was secured towards the implementation of this first phase.

As the current area for the interment of ashes in the churchyard is now nearly full, a low hedge was planted to mark out the boundaries of the proposed (subject to obtaining the necessary permissions) enlarged area.

Repairs to address the subsidence that had been the subject of investigation and monitored at Church House since October 2022 were completed satisfactorily. Church House also received a licence from the City Council.

The Parish Hall

The parish hall continued to be very well used and total income from the Hall amounted to nearly £34,400, its highest level yet. More than 81% of Hall income is from regular hirers and there has been considerable concern about the impact that the introduction of a Controlled Parking Zone throughout Iffley in early 2025 will have

on Hall income and its financial viability. The usual programme of maintenance took place during the August closed period.

Other

The PCC led a successful campaign, including organising and presenting a petition to the Council, seeking adjustments to the parking restrictions in the vicinity of the church and church hall when Iffley becomes a Controlled Parking Zone.

The Archdeacon conducted a visitation of the parish in September 2024.

Financial Review

Overall, the church incurred a deficit of £3,600 in 2024 after provision for the expenditure that will be incurred from a restricted grant and donation received in 2024. This was slightly better than had been anticipated in the budget and was in part due to a welcome increase of over £10,000 in donations received through the Parish Giving Scheme (£68,200). Along with other unrestricted donations (£21,900) and the gift aid recovered on unrestricted donations (£17,100), unrestricted donations accounted for £107,200 of our income. But under the formula operated in the Cowley Deanery, our Parish Share amounted to some £64,500 and other church operating expenses, which included the c £8,000 cost of the parish office relocation, amounted to come £89,100, so that ordinary church activities incurred a substantial deficit of some £20,800 in 2024. This was partially offset by the surpluses from Church Hall (£7,600) and Church House (£9,500) but the losses on church operations are unsustainable, particularly if Church House were again to be used to accommodate a curate or churchworker in which case Church House would result in net costs as it would lose the rent income and bear the costs of Council Tax and other maintenance.

Reserves Policy

The PCC policy is to maintain reserves to cover 6 months of its ordinary operating costs (£69,000 in 2025) and to create sufficient funds to cover the costs of major building work or repairs on the Church (£10,000 p.a.), the Parish Hall (£5,000 p.a), and Church House (£2,000 p.a.). These funds and cash for which there is no immediate requirement are invested with CCLA Investment Management Ltd. where overall investment funds amounted to £250,300 at 31 December 2025.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Mary's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our vicar), members (including our representatives at deanery synod) elected by the 132 members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church, and co-opted members with a specific responsibility or filling casual vacancies that may occur in year.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance in the parish including deciding how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC. We hold a Safeguarding Training session once a year led by our PSO.

The full PCC met six times during the year with an average level of attendance of 78%. Given its wide responsibilities, the PCC has a number of committees, comprising members of the PCC and, in some cases, other members of the congregation and local community, each dealing with a different aspect of parish life. These include the Standing, Finance, Hall, Fabric, and Charities Committees which report regularly to the PCC. There are also a number of other more informal groups, Living Stones, Music in Worship, the bellringers and other *ad hoc* groups formed to take on particular projects or responsibilities which also report to the PCC as required.

Administrative Information

St Mary's Church is situated in Iffley, Oxford and is part of the Diocese of Oxford within the Church of England. The PCC's correspondence address is: Church Office, Vestry Building, St Mary's Church, Church Way, Oxford, OX4 4EG. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2011) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission (Registration number 1128523) .

PCC members who have served at any time from 1st January 2024 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex officio members		
Incumbent:	The Reverend Clare Hayns (Chair)	from 25 April 2024
Churchwardens:	Mr William Alden (also elected member on Deanery Synod)	from May 2024
	Dr Sarah Beaver	
	Mr Thomas Leach	to May 2024
Elected members:	Ms Elizabeth Harre (elected member on Deanery Synod)	
	Mrs Anne Wagner (elected member on Deanery Synod)	
	Mrs Margaret Wilson	
	Mrs Jane McBain	
	Mr Alexander Marshall (Treasurer)	
	Mrs Deborah Burrows	
	Mrs Alice Lawhead	
	Mr John Harris	
	Dr David Patrick	
	Dr Alexander Jacoby	
	Mrs Katharine Patrick (PCC Secretary)	from May 2024
	Mr Kevin Armstrong	from May 2024
	Mr Andrew Stilborn	
	Mrs Gaynor Dean	from May 2024
	Mrs Elizabeth Roberts	from May 2024
	Dr Hilary Pearson	to May 2024

	Ms Kate Stilborn (PCC Secretary)	to May 2024
	Dr Guin Webster	to May 2024
	Mrs Penny Tyack (co-opted member)	to May 2024

Approved by the PCC on 25 March 2025 and signed on their behalf by the Reverend Clare Hayns (PCC Chair)

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, IFFLEY

St Mary's Iffley

Statement of Receipts and payments

Year 1 January to 31 December 2024	2024 31-Dec-24 Unrestricted funds	2024 31-Dec-24 Restricted funds	2024 31-Dec-24 TOTAL	2023 ACTUAL	2024 BUDGET
RECEIPTS					
Planned Giving- PGS Scheme	68,244.78		68,244.78	62,337.95	65,000.00
Donations including collections and boxes	21,857.72	3,304.48	25,162.20	27,639.60	20,000.00
Gift Aid recovered	17,141.59	3,140.00	20,281.59	18,640.38	15,000.00
Enhancements		18,855.00	18,855.00	13,109.43	
Listed place of worship grant- VAT reclaim	0.00		0.00	1,317.24	
Living Stones	2,011.53		2,011.53	596.38	
Receipts from Church Activities including magazine	5,814.80		5,814.80	2,356.25	2,500.00
Fees	12,760.00		12,760.00	13,501.00	12,000.00
	127,830.42	25,299.48	153,129.90	139,498.23	114,500.00
PAYMENTS					
Parish Share	64,493.85		64,493.85	56,706.42	66,833.00
Clergy and Staffing	10,415.59		10,415.59	11,229.67	7,000.00
Church Running Expenses - see Note 2	61,851.33	21,824.00	83,675.33	63,685.27	52,754.00
Living Stones	932.02		932.02	455.06	
Fee Remittances	5,308.87		5,308.87	6,656.00	3,500.00
Charitable giving- see Note 3	4,500.00	1,321.75	5,821.75	5,000.00	5,000.00
	147,501.66	23,145.75	170,647.41	143,732.42	135,087.00
Church activities- surplus/ (deficit)	(19,671.24)	2,153.73	(17,517.51)	(4,234.19)	(20,587.00)
Church hall net surplus/ (deficit): see Note 4	7,638.67		7,638.67	2,503.34	6,816.00
Church House net surplus/ (deficit): see Note 5	9,534.97		9,534.97	8,987.06	6,604.00
Interest from investments- see Note 7	927.93		927.93	0.99	5.00
Operating surplus/ (deficit)	(1,569.67)	2,153.73	584.06	7,257.20	(7,162.00)

Balance sheet	**Unrestricted**	**Restricted**	**Total £**
Fund balances b/forward at 1 Jan 2024	239,979		239,979
Movements of funds:			
Operating surplus	(1,570)	2,154	584
Interest received- Note 7	928		928
Revaluation of investments- Note 7	15,089		15,089
Movements in liabilities	7,727		7,727
Non cash movements- reserves	34,000		34,000
Fund balances c/ forward at 31 Dec 2024	**296,153**	**2,154**	**298,307**
Represented by: (see note 7)			
Current Account- Lloyds	45,844	2,154	47,998
CBF Church of England Deposit Fund	18,960	0	18,960
CBF Church of England Global Equity Income Fund	154,321	0	154,321
CBF Church of England Investment Fund	77,028	0	77,028
Reserves	**296,153**	**2,154**	**298,307**

Statement of reserves	
General fund- including short term provisions	96,307
Provisions (Note 8)- re Long term expenditure	202,000
	298,307

Clare Hayns | Alexander Marshall | John Mclintock

Note 1- Types of funds

Unrestricted funds are those which have been received on the understanding that they will be used by the PCC for furthering the mission and ministry of the church.

Restricted funds are those which have been given for a particular purpose, and these must not be used by the PCC for any other purpose.

Designated funds are where the PCC has earmarked funds for a particular purpose.

Note 2- Church running expenses	**2024** Actual Unrestricted funds	**2024** Actual Restricted funds	**2024** Actual TOTAL	**2023** ACTUAL	**2024** Budget
Vestry rent	1,456.00		1,456.00	1,456.00	1,456.00
Music and organists	6,561.17		6,561.17	4,007.59	7,500.00
Church insurance	3,909.36		3,909.36	3,807.82	4,500.00
Church office expenditure (excluding Relocation)	6,582.61		6,582.61	6,042.12	5,500.00
Church office relocation	5,649.61	2,324.00	7,973.61	0.00	
Churchyard upkeep	4,675.65		4,675.65	2,495.00	4,500.00
Churchyard enhancement provision	0.00	17,000.00	17,000.00		
Church electricity and water	5,063.60		5,063.60	8,760.01	6,000.00
Church magazine	1,829.60		1,829.60	1,705.20	1,800.00
Postcards and guidebooks	0.00		0.00		0.00
Church cleaning	1,842.78		1,842.78	1,740.57	2,760.00
Other incl upkeep of services, social activities	5,613.51		5,613.51	1,866.92	3,000.00
Children- Messy Church	1,525.38		1,525.38		
Website and live stream	1,332.96		1,332.96	861.60	1,000.00
Repairs	5,364.13		5,364.13	5,968.22	4,238.00
Repairs- restricted	0.00		0.00	14,559.43	
Bank charges	444.97		444.97	414.79	500.00
Reserve fund	10,000.00		10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
	61,851.33	19,324.00	81,175.33	63,685.27	52,754.00

Note 3- Charitable giving	**2024** Actual	**2023** ACTUAL	**2024** Budget
ARCH Reading	500.00		
Donnington Doorstep	1,000.00		
Helen and Douglas House	500.00		
Home Start	500.00		
Rose Hill & Donnington Advice Centre	1,000.00		
Community Cupboard	1,379.50		
	4,879.50	5,000.00	5,000.00

The Harvest Appeal, Christmas Appeal and the Community Cupboard are not included as these do not form part of the church's income or expenditure.
The same principle is applied to Gift Aid recovered in respect of these items.

Note 4- Church Hall	**2024** Actual	**2023** ACTUAL	**2024** Budget
Hall lettings	38,591.25	33,720.00	33,000.00
Less: refunds	(2,910.00)	-2,847.00	
Net income:	35,681.25	30,873.00	33,000.00
Less: expenditure			
Hall- Booking Secretary	7,207.20	6,382.60	6,600.00
Hall- licences	1,013.73	941.62	500.00
Hall- Electricity	1,135.35	1,386.22	1,250.00
Hall- Gas	3,554.87	6,738.72	3,834.00
Hall- Insurance	1,954.68	1,903.91	2,000.00
Hall- Repairs & maintenance	4,668.27	2,745.83	4,000.00
Hall- Cleaning	2,245.66	1,938.75	2,000.00
Hall- Water	572.07	717.79	450.00
Hall- Broadband	690.75	614.22	550.00
Reserve fund incl re-thatching fund	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Total hall expenditure	28,042.58	28,369.66	26,184.00
Church hall- Net (deficit)/ surplus	7,638.67	2,503.34	6,816.00

A surveyor's report has indicated that the condition of the thatch is currently satisfactory and likely to be so for the next two years.
The report recommends that minor works to it are carried out.
However, a quotation for a 50% re-thatch shows that the cost has now risen to £40,000.
The PCC has made a provision to meet future liabilities.

Note 5- Church House	**2024**	2023	**2024**

Hall- Water	572.07	717.79	450.00
Hall- Broadband	690.75	614.22	550.00
Reserve fund incl re-thatching fund	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Total hall expenditure	28,042.58	28,369.66	26,184.00
Church hall- Net (deficit)/ surplus	7,638.67	2,503.34	6,816.00

A surveyor's report has indicated that the condition of the thatch is currently satisfactory and likely to be so for the next two years.
The report recommends that minor works to it are carried out.
However, a quotation for a 50% re-thatch shows that the cost has now risen to £40,000.
The PCC has made a provision to meet future liabilities.

Note 5- Church House	**2024** Actual	2023 ACTUAL	**2024** Budget
Rent received	16,191.83	16,068.34	16,116.00
Utilities	0.00	-541.88	0.00
Buildings insurance	598.67	592.09	650.00
Insurance excess Subsidence claim	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Legal fees	0.00	970.00	
Waiver of covenant- to OCC	0.00		862.00
Maintenance	4,058.19	3,061.07	5,000.00
Reserve fund	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Church House Expenditure	6,656.86	7,081.28	9,512.00
Church house- Net surplus (deficit)	9,534.97	8,987.06	6,604.00

The property is let out at a market rate: if a curate is appointed this income will cease.
All costs have to be met by the PCC funds.
The PCC has made a provision to meet future liabilities.

Note 6- Property
Church House is not recognised as an asset in the balance sheet.
The Church Hall is wholly owned by the PCC and is held at nil value.

Note 7- Cash and Investments
Current accounts are maintained with Lloyds Bank PLC.
The PCC resolved to move from Barclays during the year.
The investments comprise a Deposit Fund, an Investment Fund, and
Global Equity Accumulation Fund.
These are with CCLA Investment Management Ltd who manage funds solely for
Churches, Charities and Local Authorities (hence CCLA).

Note 8- Provisions for future expenditure
These are designated according to the PCC's policy as follows:

Allocation:	Church	Church Hall	Church House	Total
Brought forward January 2024	£ 100,000	£ 65,000	£ 20,000	£ 185,000
Charge for the year	£ 10,000	£ 5,000	£ 2,000	£ 17,000
Carried forward December 2024	£ 110,000	£ 70,000	£ 22,000	£ 202,000

From 2019 the PCC has been providing for future planned cyclical expenditure.
This is to provide for major items of expenditure which will fall due in the future.
These costs are in respect of the Church, Church Hall and Church House.
These are known recurring items for which current reserves will be insufficient.
These do not include any discretionary items.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, IFFLEY PCC

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

This report covers the financial activities of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024
It includes the financial statements and appendices as follows:
Independent Examiner's Report
Statement of Receipts and Payments
Statement of Assets and Liabilities including fund movements
Notes to the Financial Statements
Accounting Policies

REVIEW OF THE YEAR
Overall, the result is an operating surplus for the PCC of £584 (2023- £7,257).
The figures for the Church Hall and Church House have been shown separately in order to show clearly the results of the main church activities.

The main activities of the church are showing a deficit of £17,517: this compares with a deficit of £4,234 for 2023.
There was an increase of £15,089 in the value of our investments at the year end.
Church Hall income increased to £35,681 to provide a surplus of £7,638.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK
The Parish Giving Scheme has continued to provide a firm support for our finances.
However, during the year the number of donors has decreased with a consequent significant impact on our income.
The budget for 2025 shows a deficit of roughly £11,000.

CHURCH ASSETS.
All the assets reflected in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities are financial assets, full details of which are set out in note 6 to the accounts.
Given that Church House is a PCC property held for the long term, it has ceased to be shown as a financial asset in the accounts.
Church Hall is also a PCC property held for the long term, and likewise is not shown as a financial asset in the accounts.

RESERVE FUNDS.
Reserves are needed for long term significant expenditure required on the church buildings.
The PCC is making provisions for future cyclical expenditure of £17,000 each year.
This is to provide for major items of expenditure which will fall due in the future.
These costs are in respect of the Church, Church Hall and Church House.
These are known recurring items where current reserves will be insufficient.

A. J. Marshall

Alexander Marshall
Honorary Treasurer

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the PCC of St Mary the Virgin, Iffley

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024 is in respect of an examination carried out under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the Regulations") and S145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the 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 section 144(2) of the Act do not apply.

It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and can be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 edition.

The 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 disclosure in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters.

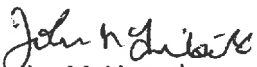
The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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 Act and 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



John McLintock

12 Mill Lane

Iffley, Oxford

St Mary's Iffley

Statement of Receipts and payments

Year 1 January to 31 December 2024	2024 31-Dec-24 Unrestricted funds	2024 31-Dec-24 Restricted funds	2024 31-Dec-24 TOTAL	2023 ACTUAL	2024 BUDGET
RECEIPTS					
Planned Giving- PGS Scheme	68,244.78		68,244.78	62,337.95	65,000.00
Donations including collections and boxes	21,857.72	3,304.48	25,162.20	27,639.60	20,000.00
Gift Aid recovered	17,141.59	3,140.00	20,281.59	18,640.38	15,000.00
Enhancements		18,855.00	18,855.00	13,109.43	
Listed place of worship grant- VAT reclaim	0.00		0.00	1,317.24	
Living Stones	2,011.53		2,011.53	596.38	
Receipts from Church Activities including magazine	5,814.80		5,814.80	2,356.25	2,500.00
Fees	12,760.00		12,760.00	13,501.00	12,000.00
	127,830.42	25,299.48	153,129.90	139,498.23	114,500.00
PAYMENTS					
Parish Share	64,493.85		64,493.85	56,706.42	66,833.00
Clergy and Staffing	10,415.59		10,415.59	11,229.67	7,000.00
Church Running Expenses - see Note 2	61,851.33	21,824.00	83,675.33	63,685.27	52,754.00
Living Stones	932.02		932.02	455.06	
Fee Remittances	5,308.87		5,308.87	6,656.00	3,500.00
Charitable giving- see Note 3	4,500.00	1,321.75	5,821.75	5,000.00	5,000.00
	147,501.66	23,145.75	170,647.41	143,732.42	135,087.00
Church activities- surplus/ (deficit)	(19,671.24)	2,153.73	(17,517.51)	(4,234.19)	(20,587.00)
Church hall net surplus/ (deficit): see Note 4	7,638.67		7,638.67	2,503.34	6,816.00
Church House net surplus/ (deficit): see Note 5	9,534.97		9,534.97	8,987.06	6,604.00
Interest from investments- see Note 7	927.93		927.93	0.99	5.00
Operating surplus/ (deficit)	(1,569.67)	2,153.73	584.06	7,257.20	(7,162.00)

Balance sheet	**Unrestricted**	**Restricted**	**Total £**
Fund balances b/forward at 1 Jan 2024	239,979		239,979
Movements of funds:			
Operating surplus	(1,570)	2,154	584
Interest received- Note 7	928		928
Revaluation of investments- Note 7	15,089		15,089
Movements in liabilities	7,727		7,727
Non cash movements- reserves	34,000		34,000
Fund balances c/ forward at 31 Dec 2024	**296,153**	**2,154**	**298,307**
Represented by: (see note 7)			
Current Account- Lloyds	45,844	2,154	47,998
CBF Church of England Deposit Fund	18,960	0	18,960
CBF Church of England Global Equity Income Fund	154,321	0	154,321
CBF Church of England Investment Fund	77,028	0	77,028
Reserves	**296,153**	**2,154**	**298,307**

Statement of reserves	
General fund- including short term provisions	96,307
Provisions (Note 8)- re Long term expenditure	202,000
	298,307

Clare Hayns | Alexander Marshall | John Mclintock

Note 1- Types of funds

Unrestricted funds are those which have been received on the understanding that they will be used by the PCC for furthering the mission and ministry of the church.

Restricted funds are those which have been given for a particular purpose, and these must not be used by the PCC for any other purpose.

Designated funds are where the PCC has earmarked funds for a particular purpose.

Note 2- Church running expenses	**2024** Actual Unrestricted funds	**2024** Actual Restricted funds	**2024** Actual TOTAL	**2023** ACTUAL	**2024** Budget
Vestry rent	1,456.00		1,456.00	1,456.00	1,456.00
Music and organists	6,561.17		6,561.17	4,007.59	7,500.00
Church insurance	3,909.36		3,909.36	3,807.82	4,500.00
Church office expenditure (excluding Relocation)	6,582.61		6,582.61	6,042.12	5,500.00
Church office relocation	5,649.61	2,324.00	7,973.61	0.00	
Churchyard upkeep	4,675.65		4,675.65	2,495.00	4,500.00
Churchyard enhancement provision	0.00	17,000.00	17,000.00		
Church electricity and water	5,063.60		5,063.60	8,760.01	6,000.00
Church magazine	1,829.60		1,829.60	1,705.20	1,800.00
Postcards and guidebooks	0.00		0.00		0.00
Church cleaning	1,842.78		1,842.78	1,740.57	2,760.00
Other incl upkeep of services, social activities	5,613.51		5,613.51	1,866.92	3,000.00
Children- Messy Church	1,525.38		1,525.38		
Website and live stream	1,332.96		1,332.96	861.60	1,000.00
Repairs	5,364.13		5,364.13	5,968.22	4,238.00
Repairs- restricted	0.00		0.00	14,559.43	
Bank charges	444.97		444.97	414.79	500.00
Reserve fund	10,000.00		10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
	61,851.33	19,324.00	81,175.33	63,685.27	52,754.00

Note 3- Charitable giving	**2024** Actual	**2023** ACTUAL	**2024** Budget
ARCH Reading	500.00		
Donnington Doorstep	1,000.00		
Helen and Douglas House	500.00		
Home Start	500.00		
Rose Hill & Donnington Advice Centre	1,000.00		
Community Cupboard	1,379.50		
	4,879.50	5,000.00	5,000.00

The Harvest Appeal, Christmas Appeal and the Community Cupboard are not included as these do not form part of the church's income or expenditure.
The same principle is applied to Gift Aid recovered in respect of these items.

Note 4- Church Hall	**2024** Actual	**2023** ACTUAL	**2024** Budget
Hall lettings	38,591.25	33,720.00	33,000.00
Less: refunds	(2,910.00)	-2,847.00	
Net income:	35,681.25	30,873.00	33,000.00
Less: expenditure			
Hall- Booking Secretary	7,207.20	6,382.60	6,600.00
Hall- licences	1,013.73	941.62	500.00
Hall- Electricity	1,135.35	1,386.22	1,250.00
Hall- Gas	3,554.87	6,738.72	3,834.00
Hall- Insurance	1,954.68	1,903.91	2,000.00
Hall- Repairs & maintenance	4,668.27	2,745.83	4,000.00
Hall- Cleaning	2,245.66	1,938.75	2,000.00
Hall- Water	572.07	717.79	450.00
Hall- Broadband	690.75	614.22	550.00
Reserve fund incl re-thatching fund	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Total hall expenditure	28,042.58	28,369.66	26,184.00
Church hall- Net (deficit)/ surplus	7,638.67	2,503.34	6,816.00

A surveyor's report has indicated that the condition of the thatch is currently satisfactory and likely to be so for the next two years.
The report recommends that minor works to it are carried out.
However, a quotation for a 50% re-thatch shows that the cost has now risen to £40,000.
The PCC has made a provision to meet future liabilities.

Note 5- Church House	**2024**	2023	**2024**

Hall- Water	572.07	717.79	450.00
Hall- Broadband	690.75	614.22	550.00
Reserve fund incl re-thatching fund	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Total hall expenditure	28,042.58	28,369.66	26,184.00
Church hall- Net (deficit)/ surplus	7,638.67	2,503.34	6,816.00

A surveyor's report has indicated that the condition of the thatch is currently satisfactory and likely to be so for the next two years.
The report recommends that minor works to it are carried out.
However, a quotation for a 50% re-thatch shows that the cost has now risen to £40,000.
The PCC has made a provision to meet future liabilities.

Note 5- Church House	**2024** Actual	2023 ACTUAL	**2024** Budget
Rent received	16,191.83	16,068.34	16,116.00
Utilities	0.00	-541.88	0.00
Buildings insurance	598.67	592.09	650.00
Insurance excess Subsidence claim	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Legal fees	0.00	970.00	
Waiver of covenant- to OCC	0.00		862.00
Maintenance	4,058.19	3,061.07	5,000.00
Reserve fund	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Church House Expenditure	6,656.86	7,081.28	9,512.00
Church house- Net surplus (deficit)	9,534.97	8,987.06	6,604.00

The property is let out at a market rate: if a curate is appointed this income will cease.
All costs have to be met by the PCC funds.
The PCC has made a provision to meet future liabilities.

Note 6- Property
Church House is not recognised as an asset in the balance sheet.
The Church Hall is wholly owned by the PCC and is held at nil value.

Note 7- Cash and Investments
Current accounts are maintained with Lloyds Bank PLC.
The PCC resolved to move from Barclays during the year.
The investments comprise a Deposit Fund, an Investment Fund, and
Global Equity Accumulation Fund.
These are with CCLA Investment Management Ltd who manage funds solely for
Churches, Charities and Local Authorities (hence CCLA).

Note 8- Provisions for future expenditure
These are designated according to the PCC's policy as follows:

Allocation:	Church	Church Hall	Church House	Total
Brought forward January 2024	£ 100,000	£ 65,000	£ 20,000	£ 185,000
Charge for the year	£ 10,000	£ 5,000	£ 2,000	£ 17,000
Carried forward December 2024	£ 110,000	£ 70,000	£ 22,000	£ 202,000

From 2019 the PCC has been providing for future planned cyclical expenditure.
This is to provide for major items of expenditure which will fall due in the future.
These costs are in respect of the Church, Church Hall and Church House.
These are known recurring items for which current reserves will be insufficient.
These do not include any discretionary items.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, IFFLEY PCC

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

This report covers the financial activities of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024
It includes the financial statements and appendices as follows:
Independent Examiner's Report
Statement of Receipts and Payments
Statement of Assets and Liabilities including fund movements
Notes to the Financial Statements
Accounting Policies

REVIEW OF THE YEAR
Overall, the result is an operating surplus for the PCC of £584 (2023- £7,257).
The figures for the Church Hall and Church House have been shown separately in order to show clearly the results of the main church activities.

The main activities of the church are showing a deficit of £17,517: this compares with a deficit of £4,234 for 2023.
There was an increase of £15,089 in the value of our investments at the year end.
Church Hall income increased to £35,681 to provide a surplus of £7,638.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK
The Parish Giving Scheme has continued to provide a firm support for our finances.
However, during the year the number of donors has decreased with a consequent significant impact on our income.
The budget for 2025 shows a deficit of roughly £11,000.

CHURCH ASSETS.
All the assets reflected in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities are financial assets, full details of which are set out in note 6 to the accounts.
Given that Church House is a PCC property held for the long term, it has ceased to be shown as a financial asset in the accounts.
Church Hall is also a PCC property held for the long term, and likewise is not shown as a financial asset in the accounts.

RESERVE FUNDS.
Reserves are needed for long term significant expenditure required on the church buildings.
The PCC is making provisions for future cyclical expenditure of £17,000 each year.
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A. J. Marshall

Alexander Marshall
Honorary Treasurer

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the PCC of St Mary the Virgin, Iffley

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Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the 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 section 144(2) of the Act do not apply.

It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and can be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 edition.

The 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 disclosure 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:

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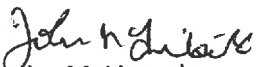
2. To which in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



John McLintock

12 Mill Lane

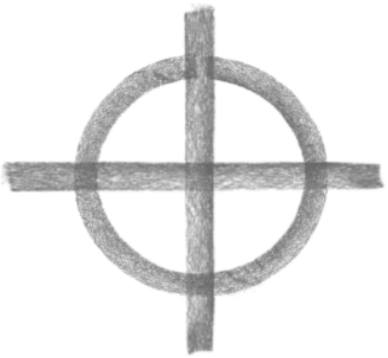
Iffley, Oxford

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. MARY'S IFFLEY

England & Wales - Charity number 1128523

Accounts

CHURCH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN
Church Way Iffley Oxford OX4 4EG



The Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2023

Incumbent
Vacancy

Bank
Barclays, PO Box 333, Oxford, OX1 3HS

Independent Examiner
Mr John McLintock, 12 Mill Lane, Iffley, Oxford, OX4 4EJ

Registered Charity Number
1128523

SUMMARY OF OUR VOCATION

We are called to be *A Christ-like Church for the sake of God's world: contemplative, compassionate, courageous.*

We would like to be known for six things:

- The depth of our spiritual life
- Our commitment to bring life to others
- The stepping-stones we put in place for those who wish to journey with us
- The vibrancy of our common life
- The beauty of our church building
- Our ability to work together

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Purpose

St Mary's Parochial Church Council (the PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has responsibility for the management of the Church property in the parish – St Mary's Church and Churchyard, the Church Hall, Church Vestry, Church Office and Church House.

Membership (since the APCM)

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) or co-opted by the PCC in accordance with the Church Representation Rules 2020.

Churchwardens	Sarah Beaver	Ex officio 2022 onwards
	Tom Leach	Ex officio 2020 onwards
Elected PCC members		
	Hilary Pearson	2018-2024
	Guin Webster	2020-2024
	Kate Stilborn	2016-2025
	Alex Marshall	2019-2025
	Jane McBain	2019-2025
	David Patrick	2023-2026
	Alex Jacoby	2023-2026
	Alice Lawhead	2023-2026
	Deborah Burrows	2023-2026
	John Harris	2023-2025
	Andrew Stilborn	2023-2024
	Maggie Wilson	2023-2024
Co opted PCC member	Penny Tyack	Safeguarding Officer

PCC Appointments	Tom Leach	*PCC Chair*
	Kate Stilborn	*PCC Secretary*
	Alex Marshall	*PCC Treasurer*
	Janet Low	*Electoral Roll Officer*
	Hilary Pearson	*Data Compliance Officer*
	Sarah Beaver	*Health & Safety Officer*
		Fire Officer
	Penny Tyack	*Safeguarding Officer*
	Jane McBain	*Children's Advocate*
	Lorna Bourdeaux	*Disclosure and Barring Service Secretary*
	Hilary Pearson	*Friends of St Mary's*
	Penny Tyack	*Friends of St Mary's*
	Janet Low	*Parish Secretary*
	Lucy Phillips	*Assistant Parish Secretary & Hall Bookings Secretary*

Churchwardens' Report on the Activities of the Parish

Following Andrew Mc Kearney's announcement in late 2022 of his planned retirement in the summer of 2023, much of the early part of the year was spent planning for the vacancy and the preparation of the Parish Profile necessary for the appointment of his successor. Four of us worked closely together to prepare a draft Parish Profile for discussion at the PCC. This work was also informed by the outcome of the two very well-attended workshops held after church in December 2022 and April 2023 to develop our vision for the future. These confirmed the many strengths of the church and that it continues to wish to be known for the following characteristics:

- The depth of our spiritual life
- Our commitment to bring life to others.
- The stepping stones we put in place for those who wish to journey with us
- The vibrancy of our common life
- The beauty of our church building
- Our ability to work together.

But participants also recognised that our regular congregation is largely white, elderly, resident in Iffley or outside the parish and does not reflect the diversity of the wider community of the parish. There was particular concern about the low numbers of young people and their families attending the church and a sense of enthusiasm to address this by better communication and outreach in future. In late 2023 we started discussions with the parishes of Littlemore, Cowley, and Blackbird Leys on how we could work together more closely on this, including preparing an application for some additional funding to support this outreach.

The Sunday after Ascension was Andrew and Sarah's last service in Iffley, an occasion for thanksgiving and celebration followed by a splendid lunch in the Parish Hall. But greatly missed though Andrew and Sarah are, our Assistant Priests, the Revd. David Barton and the Revd Dr Graham Low, have worked tirelessly to ensure that we have been able to maintain the main regular Sunday and Wednesday morning services at the church, albeit with fewer early morning and evening services. They have also been greatly assisted by the Revd Peter Boulton-Lea, the Revd. Canon Alvyn Pettersen, and the Revd. Professor Judith Brown, who have regularly preached and taken services in Church, and by the regular preaching contributions from our licensed lay preachers, Alice Lawhead, Hilary Pearson, and Roger Wagner. In addition, the parish has benefitted from visits from a number of other clergy, including the Bishop, the Dean of Christchurch (Patron of the living), the Acting Archdeacon, and the Area Dean. The wider Ministry Team, including lay people, have also ensured that the pattern of pastoral care and support to the frailer members of our worshipping community has been maintained.

Many others have also taken on additional responsibilities to help ensure that our parish life and worship continues as far and as fully as possible but Janet Low, who has assumed the role of Parish Administrator during the vacancy, has played a particularly important role as well as continuing to co-ordinate the music. We are most grateful to her and the many others who have contributed in so many different ways to maintain our worship and Christian life together.

Following the Section 11 PCC meeting which appointed the two churchwardens to represent them in the process for appointing the new incumbent, 35 people attended the Section 12 meeting chaired by the Acting Archdeacon on 11 August. This approved the Parish Profile subject to further clarification of the church's position on Living in Love and Faith. The actual advertisement of the post was

delayed until November because of continuing discussions between the owner of the Rectory (Christ Church) and the diocese about the terms of the lease. Following interviews on 8 December, the Revd. Clare Hayns, currently Chaplain and Welfare Co-ordinator at Christ Church, was appointed to the post.

Looking back on the year, it has been remarkable how our Church community has held together so well during the vacancy and how well we have been supported by so many from within the parish, the deanery, and the diocese. We are most grateful to them all.

However, the Church's financial position continues to be challenging. In his introduction to his last Annual Report Andrew McKearney highlighted the problems caused by a gradually reducing number of subscribers to the Parish Giving Scheme. In 2023, some generous individual donations and income from the letting of Church House and the Hall meant that overall, we were able to achieve a small surplus but the income from individual donations, the regular Parish Giving Scheme, fees etc was insufficient to cover the costs of church operations. We therefore planned a stewardship campaign to be launched in early 2024.

Tom Leach and Sarah Beaver

Church Electoral Roll
At the end of 2023 (2022) there were 127 (126) members on the Electoral roll, of which 38 (34) lived outside the parish.
Janet Low

Churchwardens' Report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church
A report of the work carried out on the Church, Vestry, Churchyard, and Church House during 2023 is contained in the Fabric Committee Report. The annual check of the Church Silver, Fixtures and Fittings has been carried out. The digital Terrier is complete with digital and hard copy photographs of all church silver. The current hardcopy Terrier is also complete and available for inspection.
Tom Leach & Sarah Beaver

Safeguarding
Safeguarding is a core concern of our church community. It is discussed at every PCC meeting where we are finding that the more we talk together the more aware we are of our blind spots and of potential risks. We are discovering that as an alert and caring community we really can help, not least by knowing how to record concerns and to access professional guidance.
St Mary's has a lively tradition of committed volunteers. This year 45 people offered their time, energy and skills on behalf of the church community, many undertaking more than one role. 34 of them took specific responsibility for the safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults and have up-to-date safeguarding training and DBS certificates. These included our 4 authorised lay preachers, 2 pastoral assistants, 2 Fish & Chip Club leaders, 4 Creche helpers, 6 volunteers with Community Cupboard, 3 members of the bell-ringing team, 3 house group leaders,15 members of the PCC and 7 of the 20 volunteers with Living Stones. Safer recruitment procedures are now in place for all those taking up roles of responsibility for vulnerable children and adults.
Penny Tyack

Health & Safety

The routine annual inspections and checks were carried out as required and the November PCC reviewed and confirmed a slightly updated health and safety policy, the updated risk assessments, including fire risk assessments, for the different aspects of the Church's activities, including the Parish Hall.

Two training and briefing session for welcomers, ushers and deputy wardens on emergency arrangements were held in August and September. As agreed at the previous annual H&S review, a verger was present at all weddings as well as funerals to provide appropriate supervision and support in the event of an emergency evacuation or other emergency.

The PCC and Friends of Iffley Village jointly funded two training sessions given by volunteers from South Central Ambulance on the use of the defibrillator equipment kept outside the Vestry. The PCC also agreed to commission the fabrication of a stair rail for the steps from the belfry to the tower roof and brackets to enable a rope rail to be installed on the inside of the stone spiral staircase up the Tower.

Sarah Beaver

General Data Protection Regulation

There are no matters to report.
Hilary Pearson

COUNCILS, COMMITTEES & SYNODS

Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council

A year in review

The role of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) is to support clergy in the running and management of their parish. Their primary function is stated as 'promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church.' Naturally this role is harder without an incumbent, something Andrew recognised in his last PCC meeting where he emphasised that each PCC member had a particularly important role to play in 2023.

The PCC said a very fond farewell to Andrew McKearney in March and credited him with an excellent and thoughtful handover. The PCC are particularly grateful to the Churchwardens, Sarah Beaver and Tom Leach, Janet Low as Parish Administrator and to the Ministry team for all the additional work that they have done to ensure the effective and smooth running of St Mary's during the year.

The recruitment of a new vicar has been the most important and urgent task of the year. The PCC adopted various resolutions to advertise the vacancy, hold formal meetings and appoint parish representatives (the two Churchwardens) to lead on the appointment process. A significant task in the recruitment process was creating a Parish Profile which included a person specification and job description to attract the best vicar possible for St Mary's. The PCC have been very grateful to the whole team who worked hard on getting this complete to a tight deadline and now look forward to Clare Hayns joining St Mary's as the new Vicar in April.

Ministry

The PCC supported changes to the timings and frequency of services during the interregnum to ensure that a high quality was maintained whilst there was less resource. The PCC were also very grateful to the support of the newly authorised lay preachers Alice Lawhead, Hilary Pearson and Roger Wagner as well as others such as Alvyn Petterson, Peter Boulton Lea and Judith Brown.

The PCC were grateful to the work of Liz Roberts in leading the Fish and Chip Club for many years and were delighted when Andrew Stilborn and David Patrick took over as leaders when Liz stepped down after the summer.

David Patrick joined the PCC in 2023 and brought a new focus on the website and social media as an increasingly important part of our ministry as a church recognising that an online presence will have a very significant impact on the size and shape of our future congregation.

Financial Matters

The Treasurer and churchwardens have attended a number of Deanery meetings during the autumn to discuss how, as a Deanery, we can continue to work together to deliver our Parish Share in a way

that is both affordable and equitable, in terms of reflecting different parishes' ability to pay. Although our Parish Share would have been considerably lower if we had adopted the new diocesan formula within the deanery, due to challenges with Deanery finances and the relatively high number of stipendiary clergy we currently have our Parish Share will increase from £56k to £66,833 in 2024 with a 10% rebate for each month that we do not have an incumbent.
There has been considerable concern during the year about the Church finances as an operational shortfall has been predicted for most of the year. With thanks to some legacy income and generous one-off donations from parishioners as well as excellent income from the Church Hall this year a small surplus was achieved in 2023. However, inflationary pressures and reductions in Parish Giving mean that a deficit of £7k is predicted in 2024. The PCC agreed to start a Stewardship campaign in early 2024 to raise funds.

Church Buildings and Churchyard

It was a relief during the year to learn from a chartered surveyor that the Church Hall roof did not have to be re-thatched for another two or three years. Partly due to Lucy's excellent administration, Church Hall occupancy was very strong and exceeded last year's record takings. The PCC recognised that proposals for the Controlled Parking Zone could bear heavily on income to the Hall and impede access to the church if they were approved.
The Quinquennial Survey Report identified some minor works such as the clearing of gutters and the stabilising of a lamp post in the church yard. The Fabric Committee began to progress the actions in the report. A programme of maintenance and protection work on the Church windows was approved and kindly funded by the Friends of St Mary's (FOSM).
The PCC focused heavily on future options for the Churchyard led by the opportunity of the Court Place development and commissioned a feasibility study, funded by FOSM and a generous individual donation, of options from the parish architect, Andrew Townsend. But before he undertook the work on this, the ancient box hedge on the west side of the Church suffered a severe box caterpillar attack, making it appropriate to consider how it might be replaced. Reviewing the outcome of the feasibility study, the PCC felt wider discussions with the congregation and local community were needed to ensure that decisions balanced the needs of the congregation, the community as well as any visitors to the church. Following this, the PCC proposed that the Fabric Committee, enlarged to include FOIV and FOSM representatives, considered responses, sought professional advice on the hedge, and reported back to the PCC in January 2024.
The Curacy House was also a subject of much discussion and deliberation throughout the year. The PCC has been deeply grateful to Sarah Beaver for the time that she has given to the ongoing work in managing the property issues. During the year the PCC supported the removal of a birch and a horse chestnut tree as recommended in the subsidence report.

Safeguarding

During the year Penny Tyack (safeguarding lead) led training and discussions with the PCC and ensured that all DBS checks and formal safeguarding courses were completed by all relevant volunteers. The PCC approved a revised Safeguarding policy and Safeguarding Action Plan.

Health and Safety

The PCC approved a revised Parish Health & Safety Policy alongside updated Health and Safety and Fire Risk Assessments. The PCC approved the proposals for installation of a rope rail on the spiral staircase in the Church Tower and a fixed rail for the steps from the bell chamber to the roof. The PCC also facilitated defibrillator training in the parish.

Charitable Giving

The PCC supported the work of the Charity Committee throughout the year which included raising funds for the Harvest Appeal and support of a Keyhole Garden in the Church Yard.

Living Stones Steering Group

The PCC continued to support and delight in the excellent work of Living Stones during the year.

2024

In addition to welcoming a new vicar and any changes that this is likely to bring, 2024 is likely to see an increased focus on improving our website and social media, focus on the stewardship campaign, and continued focus on the Churchyard Development Plan.

Standing Committee
Sarah Beaver, Tom Leach, Alex Marshall, Kate Stilborn
Standing Committee has been active during the vacancy, conducting its business on matters such as Church House management and other unbudgeted urgent expenditure by email correspondence.

Charities Committee
Sarah Beaver, Deb Burrows, Jane McBain, Kate Stilborn, Maggie Wilson, Andrew and Sarah McKearney (until May) The committee met four times in March, June, August, and October. As in previous years, our efforts were focussed on Christian Aid Week in May, the Harvest Appeal in September to November and the Christmas Appeal in December. The main fundraising event for Christian Aid Week was a plant stall and for the Harvest Appeal a produce stall, both of which drew on the many talents of the congregation. The Harvest Appeal supported the development of keyhole gardens in Migori in Kenya through Ripple Effect. The recipient of the Christmas Appeal was the Porch, a day centre for the homeless in East Oxford, and this appeal was boosted by the barn dance and carol singing in the village. Donations to these appeals were made in cash, by BACS transfer, cheque or an online tab. These various methods of payment were monitored and will continue to be used. In addition, a regular collection at coffee after the 10.00 a.m. service in cash and through the card reader has provided much needed additional funds for Community Cupboard.
A total of £18,793 was raised in the course of 2023 (£19,647 in 2022), thanks to the continuing generosity of our church community. This comprised £4,727 (£2,283) for Christian Aid Week, £8,749 (£10,960) for the Harvest Appeal, £3,921 (£2,446) for the Christmas Appeal, £348 (£392) for the Children's Society through the Christingle Service and £1046 (£0) for Community Cupboard. The PCC continued with its charitable grants throughout 2023, totalling £5,000, despite the pressure on church finances. These grants were distributed between Arts at the Old Fire Station (£750), Oxford Street Pastor (£750) and Refugee Resource (£500). Rose Hill & Donnington Advice Centre, Donnington Doorstep Family Centre and Community Cupboard each received the sum of £1,000.
Maggie Wilson

Finance Committee
Andrew McKearney (till May), Sarah Beaver, Alex Marshall, Tim Brunton, Barry and Stephanie Newsome, Viviane Robertson, Lucy Phillips
The Finance Committee met in March and September. The high inflation in 2023 put severe pressure on the budget and the uncertainties about the price of energy once our three-year contract came to an end in October 2023 made forecasting difficult. Fortunately, energy prices had by then come down, easing some of the pressures.

Whereas the annual budget has previously only been approved in March, the Treasurer's work on the forecast meant that the PCC were able to approve the overall 2024 budget in November. It reflects a substantial increase in our Parish Share contribution, to £66,833 under the formula used within the deanery. But as this is little more than the cost to the diocese of each stipendiary priest employed, housed, and trained (£65,000) the Finance Committee and PCC felt that this was a reasonable cost for the parish to bear.

The responsibilities for managing the church budget and finances were kept under active review and, to clarify responsibilities during the vacancy, in March the PCC approved the Committee's recommendations for the adoption of a formal financial delegation structure.

At the request of Tom Leach the Committee also investigated the options for moving from Barclays to a more sustainable bank. It initially recommended transferring the account to Lloyds but, in light of criticism of their green credentials, it was asked to consider alternatives.

Sarah Beaver

Church Hall Committee

During the year the committee continued to manage the activities and upkeep of Iffley Church Hall, in support of St Mary's parish mission and the social activities of the wider community. The Church Hall Committee dealt with enquiries, made bookings, managed internal and external maintenance matters and attended to compliance responsibilities.

It will be recalled that an encouraging post-Covid financial result was reported for the previous year, 2022. A substantial increase is again noted for the calendar year 2023 with further rental income growth of over 25 percent, and totalling £31,113 (compared with £24,820 for the previous year). As well as the continuing popularity of our church hall as a venue, and the ongoing and growing loyalty of regular hirers, the administrative initiative and energy of the Hall Bookings Secretary is a material factor in achieving this pleasing outcome.

Tasks undertaken in 2023 included the maintenance of the projector screen, repair of the piano cover, repair of the header tank in the kitchen and gutter, window and beam cleaning.

Meetings of the committee took place on 10 February, 7July and 24 November.

During 2023 the committee comprised Tim Brunton, John Dean, John Harris (Chairman), Alex Marshall (Treasurer), Diana Nettleton, Lucy Phillips (Bookings Secretary), and Viviane Robertson (Secretary), in addition to the Revd Andrew McKearney *ex officio* until his retirement on 21st May. Sarah Beaver joined the committee for the duration of the incumbency interregnum. The continuing commitment of all members is warmly acknowledged.

John Harris

Fabric Committee

Sarah Beaver, Tom Leach, Tim Brunton, David Patrick, Penny Tyack, David Barton

Following an informal walkabout in March with the parish architect carrying out the churchyard feasibility study (see below), the Fabric Committee met in September 2023 to consider the Quinquennial Survey Report and the outcome of the feasibility study. Susan Walker, the Chair of the Friends of St Mary's and Phil Hart from the Friends of Iffley Village, as well as representatives from Oxford University Development Ltd also attended the meeting, helpfully providing us with broader contextual background to both the history of the churchyard and the Court Place Gardens development.

Church. The flickering and repeated light failure problems experienced following the switch to LED lighting in 2022 were eventually addressed successfully with the installation of a number of new drivers and the relocation of one (lectern) light. Jim Budd also carried out a programme of cleaning and maintenance on the windows during summer 2023, work which included the replacement of six grilles. The cost of this work (£4,600 ex VAT) was funded by a grant from the Friends of St Mary's, Iffley.

The parish architect, Andrew Townsend, carried out the Quinquennial Survey of the church in August. While no major problems were identified, he recommended the removal of moss from the roof, the replacement of cracked and broken slates, the clearance of gutters, and some minor stone repairs, as well as recommending some surveys and conservation work. Some of the roof repair work commenced in December and an Action Plan to carry out the remaining recommendations was prepared for consideration by the Fabric Committee in early 2024.

Digital plans of the church were also prepared by RGL Surveys Ltd, work which will be of long-term benefit for the church and was funded from the church building reserves.

There have been a series of problems with the sound and streaming system in church, making it difficult to diagnose the cause of the difficulties. The PCC has agreed that it is a priority to address them effectively in early 2024.

Vestry. The Landmark Trust, from whom the Church leases the Vestry, conducted an EPC survey of the building and is currently considering the scope for improving its energy efficiency by insulating the roof. Some minor roof leaks await repair.

Churchyard: The early part of the year saw the installation of a wooden compost bin against the east wall of the churchyard. The contractor also removed the ivy from the boundary walls, with the Court Place development assuming responsibility for the removal of ivy from the walls which required scaffolding for their purposes. Whereas in recent years the Church has understood that the wall between Court Place Gardens and the Churchyard was the property of the owners of Court Place Gardens, the University Estates Department produced Land Registry plans which indicated it belongs to the Church and that the legal boundary to the west of the church is immediately behind the box hedge, not on the line of the current iron railing. As it is a closed churchyard (no new burials permitted), the Council are therefore responsible for the wall's repair and maintenance. They replaced and repointed the capping stones on the west end of the south wall of the churchyard in September.

With the redevelopment of Oxford University's immediately adjacent Court Place Gardens site due to complete in September 2024, the PCC decided to commission Andrew Townsend to conduct a feasibility study to identify options for the enhancement of the churchyard, particularly the area to the west of the church, to improve accessibility to the church and churchyard, including the possible provision of an accessible WC. A topographical survey of the churchyard was prepared to inform this work.

As noted in the PCC report, the box caterpillar attack on the hedge significantly changed the context for the study and Andrew Townsend's designs assumed the removal of the current hedge and its replacement by either a wall or another hedge with a gate in the middle to allow a view through the rest of the Oxford University site towards the river.

The PCC did not feel able to make decisions on such issues alone and, in late November, some 50 people from the church and the local community attended presentations given by Andrew Townsend, Professor Susan Walker, and Phil Hart (Friends of Iffley Village) on the broader context for the churchyard proposals, the churchyard's history, and the plans themselves. Attendees and others who accessed the slides on our website were invited to complete a questionnaire on the various options and the responses were summarised in the January magazine and have helped inform decisions that needed to be taken in early 2024.

Implementation of the various measures to enhance the churchyard and improve it and the church's accessibility will be dependent on our ability to raise the necessary funds. They are likely to take many years to implement. In the meantime, during the harvest appeal in aid of Ripple Effect to fund the building of keyhole gardens in Migori, Kenya a small group built a temporary one on the west lawn.

Church House: The tenants who moved into the house in December 2022 are on a three-year lease. The Council's restrictive covenant on the property limiting its use to a 'clergyman or lay worker', meant we had to negotiate the payment of a fee for breaching it. While we were able to achieve agreement on the sum to be paid, there were long delays in drawing up the legal agreement to reflect this and in securing the necessary legal advice.

Following the identification of potential subsidence in the property in 2022, the company appointed by our insurers to handle the claim conducted a number of specialist inspections of the property in 2023. They confirmed that subsidence had taken place and in July required us to remove two trees that they suspected were causing it. Monitoring continued throughout 2023.

Sarah Beaver

Magazine Committee
Members: Rhys Hedges, John Harris, Edwin Pritchard, Jackie Pritchard, Cecily Kirtland, Graham Low
Committee met mostly monthly.
For details of income and expenditure please see the Treasurer's Report.
Nine issues consisted of 24 pages and three of 28. Regular advertising accounted for eight pages in the December 2023 issue.
The print run was 275 per month for 2023.
Jackie Pritchard

Living Stones Committee
Penny Tyack, Marion Casey, Katharine Owen, Elizabeth Mullett, Maggie Wilson
Andrew McKearney's chairmanship of our committee has been much missed. We have also lost Hilary Pearson, Janet Low, Maureen McNaboe and Deborah Burrows. Viviane Robertson, Maggie Wilson and Katharine Owen have joined us and their contributions are highly valued, as were those of the members who have moved on. Every Sunday from Easter to the middle of September it is the privilege of our team of 20 volunteers to welcome visitors to the church and to experience it through so many different people's eyes. The first visitors on Easter Day wrote in the Living Stones Visitor Book, 'Thank you so much for a lovely tour around this magnificent 'little pearl' church.' Another wrote, 'Very moving testament to generations of faith.' The last entry in September was, 'This is my favourite church in the whole world'. We counted at least 415 visitors over the 23 Sunday afternoons, and we hosted a joyful visit from a school.
Our special events focused on people who have left their mark on Iffley Church over its 850-year existence. We learned about the original patron, the improvements and restorations carried out through the centuries and in living memory, and the fairly short-lived west gallery from which hymn-singing was led during services in the 18th and 19th centuries. We heard about some of the village people of the last 200 years, and about three remarkable individuals: a solitary worshipper (Annora), a 17th century Archdeacon (Barten Holyday) and a benefactress (Sarah Nowell), founder of a school for Iffley's children whose legacy still supports local education projects. Almost all our speakers were well known locally, and people came from near and far to hear them.
The year ended with a special thankyou-cum-training day for our volunteers. A guide, an archivist and a book conservationist at the Bodleian Library shared their treasures with twelve of the team, starting in the Divinity School and ending with a book that is as old as Iffley church and was pawned in about 1400 by the abbess of Littlemore Priory.
Penny Tyack

Eco-Church
Eco Church @ St Mary's has reached a critical point. For the last 12 months the group's active ongoing membership in terms of people attending monthly meetings has reduced to two and this is no longer viable for maintaining a programme of activity around climate change issues, as was envisaged when the Eco Church group was formed in 2019.

During the year there has been active support for the creation of a Keyhole Garden, which has been inspired by the commitment of Christine North and Maggie Wilson (Charities Committee Lead). The Keyhole Garden which has been erected on the lawn in front of the west door of the church is part of the fundraising initiative by the Charities Committee to support Ripple Effect's work in Migori, Kenya

to develop small kitchen gardens. The purpose of the garden is to demonstrate the sustainability of a Keyhole Garden and give a vivid example of how financial support can help.

Earlier in March 2023, members of the Eco Church group joined the annual litter pick in Rose Hill mounted by Rose Hill and Iffley Low Carbon (RHILC). On 21 April members joined The Big One in London to express concern about the climate crisis and take part in four days of action outside different government departments in Westminster. For one member of the group it was the first time at this kind of direct protest and it was a particularly vivid thought-provoking experience, with an interesting comment in the Parish Magazine. Copies of a petition on water pollution were circulated in the church and gained a magnificent 70 signatures from members of the Parish. These were sent to several groups – Windrush Against Sewage Pollution (WASP) Thames 21 and End Sewage Pollution. Christine North undertook a commitment to publish her Nature Notes regularly in the Parish Magazine and she has combined this with an update on Eco Church News. In September we helped to design and participate in a Climate Sunday service with prayers on the issue of climate change and various pledges for personal action on climate change from members of the congregation. Liz Roberts worked with children in the Fish and Chip Club to produce a colourful poster which was displayed in the service.
Tom Leach

Cowley Deanery Synod
Discussions in the deanery synod have focused on the financial contributions to be made by each parish in 2024 to enable the deanery to meet its obligations under the new diocesan formula. The Cowley deanery faces considerable financial challenges and, recognising that the current level of stipendiary clergy provision is unsustainable, has begun to consider a way forward. In October, our churchwardens and Treasurer joined us at a meeting with the Bishop and Archdeacon which began to consider this.
Anne Wagner and Elizabeth Harré

GROUPS & TEAMS

Ministry Team
The Ministry Team (clergy and churchwardens) continued fortnightly until Andrew McKearney's retirement in May, with other members of the pastoral team (Susan Morrison, Maureen McNaboe, Sally Brodhurst, and Lorna Bordeaux) joining monthly. From May, the full team, together with Janet Low as Parish Administrator, met monthly to co-ordinate pastoral matters, arrange services and the day to day management of the parish.

Music in Worship
It has been a good year for the choir and music in general at St Mary's. We were able to continue the practice of a sung Evening service once a month throughout the year (except for August) plus a full Choral Evensong in June to celebrate the coronation of King Charles when we were joined by members of the choir of St Nicholas, Marston. We also sang some special music at the morning service on that day. We continued the special evenings of Music and Readings, for Passiontide, Remembrance and Advent and the Carol Service. There was a return visit of Iffley singers to Marston in November for another Choral Evensong. The choir also turned out in good numbers for the final Sunday morning service with Andrew and Sarah, an occasion for celebration despite the inevitable sadness at the ending of an era!
There were two RSCM events, the Epiphany Festival in the cathedral and the Annual Choirs' Festival held this year at St Helen's Church, Abingdon – both of these were attended by groups from St Mary's Singers. The choir continues to expand as regular members bring friends along to visit who then come back again!

The carol-singing round the village, followed by the Barn dance in the hall, were both very well-attended this year and helped to raise a substantial amount for our Christmas Appeal.
Iffley Music Society was able to present many varied concerts in the hall and the church but there were not so many outside visiting groups in the church as such events were more difficult to organise and cover during the vacancy. We hope such things will again be possible in future.
None of this would be possible without the unfailing support of the other organists, Geoffrey, Tim and Paul who have played regularly on Sunday mornings and evenings as well as for the special occasions – thank you all very much! Our thanks are also due to Graham and David who have held the fort during the vacancy and supported us in what we do at St Mary's. We look forward to welcoming our new vicar Clare, who has been Chaplain to the College Choir at Christ Church for some years, so will bring us some new perspectives.
Janet Low

Taizé Evening Services
Services were held once a month on the 3rd Sunday at 8pm. There was discussion about whether an earlier time should be found but there was a majority feeling that it should remain at 8pm. No service was held in August but for a second year there was a service in December just before Christmas. The average number attending was 16 people. The range was 11 - 25 people. There continues to be a core group of about 8 people who attend every month, about another 6 who attend more often than not and always a few people attending for the first time, sometimes just visiting Oxford. People from several different churches or none come to Taizé services making it very ecumenical and inclusive.
Sue Fulford and Simon Fisher, both regular attenders at Taizé services, accepted an invitation early in 2023 to join the team of people who write and lead services. After Sarah McKearney retired in May that left Mo Rooney, Pemma SC, Sue and Simon.
Kevin Armstrong, another regular attender, agreed to play guitar when Pemma was leading a service and didn't want to play as well. He has stepped in on other occasions too. It's great to have Kevin (a jazz guitarist) on board. Alex Marshall continues to provide the main vocal lead for the chants. This is much appreciated.
Pemma Spencer Chapman

Community Cupboard
Community Cupboard, the Foodbank which meets at Rose Hill Methodist Church on a Wednesday afternoon continues to provide a much needed service of food to take home, a hot meal and drinks, and a listening ear to the residents of Rose Hill and the surrounding area, as well as to those who are homeless from across the City. The partnership between the Methodist Church and St Mary's, Iffley goes from strength to strength, with a good number of volunteers from both St Mary's, Rose Hill Methodist Church and the wider Oxford Methodist Circuit and the Local Community. The hospitality and welcome offered by all the volunteers is very much appreciated by the 'friends.'
In 2023, we averaged serving 40 households per week, or 90 people. That figure rose in November and December to an average of 44 households (103 people) and 46 in January (108 people).
We are extremely grateful to Sarah Beaver for the work that she does as treasurer to Community Cupboard, for keeping track of all donations that we receive and assisting with grant applications, the latter of which are increasingly competitive to secure. Finances continue to be at the forefront of our minds, and we are always looking for fundraising opportunities. I was very grateful to all those who sponsored me and my husband for running the Oxford Half in October. We raised a staggering £2000!

Part of the work of Community Cupboard is also to signpost people to, and to foster relationships with other agencies that can support them. We have been privileged to host a representative from the 'No Limits' programme over the last year, who has been able to support 'friends ' with preparing CV's, job applications and providing digital devices. We have also hosted a representative from Oxfordshire

Dental Association. And locally our partnerships with Rose Hill Advice Centre and the Junior Youth Club, which are both based at Rose Hill Community Centre, have gone from strength to strength. As Christians it is a great privilege to be able to put our faith into action in quite literally 'feeding the hungry' and I thank God for the way in which this work is continuing in this place of need, and pray that the work will continue to flourish.
Liz Spain, Rose Hill Community Chaplain.

Worship & Prayer Groups
Prayers & Toast
Prayers and Toast meets every Friday morning from 7:30 to 8:45 am, in the Vestry. This group of 6 to 8 has continued for many years to pray requests sent by visitors and others left in the church, prayers for the world, for those who are sick or have passed away, for the joys we find in our daily lives in nature and people we meet, for St Mary's church and its leaders, for our neighbour Rose Hill Methodist and the Community Cupboard, our families and each other. The prayers are held in confidence in the group. Before the prayer time at 8:00, we have freshly brewed coffee, tea and toast with delicious spreads. We welcome everyone whether for a single time or whenever they would like support to join us in prayer.
Barbara Alderson

Julian Group
The Julian Group continues to flourish. We met each month during the year, either in the church, in the warmer months, or in a private house in the colder months. Whether we are in the beautiful and prayerful space of the church, or beside an inviting fire in a house, we value our time together for 45 minutes of silent prayer. The group varies in number, from four up to fifteen. However many or few we are, the period of shared silence is always profound and powerful. Those who are unable to come to the church for the meetings often keep a time of silence at home at the same time.
Sally Brodhurst

Discussion Groups
Poetry Group
About ten of us have met monthly on Monday afternoons in the Church Hall and have greatly enjoyed reading and reflecting on poems from A Century of Poetry: 100 poems for searching the heart, a challenging anthology compiled by Rowan Williams.
The possibility of forming a second group has been discussed, but no formal steps to do so have been taken yet.
Graham Low

Widening Horizons
Following Andrew's departure and because of Wendy's state of health this group has not met.

Home Groups
Bible Study Group – Meadow Lane/Fairacres Road
This Bible Study Group is strongly based on the Bible but is also one for fellowship and prayer of which intercessory prayer plays a central part. We share the joys and sorrows of each other's lives while enjoying a cuppa and cakes and then open with prayer requests before the main readings and discussions. We are between 10-12 in number having 2 new members join and three remaining in contact from Wales, Spain and the USA. We have been meeting at Zoe's or Barbara's on a monthly basis throughout the year. Topics for study have ranged widely from the Nativity scenes in depth, through the Gospel miracles, the Transfiguration, to the fruits of the Spirit in Galatians. This current year we have turned to Nicholas King's Study Guide on Luke with the imaginative addition of "The Chosen", a gripping film of Jesus earthly life.

Jonathan and Jan Stockland

Bible Study Group

We have been able to meet again in 2023 in the Church Hall. We met for 7 sessions on alternate Thursday afternoons from 3 until 5 for two terms – one beginning in September and the other in mid-February. An hour of bible study is followed by coffee and biscuits and conversation. We are very grateful to be able to use the Hall as we are all retired and an afternoon session works well for us. Sadly, due to illness and other commitments our group declined in numbers during the year. At the end of 2023 we had a group of 6-8 people. We are short on leaders, but we managed, and everyone continues to participate and contribute to our discussions.

In the Winter/Spring of 2023 we chose Old Testament, Israelite leaders/figureheads to study from Abraham to Daniel, including Isaac, Jacob, David, Ruth, etc. The study was varied but we were immersed in the stories of the Covenant God held with his people and the love and forgiveness he always gave them despite their rejection of him and his commandments. This study also came back to us to give us an idea for our Winter/Spring 2024 studies.

In the Autumn of 2023, we agreed to use Paula Gooder's book as a framework for studying the Parables of Jesus. It took us deep into the more complex troublesome parables as well as giving us the joy of reading and discussing many of the easier straightforward ones.

Our thanks to Dougall Morrison and Mandy Watts who organised the material for our discussion sessions in 2023 and to all who attended and contributed to our group.

Maureen McNaboe

House Group – Abberbury Road

Our (mostly) fortnightly meetings this year were held both in person and on Zoom. We began with a video series, 'Fruitfulness on the Frontline', which is offered by the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity. In it we were challenged to identify and grow the places where our Christian faith can make a difference to the people around us. We found it inspiring and encouraging, and sometimes a bit too challenging! Over the years we have purposefully tried to get out of our collective comfort zone, as we did with this course.

We also did a short self-directed series on parables, and a really good daily Advent book, 'Lighted Windows' by Margaret Silf.

Scrolling through a year's WhatsApp messages, I am reminded that whilst the studies we do together give our group structure and purpose, it is the built up friendships and trust that keep us going. Over the past year, members of our group have experienced serious illness, the deaths of family and friends, practical challenges, and many occasions when prayer and support were needed. We have also celebrated good news and good times. All this is part of the love and deep friendship we share, and that has only grown over the years.

Alice Lawhead

Monday Night Fellowship Group

A new house group was formed in 2023, beginning with a couple of 'taste-and-see' evenings in the summer, and then properly starting in the autumn. The group consists of some people who are relatively new to St. Mary's, as well as some old-timers like Steve and me. Our initial commitment is to meet for a year, and then we will decide if we wish to continue and, if so, how we want to structure our time. We might even come up with a better name for our group!

Our first study was based on the film 'The Way'; an accompanying book called The Long Road to Heaven was our guide. Currently we are discussing the readings and sermon of the Sunday before we meet, digging into the scripture and reflecting on the sermon. Meeting on a Monday has its advantages, as it is (or should be) relatively easy to recall what was said the day before.

Anything new needs a little time to settle in, but we're getting there. We socialise a bit before we get started each evening, and a well-received pancake party is a reminder to make good on the key word in our current group name:fellowship.

Alice Lawhead

Fish & Chip Club

After several years of successful leadership Elizabeth Roberts decided to stand down as leader of the Fish and Chip Club at the end of the 2023 school year. Andrew Stilborn (Stilly) volunteered to take over the running of the group beginning in the new School term time in 2023. There was a productive handover meeting between Liz and Stilly over the summer. The Fish and Chip Club has continued to be held during term time. The number of children coming to the Fish and Chip Club has continued to be small, with intermittent numbers but regular attendance. The age range is currently 4 years to 15 years old, with 2-5 children usually arriving on any Sunday. Two new children have joined in 2023/4 but their attendance has been irregular. Two groups were cancelled due to non-attendance. The group has an active WhatsApp page which has been a popular way to check attendance and update parents with information about the group.

The club has tried to encourage greater numbers by improving advertising around the village, giving out flyers at Rose Hill School and producing activity booklets at the 2023 Christingle Service. Four "Preparation for Christingle" lessons were also advertised and took place on the four-week run up to Christmas and the Christingle Service. These sessions were very well attended but did not encourage any new membership. The majority of the lessons have been written by Elizabeth Roberts and Stilly and supported by David Patrick (who has also led the club) and Janet Low – many thanks to both of them. The club continues the pattern of games, bible stories, discussion and craft activities and allows the children to return in time for a blessing or to receive communion at the altar. The club bought and distributed Church of England Advent Calendars to all attending children in December 2023. This has been the only expense for the club this financial year.

Although it has sometimes been quite challenging to find adult numbers to maintain agreed safeguarding guidelines, I am keen to keep the club running in order to give local children the opportunity to hear stories from the bible in a fun and educational environment.

Andrew Stilborn

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, IFFLEY PCC

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 December 2023

This report covers the financial activities of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023
It includes the financial statements and appendices as follows:
Independent Examiner's Report
Statement of Receipts and Payments
Statement of Assets and Liabilities including fund movements
Notes to the Financial Statements
Accounting Policies

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

Overall, the result is an operating surplus for the PCC of £7,257.
The figures for the Church Hall and Church House have been shown separately in order to show clearly the results of the main church activities.

The main activities of the church are showing a deficit of £4,234: this compares with a deficit of £4,932 for 2022.
We are again most grateful for the support of the Friends of St Mary in respect of the repairs to glazing and the installation of LED lighting.
There was an increase of £28,027 in the value of our investments at the year end.
Church Hall income more than recovered to £30,873 to provide a surplus of £2,503.
Church House was let on the market with effect from December 2022.
Church House expenditure is met by the PCC as shown.

The harvest appeal raised £8,749 during the year before Gift Aid
The Christmas appeal raised £3,921 before Gift Aid.
We continue to give £5,000 each year to charities under our St Mary's Giving Scheme.
In addition parishioners provide financial support for the Community Cupboard.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

In 2019 the introduction of the Parish Giving Scheme had a significant effect on our income.
The generosity of parishioners has provided a cushion for the past years of the pandemic.
However, during the year the number of donors has decreased with a consequent significant impact on our income.
Furthermore, expenditure is increasing, with electricity and gas costs in particular showing rises of over 100%.
Against these, we will now receive income for Church House, with buoyant hall bookings.
In addition, we expect that greater calls will be made on us by the Diocese in the form of the Parish Share.
The budget for 2023 shows a deficit of roughly £22,000.
Overall there is no immediate concern but the continuing deficit will need to be addressed.

CHURCH ASSETS.

All the assets reflected in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities are financial assets, full details of which are set out in note 6 to the accounts.
Given that Church House is a PCC property held for the long term, it has ceased to be shown as a financial asset in the accounts.
Church Hall is also a PCC property held for the long term, and likewise is not shown as a financial asset in the accounts.

RESERVE FUNDS.

Reserves are needed for long term significant expenditure required on the church buildings.
From 2019 the PCC decided to make provision for future expenditure of £17,000 each year.
This is to provide for major items of expenditure which will fall due in the future.
These costs are in respect of the Church, Church Hall and Church House.
These are known recurring items where current reserves will be insufficient.

A.J. Marshall

Alexander Marshall
Honorary Treasurer

St Mary's Iffley

Statement of Receipts and payments

Year ended 31 December 2023	2023 31-Dec-23 Unrestricted funds	2023 31-Dec-23 Restricted funds	2023 31-Dec-23 TOTAL	2023 31-Dec-23 BUDGET	2022 31-Dec-22 ACTUAL
RECEIPTS					
Planned Giving- PGS Scheme	62,337.95		62,337.95	86,500.00	82,601.10
Donations including collections and boxes	22,367.56	5,272.04	27,639.60		
Gift Aid recovered	18,640.38		18,640.38	20,000.00	17,040.44
Enhancements		0.00	0.00		
Friends of St Mary's grants-Lighting (glazing &c)	0.00	13,109.43	13,109.43		6,406.71
Listed place of worship grant- VAT reclaim	1,317.24		1,317.24		968.64
Living Stones	596.38		596.38		957.61
Receipts from Church Activities including magazine	2,356.25		2,356.25	2,500.00	2,614.07
Fees	13,501.00		13,501.00	9,000.00	11,100.01
	0.00		0.00		
	121,116.76	18,381.47	139,498.23	118,000.00	121,688.58
PAYMENTS					
Parish Share	56,706.42		56,706.42	59,000.00	57,894.21
Clergy and Staffing	11,229.67		11,229.67	6,414.00	5,995.43
Church Running Expenses - see Note 2	49,125.84	14,559.43	63,685.27	39,297.00	51,328.13
Living Stones	455.06		455.06	500.00	1,160.92
Church Enhancements	0.00		0.00		
Fee Remissions	6,656.00		6,656.00	2,850.00	5,242.00
Charitable giving- see Note 3	5,000.00		5,000.00	6,000.00	5,000.00
	129,172.99	14,559.43	143,732.42	114,061.00	126,620.69
Church activities- surplus/ (deficit)	(8,056.23)	3,822.04	(4,234.19)	3,939.00	(4,932.11)
Church hall net surplus/ (deficit): see Note 4	2,503.34		2,503.34	(13,205.00)	3,977.56
Church House net surplus/ (deficit): see Note 5	8,987.06		8,987.06	(5,100.00)	(6,431.72)
Interest from investments- see Note 7	0.99		0.99		0.40
Operating surplus/ (deficit)	3,435.16	3,822.04	7,257.20	(14,366.00)	(7,385.87)

Note 1- Types of funds

Unrestricted funds are those which have been received on the understanding that they will be used by the PCC for furthering the mission and ministry of the church.

Restricted funds are those which have been given for a particular purpose, and these must not be used by the PCC for any other purpose.

Designated funds are where the PCC has earmarked funds for a particular purpose.

Note 2- Church running expenses	**2023** Actual	**2022** Actual
Vestry rent	1,456.00	1,456.00
Music and organists	4,007.59	7,031.72
Church insurance	3,807.82	3,729.95
Church office expenditure (including Photocopier)	6,042.12	4,831.20
Churchyard upkeep	2,495.00	1,913.98
Church electricity and water	8,760.01	4,136.28
Church magazine	1,705.20	1,621.56
Postcards and guidebooks	0.00	297.60
Church cleaning	1,740.57	1,558.00
Other incl upkeep of services, social activities	-252.08	2,758.84
Repayment of OBDF Mission grant	2,119.00	2,119.00
Website and live stream	861.60	255.00
Repairs	5,968.22	2,705.35
Repairs- restricted		6,406.71
Bank charges	414.79	506.94
Reserve fund	10,000.00	10,000.00
	49,125.84	51,328.13

Funded by FOSM- guide books, glass, LEDs.

Note 3- Charitable giving	**2023** Actual	**2022** Actual
Arts at the Old Fire Station	750.00	
Oxford Street Pastors	750.00	
Refugee Resource	500.00	
Rose Hill Methodist Church	1,000.00	
Donnington Doorstep	1,000.00	1,000.00
Rose Hill & Donnington Advice Centre	1,000.00	1,000.00
Ark-T		1,000.00
Freedom from torture		750.00
Children's Society		500.00
Yellow Submarine		750.00
	5,000.00	5,000.00

The Harvest Appeal is not included as it does not form part of the church's income or expenditure.
The same principle is applied to Gift Aid recovered in respect of the Harvest Appeal.

Note 4- Church Hall	**2023** Actual		**2022** Actual
Hall lettings	33,720.00		27,186.50
Less: refunds	(2,847.00)		(2,343.25)
Net income:	30,873.00	Net income:	24,843.25
Less: expenditure			
Hall- Booking Secretary	6,382.60		4,500.00
Hall- licences	941.62		577.53
Hall- Electricity	1,386.22		577.68
Hall- Gas	6,738.72		2,121.08
Hall- Insurance	1,903.91		1,864.98
Hall- Repairs & maintenance	2,745.83		3,310.31
Hall- Cleaning	1,938.75		1,917.16
Hall- Water	717.79		364.07

Hall- Broadband	614.22		632.88
Reserve fund incl re-thatching fund	5,000.00		5,000.00
Total hall expenditure	28,369.66		20,865.69
Church hall- Net (deficit)/ surplus	2,503.34		3,977.56

A surveyor's report has indicated that the condition of the thatch is currently satisfactory and likely to be so for the next two years.
The report recommends that minor works to it are carried out.
However, a quotation for a 50% re-thatch shows that the cost has now risen to £40,000.
All costs have to be met by the PCC funds.
The PCC has made a provision to meet future liabilities.

Note 5- Church House	**2023** Actual		**2022** Actual
Rent received	16,068.34		721.28
Council tax- 2023- refund	-541.88	Council tax	1,966.29
Utilities	0.00		934.20
Buildings insurance	592.09		
Insurance excess Subsidence claim	1,000.00		
Legal fees	970.00		
Waiver of covenant- to OCC			
Maintenance	3,061.07		2,252.51
Reserve fund	2,000.00		2,000.00
Church House Expenditure	7,081.28		7,153.00
Church house- Net surplus (deficit)	8,987.06		-6,431.72

Following the curate's departure, the house has been let out at a market rate.
All costs have to be met by the PCC funds.
The PCC has made a provision to meet future liabilities.

Note 6- Property
Church House is no longer recognised as an asset in the balance sheet.
The PCC considers that it is not intended to realise the asset and that it would be misleading to show it as such.
It was previously shown at a value of £250,000.
The Church Hall is wholly owned by the PCC and is held at nil value.

Note 7- Cash and Investments
Current accounts are maintained with Barclays Bank PLC.
The investments comprise a Deposit Fund, an Investment Fund, and
Global Equity Accumulation Fund.
These are with CCLA Investment Management Ltd who manage funds solely for
Churches, Charities and Local Authorities (hence CCLA).

Note 8- Provisions for future expenditure
These are designated according to the PCC's policy as follows:

Allocation:	Church	Church Hall	Church House	TOTAL
Brought forward January 2023	£ 90,000	£ 60,000	£ 18,000	£ 168,000
Charge for the year	£ 10,000	£ 5,000	£ 2,000	£ 17,000
Carried forward December 2023	£ 100,000	£ 65,000	£ 20,000	£ 185,000

From 2019 the PCC has made provision for future expenditure.
This is to provide for major items of expenditure which will fall due in the future.
These costs are in respect of the Church, Church Hall and Church House.
These are known recurring items for which current reserves will be insufficient.
These do not include any discretionary items.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, IFFLEY PCC

Statement of Assets and Liabilities and Movement of Funds

Year ended 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total £
Fund balances b/forward at 1 Jan 2023	193,048		193,048
Movements of funds:			
Church	(4,234)		(4,234)
Church Hall	2,503		2,503
Church House	8,987		8,987
Interest received- Note 7	1		1
Revaluation of investments- Note 7	28,027		28,027
Movements in liabilities	(5,353)		(5,353)
Non cash movements- reserves	17,000		17,000
Fund balances c/ forward at 31 Dec 2023	**239,979**	**-**	**239,979**
Represented by: (see note 7)			
Current Account- Barclays	25,687	4,269	29,956
Less: liability for Appeals paid 2024		(4,269)	(4,269)
	25,687	0	25,687
CBF Church of England Deposit Fund	18,032	0	18,032
CBF Church of England Global Equity Income Fund	122,973	0	122,973
CBF Church of England Investment Fund	73,287	0	73,287
Reserves	**239,979**	**0**	**239,979**

Statement of reserves		
General fund		54,979
Provisions (Note 8)		185,000
		239,979

Liabilities

Christmas Appeal paid over in 2024	3,921
Christingle collection paid over in 2024	348
	4,269

Appendix: Accounting policies

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared using the receipts and payments basis.
St Mary's Iffley PCC now uses receipts and payments accounting: accordingly there is no requirement to follow accounting procedures or standards.
However, the following guidelines will be applied:
All payments are recognised when paid.
All receipts are recognised upon receipt.
The PCC is now recognising future liabilities and providing accordingly.
Any departure from this practice or any unusual items will be advised and explained by way of note.

Sarah Beaver	Alexander Marshall	John Mclintock
Churchwarden	Honorary Treasurer	Independent Examiner

Independent Examiner's Report 2023

Report to the PCC of St. Mary the Virgin, Iffley

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 1 to 5 is in respect of an examination carried out the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiners

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 144(2) of the Act do not apply.

It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2017 edition.

The 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 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

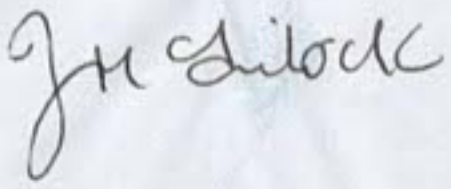
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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 Act; and
   - 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.

John McLintock
12 Mill Lane
Iffley
Oxford



THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. MARY'S IFFLEY

England & Wales - Charity number 1128523

Accounts

CHURCH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN
Church Way Iffley Oxford OX4 4EG

The Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2022

Incumbent
The Revd Andrew McKearney,
The Rectory, Mill Lane, Iffley, Oxford, OX4 4EJ

Bank
Barclays, PO Box 333, Oxford, OX1 3HS

Independent Examiner
Mr John McLintock, 12 Mill Lane, Iffley, Oxford, OX4 4EJ

Registered Charity Number
1128523

SUMMARY OF OUR VOCATION

We are called to be *A Christ-like Church for the sake of God's world: contemplative, compassionate, courageous.*

We would like to be known for six things:

- The depth of our spiritual life
- Our commitment to bring life to others
- The stepping-stones we put in place for those who wish to journey with us
- The vibrancy of our common life
- The beauty of our church building
- Our ability to work together

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Purpose

St Mary's Parochial Church Council (the PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has responsibility for the management of the Church property in the parish – St Mary's Church and Churchyard, the Church Hall, Church Vestry, Church Office and Church House.

Membership (since the APCM)

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) or co-opted by the PCC in accordance with the Church Representation Rules 2022.

Vicar	Andrew McKearney	Ex officio
Churchwardens	Tom Leach	Ex officio 2020 onwards
	Sarah Beaver	Ex officio 2022 onwards
Representatives on Cowley Deanery Synod	Sarah McKearney	Ex officio 2020-2023
	Elizabeth Harré	Ex officio 2022-2023
	Mark Phythian-Adams	Ex officio 2022-2023
Elected PCC members	John Eastwood	2017-2023
	Penny Tyack	2017-2023
	Roger Wagner	2017-2023
	Vacancy	2022-2023
	Hilary Pearson	2018-2024
	Guin Webster	2020-2024
	Vacancy	*2022-2024*
	Vacancy	*2022-2024*
	Alex Marshall	2019-2025
	Jane McBain	2019-2025
	Vacancy	*2022-2025*
	Vacancy	*2022-2025*
Co-opted PCC members	Kate Stilborn	2022-2023
Officers	*Vacancy*	*2022-2023*
PCC Appointments	Tom Leach	*PCC Vice Chair*
	Kate Stilborn	*PCC Secretary*
	Alex Marshall	*PCC Treasurer*
	Janet Low	*Electoral Roll Officer*
	Hilary Pearson	*Data Compliance Officer*
	Sarah Beaver	*Health & Safety Officer*
		Fire Officer
	Penny Tyack	*Safeguarding Officer*
	Jane McBain	*Children's Advocate*
	Lorna Bourdeaux	*Disclosure and Barring Service Verifier*
	Penny Tyack	*Assistant Disclosure & Barring Service Verifier*
	Hilary Pearson	*Friends of St Mary's*
	Penny Tyack	*Friends of St Mary's*
	Janet Low	*Parish Secretary*
	Lucy Phillips	*Assistant Parish Secretary & Hall Bookings Secretary*
	David Patrick	*Website & Social Media*

REVIEW OF 2022

Incumbent's Report on the Activities of the Parish

There is a lot about St Mary's which is encouraging, and this is reflected in the annual report. I hope that you will feel as I do when you read it – a profound sense of gratitude to so many for their commitment, generosity, creativity and hard work. There is so much good will and warmth about St Mary's, rooted in worship and prayer. There is real concern for one another and the disadvantaged, as well as engagement in the issues of the day and for the future of our planet. St Mary's is a thoughtful and faithful congregation. However, there are some matters of genuine concern. Attendance at public worship is down since pre-pandemic times about 20%, in common with much of the Church of England. Our early morning Sunday service now gathers just once a month. Some of our small groups have stopped meeting. There are no young children coming to the crèche. The numbers on the Church electoral roll are down and the amount of money raised through the Parish Giving Scheme is down. Brexit led to a significant loss at St Mary's of children and young families who decided to return to their homes in Europe. The pandemic led some people to alter their habits, others reassessed their lives and have moved house, and on others, particularly the frail and elderly, the pandemic has taken its toll. The increased pressures of life mean that many have less time, money and energy to contribute to the life of the church. But those same pressures are leading others to ask deeper questions about life, its meaning and purpose. And always the love of God is present, faith is always new and hope is always surprising. So, I write this last annual report profoundly grateful for the last 16 ½ years as your vicar, and I look to the future with steady confidence in God's purposes for St Mary's.

Andrew McKearney

Church Electoral Roll

At the end of 2022 (2021) there were 126 (135) members on the Electoral roll, of which 34 (34) lived outside the parish.

Janet Low

Churchwardens' Report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church

A report of the work carried out on the Church, Vestry, Churchyard, and Church House during 2022 is contained in the Fabric Committee Report. The annual check of the Church Silver, Fixtures and Fittings has been carried out. The digital Terrier is complete with digital and hard copy photographs of all church silver. The current hardcopy Terrier is also complete and available for inspection.

Tom Leach & Sarah Beaver

Safeguarding

At least 40 of the people who volunteer their time and skill within our church community have undertaken safeguarding training offered by the Church of England. This year 32 people took responsibility for the wellbeing of children and/or vulnerable adults. 9 of these were working specifically with children and young people, 4 as authorised lay preachers, 2 as pastoral assistants, 4 as volunteers with Community Cupboard and 13 as members of the PCC. Living Stones had 17 volunteers, 7 of whom took a leading role with children and vulnerable adults and had, like all the above, up-to-date safeguarding training and DBS certificates. The bellringers made great strides with encouraging their leaders to apply for DBS checks and to undertake the requisite training. In 2022 eleven people updated their safeguarding training, and ten renewed their DBS checks. Safeguarding is a regular item on every PCC agenda and is a

core function of this church. We are finding that the more we talk together about what we learn from the training the more confident we feel about acting if we are concerned. We are discovering that as an alert and caring community we really can help, not least by knowing how to record concerns and to access professional guidance.
Penny Tyack

Health & Safety

In addition to the usual mandatory annual checks (PAT testing; fire extinguishers) the five-year Electrical Installation Condition Report (EICR) inspections were carried out in the Church, Vestry, and Hall in August 2022 and minor remedial works were undertaken to ensure compliance with essential requirements. The lightning conductor was also checked and inspected in May 2022. A practice evacuation of the church was also carried out in August 2022 at the end of the 10am service and the established written procedures (included in the Handbook for duty Churchwardens) worked well. However, as part of the annual review of health and safety arrangements, in particular the detailed review of the fire safety arrangements using a template from Ecclesiastical Insurance, it became clear that for major services and events (for example weddings, large funerals, Christingle services, carol services, and concerts) where many attendees will be unfamiliar with the church, there needs to be a separate Fire Emergency Safety Plan with additional stewards. A fire risk assessment was also carried out for the Vestry and at the request of the landlords, the Landmark Trust, smoke alarms were installed. Other H&S measures implemented included the posting of fire notices in the emergency night-time evacuations of the Church and Vestry, and the supply of legally compliant Accident Books. The review also identified the scope to improve the safety of the steps to the bell tower by the installation of an internal rope rail, a proposal on which Diocesan advice on the faculty requirements is currently being sought. The Church Health and Safety Policy, revised risk assessment, etc were reviewed and adopted at the November 2022 PCC meeting, as was the Church Fire Emergency Safety Plan subject to further advice (obtained from the Ecclesiastical H&S adviser) and consideration of the arrangements for the placement and location of those with limited mobility at major events. A training session for the stewards on duty at the Christingle and Carol services was held on 18 December.
Sarah Beaver

General Data Protection Regulation

There are no matters to report.
Hilary Pearson

COUNCILS, COMMITTEES & SYNODS

Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council

Introduction The role of the PCC is to (along with the incumbent) promote the mission of God in the parish, be responsible for the parish finances and have ultimate responsibility for the care and maintenance of all church buildings and their contents. The PCC and the incumbent also have a duty of care to ensure the protection of the vulnerable in their church community. As we exited formal lockdown restrictions, we moved back to face-to-face PCC meetings in the Church Hall which allowed for greater discussion and debate than having meetings via Zoom. During 2022 we said farewell to Nikolaj Christensen who left St Mary's to take on a new role as Rector of the Wantage Downs Benefice. Maureen McNaboe stepped down as Churchwarden after four years. The PCC recognised the great contribution that Nikolaj and Maureen had made in their roles. Sarah Beaver became the new Church warden alongside Tom Leach. Towards the end of the year, Liz Spain was welcomed as the new part-time Community Chaplain working in Rose Hill. The PCC also started work on next steps following the sad news that Andrew and Sarah McKearney would be retiring in 2023. A team was appointed to produce a Parish Profile to plan for a replacement incumbent with assistance from a Parish Development Adviser.

Promoting the Mission of God in the Parish

Leadership: The PCC explored and discussed the implications and repercussions of Andrew's and Sarah's retirement, particularly in the light of the fact that St Mary's wouldn't get another curate for 18-24 months following Nikolaj's departure. Options that the PCC explored included a self-supporting priest (with or without housing) or a recently retired priest who may have a house of their own. Locally supported priests who may or may not have a house were also discussed. This naturally will be the most important priority for the PCC in 2023.

Worship: The 10am Sunday morning services were restored albeit with continued restrictions which were eased throughout the year with agreement from the PCC. A positive outcome from the pandemic has been the increased use of technology in worship. The Sunday morning service is now livestreamed each week (whilst being GDPR compliant) and saved to YouTube so that it is accessible to all. During the year the PCC endorsed Hilary Pearson, Alice Lawhead and Roger Wagner as Lay Preachers and they were authorised in these roles by the end of the year.

St Mary's Vision and Values: The PCC oversaw a successful event on December 11th following the Parish Eucharist to collate views from the congregation on what was treasured about St Mary's and what could be improved. This meeting was one of the first stages of reviewing St Mary's vision and purpose and will be particularly useful in producing the Parish Profile to ensure we get the best new incumbent possible for our Parish.

Living Stones: The PCC endorsed and fully supported the work of Penny Tyack and the team of Living Stones volunteers throughout the year. The PCC recognise the important outreach work achieved by Living Stones in sharing the history and beauty of the Church with our wider community.

Living in Love & Faith: This is a Church of England initiative that helps Christians understand human identity, changing patterns in relationships and families, changing sexual attitudes and activity. During 2022 the Ministry team and the PCC attended an excellent six-week course which improved our knowledge and understanding of identity.

Community Cupboard: The cost-of-living crisis increased the importance and focus of the work of Community Cupboard. The work of community cupboard and the funds and resources required to support the work remained high on the agenda throughout the year.

The Church Building

Repairs and Maintenance: The PCC approved work on the wire guards on the windows as a result of a Condition Report on the Glazing. The Friends of St Mary's agreed to fund this work. The PCC agreed that all the lighting inside the church should be replaced with LED bulbs in order to reduce the building's carbon footprint and running costs. The Friends of St Mary agreed to fund this with help from Godfrey Townsend's bequest. A quote for the quinquennial electrical installation inspection for the church was agreed by the PCC and this was completed within the year.

St Mary's Guide Book: 3000 copies of the Guide Book were revised (to include the new altar frontal) and reprinted, also funded by the Friends of St Mary's.

Court Place Gardens University Development: The vicar and others from the PCC met up with various third parties throughout the year in regard to the development of Court Place Gardens. Particular focus was on proposals for a pathway through the Churchyard to the gardens. It was agreed in principle that the developers would pay for a path using the existing gateway in the south wall of the churchyard. It will be two years until the work is completed on Court Place and the PCC will revisit nearer the time.

Churchyard Feasibility Study

The PCC reviewed the Churchyard Development Plan that was endorsed by the PCC in May 2018. It was encouraging to see that many of the 13 items were completed. The areas that were not completed included those that might become more relevant now that the Court Place Gardens Development was underway. A feasibility study of the Churchyard was discussed with an aim to provide improved paths, viewing opportunities and meeting areas particularly outside the west front. This will proceed with financial support from the Friends of St Mary's.

The Church Hall

Within the accounts a provision has been made for rethatching of the Church Hall. Quotes were obtained within the year which were higher than anticipated and subsequently the PCC agreed to delegate to the Hall Committee the authority to make an application for funding from the FCC Community Action Fund. This funding was unfortunately not obtained as the grant application had not got the support of a specialist surveyor. This has now been rectified.

Curacy House

In recent months the future of Curacy House was one of the most pressing matters discussed by the PCC as a result of Nikolaj's departure. There were two immediate concerns. The first was that there were cracks in the house most likely due to subsidence. The second was the fact that a vacant house could lead to squatters moving in unless the house was well secured. After considerable work by Sarah Beaver and after seeking much advice from relevant third parties the PCC approved that the house be let (after some essential maintenance was completed). Following a surveyor' report, the PCC were satisfied that the cracks were not of immediate concern and the house was safe to occupy. However, work progresses to establish the cause of the cracks, undertake repairs and obtain a Certificate of Structural Adequacy should the PCC decide to sell the property in the future. This was all discussed in the context of the ministry in Rose Hill and the fact that the PCC were assured that in the event of having a curate in the future their accommodation would not be dependent on the parish providing a house.

Iffley Rectory

The PCC sought reassurances about the future of Iffley Rectory as a result of Andrew's retirement. The PCC now understand that it is a settled matter that the rectory be used by the vicar of St Mary's. Maintenance work will take place during the interregnum between incumbents.

Parish Finances
The PCC agreed a prudent budget for the year that forecast an overall deficit of 14k. The budget was set at a time of uncertainty following Covid restrictions. The PCC recognised that although utility costs were higher than forecast this would be some way offset by buoyant bookings of the Church Hall throughout the year.

Regulatory requirements
These were discussed at each meeting of the PCC.

Charitable Support
The work of the Charity Committee was discussed and supported at each meeting and all proposals supported. There was additional work carried out to explore how St Mary's might support refugees through the Community Sponsorship Scheme, particularly at the start of the Ukraine war. The conclusion reached was that even with support of other local groups this might be too financially ambitious. Other avenues such as working with Asylum Welcome and Refugee Resource were agreed as well as practically supporting parish members who welcomed Ukrainian into their own homes.
Kate Stilborn

Standing Committee

Andrew McKearney, Tom Leach, Sarah Beaver, Alex Marshall, Kate Stilborn
The Standing Committee did not meet during 2022 and PCC agendas were agreed by email.
Andrew McKearney

Charities Committee

Andrew McKearney, Kate Stilborn, Jane McBain, Sarah Beaver, Debbie Burrows, Maggie Wilson, Sarah McKearney
The committee met in March, June, and October. A total of £16,592 (£19,647 in 2021) was raised in the course of 2022. This broke down into £2,283 (£5,426)) Christian Aid Week, £511 (NIL) Organ Recital, £10,960 (£11,540) Harvest Appeal, £2,446 (£2,681) Christmas Appeal, £392 (NIL) Christingle Service – The Children's Society. The PCC continued with its charity grants of £5,000 throughout 2022 despite the pressure on church finances. These grants were distributed between The Children's Society (£500), Ark-T (£1,000), Freedom from Torture (£750), Yellow Submarine (£750), Rose Hill & Donnington Advice Centre (£1,000) and Donnington Doorstep Family Centre (£1,000). We are very grateful to Sarah Beaver, and Debbie Burrows joining the committee.
Andrew McKearney

Finance Committee

Andrew McKearney, Viviane Robertson, Alex Marshall, Tim Brunton, Helen Powell, Barry & Stephanie Newsome, Sarah Beaver, Lucy Phillips
The committee met twice in March and October. The pressure on parish finances has remained throughout 2022 as is clear from the annual accounts – this is set to continue in 2023 and beyond with rising costs, inflation, poor returns on investments and an uplift in the Parish Share. All those involved in the financial affairs of the parish are owed a huge debt of gratitude for their diligence and hard work, as is the generosity of congregational members.
Andrew McKearney

Church Hall Committee

Tim Brunton, Nikolaj Christensen, John Dean, John Harris, Alex Marshall, Patricia Michael, Stephen Michael, Lucy Phillips, Viviane Robertson, Andrew McKearney, Diana Nettleton

During the year the committee continued to manage the activities and upkeep of Iffley Church Hall, in support of St Mary's parish mission and the social activities of the wider community. The Church Hall Committee dealt with enquiries, made bookings, managed maintenance issues and attended to compliance monitoring. By the beginning of the calendar year, the substantial constraints imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic had been replaced by a return to business near-normality. Income rebounded encouragingly, and end of year totals indicated income of £24,820.25, an increase of over 18 percent compared with 2019, the last 'normal' pre-pandemic trading year, and a rise of £15,198.25 as against 2021 earnings. This increase represented a growth in business volume as well as a reflection of higher hourly charges. There was a noticeable change in the pattern of business with good growth in valued regular hirers and a decline in ad hoc party-type business. The diligence and commitment of the Bookings Secretary in achieving this very satisfactory level of bookings and income has been noted by the committee. Maintenance tasks undertaken in 2022 included improvements to the courtyard garden, the introduction of LED lighting in the upstairs room, draught proofing of doors, and gutter, window and beam cleaning. Much of the committee's time was devoted to preparations for the proposed re-thatching of the east roof elevation and ridge, provisionally scheduled for Easter 2023 at an indicative cost of £50,000. A substantial grant application to FCC Community Action Fund was assembled, with excellent help and co-operation from village committees, organisations and individuals. This was not successful because of limitations on grant funding and insufficient evidence that it was necessary to carry out the rethatching at the present time. (A specialist survey in January 2023 indicated that the work could reasonably be postponed for 2-3 years). Meetings of the committee took place on 16 February, 25 May, 15 July and 9 December. Patricia Michael and Stephen Michael stood down from the committee with effect from the 25 May meeting and were warmly thanked for their many years of faithful service. The continuing commitment and energy of all members is again acknowledged.

John Harris

Fabric Committee

Mark Phythian-Adams, Andrew McKearney, Tom Leach, Sarah Beaver, Tim Brunton, Penny Tyack

The Fabric Committee met in June 2022 for the first time since 2018. The meeting was also attended by Andrew Townsend, the Church Architect, and a walkaround inspection of the inside and outside of the Church confirmed that most of the matters arising from the 2018 Quinquennial Inspection had been dealt with. The Committee also considered a Condition Report on the Glazing prepared by Jim Budd of Jim Budd Stained Glass. This indicated that the glass is generally in good condition but included a number of recommendations for cleaning and general maintenance work on cords, hinges, etc., the replacement of some of the grilles, and the installation of Environmental Protection Glazing (EPG) on the 15th century panel in the south wall of the nave containing the de la Pole arms. Following further consideration, including of its high cost and the visual impact of the installation of EPG, the PCC approved the implementation of the other repairs at a cost of £4,750 excluding VAT. This work, which will be funded by a grant from the Friends of St Mary's (FOSM) and is a List A project (requires reporting to the Diocese but not a Faculty) will be carried out in March or April 2023. The Committee also recommended, and the PCC subsequently approved, the replacement of the halogen lights in Church and external floodlights with LEDs. This was funded with a generous grant from the Friends of St Mary's (FOSM) from Godfrey Townsend's bequest. The work was carried out in August 2022, but several of the new lights failed, and although the new lights were supposed to be compatible with the existing drivers, it was decided that the drivers should also be replaced.

This additional work was funded by a further grant from FOSM and a £150 grant obtained from the Diocese from its Energy Efficiency Fund. There have been some ongoing problems with flickering of lights on the dimmer switch and this will now be replaced by an on/off switch. Overall expenditure on this project to date has amounted to some £3,743 (Ex VAT, which the Church can reclaim). The Committee noted that while it was hoped that Legal and General's redevelopment of Court Place on behalf of the University might include some contribution towards improving the landscaping around the Church, there was no immediate urgency as the project was in its relatively early stages and not due to complete until September 2024. It recommended that Andrew Townsend should be invited to undertake a feasibility study, to include indicative costings, of the proposed landscaping scheme to include improved disabled access to the church and churchyard and the possible provision of an accessible toilet. The PCC initially considered that the Church needed to focus on other more immediate priorities but has now agreed that the initial feasibility study should proceed at a cost of up to £4,500 excluding VAT, noting that the implementation of any agreed works could be phased. Fees for associated investigations and research could cost up to another £4,750.

The Church

Apart from the replacement of the lighting, there were no major works in 2022.

The Churchyard

The churchyard is closed to new burials which means that the Council has overall responsibility for its maintenance. Its garden of remembrance nevertheless continues to be in regular use; there were 5 burials of ashes there in 2022. A small team of volunteers has continued its work to maintain the church yard and benches while the Council mows some of the grass, respecting the roped off areas so that wild flowers can grow and a contractor engaged by the Church mows the paths. The moles have also continued to enjoy the church yard. Contractors also trimmed the hedge and removed some multi-stem hazel trees to the west of the church. A particular feature of the last year has been the small field of wooden crosses with blue and yellow ribbons generously made by Ed Ling for individual planting with prayers as a symbol of the support and prayers of visitors and members of the congregation for both the Ukrainians and Russians killed in the conflict. Immediate priorities for 2023 will be the removal of the ivy from the perimeter walls and the repair of the wall between the West Lawn area of the church and Court Place where the capping stones are loose and at risk of falling. We shall also be considering the proposals for the future development of the Churchyard that emerge from the feasibility study.

The Vestry

The Landmark Trust, as the owner of the building, is responsible for its fabric. The PCC pays rent for use of the Vestry.

Church House

Following the Christensens' report in mid-September of further cracking in the ceilings and walls at Church House, the Church surveyor inspected the house and confirmed that it remained safe to occupy but recommended that the insurers should be contacted about potential subsidence. An EICR inspection (and minor remedial works), a gas safety inspection, PAT and alarms testing were all carried out at Church House in November/early December 2022 prior to the commencement of a tenancy.

Church Office

This is currently housed at the Rectory and the Rectory is owned by Christ Church.

Sarah Beaver

Magazine Committee

Rhys Hedges, Nikolaj Christensen replaced by Graham Low, John Harris, Edwin Pritchard, Jackie Pritchard, Cecily Kirtland

The Committee met mostly monthly. For details of income and expenditure please see the Treasurer's Report. Seven issues consisted of 24 pages, one of 20, and three of 28. Regular advertising accounted for eight pages in the December 2022 issue. The print run was 275 per month for 2022.

Jackie Pritchard

Living Stones Committee

Andrew McKearney, Penny Tyack, Hilary Pearson, Janet Low, Debbie Burrows, Maureen McNaboe, Marion Casey. Elizabeth Mullett is the Minutes secretary.

The role of Living Stones, the education and outreach arm of the church, has recently been highlighted by members of the congregation as a positive feature of St Mary's. 'Living Stones brings in other visitors interested in the heritage of Iffley church' and 'brings the church into the community'. The work of its 17 friendly and energetic volunteers makes this possible. By regularly welcoming visitors to the church, and by organising special events, the team adds significantly to a shared understanding of, and care for, this historic building. On Sunday afternoons from Easter to the end of September they spoke to 332 visitors, among whom was one who stayed for nearly an hour and said, 'It is my first time in a church. Really peaceful and really beautiful.' The year began with a special event for volunteers: tea, and a viewing of the delightful Virtual Tour that had been made during lockdown, reinvigorated the team as welcomers, church guides and organisers of the events planned for 2022. Altogether 150 people attended the four events. 35 people enjoyed learning about devotional singing during the tumultuous years of the Reformation, with lecture-recitals and a service of Evensong; 20 participated in a day-school in Drawing Iffley Church with Sally Levell and Phil Whiting; 55 climbed the bell tower, followed a variety of churchyard trails and viewed excerpts of the film made by Sub Rosa of a re-enactment of Annora's service of Enclosure; and 40 spent an enlightening afternoon studying the stained glass windows of Iffley Church. 'Fascinating, informative and eye-opening,' was a not untypical comment on the events, as was another observation, 'It was good, because of meetings with creative people and exchanging ideas.' The year ended with a special tour for volunteers of medieval glass in New College Chapel and Christ Church Cathedral. Appetites were whetted for more Living Stones guiding and study days in 2023, and for more volunteers to share their love of the building with others who feel, like one visitor, that it is 'an extraordinary church... always something different to wonder at. Spectacular! Thank you for the tour!'

Penny Tyack

Eco Church @ St Mary's

The Eco Church group was formed in early 2019 and meetings took place roughly on a monthly basis between then and summer 2022. The pattern of regular monthly meetings (second Sunday of the month after church) was re-established in November 2022 after several months of hiatus following the departure of three key members at the beginning of September.

Up to November 2022 the group undertook a number of activities, including a 'litter pick' in conjunction with a low carbon group based in Rose Hill (RHILC), a climate Sunday service, occasional intercessions with an environmental theme during the year. During 2022 the group was seeking wider congregational involvement through a couple of carbon footprint stalls after church on a Sunday to help members of the congregation to work out their own carbon footprint. It also ran two presentations about Eco Church with bookstalls in the Church Hall to attempt to recruit more group members. At the same time there were active exchanges via the Whatsapp group "St Mary's Eco Chat" which had attracted approx. 20 participants and a regular page had

been designed and set up on the church website. However it has become clear that Eco Church activity needs to maintain non-digital information and communication to stay in touch with all members of St Mary's congregation. During 2022 a number of themes emerged:

- The need for regular group meetings to sustain and follow up the commitment to action in the Eco Church group. This has now been put in place with monthly meetings booked in the diary until the end of December 2023.
- A strong desire to involve children and younger members of the congregation in the activities of Eco Church, which is reciprocated by young people themselves, for example in the comments to the December 2022 workshop (Looking to the Future of Iffley Parish). The Eco Church group is still looking for ways to make this happen.
- As a recent contribution has made clear, the group needs to engage with the political side of climate change. As we pursue a silver award with Arocha, we will need to demonstrate a more political level of awareness and capability for example by joining forces with other climate related campaigns, and inviting MPs and councillors as speakers. The group identified water quality and river pollution as a local issue on which there is already some local activity and it is testing how much support there is likely to be in the parish for ongoing activity on this issue. A water quality statement was produced in support of the local end-sewage-pollution-thames-campaign (for more information: endsewagepollutionthames.wordpress.com)

Tom Leach

Cowley Deanery Synod

Sarah McKearney, Mark Phythian-Adams, Elizabeth Harré

No report has been received of the work of the Synod.

GROUPS & TEAMS

Ministry Team

The ministry team shares with the vicar in developing and sustaining the vision of the parish together with the week-by-week running of St Mary's. During 2022 Nikolaj Christensen concluded his curacy. Our churchwardens, Tom Leach and Sarah Beaver, have been a great blessing, together with our retired priests, Graham Low and David Barton, our licensed lay minister, Sarah McKearney, our newly authorised lay preachers, Alice Lawhead, Hilary Pearson and Roger Wagner, and our pastoral team headed up by our lay pastoral assistant, Susan Morrison. We have met roughly fortnightly, alternating between in person and online. We have been delighted to welcome an ordinand on placement in the parish, hold a parish retreat, and resume the healing ministry. The administrative support provided by Janet Low and Lucy Phillips, with Kate Stilborn as PCC Secretary, continues to be exceptional. In November we welcomed Rebecca Dean back to lead our study evening entitled 'Does the New Testament bring Good News for women?' In 2022 (2021) there were 15 (6) Baptisms, 3 (0) Admissions to Holy Communion, 0 (6) Confirmations, 10 (8) Banns of Marriage published, 1 (1) Blessing of a Marriage, 10 (5) Weddings, 9 (14) Funerals, 21 (24) Interment of Ashes, 0 (2) Burials, and 0 (2) Memorial Services.

Andrew McKearney

Music in Worship

We are very thankful that, after two years of very limited music-making in church, 2022 saw the emergence of sung services again at St Mary's and an established pattern of a monthly sung evening service (with a break over the summer). Mostly these take the form of a simple Evensong with choir introit and anthem, plus responses, psalm and canticles for everyone to join in. We did one full Choral Evensong in June to celebrate HM the Queen's 70th year on the throne, when we also sang some special music at the morning service. There were special evenings of Music and Readings, for Passiontide, Remembrance and Advent and (at last!) a full Carol Service the weekend before Christmas. Other musical things also reappeared – carol-singing round the village followed by a Barn Dance, an organ recital in June, plus the Epiphany Festival service and the Annual Choirs Festival, both held in the cathedral and attended by a large number of singers from RSCM choirs around the Diocese, including groups from St Mary's. The Iffley Music Society was able to present many varied concerts in the hall and the church and other visiting groups came to sing or play too. St Mary's Choir has grown over the year with new members joining us from near and far, and long-term singers gradually re-emerging from isolation, which means we now have about 40 singers on the list to invite each time we sing! Most of the evening services work with around 20 singers but we numbered 25 at Advent and 28 at Christmas, including one or two visitors from afar! None of this would be possible without the unfailing support of the other organists, Geoffrey, Tim and Paul who have played regularly on Sunday mornings and evenings as well as for the special occasions – thank you all very much! We have also been very fortunate to have Andrew's unfailing support and interest in everything we have tried to achieve. He has crafted wonderful services for the simple evenings but also amazing compilations of Music and Readings for the various special occasions during the church's year – Passiontide, Remembrance, Advent and Christmas – using poetry as well as scripture to enhance our worship. We shall miss him and Sarah very much but wish them every happiness in their new home and way of life!

Janet Low

Taizé Evening Services

Services were held monthly on the third Sunday at 8pm. There were three exceptions: no service in April because Easter Day fell on the third Sunday and August when too many of the key team were on holiday. Missing August is a regular gap. In December the Carol Service was held on the third Sunday and we held a service on Wednesday, 21 December at 6.30pm. Average attendance numbers rose. There were fluctuations ranging between 10 and 21. It became a regular occurrence that some people could not be seated in the chancel but overflowed into the tower pews. The December service (held on the Wednesday before Christmas at 6.30pm) was attended by 21 people. Mo Rooney, Sarah McKearney and Pemma Spencer Chapman wrote and led services after Anne Borrowdale moved away. Lorna Bourdeaux was unable to join the team due to ill health. Discussions were held to think about possible people to approach to join the team. (At the time of writing this report in early February, 2023, two people have been found.) Alex Marshall and Pemma continue to lead the music most months. Liz Marshall joined Alex in place of Pemma when she was leading services.
Pemma Spencer-Chapman

Community Cupboard

Throughout the year, Community Cupboard based at Rose Hill Methodist Church has continued to support vulnerable people by offering a foodbank every Wednesday afternoon, along with a free meal, drinks, snacks and the opportunity to meet with others. We are very grateful to all the volunteers who give of their time so freely, whether that is on 'the frontline' on a Wednesday afternoon, or behind the scenes setting up, collecting/purchasing food, or delivering food parcels. In October Liz Spain was appointed by the Oxford Circuit of the Methodist Church as a part time Community Chaplain to Rose Hill, and being chaplain to Community Cupboard is one of her main areas of work. Since taking up her appointment, Liz has been enjoying getting to know the volunteers and friends of Community Cupboard. She has been liaising with our referral agencies and making good links with Rose Hill and Donnington Advice Centre, who are now our primary referrer. We are seeing an increase in the number of 'friends' who come to Community Cupboard, and regularly serve upwards of 40 families each week. It is always a privilege to be able to listen to their stories and offer support. At Christmas we had a very successful Christmas party, and gave a present to each family who came. We had a successful grant application to the Oxfordshire Community Foundation Cost of Living Crisis grant which is helping us enormously during these difficult times. And we are very grateful too, to St Mary's Church for making us one of their charities, and for all the other financial donations and donations of goods that we receive. With thanks for your ongoing prayerful support for this important partnership of Rose Hill Methodist Church and St Mary's, Iffley.
Liz Spain

Worship & Prayer Groups

Prayers & Toast

After Covid lockdown prayers on Zoom each Friday morning Prayers and Toast happily returned to the Vestry at 8:00 a.m. unless the weather is so inclement that we cannot walk there safely. We pray with the prayer requests left in church and for many whom we bring in our hearts who are sick, dying, the world of war, disasters, famine, ourselves and people we bless and give thanks for. This prayer time is very meaningful and strengthening. Our tradition of serving toast and marmalade, peanut butter and jams with freshly brewed coffee and tea continues from 7:45 a.m. We welcome anyone who would like to join us even for a single visit.
Barbara Alderson

Julian Group

The Julian Group continues to flourish. We met each month during the year, enjoying being able to meet in person again. We continued to meet in the church, its inspiring space and spiritual atmosphere feeding our time of silent prayer together. The group varies in number, from four up to fifteen. However many or few we are, the period of shared silence is always profound and powerful. Those who are unable to come to the church for the meetings often keep a time of silence at home at the same time.

Sally Brodhurst

Discussion Groups

Poetry Group

A group of about ten of us has met monthly throughout the year in the Church Hall. We have greatly enjoyed reading and reflecting on poems and commentaries from: Hearing God in Poetry: fifty poems for Lent and Easter, an outstanding anthology compiled by Richard Harries. We are now reading poems from A Century of Poetry:100 poems for searching the heart, another excellent anthology, this time compiled by Rowan Williams.

Graham Low

Widening Horizons

Normally a new group is formed twice a year, summer and autumn, to read a book together meeting once a month over the course of 3 months, 7.30-9pm online with anything up to 10 participants. There is no obligation to attend more than one series. We look for books that are quite short (about 120 pages if possible), have spiritual and theological depth, without being too academic. Participants agree to a) attend the meetings b) read the chapters under discussion and c) engage with the ideas raised in the book. In 2022 we read Cyprian Smith 'The Way of Paradox: Spiritual life as taught by Meister Eckhart. In addition, during Lent we met weekly for a shorter time (7.30-8.30pm) to read Stephen Cherry 'Thy Will Be Done'. The group has meant a great deal to its participants, both for the opportunity to read a book but also, importantly, to share ideas and insights. However, with Andrew leaving and Wendy unable to participate due to ill health, the future of the group needs to be discussed.

Andrew McKearney

Home Groups

Bible Study Group

This year proved, unfortunately, to be one very short on face-to-face meetings. Bereavement, Illness, hospitalisations and recovery, moving house and the departure overseas of a key member, all combined to decimate the proposed schedule. Only two meetings took place, one at Barbara's and one at Zoe's, both being hosted for lunch at the same time. We discussed The Hospitality of the Heart and how we are welcome in the Kingdom of God (especially related to Luke's account of the Last Supper – Luke 22, v.14 to 22,) as well as a question put to Jesus about banqueting (Luke 14, v. 15 to 24). However, the group strongly supported one another in prayer throughout the year and were otherwise regularly in touch. We intend to have a thriving study group in 2023.

Barbara Alderson, Jan & Jonathan Stockland

Bible Study Group

It has been a blessing being able to meet in the Church Hall for over two years now. We meet on alternate Thursday afternoons from 3 until 5 for two terms a year – one beginning in September and the other in mid- February. We meet for 7-8 sessions each term. An hour of bible study is followed by coffee and biscuits and a lot of conversation. We, as a group, are so very grateful to be able to use the Hall. We now have a group of 14 people, our newest member joined for our first session in 2023. Attendance fluctuates but we usually have at least 10 people

each Thursday. We are a bit short on leaders, but we usually manage, and everyone is truly wonderful at participating and contributing to our discussions. In the Winter/Spring of 2022 we used the Stephen Cherry book 'Thy Will be Done' looking at the Lord's Prayer, as did many others in the Church at large. We did struggle and disagree at times with some of the ideas in the book, but we found being able to look at the prayer in detail brought many lively discussions and enabled us to express our emotions, ideas and feelings of the prayer that is central to our life together. In the Autumn of 2022, we decided to go back to studying a book of the Bible and chose Hebrews to read and discuss. Not an easy choice, but it was a challenge and again brought interesting discussions connecting Old Testament stories and history to New Testament Christianity. It also gave us inspiration for our first term in 2023. We decided to focus on several OT leaders. Our thanks to Mandy Watts who organized the material for our discussion sessions in 2022. It goes without saying that we miss Sheila Fairfield greatly, but she will always be a guiding light to us.
Maureen McNaboe

Abberbury Road House Group
Whilst we may look like a book group – even to ourselves! – the aim of our house group is to encourage one another in spiritual growth; that is, in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ. Toward that end, we spent the first part of the year looking at what Jesus said about himself. We used Tom Wright's books 'John for Everyone' to guide our study. Then, with an appetite to understand the Bible better, we discussed Nick Page's book, 'The Badly Behaved Bible.' It's a humorous book on a serious topic, and as a group we found it at times exasperating yet always challenging as we learned more about how the Bible was written, how it came to us, and how one reads the various types of literature within it. Always closing our meetings in prayer, we are privileged to share with one another our own concerns and the concerns we have for our church and the wider world.
Alice Lawhead

Crèche Report
There are currently no children who use the crèche.
Gaynor Dean

Fish and Chip Club Report
In the period from Easter to September 2022 the number of children coming to the Fish and Chip Club continued to be small, with intermittent attendance. Since September there has been a noticeable increase, both in numbers and regularity of attendance. The average attendance for the year is 3.9 children a week. We have been pleased to welcome a new family and some occasional visitors. The majority of the children are now in school year 5 (aged ten). They will have one more year in Fish and Chip Club before moving on to secondary school. It has been decided not to hold Family Services for the present and there have been fewer extra activities because of low numbers, but we held a pancake party for the children in February. The good attendance at the Christingle Service on Christmas Eve was encouraging after the gap for Covid lockdown. We continue the pattern of games, bible stories, discussion and craft activities. Returning to church in time for the children to go up to the altar with their parents for a blessing or to receive communion makes them feel very much a part of the church body. Though Fish and Chip Club is for the children, it is also for parents, giving them some quiet time to be in church and find refreshment and nourishment there.I am very grateful to Anwen Keyes for her reliable help and to parents who have stepped in to help when needed, covering the legal requirement for two adults to be present. I have told the churchwardens of my decision to stand down as leader of Fish and Chip Club at the end of this school year. A new team of leaders and helpers is needed. At the recent meeting to discuss the future direction of St Mary's, it was

recognised by all the participants that our children are the future of the church and that we should do all we can to support and promote the work amongst children and families. Speaking with one of the children recently, I heard that in his school there is almost no teaching about Christianity. All our children in the parish of Donnington, Rose Hill and Iffley deserve to hear about God's love and, at the very least, to find out about the basics of Christian faith. The name Fish and Chip Club was chosen by the children when Sarah McKearney took over the leadership of the Sunday school; it reflects the children's experience of fun and belonging. As Sarah and Andrew prepare to move on from the parish, we give our warmest thanks to Sarah for her years of creative commitment and hard work, and to both of them for their unfailing support and care for the children and families.
Elizabeth Roberts

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 28 March 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

The Revd Andrew McKearney – Chair of the PCC

Kate Stilborn – Honorary Secretary

Accepted by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 9 May 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

The Revd Andrew McKearney – Chair of the APCM

Kate Stilborn – Honorary Secretary

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, IFFLEY PCC

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 December 2022

This report covers the financial activities of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2022
It includes the financial statements and appendices as follows:
Independent Examiner's Report
Statement of Receipts and Payments
Statement of Assets and Liabilities including fund movements
Notes to the Financial Statements
Accounting Policies

REVIEW OF THE YEAR
Overall, the result is an operating deficit for the PCC of £7,386.
The figures for the Church Hall and Church House have been shown separately in order to show clearly the results of the main church activities.

The main activities of the church are showing a deficit of £4,932: this compares with a deficit of £195 for 2021.
We are again most grateful for the support of the Friends of St Mary in respect of the re-printing of the guide book and the installation of LED lighting.
There was a substantial decrease in the value of our investments during the year.
Church Hall income more than recovered to £24,835 to provide a surplus of £3,979 against 2021 deficit of £7,853.
Church House was let on the market with effect from December 2022.
Church House expenditure is met by the PCC as shown: some expenditure relating to enable letting will not come through until 2023.

The harvest appeal raised £7,733 during the year before Gift Aid
The Christmas appeal raised £677 before Gift Aid.
We continue to give £5,000 each year to charities under our St Mary's Giving Scheme.
In addition parishioners provide financial support for the Community Cupboard.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK
In 2019 the introduction of the Parish Giving Scheme had a significant effect on our income.
The generosity of parishioners has provided a cushion for the past years of the pandemic.
However, during the year the number of donors has decreased with a consequent significant impact on our income.
Furthermore, expenditure is increasing, with electricity and gas costs in particular showing rises of over 100%.
Against these, we will now receive income for Church House, with buoyant hall bookings.
In addition, we expect that greater calls will be made on us by the Diocese in the form of the Parish Share.
The budget for 2023 shows a deficit of roughly £22,000.
Overall there is no immediate concern but the continuing deficit will need to be addressed.

CHURCH ASSETS.
All the assets reflected in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities are financial assets, full details of which are set out in note 6 to the accounts.
Given that Church House is a PCC property held for the long term, it has ceased to be shown as a financial asset in the accounts.
Church Hall is also a PCC property held for the long term, and likewise is not shown as a financial asset in the accounts.

RESERVE FUNDS.
Reserves are needed for long term significant expenditure required on the church buildings.
From 2019 the PCC decided to make provision for future expenditure of £17,000 each year.
This is to provide for major items of expenditure which will fall due in the future.
These costs are in respect of the Church, Church Hall and Church House.
These are known recurring items where current reserves will be insufficient.

A. Marshall

Alexander Marshall
Honorary Treasurer

St Mary the Virgin Iffley PCC

Statement of Receipts and payments

Year ended ended 31 December 2022	2022 31-Dec-22 Unrestricted funds	2022 31-Dec-22 Restricted funds	2022 31-Dec-22 TOTAL	2022 BUDGET FULL YEAR	2021 ACTUAL FULL YEAR
RECEIPTS					
Giving	82,601.10		82,601.10	86,500.00	81,755.46
Gift Aid recovered	17,040.44		17,040.44	20,000.00	18,407.16
Friends of St Mary's grants-Guide book/glass/LEDs	0.00	6,406.71	6,406.71		5,813.58
Living Stones	957.61		957.61		700.00
Receipts from Church Activities	2,614.07		2,614.07	2,500.00	2,876.00
Fees	11,100.01		11,100.01	9,000.00	12,624.00
VAT Recovered	968.64		968.64		533.20
	115,281.87	6,406.71	121,688.58	118,000.00	122,709.40
PAYMENTS					
Parish Share	57,894.21		57,894.21	59,000.00	57,894.21
Clergy and Staffing	5,995.43		5,995.43	6,414.00	7,961.63
Church Running Expenses - see Note 2	44,921.42	6,406.71	51,328.13	39,297.00	43,443.13
Living Stones	1,160.92		1,160.92	500.00	224.11
Fee Remissions	5,242.00		5,242.00	2,850.00	7,881.00
Charitable giving- see Note 3	5,000.00		5,000.00	6,000.00	5,500.00
	120,213.98	6,406.71	126,620.69	114,061.00	122,904.08
Church activities- deficit	(4,932.11)	0.00	(4,932.11)	3,939.00	(194.68)
Church hall net surplus: see Note 4	3,977.56		3,977.56	(13,205.00)	(7,852.65)
Church House costs: see Note 5	(6,431.72)		(6,431.72)	(5,100.00)	(6,059.82)
Interest from investments- see Note 6	0.40		0.40		8.09
Operating deficit	(7,385.87)	0.00	(7,385.87)	(14,366.00)	(14,099.06)
Net decrease in investments- see Note 6	(20,063.59)		(20,063.59)		
Overall deficit	(27,449.46)	0.00	(27,449.46)	(14,366.00)	

Note 1- Types of funds

Unrestricted funds are those which have been received on the understanding that they will be used by the PCC for furthering the mission and ministry of the church.

Restricted funds are those which have been given for a particular purpose, and these must not be used by the PCC for any other purpose.

Designated funds are where the PCC has earmarked funds for a particular purpose.

Note 2- Church running expenses	**2022**	**2021**
Vestry rent	1,456.00	1,456.00
Music and organists	7,031.72	4,868.73
Church insurance	3,729.95	3,512.19
Church office expenditure (including Photocopier)	4,831.20	4,364.40
Churchyard upkeep	1,913.98	1,910.00
Church electricity and water	4,136.28	4,381.08
Church magazine	1,621.56	1,805.50
Postcards and guidebooks	297.60	8.25
Church cleaning	1,558.00	1,554.55
Other incl upkeep of services, social activities	2,758.84	3,440.44
Repayment of OBDF Mission grant	2,119.00	0.00
Website and live stream	255.00	2,329.30
Repairs	2,705.35	3,478.94
Bank charges	506.94	333.75
Reserve fund	10,000.00	10,000.00
	44,921.42	43,443.13

Note 3- Charitable giving

	2022		2021
Ark-T	1,000.00	Children's Society	500.00
Freedom from torture	750.00	Olive Tree	1,000.00
Children's Society	500.00	Ploughshare	1,500.00
Yellow Submarine	750.00	Donnington Doorstep	1,000.00
Donnington Doorstep	1,000.00	Rose Hill & Donnington Advice	1,000.00
Rose Hill and Donnington Advice Centre	1,000.00	Livability	500.00
	5,000.00		5,500.00

The Harvest Appeal is not included as it does not form part of the church's income or expenditure.
The same principle is applied to Gift Aid recovered in respect of the Harvest Appeal.

Note 4- Church Hall	**2022**		**2021**
Hall lettings	27,186.50		12,952.99
Donation for dishwasher	0.00		2,700.00
Less: refunds	-2,343.25	Less: refunds	-2,227.00
Net income:	24,843.25	Net income:	13,425.99
Less: expenditure			
Hall- Booking Secretary	4,500.00	Hall- Booking Secretary	4,368.00
Hall- licences	577.53	Hall- licences	457.12
Hall- Electricity	577.68	Electricity - Hall	288.29
Hall- Gas	2,121.08	Gas - Hall	1,155.02
Hall- Insurance	1,864.98	Hall- Insurance	1,756.10
Hall- Repairs & maintenance	3,310.31	Hall- Repairs & maintenance	5,553.76
Hall- Cleaning	1,917.16	Hall- Cleaning	1,623.00
Hall- Water	364.07	Water- hall	444.02
Hall- Broadband	632.88	Hall- Broadband	633.33
Enhancements - Hall	0.00	Enhancements - Hall	0.00
Reserve fund incl re-thatching fund	5,000.00	Reserve fund incl re-thatching	5,000.00
Total hall expenditure	20,865.69	Total hall expenditure	21,278.64
Church hall- Net surplus	3,977.56		-7,852.65

A surveyor's report has indicated that the condition of the thatch is currently satisfactory and likely to be so for the next three years.
The report recommends that minor works to it are carried out.
However, a quotation for a 50% re-thatch shows that the cost has now risen to £40,000.
All costs have to be met by the PCC funds.
The PCC has made a provision to meet future liabilities.

Note 5- Church House	**2022**		**2021**
Rent received	721.28		0.00
Council tax	1,966.29	Council tax	1,884.88
Utilities	934.20	Utilities	336.00
Maintenance	2,252.51	Maintenance	1,838.14
Reserve fund	2,000.00	Reserve fund	2,000.00
Church House Expenditure	7,153.00	Church House Expenditure	6,059.02
Church house- Net deficit	-6,431.72	Church house- Net deficit	-6,059.02

Following the curate's departure, the house has been let out at a market rate.
All costs have to be met by the PCC funds.
The PCC has made a provision to meet future liabilities.

Note 6- Cash and Investments
Current accounts are maintained with Barclays Bank PLC.
The investments comprise a Deposit Fund, an Investment Fund, and
Global Equity Accumulation Fund.
These are with CCLA Investment Management Ltd who manage funds solely for
Churches, Charities and Local Authorities (hence CCLA).

Note 7- Property

Church House is no longer recognised as an asset in the balance sheet.
The PCC considers that it is not intended to realise the asset and that it would be misleading to show it as such.
It was previously shown at a value of £250,000.
The Church Hall is wholly owned by the PCC and is held at nil value.

Note 8- Reserve Funds

Reserves are designated according to the PCC's policy as follows:

Allocation:	Church	Church Hall	Church House	TOTAL
Brought forward January 2022	£ 80,000	£ 55,000	£ 16,000	£ 151,000
Charge for the year	£ 10,000	£ 5,000	£ 2,000	£ 17,000
Carried forward December 2022	£ 90,000	£ 60,000	£ 18,000	£ 168,000

Note 9- Provisions for future expenditure

From 2019 the PCC is making provision for future expenditure.
This is to provide for major items of expenditure which will fall due in the future.
These costs are in respect of the Church, Church Hall and Church House.
These are known recurring items for which current reserves will be insufficient.
These do not include any discretionary items.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, IFFLEY PCC

Statement of Assets and Liabilities and Movement of Funds

Year ended 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total £
Fund balances b/forward at 1 Jan 2022	212,993		212,993
Movements of funds:			
Church	(14,916)		(14,916)
Church Hall	3,978		3,978
Church House	(6,432)		(6,432)
Interest received- Note 6	0		0
Revaluation of investments- Note 6	(20,063)		(20,063)
Movements in liabilities	488		488
Non cash movements- reserves	17,000		17,000
Fund balances c/ forward at 31 Dec 2022	**193,048**	-	**193,048**
Represented by: (see note 7)			
Current Account- Barclays	25,864	667	26,531
Less: liability for Appeals paid 2023	(2,188)	(667)	(2,855)
	23,676	0	23,676
CBF Church of England Deposit Fund	31	0	31
CBF Church of England Global Equity Income Fund	104,235	0	104,235
CBF Church of England Investment Fund	65,106	0	65,106
Property: Church House- see Note 8	0	0	0
Reserves	**193,048**	**0**	**193,048**

Statement of reserves	
General fund	25,048
Provisions (Note 8)	168,000
	193,048

Liabilities	
Christmas Appeal paid over in 2023	667
	667

Appendix: Accounting policies

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared using the receipts and payments basis.
St Mary's Iffley PCC now uses receipts and payments accounting: accordingly there is no requirement to follow accounting procedures or standards.
However, the following guidelines will be applied:
All payments are recognised when paid.
All receipts are recognised upon receipt.
The PCC is now recognising future liabilities and providing accordingly.
Any departure from this practice or any unusual items will be advised and explained by way of note.

Andrew McKearney	Alexander Marshall	John Mclintock
Vicar	Honorary Treasurer	Independent Examiner

Independent Examiner's Report 2022

Report to the PCC of St. Mary the Virgin, Iffley

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 1 to 5 is in respect of an examination carried out the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiners

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 144(2) of the Act do not apply.

It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2017 edition.

The 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 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 Act; and
   - 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.

John McLintock
12 Mill Lane
Iffley
Oxford

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, IFFLEY

SUMMARY BUDGET- YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023	2022
Income		
Total planned giving (including tax)	84,200	101,000
Donations and service collections	5,500	5,500
Other church activities	11,500	11,500
Core operating receipts	101,200	118,000
Expenditure		
Ministry and mission (including Parish Share)	76,452	75,414
Church Building and Administration expenses	36,962	32,647
Charitable giving	6,000	6,000
Total expenditure	**119,414**	**114,061**
Core operating Surplus	**-18,214**	**3,939**
Church hall net income	(5,321)	(13,205)
Church House net income	1,900	(5,100)
Overall deficit on sinking fund basis:	**(21,635)**	**(14,366)**

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, IFFLEY PCC

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 December 2022

This report covers the financial activities of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2022
It includes the financial statements and appendices as follows:
Independent Examiner's Report
Statement of Receipts and Payments
Statement of Assets and Liabilities including fund movements
Notes to the Financial Statements
Accounting Policies

REVIEW OF THE YEAR
Overall, the result is an operating deficit for the PCC of £7,386.
The figures for the Church Hall and Church House have been shown separately in order to show clearly the results of the main church activities.

The main activities of the church are showing a deficit of £4,932: this compares with a deficit of £195 for 2021.
We are again most grateful for the support of the Friends of St Mary in respect of the re-printing of the guide book and the installation of LED lighting.
There was a substantial decrease in the value of our investments during the year.
Church Hall income more than recovered to £24,835 to provide a surplus of £3,979 against 2021 deficit of £7,853.
Church House was let on the market with effect from December 2022.
Church House expenditure is met by the PCC as shown: some expenditure relating to enable letting will not come through until 2023.

The harvest appeal raised £7,733 during the year before Gift Aid
The Christmas appeal raised £677 before Gift Aid.
We continue to give £5,000 each year to charities under our St Mary's Giving Scheme.
In addition parishioners provide financial support for the Community Cupboard.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK
In 2019 the introduction of the Parish Giving Scheme had a significant effect on our income.
The generosity of parishioners has provided a cushion for the past years of the pandemic.
However, during the year the number of donors has decreased with a consequent significant impact on our income.
Furthermore, expenditure is increasing, with electricity and gas costs in particular showing rises of over 100%.
Against these, we will now receive income for Church House, with buoyant hall bookings.
In addition, we expect that greater calls will be made on us by the Diocese in the form of the Parish Share.
The budget for 2023 shows a deficit of roughly £22,000.
Overall there is no immediate concern but the continuing deficit will need to be addressed.

CHURCH ASSETS.
All the assets reflected in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities are financial assets, full details of which are set out in note 6 to the accounts.
Given that Church House is a PCC property held for the long term, it has ceased to be shown as a financial asset in the accounts.
Church Hall is also a PCC property held for the long term, and likewise is not shown as a financial asset in the accounts.

RESERVE FUNDS.
Reserves are needed for long term significant expenditure required on the church buildings.
From 2019 the PCC decided to make provision for future expenditure of £17,000 each year.
This is to provide for major items of expenditure which will fall due in the future.
These costs are in respect of the Church, Church Hall and Church House.
These are known recurring items where current reserves will be insufficient.

A. Marshall

Alexander Marshall
Honorary Treasurer

St Mary the Virgin Iffley PCC

Statement of Receipts and payments

Year ended ended 31 December 2022	2022 31-Dec-22 Unrestricted funds	2022 31-Dec-22 Restricted funds	2022 31-Dec-22 TOTAL	2022 BUDGET FULL YEAR	2021 ACTUAL FULL YEAR
RECEIPTS					
Giving	82,601.10		82,601.10	86,500.00	81,755.46
Gift Aid recovered	17,040.44		17,040.44	20,000.00	18,407.16
Friends of St Mary's grants-Guide book/glass/LEDs	0.00	6,406.71	6,406.71		5,813.58
Living Stones	957.61		957.61		700.00
Receipts from Church Activities	2,614.07		2,614.07	2,500.00	2,876.00
Fees	11,100.01		11,100.01	9,000.00	12,624.00
VAT Recovered	968.64		968.64		533.20
	115,281.87	6,406.71	121,688.58	118,000.00	122,709.40
PAYMENTS					
Parish Share	57,894.21		57,894.21	59,000.00	57,894.21
Clergy and Staffing	5,995.43		5,995.43	6,414.00	7,961.63
Church Running Expenses - see Note 2	44,921.42	6,406.71	51,328.13	39,297.00	43,443.13
Living Stones	1,160.92		1,160.92	500.00	224.11
Fee Remissions	5,242.00		5,242.00	2,850.00	7,881.00
Charitable giving- see Note 3	5,000.00		5,000.00	6,000.00	5,500.00
	120,213.98	6,406.71	126,620.69	114,061.00	122,904.08
Church activities- deficit	(4,932.11)	0.00	(4,932.11)	3,939.00	(194.68)
Church hall net surplus: see Note 4	3,977.56		3,977.56	(13,205.00)	(7,852.65)
Church House costs: see Note 5	(6,431.72)		(6,431.72)	(5,100.00)	(6,059.82)
Interest from investments- see Note 6	0.40		0.40		8.09
Operating deficit	(7,385.87)	0.00	(7,385.87)	(14,366.00)	(14,099.06)
Net decrease in investments- see Note 6	(20,063.59)		(20,063.59)		
Overall deficit	(27,449.46)	0.00	(27,449.46)	(14,366.00)	

Note 1- Types of funds

Unrestricted funds are those which have been received on the understanding that they will be used by the PCC for furthering the mission and ministry of the church.

Restricted funds are those which have been given for a particular purpose, and these must not be used by the PCC for any other purpose.

Designated funds are where the PCC has earmarked funds for a particular purpose.

Note 2- Church running expenses	**2022**	**2021**
Vestry rent	1,456.00	1,456.00
Music and organists	7,031.72	4,868.73
Church insurance	3,729.95	3,512.19
Church office expenditure (including Photocopier)	4,831.20	4,364.40
Churchyard upkeep	1,913.98	1,910.00
Church electricity and water	4,136.28	4,381.08
Church magazine	1,621.56	1,805.50
Postcards and guidebooks	297.60	8.25
Church cleaning	1,558.00	1,554.55
Other incl upkeep of services, social activities	2,758.84	3,440.44
Repayment of OBDF Mission grant	2,119.00	0.00
Website and live stream	255.00	2,329.30
Repairs	2,705.35	3,478.94
Bank charges	506.94	333.75
Reserve fund	10,000.00	10,000.00
	44,921.42	43,443.13

Note 3- Charitable giving

	2022		2021
Ark-T	1,000.00	Children's Society	500.00
Freedom from torture	750.00	Olive Tree	1,000.00
Children's Society	500.00	Ploughshare	1,500.00
Yellow Submarine	750.00	Donnington Doorstep	1,000.00
Donnington Doorstep	1,000.00	Rose Hill & Donnington Advice	1,000.00
Rose Hill and Donnington Advice Centre	1,000.00	Livability	500.00
	5,000.00		5,500.00

The Harvest Appeal is not included as it does not form part of the church's income or expenditure.
The same principle is applied to Gift Aid recovered in respect of the Harvest Appeal.

Note 4- Church Hall	**2022**		**2021**
Hall lettings	27,186.50		12,952.99
Donation for dishwasher	0.00		2,700.00
Less: refunds	-2,343.25	Less: refunds	-2,227.00
Net income:	24,843.25	Net income:	13,425.99
Less: expenditure			
Hall- Booking Secretary	4,500.00	Hall- Booking Secretary	4,368.00
Hall- licences	577.53	Hall- licences	457.12
Hall- Electricity	577.68	Electricity - Hall	288.29
Hall- Gas	2,121.08	Gas - Hall	1,155.02
Hall- Insurance	1,864.98	Hall- Insurance	1,756.10
Hall- Repairs & maintenance	3,310.31	Hall- Repairs & maintenance	5,553.76
Hall- Cleaning	1,917.16	Hall- Cleaning	1,623.00
Hall- Water	364.07	Water- hall	444.02
Hall- Broadband	632.88	Hall- Broadband	633.33
Enhancements - Hall	0.00	Enhancements - Hall	0.00
Reserve fund incl re-thatching fund	5,000.00	Reserve fund incl re-thatching	5,000.00
Total hall expenditure	20,865.69	Total hall expenditure	21,278.64
Church hall- Net surplus	3,977.56		-7,852.65

A surveyor's report has indicated that the condition of the thatch is currently satisfactory and likely to be so for the next three years.
The report recommends that minor works to it are carried out.
However, a quotation for a 50% re-thatch shows that the cost has now risen to £40,000.
All costs have to be met by the PCC funds.
The PCC has made a provision to meet future liabilities.

Note 5- Church House	**2022**		**2021**
Rent received	721.28		0.00
Council tax	1,966.29	Council tax	1,884.88
Utilities	934.20	Utilities	336.00
Maintenance	2,252.51	Maintenance	1,838.14
Reserve fund	2,000.00	Reserve fund	2,000.00
Church House Expenditure	7,153.00	Church House Expenditure	6,059.02
Church house- Net deficit	-6,431.72	Church house- Net deficit	-6,059.02

Following the curate's departure, the house has been let out at a market rate.
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Current accounts are maintained with Barclays Bank PLC.
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Global Equity Accumulation Fund.
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Churches, Charities and Local Authorities (hence CCLA).

Note 7- Property

Church House is no longer recognised as an asset in the balance sheet.
The PCC considers that it is not intended to realise the asset and that it would be misleading to show it as such.
It was previously shown at a value of £250,000.
The Church Hall is wholly owned by the PCC and is held at nil value.

Note 8- Reserve Funds

Reserves are designated according to the PCC's policy as follows:

Allocation:	Church	Church Hall	Church House	TOTAL
Brought forward January 2022	£ 80,000	£ 55,000	£ 16,000	£ 151,000
Charge for the year	£ 10,000	£ 5,000	£ 2,000	£ 17,000
Carried forward December 2022	£ 90,000	£ 60,000	£ 18,000	£ 168,000

Note 9- Provisions for future expenditure

From 2019 the PCC is making provision for future expenditure.
This is to provide for major items of expenditure which will fall due in the future.
These costs are in respect of the Church, Church Hall and Church House.
These are known recurring items for which current reserves will be insufficient.
These do not include any discretionary items.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, IFFLEY PCC

Statement of Assets and Liabilities and Movement of Funds

Year ended 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total £
Fund balances b/forward at 1 Jan 2022	212,993		212,993
Movements of funds:			
Church	(14,916)		(14,916)
Church Hall	3,978		3,978
Church House	(6,432)		(6,432)
Interest received- Note 6	0		0
Revaluation of investments- Note 6	(20,063)		(20,063)
Movements in liabilities	488		488
Non cash movements- reserves	17,000		17,000
Fund balances c/ forward at 31 Dec 2022	**193,048**	-	**193,048**
Represented by: (see note 7)			
Current Account- Barclays	25,864	667	26,531
Less: liability for Appeals paid 2023	(2,188)	(667)	(2,855)
	23,676	0	23,676
CBF Church of England Deposit Fund	31	0	31
CBF Church of England Global Equity Income Fund	104,235	0	104,235
CBF Church of England Investment Fund	65,106	0	65,106
Property: Church House- see Note 8	0	0	0
Reserves	**193,048**	**0**	**193,048**

Statement of reserves	
General fund	25,048
Provisions (Note 8)	168,000
	193,048

Liabilities	
Christmas Appeal paid over in 2023	667
	667

Appendix: Accounting policies

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared using the receipts and payments basis.
St Mary's Iffley PCC now uses receipts and payments accounting: accordingly there is no requirement to follow accounting procedures or standards.
However, the following guidelines will be applied:
All payments are recognised when paid.
All receipts are recognised upon receipt.
The PCC is now recognising future liabilities and providing accordingly.
Any departure from this practice or any unusual items will be advised and explained by way of note.

Andrew McKearney	Alexander Marshall	John Mclintock
Vicar	Honorary Treasurer	Independent Examiner

Independent Examiner's Report 2022

Report to the PCC of St. Mary the Virgin, Iffley

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Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiners

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 144(2) of the Act do not apply.

It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2017 edition.

The 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 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 Act; and
   - 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.

John McLintock
12 Mill Lane
Iffley
Oxford

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, IFFLEY

SUMMARY BUDGET- YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023	2022
Income		
Total planned giving (including tax)	84,200	101,000
Donations and service collections	5,500	5,500
Other church activities	11,500	11,500
Core operating receipts	101,200	118,000
Expenditure		
Ministry and mission (including Parish Share)	76,452	75,414
Church Building and Administration expenses	36,962	32,647
Charitable giving	6,000	6,000
Total expenditure	**119,414**	**114,061**
Core operating Surplus	**-18,214**	**3,939**
Church hall net income	(5,321)	(13,205)
Church House net income	1,900	(5,100)
Overall deficit on sinking fund basis:	**(21,635)**	**(14,366)**

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. MARY'S IFFLEY

England & Wales - Charity number 1128523

Accounts

CHURCH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN
Church Way Iffley Oxford OX4 4EG

The Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2021

Incumbent
The Revd Andrew McKearney,
The Rectory, Mill Lane, Iffley, Oxford, OX4 4EJ

Bank
Barclays, PO Box 333, Oxford, OX1 3HS

Independent Examiner
Mr John McLintock, 12 Mill Lane, Iffley, Oxford, OX4 4EJ

Registered Charity Number
1128523

SUMMARY OF OUR VOCATION

We are called to be *A Christ-like Church for the sake of God's world: contemplative, compassionate, courageous.*

We would like to be known for six things:

- The depth of our spiritual life
- Our commitment to bring life to others
- The stepping-stones we put in place for those who wish to journey with us
- The vibrancy of our common life
- The beauty of our church building
- Our ability to work together

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Purpose

St Mary's Parochial Church Council (the PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has responsibility for the management of the Church property in the parish – St Mary's Church and Churchyard, the Church Hall, Church Vestry, Church Office and Church House.

Membership (since the APCM)

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) or co-opted by the PCC in accordance with the Church Representation Rules 2020.

Vicar	Andrew McKearney	Ex officio
Curate	Nikolaj Christensen	Ex officio
Churchwardens	Maureen McNaboe	Ex officio 2018 onwards
	Tom Leach	Ex officio 2020 onwards
Representatives on Cowley Deanery Synod	Blanche Stiff	Ex officio 2017-2023
	Sarah McKearney	Ex officio 2020-2023
	Janet Orchard	Ex officio 2020-2023
Elected PCC members	Elizabeth Harré	2021-2024
	Mark Phythian-Adams	2021-2024
	Hilary Pearson	2018-2024
	Guin Webster	2020-2024
	Liz Roberts	2020-2022
	Kate Stilborn	2016-2022
	Alex Marshall	2019-2022
	Jane McBain	2019-2022
	John Eastwood	2017-2023
	Penny Tyack	2017-2023
	Roger Wagner	2017-2023
	Sarah Beaver	2020-2023
Co-opted PCC members		
Officers	Tom Leach	*PCC Vice Chair*
	Kate Stilborn	*PCC Secretary*
	Alex Marshall	*PCC Treasurer*
	Janet Low	*Electoral Roll Officer*
	Hilary Pearson	*Data Compliance Officer*
	Maureen McNaboe	*Health & Safety Officer*
		Fire Officer
	Penny Tyack	*Safeguarding Officer*
	Jane McBain	*Children's Advocate*
	Lorna Bourdeaux	*Disclosure and Barring Service Secretary*
	Hilary Pearson	*Friends of St Mary's*
	Penny Tyack	*Friends of St Mary's*
	Janet Low	*Parish Secretary*
	Lucy Phillips	*Assistant Parish Secretary & Hall Bookings Secretary*

REVIEW OF 2021

Incumbent's Report on the Activities of the Parish

The pandemic continued to dominate throughout 2021. The annual report reflects all the hard work, care, thoughtfulness and inspiration that a huge number of people have brought to sustaining the life of St Mary's during a second difficult year. I am profoundly grateful to everybody involved and hope that you too will find encouragement as you read these pages.
Andrew McKearney

Church Electoral Roll

At the end of 2021 (2020) there were 135 (139) members on the Electoral roll, of which 34 (35) lived outside the parish.
Janet Low

Churchwardens' Report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church

A report of the work carried out on the Church, Vestry, Churchyard, and Church House during 2021 is contained in the Fabric Committee Report. The annual check of the Church Silver, Fixtures and Fittings has been carried out. The digital Terrier is complete with digital and hard copy photographs of all church silver. The current hardcopy Terrier is also complete and available for inspection.
Maureen McNaboe & Tom Leach

Safeguarding

The Parish Safeguarding Policy was reviewed and approved by the PCC on 24 May 2021, and added to the church website. In September the PCC devoted a major part of their meeting to a discussion on how to build a culture of awareness of safeguarding in the church community. PCC members had already agreed we have an important Christian and legal responsibility here. The high level of take-up for the Safeguarding training courses is a testament members' commitment to be alert to suffering that our fellow-worshippers may be experiencing, and to deepening their understanding of how to respond. 5 people joining groups of volunteers having contact with children and vulnerable adults have all completed the Confidential Declaration form. 5 people have new or updated DBS clearances. 19 have successfully completed the initial Basic Awareness module (formerly C0), and 14 the Foundation module (formerly C1). 3 people will be renewing their online modules in 2022 and 5 are ready to undertake them for the first time. 3 candidates for positions as Lay Preachers have completed the Leadership course. The Parish Safeguarding Officer has completed the Safer Recruitment module.
Penny Tyack

Health & Safety

The H&S and Risk Assessment digital documents were checked and updated in the Spring/Summer/Autumn of 2021 using the Ecclesiastical Insurance website for reference. As before, printed documents can be found in the Church Office for reference. We added the following note to our H&S Policy to clarify our position and the seriousness with which we have worked to make our church covid safe: N.B. During the Covid-19 Pandemic, beginning in 2020 we have followed the advice of the UK Government and the Church of England in structuring our services, our risk assessments and our health and safety measures and we will continue to do so until Covid-19 restrictions are completely lifted by the UK Government. It was suggested that all risk assessments be collated by the H&S officer, in one place for each year, and presented along with the general risk assessment to the PCC. This is being done. It was also suggested that a control sheet with review dates for each assessment be implemented. The PCC agreed with this suggestion. It has not yet been done but when the first events begin to occur in 2022 it will hopefully be set up for use. All First Aid box contents were checked and

replenished in the summer. Sensor lights were installed on the spiral staircase between the Ringing Chamber & Belfry in January of 2021. The small heater in the Ringing Chamber was replaced. Fire extinguishers were rechecked and where necessary replaced in June. All inspections and servicing were completed in 2021 including the Bells in April 2021. The new defibrillator was removed and updated in May 2021 and returned. It is still our intention to have a refresher training session that includes any new volunteers when Covid-19 restrictions are lifted completely, and we can arrange. As of end December 2021 the damaged stone wall was still not repaired, nor the Cherry Tree chopped down (this action taken in January 2022 along with the chopping down of a self-seeded Walnut tree) in the churchyard. We hope to carry out the bi-annual fire drill postponed from last Summer as soon as Covid restrictions allow. An incident with a flower pedestal suggested that an addition to the Risk assessment be added for the safety of flower arrangers when working with the pedestals. This was done. The PCC checked and approved the H&S document (May 2021) and the Risk Assessment documents (November 2021)
Maureen McNaboe

General Data Protection Regulation
There are no matters to report.
Hilary Pearson

COUNCILS, COMMITTEES & SYNODS

Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council
The role of the PCC is (along with the incumbent) to promote the mission of God in the parish, be responsible for the parish finances and have ultimate responsibility for the care and maintenance of all church buildings and their contents. The PCC and the incumbent also have a duty of care to ensure the protection of the vulnerable in their church community. Despite the pandemic and the consequent uncertainty and restrictions the PCC continued to fulfil its duties by meeting on Zoom and later in the year in person. During 2021 we sadly said farewell to Maggie Wilson and Tim Brunton who had served on the PCC for six years. However, Janet Orchard and Guinevere Webster were warmly welcomed as new members. The PCC were delighted that Maureen McNaboe and Tom Leach were both happy to stand again as churchwardens. The PCC expressed profound thanks throughout the year to Andrew and the wider team who developed new skills to keep Sunday Worship going in varying formats throughout the pandemic. During the summer, with the support of the PCC, St Mary's moved from Zoom services to two in person Eucharist services on Sunday morning instead of one to maintain social distancing. The services were livestreamed (and continue to be livestreamed) to enable all to participate depending on circumstances. The PCC remain grateful to Liz Roberts for her considerable commitment and flexibility to keep the Fish and Chip club running throughout the year. As with many other areas the pandemic has changed ways of working and created opportunity. Members of the congregation preached wonderfully over the pandemic and five members have since expressed willingness to serve at St Mary's as an authorised lay preacher, With PCC approval the process is underway for approval by the Bishop for an initial 2-year period. In May, the PCC were pleased to support using the church chancel area as an exhibition space in Oxfordshire Art Weeks. This was successful in that it brought more visitors to the church and two local artists (Rob Farrands and Phil Whiting) were supported. In 2021 a course 'This is St Mary's' was created and delivered to welcome and introduce new parishioners to church before and during the pandemic. The course was a success, and the PCC supported the idea that it would be run every one to two years. Living in Love and Faith is a Church of England initiative that helps Christians understand human identity, changing patterns in relationships and families, changing sexual attitudes and activity. During 2021 the

Ministry team completed the 5-week course and the PCC agreed that each member would also complete the course in early 2022 to deepen their understanding of these areas. A priority this year was a focus on the environment despite the challenges of being responsible for three listed buildings. During the year, thanks to the work of the Eco Church Group, St Mary's were awarded an Eco Church Bronze Award. The PCC remain wholly supportive of all actions that work towards the Church of England target of being net zero by 2030 and also agreed to sign up to 'The Time is Now' Declaration led by the Climate Coalition. Work remains underway to measure our carbon footprint, encourage the congregation to reduce theirs and further develop and improve resources for our website. Other quick wins will be switching to green energy and changing all the lightbulbs to LED. The development brought forward by Oxford University Development Limited aims to transform the Court Place Gardens site adjacent to the Church. It will create 71 new two- and three-bedroom houses for graduate students and their families. The development will also include green space and features to improve sustainability and encourage a sense of community. During 2021 the PCC decided to set up a sub-group to ensure that St Mary's was fully represented in the consultation and make proposals liaising with Friends of St Mary's as required. The PCC still remain supportive of ongoing discussions with the developers about a safe pathway through the Churchyard to the site. A full review of Church monuments was undertaken by Maureen McNaboe to check that there were no connections to anything concerning (Contested Church Monuments). The PCC were pleased to note that there were no actions required as a result of the research carried out. The PCC were unanimous in supporting Andrew McKearney to have some time away in the first six weeks of 2022 to seek spiritual refreshment and renewal. This was in recognition of his 40th anniversary as a deacon, 15 years at St Mary's in November and as a thank you for the hard work in managing through the pandemic in the previous 18 months.
Kate Stilborn

Standing Committee

Andrew McKearney, Tom Leach, Maureen McNaboe, Alex Marshall, Kate Stilborn
The Standing Committee did not meet during 2021 and PCC agendas were agreed by email.
Andrew McKearney

Charities Committee

Andrew McKearney, Kate Stilborn, Jane McBain, Oliver Bakewell, Maggie Wilson, Sarah McKearney
The committee met 6 times in March, May, June, July, September and November. FairTrade Fortnight was extended throughout the month of February and marked with an online presentation by the children to the congregation together with a collection of FairTrade goods in the Community Shop in support of Community Cupboard. £19,647 was raised for three charities in the course of the year. Christian Aid Week raised another record sum of £5,426, £1200 more than the previous record in 2020. Ten challenges were made to Andrew from which he selected two: baking a cake for sale in the community shop and beating the bounds of the parish. Send A Cow was the new recipient of our Harvest Appeal (£11,540 was raised) and the Christmas Appeal for the work of The Porch raised £2,681. The PCC continued with its charity grants of £5,000 throughout 2021 despite the pressure on church finances. These grants were distributed between The Children's Society (£500), The Olive Tree Campaign (£1,000), Ploughshare Women's Craft Centre (£1,000), Livability (£500), Rose Hill & Donnington Advice Centre (£1,000) and Donnington Doorstep Family Centre (£1,000). We are very grateful to Oliver Bakewell's contribution to the work of the committee over many years. Additional members of the committee are required to sustain its important work.
Andrew McKearney

Finance Committee

Andrew McKearney, Viviane Robertson, Alex Marshall, Tim Brunton, Helen Powell, Barry & Stephanie Newsome, Sarah Beaver, Lucy Phillips, Nikolaj Christensen

The committee met twice in March and October. The pressure on parish finances has remained throughout 2021 due to the pandemic but as a result of the continuing generosity of everyone through the Parish Giving Scheme and those who donate by Standing Order, Charities Aid Foundation or by cheque and cash, the core operation of the church has been financially sustained. In addition the parish investments have performed very well during 2021 and a further £10,000 was transferred from the current account into the church investments to finance long-term projects. Contactless payments can now be received at the back of church thanks to the perseverance of Maureen McNaboe. All those involved in the financial affairs of the parish are owed a huge dept of gratitude.

Andrew McKearney

Church Hall Committee

Tim Brunton, John Dean, John Harris, Alex Marshall, Patricia Michael, Stephen Michael, Lucy Phillips, Viviane Robertson, Andrew McKearney, Diana Nettleton, Nikolaj Christensen

Within the ongoing constraints imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, the committee continued to manage the activities and upkeep of Iffley Church Hall, in support of St Mary's parish mission and the social activities of the wider community. The Church Hall Committee dealt with enquiries, made bookings, managed maintenance issues and attended to Covid-19 and other compliance monitoring. The committee was guided by Covid-19 specific risk assessments necessary to permit limited opening between April and August. Owing to a period of compulsory lockdown closure January to March, and limited opening between April and August, income was again substantially reduced compared to the last fully operational year 2019. Gross receipts were £11,328 lower at £9,622, a drop of 54%. Maintenance tasks completed in 2021 included alteration of the French doors to the rear courtyard to improve security and installation of a draught excluder to the Committee Room external door to Church Way. Both works are contributing to the Hall's improved energy efficiency. A section of ceiling plaster was repaired. The kitchen dishwasher was replaced with a new model. Window security in the accessible toilet was improved and the old but serviceable plate warming cabinet in the kitchen was repaired. A baby change unit was introduced. Meetings of the committee took place on 8 February, 28 June and 8 November. At the year's end the committee began consideration of a project to re-thatch the east roof elevation and ridge. This matter will be a major item of business in 2022. The continuing commitment and energy of all committee members is again warmly acknowledged.

John Harris

Fabric Committee

Mark Phythian-Adams, Adrian Jones, Andrew McKearney, Maureen McNaboe, Tom Leach, Sarah Beaver

Day to day works are carried out by the vicar and churchwardens. Various members of the committee have been involved in some or all of the works detailed below. Tim Brunton stepped down from the committee when his elected term on the PCC concluded.

The Church

Internet access is now available in the church thanks to the generosity of the Friends of St Mary's (£4,478). This now enables services to be live streamed and contactless payments to be received as well as allowing people to access the internet in the church. Repairs were made to two merlons on the south west corner of the parapet – again the Friends of St Mary's generously financed this work (£1,602). The lack of an accessible toilet for use by the church and visitors remains unresolved.

The Churchyard

Oxford City Council is responsible for the maintenance of the churchyard which is closed for further burials. We remain very grateful to those in the parish who take responsibility for the overall appearance of the churchyard. Sheila Fairfield has played a pivotal role over many years and we are deeply grateful to her for this; this responsibility has now been passed to others. Repairs have now been done by the City Council to the wall at the entrance to the churchyard. The dead double cherry has been removed and a new compost bin built for use just inside the eastern wall of the churchyard. The box hedge has been cut and the compost removed from behind the hedge. The moles continue to be a hazard in the churchyard.

The Vestry

The Landmark Trust, as the owner of the building, is responsible for its fabric. The PCC pays rent for use of the Vestry.

Church House

The curate and his family currently occupy Church House.

Church Office

This is housed at the Rectory and the Rectory is owned by Christ Church. This makes it vulnerable at the next interregnum to a) Christ Church wanting it for another use b) The Diocese of Oxford not wanting it and c) any new incumbent not agreeing to this use of the Rectory. Furthermore there is insufficient space if more than two people are present on the same occasion. Therefore a new church office would be better sited in the rooms at the north end of the hall that is owned by the PCC, with the intention that this space would cease to be available for users of the hall. The filing cabinets and cupboards have been emptied to form a Parish archive that has been lodged at the Oxfordshire History Centre where other archival material has been previously lodged. A huge 'thank you' to Maureen McNaboe and Lucy Phillips for their work on this.

Andrew McKearney

Magazine Committee

Sheila Fairfield, Rhys Hedges, Nikolaj Christensen, John Harris, Edwin Pritchard, Jackie Pritchard

The ongoing pandemic meant that in-person committee meetings were sporadic. Most of the work related to production and promotion of the magazine was conducted by email, but there were meetings in June and from September onwards. Thanks again to the efforts of parish residents who wrote many interesting and varied articles. Sheila Fairfield announced her retirement from the committee as of December 2021. We are all very grateful for her many years of sterling service and the numerous excellent pieces she has written. For details of income and expenditure please see the Treasurer's Report. Eight issues consisted of 24 pages and four of 28. Regular advertising accounted for eight pages in the December 2021 issue. The print run was 275 per month for 2021.

Jackie Pritchard

Living Stones Committee

Andrew McKearney, Penny Tyack, Hilary Pearson, Janet Low, Debbie Burrows, Maureen McNaboe, Marion Casey. Elizabeth Mullett is the Minutes secretary.

During a year when people felt anxious about going out and mixing, even out of doors, Living Stones volunteers and supporters made sure there was always a warm welcome for visitors, both in person and virtually. Over the 24 Sundays between Easter and the end of September eighteen volunteers welcomed more than 350 visitors to the church, and those summer afternoons were a time for healing for both the visitors and the welcomers. We could not have managed without help from four new volunteers whose successful (and fun) induction programme we are looking forward to offering to more new supporters. For visitors who were unable to come in person, four Media Studies students from Oxford Brookes University created

a Virtual Tour of St Mary's during lockdown. The new Living Stones activities team guided their work, and the 18-minute film introduces features of the church, each presented by people involved with St Mary's. Four of the fourteen people who took part were children. They will help you remember Iffley Church if no one else can! https://livingstonesiffley.org.uk/informal-tour
We ran viewings of the Virtual Tour in the Church Hall in mid-September on a very busy day for our volunteers, the day of Oxford's Open Doors. We make a huge effort every year in partnership with Oxford Open Doors: guiding visitors round the Church, encouraging uptake of our informative churchyard trails, and opening the Glebe Field and the Hall. Two weeks earlier Living Stones had helped facilitate filming by Sub Rosa, a choir performing medieval music in associated venues. The film documents a re-enactment of the liturgical enclosure rite with reference to Annora. In September 2022 it will be shown in Iffley. Living Stones was not able to organise any special children's activities this year due to pressures on schools struggling with the pandemic. Living Stones volunteers nevertheless deserve heartfelt thanks. They enjoyed a celebratory tea with the newcomers in the churchyard, and a visit to the church of St Peter in the East (now the library of St Edmund Hall). This, like St Mary's Iffley, was built in the 11th century, probably by the same stone masons and sculptors. Iffley people claim a jolt of recognition when they see beakheads and the beautifully carved rib vaulting there, and feel proud to play their part in caring for an important part of England's architectural and Christian heritage.
Penny Tyack

Eco Church initiative

Nikolaj Christensen, Laura Laube, Tom Leach, Jim Lumsden, Hanah Christensen, Sarah McKearney, Lucy Phillips
Summer 2021 saw St Mary's awarded the Bronze Eco Church Award from A Rocha UK. Though this is just a symbol of the work the Eco Church committee has done in the last few years, it was a wonderful way to mark our progress so far and to advertise our collective climate commitment to church visitors. We hope to display the plaque in the church soon. Meetings of the committee took place roughly monthly: on Zoom during 2021, and resuming in person in 2022. Because we were unable to run events/workshops indoors as we'd hoped, we worked in collaboration with other local eco-groups to support a series of online webinars on the topic of sustainability in Oxford. This was followed by the creation of a new Eco Church page on the church website, listing a selection of hand-picked resources on local sustainability. In summer, we set up a short prayer walk in the churchyard, encouraging visitors to spend time contemplating nature and Psalm 23. Around the same time, we hosted a stall at the Rose Hill Playday, talking about Eco Church and the environment, and creating a collaborative potato-print painting with children who visited. We wrapped up 2021 with a small event in the churchyard on the 24th October, around the time of COP26. There, we asked members of the congregation for their "climate commitments", and stored these commitments for a future "reflection-event". We saw high engagement and a high level of climate awareness from those who chatted to us at the stall. In the background, we've been working on carbon footprinting the church (specifically the Church itself, and the carbon costs of the office in support of our worship). In 2022, we are planning to seek wider congregational involvement to obtain a more complete picture of our footprint. This is in preparation for our journey towards Net Zero 2030, as directed by the 2020 General Synod.
Jim Lumsden

Cowley Deanery Synod

Blanche Stiff, Sarah McKearney, Janet Orchard
No report has been received of the work of the Synod.

GROUPS & TEAMS

Ministry Team

The ministry team shares with the vicar in developing and sustaining the vision of the parish together with the week-by-week running of St Mary's. This has been invaluable during the course of the pandemic. Our curate, Nikolaj Christensen, has been a great asset, our churchwardens, Maureen McNaboe and Tom Leach, have been a great blessing, together with our retired priests, Graham low and David barton, our licensed lay ministers, Sarah McKearney and Mandy Watts, and our pastoral team headed up by our lay pastoral assistant, Susan Morrison. During the pandemic we have been meeting fortnightly to co-ordinate the important pastoral work of the parish and to manage the essential changes to parish life that the pandemic has brought. Pastoral work has never been more important and more challenging, particularly with the sick and dying, the frail and the elderly, and all who have been bereaved. There have been no ordinands on placement in the parish, and the parish retreat has had to be postponed until 2022, the healing ministry and crèche suspended, ecumenical activities curtailed as well as many community activities and involvement. Public worship on Sunday mornings resumed in July and services online ceased. The administrative support provided by Janet Low and Lucy Phillips, with Kate Stilborn as PCC Secretary, continues to be exceptional. In November we ran a homegrown Study Evening on Saint Paul based on the excellent book 'Meeting God in Paul' by Rowan Williams. This was so appreciated by those who attended that it was felt that other opportunities to engage with Saint Paul's writings should be explored. In 2021 (2020) there were 6 (7) Baptisms, 6 (0) Confirmations, 8 (2) Banns of Marriage published, 1 (0) Blessing of a Marriage, 5 (2) Weddings, 14 (7) Funerals, 24 (14) Interment of Ashes, 2 (1) Burials, and 2 (0) Memorial Services.
Andrew McKearney

Music in Worship

It has been a really mixed year for music in church as we continued with Zoomed morning services until the end of July but were able to gather in church for the evening services, which were a mix of Evening Prayer and a Eucharist, and the monthly Taizé services were also able to resume. We were fortunate that various individual singers were able to attend and sing on these evenings but none of the congregation could join in. There was a very brief opportunity for a small group of the choir to sing on Palm Sunday and Easter Day in the evenings but further plans for later on were again scuppered by a change of rules. However, on the last Sunday in July we resumed services in church and the congregation were able to sing again, although somewhat muffled by masks! From September onwards we were also able to gather a small choir once a month to sing Evensong and we had the usual service of Music and Readings for Advent. At Christmas, as in 2020, we held 3 weeknight Carol Services with a small group of singers and limited congregations, but it was a great delight to be able to do all these things once more. We are very fortunate at St Mary's that having 4 regular organists also meant we were able to cover the new pattern of 2 morning services plus the evening – many thanks to Geoffrey Tyack, Tim Croston and Paul Page! Some other things have not happened of course; there was no organ recital (maybe in 2022?) and Iffley Music Society have had fewer concerts with limited audiences, but all much appreciated by those who were able to attend. Some weddings postponed from 2020 were able to take place at last with music and singing and reasonable numbers in attendance. We are very grateful for the continual support of all the ministry team, especially Andrew who has encouraged whatever small attempts we could make towards normality, and also for the enthusiasm shown by the congregation for the gradual return to music and singing, and we look forward to the coming year with renewed optimism!
Janet Low

Taizé Evening Services

Lockdown put an end to services for 2020 in March but we started holding them again in January 2021. We planned to run them with a core number of four key people even if no-one else attended. By April we felt re-established and between then and December we had a range of between 8-16 people attending each month. We were very sorry to say goodbye to Anne Borrowdale at the end of 2021 as she and her husband moved house to Dumfries in Scotland. Anne had made a very valuable contribution to the Taizé services for many years through her attendance and as writer and leader of many services. Pemma joined the writers' team during 2021 and Lorna Bordeaux will be joining in 2022. Each person will write and lead about 3 services a year. When we started services again in January 2021 we tried live-streaming but the technology was insecure and often failed and for those of us attending in church the format with microphone in the centre of the chancel space where we sat was distracting. We decided to offer an in-person only service but distributed the service sheet by email to those who asked for it. A pattern emerged in 2021 of holding services on the third Sunday of each month. Janet kindly avoided holding sung evensong on the same day. In the past we hadn't held a service in December but because Covid restrictions prohibited the usual 'bursting at the seams' carol service on the Sunday before Christmas, we held a Taizé service that Sunday instead with 12 attending.

Pemma Spencer-Chapman

Community Cupboard

The work of Community Cupboard continued to provide food and provisions for about 40 families a week despite limited staff and volunteers at some points due to the pandemic. The City Council gave a grant of £1.5k which enabled an outdoor café at times of indoor restrictions to help develop pastoral and supportive relationships.

Worship & Prayer Groups

Prayer & Toast

Prayers and Toast met in the Vestry, Church Hall and on Zoom adapting to the Covid restrictions. This basic group of seven with three more prayed for requests left in the church, concerns of the members, for the people and areas we lived in, our concerns about the world and the stresses from the changes to the planet. When we met via Zoom we all sent our prayers to Fiona who created beautifully illustrated prayer sheets and added additional communications to these. Members not on Zoom sent letters, dictated on the phone and discussed their concerns with us who wrote it down, or came and brought their breakfast to eat with me and join the Zoom time. We all have our cups of coffee but have not yet resumed the toast and marmalade tradition. We meet in the Vestry from 7:30am or on Zoom from 8am for about 40 minutes every Friday. We warmly welcome anyone who would like to join us.

Barbara Alderson

Julian Group

Wonderfully, the Julian Group has been able to continue meeting each month all through the year, in and out of lockdowns. We have gathered in the Church when we were able; and when that was not possible we kept the time together in our own homes. There have been between 5 and 14 of us at our meetings. We take it in turns to choose a short piece of scripture, a prayer, a poem, or a writer's words of wisdom to ponder on. It has been a particular joy to spend silent time in the liminal space of our beautiful church. We have found that the silence and the fellowship of these meetings have been a great source of comfort and strength during the challenging pandemic months.

Sally Brodhurst

Donnington Fellowship Group

As the pandemic has made it difficult for groups to meet, and there has been so much instability within the community, it has been very difficult to arrange any regular meetings. We have remained in touch with prayer and support in our own homes, by phone and gatherings of 2/3 for time together, but we particularly miss being able to meet for a shared Eucharist. The Health & Wellbeing project has provided valuable times at the weekly Community meetings to share with those who wish to connect, and to offer support through shared friendships and a network of understanding and offers of kindness. Personal prayer and daily offering of the community to God`s loving care for them in all situations supports us through these difficult times and keeps us focused on our Christian commitment to love one another.

Cecily Kirtland

Discussion Groups

Poetry Group

A group of about ten of us have met monthly throughout the year and weekly during Lent. We have either met online or in the Church Hall when Covid rules have allowed. We have enjoyed reading and reflecting on poems from three varied and interesting sources: Life in the Psalms: Contemporary Meaning in Ancient Texts, compiled by Patrick Woodhouse; Love Set You Going: Poems of the Heart, compiled by Janet Morley; Frequencies of God: Walking Through Lent with R S Thomas, compiled by Carys Walsh.

Graham Low

Widening Horizons

Normally a new group is formed twice a year, summer and autumn, to read a book together meeting once a month over the course of 3 months, 7.30-9pm either online or in person at the rectory with anything up to 10 participants. There is no obligation to attend more than one series. We look for books that are quite short (about 120 pages if possible), have spiritual and theological depth, without being too academic. Participants agree to a) attend the meetings b) read the chapters under discussion and c) engage with the ideas raised in the book. In 2021 we read Melvyn Matthews 'Awake to God: Explorations in the Mystical Way' and Marcus Borg 'The God we never knew'. In addition during Lent we met weekly for a shorter time (7.30-8.30pm) to read Patrick Woodhouse 'Life in the Psalms'. This was such a positive experience that it will be repeated in 2022.

Andrew McKearney & Wendy Tyndale

Home Groups

Meadow Lane Bible Study Group

Throughout this time of Pandemic restrictions, all our meetings have taken place on Zoom. Sadly, some long-term members have been unable to join us, but a core of us has met once a month over the whole period. We have found that coming together faithfully for our meetings has both given us all something to look forward to and bound us more closely together. Reflecting together on various topics has allowed us to share stories of moments in our lives that have had deep spiritual significance for us. And praying regularly for each other in between meetings, we've been able to support each other through the various challenges that life brings. Our meetings follow a pattern: we begin (usually with a prayer) by catching up on each other's news and the 'latest' on prayer requests and share any new concerns. Only then do we move to the topics set for the evening's discussion. Over the course of the year we have chosen three different methods of study: we sometimes choose a *theme*, for example 'Forgiveness', or a biblical passage to study over the course of the month, so we can share the insights we have received when we next meet. Besides biblical passages, we have also looked at poems by R.S. Thomas, passages from William Blake and, most recently, an excerpt from Dostoyevsky's *The Brothers Karamazov*, the last speech of Fr. Zosima. So whatever our text, the meetings mix fellowship, prayer and reflective study. We close with renewed and revised prayer requests,

relevant information for the next meeting, and the topic next to be addressed together. Finally, we say the Grace.
Jonathan & Jan Stockland

Bible Study Group
For roughly 18 months our group did not meet due to Covid restrictions and the difficulty of using Zoom for many of our members, and that after over 30 years of continuous meetings. Happily, in the autumn of 2021 we were able to use the Church Hall and begin meeting again, this time on Thursday afternoons. We were able to sit at distance from each other but also enjoy a cup of coffee again after our bible study. We went 'back to basics' studying selected readings from Mark led by various members of our group. Two of our members are no longer able to attend but we have two new members, so for now, our numbers remain 12. As a group we discuss options for continued study and in the Winter and Spring of 2022, we plan to study Stephen Cherry's book 'Thy Will be Done'. We are very grateful to Sheila Fairfield who has organized and planned our weekly sessions for several years now and for Mandy Watts who is stepping into this role.
Maureen McNaboe

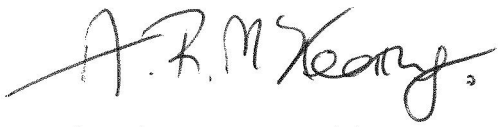
Abberbury Road House Group
Should we change our name? Perhaps to the 'Alternate Wednesday at 8:00 Zoom Group'? We have hopes that we will one day return to in-person meetings, but continue to be grateful for the technology that has allowed us to continue to meet safely and to progress with the aim of our group, which is to grow spiritually as individuals, within the context of our group. Over the years we have used many resources to guide our discussions, some inevitably more successful than others. In the past year we have shared favourite artistic expressions as a basis for discussion, picked our 'Desert Island Bible Verses' with an explanation as to why we would save them from the waves (a very successful exercise!), and done more formal study using John Prichard's 'Living Jesus', and then a less helpful book on prayer.
Alice Lawhead

Crèche Report
Since the return to church services, the crèche has been available at both morning services for parents of babies and preschool children. Toys and other resources have been set up although the crèche itself has been unsupervised. The take up has been limited because there are few very young children in our congregation at the moment. However, it is important to continue to offer this facility for visitors and any new families who may join us. Thank you to all the volunteers who have been willing to help in setting up and putting away each week especially to those who have joined the team to ensure that the crèche is a welcoming place.
Gaynor Dean

Fish and Chip Club Report
The transition from Zoom meetings to face to face has been tricky. We continued to have well-attended Zoom meetings running after the main Zoom church service until the end of March 2021, averaging over six children each week. Since Easter, frequent bouts of illness (Covid) and other commitments have caused intermittent attendance. The average dropped to five over the summer, with only two children being able to come to the end of term party which Sarah and Andrew generously hosted in the Rectory garden. In the Autumn we tried meeting fortnightly at 9.30 but this was not successful: average attendance dropped to three, with no children some weeks. Since Christmas, weekly sessions have resumed. A small Family Service was held for Harvest and at Christmas a Christingle service drew in some families who don't belong to Fish and Chips Club. Children in the club ranged from one nine year old, through four seven year olds to one four year old. Teenagers who have grown up through Fish and Chips now give valuable help and parents are very supportive. In the early parts of the year lessons focused on

Old Testament characters, showing how God fulfilled his promise to Abraham. We are now looking at People who met Jesus.
Liz Roberts

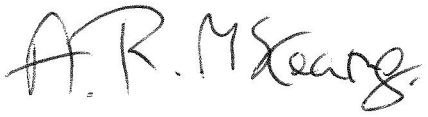
Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 22 March 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



The Revd Andrew McKearney – Chair of the PCC

Kate Stilborn – Honorary Secretary

Accepted by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 10 May 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



The Revd Andrew McKearney – Chair of the APCM

Kate Stilborn – Honorary Secretary

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, IFFLEY PCC

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 December 2021

This report covers the financial activities of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2021
It includes the financial statements and appendices as follows:
Independent Examiner's Report
Statement of Receipts and Payments
Statement of Assets and Liabilities including fund movements
Notes to the Financial Statements
Accounting Policies

REVIEW OF THE YEAR
Overall, the result is an operating deficit for the PCC of £14,098.
The figures for the Church Hall and Church House have been shown separately in order to show clearly the results of the main church activities.

The main activities of the church are showing a deficit of £196: this compares with a deficit of £419 for 2020.
We are again grateful for the support of the Friends of St Mary for their grants towards the costs of live streaming equipment and merlon repairs.
There was a substantial increase in the value of our investments during the year.
Church Hall income halved during the year due to Covid 19: running costs remain irrespective of use.
A replacement dishwasher was purchased: the cost of £2,700 was matched by a generous donation for which we are extremely grateful.
The deficit amounted to £7,853.
Church House expenditure is met by the PCC as shown.
The expenditure on Church House was £6,059.

The harvest appeal raised £10,170 during the year before Gift Aid
The Christmas appeal raised £2,410 before Gift Aid.
We continue to give £5,000 each year to charities under our St Mary's Giving Scheme.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK
In 2019 the introduction of the Parish Giving Scheme had a significant effect on our income.
The coronavirus pandemic during 2020 and 2021 has resulted in a very substantial loss of income following partial closure of the church and the hall but the generosity of parishioners means that we are more able to face the financial implications of the pandemic and to meet our forecast expenditure.

CHURCH ASSETS.
All the assets reflected in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities are financial assets, full details of which are set out in note 6 to the accounts.
Given that Church House is a PCC property held for the long term, it has ceased to be shown as a financial asset in the accounts.
Church Hall is also a PCC property held for the long term, and likewise is not shown as a financial asset in the accounts.

RESERVE FUNDS.
Reserves are needed for long term significant expenditure required on the church buildings.
From 2019 the PCC decided to make provision for future expenditure of £17,000 each year.
This is to provide for major items of expenditure which will fall due in the future.
These costs are in respect of the Church, Church Hall and Church House.
These are known recurring items where current reserves will be insufficient.

A. Marshall

Alexander Marshall
Honorary Treasurer

St Mary the Virgin Iffley PCC

Statement of Receipts and payments

Year ended 31 December 2021	2021 Unrestricted funds	2021 Restricted funds	2021 TOTAL	2021 BUDGET TOTAL
RECEIPTS				
Giving	81,755.46		81,755.46	90,000.00
Gift Aid recovered	18,407.16		18,407.16	20,000.00
Friends of St Mary's grants-streaming and merlons	0.00	5,813.58	5,813.58	
Listed place of worship grant	0.00		0.00	
Living Stones grant from Bishopsdown	0.00	700.00	700.00	
Receipts from Church Activities	2,876.00		2,876.00	7,500.00
Fees	12,624.00		12,624.00	
VAT Recovered	533.20		533.20	
	116,195.82	6,513.58	122,709.40	117,500.00
PAYMENTS				
Parish Share	57,894.21		57,894.21	57,893.00
Clergy and Staffing	7,961.63		7,961.63	6,268.00
Church Running Expenses - see Note 2	38,964.85	4,478.28	43,443.13	40,471.00
Living Stones	224.11		224.11	500.00
Fee Remissions	7,881.00		7,881.00	2,600.00
Charitable giving- see Note 3	5,500.00		5,500.00	5,000.00
	118,425.80	4,478.28	122,904.08	112,732.00
Church activities	(2,229.98)	2,035.30	(194.68)	4,768.00
Church hall net costs: see Note 4	(7,852.65)		(7,852.65)	(13,073.00)
Church House costs: see Note 5	(6,059.02)		(6,059.02)	(5,000.00)
Interest from investments	8.09		8.09	
Operating deficit	(16,133.56)	2,035.30	(14,098.26)	(13,305.00)
Net increase in investments- see Note 6	26,190.76		26,190.76	
Overall surplus / (deficit)	10,057.20	2,035.30	12,092.50	(13,305.00)
Provisions charged			17,000.00	
Funds at 31 December 2020			183,434.00	
Funds at 31 December 2021			212,526.50	

Note 1- Types of funds

Unrestricted funds are those which have been received on the understanding that they will be used by the PCC for furthering the mission and ministry of the church.

Restricted funds are those which have been given for a particular purpose, and these must not be used by the PCC for any other purpose.

Designated funds are where the PCC has earmarked funds for a particular purpose.

Note 2- Church running expenses

Vestry rent	1,456.00
Music	4,868.73
Church insurance	3,512.19
Church office expenditure	4,364.40
Churchyard upkeep	1,910.00
Church electricity and water	4,381.08
Church magazine	1,805.50
Postcard and guidebooks	8.25
Church cleaning	1,554.55
Other	3,440.44
Website and live stream	2,329.30
Repairs	3,478.94
Bank charges	333.75
Reserve fund	10,000.00
	43,443.13

Note 3- Charitable giving

Children's Society	500.00
Olive Tree	1,000.00
Ploughshare	1,500.00
Donnington Doorstep	1,000.00
Rose Hill & Donnington Advice Centre	1,000.00
Livability	500.00
	5,500.00

The Harvest Appeal is not included as it does not form part of the church's income or expenditure.
The same principle is applied to Gift Aid recovered in respect of the Harvest Appeal.
Additional donations of £181 were received for and paid to Ploughshare.

Note 4- Church Hall

Hall lettings	12,952.99
Donation for dishwasher	2,700.00
Less: refunds	-2,227.00
Net income:	13,425.99
Less: expenditure	
Hall- Booking Secretary	4,368.00
Hall- licences	457.12
Electricity - Hall	288.29
Gas - Hall	1,155.02
Hall- Insurance	1,756.10
Hall- Repairs & maintenance	5,553.76
Hall- Cleaning	1,623.00
Water- hall	444.02
Hall- Broadband	633.33
Enhancements - Hall	0.00
Reserve fund incl re-thatching fund	5,000.00
Total hall expenditure	21,278.64
Church hall- Net deficit	-7,852.65

The roof will require a 50% re-thatch in 2022/2023.
The estimated cost of £30,000 will mostly be met from current reserves.
All costs have to be met by the PCC funds.
The PCC has made a provision to meet future liabilities.

Note 5- Church House

Rent received	0.00
Council tax	1,884.88
Utilities	336.00
Maintenance	1,838.14
Reserve fund	2,000.00
Church House Expenditure	6,059.02
Church house- Net deficit	-6,059.02

There has been no rental income since 3 June 2019 upon the arrival of the curate.
All costs have to be met by the PCC funds.
The PCC has made a provision to meet future liabilities.

Note 6- Cash and Investments
Current accounts are maintained with Barclays Bank PLC.
The investments comprise a Deposit Fund, an Investment Fund, and Global Equity Accumulation Fund.
These are with CCLA Investment Management Ltd who manage funds solely for Churches, Charities and Local Authorities (hence CCLA).

Note 7- Property

Church House is no longer recognised as an asset in the balance sheet.
The PCC considers that it is not intended to realise the asset and that it would be misleading to show it.
It was previously shown at a value of £250,000.
The Church Hall is wholly owned by the PCC and is held at nil value.

Note 8- Reserve Funds

Reserves are designated according to the PCC's policy as follows:

Allocation:	Church	Church Hall	Church House	TOTAL
Brought forward January 2021	£ 70,000	£ 50,000	£ 14,000	134,000
Charge for the year	£ 10,000	£ 5,000	£ 2,000	17,000
Carried forward December 2021	£ 80,000	£ 55,000	£ 16,000	£ 151,000

Note 9- Provisions for future expenditure

From 2019 the PCC is making provision for future expenditure.
This is to provide for major items of expenditure which will fall due in the future.
These costs are in respect of the Church, Church Hall and Church House.
These are known recurring items for which current reserves will be insufficient.
These do not include any discretionary items.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, IFFLEY PCC

Statement of Assets and Liabilities and Movement of Funds

Year ended 31 December 2021

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total £
Fund balances b/forward at 1 Jan 2021	183,434		183,434
Movements of funds:			
Church	(195)		(195)
Church Hall	(7,853)		(7,853)
Church House	(6,059)		(6,059)
Interest received- Note 7	8		8
Revaluation of investments- Note 7	26,191		26,191
Movements in liabilities			0
Non cash movements- reserves	17,000		17,000
Fund balances c/ forward at 31 Dec 2021	**212,527**	-	**212,527**
Represented by: (see note 7)			
Current Account- Barclays	23,092		23,092
CBF Church of England Deposit Fund	31	0	31
CBF Church of England Global Equity Income Fund	117,824	0	117,824
CBF Church of England Investment Fund	71,580	0	71,580
Property: Church House- see Note 8	0	0	0
Reserves	**212,527**	**0**	**212,527**

Statement of reserves	61,527
General fund	151,000
Provisions (Note 8)	**212,527**

Liabilities

Christmas Appeal paid over in 2022	2,410
	2,410

Appendix: Accounting policies

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared using the receipts and payments basis.
St Mary's Iffley PCC now uses receipts and payments accounting: accordingly there is no requirement to follow accounting procedures or standards.
However, the following guidelines will be applied:
All payments are recognised when paid.
All receipts are recognised upon receipt.
The PCC is now recognising future liabilities and providing accordingly.
Any departure from this practice or any unusual items will be advised and explained by way of note.

Andrew McKearney	Alexander Marshall	John Mclintock
Vicar	Honorary Treasurer	Independent Examiner

Independent Examiner's Report 2021

Report to the PCC of St. Mary the Virgin, Iffley

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 1 to 5 is in respect of an examination carried out the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiners

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 144(2) of the Act do not apply.

It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2017 edition.

The 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 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:

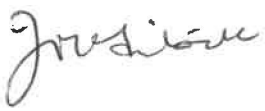
1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

   - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Act; and
   - 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.

John McLintock
12 Mill Lane
Iffley
Oxford



ST MARY THE VIRGIN, IFFLEY

SUMMARY BUDGET- YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022	2021
Income		
Total planned giving (including tax)	101,000	102,500
Donations and service collections	5,500	7,500
Other church activities	11,500	7,500
Core operating receipts	118,000	117,500
Expenditure		
Ministry and mission (including Parish Share)	75,414	74,161
Church Building and Administration expenses	32,647	33,571
Charitable giving	6,000	5,000
Total expenditure	**114,061**	**112,732**
Core operating Surplus	**3,939**	**4,768**
Church hall net income	(13,205)	(13,073)
Church House net income	(5,100)	(5,000)
Overall deficit on sinking fund basis:	**(14,366)**	**(13,305)**

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, IFFLEY PCC

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Honorary Treasurer

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Operating deficit	(16,133.56)	2,035.30	(14,098.26)	(13,305.00)
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Overall surplus / (deficit)	10,057.20	2,035.30	12,092.50	(13,305.00)
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Funds at 31 December 2020			183,434.00	
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Maintenance	1,838.14
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ST MARY THE VIRGIN, IFFLEY PCC

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Non cash movements- reserves	17,000		17,000
Fund balances c/ forward at 31 Dec 2021	**212,527**	-	**212,527**
Represented by: (see note 7)			
Current Account- Barclays	23,092		23,092
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CBF Church of England Global Equity Income Fund	117,824	0	117,824
CBF Church of England Investment Fund	71,580	0	71,580
Property: Church House- see Note 8	0	0	0
Reserves	**212,527**	**0**	**212,527**

Statement of reserves	61,527
General fund	151,000
Provisions (Note 8)	**212,527**

Liabilities

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	2,410

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Any departure from this practice or any unusual items will be advised and explained by way of note.

Andrew McKearney	Alexander Marshall	John Mclintock
Vicar	Honorary Treasurer	Independent Examiner

Independent Examiner's Report 2021

Report to the PCC of St. Mary the Virgin, Iffley

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 1 to 5 is in respect of an examination carried out the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiners

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 144(2) of the Act do not apply.

It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2017 edition.

The 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 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:

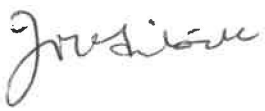
1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

   - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Act; and
   - 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.

John McLintock
12 Mill Lane
Iffley
Oxford



ST MARY THE VIRGIN, IFFLEY

SUMMARY BUDGET- YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022	2021
Income		
Total planned giving (including tax)	101,000	102,500
Donations and service collections	5,500	7,500
Other church activities	11,500	7,500
Core operating receipts	118,000	117,500
Expenditure		
Ministry and mission (including Parish Share)	75,414	74,161
Church Building and Administration expenses	32,647	33,571
Charitable giving	6,000	5,000
Total expenditure	**114,061**	**112,732**
Core operating Surplus	**3,939**	**4,768**
Church hall net income	(13,205)	(13,073)
Church House net income	(5,100)	(5,000)
Overall deficit on sinking fund basis:	**(14,366)**	**(13,305)**

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. MARY'S IFFLEY

England & Wales - Charity number 1128523

Accounts

CHURCH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN
Church Way Iffley Oxford OX4 4EG

The Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2020

Incumbent
The Revd Andrew McKearney,
The Rectory, Mill Lane, Iffley, Oxford, OX4 4EJ

Bank
Barclays, PO Box 333, Oxford, OX1 3HS

Independent Examiner
Mr John McLintock, 12 Mill Lane, Iffley, Oxford, OX4 4EJ

Registered Charity Number
1128523

SUMMARY OF OUR VOCATION

We are called to be *A Christ-like Church for the sake of God's world: contemplative, compassionate, courageous.*

We would like to be known for six things:

- The depth of our spiritual life
- Our commitment to bring life to others
- The stepping-stones we put in place for those who wish to journey with us
- The vibrancy of our common life
- The beauty of our church building
- Our ability to work together

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Purpose

St Mary's Parochial Church Council (the PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has responsibility for the management of the Church property in the parish – St Mary's Church and Churchyard, the Church Hall, Church Vestry, Church Office and Church House.

Membership (since the APCM)

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) or co-opted by the PCC in accordance with the Church Representation Rules 2020.

Vicar	Andrew McKearney	Ex officio
Curate	Nikolaj Christensen	Ex officio
Churchwardens	Maureen McNaboe	Ex officio 2018 onwards
	Tom Leach	Ex officio 2020 onwards
Representatives on Cowley Deanery Synod	Blanche Stiff	Ex officio 2017-2023
	Sarah McKearney	Ex officio 2020-2023
	Janet Orchard	Ex officio 2020-2023
Elected PCC members	Tim Brunton	2015-2021
	Maggie Wilson	2015-2021
	Hilary Pearson	2018-2021
	Guin Webster	2020-2021
	Liz Roberts	2020-2022
	Kate Stilborn	2016-2022
	Alex Marshall	2019-2022
	Jane McBain	2019-2022
	John Eastwood	2017-2023
	Penny Tyack	2017-2023
	Roger Wagner	2017-2023
	Sarah Beaver	2020-2023
Co-opted PCC members		
Officers	Tom Leach	*PCC Vice Chair*
	Kate Stilborn	*PCC Secretary*
	Alex Marshall	*PCC Treasurer*
	Janet Low	*Electoral Roll Officer*
	Hilary Pearson	*Data Compliance Officer*
	Maureen McNaboe	*Health & Safety Officer*
		Fire Officer
	Penny Tyack	*Safeguarding Officer*
	Jane McBain	*Children's Advocate*
	Lorna Bourdeaux	*Disclosure and Barring Service Secretary*
	Hilary Pearson	*Friends of St Mary's*
	Penny Tyack	*Friends of St Mary's*
	Janet Low	*Parish Secretary*
	Lucy Phillips	*Assistant Parish Secretary & Hall Bookings Secretary*

REVIEW OF 2020

Incumbent's Report on the Activities of the Parish

The pandemic has dominated 2020 and the annual report details how St Mary's has responded with creativity, faithfulness and generosity. We transferred our 10am Parish Eucharist online from the first Sunday of lockdown and have sustained it throughout the year. We are deeply grateful to Joy Foster, Mike Hay, Jim Lumsden and David Patrick for their technical skills in making this possible as well as all those who have been involved with the ministry Sunday by Sunday. We have extended our team of preachers to include Alice Lawhead, Hilary Pearson and Roger Wagner on a regular basis, as well as others more occasionally, and this has been a joy. Mike Hay has now completed installing live streaming and wifi access in the church building and we are very indebted to him for this. Many activities have gone online and found new ways of doing things that have been surprisingly rewarding. Liz Roberts' ministry with the Fish & Chip Club Sunday by Sunday has been exceptional, and one way or another most of our small groups have found a way to keep in touch and to sustain their important ministry. Bell ringing and our musical life as a church has been much more challenging to sustain through the pandemic. The church website now plays a crucial role in our mission and ministry, and we are very grateful to Nikolaj Christensen for managing that for us. Maureen McNaboe has set up our ability to receive online donations with tremendous results for our Harvest and Christmas Appeals, and the Parish Giving Scheme has provided the backbone to our financial viability. The Charities Committee was particularly creative in finding ways to sustain our Harvest Appeal through the autumn. In the last few years Mark Phythian-Adams and the Finance Committee put our investments on a sound foundation and they have performed surprisingly well during the pandemic. Janet Low and Lucy Phillips now manage our day-to-day banking; we transferred to digital banking just before the pandemic hit us. The Friends of St Mary's have been very supportive, paying the excess on our stained glass window repairs following a break in, and also paying for the live streaming and wifi installation. They have been true friends of St Mary's. In 2020 we were delighted to receive the highest award from Oxford Preservation Trust for the conservation work on the West front and South door done in 2017. During the lockdown Janet Low and Lucy Phillips have done many tasks that we would otherwise not find the time to do, and Maureen McNaboe has played an important role in sorting out a Key register and a parish archive ready to be transferred to the Oxfordshire History Centre where previous parish archival material has been lodged. In the first lockdown the Ministry team met online weekly and then fortnightly to ensure we were able to continue to offer effective pastoral care and support to the parish, often by telephone, as well as to take any key decisions that needed to be made, for instance over plans for Christmas and Easter. Community Cupboard has played a vital and expanded role and our ecumenical co-operation with the Methodist Church has been helped enormously by the Lay Community Chaplain, Libby Hawkness-Smith. Living Stones went online with its focus on the Reformation, and when we were able to re-open the church building it was such a blessing to have Living Stones volunteers welcoming people to visit during the summer months. The important routine care for the church and the hall has been sustained throughout the pandemic, and every opportunity has been taken to be open when allowed. We have tried to be aware of the digital divide by enabling those with a phone to listen to our online services, receive the weekly notice sheet and service leaflet in physical form, provide two leaflets in the course of the year, for prayer during the pandemic and resources for those unable to attend a funeral, but most important of all to provide an interesting and informative parish magazine each month for which we are profoundly grateful to Ed and Jackie Pritchard, our magazine editors, and all our many contributors. The Eco Church Group has continued very effectively to raise our awareness of environmental issues; of particular note were the sermon series in September and October and the four leaflets produced for each of the Sundays of Advent. Nikolaj Christensen has prepared four young people and two adults for confirmation in 2021. It was a privilege to

share with Nikolaj Christensen in his ordination as a priest; sadly for most of us this had to be online. As they step down we are very grateful to Sarah McKearney for all she has done as our Parish Safeguarding Officer and to Tim Brunton for his faithfulness as our assistant treasurer over a number of years. We are grateful to Tim Brunton and Maggie Wilson who have served for the last six years on the PCC and now step down.
Andrew McKearney

Church Electoral Roll

At the end of 2020 (2019) there were 140 (138) members on the Electoral roll, of which 35 (35) are resident outside the parish.
Janet Low

Churchwardens' Report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church

A report of the work carried out on the Church, Vestry, Churchyard, Church House and Church Office during 2020 is contained in the Fabric Committee Report. The annual check of the Church Silver, Fixtures and Fittings has been carried out. The digital Terrier is now complete with the exception of digital photographs of all church silver (this will be completed in 2021). The current Terrier is complete and available for inspection.
Maureen McNaboe & Tom Leach

Safeguarding

The Parish Safeguarding Policy was reviewed and approved in November, and added to the church website. 55 people who have contact with children and vulnerable adults have completed the Confidential Declaration form. 25 people have DBS clearances. In total 55 people have completed some form of training. 38 have successfully completed the initial Basic Awareness module (formerly C0), and 26 the Foundation module (formerly C1). Many of these will be renewing their online modules in 2021 and a further half dozen are ready to undertake them for the first time. 3 people, including the Parish Safeguarding Officer and the churchwardens, have, or are working on, the new Leadership qualification that is being delivered online. One of the bell ringers has gained DBS clearance and the relevant training certificates. The new Parish Safeguarding Officer will take the Safer Recruitment as soon as this module becomes available. The PCC was sorry to lose Sarah McKearney as Parish Safeguarding Officer as a result of recent ruling that barred relatives of the incumbent from serving. Penny Tyack was approved as her successor.
Penny Tyack

Health & Safety

The H&S and Risk Assessment digital documents were checked and updated in the Summer/Autumn of 2020 using the Ecclesiastical Insurance website for reference. As before, printed documents can be found in the Church Office for reference. All First Aid box contents were checked and replenished in the summer. The outstanding further actions referred to in 2020 were carried out or will be carried out – sensor lights to be installed on spiral staircase between Ringing Chamber & Belfry in January of 2021. The sensor light at the West end of the Vestry was repaired. Fire extinguishers were rechecked and where necessary replaced in June. All inspections and servicing were completed in 2020 with the exception of the Bells which have been delayed due to Covid-19 lockdown together with the fact that the bells have not been rung as often or as long in 2020. A new defibrillator was bought and put into casing outside the Vestry. When Covid-19 restrictions are lifted it is recommended that we have a refresher training session that includes any new volunteers. The gate posts were removed by the City Council in October 2020 and the post holes were filled in. The stone wall was damaged but will be repaired by the City Council in due course. Several Covid-19 related risk assessments were carried out though out the year, the initial ones by Andrew, Nikolaj and the churchwardens and

subsequent ones by Andrew. A traffic light system was added to the risk assessment. The PCC checked and approved the H&S and Risk Assessment documents at a virtual PCC meeting on 24 November.
Maureen McNaboe

General Data Protection Regulation

There has been no change in the GDPR following Brexit, so the current data protection policies and statements for the hall and the church do not need to be changed. Issues of data protection resulting from live-streaming from church are more related to privacy law. As the camera covers only the sanctuary as far as the altar rail, there are very few issues of privacy. In general, the only people appearing on camera are the clergy and others directly involved, such as readers. Presumably all of these people will be aware of the filming and give their consent. Once we are able to return to going to the altar rail to take communion, if the service is streamed I have advised Andrew that, if possible, the video should just show a photograph, as we do on Zoom. This would remove any consent issues that would otherwise arise because at least some of the communicants would be visible on camera. Before any streamed service the officiant should inform the congregation of that and indicate the area covered by the camera. The main concern will be if we have family services streamed where children are participating. Living Stones already has a protocol for photography of events where children are involved which can be used for services as well.
Hilary Pearson

COUNCILS, COMMITTEES & SYNODS

Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council

As the elected governing body of St Mary's, the PCC is responsible for promoting the mission of the Church, its finances and overseeing the maintenance of the buildings' fabric and contents. Due to the impact of Covid-19 there were fewer PCC meetings than usual in 2020. The Standing Committee met via Zoom in June to ensure that critical decisions were made until the PCC meetings were able to resume online in the autumn. The PCC has run very well using this format but despite this we are all looking forward to meeting face to face once again, which creates more of an opportunity to discuss and debate strategic initiatives. The PCC met its obligatory and statutory obligations in 2020 such as signing off a revised Safeguarding Policy, revised risk assessments and updated Health and Safety Policy. Penny Tyack was also formally approved as Safeguarding Officer. The Budget for 2021 was approved including a provision for long term expenditure. The PCC were enormously grateful that the work that had gone into the Parish Giving Scheme meant that the 2020 accounts were not as hard hit by the pandemic as they may have been otherwise. The pandemic stymied plans to deliver an Enquirer's course in Rose Hill despite receiving a Development Fund Grant. The PCC support the proposal to reallocate this money to a Parenting Course designed for families who may need some support. Options were explored throughout the year for installing a disabled toilet in the vestry and expanded accommodation for the Church Office. However, the condition of the building and given the fact that it could not be acquired from The Landmark Trust, other than through a sale and purchase in the open market, it was agreed that the costs of renovating the building were such that it was not viable to pursue the possibility. The alternative solution of incorporating a disabled toilet in part of the carport of the Rectory also proved too costly to progress. The PCC have approved in principle further investigation into the possibility of creating a new church office, toilet and kitchen in the rooms at the north end of the Church Hall. The PCC also continually reviewed the opportunity to develop the Churchyard in light of the planned redevelopment of Court Place. During the year the PCC approved minor works such as a new hot water system for the Church Hall toilet block, glass repairs & improved grilles following a

break in at the Church, and a defibrillator replacement. 2020 was a year where the congregation gave generously for good causes with targets exceeded for Christian Aid, the Harvest and Christmas Appeals and the PCC also agreed to pay additional funds to our local community via increased giving to Rose Hill & Donnington Advice Centre and Donnington Doorstep rather than give the money to new causes. A donations webpage has been a very positive development during the year that has helped generous giving to campaigns such as the Harvest and Christmas Appeals. There has been unanimous support for the work of the Eco Church Group towards an Eco Church Bronze Award. The PCC are also looking forward to agreed plans to install Wi-Fi in the Church and a secure and easy to use card reader to facilitate donations. The PCC will continue to discuss the development of live streaming of services and the opportunities and issues (safeguarding and consent) that this might bring in 2021 and beyond.
Kate Stilborn

Standing Committee

Andrew McKearney, Tom Leach, Maureen McNaboe, Alex Marshall, Kate Stilborn
The Standing Committee met once online during 2020 in June to transact necessary work, since PCC meetings had been temporarily suspended due to the pandemic. PCC agendas were agreed by email.
Andrew McKearney

Charities Committee

Andrew McKearney, Kate Stilborn, Jane McBain, Oliver Bakewell, Maggie Wilson, Sarah McKearney
The committee met three times in July, September and November. Just before lockdown a Fair Trade breakfast was held which raised £254.25. Christian Aid Week held during the lockdown raised a record sum of £4,237.98 beating the previous record by over £600. The Harvest Appeal held a monthly series of events during September (sponsored cycle ride), October (an Auction of local produce and books) and November (a Quiz Night held on Zoom) and raised £12,980.50. The new initiative, of a Christmas Appeal instead of the Carol service collection, proved very popular raising £4,751 for Homeless Oxfordshire. A significant development in the course of the year was the ability to receive online donations via the church website. The PCC continued with its charity grants throughout 2020 despite the pressure on church finances. We are very grateful to Mark Phythian-Adams' contribution to the work of the committee up to the conclusion of his time as churchwarden.
Andrew McKearney

Finance Committee

Andrew McKearney, Viviane Robertson, Alex Marshall, Tim Brunton, Helen Powell, Barry & Stephanie Newsome, Sarah Beaver, Lucy Phillips, Nikolaj Christensen
The committee met twice in March and October. During the pandemic there has been pressure on the church's finances due to the significant loss of income from hall lettings, wedding fees, donations from visitors, sale of Guide books and postcards. The budget for 2021 has therefore had to be a standstill budget with no increases in pay for anyone. However the core operation of the church has been sustained financially by the generosity of everyone in the Parish Giving Scheme and those who donate by Standing Order, Charities Aid Foundation or by cheque and cash. In addition the investments of the church have performed surprisingly well during the pandemic; £20,000 was taken from our investments to assist with the cash flow. Just before the lockdown we had moved most of our financial transactions online and that made operations significantly easier during the pandemic. However this made the post of assistant treasurer redundant and we are very grateful to Tim Brunton for doing this role for us over a number of years. We are also very grateful to Mark Phythian-Adams' contribution to the work of the committee up to the conclusion of his time as churchwarden.
Andrew McKearney

Church Hall Committee

Tim Brunton, John Dean, Alex Marshall, Patricia Michael, Stephen Michael, Lucy Phillips, Viviane Robertson, Andrew McKearney, Diana Nettleton

Within the constraints imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, the committee continued to manage the activities and upkeep of Iffley Church Hall, in support of St Mary's parish mission and the social activities of the wider community. It dealt with enquiries, made bookings, managed maintenance issues, attended to compliance monitoring and general housekeeping. Meetings of the committee took place on 26 June, 21 July, 8 September, 10 November and 1 December. Owing to extended periods of compulsory lockdown closure (April to August inclusive) followed by limited opening (September to December), income was substantially reduced compared to the previous year: gross receipts were £13,084 lower at £7,866. Maintenance tasks completed in 2020 included repair of toilet lights, replacement of the malfunctioning ventilated drain to the toilets (causing foul odours from the cleaning cupboard) and installation of a new water heating system to provide adequate hot water supply to the toilet block. The latter involved rewiring work via the main roof void. The Hall interior was redecorated. Also, eco cleaning products were introduced. The Committee gave close attention to risk assessments necessary to facilitate limited opening between September and December. The dishwasher gave cause for future concern and consideration was given to replacing the French doors to the rear courtyard with heritage compliant double-glazed units. These issues remained unresolved at the year's end.

John Harris

Fabric Committee

Mark Phythian-Adams, Adrian Jones, Andrew McKearney, Maureen McNaboe, Tim Brunton, Tom Leach, Sarah Beaver

Day to day works are carried out by the vicar and churchwardens. Various members of the committee have been involved in some or all of the works detailed below.

The Church

During the first lockdown we were required to lock the church doors; this was not the case in subsequent lockdowns. However the number of visitors has severely diminished. Just before the first lockdown the church was broken into. Nothing of any significance was stolen, but repairs were required to the safe cupboard lock and to the access point of the chancel window and grilles. We are very grateful to the Friends of St Mary's for paying the £500 excess. The Friends of St Mary's also agreed to fund internet access and live streaming capability for the church. In 2020 an energy audit was conducted and is to be implemented. The lack of a toilet with disabled access for use by the church and visitors remains unresolved.

The Churchyard

Oxford City Council is responsible for the maintenance of the churchyard, which is closed for further burials. We remain very grateful to those in the parish who take responsibility for the overall appearance of the churchyard, particularly Sheila Fairfield who has indicated that she would like to develop a team of people to share this responsibility with and eventually pass this on to. The gate posts were removed by Oxford City Council, as they had rotted. During the pandemic the churchyard has been greatly appreciated by humans and moles alike.

The Vestry

The Landmark Trust, as the owner of the building, is responsible for its fabric. The PCC pays rent for the use of the Vestry. In 2020 the possibility of purchasing the Vestry from the Landmark Trust to provide further space for the church office and also a toilet with disabled access, was explored. Taking into account the condition of the building and given the fact that it could not be acquired from the Landmark Trust other then through a sale and purchase on the open market, it was agreed that the costs of purchasing and renovating the building were such

that it was not viable to pursue the possibility. The possibility of incorporating a toilet with disabled access in part of the Rectory carport (access being through the existing door from the carport into the churchyard) was explored with the church architect. The cost for this was prohibitive (approximately £72,000). The defibrillator needed to be replaced following the theft of the previous one.

Church House

The curate and his family currently occupy Church House. In 2020 an energy audit was conducted and is to be implemented.

Church Office

This is housed at the Rectory and the Rectory is owned by Christ Church. This makes it vulnerable at the next interregnum to a) Christ Church wanting it for another use b) The Diocese of Oxford not wanting it and c) any new incumbent not agreeing to this use of the Rectory. Furthermore there is insufficient space if more than two people are present on the same occasion. Therefore a new church office would be better sited in the rooms at the north end of the hall that is owned by the PCC, with the intention that this space would cease to be available for users of the hall. In the meantime the church office now has internet access for both the computer and the photocopier. The filing cabinets and cupboards have been emptied to form a Parish archive that will be lodged at the Oxfordshire History Centre where other archival material has been previously lodged.

Andrew McKearney

Magazine Committee

Sheila Fairfield, Rhys Hedges, Nikolaj Christensen, John Harris, Edwin Pritchard, Jackie Pritchard

The magazine committee met three times in 2020 until lockdown in March. Thereafter business was conducted by email/phone, relating to the regular production of and promotion of the magazine. Despite lockdown bringing local events to a halt the magazine was able to continue to be a substantial read thanks to the efforts of parish residents who wrote many interesting and varied articles. For details of income and expenditure please see the Treasurer's Report. Seven issues consisted of 28 pages, three of 24, and two (November and December) of 32. Regular advertising accounted for eight pages in the December 2020 issue. The print run was 275 per month for 2020.

Jackie Pritchard

Living Stones Committee

Andrew McKearney, Penny Tyack, Hilary Pearson, Elizabeth Mullett, Janet Low, Debbie Burrows. Maureen McNaboe

Volunteers with Living Stones become involved in three different ways: first, with welcoming visitors to the peaceful beauty of St Mary's Church on Sunday afternoons; next, with educational events designed for people of all ages, both local and from afar, and finally, with an annual party-cum-training session during which they learn just a little more about the history and purpose of the precious building that we all hold in trust for future generations. 20 volunteers gave their time and energy to these activities this year in spite of the pandemic. Was it tempting fate to choose the disruptive topic of The English Reformation as our theme in 2020? Astonishingly, only one planned event had to be cancelled. The year began with a celebration in February of three special ventures undertaken in 2019: a drawing workshop, a Mystery Play, and a study of The Stones of Iffley including a 3-day stone-carving course. The success of this celebration was due to at least 20 people who, having taken part in these three ventures, threw themselves into exhibiting and sharing their experiences with crowds of visitors. One commented, *'I always enjoy coming over, even just for a few hours. Everyone is so enthusiastic and passionate about history and the Church with its traditions and architecture. Not many*

communities are, sadly.' Elizabeth described how the stone-carving students assembled '*a perfect 'Romanesque' stone arch of Iffley beakheads, updated with a crocodile, a badger and even the bird on its stony nest.*' During that day we held a raffle in aid of Asylum Welcome. 108 people bought tickets, and we raised £950. Exactly one month later Professor Nicholas Orme launched our Reformation topic with a lecture on what it was like to go to Iffley Church during the years 1530-1560, a period of unprecedented change. Between 28 June and 27 September we welcomed visitors to the church on Sunday afternoons, sharing with them the relief of finding the building safe and open. In September we launched Susan Walker's new Churchyard Trail as part of the Oxford Open Doors weekend. Dr Lucy Wooding's online talk in October vividly described the conflicting loyalties, identities and convictions experienced by ordinary parishioners throughout England during the tumultuous years of the Reformation. Her audience would certainly have filled the Hall, but we all listened from home whether that was Iffley or Italy. Our volunteers were able to help on two more occasions when outdoor activities for families were arranged through the church. The year ended with a new beginning: Living Stones is ready for guidance by a new coordinating team. Marion, Lorna and Marianne are taking up the baton. They will be well supported by the volunteers, who were described by a visitor as *'brilliant, enjoying themselves, working efficiently, kindly and with no fuss at all'.*
Penny Tyack

Eco Church initiative

Nikolaj Christensen, Laura Laube, Tom Leach, Jim Lumsden, Hanah Christensen, Sarah McKearney, Lucy Phillips, Daisy Stilborn

In spite of lockdowns the Eco group has been meeting and initiating activities and sermons and meetings to raise our awareness and knowledge and commitment to the climate emergency. We are hopefully close to being awarded a Bronze award from the Eco Church arm of A Rocha, and well on the way to the Silver award. The questions asked in the initial questionnaire have helped us address various issues that we might not have thought of as important for our continuing goal of being carbon neutral by 2030. We had 3 sermons and a quiz in our Creation series, we arranged an energy audit for three of the church buildings, Hall, Church and Curate's House. The Rectory remains a problem! We have worked with local groups particularly in Rose Hill as seen in the tree planting later in February and the litter pick last year and now, thanks to Tom, we have joined with many other groups in having 4 e-lectures starting on February 24th and continuing with one a month to May. We were reminded by the questionnaire about our engagement with the wider world and now we have toilets twinned with other parts of our world. You can see the photos in the Hall, the Rectory, and Curate's house and maybe you have one? In Advent Lucy Phillips produced a brilliant weekly leaflet with ideas for us to remember our climate emergency while preparing for Christmas. We have invited 2 teenagers in our church onto the group and look forward to their contributions. Our WhatsApp group – St. Mary's Eco Chat – is full of information about current issues, recipes, local news and signposts to e-lectures of interest. We would love to hear from you.

Cowley Deanery Synod

Blanche Stiff, Sarah McKearney, Janet Orchard

The first meeting of 2020 scheduled for March was cancelled due to the lockdown and further meetings during the year were held on Zoom. Two of our members were able to attend one of these when the Parish Share was agreed.

GROUPS & TEAMS

Ministry Team

The ministry team shares with the vicar in developing and sustaining the vision of the parish together with the week-by-week running of St Mary's. This has been invaluable during the course of the pandemic. Our curate, Nikolaj Christensen, has been a great asset, our churchwardens, Maureen McNaboe and Tom Leach, have been a great blessing, together with our retired priests, Graham Low and David Barton, our licensed lay minister, Sarah McKearney, and our pastoral team headed up by our lay pastoral assistant, Susan Morrison. During the pandemic we have been meeting fortnightly to co-ordinate the important pastoral work of the parish and to manage the essential changes to parish life that the pandemic has brought. Pastoral work has never been more important and more challenging, particularly with the sick and dying, the frail and the elderly, and all who have been bereaved. There have been no ordinands on placement in the parish, the parish retreat has had to be postponed until 2022, the healing ministry and crèche suspended, ecumenical activities curtailed as well as many community activities and involvement. The bells, the organ, the choir and all communal singing have fallen silent for long periods, and worship in person suspended during the first lockdown. The sacramental life of the church has suffered, and the two key festivals of Christmas and Easter had to be celebrated very differently. The administrative support provided by Janet Low and Lucy Phillips, with Kate Stilborn as PCC Secretary, continues to be without peer. On Remembrance Sunday we welcomed our new Archdeacon of Oxford to preach for us. In November we ran a very successful homegrown Study Evening on the Gospel of Mark based on the excellent book 'Meeting God in Mark' by Rowan Williams. During Advent, Roger Wagner offered us a series of thoughtful Advent reflections. In 2020 (2019) there were 0 (1) Thanksgiving for the birth of a child, 7 (13) Baptisms, 0 (1) Admissions to Communion, 0 (0) Confirmations, 2 (13) Banns of Marriage published, 2 (10) Weddings, 7 (12) Funerals, 14 (13) Interment of Ashes, 1 (0) Burials, and 0 (5) Memorial Services.
Andrew McKearney

Music in Worship

At the very beginning of 2020 a group of singers from St Mary's Choir were able to sing at the annual Epiphany Festival in the cathedral with 80 others from choirs all over the Diocese and beyond, plus the cathedral choir. It was a wonderful afternoon culminating in an uplifting service but within a few weeks all choirs and congregations were suddenly forbidden to sing, in church or anywhere else. It is not only the music we miss but the joining in and gathering together; even those among us who are not singers have missed this important part of our worship, though I trust you are all singing with gusto at home each Sunday morning! We were very fortunate at St Mary's to have a Technical team who were able to help us set up a virtual choir which has sung 4 times at the Zoomed Parish Eucharist. Everyone who took part (between 15 and 25 voices) recorded their own part to a pre-prepared backing track (thanks to Tim Croston!) and sent it to Mike Hay who waved his magic wand and glued all the individual tracks into a choir which sounded as though we were all singing at the same time and in the same place – how amazing is that! Huge thanks to Mike for all his time and expertise! He was later to be responsible for setting up all the necessary equipment in church so that we can now live-stream any services that are able to take place in the building. During November there were 3 services in church with a small group of singers, one for All Souls, one for Remembrance Sunday and one for Advent, and the last two of these were indeed live-streamed. Then during the week of Christmas itself, after much consideration of the possibilities (and careful measuring of choir stalls!) we were able to have 3 carol services with limited congregations as well as choirs, shorter and simpler than the traditional format but still with the familiar readings and carols. Both Geoffrey Tyack and Tim got the chance to play while I directed. Over 100 people attended

these over the three evenings and the Monday service was also live-streamed and watched by at least 100 more via YouTube! On three mornings that week there was also a Eucharist in church at which 4 or 5 singers came to sing some carols. It was wonderful to be able to have some live music after so many months and a joy to see the faces of both singers and congregation as they were able to meet, even if at a distance, and make or listen to live music. Apart from the normal Sunday services the number of 'Occasional Offices' – funerals, weddings and baptisms - was very much reduced, only three funerals, two weddings and four baptisms taking place in church, all with very small numbers in attendance. And there have been few of the usual concerts or recitals, although Iffley Music Society did hold one concert before lockdown began and a second in the Hall in October, much appreciated by audiences. On paper this should be a gloomy report but there has been so much positive support from singers and musicians, congregations and clergy for all that we have managed to do that I am optimistic for the future. Thanks are due in particular to Andrew and the ministry team for their support, to Mike for his invaluable technical assistance, to all our singers, and to Geoffrey, Tim and Paul for their playing.
Janet Low

Taizé Evening Services

The Taizé service is a short contemplative service which includes readings, prayers, singing Taizé chants and a time of silence. Usually, it is held on the fourth Sunday of the month. We did not realise when we held our Taizé service last February that we would not have the opportunity to hold a service again until December, due to the Coronavirus. It has been a difficult time in so many ways for so many people. Things that we would usually turn to for spiritual support, encouragement and expression have not been so available. With Covid secure measures in place, the Taizé team were delighted to be able to offer a service in December. About 12 people attended and many expressed appreciation for the return of the service. We hope to be able to continue to do this now with live-streaming possible as well for those who are not able to attend. The core team members are Alex, Pemma, Anne, Sarah, Zoe and Mo. Pemma has kindly taken over the coordinating role and we continue to be grateful to Janet for her administrative support for the group.
Mo Rooney

Community Cupboard

The work of Community Cupboard has adapted and expanded in the past year by combining resources and creating new alliances with other food distribution charities; mobilising volunteers in new ways; and broadening the base of support. When the country went into lockdown in March 2020, we were no longer able to serve our friends out of the Rose Hill Methodist Church premises. Nikolaj stepped into the breech by doing home deliveries to the most vulnerable families out of his garage until 21 April. By that time we were partnering with the Salvation Army, SOFEA, and other agencies -- and had recruited a cohort of seven phone callers, six new on-site team members, and twenty drivers whose mission was to remain in contact with our friends, provide emotional support, and deliver basic foodstuffs – as well as treats and activities for children – each week. The church was able to open its doors again in September, and since then most friends are collecting their food as before, with home deliveries continuing for those who are unable to come due to shielding or other constraints. Prior to lockdown, we fed approximately 20-30 families a week; at our summer peak, 40-50 families received deliveries; having dropped a bit in the autumn, we are back to that higher number. Finances have been bolstered by some large donations, notably £2,000 from B&M stores and a first-ever Council grant of £5,000. Libby Hawkness-Smith, Rose Hill chaplain, has risen magnificently to the challenges presented by Covid-19. Many members of St. Mary's continue to give their time to keep the project going; any others who might like to join this dedicated team would be most

welcome. It is a privilege to be on the front line, providing not only food but also emotional and spiritual support to those who have been most affected by the hardships of the past year.
Alice Lawhead, Advisor to Community Cupboard

Worship & Prayer Groups

Prayer & Toast

Prayer and Toast continues to meet on Friday mornings at 8:00. Since the lockdowns we meet by Zoom. Laura Laube monitors the Zoom. She describes the P&T group as a lighthouse or a stable weekly milestone, that shines a regular Friday morning light on her otherwise rather blurred weekly schedule. Jean King says that P&T has been so sustaining during this lonely time. It is a real privilege to pray together at 8:00 a.m. every Friday, either on Zoom or at home, for the needs of the world, our community and our families. We learn together, pray together, laugh and sometimes cry together, but we do miss the toast and marmalade!! Fiona Nevola illustrates and collates our personal emailed prayers up to seven pages and emails back for all for use. They form the basis for Friday morning when we can see and be with each other on Zoom. They are printed and delivered to others without a computer. Due to restrictions we only were able to meet twice in a garden which meant a great deal. From the beginning of lockdown in March P&T grew in importance as a weekly meeting with real friends - even if we had to get used to prayers online. Somehow, through it all, we have 'grown' as a group and enormously enjoyed everyone's thoughts and prayers in a new document each week that we can share. And go on sharing.
Barbara Alderson

Julian Group

In this strangest of years, the Julian Group has been fortunate in continuing to flourish despite the restrictions. In late March as the churches closed and we were unable to meet in each other's houses, we continued to keep our monthly meetings in the safety of our own homes. As usual, a member of the group chose some words for us to ponder on, which were circulated beforehand. Then at the same hour, we all kept the Julian silence in a quiet place in our own homes, knowing the others in the group were entering the silence at the same time. In the summer and autumn months when restrictions were lightened, we were able to meet in the Church. This was a real delight, partly the joy of being in those beautiful surroundings again after a long period away, and partly physically seeing each other –suitably masked and distanced – and sharing the silent time together. Our numbers vary between 5 and 14. For many of us, these monthly times of shared prayerful silence have been one of the helpful aids to keeping us going through difficult times.
Sally Brodhurst

Donnington Communion Group

Members stayed in touch with each other by telephone, email and letter throughout 2020.
Stephen & Patricia Michael

Donnington Fellowship Group

The Group has not met since March 2020. But each month we have contacted each other to share concerns and offered personal prayers for the needs of our community, the world and ourselves. It has been a very difficult time for most of us not being able and free to be active outdoors and the loss of companionship has brought times of low mood and loss of stimulation. Members have felt the loss of monthly social contact and some of us have mobility problems which have become more difficult. However, some of the Fellowship Group are also members of the 50+ Group which has held weekly Zoomed meetings and also managed to meet outdoors at the Bridge Stores area during the summer which was a welcome respite from the lockdown. It has been a time of real challenge which continues as we face more months of vigilance while the vaccination programme is rolled out and our hospitals still have to cope with overwhelming

numbers. It is clear that in these times of real difficulty all communities need to come together whether you attend a church or not.
Cecily Kirtland

Discussion Groups

Poetry Group

At our meetings in January and February we read and reflected on poems from *Love Remember: 40 Poems of Loss, Lament and Hope,* a collection and commentary compiled by Malcolm Guite. In March we turned to George Herbert's poetry using *My Sour-Sweet Days*, an anthology with a remarkable commentary by Mark Oakley. We then met in September, after our usual summer break, when we had a very enjoyable time together in the sun in the garden of the church hall. Further restrictions prevented more "live" meetings but virtually all of us have been keen to meet on Zoom every month since then. We think that this has been much better than having no meetings at all and nine of us have continued to enjoy George Herbert.
Graham Low

Widening Horizons

Normally a new group is formed twice a year, summer and autumn, to read a book together meeting once a month over the course of 3 months, 7.30-9pm at the Rectory with anything up to 10 participants. Due to the pandemic we did not meet in the summer but decided to meet in the autumn on Zoom. We look for books that are quite short (about 120 pages if possible), have spiritual and theological depth, without being too academic. Participants agree to a) attend the meetings b) read the chapters under discussion and c) engage with the ideas raised in the book. In 2020 we read 'The Collage of God' by Mark Oakley.
Andrew McKearney & Wendy Tyndale

Home Groups

Fairacres/Meadow Lane Bible Study Group

We had been studying aspects and themes in St Luke's Gospel with the Lord's Prayer as our guide: Jesus and the Father at Jesus' Baptism; Jesus and the Father at the Transfiguration; what does Jesus teach us about our relationship with the Father? Woman//'Daughter' (Luke 8: 43-4); Paralysed Man/son; the Parable of the 'Father' and his 'Prodigal Son'. As with most other groups, the Covid 19 virus jolted us out of our usual practice. However, once lockdown was the rule, we stayed in touch by correspondence and e-mails and a few phone calls. Then on a nearly weekly basis we would circulate encouraging and sustaining passages from the scriptures and other sources, together with invitations to view on-line several collections/exhibitions of mainly Christian paintings/sculptures with excellent commentaries by the convenors or artists. We shared readings in common, prayer requests and problems, and maintained a good corporate spirit. Then once Jan had mastered the technical workings of Zoom, she hosted our meetings on-line for the majority of the group. These were on a monthly basis, lasting about 80 minutes on average, with from 7-10 members involved each time. We studied several chapters in Romans with particular reference to chapters 3, 8, and 11 and 12.
Jonathan & Jan Stockland

Bible Study Group

We began our study in March of 2020 with the Book of Acts incorporating, where it applied, the Bishop's Commentary on the text (Principles of Deep Water Fishing) – a study surrounding passages from Acts and Luke about the story of the spread of the Christian Faith across the Roman world. Then came Lockdown. Unfortunately, a proportion of our group do not have computer access and we felt it wouldn't work well trying to meet online. When we did have the opportunity to meet again in the autumn restrictions prevented us meeting as a whole group in person. Some of us were not comfortable with meeting inside a building in any case. Having said that many on the group finished our proposed Spring devotions individually as above and

have continued with private personal study. We have also kept in touch with each other by email, phone, cards and occasional walks or coffee when restrictions allowed. We really look forward to meeting again as a group, in person, when allowed.
Maureen McNaboe

Abberbury Road House Group
The past year has been a rich one for our group, with (mostly) weekly Zoom meetings replacing our in-person biweekly ones. David Patrick has kindly hosted us, and as before we have taken it in turn to lead our discussions. This year we somewhat limped through a study of Revelation, heartily embraced Philip Yancey's *What's So Amazing About Grace,* and are now finishing *Living Jesus* by John Prichard. We close each session with targeted prayer for each other, our family and friends, and the needs of the world. All these discussions have been fruitful in their own way, but best of all are the bonds of love and practical support that have grown and sustained us through such a challenging year.
Alice Lawhead

Crèche Report
The crèche only ran for the first few weeks of 2020 before closing when worship was suspended.
Gaynor Dean

Fish and Chip Club Report
Since the last report, prepared in February 2020, we have had only one month of regular Fish and Chips meetings because of Corona virus restrictions. Charlotte Ryland kindly allows us to use her work Zoom account and runs this for us each week. The children have adapted well to meeting on Zoom, becoming more confident as they share their ideas. The sessions, which are all led by Liz Roberts, are very informal and include time to chat, some games, time to listen while a story is told or to watch a cartoon version of the story, a craft activity and prayers. Through Easter and afterwards, we followed the church lectionary, with sessions on Pentecost and the Ascension, then other topics in response to the pandemic, such as Helping Hands. In the Autumn term we had several sessions based on materials from Eco Church: Thank you God for this Wonderful World, leading up to a family service in church at harvest time. Since then we have been learning about Bible Characters. Meeting on line means that parents have more demands on them as they support their children. While it is frustrating not to be able to meet in person, there are some advantages. Kate and Joy, who both have very demanding jobs, are not needed as weekly leaders. Liz is able to lead the sessions without missing the church service. We have enjoyed including a family who no longer live in Oxford. We have been able to access on-line resources easily and materials (worksheets and craft templates) are emailed to families each week. Keeping in touch via WhatsApp has been a great source of support and encouragement. We are sorry not to have the involvement of the older children - now teenagers - as young leaders. Most of them attended Confirmation classes this year and will be confirmed in May 2021. Finding appropriate ways to support them in their Christian faith is an issue we as a church still need to address.

Special Events
March: Mother's Day family services on zoom; July: family service in the churchyard; September: family picnic in the Rectory garden; October: family service on Creation; Halloween: family fun in the church yard organised jointly with Rose Hill Methodists; Advent: gifts of Advent calendars to all children, supported by church funds; Christmas: celebration in the church yard organised with Abberbury Road Home Group

Attendance
Numbers have been similar to last year, with similar fluctuations. In the summer an average of 8 children attended each week, in the winter, 6. Ages range from 3-13

The children seem to enjoy the sessions and parents are very appreciative. The sense of belonging to the group and caring for one another has increased this year. We are grateful to the ministry team and members of the church who pray for us regularly and give practical help. The Halloween event was well-attended and attracted families who do not come to church. We hope to do more in this way in future, working with the Methodist church. Attendance at Christmas was affected by Covid but the event was worthwhile and can be built on in the future.
Liz Roberts

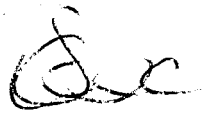
Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 23 March 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

The Revd Andrew McKearney – Chair of the PCC

Kate Stilborn – Honorary Secretary

Accepted by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 2 May 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

The Revd Andrew McKearney – Chair of the APCM



Kate Stilborn – Honorary Secretary

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, IFFLEY PCC

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

This report covers the financial activities of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2020
It includes the financial statements and appendices as follows:
Independent Examiner's Report
Statement of Receipts and Payments
Statement of Assets and Liabilities including fund movements
Notes to the Financial Statements
Accounting Policies

REVIEW OF THE YEAR
Overall, the result is an operating deficit for the PCC of £22,151.
The figures for the Church Hall and Church House have been shown separately in order to show clearly the results of the main church activities.

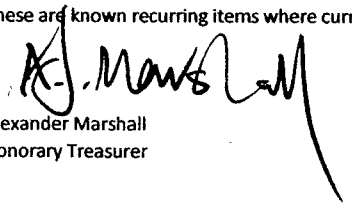
The main activities of the church are showing a deficit of £419: this compares with a deficit of £2,501 for 2019.
There was a substantial increase in the value of our investments during the year.
Church Hall income halved during the year due to Covid 19: running costs remain irrespective of use.
As a result there was a deficit of £15,949.
Church House expenditure is met by the PCC as shown.
The expenditure on Church House was £5,792.

The harvest appeal raised £9,722 during the year before Gift Aid
The Christmas appeal raised £2,806 before Gift Aid.
We continue to give £5,000 each year to charities under our St Mary's Giving Scheme.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK
In 2019 the introduction of the Parish Giving Scheme had a significant effect on our income.
The coronavirus pandemic during the year has resulted in a very substantial loss of income following partial closure of the church and the hall but the generosity of parishioners means that we are more able to face the financial implications of the pandemic and to meet our forecast expenditure.

CHURCH ASSETS.
All the assets reflected in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities are financial assets, full details of which are set out in note 6 to the accounts.
Given that Church House is a PCC property held for the long term, it has ceased to be shown as a financial asset in the accounts.
Church Hall is also a PCC property held for the long term, and likewise is not shown as a financial asset in the accounts.

RESERVE FUNDS.
Reserves are needed for long term significant expenditure required on the church buildings.
From 2019 the PCC decided to make provision for future expenditure of £17,000 each year.
This is to provide for major items of expenditure which will fall due in the future.
These costs are in respect of the Church, Church Hall and Church House.
These are known recurring items where current reserves will be insufficient.



Alexander Marshall
Honorary Treasurer

St Mary the Virgin Iffley PCC

Statement of Receipts and payments

Year ended 31 December 2020	2020 ACTUAL Unrestricted funds	2020 ACTUAL Restricted funds	2020 ACTUAL TOTAL	2020 BUDGET TOTAL
RECEIPTS				
Giving	80,239.34		80,239.34	89,500.00
Gift Aid recovered	20,246.46	0.00	20,246.46	21,000.00
Friends of St Mary's grant	500.00		500.00	
Listed place of worship grant	0.00		0.00	
Living Stones	1,481.12		1,481.12	
Receipts from Church Activities	4,523.75		4,523.75	9,000.00
Fees	5,944.00		5,944.00	
	112,934.67	0.00	112,934.67	119,500.00
PAYMENTS				
Parish Share	57,606.12		57,606.12	57,600.00
Clergy and Staffing	5,535.43		5,535.43	5,540.00
Church Running Expenses - see Note 2	38,102.79		38,102.79	39,893.00
Living Stones	750.24	0.00	750.24	500.00
Church Enhancements	0.00		0.00	
Fee Remissions	5,409.00		5,409.00	5,200.00
Charitable giving- see Note 3	5,950.00		5,950.00	5,000.00
	113,353.58	0.00	113,353.58	113,733.00
Church activities	(418.91)	0.00	(418.91)	5,767.00
Church hall net costs: see Note 4	(15,948.96)		(15,948.96)	(14,945.00)
Church House costs: see Note 5	(5,791.65)		(5,791.65)	(5,000.00)
Interest from investments	8.09		8.09	
Operating deficit	(22,151.43)	0.00	(22,151.43)	(14,178.00)
Net increase in investments- see Note 6	31,240.76		31,240.76	
Overall surplus / (deficit)	9,089.33	0.00	9,089.33	(14,178.00)

Note 1- Types of funds

Unrestricted funds are those which have been received on the understanding that they will be used by the PCC for furthering the mission and ministry of the church.

Restricted funds are those which have been given for a particular purpose, and these must not be used by the PCC for any other purpose.

Designated funds are where the PCC has earmarked funds for a particular purpose.

Note 2- Church running expenses

Vestry rent	1,456.00
Music	3,397.09
Church insurance	3,902.85
Church office expenditure	4,939.04
Churchyard upkeep	1,220.00
Church electricity and water	2,621.32
Church magazine	1,984.86
Postcard and guidebooks	1,110.00
Church cleaning	1,615.62
Other	965.92
Website and live stream	2,785.13
Repairs	1,817.33
Bank charges	287.63
Reserve fund	10,000.00
	38,102.79

Note 3- Charitable giving

Donnington Doorstep	1,000.00
Rose Hill & Donnington Advice Centre	1,000.00
Ark T Centre	1,000.00
Oxtalk	500.00
Blackbird Leys Playground	500.00
Living Stone raffle - Asylum Welcome	950.00
Asylum Welcome	1,000.00
	5,950.00

The Harvest Appeal is not included as it does not form part of the church's income or expenditure.
The same principle is applied to Gift Aid recovered in respect of the Harvest Appeal.

Note 4- Church Hall

Hall lettings	9,655.12
Less: refunds	-863.00
Net income:	8,792.12
Less: expenditure	
Hall- Booking Secretary	4,146.72
Hall- licences	742.14
Electricity - Hall	323.40
Gas - Hall	1,893.97
Hall- Insurance	1,734.05
Hall- Repairs & maintenance	6,249.46
Maintenance	0.00
Hall- Cleaning	2,242.75
Hall- Water	551.85
Hall- Broadband	631.74
Enhancements - Hall	1,225.00
Reserve fund incl re-thatching fund	5,000.00
Total hall expenditure	24,741.08
Church hall- Net deficit	-15,948.96

The roof will require a 50% re-thatch in 2022/2023.
The estimated cost of £30,000 will mostly be met from current reserves.
All costs have to be met by the PCC funds.
The PCC has made a provision to meet future liabilities.

Note 5- Church House

Rent received	0.00
Council tax	1,849.30
Utilities	590.44
Maintenance	1,351.91
Reserve fund	2,000.00
Church House Expenditure	5,791.65
Church house- Net deficit	-5,791.65

There has been no rental income since 3 June 2019 upon the arrival of the curate.
All costs have to be met by the PCC funds.
The PCC has made a provision to meet future liabilities.

Note 6- Cash and Investments

Current accounts are maintained with Barclays Bank PLC.
The investments comprise a Deposit Fund, an Investment Fund, and Global Equity Accumulation Fund.
These are with CCLA Investment Management Ltd who manage funds solely for Churches, Charities and Local Authorities (hence CCLA).

Note 7- Property

Church House is no longer recognised as an asset in the balance sheet.
The PCC considers that it is not intended to realise the asset and that it would be misleading to show it.
It was previously shown at a value of £250,000.
The Church Hall is wholly owned by the PCC and is held at nil value.

Note 8- Reserve Funds

Reserves are designated according to the PCC's policy as follows:

Allocation:	Church	Church Hall	Church House
Brought forward January 2020	£ 60,000	£ 45,000	£ 12,000
Charge for the year	£ 10,000	£ 5,000	£ 2,000
Carried forward December 2020	£ 70,000	£ 50,000	£ 14,000

Note 9- Provisions for future expenditure

From 2019 the PCC is making provision for future expenditure.
This is to provide for major items of expenditure which will fall due in the future.
These costs are in respect of the Church, Church Hall and Church House.
These are known recurring items for which current reserves will be insufficient.
These do not include any discretionary items.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, IFFLEY PCC

Statement of Assets and Liabilities and Movement of Funds

Year ended 31 December 2020

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Fund balances b/forward at 1 Jan 2020	156,191	2,491	158,682
Movements of funds:			
Church	(419)		(419)
Church Hall	(15,949)		(15,949)
Church House	(5,792)		(5,792)
Interest received- Note 7	8		8
Revaluation of investments- Note 7	31,241		31,241
Movements in liabilities	1,154	(2,491)	(1,337)
Non cash movements- reserves	17,000		17,000
Fund balances c/ forward at 31 Dec 2020	**183,434**	-	**183,434**
Represented by: (see note 7)			
Current Account- Barclays	12,026	12,108	24,134
Less: liability for Appeals paid 2021		(12,108)	(12,108)
	12,026	0	12,026
CBF Church of England Deposit Fund	20,030	0	20,030
CBF Church of England Global Equity Income Fund	98,935	0	98,935
CBF Church of England Investment Fund	52,443	0	52,443
Property: Church House- see Note 8	0	0	0
Reserves	**183,434**	**0**	**183,434**

Liabilities

Christmas Appeal paid over in 2021	2,386
Harvets Appeal paid over in 2021	9,722
	12,108

Appendix: Accounting policies

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared using the receipts and payments basis.
St Mary's Iffley PCC now uses receipts and payments accounting: accordingly there is no requirement to follow accounting procedures or standards.
However, the following guidelines will be applied:
All payments are recognised when paid.
All receipts are recognised upon receipt.
The PCC is now recognising future liabilities and providing accordingly.
Any departure from this practice or any unusual items will be advised and explained by way of note.

Andrew McKearney	Alexander Marshall	John Mclintock
Vicar	Honorary Treasurer	Independent Examiner

Independent Examiner's Report 2020

Report to the PCC of St. Mary the Virgin, Iffley

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 1 to 5 is in respect of an examination carried out the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiners

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 144(2) of the Act do not apply.

It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2017 edition.

The 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 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 Act; and
   - 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.

John McLintock
12 Mill Lane
Iffley
Oxford