

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF OUR LADY OF ST MARY, BLOXHAM

England & Wales - Charity number 1129237

Details

Other names ST MARY'S PCC, BLOXHAM

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2009-04-21

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address St. Marys Vicarage
Church Street
Bloxham
Banbury
Oxfordshire
OX15 4ET

Phone 01295 720252

Email dalegingrich@hotmail.com

Website stmarysbloxham.org.uk

Activities

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

Activities: The provision of regular public worship open to all. Promoting the whole mission of the Christian Church, through the provision of activities for senior citizens, parents and toddlers and other special need groups. Pastoral work, including visiting the sick and bereaved. Teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£262,541	£447,177	-	-
2023-12-31	£277,826	£417,029	-	-
2022-12-31	£167,909	£108,492	-	-
2021-12-31	£185,283	£201,962	-	-
2020-12-31	£124,799	£127,301	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Dale Robert Gingrich	Chair	2016-04-11
Bridget Lesley Ellen Cope		2025-04-30
LYNN BRODEY		2016-04-20
Lesley Marion Mills		2026-04-29
Patricia Mary Ann Lapworth		2025-04-30
Sir Anthony Brian Baldry		2025-04-30

Accounts

ST MARY'S CHURCH BLOXHAM

APPCM

2025

(January - December 2024)

Annual Report and PCC for 2024

Aim and Purpose

St. Mary's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the Vicar, Revd. Dale Gingrich, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and eucharistical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the oversight of the Parish Rooms situated next to the vicarage. The Parish Rooms have a separate committee, but its accounts fall completely within the Parish Accounts.

Membership

The PCC is a charity registered with the charity commission. Members of the PCC are trustees, either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

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

Vicar: The Reverend Dale Gingrich
Wardens: ex officio members of the PCC
Miss Jan Ogilvy
Mrs Barbara Walklate

Deanery Synod Representatives:
ex officio members of the PCC

Miss Jan Ogilvy, Mrs Jax Hegarty

Elected Council Members

PCC Secretary
PCC Treasurer
Building Our Future Co-lead
Foundation Governor Bloxham Primary School
Fabric
Minute Secretary
Vacant
Mrs. Lynn Brodey
Mr. Jon Carlton
Mr. Stephen Craggs (until Dec. 24)
Mr. David Gordon
Mrs. Sue Perkin-Ball

Standing Committee

This committee is required by law and has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings subject to any direction given by the Council. The PCC has decided that the membership shall be the Vicar, two Churchwardens, Treasurer, Secretary to the PCC (vacant) and one ordinary PCC member.

On behalf of the PCC:

The Revd. Dale Gingrich (Chair)

Date



Review of the Year 2024 – Bloxham St Mary Vicar's APCM report

This has been an eventful year for us as a church. The Building Our Future project loomed large in our thoughts, prayers and actions as the building works of Phase One were completed in March and all the scaffolding, hoars fencing and tarpaulins were removed to reveal the oak screens housing kitchen, toilets and choir vestry. A significant milestone in the overall project so ably led by Ian Myson and Jon Carlton with the help of so many including Jeremy Bell our architect and Savvy Builders. The Ven David Tyler, Archdeacon of Dorchester, joined us and the wider community in April for a blessing and dedication of the new facilities. All the local schools, including the newly opened Bloxham Grove Academy, began making good use of the church which from a combination of pandemic restrictions and building construction had been unavailable for over three years. Throughout the year we have been discovering new ways of welcoming the community and offering greater flexibility of use in an ancient building made more accessible and hospitable for generations to come.

We have continued to recover from the effects of pandemic lockdowns and societal hesitancy for large gatherings, having only one wedding and three baptisms this year. It has been a year of sorrows for the church with 12 funerals taking place in the church as we commemorated long time faithful parishioners to God's everlasting kingdom. Considerable change has taken place in the Doddington Deanery clergy and now I am once again a member of the Deanery Standing Committee and longest serving incumbent amongst my colleagues. We continue to be blessed with the support and experience of retired clergy who live in or near Bloxham and enhance the range and frequency of worship in this benefice. Michael Campling, Oliver Smith, John Smith and Hazel Scarr have their Permission to Officiate with us and are joined by Brian Fairbank in furthering our ministry and mission whilst also being available more widely in the Deanery.

Our life together as people of God extends beyond the work of the incumbent and clergy colleagues. We have been blessed to have Jan Ogilvy and Barbara Walklate as churchwardens. The PCC has been tireless in their leadership and support with visionary perspective and often 'roll up your sleeves and get your hands dirty' hard work that happens behind the scenes. Our thanks and appreciation go to Lynn Broady, Jan Carlton, David Gordon, Jax Heagerty, Sue Perkin Ball as well as Stephen Craggs who resigned during the year. The danger of starting to name people who merit our thanks is that the list could be endless as so many are engaged in joining in the work that God is doing through us in this place. We have faced challenging times, and no doubt more might lie ahead for us, yet by God's grace we embrace the present opportunities drawing upon our shared formation from the past whilst anticipating a future shaped by our Lord Jesus Christ's presence in, with and through us.

Yours in Christ,
The Revd Dale Glingrich

Safeguarding Report 2025

The year 2024/5 has been a quiet year for Safeguarding at St. Mary's. However, the Church of England itself continues to face historic Safeguarding issues which, I believe, highlights the need for us to continue to do the best we can to make sure every member of St. Mary's congregation is safe and that we protect ourselves by doing training modules where required and going through the DBS process if necessary. As I write I am waiting to hear what changes will filter down to us from decisions made at General Synod.

I have continued to make regular reports to the PCC and our Parish Action Plan has been approved and is up to date, as are the rest of our policies. Training has continued and the accuracy of completing it is much easier than the perceived inconvenience of being asked to do it!

I am once again indebted to Diana Thompson for her continued support with processing DBS checks. During last Autumn I renewed all my training and was DBS checked so that's me sorted for three years. I won't be renewing again so I'm letting everyone know that in 2027 St. Mary's will need a new Parish Safeguarding Officer. That is something to think about.

As always, thank you all for your support and as always it would be really nice if someone would like to help and keep me company – there isn't a lot to do!

Liz Farmer (Parish Safeguarding Officer)

Fabric, Goods and Ornaments Jan-Dec 2024

As last year the extremes of weather both wind and rain exacerbated some of the issues related to the building especially water leaks. On the roof Alocock/Bicester Roofing have carried out permanent repairs in several locations while we have applied temporary repairs to the less critical areas. The damaged and blocked down pipes were repaired and cleaned. Roof gutter cleaning is a regular activity to keep everything working well.

The ground level outlets for roof drainage have been cleaned several times and are generally working OK, but the one next to the bins continues to overflow during heavy rain. The drains rely on a soak away system which become less effective as time passes and their locations are unknown.

The dampness of the west wall of the south and main Aisles has greatly reduced since the repairs to the roof and re-pointing to the west wall of the south aisle. The drying was mitigated by the amount of very small loose materials dislodged when the walls were brushed as part of the spring clean.

Hopefully this will stabilise assuming we can keep the water at bay.

We continue to monitor the Chancel Fabric, the repairs of which are the responsibility of Elton College. We will review the next Quinquennial Inspection report to see if there is sufficient work to justify engagement with Elton College.

We have tried to complete the priority 1 and 2 repairs from the 2020 Quinquennial Inspection with a significant number still outstanding.

The next Quinquennial Inspection is due in Feb 2025 and the report will guide us in the works that need to be carried out to the Church Fabric over the next 5 years.

The main path to the south door has been jet washed twice this year which has kept it in an acceptable condition. The path on the north side of the church would benefit from some levelling work when funds are available.

Aceternan Contractors have carried out the priority works to the trees in the churchyard. This included removal of a tree adjacent to the Nursery, removal of dangerous deadwood and cutting back of the branches that were getting too close to the south side of the Church.

The issue of antisocial behaviour in the area of the north porch has been improved with the engagement with the young people (mainly school age). A small cross has also been provided that can be put in the north porch to indicate when there are activities in church. However, there is still the use of the porch later in the evening that continues to cause problems. Our thanks to John and Judy Marshall for continuing to clear up some very unattractive mess left in the area.

The situation has been reported to the police who have attended the church several times to monitor what is happening. Unfortunately, without some means of identification they have been unable to take matters further.

The option of installing CCTV monitoring is being discussed with the Police and the PCC and hopefully, subject to DAC approval, will be installed in 2025. The cameras will all be external to the church and the recordings will only be accessible by authorised people from a secure location. There will be no access via the internet. Hopefully this will act as a deterrent and provide information to the authorities.

The new church facilities at the west end

The green curtain has come down revealing the new screen and facilities which reached substantial completion at the beginning March 2024. The snagging works are ongoing and should be completed by the end of March 2025. The fit out of the facilities have been substantially complete with additional shelves in the Store room and Flower cupboard and the new set of drawers in the kitchen. The additional equipment in the kitchen has also been provided thanks to generous donations from the congregation. We now have mugs, glasses, cleaning equipment that enable the facilities to be used. Specific thanks to Liz Gordon for driving the commissioning process and all those who have volunteered to serve. People are always welcome to help with refreshments, we just ask everyone to take note of the kitchen guidelines.

We are working on proposals to shorten some of the pews to reduce the congestion in church and make the layout more user friendly. The cross aisle has been moved to the area in front of the curved screen and the proposed details for the shortening of pews has been submitted to the DAC. We have carried out investigation work and a shortening of one Pew to demonstrate that the shortening is achievable. We are hopeful the DAC will give approval in the first half of 2025.

The gutting to the Parish Rooms is in need of some attention as it has developed some leaks. The church building and the Parish Rooms (which are co-owned with the Oxford Diocese) continue to be the principal property assets of St Mary's Church, Bloxham. Their value is recorded in the PCC accounts. The Church's property, contents and ornaments continue to be insured with Ecclesiastical Insurance and are maintained with appropriate care and attention. There is no change to the Vestry alarm, with all valuables being stored in the safe.

The Lighting Conductor and the extinguishers have had their Annual Certification and David Andrews has completed a 'Satisfactory' electrical installation Condition report in May 2023. The spire and lower lighting is, we hope, going to be replaced with more energy efficient lights. The lights are the responsibility of the Bloxham Parish Council, and we are awaiting an update. Our thanks to Lemmy Roberts for her continued work with the Spire light sponsorship.

I acknowledge the continued support and dedication of those who have been volunteered to assist with a variety of tasks such as the Christmas crib installation, clearing the roof gutters, the top floor in the tower and working out ways to manage the displaced pews. Specific thanks to David Andrews for his invaluable support in the care of the Church electrics. We are also indebted to Trevor Shepherd and Team for his work in the Churchyard - see separate report.

David Gordon

Deanery Synod

In the last year we have welcomed a new Area Dean Revd Alicia Baker and said our goodbyes to Revd Sarah Sharp. Vacancies remain a problem this year. The need for a Deanery Secretary is ongoing. This is a busy voluntary position that they are having difficulty filling.

Finance and The Parish Share is discussed at every meeting and the overall increases and shortfall is presented by The Deanery Treasurer. The Parish Share bill is about £500,000 a year for our deanery of 29 parishes and we pay for 11 full time and 2 house for duty posts. Over the whole diocese the Share bill will increase by 2.7% this year.

We have had a presentation about Lay-led worship with an aim to broaden and support what the church has to offer to all in the community. Epwell church has been experimenting successfully with 'Come and Sing' services. The service is based on material from the CQE website called 'For All the Church Family'. So far, their services have included Harvest Thanksgiving based on an order of service published by the Farm Community Network, a Mothering Sunday service from New Pattems of Worship and a Christmas Service from The Children's Society website. Epwell found plenty of online courses that were helpful and are happy to share their experience. This was a very inspiring shared experience from areas where congregations share a vicar between six or more parishes. Good News Stories is a popular section of our meetings. St Francis Banbury has started a Faith and Film group for those on the edge of church where a film is shown one week and then a discussion group meets the following week. St Paul's has started a church plant in Gretch Hill. St Mary's Banbury is offering their kitchens for asylum seekers to cook their own food. With a grant they hope to improve this service.

We have vacancies on The Deanery Synod for anyone wanting to represent St Mary's Bloxham
Jan Ogilvy

Electoral Roll

We have just completed a new Electoral Roll which now stands at 50 which is down from 86 as recorded in last year's report.

Liz Gordon, Electoral Roll Officer

Foundation Governors, Bloxham Primary School

Last April's report discussed the encouraging signs of improvement at Bloxham Primary School following the new head teacher's first year in the role. The October 2022 Ofsted report identified a number of areas for improvement, and it was evident even a year ago that these were in the process of being tackled.

The last year has seen huge progress, building on the foundations established in 2022-4. The transformation has encompassed every aspect of the school, including an increased focus this academic year on integrating with the community and encouraging spirituality within the children. The increased focus on the quality of teaching (one of the areas for improvement identified by Ofsted) is paying dividends. For example the early years unit, identified as one particular area for improvement, is now seen as one of the leaders across the wider Oxfordshire district. Class attendance, a highly topical subject countrywide at the moment, is well above average for the county, and teaching time and education quality have been improved through clear leadership and a consistent approach.

In terms of encouraging spiritual growth for children, the school has implemented a number of changes to enhance its performance as a Church of England School. The school is working to

improve opportunities for children and their families to engage with St Mary's, and the introduction of the bible-based 'Open the Book' sessions has proved popular, with children benefiting from the opportunity to learn about various bible stories in a fun and engaging way. The school also arranged a highly successful festival of nine lessons and carols, with the children handling a number of the lessons, the school choir performing and participation by all children in singing carols and other Christmas-related songs. It was great to see St. Mary's completely full, including standing room. Parents expressed their enjoyment, and it was an opportunity for many local residents to come to St. Mary's and see the new facilities.

As is often the case with major Transformations, change has not always been without difficulties though. The current academic year has been a challenge for teaching staff, particularly with the budgetary impacts of lower birthrates in the younger groups. However, the latest reports from the local authority have assessed school performance as good, with the hope that Ofsted might move its assessment upward in the anticipated assessment in the next few months.
Stephen Craggs, Foundation Governor

Music – Choir and Music Group

CHOIR Major impact this year, is the departure of Rachel and Gareth, and Roger moving into Seacombe House (with Marion for a while) All will be sorely missed. It's been a quiet year on the whole, a good 9 lessons, some collaboration with Deddington over evensongs and a visit by the choir to the RSCM Epiphany carol service in Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford.

We've also enjoyed sitting out together several times at the Red Lion. Choir numbers are still in the healthy zone, but we could really do with a tenor or two, plus maybe a couple more sopranos. Alas and bass continue to be healthily represented. We are having to re-examine repertoire to deal with the new configuration, but are hoping to continue with Choral evensong once a month.

MUSIC GROUP I've managed to acquire some Orange books that have helped expand our repertoire, though they are 25 years old, they still have some relatively 'new' material in for St Mary's.

We've had a clean out of the filing cabinet and removed all the stuff no longer required as it's either duplicated in the Orange books or the Hymn books. I was hoping the new AV equipment from BOF would help there, but it's not geared up to our current requirements. THE OHP is ok, but rather small and not visible from the sides. Maybe we could look into installing a drop-down screen at some point to give a little more flexibility? I did buy a mixing desk to increase the number of inputs in to the current sound system, and it would be useful to have an extra couple of mics and stands when funds allow.
David Ball, Director of Music

Bells Ringing

We now have ten Bloxham ringers who are members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers. We usually manage to ring seven or eight bells every Sunday. I am very grateful to Colin Lee who comes from Adderbury to help us every week. I offered a bellringing lesson for the Christmas raffle, and a couple donated £50 for the lesson. They came last week. I showed them the bells and taught them how to ring handstrokes and backstrokes. Unfortunately, they are too busy to continue lessons at the moment, but they now know what is involved, so I hope they will learn to ring and will join the band sometime in the future.

I have been teaching four learners for the last few months. There is a Dad and his two sons aged 13 and 8, and another boy aged 8. So far, they have been learning with the computer simulator, but I am restarting Bloxham practices this Friday so they can ring with the band. We haven't had any practices for the last eighteen months because of my arthritic hip, which is now much better since it was replaced.
Aian Griffin, Tower Captain

Bloxham Puzzlers

Not just puzzles, but games of all sorts, have been enjoyed on Wednesday mornings, together with Fairtrade cookies and tea or coffee to assist with the puzzling thoughts and chat! All are welcome to visit and join in the 'puzzle on the go' or complete your own – a wide range of puzzles are available from 15 pieces to 1000, or you can choose to hire one and puzzle at home. For those of a more competitive nature, Scrabble, Rummikub, UNO, Blink and many more games are played, taught or learnt during the morning. We're a very friendly group * It's a really social morning meeting old and new friends while enjoying fun and games and exercising the brain! * Puzzlers meet every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month from 10.30 - 12.30 in the Parish Rooms. £2.00 a session to include refreshments.

We look forward to welcoming you...
Lesley Mills & Lindsay Mills

Bloxham Boys Brigade

Memberships as at 31 December:	Anchors (5-8)	12
	Juniors (7-11)	22
	Company (11-14)	6
	Seniors (14-19)	5
	Young person helpers	3
	Officers	7
	Adult helpers	6
	Total	61

Community

Our filler teams were active throughout the summer trying to keep Bloxham tidy. Over 30 members of the Boys' Brigade attended the Act of Remembrance and Church Service that was held in Bloxham. We also supported the Annual Christmas Tree festival which was held in St Mary's Church.

Special events

A large contingent of members spent the day with William Formula 1 in Grove. Our Company section visited Laser Quest in Coventry, the Oxford Climbing Centre, & The Blackwell Adventure Centre in Beersgrove. Our Anchors and Juniors visited Banbury Bowl.

Awards

Over 40 boys received awards for service and achievement at our 17th annual awards evening which was held in St Mary's Church. Our guest of honour was Rt Revd, Gavin Collins, Bishop of Dorchester (a former BB member). We were delighted to report that one member was awarded with the Queen's Badge, the highest award available to a member of the Boys' Brigade. The first to be awarded in Bloxham!

Church

In addition, our weekly devotions, leaders and members of Bloxham BB participated in various Church services organised by St Mary's Church and Bloxham Baptist Church.

Development

We made presentations to the Deddington Deanery Synod and SS Peter & Paul Church, Steple Aston about offering the Boys' Brigade for Mission and Outreach.

Leadership

During the year we welcomed Becca Sterry into our leadership team (Anchors). We said goodbye to Joe Skinner (Company) following his move to the North East and Annette Murphy (Anchors) who decided to retire. We thank you for your service.

Please kindly consider whether you can help the BB.

Nick Westbury

Building Our Future

Early in the year, a highlight of the Building Our Future (BoF) programme was the completion and handover of the 'West End Works' in Bloxham church. This provides much-needed toilets (including accessible facilities), a new choir vestry, fower cupboard and a full-equipped kitchen with serving hatch. The kitchen and vestry elements of the design are joined by a curved wooden platform and steps opening out from the ringing chamber and this provides (and has been used as) a performance space for small choral or orchestral groups. The new facilities are housed behind architect-designed curved screens, which have already drawn positive critical acclaim – a credit to architect Jeremy Bell whose concept it was. They are an unashamedly 21st century design yet blend well and are in keeping with the fabric of the church, much of it dating back to the 1400s.

Apart from facilitating the delivery of hospitality after services, weddings, funerals etc, the new facilities are already allowing the church to be used for a greater range of activities involving the community and thus fulfilling the project's design intent. Already in 2024 the facilities have supported afternoon teas, tours with refreshments, talks, funeral wakes, concerts by various choirs and musical groups, as well as use by the three schools located in Bloxham. Together £1450 was generated through these 'Community Users' and this is set to grow as more activities are planned and use of the facilities is more actively promoted.

Completion of the facilities meant that there were still bills to pay and we were grateful to our principal contractors, Savvy, for an extended payment arrangement, allowing fundraising to continue in parallel with initial use of the facilities. Conclusion and agreement on final contract variations and receipt of final invoices from Savvy.

In order to repay Savvy in a timely fashion, it has been necessary to take out some loan facilities. Two parishioners have generously provided zero interest loans to the PCC and the remainder has been filled by a 10-year loan taken out with an organisation called MCA, which specialises in loans for these sorts of circumstances. The MCA loan will be repaid by funding from Friends of St Marys and both the PCC and FosM committee have assured themselves that this arrangement is robust and will allow the repayments to be made.

There has now been a pause in peak BoF project activity while outstanding commitments are paid and use of the facilities is developed. However, the plan to rationalise the pews in the church continues (leaving eventually 25 shortened and more readily movable pews). Our own experts, in the shape of David Gordon and Bob Perkin-Bell, are providing the brains and brawn behind this project. Having proved the concept of cutting down pews and making good (to the Dioc's satisfaction) a formal Facility application has now been made to the Diocese for the full pew rationalisation initiative. Jon Carlton

Church Cleaning

2024 was a busy year full of changes, new ventures and reinstating previous events following the opening of our new church facilities. More use equals more dirt and our need for volunteers was urgent. We are very grateful to those who responded to our call and have given so much help already. In addition to working hard we have had helpful suggestions as to equipment and management and our members have highlighted potential problems they have observed. All this help is vital to our being able to keep this beautiful church open, safe and welcoming.

Cleaning in St Mary's is divided into zones so that no one is over worked in such a large space. We have cleaners in most age groups but the majority on our team have been relied for some time. We would like to see some more volunteers in each area so that, as is the case at the moment, if someone is needed to take time off there are others to step up and carry on. I have the list and the zone map for now and can be contacted on Telephone number 01295720054.

Jan Ogilvy

Church Flowers

We continue to have a dedicated group providing flower arrangements for the church throughout the year. We welcomed Barbara Saunders to the team this year. After many years of dedicated service, Marian Stein and Sally Williams stepped down. Another committed member of the flower team, Alison Smith, sadly died this year. During the year, Bloxham Florist Melissa Dinwiddie, kindly provided an autumnal workshop for the team. The aim of the workshop was to explore alternative techniques to using floral foam for our flower arrangements and to hear about sources of locally grown flowers. These initiatives were identified as a way of using more sustainable methods for flower arranging, to help us meet St. Mary's

goal of achieving an Eco-silver Award. Knowledge and skills gained in the workshop were put to good use for our flower arrangements for Harvest Festival. The team enjoy the opportunity to come together to decorate the church for the major festivals of Easter, Harvest and Christmas. We are grateful to Jenny Roberts who continues to grow beautiful chrysanthemums to decorate the church at Harvest festival and Christmaside. We would like to thank the Flower Team for their commitment and hard work over the past year. Feedback from members of the congregation and visitors to our church is testimony to how much the team's work is appreciated. We are always pleased to welcome new people to the team. If anyone is interested in joining, please do contact Lesley or Becky.

Lesley Mills and Becky Horton.

Churchyard

Work maintaining the Churchyard continued through 2024 on Wednesday mornings, weather permitting and on other days to make back lost time.

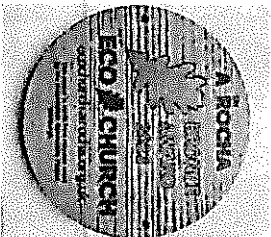
The volunteers comprised Trevor, Shepherd, Andrew, Whiffin, Graham Higgins, Chris Field and David Carr. Chris relocated to Bath towards the end of the year and we will miss his contribution in the Churchyard, as will Bloxham Bowls Club where Chris was part of the team there who maintained the Bowling Green. Ian and Pat Lapworth joined the Churchyard team during the year and have undertaken a variety of tasks that in previous years had not been completed due to shortage of labour. In March the Churchyard Equipment Store was broken into and many items were stolen. However, replacement battery powered items have been purchased with money from the insurers. A local company of tree specialists carried out a safety survey of the trees in the Churchyard and returned to deal with trees and branches judged as a risk. In June local Botanist, Peter Shasby gave an illustrated talk in the Church about the Wild Flowers that grow in the Churchyard. Display boards were also created with photographs showing well over 100 varieties of plants. The evening was well attended, with refreshments available before and after the talk.

A new hedge, comprising 2 legs of 40 metres was planted at the bottom of the Churchyard. This project was co-ordinated by Biodiversity Bloxham who secured a grant and involved many members of the local community to help with the planting. Maintaining areas of the Churchyard in different ways continued, but due to the shortage of volunteers this was determined by workload rather than choice and more grass areas had to be left to grow longer.

We need more help in the Churchyard, especially during the Summer, so if you would like to join the volunteers either on a regular basis, or occasionally, then please get in touch. Fallen leaves in the autumn and winter were again raked up to create heaps to produce leaf mould. Some of the 2022 leaf mould remains available for anyone who would like it. The remainder of the arisings from the Churchyard were placed into brown wheeled bins and collected by Chrenwell District Council for recycling into compost, much of it being grass cuttings, hedge and tree prunings and fallen twigs and small branches which come from the many trees in the Churchyard. Andrew continued to trim back the brambles/hedge on the South side. Graham's areas of Teasel plants grown from last year's seeds grew well and the Snowdrops he transplanted along the south side of the Churchyard along the line of the railings produced an impressive line of white flowers. Chris again pruned and shaped the shrubs and bushes inside the front wall and planted bulbs in the wooden tub.

The display of seasonal flowers from January to June starting with Snowdrops followed by primroses, crocuses, cyclamen, daffodils, tulips, bluebells etc. is always worth a visit to the Churchyard whether when walking or to just sit and relax/rehired in a mostly quiet place. We need more help in the Churchyard, especially during the Summer, so if you would like to join the volunteers either on a regular basis, or occasionally, then please get in touch. For matters relating to the upkeep of the Churchyard please contact Trevor Shepherd on 01295 720640 or email trevor.shepherd@btinternet.com

Eco Church



As a reminder, Eco Church is a project run by A Rocha UK, a Christian charity, in partnership with The Church of England, Christian Aid, The Methodist Church, Tearfund, The United Reformed Church and A Rocha's Trust Limited. It provides churches and their leadership with a way to take practical action on caring for God's earth along with a toolkit of resources and an online award survey. The Eco Church survey helps you 'go green' in all areas of your church life, and counts towards an award - which can be Bronze, Silver or Gold.

St Mary's Activities and Progress

History

Last year we reported that we had successfully achieved the Bronze Award in May 2023

Changes to The EcoChurch Survey and their impacts

The EcoChurch survey had a major revamp during the year – and the new survey was first talked about in Spring 2024, then trailed in autumn 2024 and finally released at the beginning of 2025. It has now superseded the previous, original version that had remained unchanged since 2016.

- The first section of the survey, the "Worship and Teaching" category has probably seen the least amount of significant change, and it is the category that we follow most closely.
- The category on "Buildings and Energy" introduces the need for the church to have assessed the Carbon Footprint of both church buildings and all other church activities, including food purchasing and congregational travel. These are required for us to plan and monitor our path to Net Zero.
- The section continues with questions on our energy usage – where many of the options they present to us are limited by the age and status of our building. The section then concludes with questions on our plans or policies for a range of topics, including -
 - Future climate resilience,
 - A procurement policy, focused on products and services with a low environment impact,
 - Waste and recycling policy
 - Letting policy (prioritising the sustainable use of the site)
 - Carbon footprint offsetting policy
- The category on "Land and Nature" has developed considerably since the original survey. Encouraging wildlife is an absolute focus for us, but we are limited in that there are constraints of needing to maintain the access to graves in a relatively tidy manner. We also score by having planted hedgerows on our land, but we are not involved with either funding or planting trees or hedgerows locally. We then get involved with some "Citizen Science Projects" but we are not involved with projects focused on managing declining species and habitats. Finally our ability to provide a wider range of activities in the Graveyard is limited by the amount of free space available.
- The category on "Community and Global Engagement" is also a significant change from the earlier version. The first part of this section looks at Local, National and Global issues and asks to what extent we respond with discussion within our own church or whether we also extend it to discussion within our wider community. It then looks at the actions that we take on environmental and social justice issues, how we work in partnership, the events that we organise, how we steward the church's finances as well as all the accreditation schemes we recognise. It finally looks at the food we provide, our promotion of sustainable transport, our waste and recycling policies, our approaches to EcoChurch communicators and finally whether we financially support an Environmental Charity.
- The final section on "Lifestyle" brings a strong focus on how we promote and plan ethical and environmentally aware consumption by all individuals and households. This section starts by looking at how we share information and advice on ethical and sustainable lifestyles, how frequently we share it and how we encourage the congregation to get

involved in wider social and environmental issues. It then looks at how we promote auditing of individual and household carbon footprints and encourage people to reduce their energy consumption. Finally it looks at how we are actively educating people to make better choices in respect of their food choices, their transport choices, their choices of where and how they manage their money in an ethical manner and finally how we promote the ethical consumption of goods and services within our congregation.

Previous and Current (estimated) scoring:-

I have completed a desk review of the new questions using my best assessment of the current information - (to give an understanding of where we stand with the new questionnaire).

Question Category	Level at the time of the May 2023 Award	Current Level – based on desk review of new questions
Worship and Teaching	Gold	Gold
Buildings (now – plus Energy)	Silver	Gold
Land	Silver	Gold
Community and Global Engagement	Silver	Gold
Lifestyle	Gold	Gold

It's clear the new question set is more demanding and will in a number of areas, present some real challenges to a parish with a church the size of St Mary's and with a small electoral roll. However, we have lots of areas that we can work on to improve our focus and management of the great many of these ethical, environmental and social issues.

Future path and goals

Our previous actions of awareness talks, information published to the EcoChurch web page and inserts to the weekly sheets have dried up a bit in recent months as we waited for the new question set to be finally published. With that now fully available and the development of the BOP facilities now completed, we can refocus our efforts to:-

- Re-launch the regular advice and information inserts to the weekly sheet and onto the website to continue to encourage engagement and actions on both the items that we had previously addressed as well as the many new items that this new question set raises
- Continue our focus and awareness of many of the national and global ethical, social and environmental issues that are so vital today. The efforts of Owen and John Smith to bring our focus onto events such as the Great Big Green Week and the Global COP Meetings have been and remain vital in these areas.
- Tackle some of the trickier issues – such as estimating the Carbon Footprint for the church and the community, which will involve multiple inputs.

Realistically with the much broader focus of the new EcoChurch survey we will be looking to improve our standing in all the 5 categories, but we are unlikely to be ready to step up to the Silver award for a little while. I will take the lead to move all of these items along – but our speed of progress may be restricted by the availability of volunteers to push forward some of the actions.

Neil Hegarty

Friends of St. Mary's

As major funders of the BOP project, the Friends are delighted that the impressive West End facilities have been completed and are now being used to support existing and new church and community activities. The Friends organised a terrific celebratory reception in church in April, attended by some 200 guests. All told, the Friends have made BOP-related grants to the PCC of just over £118,000 up to the end of 2024. And our involvement in the project will continue, not least through ongoing grants to the PCC to service BOP-related loans.

The benefits of the new facilities were highlighted by the Christmas Tree Festival in early December, organised by the Friends. A Festival Café operated in church during the Festival, making the experience for visitors more welcoming and sociable, and encouraging people to spend longer in the building... meaning they were more likely to consider other attractions, including fundraising opportunities on offer. The new facilities also made it possible for the Friends to organise Sunday afternoon teas in church during July and August. These were delightful social occasions, again bringing more people into the church building, and providing Bloxham Museum visitors with an adjacent refreshments option. About 35 people came along each Sunday. Many thanks to Mel Rayner, Becky Horton and their team for starting what we hope will become an annual institution.

The Christmas Tree Festival (with its theme this year of "The Greatest Hits of Christmas") was the centrepiece of Friends' fundraising in the year. It was the main component in a programme of Christmas-related activities, accompanied by a Christmas Quiz in Ex-Servicemen's Hall (which followed a quiz in April in Jubilee Park Hall), an Online Auction and a special Golden Ticket Draw. Together, these generated over £7,000 of funds - a record! The Festival weekend in church attracted 1,150 visitors, with 800 people voting for the "People's Choice" winning tree (the Nordic Walkers... by a country mile!). Thanks to the huge team of people involved in a great team effort during a period of intensive activity in November/December.

And throughout the year we have been pushing Friends' greetings cards and merchandise, including on our stall at Bloxham Fun Day in June.

Since our founding in 2002, with the generous support of so many people with connections to St Mary's and Bloxham, the Friends have (at end 2024) raised just under £370,000 and made grants to the PCC for capital projects related to the building of just over £267,000.

Drift 2024 accounts (to be presented for approval at our AGM in church on 9 April 2025) indicate a net surplus in the year of over £17,000. In 2024 we made grants to St Mary's PCC of £12,800. This included a further £4,500 contribution to maintenance and insurance costs related to the church building.

The Friends continue to benefit from a committed and enthusiastic Committee, and a stable and loyal membership base, which includes our generous 200 Club members. The 200 Club had another very strong year, generating net just over £7,100.

Many thanks to all our members and supporters, for all that you've helped us achieve in another successful year!

Ian Myson, Chair – Friends of St. Mary's Bloxham

Fundraising & Engagement Group

This is a new initiative and the group is looking at ways to provide events and activities that will both enable the church to engage with the wider Bloxham community and through some of the events to raise much needed funds to support the work of the church.

An initial meeting was held in October 2024 attended by 16 members of the congregation where a large number of ideas were brought to the table.

Further meetings have been held with good attendance and ideas which have resulted in a programme of a variety of events being planned commencing with the successful Christmas Mini Fayre running alongside the Christmas Tree Festival raising nearly £2,000.

Planned events for 2025 include a Candlemas Biring and Share Supper, Spring Market, Pet Service, Flower Festival, Murder Mystery Evening, Harvest Event and a Jigsaw and Games Sale. I'm sure there will be something at Christmas too!

Ian Lapworth (Group Coordinator)

Julian Prayer Group

The Julian Meeting is a contemplation lasting about half an hour. The leader makes a short oral introduction asking us to focus on a subject in silence. Tazze music helps. We close the Meeting with prayer.

We meet on the third Monday of the month at 7pm in the Parish Rooms. Why don't you come to join us?

Brian Fletcher

House Group

We have had another thought provoking & prayerful year at House Group. There are currently 12 members who regularly attend our fortnightly meetings (these are weekly in Lent). We alternate the meeting venue between members' houses. Over the last year we have covered Isaiah, James, Hebrews, 1 Peter and are starting the new year with Psalms. We sometimes use structured courses from booklets but mostly, this year, have used Graham's notes which he kindly prepares ahead of time to assist with our readings, together with the leader's research and prayers. We take turns in leading the sessions – a task which initially seems onerous but usually is very rewarding as it forces one to deeply consider, research and reflect on bible passages. As members of the house group, we all view our meetings, discussions and prayer as an essential part of our faith journey, and the fellowship provided such a very important support to our lives.

Helen Hedley

Bloxham Mothers' Union

Another year, another AGM. The theme for the year was Rise Up with the emphasis on maintaining and developing the profile of activism against gender based violence. A talk from a representative of Reducing the Risk, an organisation supporting victims of domestic violence, was one of the speakers we had hoped would help us in this action. We had hoped that we could establish a supportive link with a hostel/welfare but unfortunately that wasn't to be. Nevertheless, members have become more alert to the signs of abusive situations and the signposting they can offer. We have continued to mark the 18 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence at the Tuesday morning service in December.

We have heard about Chaplaincy to the Arts, how we could all contribute to the church's Eco Church campaign and Naval Chaplaincy. Spent time together in reflection, led by Hazel. Attended a superb Quiet Afternoon at Bodicote and held the Deanery Festival when we were given a wonderful insight into life in Zimbabwe by Cynthia, wife of the vicar at St Leonard's. Three more successful Beale Drives raised money for Standing in the Gap, who support school children and their families whilst they wait for mental health services to respond to their referral. A local NU project providing toiletries and tea, coffee etc to Ronald MacDonald house at the JR, where parents of children in the Children's Hospital can stay and are supported through often difficult times. And AFIA, Away From It All Holidays who provide much needed breaks for those who wouldn't otherwise get away. A very successful fundraising model and with St Mary's new facilities as a venue we are able to offer an outreach activity introducing the building and a warm welcome to the members of the community who come. The next Beale Drive, on Sunday 6th April, will be raising money for the upkeep of St. Mary's.

In other ways 2024 was a difficult year with the deaths of five members who had each brought their own strengths to the service of our branch. They included our very valuable treasurer, Alison, who died in post. I am very pleased to say we are now supported on the treasury side by Pat and Ian Lapworth. Many thanks to them for all their help.

Looking forward to the rest of 2025, we are planning more Beale Drives and hope to enrol a new member in the near future. Our programme is taking shape and already includes something on the challenge Christians face when considering the situation in Palestine today. A session on Scams and how to respond and a return visit and talk on the Community of the Cross of Neale. Mothers Union continues to be an amazing organisation which speaks the Christian message in local, national and international situations. St Mary's Branch may not have a high profile at that level but we make a significant contribution to ministry and mission in our wider community through prayer and action. Together we will keep this going.

Pat Smith, Retiring Branch Leader

Parish Breakfast

Approximately 20 people regularly attend our very social monthly gatherings on 2nd Sundays to enjoy sausages, croissants and coffee - we do try to cater for a variety of dietary requirements so everyone is welcome.

The generous donations we receive are used to support a variety of charities including BHP, Christian Aid and Home Start and we also respond to global and national disasters when necessary. We are hugely thankful to Arnie for her loyal service at the sink. All offers of help are gratefully received.

Thank you for all your support and we look forward to seeing you on the next 2nd Sunday.

Pat Angell and Liz Gordon

Renew Welbeing Bloxham

We have enjoyed another good year working in collaboration with friends in the Baptist Church running our welcoming safe space every Tuesday. We continue to provide a variety of areas where people can sit quietly, do a jigsaw, join in with craft, chat or play a game. We offer prayer with no obligation to attend and provide refreshments and useful information.

This atmosphere has proved very successful this year in encouraging people to be more confident and able to try other experiences in a busy world. We have seen one member join a choir, another progress in a new relationship and others getting together to go to concerts and social gatherings. We have been able to guide members to useful local information and support them as they deal with service providers and other day to day problems. In return we have learnt so much along the way. Our folder of useful information continues to grow.

At Christmas some of our members helped make decorations for a tree at St Mary's Tree Festival and we hope to join in with a creation for the 2025 flower festival. For the moment our group are adding items to a Renew scrapbook.

Both churches support this venture financially and spiritually and we would welcome anyone wanting to learn more to visit us on any Tuesday 13.30 – 16.00hrs at the Baptist Chapel.

Jan Ogilvy

St Mary's Parish Rooms

The Accounts for 2024 show a deficit of £1,324.00 (£1,260.00 in 2023). Once more the income figures demonstrate the important contribution from both the Thursday Club and the Bridge Club. The Soup Saturday team make regular payments towards the light and heat used in their sessions, but fees from single bookings in 2024 only amounted to £200. The building is available for hire by other organisations, but two recent enquiries failed to progress.

Maintenance charges were higher than usual partly due to electrical work which is not expected to be necessary in 2025, but increasing energy charges are a continuing concern.

Reverend Dale Gingham, Liz Farmer, Becky Horton and Jan Ogilvy – Parish Rooms Committee
Pat Angell

Soup Saturday

Soup Saturday is a church outreach event, launched in January 2000 and held in the Parish Rooms on the first Saturday of each month from September to May.

Attendance appears to be back up to pre covid numbers of between 35-40 people most months and everyone has enjoyed a varied choice of homemade soups and desserts as well as the social interaction.

The charge of £5 per person more than covers the costs on the day including an annual donation towards the heating and lighting of the Parish Rooms. This leaves a good surplus over the year, which is then donated to various charities, most of which are local. This year we divided the money raised (nearly £1000) between Barbury Young Homeless Project, South Central Ambulance Charity, and Kaltharine House Hospice, plus a donation of £32 towards the Church Kitchen Fund. In May Judy Marshall stood down as the organizer, after many years of dedication to the role, and is now enjoying having lunch on the Soup Saturdays instead. She does however continue to provide soup and/or dessert each month. Mal Rayner has taken over the organisation together with a small team of helpers.

There was no December Soup Saturday this year but we sponsored a tree at the Bloxham Christmas Tree Festival instead with some very inventive decorations.
Our current team are Mel Rayner, Becky Horton, Angela Morris, Helen and Hannah Auld, Marcia Cooper and Jax Hogarty, with David Ball making a soup most months. This is a small and friendly team and we would always welcome more helpers. Finally, thanks to all who attend each month and make it an enjoyable occasion.
Mel Rayner

Tea & Toast

Another year of fellowship and fun in Bloxham served up every Friday morning with hot drinks, toast and the occasional tea cake. Tea and Toast has enjoyed another good year. Although most weeks at present, we are visited mainly by more senior citizens with only an occasional young family visiting, we are a vibrant group ready to welcome all ages. During school holidays our numbers increase and the toybox opens again. We have a good group of volunteers running our Friday mornings and we are very grateful for their contributions. You will see Tea and Toast advertised online and in the Broad sheet. We would like to ask everyone in the village to mention our group to anyone new to Bloxham.
Jan Ogilvy

St Mary's Church Bloxham

**Annual Report and Accounts
of the Parochial Church Council
for the year ended
31st December 2024**

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LEB
18-Mar-25

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE P.C.C.
OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, BLOXHAM**

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ending 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 1 & 2, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the Regulations") and Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, and you consider that an audit is not required for this year under the Regulations, that section 144(2) of the Act does not apply and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under Section 145 of The Act, to follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 145(5) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under the Act and to 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 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 report

In connection with my examination of the accounts for the year ending 31 December 2024, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - A. to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Act, and
 - B. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and 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.



EXAMINER Ian Lapworth

Date Signed 6TH APRIL 2025

St Mary's Church Bloxham
Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

Statement of Financial Activities

2023 £		Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
	Incoming resources					
212,409	Voluntary income	3	59,626		125,748	185,373
4,826	Activities for generating funds	3	3,092		720	3,812
11,035	Church activities	3	10,114	2,733	30	12,877
514	Investment income	3	404		368	772
49,042	Other incoming resources	3	733	-	58,973	59,707
<u>277,826</u>	<i>Total incoming resources</i>		<u>73,969</u>	<u>2,733</u>	<u>185,839</u>	<u>262,541</u>
	Resources expended					
386	Cost of generating funds	4	-	-	20	20
58,438	Church activities	4	57,140		1,839	58,978
26,131	Running Exps incl Governance Costs	4	21,556	4,058	5,867	31,480
332,074	Major Capital Expenditure	4	2,274	-	354,425	356,698
<u>417,029</u>	<i>Total resources expended</i>		<u>80,970</u>	<u>4,058</u>	<u>362,150</u>	<u>447,177</u>
(139,203)	<i>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers</i>		(7,001)	(1,324)	(176,311)	(184,636)
(139,203)	<i>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/(losses)</i>		(7,001)	(1,324)	(176,311)	(184,636)
	Other recognised gains/(losses)					
494	Gains/(losses) on investment assets	7	-	-	310	310
<u>(138,709)</u>	<i>Net movement in funds</i>		<u>(7,001)</u>	<u>(1,324)</u>	<u>(176,000)</u>	<u>(184,326)</u>
378,638	Total funds brought forward from previous year		203,031	5,946	30,952	239,929
<u>239,929</u>	<i>Total funds carried forward</i>		<u>196,030</u>	<u>4,622</u>	<u>(145,048)</u>	<u>55,604</u>
	For Information Only					
	Take out Value of Parish Rooms		(167,778)			
	True value of general funds available to use		<u>28,251</u>			

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024

2023 £		Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Fixed assets						
167,778	Tangible assets (Parish Rooms)	6	167,778		-	167,778
4,592	Investments	7	-	-	4,902	4,902
<u>172,370</u>	Total fixed assets		<u>167,778</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,902</u>	<u>172,680</u>
Current assets						
3,513	Debtors (Incl Gift Aid Due)		4,171	-	2,589	6,760
147,730	Cash in hand and at bank	10	24,081	4,622	69,545	98,248
<u>151,243</u>	Total current assets		<u>28,252</u>	<u>4,622</u>	<u>72,134</u>	<u>105,008</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year						
(3,683)	Accruals		-	-	(142,084)	(142,084)
(80,000)	Interest Free Loan for Building Our Future Appeal (BOF)				(2,000)	(2,000)
<u>(83,683)</u>	Total		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(144,084)</u>	<u>(144,084)</u>
<u>67,560</u>	Net current assets		<u>28,252</u>	<u>4,622</u>	<u>(71,950)</u>	<u>(39,076)</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year						
-	Interest Free Loan for Building Our Future Appeal (BOF)		-	-	(78,000)	(78,000)
	Total		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(78,000)</u>	<u>(78,000)</u>
<u>239,929</u>	Net assets		<u>196,030</u>	<u>4,622</u>	<u>(145,048)</u>	<u>55,604</u>
Funds of the church						
Unrestricted funds						
203,031	General fund		196,030	-	-	196,030
5,946	Designated fund	9	-	4,622	-	4,622
<u>208,977</u>			<u>196,030</u>	<u>4,622</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>200,652</u>
30,952	Restricted funds	8	-	-	(145,048)	(145,048)
<u>239,929</u>	Total funds of the church		<u>196,030</u>	<u>4,622</u>	<u>(145,048)</u>	<u>55,604</u>
For Information Only						
	Take out Value of Parish Rooms		(167,778)			
	True value of general funds available to use		<u>28,251</u>			

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on
 Rev'd Dale Gingrich
 Lynn Brodey

19 March 2025
 Chairman
 Treasurer

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

Notes to the Accounts

1 Basis of preparation

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102).

The Accounts are drawn up under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investment assets at market value. The Accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. These Accounts do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

2 Accounting policies

Funds

Unrestricted funds are general funds available for the general objectives of the church.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes.

Restricted funds can only be used for the purposes for which they have been given, within the objectives of the church. The cost of raising and administering such funds is charged against those specific funds. The aim and use of each fund is explained later in the Notes.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA (Statement of Financial Accounts) when the church becomes legally entitled to the income and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty.

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving is recognised only when received. Grants & legacies are recognised as soon as the PCC becomes aware of its legal entitlement and the amount due is quantifiable with reasonable certainty.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is accounted for when the gift is received, not when the tax refund is received.

When incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and the related resources expended are accounted for gross in the SOFA.

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the church or the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for use by the church are included in the SOFA as incoming resources when receivable.

Rental income from letting the Parish Rooms is accounted for when it falls due.

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable and includes any recoverable tax.

Realised gains are accounted for on assets held for the church's own use and are taken into account at the time of sale.

Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis & is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for goods or services.

All costs have been directly attributed to the various categories within the SOFA.

Any general support costs have been allocated across activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources based on an allocation of actual costs.

As the PCC is not registered for VAT, all expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT.

Governance costs include the cost of the preparation of the Annual Accounts, the cost of PCC meetings and the legal cost of advice on governance or constitutional matters.

Grants and charitable giving are accounted for when paid over or when awarded, if the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC, provided that there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the church.

Parish Share is accounted for when paid except that any Parish Share unpaid at the end of the financial year is provided for in the accounts as a constructive obligation, although not a liability, and is included in the balance sheet as a liability.

Investments

Investments are shown on 31 December at market value.

Both realised and unrealised gains are shown under 'other recognised gains/(losses)' section of the SOFA.

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

Notes to the Accounts

2023 Total funds £	3 Analysis of Incoming Resources	2024			Total funds £
		Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	
	Voluntary Income				
35,898	Tax - efficient planned giving (excl. tax)	32,392	-	2,170	34,562
3,776	Collections at Services incl White Envelopes	4,226	-	100	4,326
280	Service Collections & Donations in aid of other Charities	497	-	-	497
1,150	Spire Lighting Donations	1,310	-	-	1,310
8,722	All other Giving & Voluntary Income	4,613	-	18,404	23,016
	Card Machine used by other Organisations (see Resources Expended)	568	-	-	568
11,118	Gift Aid Tax Recovered / Due	10,719	-	3,074	13,794
149,100	* Grants Received (see analysis below)	4,800	-	102,000	106,800
2,366	Legacies	500	-	-	500
<u>212,409</u>		<u>59,626</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>125,748</u>	<u>185,373</u>
	Activities for generating funds				
4,372	Fund Raising Activities (Fayres/Concert/Pimms Party/Toilet Twinning)	3,092	-	75	3,167
454	Church Heritage Tours (in aid of BOF)	-	-	645	645
<u>4,826</u>		<u>3,092</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>720</u>	<u>3,812</u>
	Church Activities				
8,114	Fees - weddings, funerals etc	6,719	-	30	6,749
500	Hiring out Church Facilities	3,395	-	-	3,395
2,421	Parish Rooms	-	2,733	-	2,733
<u>11,035</u>		<u>10,114</u>	<u>2,733</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>12,877</u>
	Investment Income				
514	Bank/HMRC Interest/Dividends etc	404	-	368	772
<u>514</u>		<u>404</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>368</u>	<u>772</u>
	Other incoming resources				
849	Income from Mission Activities (Tea&Toast/Puzzlers)	733	-	-	733
1,083	Income from Mission Activities (Parish Breakfast/Soup Saturday)	-	-	1,764	1,764
350	Others (Incl Bell Ringing & Flower Fund)	-	-	250	250
43,514	DCMS Scheme (VAT Rebate on BOF Capital Works)	-	-	54,636	54,636
3,246	Other general (Insurance Claim re stolen Churchyard Equipment)	-	-	2,323	2,323
<u>49,042</u>		<u>733</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>58,973</u>	<u>59,706</u>
<u>277,826</u>	TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	<u>73,969</u>	<u>2,733</u>	<u>185,839</u>	<u>262,541</u>

* Sources of Grant Funding

The Friends of St Mary's raises funds for the beautification, preservation and restoration of the church
The organisation is a registered charity, not under the control of the PCC

Grants received by the PCC during the course of the year:

The Friends of St Mary's (Annual Grant)	£	4,800
Bloxham Parish Council (Churchyard Maintenance)	£	2,000
Sabina Sutherland Charitable Trust (BOF Grant)	£	2,000
Valencia Communities Fund (BOF)	£	50,000
Joseph Rank Trust (BOF Grant)	£	25,000
Bernard Sunley Foundation (BOF Grant)	£	10,000
Bloxham Feoffees (BOF Grant)	£	5,000
The Friends of St Mary's (BOF Grant)	£	8,000
	<u>£</u>	<u>106,800</u>

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

Notes to the Accounts

2023 Total funds £	2024			
	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total Funds £
4 Analysis of resources expended				
Cost of generating funds				
386	-	-	20	20
<u>386</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>
Church activities				
2,083	-	-	1,839	1,839
280	497	-	-	497
	(The Childrens Society / RBL Poppy Appeal)			
51,975	51,975	-	-	51,975
4,100	4,100	-	-	4,100
-	568	-	-	568
<u>58,438</u>	<u>57,140</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,839</u>	<u>58,979</u>
Church Running Expenses (Incl Governance)				
924	989	-	18	1,007
2,027	1,932	-	5,256	7,187
8,138	8,675	-	-	8,675
527	563	-	25	588
1,040	577	-	568	1,145
572	485	-	-	485
1,708	1,661	-	-	1,661
696	758	-	-	758
46	-	-	-	-
6,771	5,915	-	-	5,915
3,682	-	4,058	-	4,058
<u>26,131</u>	<u>21,556</u>	<u>4,058</u>	<u>5,867</u>	<u>31,480</u>
Major Capital Expenditure				
-	-	-	-	-
2,060	2,274	-	117	2,390
0	-	-	511	511
330,014	-	-	353,797	353,797
<u>332,074</u>	<u>2,274</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>354,425</u>	<u>356,698</u>
<u>417,029</u>	<u>80,970</u>	<u>4,058</u>	<u>362,150</u>	<u>447,177</u>

* Mission Giving & Donations Analysis:

From Service Collections:

The Childrens Society	380.00
The Royal British Legion	117.00
	<u>£ 497.00</u>

From Fundraising:

Toilet Twinning	75.00
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From Soup Saturday:

South Central Ambulance Charity	300.00
Katharine House Hospice	295.00
Banbury Young Homeless Project	295.00
Donation to Church Kitchen Fund	82.00

From Parish Breakfast:

Crisis at Christmas	55.00
The Warner School Farm Trust	258.00
Christian Aid	113.00
Banbury Young Homeless Project	75.00
Farming Community Network	55.00
The Royal British Legion	48.00
Home-Start, Banbury, Bicester & Chipping Norton	95.50
Toilet Twinning	51.00
Donation to Church Kitchen Fund	41.00
	<u>£ 1,838.50</u>

5 Trustee remuneration and expenses

No members of the PCC received any remuneration for their work on the PCC. The clergy, who is an ex officio member receives a stipend but is not remunerated for his service on the PCC.

6 Tangible fixed assets

Total £		Freehold Land & Buildings £
167,778	64.53% equity share in the Parish Rooms	167,778
<u>167,778</u>	At 31 December 2024	<u>167,778</u>

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

Notes to the Accounts

7 Investments

	Value at 31 December 2023	Value at 31 December 2024	Gain/(Loss)
	£	£	£
The Bellringers Fund - CCLA	4,314	4,533	219
Listed on London Stock Exchange -Lloyds TSB (Bells)	278	369	91
	<u>4,592</u>	<u>4,902</u>	<u>310</u>

8 Restricted funds

	Fund balances brought forward £	Transfers & Incoming resources £	Resources expended / transferred £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
Outreach (Bloxham Puzzlers)	72	0	(18)	0	54
Bell Fund	3,841	72	0	0	3,913
Bell Fund (Investments)	4,592	0	0	310	4,902
BOF (Incl 2024 GAid not yet rec'd & Accruals & deferred payments)	15,959	178,599	(353,817)	0	(159,259)
BOF (Grant for restoration of Rood Screen)	3,500	0	0	0	3,500
Parish Breakfast (incl Toilet Twinning Raffle £75)	0	867	(867)	0	0
Communion Service Materials	862	0	(211)	0	651
Churchyard	1,297	4,323	(5,256)	0	365
Fabric Fund	117	0	(117)	0	0
Flowers	714	178	(357)	0	534
New Kitchen Fund	0	798	(511)	0	287
Choir Fund	0	30	(25)	0	5
Soup Saturday	0	972	(972)	0	0
	<u>30,952</u>	<u>185,839</u>	<u>(362,150)</u>	<u>310</u>	<u>(145,048)</u>

9 Designated funds

	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended or transferred £	Gains and losses	Fund balances carried forward £
Parish Rooms	5,946	2,733	(4,058)		4,622
	<u>5,946</u>	<u>2,733</u>	<u>(4,058)</u>		<u>4,622</u>

10 Cash funds and location

	Unrestricted fund	Designated fund	Restricted fund	Total
General Funds	24,081			24,081
Choir Fund			5	5
Bell fund			3,913	3,913
Communion Service Materials			651	651
Outreach (Bloxham Puzzlers)			54	54
New Kitchen Fund			287	287
Building Our Future (BOF)			63,736	63,736
Flower fund			534	534
Churchyard			365	365
Parish rooms *		4,622		4,622
	<u>24,081</u>	<u>4,622</u>	<u>69,545</u>	<u>98,248</u>

* Not under direct control of the PCC Treasurer

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE P.C.C.
OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, BLOXHAM**

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ending 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 1 & 2, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the Regulations") and Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, and you consider that an audit is not required for this year under the Regulations, that section 144(2) of the Act does not apply and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under Section 145 of The Act, to follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 145(5) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under the Act and to 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 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 report

In connection with my examination of the accounts for the year ending 31 December 2024, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - A. to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Act, and
 - B. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and 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.



EXAMINER Ian Lapworth

Date Signed 6TH APRIL 2025

Accounts

ST MARY'S CHURCH
BLOXHAM
APCM
2024

(January - December 2023)



The Parish of St. Mary's Bloxham

Annual Vestry Meeting

And

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2024

23 April 2024

7.30pm in St. Mary's Church, Bloxham

AGENDA

Opening prayer

Appointment of clerk to the meetings

Annual Vestry Meeting

Election of 2 Churchwardens who will be elected for one year

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Present
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of APCM 2023
4. Matters arising
5. Electoral Roll – formal reception
6. Election of Lay PCC members 2024/2025
7. Presentation of Financial Statements and Annual Report for 2023
8. Appointment of Independent Examiner
9. Presentation of the Reports of Church Activity
10. BOF – 2024 priorities
11. Date of next full PCC meeting 15th May 2024
12. AOB

**Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting and Parochial Church Meetings
Wednesday 26th April in St. Mary's Church at 7.30pm**

Revd. Dale Gingrich opened the meeting with prayers.

Annual Vestry Meeting

Chair: Revd Dale Gingrich

Minutes: Sue Perkin-Ball was proposed as clerk by Barbara Walklate and seconded by Jan Ogilvy. All in agreement.

Barbara Walklate was nominated as Churchwarden, proposed by Liz Gordon and seconded by Margaret Griffin.

Jan Ogilvy was nominated as Churchwarden, proposed by Rebecca Horton and seconded by Jax Hegarty.

There was unanimous agreement from the floor.

It was proposed by John Hirons that the Vestry meeting be adjourned, seconded by Liz Gordon. unanimously agreed.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Chair: Revd Dale Gingrich

Minutes: Sue Perkin-Ball

1. Present: Revd Dale Gingrich, Sue Perkin-Ball and 19 others.

2. Apologies: Jenny Roberts, Dan Roberts, Pat Smith, Jon Carlton, Marian Stein, Roger Stein, Bee Myson, Alison Smith, Liz Farmer, Lesley, Tim Mills, David Cornwell, Olwen Smith, John Smith, Brenda smith , John Marshall and Sue Barbour.

3. Minutes of the APCM 2022: These were circulated by email prior to this meeting and paper copies were available in church.

It was proposed by Jan Ogilvy and seconded by Lynn Brodey that they be signed as correct. unanimous agreement.

4. Matters Arising: none

5. Electoral Roll: The Electoral Roll ,in accordance with church regulations was updated prior to this meeting. It stands at 86. The roll was formally received.

6. Election of Deanery Synod Representatives for the new Triennium.

Jan Ogilvy was proposed by Rebecca Horton and seconded by Jax Hegarty

Jax Hegarty was proposed by Barbara Walklate and seconded by Margaret Griffin .

Both were duly elected. Deanery Synod representatives are ex officio members of the PCC

7. Election of Lay PCC members 2023/2024.

Two members of the present PCC have resigned and John Hirons is retiring. There were three nominations-

Lynn Brodey proposed by Rosemary Watts, seconded by Barbara Walklate,

David Gordon proposed by John Hirons and seconded by Jan Ogilvy,

David Odell proposed by Andrew Whiffin and seconded by Alan Griffin.

All three were elected unanimously.

8. Financial Statements and Annual Report for 2022

These were circulated prior to this meeting by email and paper copies were available in church.

There were no questions concerning these reports. It was proposed by Lynn Brodey that the

Financial Reports be accepted as a true record of church accounts. Seconded by Barbara

Walklate.

All in unanimous agreement.

Lynn reported that poster has been produced to show how much it costs to just to keep the church doors open, £220 per day. This will be put up in church and on the website.

Barbara Walklate thanked Lynn Brodey for her hard work with the accounts.

9. Appointment of Independent Examiner.

Andrew Wells is to be asked if he is willing to continue to be the Independent Examiner for St. Mary's Church.

10. Presentation of Reports of the Church Activity.

These reports were circulated prior to this meeting by email and paper copies were available in church this evening. There were no questions.

11. BOF Update: Ian Myson gave an update as of today.

- PCC approved the contracting work on 8th March 2023
- Memorials at the West End have been removed and remedial work to the tiled area have been done
- Main Contractor 'Savvy Construction' have removed the choir Vestry and will begin work at the West End on 15th May '23, with an end date of 27th October'2023 (In time for this year's Christmas tree festival).
- Cash Flow - bills will be able to paid as they come in.
- VAT will be able to be reclaimed.
- Savvy will be flexible with the invoices.
- Finances are sound enough to proceed.
- Recent £50K grant from the Mosawi Foundation.
- Fundraising Events are ongoing.

David Gordon reported that he has been working with H&S Consultants, the West End of the Church will be out of bounds while work on the screens is going on . The area will be screened off by the contractors. Bell ringers will access the Bell tower from the West Door. Access to the electricity switches and the sink will still be available. The Millennium Screen will be protected from dust along with the Organs and other items. He is liaising with the contractors.

12. Date of next full PCC Meeting.

Wednesday 17th May 2023 at 7.30pm in the Parish Rooms

AOB- Brian Fairbank, reported that he will be helping out on two Sundays per month, in the Wykham Benefice due to vacancies.

David Odell - website coordinator - needs information for the site.

Liz Gordon proposed that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Jan Ogilvy. The Meeting finished at 8.15pm with the Grace.

APCM Reports (Contents)

Annual Report and PCC

Review of the Year 2023	Rev. Dale Gingrich
Safeguarding	Liz Farmer
Fabric, Goods and Ornaments	David Gordon
Deanery Synod	Jan Ogilvy
Electoral Roll	Liz Gordon
Foundation Governors, Bloxham Primary School	Stephen Craggs

Reports on the Worship

Music - Choir & Music Group	David Ball
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Other Reports

Bells	Alan Griffin
Building Our Future	Jon Carlton
Church Flowers	Lesley Mills
Churchyard	Trevor Shepherd
Eco Church	Neil Hegarty
Friends of St Mary's	Ian Myson
Mothers' Union	Pat Smith
Parish Breakfast	Liz Gordon, Pat Angel
Renew Wellbeing Bloxham	Jan Ogilvy
St Mary's Parish Rooms	Pat Angel
Soup Saturday	Judy Marshall
Tea and Toast	Pat Smith, Jan Ogilvy

Annual Report and PCC for 2023

Aim and Purpose

St. Mary's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the Vicar, Revd. Dale Gingrich, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the oversight of the Parish Rooms situated next to the vicarage. The Parish Rooms have a separate committee but its accounts fall completely within the Parish Accounts.

Membership

The PCC is a charity registered with the charity commission. Members of the PCC are trustees, either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

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

Vicar:	The Reverend Dale Gingrich
Wardens: ex officio members of the PCC	Ms Jan Ogilvy Mrs Barbara Walklate
Deanery Synod Representatives: ex officio members of the PCC	Ms Jan Ogilvy, Mrs Jax Hegarty

Elected Council Members

PCC Secretary	Vacant
PCC Treasurer	Mrs. Lynn Brodey
Building Our Future Co-lead	Mr. Jon Carlton
Foundation Governor Bloxham Primary School	Mr. Stephen Craggs
Safeguarding Officer	Mrs. Liz Farmer
Fabric	David Gordon
Minute Secretary	Mrs. Sue Perkin-Ball
Website Manager	Mr. David Odell (resigned 8 Dec.23)

Standing Committee

This committee is required by law and has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings subject to any direction given by the Council. The PCC has decided that the membership shall be the Vicar, two Churchwardens, Treasurer, Secretary to the PCC (vacant) and one ordinary PCC member.

On behalf of the PCC:

The Revd. Dale Gingrich (Chair).....Date.....

Looking back on 2023, the year that was....

From your vicar's point of view, 2023 was another 12 months of recovery time from the lasting effects of the Covid-19 pandemic with all its lockdowns, precautions and losses that challenged our accepted notions of what it is to be church in the 21st century. I've just seen a quotation from Albert Einstein where he says 'Life is like riding a bicycle. 'To keep balanced you must keep moving' which applies very well to the church.

We have maybe needed some stabilisers to get us up and going again and we are certainly gaining some momentum as we see progress on the Building Our Future project, welcome new people into our community and provide continuity with the past whilst exploring new opportunities to embrace the future. We have the stabilising presence of God and a shared heritage of worship and service which helps define not only who we are, but what we do as church for a world on the road to recovery from injustice, environmental crises and conflict. We are there for those seeking a place to encounter God through prayer, worship, study and service, always keeping in mind our challenge to be contemplative, courageous and compassionate for the sake of God's world in our shared ministry and mission.

Together with our sister churches in this benefice along with those in our Deanery and Diocese, we struggle to make ends meet, yet trust that God will provide, and that we will live and move and have our being within the constraints of the resources that are available to us. Knowing that good work is going on in the church building to improve its flexibility of use, provide modern conveniences and increase accessibility for a wider engagement with our community encourages us to use these assets to share the gospel of Christ's love to sustain us in times of adversity. Therefore, when we willingly contribute to being part of the solution rather than remaining mired in a negative paralysis of problems that impede our progress we demonstrate our reliance on God's gracious providence. Good things are happening in Bloxham for God has blessed us with abundant gifts that we need only to share with others to know the benefit of what God is already doing around us. Going from a year when we had very few baptisms (up from none the year before), we welcomed seven children and one adult into the family of the church this year. We've had four weddings and gave thanks for the lives of eight parishioners at funeral services in church along with another four at local crematoria. With building works from Phase 1 of the BOF project nearing completion, schools are planning to return to church with renewed vigour and appreciation, adding the Bloxham Grove School to the company of Bloxham Primary, Bloxham All Saints, Tudor Hall and the Warriner schools. Other reports for the APCM will describe the positive connections the church has made through Tea & Toast, the Julian Group, Soup Saturday, Friends of St Mary's, Mothers' Union, bellringing, choir and music group and more. We are blessed with many who serve, read and pray as we gather for worship, as well as many others who work tirelessly behind the scenes to keep things rolling along. I thank you all for the great work God has begun in us and pray we will see it to completion with more people growing in the love of God and their neighbour.

The Revd Dale Gingrich, Vicar

Safeguarding

Once again I would like to thank everyone for their continued support. This year I have continued to refine the needs and requirements of St. Mary's whilst keeping bureaucracy to the minimum. We are up to date with our statutory policies and we have a Safeguarding Action Plan which was approved by the PCC in February 2024. As Parish Safeguarding Officer I make regular reports to the PCC. Although a report is not needed every month there is usually a report more than the requirement of twice a year. Most people who need to do training have done so and tend to report back that the online training system was nowhere near as difficult as they thought it was going to be. We continue to make use of the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard and recently have adopted the Safeguarding Hub which simplifies recruitment and DBS procedures. I would like to thank Diana Thompson again for her work in processing DBS checks - a job she does with great efficiency. Finally, if anyone out there would like to help with Safeguarding at St. Mary's please let me know as the work can be very interesting, is not at all onerous and I would like some company!

Liz Farmer Parish Safeguarding Officer

Fabric, Goods & Ornaments

This year has, for me, has been a steep learning curve of finding out about the building and its issues. The extremes of weather have exacerbated some of the issues related to the building especially water leaks. The new facilities have meant that the response time available to sort out issues have shortened due to risk of potential damage to the new structure. Where required the urgency in repair has been managed by putting temporary repairs in place while the permanent repairs are procured.

Bicester Roofing have been unavailable for permanent repairs, and these will be carried out early in 2024.

It was identified that several of the down pipe were blocked, with the one at high level cleared without additional help. P R Alcocks cleared at least 6 of the main down pipes that were blocked mainly due to a combination of twigs and leaves from the trees together with some birds' nests. This highlights the need for regular inspection and cleaning of the box gutters. The vegetation growth in the area of the down pipes was also removed and some emergency re-pointing to the external face of the west wall of the south Aisle was carried out.

No additional works have been carried out to address the priority 1 requirements of the Quinquennial Report. It is worth while noting that the next report is due in 2025.

I have learnt a great deal about lead works and how to identify potential issues such as cracks, slippage, stress cracks in lead rolls and a fact that squirrels eat lead and make small holes in the roof. I believe we should seriously look at planned repairs to these issues rather than an emergency response which in the long term is more expensive.

As well as cleaning high level gutters we have cleaned the ground level outlets for roof drainage which at times were overflowing when it rained.

We continue to monitor the Chancel Fabric, the repairs of which are the responsibility of Eton College.

The path to the south door, which was very slippery, mainly due to the overhanging lime trees, has been cleaned and I believe this should be done annually to keep it in a safe condition.

A report on remedial works to the Trees in the Churchyard is in progress after an informal survey identified potential risks to adjacent properties.

The use of the north porch as a youth meeting place has reduced mainly due the presence of Savvy and we will see how this develops next year. There has been an incident with a discharged fire extinguisher in the church and more seriously, the cutting of a number of Choir robes in their temporary home the Milcombe chapel. The culprit has not been identified. This has triggered a response to investigate additional security measure for Church. Quotes for CCTV and an alarm system are being sought and will be considered as funding become available.

The guttering to the Parish Rooms has been re-fixed in the area of the outlet down pipe.

The church building and the Parish Rooms (which are co-owned with the Oxford Diocese) continue to be the principal property assets of St Mary's Church, Bloxham. Their value is recorded in the PCC accounts. The Church's property, contents and ornaments continue to be insured with Ecclesiastical Insurance and are maintained with appropriate care and attention. There is no change to the Vestry alarm, with all valuables being stored in the safe.

The Lightning Conductor and fire extinguishers have had their Annual Certification and David Andrews has completed a "Satisfactory" electrical Installation Condition report in May 2023.

The spire and tower lighting were disrupted over the Christmas period due to the interface with the new works and problems with one of the lights. We apologise for this disruption and especially to all those who have commemorated loved one by sponsoring the lights. Our thanks to Jenny Roberts for highlighting when there have been issues with the lights and her continued work with the Spire light sponsorship.

I acknowledge the continued support and dedication of those who have been volunteered to assist with a variety of tasks such as the Christmas crib installation and working out ways to manage with all the disruption of the building works and the Green Screen. Specific thanks to David Andrews for his invaluable support in the care of the Church electrics. We are also indebted to Trevor Shepherd and Team for his work in the Churchyard - see separate report.

We look forward to the completion of the current building programme, when the church will need to learn how to put it to best use.

David Gordon

Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod continues to meet every three months to share problems and concerns as well as to share good news and successes in our church communities. In the last year Jacqui Hegarty has joined Jan Ogilvy as a representative for St Marys Bloxham. Together with The Reverend Dale Gingrich we continue to make sure that this church has a voice at meetings and can bring back news and ideas for good practise, as well as sharing our concerns and good news.

The Deanery website is working very well and is an excellent place to make sure that other communities know about events that are happening throughout the Deanery.

We would like to highlight how good the study mornings organised by The Deanery are. They are held at St Francis' church in Banbury and are designed to cover three topics in a morning in a way that people can drop in to attend one topic or attend all three. These mornings are highlighted in our weekly sheet in church.

This next year we will see a change in Area Dean, and we give thanks for the work of the Reverend Sarah Sharpe and wish her well for the future.

Jan Ogilvy & Jacqui Hegarty

Electoral Roll

During 2023 the Electoral Roll remained at 86

Liz Gordon Electoral Roll Officer

Foundation Governors, Bloxham Primary School

2023 was a transformative year for Bloxham Primary School. With the problems of the previous couple of years where the school had three head teachers (one of them an interim after the sudden departure of the replacement for the previous long-standing head), the school was finally able to appoint Mrs Sarah Marshall to the post starting in January 2023. Sarah is a head teacher with considerable experience but arrived having to address significant challenges that had built up previously. The last quarter of 2022 saw Ofsted inspecting the school and reporting a status of 'requires improvement' which was probably a pretty accurate assessment of the confused situation at the time given the rapid turnover of head teachers, the impact on staff morale and the disconnect between the leadership team and the workforce.

Following the Ofsted report and the preceding difficulties, almost the entire board of governors decided to step down including the previous Chairman. I joined Dale as a Foundation Governor in February and a very experienced new Chairman came on board in April. Suzette Watson joined us in the summer as the third of our three foundation governors and elections were held amongst school parents to appoint new parent governors. The new board agreed to change the operating model of the board to a 'circle' model which is a flatter structure in which all governors have sight of all aspects of the school rather than operating with specialist committees. This appears to have been a successful approach.

The new board has worked closely with the new head teacher to set a strategy and ensure a plan is in place not just to address the failings identified by Ofsted but also to get the school operating to the standard we would all like to see. 2023 saw this new plan agreed by all parties, with subsequent operational decisions and actions aligning directly to starting to deliver on it.

The new school vision is that we make a difference to ourselves and those around us by showing kindness, care and compassion, just as St Paul wrote to the Thessalonians, **'Encourage one another and build each other up.'** Thessalonians 5: 11. This ethos underpins the school motto and its six key values. The motto, **Be . Build . Become**, encapsulates the school's belief that its pupils are valued for who they are and that it will support, encourage and nurture them to become who they want to be. The six key values are all bible-based and dictate every aspect of how the school works: be Inclusive, Caring, Ambitious, Trustworthy, Creative and Honest.

Progress has been very impressive given the early stage of this level of change. Staff morale is much more positive and pupil performance is steadily improving. There is greater involvement with parents through such initiatives as open classrooms and assemblies and use of technology to support children's education which has been much appreciated. In addition, a recent Local Authority review to check on the school's progress in addressing the issues identified by Ofsted confirmed the considerable level of progress.

There is still a long way to go of course, but given it is only just over a year since the almost total change in leadership and direction, progress has been remarkable. The challenge now is to continue to focus on the plan and to regain the school's outstanding status at the next Ofsted review.

Stephen Craggs, Foundation Governor

Music – Choir & Music Group – No report submitted.

Bells

I started teaching the four learners mentioned in last year's report. Two of them gave up after a couple of lessons. Two of them had lessons for three months, and could handle a bell and rings rounds, but then, in the same week they both e-mailed me to say they were not going to continue, each giving an excuse.

This was very disappointing because I found it difficult teaching because of my arthritic hip. It is painful standing (and walking).

We have eight ringers in the band, but they cannot always come on Sundays. I am very grateful to Colin Lee who comes from Adderbury most Sundays, so we usually get 6, 7 or 8 ringers to ring the eight bells.

I started having practices again but have had to cancel recently because two of the ringers have been unable to attend, and there weren't enough experienced ringers for a viable practice. I am hoping to start practices again soon.

If you know of anybody who would like to learn to ring Church bells, please encourage them!

Alan Griffin, Tower Captain

Building our Future

The early part of 2023 involved intensive work on finalising design details, seemingly endless correspondence with the DAC (Diocesan planning authority), getting the main contractors (Savvy) on board, liaising with quantity surveyors, structural engineers, M&E engineers and of course our architects, JBKS. All this was of course necessary but took an inordinate amount of time and effort. Thus it was with relief that Savvy finally established a presence on site in August 2023. Their arrival had been preceded by Opus Tiling carrying out specialist repairs to the tiling at the rear of the church and Cliveden Restorations relocating key memorials from the church walls.

Of course, even after designs had been finalised, the architect designed curved screens (behind which the kitchen, toilets and vestry are located) had to be manufactured by specialist joiners and this dictated the earliest date for construction to begin.

Apart from the work internally to the church, the prospect of a full-size kitchen and toilets meant connection to the main drains (a novelty for a 14th century church). Here contractors had to penetrate the church walls, lay and backfill drainage runs through the churchyard and connect to the road drains in the middle of Church Street. Apart from avoiding disturbance of graves in the churchyard, agreement had to be reached with OCC Highways for traffic control using traffic lights while the main roadway trenching was done. It is a credit to our contractors that this was achieved smoothly over the planned two week period, with the reinstated road surface arguably better than what existed before.

In parallel with the planning there had been intensive work to secure grants from a range of funding bodies, not least the Friends of St Marys, private individuals and an extended payment facility from Savvy which allows us to continue fundraising and make final payment beyond the planned completion date of the works.

As I write this, the kitchen, toilets and choir vestry are complete and have been handed over by the main contractors. Preparation has now begun to ensure we are able to use, maintain and promote use of the facilities for the benefit of the Community. A "launch event" to which the congregation, village folk and all significant contributors to the project is planned for 12th April. I'd like to commend the work of our main contractors both for the quality of their work, but also for the professional way in which they have engaged with all of our stakeholders. Finally, a big thankyou to my co-project lead and partner in crime, Ian Myson, for his tireless efforts to get us where we are today.

Jon Carlton – Joint lead Building our Future Project

Church Flowers

We continue to have a dedicated team of people providing flower arrangements for the church throughout the year. Positive feedback from members of the congregation and many visitors is testimony to how much the team's work is appreciated.

The team enjoy the opportunity to come together to decorate the church for the major festivals of Easter, Harvest and Christmas. We would like to thank Jenny Roberts for the beautiful flowers kindly grown over the past year to help decorate the church for Harvest festival and Christmastide.

Thank you to the Flower Team for their dedication and service to the church over the past year. We are always pleased to welcome new people to the team. If anyone is interested in joining, please do contact Lesley or Becky.

Lesley Mills and Becky Horton.

Churchyard

Work maintaining the Churchyard continued through 2023, mostly on Wednesday mornings, but on other days if the weather had been wet.

This year the smaller team of volunteers comprised of Andrew Whiffin, Graham Higgins, and Chris Field. Paul Emery mowed the paths in the nature area for part of the year and further assistance was provided by David Carr.

The concept of maintaining certain areas of the Churchyard in different ways continued, but due to the shortage of volunteers this was determined by workload rather than choice and more grass areas had to be left to grow longer.

We need more help in the Churchyard, especially during the Summer, so if you would like to join the volunteers either on a regular basis, or occasionally, then please get in touch.

Fallen leaves in the autumn and winter were again raked up to create heaps to produce leaf mould. Some of the 2021 leaf mould remains available for anyone who would like it. The remainder of the arisings from the Churchyard were placed into brown wheeled bins and collected by Cherwell District Council for recycling into compost, much of it being grass cuttings, hedge and tree prunings and fallen twigs and small branches which come from the many trees in the Churchyard.

Andrew continued to trim back the brambles/hedge on the south side, Graham planted more areas with groups of teasel plants grown from last years seed and in March transplanted dozens of snowdrops along the south side of the Churchyard along the line of the railings. Chris again pruned and shaped the shrubs and bushes inside the front wall and planted bulbs in the wooden tub. The display of seasonal flowers from January to June starting with Snowdrops followed by primroses, crocuses, cyclamen, daffodils, tulips, bluebells etc. is always worth a visit to the Churchyard whether when walking or to just sit and relax/reflect in a mostly quiet place.

We need more help in the Churchyard, especially during the Summer, so if you would like to join the volunteers either on a regular basis, or occasionally, then please get in touch.

For matters relating to the upkeep of the Churchyard please contact Trevor Shepherd on 01295 720640 or email a.trevor.shepherd@btinternet.com

Trevor Shepherd

Eco Church

Eco Church is a project run by a Christian charity, A Rocha UK, in partnership with The Church of England, Christian Aid, The Methodist Church, Tearfund, The United Reformed Church and Allchurches Trust Limited. The Eco Church project started in 2016 and has been picked up by a large number of churches since.

It provides a framework to support churches and their leadership to take practical action on caring for God's earth. It includes a toolkit of resources, an online award survey and additional resources. The Eco Church survey helps you 'go green' in all areas of your church life, and counts towards an award - which can be Bronze, Silver or Gold.

St Mary's Activities and Progress

The Survey and Award



Following on from the extensive work by John Hirons, we were able to complete the online survey in May 2023, and for our efforts we were rewarded with a Bronze Award.

There are 5 categories of questions in the assessment survey, and for a bronze award you must score at least a bronze in each.

Similarly, to get Silver you need a silver in each.

St Mary's did extremely well - achieving Gold in one, Silver in three and Bronze in just one.

This success has not been achieved by just luck or chance - it is the result of the efforts made by the many contributors to the pastoral and physical care of the church. I don't believe there are any personal contributions to the Parish community that do

not move our Eco Church efforts a little bit further along their path!

The question categories, and our scoring:-

<u>Question Category</u>	<u>Award Level</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship and Teaching 	Gold
<i>This section looks at how caring for God's earth and environmental messages are woven into church services and practices</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buildings 	Silver
<i>This section looks at how we manage the energy, utility and environmental issues of all the church buildings</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land 	Silver
<i>This section look at how well we manage the church lands with respect to flora, fauna, wildlife and sustainability.</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community and Global Engagement 	Silver
<i>This section looks at how we engage with a wide range of local programs and initiatives, our commitment to initiatives such as Fairtrade, and our active engagement on relevant national and global issues.</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lifestyle 	Bronze
<i>This section looks at how, as a community, the church is encouraging us to work both together and individually, to reduce our community and personal environmental impact</i>	

Actions since receiving the Award

These have been focused on developing regular communications on relevant topics and on setting up an Eco Church webpage on the St Mary's website. Most of the communications have been done through the Weekly sheet, but in addition there was a very well attended talk at the Parish breakfast in October.

These communications have been mainly aimed at improving our position in the Lifestyle section of the questionnaire, trying to inform the church community about "Eco-awareness" and then advise them of actions they can take to reduce their Eco impact.

While the suggested actions follow recognised good practice, they have been supplemented by additional resources such as the Personal Lifestyle Questionnaire, which has been borrowed from the Quaker community, which gives a very broad assessment of our personal impacts on the planet.

Future path and goals

We are focused on progressing through Silver to Gold, but there will be a lot of steps on this path. During the 2nd and 3rd quarters of 2024 we should start to see and feel the impact of the new facilities made possible by the BOF project. They will have a major impact on the "Buildings and Land" and the "Community and Global Engagement" categories. So I will be looking at doing an update to the survey probably in the 3rd quarter of this year after the new facilities have an established pattern of use. As part of this I will be looking at the carbon footprint of the church in its new arrangement.

It is clear that many of the decisions made during the BOF project as well as in the "everyday" ongoing maintenance and care for the facilities, are driving us in the direction of progress towards our goal.

Neil Hegarty

Friends of St. Mary's

As major funders of the BOF project, the Friends are delighted that the West End facilities are now completed. The Friends very much share the project's vision of a church building being used by more people, more of the time, with community activities operating alongside worship and the church more strongly rooted at the heart of the community, and financially sustainable. The Friends provided cash for the professional fees to get the project going, and have made substantial contributions to the new heating system and the West End facilities. All told, the Friends have made BOF-related grants to the PCC of just under £110,000 up to the end of 2023.

With the West End of the church building closed off during the works, we decided to postpone the Christmas Tree Festival that was to have taken place in 2023. Instead we organised an alternative programme of Christmas events – quiz, concert and online auction – which between them generated a surplus of some £2,200. The next Christmas Tree Festival will now be 6-8 December 2024, planning has started, and we are looking forward to the additional amenity the new facilities will bring. Being able to serve refreshments in the building during the Festival should be a great improvement, helping to make the event even more sociable, and encouraging visitors to stay longer and – possibly - spending/donating more as a result!

Since our founding in 2002 the Friends have (at end 2023), with the generous support of so many supporters, now raised just under £350,000 and made grants to the PCC for capital projects related to the building of almost £255,000.

Draft 2023 accounts indicate a net surplus in the year of over £13,000. In 2023 we made grants to St Mary's PCC of £29,500. This comprised a further £4,500 contribution to maintenance and insurance costs related to the church building and £25,000 in support of the Building Our Future project.

The Friends continue to benefit from a committed and enthusiastic Committee, and a stable and loyal membership base, which includes our generous 200 Club members. The 200 Club had another very strong year, generating net just over £7,200.

One of the hidden benefits of the Friends over the years has been that we have been able to help a number of neighbouring churches in setting up their own Friends' organisations: for example, Adderbury and Chipping Norton, and most recently, towards the end of 2023, at a public meeting held to start the process of establishing a Friends' organisation for St Mary's, Banbury.

Many thanks to all our members and supporters, for all that you've helped us achieve for our community! The West End facilities are the biggest project we've supported to date, and we're committed to working with the PCC and others to make them a success!

Ian Myson. Chair – Friends of St Mary's Bloxham

Mothers' Union

Mothers Union remains one of four branches in the north of the Diocese, sadly elsewhere branches have closed. This year's Quiet Afternoon is in Bodicote and the Deanery Festival will be in Bloxham. There have been no enrolments in the year 2023/2024. We continue to be blessed by two Diocesan members who regularly attend our meetings, making valuable contributions to the life of the branch and other regular 'visitors' to our meetings, some expressing interest in joining. One member has left the area, another became too frail to continue as a member although we were delighted to welcome her to our Christmas social. Another member has moved into a care home where links continue. Sadly, two members have died.

The last year's programme began very well, hearing about and taking part in Julian Meditation. This was very well placed in the Annual Meeting when keeping Christ at the centre of our business is so important. Unfortunately, two speakers were unable to attend at short notice, thankfully Mothers Union resources helped fill the gaps. We heard of Advent in Austria and how it is marked in the Roman Catholic tradition. Members shared their own Advent experiences and interesting discussion followed. A meeting about Anna Chaplaincy was inspiring, offering great suggestions for service when the new facilities in church are available. Local projects 'Standing in the Gap' and

'Transforming Lives for Good', both working in Bloxham schools, have kept us informed of their prayer needs.

'Rising Up' has become the new theme, emphasising the importance that activism against gender-based violence is not just for 16 Days in November/December. A speaker from Reducing the Risk will help us understand how we might be supportive in situations of domestic abuse and we hope to develop a link with a refuge. We have recently heard from the Chaplain to the Arts in Banbury and look forward to hearing from the Social Justice Advisor from Oxford Diocese. Still to be confirmed is a support worker from Christians Against Poverty. Neil Hegarty will be updating and encouraging us in our support of Eco Church.

Fundraising has a new shape with two very successful Beetle Drives, not only raising funds from non-members, but also providing community social events with lots of excitement and laughter. 'Away From IT All' holidays benefited in October and January's proceeds will provide toiletries for parents in the Ronald MacDonald House at the John Radcliffe. We look forward to the next one after Easter. We continued through the last year a committee of four. I am very pleased to say that Alison Smith is still willing to continue as Treasurer and Michael and Gwynneth to remain as Committee members. We are having to look carefully at the way we work as a branch with more 'jobs' being devolved to members. Everyone plays a part but if our branch is to continue, we need to have fresh ideas too.

Another year is ahead of us, with new things to learn about, opportunities to make a difference, support to be given and to be received. Mothers Union does make a positive difference locally, nationally and around the world, we can and will play our part, beginning with and continuing with prayer.

Pat Smith, Branch Leader.

Parish Breakfast

Sausages, croissants and coffee continue to be a popular choice after Church on the second Sunday of the month. The friendly, chatty attendees are amazingly generous in supporting our variety of charities including Christian Aid, BYHP, the Farming Community Network and, most recently Toilet Twinning our new toilets. We really appreciate your support.

(We aren't thinking of moving into Church to use the new kitchen in the near future as the logistics are bit difficult.)

Huge thanks to Anne for all her washing up! If anyone wants to help, or even host a Breakfast, do please come and have a chat.

Once again, thank you for making it all worthwhile.

Pat Angel and Liz Gordon

Renew Wellbeing Bloxham

Renew Wellbeing Bloxham has been running since 2021, set up by a group from this church and The Bloxham Baptist Church. Renew Wellbeing is a national charity which supports churches across The British Isles to set up and run a space where it is ok not to be ok....a space where people can come and be welcomed. We were really needed in 2021 as people found their way out of so many restrictions. We are still needed today, and we still meet 1.30 – 4 pm on Tuesdays. We have quiet places for those who need one, craft, games and jigsaws and a prayer space for those who want to be there. Above all we have plenty of Tea Coffee and biscuits on offer, no one is pressured to attend weekly, we don't solve problems or give advice, but we can signpost help where it is wanted.

This last year has been a strong one and we have enjoyed meeting and walking with some really brave and inspiring people. Our organising group meets regularly to discuss suggestions for improvement to our Tuesdays and share everything we need to discuss moving forward. We look to 2024 with a very positive smile and prayer.

Janet Ogilvy

St. Mary's Parish Rooms

The Accounts for 2023 show a shortfall in income from the previous year of £1,200.00, but a further £1,500.00 was received in early January to match 2022 balances. The income in 2023 came solely from letting fees. St Mary's Thursday Club and the Bloxham Bridge Club continue to be the main contributors with smaller sums from the Soup Saturday team and the Tuesday Quilters. This income illustrates the significance of the hiring charges to the financial health of the building allowing the hall to be available to the groups affiliated to St Mary's. The main items of expenditure are the insurance premium and heating and lighting costs. In 2023 there were no significant maintenance costs, but the need to refurbish the exterior of the building remains.

Reverend Dale Gingrich, Liz Farmer, Becky Horton and Jan Ogilvy – Parish Rooms Committee

Pat Angel

Soup Saturday

Soup Saturday is a Church outreach event, launched in January 2000 and normally held in the Parish Rooms on the first Saturday of each month from September until May.

Before the pandemic, between thirty and forty people attended each session, enjoying the variety of homemade soups and desserts as well as the social interaction. Numbers have been down a little since then but are slowly recovering.

The current charge of £5 per person more than covers the costs incurred on the day, including an annual donation towards heating and lighting in the Parish Rooms. Consequently, the surplus builds up over the course of the year and is then donated to various charities, most of which are local. The sessions in both January and February 2023 were cancelled because of a shortage of helpers, and in May because of the Coronation on the first Saturday. The surplus from March and April (£150) was divided between Driving for Ukraine, a local charity supplying humanitarian aid to Ukraine, and Dogs for Good which is based just outside Banbury.

The £340 surplus from September to December was divided between Katharine House Hospice, Driving for Ukraine and the Lawrence Home Nursing Team which is based in Chipping Norton but which covers the Bloxham area.

A new team of helpers took over in September and kindly provide the home-cooked soups and desserts. Many thanks to each one of them - Angela Morris, Becky Horton, Mel Rayner, Helen and Hannah Auld, Marcia Cooper, and Ingrid Robey.

Finally, thank you to everyone who attends each month and makes it such an enjoyable occasion.

Judy Marshall

Tea & Toast

Another year of fellowship and fun in Bloxham served up every Friday morning with hot drinks toast and the occasional tea cake. Tea and Toast has enjoyed another good year. Although most weeks at present, we are visited mainly by more senior citizens with only an occasional young family visiting, we are a vibrant group ready to welcome all ages. During school holidays our numbers increase and the toybox opens again. We have a good group of volunteers running our Friday mornings and we are very grateful for their contributions. You will see Tea and Toast advertised online and in the Broad sheet. We would like to ask everyone in the village to mention our group to anyone new to Bloxham.

Jan Ogilvy & Pat Smith

St Mary's Church Bloxham

**Annual Report and Accounts
of the Parochial Church Council
for the year ended
31st December 2023**

Contents

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LEB
15-Feb-24

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE P.C.C.
OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, BLOXHAM**

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ending 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 1 & 2, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the Regulations") and Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, and you consider that an audit is not required for this year under the Regulations, that section 144(2) of the Act does not apply and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under Section 145 of The Act, to follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 145(5) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under the Act and to 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 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 report

In connection with my examination of the accounts for the year ending 31 December 2023, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - A. to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Act, and
 - B. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and 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.

EXAMINER


A.I.L. WELLS

Date

31/3/2024

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

Statement of Financial Activities

2022 £		Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
	Incoming resources					
138,802	Voluntary income	3	61,647		150,763	212,409
2,169	Activities for generating funds	3	2,285		2,541	4,826
12,118	Church activities	3	8,614	2,421		11,035
414	Investment income	3	325		189	514
14,406	Other incoming resources	3	4,049	46	44,947	49,042
<u>167,910</u>	<i>Total Incoming resources</i>		<u>76,919</u>	<u>2,467</u>	<u>198,440</u>	<u>277,826</u>
	Resources expended					
-	Cost of generating funds	4	161	-	225	386
57,856	Church activities	4	57,355		1,083	58,438
22,215	Running Exps incl Governance Costs	4	21,201	3,728	1,202	26,131
28,421	Major Capital Expenditure	4	136	1,040	330,898	332,074
<u>108,492</u>	<i>Total resources expended</i>		<u>78,853</u>	<u>4,768</u>	<u>333,408</u>	<u>417,029</u>
59,417	<i>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers</i>		(1,934)	(2,301)	(134,968)	(139,203)
59,417	<i>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/(losses)</i>		(1,934)	(2,301)	(134,968)	(139,203)
	Other recognised gains/(losses)					
(376)	Gains/(losses) on investment assets	7	-	-	494	494
<u>59,041</u>	<i>Net movement in funds</i>		<u>(1,934)</u>	<u>(2,301)</u>	<u>(134,473)</u>	<u>(138,709)</u>
319,597	Total funds brought forward from previous year		204,965	8,247	165,426	378,638
<u>378,638</u>	<i>Total funds carried forward</i>		<u>203,031</u>	<u>5,946</u>	<u>30,952</u>	<u>239,929</u>
	For Information Only					
	Take out Value of Parish Rooms		(167,778)			
	True value of general funds available to use		<u>35,253</u>			

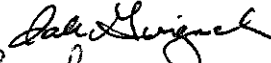
St Mary's Church Bloxham

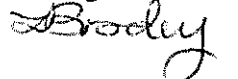
Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

2022 £		Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Fixed assets						
167,778	Tangible assets (Parish Rooms)	6	167,778		-	167,778
4,098	Investments	7	-	-	4,592	4,592
<u>171,876</u>	Total fixed assets		<u>167,778</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,592</u>	<u>172,370</u>
Current assets						
5,848	Debtors (Incl Gift Aid Due)		2,786	-	727	3,513
202,859	Cash in hand and at bank	10	32,467	5,946	109,316	147,730
<u>208,707</u>	Total current assets		<u>35,254</u>	<u>5,946</u>	<u>110,043</u>	<u>151,243</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year						
(1,944)	Accruals		-	-	(3,683)	(3,683)
	Loan received for Building Our Future Appeal (BOF)				(80,000)	(80,000)
<u>206,763</u>	Net current assets		<u>35,254</u>	<u>5,946</u>	<u>26,361</u>	<u>67,560</u>
<u>378,639</u>	Net assets		<u>203,031</u>	<u>5,946</u>	<u>30,952</u>	<u>239,929</u>
Funds of the church						
Unrestricted funds						
204,965	General fund		203,031	-	-	203,031
8,247	Designated fund	9	-	5,946	-	5,946
<u>213,212</u>			<u>203,031</u>	<u>5,946</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>208,977</u>
165,427	Restricted funds	8	-	-	30,952	30,952
<u>378,639</u>	Total funds of the church		<u>203,031</u>	<u>5,946</u>	<u>30,952</u>	<u>239,929</u>
For Information Only						
	Take out Value of Parish Rooms		(167,778)			
	True value of general funds available to use		<u>35,253</u>			

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 21st February 2024

Rev'd Dale Gingrich  Chairman

Lynn Brodey  Treasurer

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

Notes to the accounts

1 Basis of preparation

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102).

The Accounts are drawn up under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investment assets at market value. The Accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. These Accounts do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

2 Accounting policies

Funds

Unrestricted funds are general funds available for the general objectives of the church.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes.

Restricted funds can only be used for the purposes for which they have been given, within the objectives of the church. The cost of raising and administering such funds is charged against those specific funds. The aim and use of each fund is explained later in the Notes.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA (**Statement of Financial Accounts**) when the church becomes legally entitled to the income and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty.

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving is recognised only when received. Grants & legacies are recognised as soon as the PCC becomes aware of its legal entitlement and the amount due is quantifiable with reasonable certainty.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is accounted for when the gift is received, not when the tax refund is received.

When incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and the related resources expended are accounted for gross in the SOFA.

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the church or the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for use by the church are included in the SOFA as incoming resources when receivable.

Rental income from letting the Parish Rooms is accounted for when it falls due.

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable and includes any recoverable tax.

Realised gains are accounted for on assets held for the church's own use and are taken into account at the time of sale.

Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis & is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for goods or services.

All costs have been directly attributed to the various categories within the SOFA.

Any general support costs have been allocated across activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources based on an allocation of actual costs.

As the PCC is not registered for VAT, all expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT.

Governance costs include the cost of the preparation of the Annual Accounts, the cost of PCC meetings and the legal cost of advice on governance or constitutional matters.

Grants and charitable giving are accounted for when paid over or when awarded, if the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC, provided that there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the church.

Parish Share is accounted for when paid except that any Parish Share unpaid at the end of the financial year is provided for in the accounts as a constructive obligation, although not a liability, and is included in the balance sheet as a liability.

Investments

Investments are shown on 31 December at market value.

Both realised and unrealised gains are shown under 'other recognised gains/(losses)' section of the SOFA.

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

Notes to the Accounts

2022		2023			
Total funds £	3 Analysis of Incoming Resources	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total funds £
	Voluntary income				
35,909	Tax - efficient planned giving (excl. tax)	33,498	-	2,400	35,898
3,922	Collections at Services incl White Envelopes	3,776	-	-	3,776
310	Service Collections & Donations in aid of other Charities	280	-	-	280
1,305	Spire Lighting Donations	1,150	-	-	1,150
27,262	All other Giving & Voluntary Income	4,959	-	3,763	8,722
14,007	Gift Aid Tax Recovered / Due	10,119	-	1,000	11,118
56,065	* Grants Received (see analysis below)	6,500	-	142,600	149,100
23	Legacies	1,366	-	1,000	2,366
<u>138,803</u>		<u>61,647</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>150,763</u>	<u>212,409</u>
	Activities for generating funds				
1,914	Fund Raising Activities (Winter Fayre/Smartie Tubes/BOF Fundraising)	2,285	-	2,087	4,372
255	Church Heritage Tours (in aid of BOF)	-	-	454	454
<u>2,169</u>		<u>2,285</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,541</u>	<u>4,826</u>
	Church Activities				
8,918	Fees - weddings, funerals etc	8,114	-	-	8,114
	Hiring out Church Facilities	500	-	-	500
3,200	Parish Rooms	-	2,421	-	2,421
<u>12,118</u>		<u>8,614</u>	<u>2,421</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,035</u>
	Investment Income				
414	Bank/HMRC Interest/Dividends etc	325	-	189	514
<u>414</u>		<u>325</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>189</u>	<u>514</u>
	Other Incoming resources				
457	Income from Mission Activities (Tea&Toast/Bumps&Babies/Puzzlers)	849	-	-	849
602	Income from Mission Activities (Parish Breakfast/Soup Saturday)	-	-	1,083	1,083
260	Others (incl Bell Ringing & Flower Fund)	-	-	350	350
13,087	DCMS Scheme (VAT Rebate on BOF Capital Works)	-	-	43,514	43,514
-	Other general	3,200	46	-	3,246
<u>14,406</u>		<u>4,049</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>44,947</u>	<u>49,042</u>
<u>167,910</u>	TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	<u>76,919</u>	<u>2,467</u>	<u>198,440</u>	<u>277,826</u>

* Sources of Grant Funding

The Friends of St Mary's raises funds for the beautification, preservation and restoration of the church
The organisation is a registered charity, not under the control of the PCC

Grants received by the PCC during the course of the year:

The Friends of St Mary's (Annual Grant)	£ 4,500
Bloxham Feoffees	£ 2,000
Bloxham Parish Council (Churchyard Maintenance)	£ 1,800
Mosawi Foundation (BOF Grant)	£ 50,000
Gladiator Trust (BOF Grant)	£ 15,000
Beatrice Laing Trust (BOF Grant)	£ 7,500
Doris Field Charitable Trust (BOF Grant)	£ 1,000
Bartlett Taylor Charitable Trust (BOF Grant)	£ 300
The Friends of St Mary's (BOF Grant)	£ 25,000
Oxford Historical Charitable Trust (BOF Grant)	£ 25,000
Janet & Bryan Moore Charitable Trust (BOF Grant)	£ 2,000
Tibbetts Group (BOF Donation)	£ 10,000
Bloxham Baptist Church (BOF Donation for Audio/Visual/Internet Stage)	£ 5,000
	<u>£ 149,100</u>

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

Notes to the Accounts

2022		2023			Total Funds
		Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	
Total funds		£	£	£	£
4	4 Analysis of resources expended				
	Cost of generating funds				
-	Costs of Fundraising Activities	161	-	225	386
<u>-</u>		<u>161</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>225</u>	<u>386</u>
	Church activities				
1,402	* Mission Giving & Donations (see analysis below)	1,000	-	1,083	2,083
310	Service Collections/Donations paid to other Charities (Middle East Crisis Appeal)	280	-	-	280
51,975	Parish Share	51,975	-	-	51,975
4,170	Organists & Music Director Fees / Ministry Exps	4,100	-	-	4,100
<u>57,857</u>		<u>57,355</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,083</u>	<u>58,438</u>
	Church Running Expenses (Incl Governance)				
578	Mission & Evangelism Costs	754	-	169	924
1,146	General Maint Repairs/Contracts + Churchyard	1,524	-	503	2,027
7,398	Insurance	8,138	-	-	8,138
484	Organ, Choir / Church Music	527	-	-	527
757	Church requisites	510	-	529	1,040
672	Printing, Stationery, Postage, Web, Books	572	-	-	572
2,497	Photocopier Rental / Exps (incl Benefice allocation)	1,708	-	-	1,708
620	BT contract	696	-	-	696
0	Miscellaneous	-	46	-	46
5,551	Utility Bills - Heating, Lighting & Water	6,771	-	-	6,771
<u>2,516</u>	Parish Rooms	<u>-</u>	<u>3,682</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,682</u>
<u>22,215</u>		<u>21,201</u>	<u>3,728</u>	<u>1,202</u>	<u>26,131</u>
	Major Capital Expenditure				
-		-	-	-	-
2,741	Fabric costs	136	1,040	893	2,069
25,680	Building our Future Project (BOF)	-	-	330,014	330,014
<u>28,421</u>		<u>136</u>	<u>1,040</u>	<u>330,898</u>	<u>332,074</u>
<u>108,493</u>	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>78,853</u>	<u>4,768</u>	<u>333,408</u>	<u>417,029</u>

* Mission Giving & Donations Analysis:

From the PCC:	
Thames Valley Air Ambulance	250.00
Banbury Young Homeless Project	250.00
St Mary's Thursday Club	250.00
Bloxham Boys Brigade	250.00
From Soup Saturday:	
Driving to Ukraine	188.00
Katharine House Hospice	115.00
Lawrence House Nursing Team	110.00
Dogs for Good	75.00
From Parish Breakfast:	
DEC Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal	160.00
Transform Trade	45.00
Christian Aid	50.00
Bloxham Boys Brigade (In memory of Dan Roberts)	100.00
Farming Community Network	45.00
The Royal British Legion	80.00
Banbury Food Bank	60.00
MU (Away from It All Charity)	55.00
	<u>£ 2,083.00</u>

5 Trustee remuneration and expenses

No members of the PCC received any remuneration for their work on the PCC. The clergy, who is an ex officio member receives a stipend but is not remunerated for his service on the PCC.

6 Tangible fixed assets

Total		Freehold
£		Land & Buildings
£		£
167,778	64.53% equity share in the Parish Rooms	167,778
<u>167,778</u>	At 31 December 2023	<u>167,778</u>

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

Notes to the Accounts

7 Investments

	Value at 31 December 2022	Value at 31 December 2023	Gain/(Loss)
	£	£	£
The Bellringers Fund - CCLA	3,832	4,314	482
Listed on London Stock Exchange -Lloyds TSB (Bells)	266	278	13
	<u>4,098</u>	<u>4,592</u>	<u>494</u>

8 Restricted funds

	Fund balances brought forward	Transfers & Incoming resources	Resources expended / transferred	Gains and losses	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Outreach (Bloxham Puzzlers)	0	105	(33)	0	72
Bell Fund	3,652	189	0	0	3,841
Bell Fund (Investments)	4,098	0	0	494	4,592
BOF (Incl 2023 GAid not yet rec'd & Accruals)	156,598	193,102	(330,239)	0	19,459
Parish Breakfast	0	595	(595)	0	0
Communion Service Materials	0	1,000	(138)	0	862
Churchyard	0	1,800	(503)	0	1,297
Fabric Fund	0	1,000	(883)	0	117
Flowers	1,080	161	(527)	0	714
Soup Saturday	0	488	(488)	0	0
	<u>165,426</u>	<u>198,440</u>	<u>(333,408)</u>	<u>494</u>	<u>30,952</u>

9 Designated funds

	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming resources	Resources expended or transferred	Gains and losses	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Parish Rooms	7,207	2,421	(3,682)		5,946
Fabric Fund	994	46	(1,040)		0
Children's Ministry/Outreach	46	0	(46)		0
	<u>8,247</u>	<u>2,467</u>	<u>(4,768)</u>		<u>5,946</u>

10 Cash funds and location

	Unrestricted fund	Designated fund	Restricted fund	Total
General Funds	32,467			32,467
Bell fund			3,841	3,841
Communion Service Materials			862	862
Outreach (Bloxham Puzzlers)			72	72
Fabric fund			117	117
Building Our Future (BOF)			102,414	102,414
Flower fund			714	714
Churchyard			1,297	1,297
Parish rooms *		5,946		5,946
	<u>32,467</u>	<u>5,946</u>	<u>109,316</u>	<u>147,730</u>

* Not under direct control of the PCC Treasurer

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE P.C.C.
OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, BLOXHAM**

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ending 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 1 & 2, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the Regulations") and Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, and you consider that an audit is not required for this year under the Regulations, that section 144(2) of the Act does not apply and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under Section 145 of The Act, to follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 145(5) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under the Act and to 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 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 report

In connection with my examination of the accounts for the year ending 31 December 2023, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - A. to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Act, and
 - B. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and 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.

EXAMINER

A.I.L. Wells FCA
A.I.L. WELLS

Date

31/3/2024

Accounts

Annual Reports for 2023

Aim and Purpose

St. Mary's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the Vicar, Revd. Dale Gingrich, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the oversight of the Parish Rooms situated next to the vicarage. The Parish Rooms have a separate committee but its accounts fall completely within the Parish Accounts.

Membership

The PCC is a charity registered with the charity commission. Members of the PCC are trustees, either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

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

Vicar: The Reverend Dale Gingrich

Wardens: Ms Jan Ogilvy
Mrs Barbara Walklate

Deanery Synod Representatives and therefore ex officio members of the PCC

Ms Jan Ogilvy, Mrs Jax Hegarty

Council Members

PCC Secretary

Vacant

PCC Treasurer

Mrs Lynn Brodey

Mrs Sue Barbour

Mrs. Catherine Berry (resigned due to leaving the area)

Mr Jon Carlton

Mr Steve Craggs

Mrs Liz Farmer

Mr John Hirons

Mrs. Sue Perkin-Ball (Minute Secretary)

Co-opted

Mrs Lynn Brodey

Standing Committee

This committee is required by law and has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings subject to any direction given by the Council. The PCC has decided that the membership shall be the Vicar, two Churchwardens, Treasurer, Secretary to the PCC (vacant) and one ordinary PCC member.

On behalf of the PCC:

The Revd. Dale Gingrich (Chair)..... Date

Review of the Year – Bloxham St Mary's Vicar's Report 2022

'Being a Christ-like Church for the Sake of God's World' becomes 'Come and See.'

The year of our Lord 2022 has brought many changes, challenges and cares into our life at Bloxham St Mary's as we have moved through the lingering effects of a pandemic, engaging and re-engaging with both the new and familiar aspects of our life together. In the last few years I was able to summarise our shared ministry and mission using a framework provided by the Diocese of Oxford that encouraged us to be contemplative, compassionate and courageous in our sharing of the good news of Jesus Christ. This year we have adopted 'Come and See' as our emphasis in the Diocese. This biblically based, short and concise title for a whole programme of initiatives is rooted in Jesus' invitation to the first disciples, who then shared those same words of welcome and hospitality for others to encounter Jesus and experience first-hand the extraordinary gift of knowing God in the flesh. (John 1:39-51)

We have had the freedom to come without as many precautions and restrictions in our gatherings for worship, prayer, song and study though the transition has taken some time and we have still kept in place some of the methods for meeting on internet platforms that became necessary during the lockdown. Worship on Sundays continued uninterrupted throughout the year with a gradual reintroduction of midweek services offered along with those available on-line. More baptisms were able to be celebrated, though with the children being a year or two older than in our pre-pandemic practice. Fifteen children and one adult were baptized along with one thanksgiving for the gift of a child this year. Four weddings were celebrated without any restriction on numbers of guests who could attend, with bells ringing, people singing and families rejoicing in being able to be together. The seventeen funerals in church or at the crematorium no longer had to be live-streamed because of attendance restrictions. By the looks of things when people came, everything seemed back to normal, though not everything was the same as before. We have been through some difficult times and pray we are a stronger community because we have endured. We were blessed that so many could come and see they were welcome and encounter God in worship and thanksgiving.

We have been frustrated by not being able to resume some of the aspects of our life together. People are more reluctant to volunteer which has meant we haven't been able to provide Messy Church and Bumps & Babies like we did before the pandemic. We have had to be creative in making do with fewer servers and chalice assistants at our main acts of worship on Sundays. Our great appreciation goes to our servers Jon Carlton, John Hiron, John Marshall and Ro Watts who enhance our worship in many and various ways, plus the dedication of Mervyn Jones for serving at 8am BCP services. We express our gratitude to Susan Hinde, Lindsay Mills, Sue Sabbagh and Pat Smith who have been chalice assistants but have resigned from that ministry in the past year, whilst we continue to give thanks for Judy Marshall, Barbara Walklate and Ro Watts for their ministry as chalice bearers. Full instruction and support are available to anyone who might feel called to participate in this ministry at St Mary's.

We are exploring ways of offering ways for Christian education and faith formation for all ages and backgrounds of people in our community. The local schools are able to hold services, concerts and other programmes in the church and we anticipate the benefits of the Building Our Future project enabling even more diverse and flexible utilization of the amazing asset we have been given in the church building and the churchyard that surrounds it. A whole crew work behind the scenes to keep the churchyard looking so inviting, helping us to be aware of our role as an Eco-Church working with Bloxham Bio-diversity and the Great Big Green Week to raise awareness so we all care for God's gift of creation. There is much to Come and See that is good, positive and encouraging as we engage with the community and world around us. May we continue to be blessed and be a blessing to those in our care and keeping, giving thanks for our churchwardens, Jan Ogilvy & Barbara Walklate, the retired clergy Michael Campling Brian Fairbank, Hazel Scarr, John & Olwen Smith, and Christine Turner, plus all those people you'll find who have written reports describing their sphere of witness and service in this Church. God has begun a great work within us and will see it to completion.

The Revd Dale Gingrich

Safeguarding

2022 has been another year in which Safeguarding has continued to embed itself into St. Mary's. Within the parish we have a very high level of trained personnel; we are making good use of the Parish Dashboard for Safeguarding which is a wonderful guide and tool and we are happily at level two (of three). We acknowledged Safeguarding Sunday last November in a quiet and understated way. I would like to thank everyone for their support of my endeavours with a special thank you to Diana Thompson for processing a considerable number of DBS checks during the year. There is still much to be accomplished but if we all work together we can get the job done.

Liz Farmer (Parish Safeguarding Officer)

Fabric, Goods & Ornaments

This year has been a very quiet one on the fabric front with most of the issues being caused by the dry weather followed by heavy rain which led to some water ingress. We sought the advice of P.R. Alcock & Son who also thought it due to the sudden change in conditions.

The other main issue has been the continued disruption and petty vandalism cause by a small group of students from the Warriner School. At the time of writing the issue is being addressed by the Church Wardens and the Head of the Warriner. We are very concerned that the students seem to have a complete lack of understanding and respect for sacred places and spaces. Sadly, as I write, to avoid further vandalism inside the church, the Church is being locked at 3.00pm.

In addition to the disturbance caused by the students during services in the North Porch a large number of the floor tiles were removed and strewn in the Churchyard, happily due to the quick action by Dale in picking them up and the skill of David Gordon they have now been re-laid and the floor once more secured.

The church building and the Parish Rooms (which are co-owned with the Oxford Diocese) continue to be the principal property assets of St Mary's Church, Bloxham. Their value is recorded in the PCC accounts. The Church's property, contents and ornaments continue to be insured with Ecclesiastical Insurance and are maintained with appropriate care and attention. The vestry alarm which was causing concern last year has been deemed unnecessary - all valuables being stored in the safe. The Lightning Conductor underwent its Annual Certification.

In view of the current energy crisis the PCC decided to reduce the external church lighting and spire lighting. In consultation with David Andrews we reduced the time of the spire lighting. DA advised that we shouldn't turn the lighting off completely because of the risk of water ingress and to do so might cause permanent damage and require a completely new set of lights - obviously incurring considerable expense.

Can I again acknowledge the continued support and dedication of the Fabric Committee especially David Gordon who will be taking the lead from the APCM and who once again were responsible for the sighting and erection of the two 'constructions' for the Christmas crib figures. We are also indebted to Trevor Shepherd and Team for his work in the Churchyard - see separate report.

We look forward to more extensive changes due the activities of BOF in next year's report.

John Hiron

Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod continues to work hard in support of our Churches, providing regulation information and financial organisation. We are pleased to be able to share with everyone that the Parish Share will not be increased this year which is a relief as we negotiate increasing prices everywhere else.

In the last year a Deanery Website has been set up to enhance communication between our churches and they are keen for us all to use it to spread good news and events to all.

The last Teaching Day at St Francis in Banbury was on February 4th. Days like this are very informative and well organised. They usually deal with a couple of subjects or several parts of one

subject and are organised so that people can join the whole morning or just one hour of it. The welcome at St Francis is excellent.

Janet Ogilvy

Electoral Roll

During last year there were 84 people on the roll which will be updated prior to the APCM

Foundation Governors, Bloxham Primary School

This has been another challenging year for the staff and Governors of Bloxham Primary School. A new Head Teacher took up her post in September 2021. It soon became apparent that she was not really coping. This caused unrest and distress among the staff. She resigned at the end of April and left the school at the end of May. As she declined to take part in the subsequent enquiry by the Local Education Authority we were unable to find out exactly what went wrong. An Interim Head Teacher was appointed from June until the end of December.

There were inevitably staff resignations at the end of the 2022 academic year which gave an opportunity for some restructuring of the staff. A new curriculum was also introduced. A recruitment panel was appointed by the Governors: Ian Broome, the Chair of Governors, the Vice Chair and a Foundation Governor, supported by the Oxfordshire LA Advisor and the Diocesan Advisor. The post was advertised in July and interviews took place in September. Two of the four short listed candidates withdrew before the interviews. The two remaining candidates spent a day in school carrying out various tasks including leading Collective Worship, interacting with staff. One candidate was let go at the end of that day. The next day the remaining candidate gave a presentation and was then interviewed by the panel. It was unanimously decided that she should be offered the post, the decision was ratified by the Full Governing Body. Mrs Sarah Marshall, an experienced Head Teacher who has been working in Warwickshire, started mid-December after a handover period with the Interim Head.

In October the school had the long expected OFSTED inspection over two days.

The school was graded as Requiring Improvement. Although disappointing there were no big surprises in the report and with a few exceptions it was a fair appraisal of the school. The turbulence of the past was acknowledged, with 3 Head teachers in 18 months, a fourth due shortly, leading to lack of trust which has affected the team.

Personal development, behaviour and attitude of the children were graded as Good and the provision for children with Special Needs and Safeguarding were graded as Good.

The governors did not escape criticism with lack of oversight by both leaders and governors being a problem.

This has been a very challenging time for governors. The governing body had not met in person for over 18 months during Covid and there were several new governors. Ian Broome was appointed Chair of Governors from September 2022 and in the first year there were unprecedented problems in school.

An external review of the Governing Body took place in February 2022. It was recommended that the Governing Body was reduced in number from 17. After lengthy discussion it was agreed that the number of Foundation Governors should remain at 3 and other categories of governors reduced. The number of Governors was reduced to 12. A training session for governors took place in school in January.

The first whole school church service since Christmas 2019 was held at Easter and nativity plays were held in church before Christmas.

Claire Swan who teaches one day a week was appointed as Faith Leader from September. She resigned as a Foundation Governor in November.

My term of office came to an end in December. I had been a governor for 16 years and felt it was time for someone else to take over. It has been a huge privilege to serve the school in that capacity

and one I have enjoyed very much. I am very pleased to still be welcomed into school as a volunteer.

Diana Thompson

Reports on the Worship

Bloxham Church Music

CHOIR

What a pleasure it has been to oversee the music in St Mary's Bloxham during 2022/23.

We are very happy to have several new additions: Vikki, Sophie and Liz (Wood) Hope you all stick around.

We have had a few members temporarily side-lined, and hope that Roger, Marian and Christine will soon be back with us on a regular basis. You are missed!

Many thanks to David Odell on his sterling work on sorting out all the choir paraphernalia in anticipation of the BOF works. Much appreciated.

Everyone seems to be happy to be back in the choir stalls. I am considering moving the organ console back to its original position in the nave.

MUSIC GROUP

First of all, many thanks for those who have been involved with Music Group this year, it couldn't happen without you!

I have introduced a new book as a core for our song list going forward which I hope will be productive.

We may need to invest in a couple more microphones if singer numbers grow any more, or a small mixer to add additional mics

Looking forward to having new audio visual so that we don't have to use the hymn book so much at cafe church!

David Ball

Servers & Chalice Bearers

See Review of the Year

Youth & Children's Ministries

Bloxham Boys' Brigade – Faith in Young People

Annual Review 2022

Membership as at 31 December:

Anchors (5-8)	11 (14)
Juniors (7-11)	11 (11)
Company (11-14)	4 (5)
Seniors (14-18)	3 (3)
Officers	9 (7)
Adult helpers	4 (5)
Total	42 (45)

Competitions

BB national competitions were re-established after the Covid19 Hiatus. Teams from 1st Bloxham entered the Juniors International Team Games, Company Top Teams, and Company Masterteams. We are delighted to report that one of our teams was placed 1st in the UK in the Company Top Team

competition, putting Bloxham firmly on the map! A picture that was coloured in by one of our Juniors was picked to form part of a special Boys' Brigade card presented to our patron, HRH The Queen, to mark her Platinum Jubilee.

Community

During the past 12 months several young people have gained valuable leadership experience by assisting our leaders in delivering our activities.

Camping

There was no Camp in 2022 but there are plans for a weekend camp for Juniors, Company and Seniors in June 2023.

Awards

Over 30 boys received awards for service and achievement at our 14th annual awards evening which was held at The Warriner School in July 2021. Our guest was Mrs Jennifer Childs the former captain of the 1st Deddington company.

Church

In addition, to our weekly devotions, leaders and members of Bloxham BB participated in Church services organised by St Mary's Church and Bloxham Baptist Church.

Leadership

We were delighted to welcome 4 new leaders in the group including Craig Frazer who joined us from the 3rd Inverness company and Max Hart who on turning 18 became an officer cadet.

Nick Westbury

Bumps & Babies

Bumps and Babies struggled through ²⁰2022 with fewer volunteers than was the optimum number. We had less visitors than in earlier years-maybe only 2 or 3 babies-possibly due to the after effects of Covid. Sometimes there were no visitors.

We volunteers met several times to discuss the situation-how to recruit more volunteers, and to attract more visitors.

Finally, a new volunteer came along who could update our posters and create a Facebook page for the group. Once this was done, we decided to relaunch the group in January 2023, and even invested in some new sensory toys

However, more volunteers left after Christmas and we were not able to carry on.

Sadly, we have had to suspend Bumps and Babies until we have at least 4 more volunteers.

Margaret Craggs

Messy Church

See Review of the Year

Other Reports

Bells

We started having regular practices again in October 2022. We have managed to ring all eight bells every Sunday aided by Colin & Simon Lee from Adderbury who come every Sunday.

Our three learners are making good progress and ring every Sunday. Last Sunday, when Colin & Simon could not turn up, we rang all eight bells with a Bloxham band!

I put a "Ring for the King" advert in the January Broadsheet, and four people wrote to me to say they would like to learn to ring. I have given them all a lesson, so things are looking promising for the future.

Alan Griffin

Building Our Future

The teams working on Building Our Future have continued to progress the project, though the obstacles presented by the economy in a post-Covid/Ukraine War world have once again extended project timelines.

We are now at a position where detailed design work for the "West End Works" (i.e. toilets, vestry and kitchen behind decorative screens) has been completed and we have selected a preferred building contractor. Having raised nearly £300,000 for this phase of the project (both in cash donations and successful grant applications) we were faced with very significant cost escalations compared with initial estimates. Even with some de-scoping of the specification, the cost is likely to exceed £390,000. So, a further phase of Fundraising (led by Richard Jones, who has taken over from Sir Tony Baldry as fundraising lead) has taken (and is taking) place. We have engaged some professional help and met with the DAC (Diocesan Planning Authority) to remove barriers to us being able to start construction. We have (March 2023) received PCC approval to enter into building contracts allowing construction work to start in April 2023. Although a huge amount remains to be done, this is a great step forward in making our long-planned improvements to the church a reality. Although the West End works have been the main focus of attention, we have recently received approval for a proof of concept to reduce the length of a pew and make it movable, an important part of making more flexible use of the space the church has to offer. A formal application to the DAC for works to allow livestreaming of services from within the church has also just been granted and work on this will begin in the coming months.

We thank the band of heroic volunteers, and the PCC, who have stuck with us as we continue the work make BOF a reality and make St Mary's a truly welcoming village focus for worshippers and anyone who wishes to use and enjoy our building.

Vicar in Sponsored Motorglider Flight

On the evening of the Bloxham Fun Day (11th June) Rev Dale Gingrich and Jon Carlton headed for Shenington Airfield where (with the help of some gliding club colleagues) Dale was safely strapped into Jon's Grob109 motorglider. The intrepid duo took off and, in perfect flying conditions, carried out a short trip around the local area before heading towards Bloxham and St Mary's church. At precisely 6pm, the motorglider (keeping strictly to permissible minimum altitude) approached the church spire and performed a few low-level circuits around the tower before returning to base. The occupants of the aircraft could clearly see the Hook Norton Brass Band and participants in the church garden party as they circled the tower. The flight had been well publicised and was noticed by a number of Bloxham residents. Once the aircraft had landed safely, Dale appeared none the worse for his ordeal (in fact he may even have enjoyed it!). Importantly, the sponsored flight raised over £1700 to add to the funds which FoSM are collecting for the BOF project.

Jon Carlton - Joint Project-Lead

Church Flowers

We have a dedicated team of people providing flower arrangements for the church throughout the year. Positive feedback from members of the congregation and many visitors shows how much the team's work is appreciated. The team enjoys the opportunity to come together to decorate the church for the major festivals of Easter, Harvest and Christmas. We would like to thank Dan and Jenny Roberts for the beautiful flowers they kindly grow each year to help decorate the church for Harvest festival and Christmastide. Following many years of dedicated service Catherine Berry and Kate Phipps stepped down from the flower team this year. We would like to thank them for their hard work and commitment to the team. Thank you to members of the Flower Team for their dedication and service to the church over the past year. We are always pleased to welcome new people. If anyone is interested in joining, please do contact Lesley or Becky.

Lesley Mills and Becky Horton.

Churchyard

St Mary's Churchyard Report 2022

Work maintaining and improving the Churchyard continued through 2022 on Wednesday mornings carried out by the volunteer team comprising Trevor Shepherd, Andrew Whiffin, Chris Field and Graham Higgins. During the year Paul Emery joined the group and further assistance was provided by David Carr, Peter Bolt, David Odell and Sharon and Sarah (The Baker Girls).

The concept of maintaining areas of the Churchyard in different ways continued in 2022.

Grass Lawn areas were mown regularly; grass areas with tombs, headstones and graves were mown and strimmed regularly. Sparse areas beneath trees were cut less frequently and wild areas were left untouched through the year with the exception of maintaining mown trail paths to give access to see the wild flowers growing there. In 2022 we again left another small area in the middle of the Churchyard to go wild. In areas where spring flowers were growing - mowing was left until the end of April. As part of No Mow May - two areas of grass were left uncut for a month.

In autumn, the Churchyard was again featured as part of the Great Big Green Week with an evening session of moth trapping and an invitation for people to collect free 2020 leaf mould.

When not cutting grass, we continued to level out sunken graves with available soil and sow grass seed. The molehills are also a useful source of soil for levelling. Grass growing over path edges was trimmed back and this was laid over sunken areas. Displaced or uneven paving stones were levelled and some leaning headstones were straightened up and secured. Stones and fallen twigs and branches are picked up all year round. Other work that goes on throughout the year is removing ivy growing on walls and on memorials, digging out self-sown tree roots and removing weeds growing through the paths. We continued to collect fallen leaves in the autumn and winter to create heaps to produce leaf mould. All of the 2020 leaves have gone, taken during TGBGW. We have 3 large piles of 2021 leaves which will be available for collection in Autumn 2023. The remainder of the arisings from the Churchyard are placed into brown wheeled bins and collected by Cherwell District Council for recycling into compost, much of it being grass cuttings, hedge and tree prunings and fallen twigs and small branches which come from the many trees in the Churchyard.

In 2022 Cherwell District Council introduced charges for brown bins and certificates were purchased for the 9 bins that we use in the Churchyard.

The display of seasonal flowers starting with snowdrops in January followed by primroses, daffodils, tulips, bluebells etc. is always worth a visit to the Churchyard whether walking or to just sit and relax/reflect in a mostly quiet place.

We can always do with more help in the Churchyard, especially during the Summer, so if you would like to join the volunteers either on a regular basis, or occasionally, then please get in touch.

For any matters relating to the Churchyard please contact Trevor Shepherd on 01295 720640 or email a.trevor.shepherd@btinternet.com.

Trevor Shepherd

Eco Church

Eco Church is an award scheme for churches in England and Wales who want to demonstrate that the Gospel is good news for God's earth.

It is administered through a detailed on-line survey of a church's activities, covering the following areas:

Worship and Teaching

Management of Church Buildings

Land

Community and Global Engagement

Lifestyle.

This survey covers a very broad spectrum ranging across the songs we sing, the food we serve, the energy we use, the ethics of our investments, the wildlife that finds a home on our land, the water

that flushes our loos; and so on. In the Lifestyle category these challenges are extended to our own personal lives and behaviours.

You get points for your responses to the survey. When you reach the first threshold you would get a bronze award - which can then be improved to a silver or gold.

I have now completed our survey - and it just requires a final review before I submit it. Based on this we should receive a bronze award.

Our weakest category is "Lifestyle" - so the major focus of our next phase of Eco Church will be to broaden our approach for this so that we can then work towards a silver award at some stage.

Neil Hegarty

Friends of St. Mary's. Bloxham

2022 saw the Friends' 20th birthday, marked by a celebratory dinner at Tudor Hall School in October, and was another productive year of fundraising.

Since our founding in 2002 the Friends have, thanks to the generosity of our supporters, raised over £330,000, made grants to the PCC of over £225,000 and have funded spire repairs, windows restoration and protection, as well as a new sound system and a major contribution to the new heating system. We continue to build up funds for the imminent new WCs and kitchen facilities at the West End of the church building, as part of our commitment to the "Building our Future" project and its aim of making improvements to the building so that it can be used by more people, more of the time.

At 31 December 2022 reserves were £17,525. 2022 accounts are yet to be finalised but indicate an annual surplus of over £13,500 in the year, before grants. In 2022 we made a grant to St Mary's PCC of £4,500 as a contribution to maintenance and insurance costs related to the church building and have committed to providing a grant at this level (increased from £2,500 previously) each year.

Fundraising events in the year included a sponsored glider flight, fundraising at Bloxham Fun Day and a Christmas Quiz at the Warriner School.

The Friends continue to benefit from a committed and enthusiastic Committee, a stable and loyal membership base, and from the generosity of members of our 200 Club. The 200 Club had another very strong year, generating, net, just over £7,500.

2023 is a Christmas Tree Festival year. The event is due to take place 1-3 December. Planning starts with a kick off meeting on 1 March. We will be making adjustments to our format to accommodate the installation of kitchen and WCs in the church earlier in the year!

Many thanks to all our members and supporters, for all that you've helped us achieve for the church building and our community over the last two decades!

Ian Myson, Chair – Friends of St Mary's, Bloxham

Mothers Union

Mothers Union in Bloxham continues to thrive alongside three other branches in our part of the Oxford Diocese, two in Bicester and Bodicote. The enrolment of two of three pre COVID new members finally took place last year, additionally, at the same service we were able to welcome into membership two members from elsewhere who had moved to the area. Unfortunately, we still have one enrolment outstanding when that member is returns to better health. There are two Diocesan members who regularly attend our meetings, both making valuable contributions to the life of the branch and in January we were delighted to welcome back a past member bringing our membership to nineteen.

'Transformation Now' continues to be the Mothers Union theme and we have been pleased to welcome local speakers from Good News for All (previously known as Gideons), Standing in the Gap, (an early intervention organisation working with pre-school and primary school children), Transforming Lives for Good (helping struggling children find hope and a future) and a Street Pastor who regularly serves in Banbury. These have all been very appropriate within that theme. Whilst the

demographic of the membership precludes many of us from actively supporting such organisations we nevertheless can support through prayer.

At Mothering Sunday and Christmas, we have continued to provide cards to send to Bullingdon Prison, for Mothering Sunday they are all blank for prisoners to send to their mothers but at Christmas many are for the prisoners to receive. These continue to be much appreciated and whilst thanks go to all who helped write them a special note should be made of the 60 cards written by one of the oldest members.

On a less positive note, fundraising during the past year has been less fruitful. A good amount was raised but the main fundraising event, Tea and Cake in June, was only attended by members which meant that nearly all monies raised were given by those who had worked to provide the refreshments. We were very thankful that our support for Away From It All holidays, the MU charity which gives the opportunity of a break to those experiencing difficulties and stress in family life, could continue. We are hoping to find an alternative fundraising plan for this year, which faces the additional issue of the critical financial circumstances many are experiencing.

New blood is needed for our branch committee, as with so many organisations, and we are exploring ways of devolving some responsibilities to members without committee membership being required. Support for the branch meetings is excellent and the fellowship is tangible. Although members can't always be practically involved in initiatives they are certainly supported in prayer and our 2023 programme offers new stimulation and challenge as well as our continued involvement with Clewer Initiative on Modern Slavery, marking of Thy Kingdom Come prayer time between Ascension and Pentecost and the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence. Together we join our actions with prayer for the work of Mothers Union Worldwide.

Pat Smith, Branch Leader

Parish Breakfast

Our second Sunday get-togethers continue to be well attended - we usually have about 30 lovely, friendly people eating, drinking coffee and chatting. They are also incredibly generous in supporting our chosen charities. Recently we've been raising money for local food banks and, on a particularly successful Sunday, for the Turkish/Syrian Earthquake Appeal. We really appreciate all your support. If anyone would like to have a go at hosting Breakfast (we occasionally disappear at the same time!) just come and have a chat.

Thank you for making it all worthwhile.

Pat Angel and Liz Gordon

St. Mary's Parish Rooms

The results for 2022 continued to show the effects of the Covid restrictions on lettings income when some groups remained cautious. Both St Mary's Thursday Club and the Bridge Club usually meet weekly providing a major contribution to income, but both delayed their return. During the year Bloxham Parish Council moved their twice monthly meetings to the Jubilee Hall, partly to maintain social distancing measures, and the Garden Club closed due to lack of support. Fortunately, there were no unexpected costs regarding the maintenance of the building. However, in 2023 the refurbishment of the exterior of the building should be considered.

Reverend Dale Gingrich, Liz Farmer, Becky Horton and Jan Ogilvy – Parish Rooms Committee

Pat Angel

Soup Saturday

Soup Saturday is a Church outreach event, launched in January 2000 and normally held in the Parish Rooms on the first Saturday of each month from September until May.

Until the Pandemic, between thirty and forty people were attending each session, enjoying the variety of homemade soups and desserts as well as the social interaction. It restarted in March 2022 after a gap of two years but unfortunately the summer break was extended until November as several of the regular helpers had Covid or were away in September and October.

The charge of £4 per person, increased in November from £3, covers the costs incurred on the day, and an annual donation of £60 towards heating and lighting in the Parish Rooms. Any surplus builds up over the course of the year and is donated to various local charities.

Fewer people attended in December because of illness and the sessions in both January and February were cancelled because of a shortage of helpers. However, because there were still some funds remaining in the Soup Saturday A/C, we were able to donate £107 to Katharine House Hospice at the end of the year and £120 to "Driving for Ukraine", a local charity delivering humanitarian aid to the Polish/Ukrainian border.

Many thanks to all who have helped during the last year, providing delicious home-cooked food as well as setting and clearing tables, serving, washing up etc. Soup Saturday would not have been possible without them - Susan Jones, Catherine Berry, Elizabeth Jones, Grace Guo, Jan Ogilvy, Helen Auld, Hannah Auld, Bee Myson and John Marshall.

Finally, thank you to everyone who comes to Soup Saturday and makes it such an enjoyable occasion.

Judy Marshall

St. Mary's Thursday Club

St Marys Thursday club has 11 members, 10 living in Bloxham and 1 lady living in Milcombe.

We have a waiting list of 2 people.

Unfortunately, we have been given notice from the minibus which transports our members to the club and Bee Myson (trustee on the committee) is seeking out alternatives.

Our activities continue to be fun with bingo, board games, armchair exercises and Oxford Museum visit bringing items for reminiscing. Our members also love singing and listening to music.

Our volunteers help out on a rota basis and help set up the parish rooms, provide a listening ear, make cups of tea and wash up.

We continue to celebrate members' birthdays with a small gift and a cake and every week. We all enjoy each other's company.

Outside caterers provided a delicious cold finger buffet at Christmas and alternate years the club participates in the Christmas Tree Festival.

The club provides a safe, warm and relaxing environment with lots of fun and laughter.

Lynn Johnson, Coordinator, SMTC.

Tea & Toast

Our Tea and Toast Family have enjoyed another very happy year in the Parish Rooms. Thanks to all our helpers we have been able cover our duties well and swap with each other when holidays or grandchildren beckon.

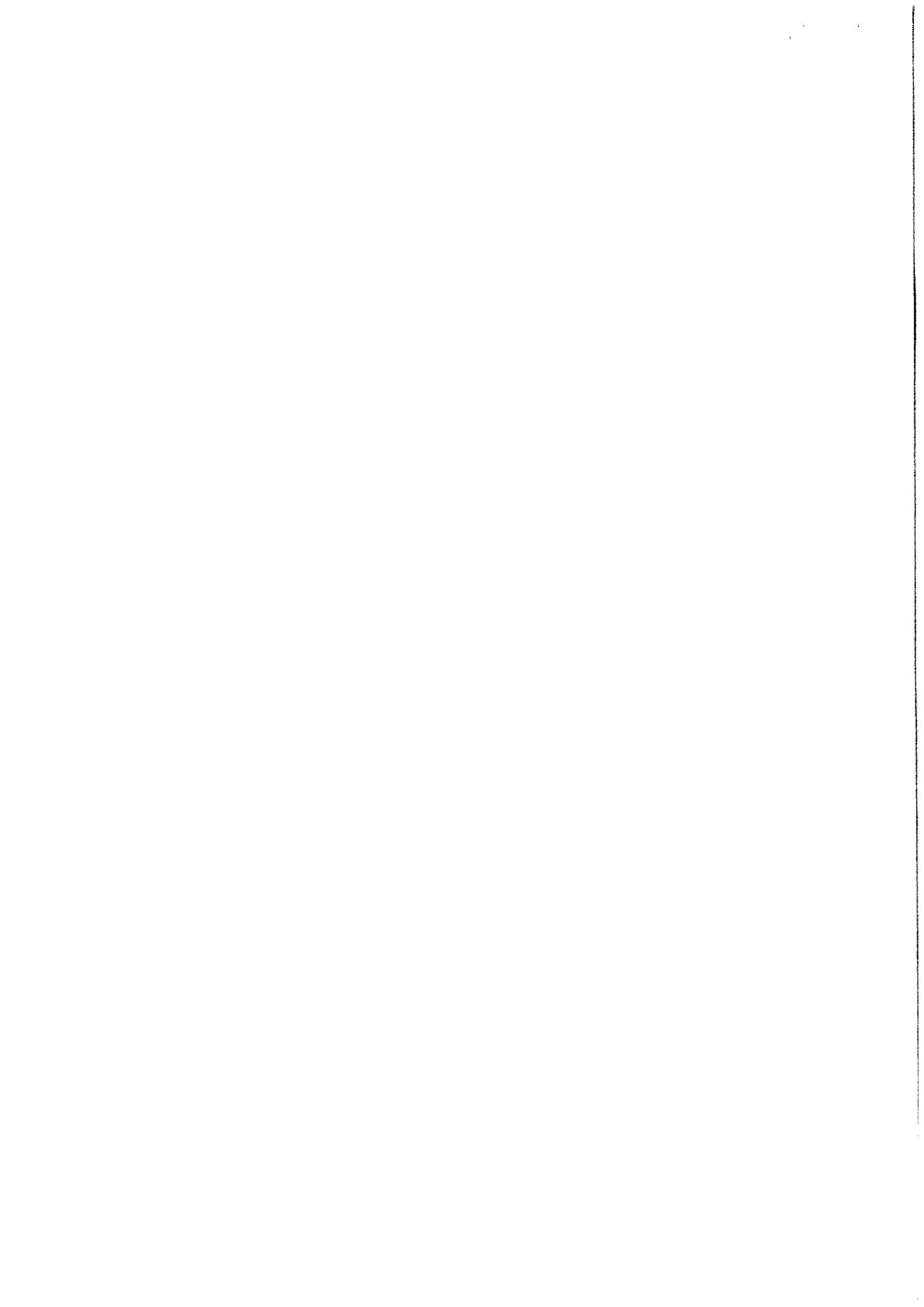
Our breakfast together is much appreciated by our older members. However, of late we haven't seen any children. Some of our younger members have grown up and are moving on to other things and mothers are returning to work themselves. We will be readvertising soon to make sure that we are reaching out to families new to the area but for now we move into Spring as we are.

Jan Ogilvy

Financial documentation and reports

See separate documents.

Lynn Brodey



St Mary's Church Bloxham

**Annual Report and Accounts
of the Parochial Church Council
for the year ended
31st December 2022**

Contents

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LEB
12-Mar-23

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE P.C.C.
OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, BLOXHAM**

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ending 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 1 & 2, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the Regulations") and Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, and you consider that an audit is not required for this year under the Regulations, that section 144(2) of the Act does not apply and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under Section 145 of The Act, to follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 145(5) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under the Act and to 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 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 report

In connection with my examination of the accounts for the year ending 31 December 2022, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - A. to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Act, and
 - B. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and 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.

EXAMINER

A.I.L. Wells FCA

A.I.L. WELLS

Date

13/5/2023

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

Statement of financial activities

2021 £		Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
	Incoming resources					
170,762	Voluntary income	3	63,836		74,966	138,802
40	Activities for generating funds	3	414		1,755	2,169
13,636	Church activities	3	8,918	3,200		12,118
330	Investment income	3	113		301	414
515	Other incoming resources	3	407	-	13,999	14,406
<u>185,283</u>	<i>Total incoming resources</i>		<u>73,688</u>	<u>3,200</u>	<u>91,021</u>	<u>167,909</u>
	Resources expended					
61,172	Church activities	4	54,564		3,292	57,856
21,770	Running Exps Incl Governance Costs	4	18,925	2,519	771	22,215
119,020	Major Capital Expenditure	4	455	1,506	26,460	28,421
<u>201,962</u>	<i>Total resources expended</i>		<u>73,944</u>	<u>4,025</u>	<u>30,523</u>	<u>108,492</u>
(16,679)	<i>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers</i>		(256)	(825)	60,498	59,417
-	Transfers between funds		(1)	1	-	-
(16,679)	<i>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/(losses)</i>		(257)	(824)	60,498	59,417
	Other recognised gains/(losses)					
691	Gains/(losses) on investment assets	7	-	-	(376)	(376)
<u>(15,988)</u>	<i>Net movement in funds</i>		<u>(257)</u>	<u>(824)</u>	<u>60,122</u>	<u>59,041</u>
335,586	Total funds brought forward from previous year		205,222	9,071	105,305	319,598
<u>319,598</u>	<i>Total funds carried forward</i>		<u>204,965</u>	<u>8,247</u>	<u>165,427</u>	<u>378,639</u>
	For Information Only					
	Take out Value of Parish Rooms		(167,778)			
	True value of general funds available to use		<u>37,187</u>			

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2022

2021 £		Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Fixed assets						
167,778	Tangible assets (Parish Rooms)	6	167,778		-	167,778
4,474	Investments	7	-	-	4,098	4,098
<u>172,252</u>	Total fixed assets		<u>167,778</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,098</u>	<u>171,876</u>
Current assets						
9,600	Debtors (Incl Gift Aid Due)		3,317	-	2,531	5,848
141,046	Cash in hand and at bank	10	33,870	8,247	160,742	202,859
<u>150,646</u>	Total current assets		<u>37,187</u>	<u>8,247</u>	<u>163,273</u>	<u>208,707</u>
<u>(3,300)</u>	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (Accruals)		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,944)</u>	<u>(1,944)</u>
<u>147,346</u>	Net current assets		<u>37,187</u>	<u>8,247</u>	<u>161,329</u>	<u>206,763</u>
<u>319,598</u>	Net assets		<u>204,965</u>	<u>8,247</u>	<u>165,427</u>	<u>378,639</u>
Funds of the church						
Unrestricted funds						
205,222	General fund		204,965	-	-	204,965
9,071	Designated fund	9	-	8,247	-	8,247
<u>214,293</u>			<u>204,965</u>	<u>8,247</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>213,212</u>
105,305	Restricted funds	8	-	-	165,427	165,427
<u>319,598</u>	Total funds of the church		<u>204,965</u>	<u>8,247</u>	<u>165,427</u>	<u>378,639</u>
For Information Only						
	Take out Value of Parish Rooms		(167,778)			
	True value of general funds available to use		<u>37,187</u>			

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on

Rev'd Dale Gingrich

Lynn Brodey

15th March 2023

Chairman

Treasurer

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

Notes to the accounts

1 Basis of preparation

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102).

The Accounts are drawn up under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investment assets at market value. The Accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. These Accounts do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

2 Accounting policies

Funds

Unrestricted funds are general funds available for the general objectives of the church.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes.

Restricted funds can only be used for the purposes for which they have been given, within the objectives of the church. The cost of raising and administering such funds is charged against those specific funds. The aim and use of each fund is explained later in the Notes.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA (Statement of Financial Accounts) when the church becomes legally entitled to the income and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty.

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving is recognised only when received. Grants & legacies are recognised as soon as the PCC becomes aware of its legal entitlement and the amount due is quantifiable with reasonable certainty.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is accounted for when the gift is received, not when the tax refund is received.

When incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and the related resources expended are accounted for gross in the SOFA.

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the church or the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for use by the church are included in the SOFA as incoming resources when receivable.

Rental income from letting the Parish Rooms is accounted for when it falls due.

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable and includes any recoverable tax.

Realised gains are accounted for on assets held for the church's own use and are taken into account at the time of sale.

Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis & is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for goods or services.

All costs have been directly attributed to the various categories within the SOFA.

Any general support costs have been allocated across activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources based on an allocation of actual costs.

As the PCC is not registered for VAT, all expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT.

Governance costs include the cost of the preparation of the Annual Accounts, the cost of PCC meetings and the legal cost of advice on governance or constitutional matters.

Grants and charitable giving are accounted for when paid over or when awarded, if the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC, provided that there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the church.

Parish Share is accounted for when paid except that any Parish Share unpaid at the end of the financial year is provided for in the accounts as a constructive obligation, although not a liability, and is included in the balance sheet as a liability.

Investments

Investments are shown on 31 December at market value.

Both realised and unrealised gains are shown under 'other recognised gains/(losses)' section of the SOFA.

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

Notes to the accounts

2021		2022			
Total funds £	3 Analysis of Incoming Resources	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total funds £
	Voluntary Income				
35,382	Tax - efficient planned giving (excl. tax)	33,714	-	2,195	35,909
2,143	Collections at Services incl White Envelopes	3,922	-	-	3,922
4,101	Service Collections & Donations in aid of other Charities	310	-	-	310
1,285	Spire Lighting Donations	1,305	-	-	1,305
49,604	All other Giving & Voluntary Income	7,618	-	19,644	27,262
17,888	Gift Aid Tax Recovered / Due	10,680	-	3,327	14,007
52,420	* Grants Received (see analysis below)	6,265	-	49,800	56,065
8,139	Legacies	23	-	-	23
<u>170,762</u>		<u>63,836</u>		<u>74,966</u>	<u>138,803</u>
	Activities for generating funds				
40	Fund Raising Activities (Table Sale/Bike Ride/BOF Fundraising)	414	-	1,500	1,914
	Church Heritage Tours (in aid of BOF)	-	-	255	255
<u>40</u>		<u>414</u>		<u>1,755</u>	<u>2,169</u>
	Church Activities				
9,624	Fees - weddings, funerals etc	8,918	-	-	8,918
	Hiring out Church Facilities	-	-	-	-
4,012	Parish Rooms	-	3,200	-	3,200
<u>13,636</u>		<u>8,918</u>	<u>3,200</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,118</u>
	Investment Income				
330	Bank/HMRC Interest/Dividends etc	113	-	301	414
<u>330</u>		<u>113</u>		<u>301</u>	<u>414</u>
	Other incoming resources				
18	Income from Mission Activities (Tea&Toast/Bumps&Babies)	407		50	457
	Income from Mission Activities (Parish Breakfast/Soup Saturday)	-		602	602
495	Others (Incl Bell Ringing & Flower Fund)	-	-	260	260
	DCMS Scheme (VAT Rebate on BOF Capital Works-Heating Stage)	-	-	13,087	13,087
2	Other general	-	-	-	-
<u>515</u>		<u>407</u>		<u>13,999</u>	<u>14,406</u>
<u>185,282</u>	TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	<u>73,689</u>	<u>3,200</u>	<u>91,021</u>	<u>167,910</u>

* Sources of Grant Funding

The Friends of St Mary's raises funds for the beautification, preservation and restoration of the church
The organisation is a registered charity, not under the control of the PCC

Grants received by the PCC during the course of the year:

The Friends of St Mary's (Annual Grant)	£ 4,500
Oxford Diocesan DB (Energy Grant)	£ 1,765
Benefact Trust (All Churches Trust) (BOF Grant)	£ 4,500
J&R Howard Charitable Trust (BOF Grant)	£ 2,000
TBH Brunner Charitable Trust (BOF Grant for Medieval Rood Screen)	£ 1,500
Ormande Charitable Trust (BOF Grant)	£ 800
National Lottery Heritage Fund (BOF Heritage Grant)	£ 10,000
Garfield Weston Foundation (BOF Grant)	£ 20,000
Bloxham Feoffees (BOF Grant)	10,000
Banbury Charities (BOF Grant)	1,000
	<u>£ 56,065</u>

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

Notes to the accounts

2021 Total funds £		2022			Total funds £
		Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	
4	4 Analysis of resources expended				
	Church activities				
929	* Mission Giving & Donations (see analysis below)	800	-	602	1,402
4,101	Service Collections/Donations paid to other Charities	310	-	-	310
51,982	Parish Share	51,975	-	-	51,975
4,160	Organists & Music Director Fees / Ministry Exps	1,479	-	2,691	4,170
<u>61,172</u>		<u>54,564</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,292</u>	<u>57,857</u>
	Church Running Expenses (Incl Governance)				
299	Mission & Evangelism Costs	516	4	56	576
2,714	General Maint Repairs/Contracts + Churchyard	584	-	561	1,146
7,255	Insurance	7,398	-	-	7,398
540	Organ, Choir / Church Music	484	-	-	484
734	Church requisites	603	-	154	757
737	Printing, Stationery, Postage, Web, Books	672	-	-	672
1,786	Photocopier Rental / Exps (incl Benefice allocation)	2,497	-	-	2,497
578	Miscellaneous (inc BT contract)	620	-	-	620
4,879	Utility Bills - Heating, Lighting & Water	5,551	-	-	5,551
2,249	Parish Rooms	-	2,516	-	2,516
<u>21,770</u>		<u>18,925</u>	<u>2,519</u>	<u>771</u>	<u>22,215</u>
	Major Capital Expenditure				
-		-	-	-	-
3,630	Fabric costs	455	1,506	780	2,741
78,298	Building our Future Project (BOF - Healing Stage)	-	-	-	-
37,093	Building our Future Project (BOF)	-	-	25,880	25,680
<u>119,020</u>		<u>455</u>	<u>1,506</u>	<u>26,460</u>	<u>28,421</u>
<u>201,962</u>	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>73,944</u>	<u>4,025</u>	<u>30,524</u>	<u>108,493</u>

* Mission Giving & Donations Analysis:

From the PCC:

DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal	200.00
Christian Aid	200.00
St Mary's Thursday Club	200.00
Bloxham Boys Brigade	200.00

From Soup Saturday:

Driving to Ukraine	107.90
Katharine House Hospice	118.70
Bumps & Babies (for new toys)	50.00

From Parish Breakfast:

Farming Community Network	65.00
The Royal British Legion	45.00
Banbury Food Bank	60.00
BYHP	95.00
MU (Away from it All Charity)	60.00

£ 1,401.60

5 Trustee remuneration and expenses

No members of the PCC received any remuneration for their work on the PCC. The clergy, who is an ex officio member receives a stipend but is not remunerated for his service on the PCC.

6 Tangible fixed assets

Total £		Freehold Land & Buildings £
167,778	64.53% equity share in the Parish Rooms	167,778
<u>167,778</u>	At 31 December 2022	<u>167,778</u>

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

Notes to the accounts

7 Investments

	Value at 31 December 2021	Value at 31 December 2022	Gain/(Loss)
	£	£	£
The Bellingers Fund - CCLA	4,222	3,832	(390)
Listed on London Stock Exchange -Lloyds TSB (Bells)	252	266	13
	<u>4,474</u>	<u>4,098</u>	<u>(376)</u>

8 Restricted funds

	Fund balances brought forward	Transfers & Incoming resources	Resources expended / transferred	Gains and losses	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Children's Ministry/Outreach	6	50	(56)	0	0
Bell Fund	3492	160	0	0	3,652
Bell Fund (Investments)	4474	0	0	-376	4,098
Ministry fund	2,691	0	(2,691)	0	0
BOF (Incl 2022 Gift Aid not yet rec'd)	92,167	90,109	(25,680)	0	156,596
Parish Breakfast	0	325	(325)	0	0
Churchyard	561	0	(561)	0	0
Fabric Fund	780	0	(780)	0	0
Flowers	1,134	100	(154)	0	1,080
Soup Saturday	0	277	(277)	0	0
	<u>105,305</u>	<u>91,021</u>	<u>(30,524)</u>	<u>(376)</u>	<u>165,427</u>

9 Designated funds

	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming resources	Resources expended or transferred	Gains and losses	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£		£
BOF (Building our Future) Project	0	0	0		0
Parish Rooms	6,522	3,200	(2,516)		7,207
Fabric Fund	2,500	0	(1,506)		994
Children's Ministry/Outreach	0	50	(4)		46
Soup Saturday	49	0	(49)		0
	<u>9,071</u>	<u>3,250</u>	<u>(4,074)</u>		<u>8,247</u>

10 Cash funds and location

	Unrestricted fund	Designated fund	Restricted fund	Total
General Funds	33,870			33,870
Bell fund			3,652	3,652
Soup Saturday				-
Ministry fund				-
Children's Ministry/Outreach		46		46
Fabric fund		994		994
Building Our Future (BOF)			156,010	156,010
Flower fund			1,080	1,080
Churchyard				-
Parish rooms *		7,207		7,207
	<u>33,870</u>	<u>8,247</u>	<u>160,742</u>	<u>202,859</u>

* Not under direct control of the PCC Treasurer

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE P.C.C.
OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, BLOXHAM**

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ending 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 1 & 2, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the Regulations") and Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, and you consider that an audit is not required for this year under the Regulations, that section 144(2) of the Act does not apply and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under Section 145 of The Act, to follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 145(5) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under the Act and to 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 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 report

In connection with my examination of the accounts for the year ending 31 December 2022, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - A. to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Act, and
 - B. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and 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.

EXAMINER

A.I.L. Wells FCA

A.I.L. WELLS

Date

13/5/2023

Accounts

St Mary's Church Bloxham

**Annual Report and Accounts
of the Parochial Church Council
for the year ended
31st December 2021**

Contents

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Balance Sheet

Notes to the financial statements

LEB
18-Feb-22

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE P.C.C.
OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, BLOXHAM**

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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.

EXAMINER



A.I.L. WELLS

Date

8/12/22.

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

Statement of financial activities

2020 £		Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £
Incoming resources						
116,921	Voluntary income	3	56,200	46,639	67,923	170,762
	Activities for generating funds	3	40			40
6,533	Church activities	3	9,624	4,012		13,636
648	Investment income	3	9		321	330
347	Other incoming resources	3	20	-	495	515
<u>124,449</u>	Total Incoming resources		<u>65,893</u>	<u>50,650</u>	<u>68,739</u>	<u>185,283</u>
Resources expended						
-	Cost of generating funds	4	-	-	-	-
53,058	Church activities	4	57,012		4,160	61,172
24,536	Running Exps incl Governance Costs	4	16,392	3,249	2,129	21,770
49,707	Major Capital Expenditure	4	3,630	52,453	62,938	119,020
<u>127,301</u>	Total resources expended		<u>77,033</u>	<u>55,702</u>	<u>69,227</u>	<u>201,962</u>
<u>(2,852)</u>	Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/(losses)		<u>(11,140)</u>	<u>(5,052)</u>	<u>(488)</u>	<u>(16,679)</u>
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
350	Gains/(losses) on investment assets	7	-	-	691	691
<u>(2,502)</u>	Net movement in funds		<u>(11,140)</u>	<u>(5,052)</u>	<u>203</u>	<u>(15,988)</u>
340,850	Total funds brought forward from previous year		216,362	14,122	105,102	335,586
<u>(2,762)</u>	Boys Brigade Balance taken out					
<u>335,586</u>	Total funds carried forward		<u>205,222</u>	<u>9,071</u>	<u>105,305</u>	<u>319,598</u>

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2021

2020 £		Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £
Fixed assets						
167,778	Tangible assets (Parish Rooms)	6	167,778		-	167,778
3,782	Investments	7	-	-	4,474	4,474
<u>171,560</u>	Total fixed assets		<u>167,778</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,474</u>	<u>172,252</u>
Current assets						
1,150	Debtors (Gift Aid Due)		1,600	-	8,000	9,600
163,076	Cash in hand and at bank	10	35,843	9,071	96,131	141,046
<u>164,226</u>	Total current assets		<u>37,443</u>	<u>9,071</u>	<u>104,131</u>	<u>150,646</u>
(200)	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (Accruals)		-	-	(3,300)	(3,300)
<u>164,026</u>	Net current assets		<u>37,443</u>	<u>9,071</u>	<u>100,831</u>	<u>147,346</u>
<u>335,586</u>	Net assets		<u>205,222</u>	<u>9,071</u>	<u>105,305</u>	<u>319,598</u>
Funds of the church						
Unrestricted funds						
216,362	General fund		205,222	-	-	205,222
14,122	Designated fund	9	-	9,071	-	9,071
<u>230,484</u>			<u>205,222</u>	<u>9,071</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>214,293</u>
105,102	Restricted funds	8	-	-	105,305	105,305
<u>335,586</u>	Total funds of the church		<u>205,222</u>	<u>9,071</u>	<u>105,305</u>	<u>319,598</u>
For information Only						
	Take out Value of Parish Rooms		(167,778)			
	True value of general funds available to use		<u>37,443</u>			

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 23/2/22.
 Rev'd Dale Gingrich *Dale Gingrich* Chairman
 Lynn Brodey *Lynn Brodey* Treasurer

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

Notes to the accounts

1 Basis of preparation

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102).

The Accounts are drawn up under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investment assets at market value. The Accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. These Accounts do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

2 Accounting policies

Funds

Unrestricted funds are general funds available for the general objectives of the church.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes.

Restricted funds can only be used for the purposes for which they have been given, within the objectives of the church. The cost of raising and administering such funds is charged against those specific funds. The aim and use of each fund is explained later in the Notes.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA (**Statement of Financial Accounts**) when the church becomes legally entitled to the income and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty.

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving is recognised only when received. Grants & legacies are recognised as soon as the PCC becomes aware of its legal entitlement and the amount due is quantifiable with reasonable certainty.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is accounted for when the gift is received, not when the tax refund is received.

When incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and the related resources expended are accounted for gross in the SOFA.

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the church or the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for use by the church are included in the SOFA as incoming resources when receivable.

Rental income from letting the Parish Rooms is accounted for when it falls due.

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable and includes any recoverable tax.

Realised gains are accounted for on assets held for the church's own use and are taken into account at the time of sale.

Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis & is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for goods or services.

All costs have been directly attributed to the various categories within the SOFA.

Any general support costs have been allocated across activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources based on an allocation of actual costs.

As the PCC is not registered for VAT, all expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT.

Governance costs include the cost of the preparation of the Annual Accounts, the cost of PCC meetings and the legal cost of advice on governance or constitutional matters.

Grants and charitable giving are accounted for when paid over or when awarded, if the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC, provided that there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the church.

Parish Share is accounted for when paid except that any Parish Share unpaid at the end of the financial year is provided for in the accounts as a constructive obligation, although not a liability, and is included in the balance sheet as a liability.

Investments

Investments are shown on 31 December at market value.

Both realised and unrealised gains are shown under 'other recognised gains/(losses)' section of the SOFA.

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

Notes to the accounts

2020 Total funds £	3 Analysis of Incoming Resources	2021			Total funds £
		Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	
	Voluntary Income				
39,828	Tax - efficient planned giving (excl. tax)	35,382	-	-	35,382
1,527	Collections at Services incl White Envelopes	1,763	-	380	2,143
935	Service Collections & Donations in aid of other Charities	4,101	-	-	4,101
1,160	Splre Lighting Donations	1,285	-	-	1,285
1,708	All other Giving & Voluntary Income	3,083	-	46,521	49,604
10,237	Gift Aid Tax Recovered / Due	9,666	-	8,022	17,688
7,260	* Grants Received	920	39,500	12,000	52,420
54,469	Legacies	-	7,139	1,000	8,139
<u>116,920</u>		<u>58,200</u>	<u>46,839</u>	<u>67,923</u>	<u>170,762</u>
	Activities for generating funds				
-	General Fund Raising Activities (Plant Sale/Craft Fayre/Bike Ride)	40	-	-	40
<u>-</u>		<u>40</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>40</u>
	Church Activities				
4,673	Fees - weddings, funerals etc	9,624	-	-	9,624
150	Hiring out Church Facilities	-	-	-	-
1,710	Parish Rooms	-	4,012	-	4,012
<u>6,533</u>		<u>9,624</u>	<u>4,012</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,636</u>
	Investment income				
648	Bank/HMRC Interest/Dividends etc	9	-	321	330
<u>648</u>		<u>9</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>321</u>	<u>330</u>
	Other incoming resources				
307	Income from Mission Activities (Tea&Toast/Bumps&Babies)	18	-	-	18
40	Others (Incl Bell Ringing & Flower Fund)	-	-	495	495
-	Other general	2	-	-	2
<u>347</u>		<u>20</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>495</u>	<u>515</u>
<u>124,449</u>	TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	<u>65,894</u>	<u>50,850</u>	<u>68,739</u>	<u>185,283</u>

* Sources of Grant Funding

The Friends of St Mary's raises funds for the beautification, preservation and restoration of the church
The organisation is a registered charity, not under the control of the PCC

Grants received by the PCC during the course of the year:

The Friends of St Mary's (Annual Grant)	£ 2,500
The Friends of St Mary's (for BOF - mainly for Heating Stage)	£ 36,000
Oxfordshire Historic Church Trust (for BOF Heating)	£ 12,000
Bloxham Feoffees	920
Bloxham Parish Council	1,000
	<u>£ 52,420</u>

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

Notes to the accounts

2020 Total funds £		2021			Total funds £
		Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	
4	4 Analysis of resources expended				
-	Cost of generating funds	-	-	-	-
-	Costs of Fundraising Activities	-	-	-	-
	Church activities				
720	Mission Giving & Donations	929	-	-	929
935	Service Collections/Donations paid to other Charities	4,101	-	-	4,101
50,358	Parish Share	51,982	-	-	51,982
1,045	Organists & Music Director Fees/Ministry Exps	-	-	4,160	4,160
<u>53,058</u>		<u>57,012</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,160</u>	<u>61,172</u>
	Church Running Expenses (Incl Governance)				
664	Mission & Evangelism Costs	264	-	35	299
1,718	General Maint Repairs/Contracts + Churchyard	820	1,000	894	2,714
7,647	Insurance	7,255	-	-	7,255
457	Organ, Choir / Church Music	540	-	-	540
1,837	Church requisites	634	-	100	734
486	Printing, Stationery, Postage, Web, Books	697	-	40	737
1,787	Photocopier Rental / Exps (incl Benefice allocation)	726	-	1,060	1,786
643	Miscellaneous (inc BT contract)	578	-	-	578
2,069	Gifts / Hospitality / Social	-	-	-	-
149	Others ('Restricted' = Benefice allocation)	-	-	-	-
4,870	Utility Bills - Heating, Lighting & Water	4,879	-	-	4,879
2,411	Parish Rooms	-	2,249	-	2,249
<u>24,536</u>		<u>16,392</u>	<u>3,249</u>	<u>2,129</u>	<u>21,770</u>
	Major Capital Expenditure				
-		-	-	-	-
1,186	Fabric costs (Boiler Entrance House)	3,630	-	-	3,630
	Building our Future Project (BOF - Heating Stage)		26,052	52,246	78,298
48,521	Building our Future Project (BOF)	-	26,401	10,692	37,093
<u>49,707</u>		<u>3,630</u>	<u>52,453</u>	<u>62,938</u>	<u>119,020</u>
<u>127,301</u>	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>77,033</u>	<u>55,702</u>	<u>69,227</u>	<u>201,961.82</u>

5 Trustee remuneration and expenses

No members of the PCC received any remuneration for their work on the PCC. The clergy, who is an ex officio member receives a stipend but is not remunerated for his service on the PCC.

6 Tangible fixed assets

Total £		Freehold Land & Buildings £
167,778	84.53% equity share in the Parish Rooms	167,778
<u>167,778</u>	At 31 December 2021	<u>167,778</u>

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

Notes to the accounts

7 Investments

	Value at 31 December 2020	Value at 31 December 2021	Gain/(Loss)
	£	£	£
The Bellringers Fund - CCLA	3,595	4,222	626
Listed on London Stock Exchange -Lloyds TSB (Bells)	188	252	65
	<u>3,783</u>	<u>4,474</u>	<u>691</u>

8 Restricted funds

	Fund balances brought forward	Transfers & Incoming resources	Resources expended / transferred	Gains and losses	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Messy Church	41	0	(35)	0	6
Bell Fund	3352	140	0	0	3,492
Bell Fund (Investments)	3783	0	0	691	4,474
Ministry fund	4,746	0	(2,055)	0	2,691
BOF (Incl 2021 Gift Aid not yet rec'd)	87,861	67,244	(62,938)	0	92,167
Church Music Fund	2,105	0	(2,105)	0	0
Churchyard	1,235	0	(674)	0	561
Fabric Fund	0	1,000	(220)	0	780
Flowers	879	355	(100)	0	1,134
Benefice Account	1,101	0	(1,100)	0	0
	<u>105,102</u>	<u>68,739</u>	<u>(69,227)</u>	<u>691</u>	<u>105,305</u>

9 Designated funds

	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming resources	Resources expended or transferred	Gains and losses	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£		£
BOF (Building our Future) Project	9,314	43,139	(52,453)		0
Parish Rooms	4,759	4,012	(2,249)		6,522
Fabric Fund	0	2,500	0		2,500
Churchyard	0	1,000	(1,000)		0
Soup Saturday	49	0	0		49
	<u>14,122</u>	<u>50,650</u>	<u>(55,701)</u>		<u>9,071</u>

10 Cash funds and location

	Unrestricted fund	Designated fund	Restricted fund	Total
General Funds	35,843			35,843
Bell fund			3,492	3,492
Soup Saturday		49		49
Ministry fund			2,691	2,691
Messy Church			6	6
Fabric fund		2,500	780	3,280
Building Our Future (BOF)			87,467	87,467
Flower fund			1,134	1,134
Churchyard			561	561
Parish rooms *		6,522		6,522
	<u>35,843</u>	<u>9,071</u>	<u>96,131</u>	<u>141,045.80</u>

* Not under direct control of the PCC Treasurer

St. Mary's Church Bloxham

Annual Report for 2021

Aim and Purpose

St. Mary's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the Vicar, Revd. Dale Gingrich, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the oversight of the Parish Rooms situated next to the vicarage. The Parish Rooms have a separate committee but its accounts fall completely within the Parish Accounts.

Membership

The PCC is a charity registered with the charity commission. Members of the PCC are trustees, either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

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

Vicar:	The Reverend Dale Gingrich
Wardens:	Mrs Liz Farmer Mrs Barbara Walklate
Deanery Synod Representatives and therefore ex officio members of the PCC	Ms Jan Ogilvy
Council Members	
PCC Secretary	Vacant
PCC Treasurer	Mrs Lynn Brodey Mrs Sue Barbour Mrs. Catherine Berry Mr John Hirons Mrs. Sue Perkin-Ball (Minute Secretary) Mrs Pat Smith
Co-opted	Mr Jon Carlton

Standing Committee

This committee is required by law and has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings subject to any direction given by the Council. The PCC has decided that the membership shall be the Vicar, two Churchwardens, Treasurer, Secretary to the PCC (vacant) and one ordinary PCC member.

On behalf of the PCC:

The Revd. Dale Gingrich (Chair).....Date *23/3/22*.

Vicar's Report 2021 -- Bloxham St Mary's

Being a Christ-like Church for the Sake of God's World

We have many connections and relationships that shape who we are and what we do. As part of the Oxford Diocese in the Church of England, the Archdeaconry of Dorchester, the Deddington Deanery and the United Benefice of Bloxham with Milcombe and South Newington, St Mary's has layers of support and corresponding layers of responsibility and accountability. Rooted in and sustained by God, these expressions of church give us a broader perspective on our local ministry and mission as part of the wider work of Christ throughout the world. Being contemplative, compassionate and courageous in our approach to discerning God's will and doing it reflects our connections to Christ and all those who follow in the way, the truth and the life.

Contemplative: Broadening this aspect of our life together to include all the ways we worship, pray, study and grow in faith, this year has brought a welcome resumption of every Sunday worship in the church building whilst we continue to offer a Sunday evening online service.

Our benefice Lent course was offered via the Zoom platform as Dr Anne Marie Karlsson led us through five sessions entitled 'Creation, Fall, the Problem of 'Evil' and the Perdurance of Good' which attracted participants from the wider village community. During Holy week we could be together in person for Stations of the Cross on Tuesday in South Newington, used online technology to gather virtually for a Tenebrae on Wednesday and met in Milcombe for a Maundy Thursday liturgy without the washing of feet. Bloxham hosted a Good Friday service 'The Nail' with readings and songs when we had to forego our customary Procession of the Cross through the village because of pandemic health and safety concerns. Holy Saturday was a day of waiting, preparing and praying with all benefice church buildings open. We joined in early prayer and praise on Easter Day, gathering in Bloxham churchyard from 7.00am with our Baptist friends to make a joyful noise unto the Lord.

Making the most of what was available to us, Messy Church met on-line at the beginning of the year, enjoyed the great outdoors for a summer picnic and built upon the success of the Great Big Green Week to meet in the churchyard in the autumn half-term to be amazed at the creatures, plants and year-round growth as explained by Trevor Shepherd. Regretfully the worsening Covid19 situation in the schools and colder weather meant we took the hard decision to suspend Messy Church for six months until conditions improved in the spring.

In the midst of all the virus variants and vaccinations, there were five baptisms in St Mary's, five weddings and one blessing after a civil marriage. Remarkably fewer funerals in 2021 across the Bloxham benefice, with 13 church funerals at St Mary's and five more at a crematorium only. Many of these occasional offices were postponed and rescheduled, some were also live-streamed because of limits on numbers allowed to gather indoors and others took place at the graveside. It was a most unprecedented time of uncertainty.

Our benefice Advent Course explored the Psalms, meeting in the Parish Rooms under the tutelage of Dr Karlsson. This was a Christmas Tree Festival year with additional concerts and services to welcome the wider community to St Mary's. Our traditional Christmas Eve Christingle was not held and the local schools all cancelled their carol services because of high Covid19 infection levels. Our Midnight Mass and Christmas Day services were held as scheduled, to cap the calendar year with a message of joy, hope and good will to all.

Compassionate: During the year neighbours looked after neighbours and everyone seemed more concerned to offer help in any way they could. Visiting each other in our homes allowed greater opportunities for visiting and even the resumption of some activities in the Parish Rooms. Bumps and Babies offered sessions and the St Mary's Thursday Club tested the waters by having some shorter sessions for their members to gather. The Renew Wellness Café as a joint ministry with the Bloxham Baptist Church began Tuesday openings to ease the isolation and loneliness that our extended periods of pandemic lockdown had generated. Many people were active behind the

scenes and not wanting to attract attention to their caring and supportive telephone calls, home visits and posted cards. Those efforts continue to deepen relationships and extend communal care while we have collected food for the Banbury Young Homeless Project, gently and carefully guided by John Marshall devoting to BYHP

Our concern and compassion extend to the care and preservation of creation as we joined in the Great Big Green Week in September and thanks to John & Olwen Smith, have been kept up to date on ways of informing and influencing our elected leaders to prioritise the climate crisis in their legislative agenda. Christian Aid has provided good ways of communicating our concerns, uniting our voices and efforts with those of Christians throughout the world.

Courageous: As the bad news about virus variants, shortages of goods in shops and the loss of personal liberties seemed to dominate the headlines, the Building Our Future modernization project at St Mary's continued to make progress. Adjusting timetables, waiting for grant making bodies to re-open and being challenged by the workings of the Oxford Diocesan Advisory Committee, opposition from the Victorian Society and submitting written arguments to the Chancellor of the Diocese tested our nerve and resolve. Yet just before Christmas we had the good news that a faculty was awarded for the installation of toilets and kitchen in the church. Great our rejoicing as it seems the truth and good sense has won at least this battle of wills.

We held on-line community consultations when in-person ones weren't feasible. We've hosted drop-in sessions for people to comment or ask questions about the project. Grant applications have been released now that the faculty has been secured. Fundraising is on-track and regular communication with community groups and project champions maintain a noticeable presence in the village. We have begun prayerful conversations with the Bloxham Baptist Church about sharing a building for worship, mission and outreach. Confident that God is leading the way, we are courageously following God's lead to embrace the future whilst honouring all the faithful ministry of the past.

We have been blessed this year and through us, God has brought blessings to this place. Pray that we shall continue to be contemplative, compassionate and courageous in our Christ-like witness to the world for years to come. There is much more detail contained in more detailed information in the APCM reports from various groups. Together we are joining in the work God is already doing, making the most of the opportunities that come our way and discovering there is much progress that can be made in the midst of adversity.

The Revd Dale Gingrich

Accounts

St. Mary's Church Bloxham

Annual Report for 2020

Aim and Purpose

St. Mary's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the Vicar, Revd. Dale Gingrich, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the oversight of the Parish Rooms situated next to the vicarage. The Parish Rooms have a separate committee but its accounts fall completely within the Parish Accounts.

Membership

The PCC is a charity registered with the charity commission. Members of the PCC are trustees, either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

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

Vicar: The Reverend Dale Gingrich

Wardens: Mrs Liz Farmer

Mrs Barbara Walklate

Deanery Synod Representatives and therefore ex officio members of the PCC

Ms Jan Ogilvy

General Synod Member and therefore ex officio member of the PCC

Sir Tony Baldry

Diocesan Synod Member and therefore ex officio member of the PCC

Mrs. Lindsay Mills

Council Members

PCC Secretary Vacant

PCC Treasurer Mrs Lynn Brodey

Mrs. Catherine Berry

Mr Jon Carlton

Mr John Hirons

Mrs Jocelyn Merris

Mrs. Sue Perkin-Ball (Minute Secretary)

Mrs Pat Smith

Standing Committee

This committee is required by law and has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings subject to any direction given by the Council. The PCC has decided that the membership shall be the Vicar, two Churchwardens, Treasurer, Secretary to the PCC and one ordinary PCC member.

On behalf of the PCC:

The Revd. Dale Gingrich (Chair)

May 2021

St Mary's Church Bloxham

**Annual Report and Accounts
of the Parochial Church Council
for the year ended
31st December 2020**

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Balance Sheet

Notes to the financial statements

LEB
28-Sep-21

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE P.C.C.
OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, BLOXHAM**

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ending 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 1 & 2, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the Regulations") and Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, and you consider that an audit is not required for this year under the Regulations, that section 144(2) of the Act does not apply and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under Section 145 of The Act, to follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 145(5) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under the Act and to 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 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 report

In connection with my examination of the accounts for the year ending 31 December 2020, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - A. to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Act, and
 - B. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and 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.

EXAMINER

A.I.L. WELLS

Date

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

Statement of financial activities

2019 £		Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £
Incoming resources						
71,533	Voluntary income	3	67,616	48,037	1,268	116,921
1,289	Activities for generating funds	3				
13,795	Church activities	3	4,823	1,710		6,533
45	Investment income	3	41		607	648
349	Other incoming resources	3	307	-	40	347
<u>87,011</u>	Total incoming resources		<u>72,787</u>	<u>49,747</u>	<u>1,915</u>	<u>124,449</u>
Resources expended						
-	Cost of generating funds	4	-	-	-	-
53,550	Church activities	4	52,163		895	53,058
36,714	Running Exps incl Governance Costs	4	19,923	2,411	2,201	24,536
40,856	Major Capital Expenditure	4	1,186	38,723	9,799	49,707
<u>131,120</u>	Total resources expended		<u>73,272</u>	<u>41,134</u>	<u>12,895</u>	<u>127,301</u>
(44,109)	Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		(485)	8,613	(10,980)	(2,852)
-	Transfers between funds		-	(6,545)	6,545	-
(44,109)	Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/(losses)		(485)	2,068	(4,435)	(2,852)
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
(245)	Write off Stock of St Mary's Church Guide Books			-	-	
1,140	Gains/(losses) on investment assets	7	-	-	350	350
<u>(43,214)</u>	Net movement in funds		<u>(485)</u>	<u>2,068</u>	<u>(4,085)</u>	<u>(2,502)</u>
384,064	Total funds brought forward from previous year		216,847	12,054	111,949	340,850
	Boys Brigade Balance taken out				(2,762)	(2,762)
<u>340,850</u>	Total funds carried forward		<u>216,362</u>	<u>14,122</u>	<u>105,102</u>	<u>335,586</u>

St Mary's Church Bloxham

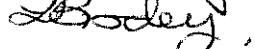
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2020

2019 £		Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £
Fixed assets						
167,778	Tangible assets	6	167,778		-	167,778
3,433	Investments	7	-	-	3,782	3,782
<u>171,211</u>	Total fixed assets		<u>167,778</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,782</u>	<u>171,560</u>
Current assets						
3,091	Debtors (Gift Aid Due)		1,150	-	-	1,150
167,398	Cash in hand and at bank	10	47,634	14,122	101,320	163,076
<u>170,489</u>	Total current assets		<u>48,784</u>	<u>14,122</u>	<u>101,320</u>	<u>164,226</u>
(851)	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		(200)	-	-	(200)
<u>169,638</u>	Net current assets		<u>48,584</u>	<u>14,122</u>	<u>101,320</u>	<u>164,026</u>
<u>340,850</u>	Net assets		<u>216,362</u>	<u>14,122</u>	<u>105,102</u>	<u>335,586</u>
Funds of the church						
Unrestricted funds						
216,847	General fund		216,362	-	-	216,362
12,054	Designated fund	9	-	14,122	-	14,122
<u>228,901</u>			<u>216,362</u>	<u>14,122</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>230,484</u>
111,949	Restricted funds	8	-	-	105,102	105,102
<u>340,850</u>	Total funds of the church		<u>216,362</u>	<u>14,122</u>	<u>105,102</u>	<u>335,586</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 28th September 2021

Rev'd Dale Gingrich  Chairman

Lynn Brodey  Treasurer

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

Notes to the accounts

1 Basis of preparation

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102).

The Accounts are drawn up under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investment assets at market value. The Accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. These Accounts do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

2 Accounting policies

Funds

Unrestricted funds are general funds available for the general objectives of the church.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes.

Restricted funds can only be used for the purposes for which they have been given, within the objectives of the church. The cost of raising and administering such funds is charged against those specific funds. The aim and use of each fund is explained later in the Notes.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA (Statement of Financial Accounts) when the church becomes legally entitled to the income and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty.

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving is recognised only when received. Grants & legacies are recognised as soon as the PCC becomes aware of its legal entitlement and the amount due is quantifiable with reasonable certainty.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is accounted for when the gift is received, not when the tax refund is received.

When incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and the related resources expended are accounted for gross in the SOFA.

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the church or the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for use by the church are included in the SOFA as incoming resources when receivable.

Rental income from letting the Parish Rooms is accounted for when it falls due.

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable and includes any recoverable tax.

Realised gains are accounted for on assets held for the church's own use and are taken into account at the time of sale.

Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis & is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for goods or services.

All costs have been directly attributed to the various categories within the SOFA.

Any general support costs have been allocated across activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources based on an allocation of actual costs.

As the PCC is not registered for VAT, all expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT.

Governance costs include the cost of the preparation of the Annual Accounts, the cost of PCC meetings and the legal cost of advice on governance or constitutional matters.

Grants and charitable giving are accounted for when paid over or when awarded, if the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC, provided that there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the church.

Parish Share is accounted for when paid except that any Parish Share unpaid at the end of the financial year is provided for in the accounts as a constructive obligation, although not a liability, and is included in the balance sheet as a liability.

Investments

Investments are shown on 31 December at market value.

Both realised and unrealised gains are shown under 'other recognised gains/(losses)' section of the SOFA.

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

Notes to the accounts

2019 Total funds £	3 Analysis of Incoming Resources	2020			Total funds £
		Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	
	Voluntary Income				
38,501	Tax - efficient planned giving (excl. tax)	39,626	-	-	39,626
8,102	Collections at Services incl White Envelopes	1,527	-	-	1,527
851	Service Collections in aid of other Charities	935	-	-	935
5,584	Boys Brigade (No longer part of St Mary's A/cs)	-	-	-	-
1,280	Spire Lighting Donations	1,160	-	-	1,160
12,071	All other Giving & Voluntary Income	1,440	-	268	1,708
12,130	Gift Aid Tax recovered	10,237	-	-	10,237
(6,700)	To correct Overstated 'Tax Recovered' in 2018 A/cs	-	-	-	-
1,450	* Grants Received	6,260	-	1,000	7,260
265	Legacies	6,432	48,037	-	54,469
<u>71,533</u>		<u>67,616</u>	<u>48,037</u>	<u>1,268</u>	<u>116,921</u>
	Activities for generating funds				
1,289	General Fund Raising Activities (Plant Sale/Craft Fayre/Bike Ride)	-	-	-	-
<u>1,289</u>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	Church Activities				
6,364	Fees - weddings, funerals etc	4,673	-	-	4,673
240	Hiring out Church Facilities	150	-	-	150
7,191	Parish Rooms	-	1,710	-	1,710
<u>13,795</u>		<u>4,823</u>	<u>1,710</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,533</u>
	Investment income				
45	Bank/HMRC interest/Dividends etc	41	-	607	648
<u>45</u>		<u>41</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>607</u>	<u>648</u>
	Other incoming resources				
219	Income from Mission Activities (Tea&Toast/Bumps&Babies)	307	-	-	307
130	Others (incl Bell Ringing)	-	-	40	40
-	Other general	-	-	-	-
<u>349</u>		<u>307</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>347</u>
<u>87,011</u>	TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	<u>72,787</u>	<u>48,747</u>	<u>1,915</u>	<u>124,449</u>

* **Sources of Grant Funding**

The Friends of St Mary's raises funds for the beautification, preservation and restoration of the church
The organisation is a registered charity, not under the control of the PCC

Grants received by the PCC during the course of the year:

The Friends of St Mary's	£ 5,000
Bloxham Feoffees	1,260
Bloxham Parish Council	1,000
	<u>£ 7,260</u>

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

Notes to the accounts

2019 Total funds £		2020			Total funds £
		Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	
4	4 Analysis of resources expended				
	Cost of generating funds				
-	Costs of Fundraising Activities	-	-	-	-
-		-	-	-	-
	Church activities				
1,853	Mission Giving & Donations	720	-	-	720
851	Service Collections paid to other Charities	935	-	-	935
50,817	Parish Share (incl £968 refund)	50,358	-	-	50,358
	Organists & Music Director Fees	150	-	895	1,045
30	Clergy Expenses	-	-	-	-
<u>53,550</u>		<u>52,163</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>895</u>	<u>53,058</u>
	Church Running Expenses (incl Governance)				
459	Mission & Evangelism Costs	655	-	9	664
2,114	General Maint Repairs/Contracts + Churchyard	1,453	-	265	1,718
7,724	Insurance	7,647	-	-	7,647
1,185	Organ, Choir / Church Music	457	-	-	457
785	Church requisites	1,837	-	-	1,837
539	Printing, Stationery, Postage, Web, Books	486	-	-	486
2,370	Photocopier Rental / Exps (incl Benefice allocation)	-	-	1,787	1,787
745	Miscellaneous (inc BT contract)	643	-	-	643
50	Gifts / Hospitality / Social *	2,069	-	-	2,069
	* (incl Purchase of Tables/Trolleys/Coffee Percolator)				
-	Others ('Restricted' = Benefice allocation)	8	-	141	149
7,714	Utility Bills - Heating, Lighting & Water	4,670	-	-	4,670
5,372	Boys Brigade (No longer part of St Mary's A/cs)	-	-	-	-
7,658	Parish Rooms	-	2,411	-	2,411
<u>36,714</u>		<u>19,923</u>	<u>2,411</u>	<u>2,201</u>	<u>24,536</u>
	Major Capital Expenditure				
8,579	Church Pathway Project	-	-	-	-
32,277	Fabric costs (Boiler Maintenance)	1,186	-	-	1,186
	Building our Future Project (BOF)	-	38,723	9,799	48,521
<u>40,856</u>		<u>1,186</u>	<u>38,723</u>	<u>9,799</u>	<u>49,707</u>
<u>131,120</u>	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>73,272</u>	<u>41,134</u>	<u>12,895</u>	<u>127,301</u>

5 Trustee remuneration and expenses

No members of the PCC received any remuneration for their work on the PCC. The clergy, who is an ex officio member receives a stipend but is not remunerated for his service on the PCC.

6 Tangible fixed assets

Total £		Freehold Land & Buildings £
167,778	64.53% equity share in the Parish Rooms	167,778
-	Additions	
-	Revaluations	
-	Disposals	
<u>167,778</u>	At 31 December 2020	<u>167,778</u>

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

Notes to the accounts

7 Investments

	Value at 31 December 2019	Value at 31 December 2020	Gain/(Loss)
	£	£	£
The Bellringers Fund - CCLA	3,266	3,595	329
Listed on London Stock Exchange -Lloyds TSB (Bells)	167	187	21
	<u>3,433</u>	<u>3,782</u>	<u>350</u>

8 Restricted funds

	Fund balances brought forward	Transfers & Incoming resources	Resources expended / transferred	Gains and losses	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Messy Church	0	50	(9)	0	41
Bell Fund	0	3352	0	0	3,352
Bell Fund (Investments)	0	3433	0	350	3,783
Ministry fund	4,746	0	0	0	4,746
BOF	94,173	3,486	(9,799)	0	87,861
Church Music Fund	3,000	0	(895)	0	2,105
John Manning Facilities Fund	2,861	0	(2,861)	0	0
Churchyard	500	1,000	(265)	0	1,235
Flowers	879	0	0	0	879
Boys Brigade	2,762	0	(2,762)	0	0
Benefice Account	3,028	0	(1,927)	0	1,101
	<u>111,949</u>	<u>11,321</u>	<u>(18,518)</u>	<u>350</u>	<u>105,102</u>

9 Designated funds

	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming resources	Resources expended or transferred	Gains and losses	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
BOF (Building our Future) Project	0	48,037	(38,723)		9,314
Parish Rooms	5,460	1,710	(2,411)		4,759
Bell Fund (Investments)-now in Restricted Funds	3,433	0	(3,433)		0
Bell Fund (Cash) - now in Restricted Funds	3,112	0	(3,112)		0
Soup Saturday	49	0	0		49
	<u>12,054</u>	<u>49,747</u>	<u>(47,678)</u>		<u>14,122</u>

10 Cash funds and location

	Unrestricted fund	Designated fund	Restricted fund	Total
General Funds	47,634			47,634
Bell fund			3,352	3,352
Soup Saturday		49		49
Ministry fund			4,746	4,746
Church Music Fund			2,105	2,105
Fabric & John Manning Facilities fund			-	-
Building Our Future (BOF)		9,314	87,861	97,175
Flower fund			879	879
Churchyard			1,235	1,235
Benefice Administration			1,101	1,101
Messy Church			41	41
Parish rooms *		4,759		4,759
	<u>47,634</u>	<u>14,122</u>	<u>101,320</u>	<u>163,076</u>

* Not under direct control of the PCC Treasurer

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE P.C.C.
OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, BLOXHAM**

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Independent examiner's report

In connection with my examination of the accounts for the year ending 31 December 2020, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - A. to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Act, and
 - B. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and 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.

EXAMINER A.I.L. WELLS

Date October 2021

