

Wallingford Parochial Church Council Annual Report & Financial Statements 2020



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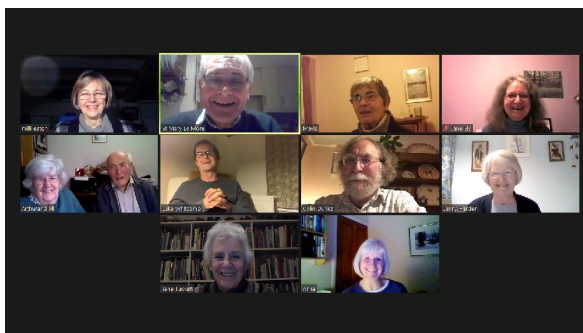
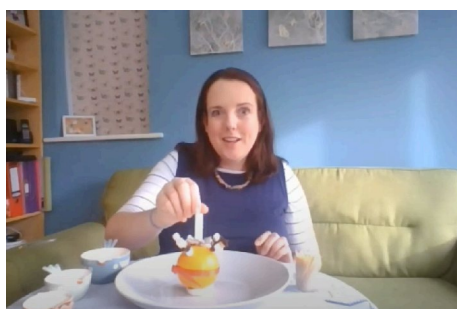
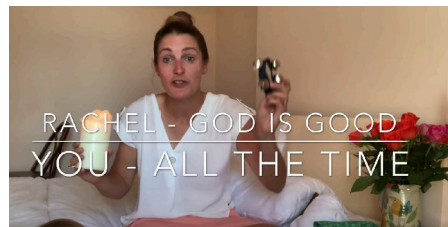


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1. Aim and Purpose

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Mary-le-More's (St Mary's) and St Leonard's has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, The Reverend David Rice, to promote the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. As a parish, we aim to become a living and loving example of Jesus Christ in our community, to be **open to God, open to all**.

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of St Mary's Church and St Leonard's Church.

2. Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our churches and to become part of our parish community. When planning our activities and priorities for the coming years, we identified 3 main priorities in 2017, which we have continued to progress:

- Development of our provision of worship, taking into account people's busy lives and their requirements for alternative forms of worship
- Development of ways to encourage local residents to be part of our church, whilst nurturing our current congregation.
- Development of the role of a Children and Families Worker to further attract, support and encourage young people to be lifelong Christians.

To deliver these priorities, the PCC has a number of vision groups and sub-groups:

- (i) **Worship & Spirituality** - to include sustaining what we have and looking to the future
- (ii) **Outreach & Nurture** - to include reaching out to new and current members of the community, the ongoing nurture of our current congregation and activities of the Children and Families Worker
- (iii) **Social Responsibility** - to include collections & donations to charities, both home and abroad, ensuring that 10% of the parish's unrestricted income is contributed; this group raises awareness of the needs of the wider world locally, nationally and globally.

In addition, the **Standing Committee** focuses on finance, buildings and stewardship, the **Choir Committee** focuses on the musical aspects of our worship and a **Communication** stream runs through all groups.

These sub-groups meet independently and report back to the PCC when the council meets.

A new focus in 2019 involved '**Cherishing God's Earth**' and is inspiring us to think about what we can do express our care for God's world in our lives. This mission of our church runs through all our vision groups.

Our parish offers many services and activities to reach out to as many people as possible; however, these were severely curtailed by the COVID-19 pandemic from mid-March 2020. Services normally include: a Eucharist service every Sunday and Thursday, sung or choral Evensong on Sunday evenings and monthly Family Service and All Age Communion. Activities range from a robed choir, a music group, Emmaus groups, bellringing, various children's activities (including Children's Church JAM - Jesus and Me, Tiny Toes toddlers' group and baby singing) to social groups such as The Fellowship and coffee mornings. Local schools and a charity normally hold their Christmas carol service at St Mary's.

Coffee mornings are normally held three mornings a week and the hiring of St Mary's (where we host the Friday Country Market, the Saturday Local Producers' Market as well as various concerts & courses etc) help to make St Mary's a vibrant focus of life in the town.

We hope to return soon to keeping St Mary's open daily for both parishioners and visitors, for anyone who wants to find peace at the heart of bustling, everyday life; a place for quiet contemplation and prayer as well as enabling an understanding of the church building in the history of the area.

Finally, we provide two buildings, where life events such as weddings and baptisms are celebrated with joy and thanksgiving, and funerals with respect and compassion, allowing us to give thanks for the loved one, time to reflect and think and to entrust him or her into God's care.

In 2020 there were 162 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll. We celebrated one Baptism and three weddings. Ten funerals were held in our two churches in 2020; in addition, our parish clergy officiated at a further twenty-two funerals, either at a crematorium or committal services only at Wallingford cemetery.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, fully recognising its duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

The PCC has considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and works to provide a welcoming atmosphere and suitable facilities for all people. St Mary-le-More, in particular, is available for wider community use and during the year is normally used by several groups unconnected with the church; further details of activities for the public benefit are given throughout this report.

3. Financial Review

3.1 Financial Summary

2020 was, for obvious reasons, a very unusual year but financially we have weathered the storm in good shape. Because of the lack of services, both envelope and collection plate giving were significantly reduced on previous years, but this was partly offset by an increase in standing orders due to a few new members joining the scheme and others transferring their giving from envelopes. There were also - inevitably - significant drops in the income derived from church lettings and coffee in church.

Expenditure in 2019 was heavily influenced by the costs associated with the repairs to the tower. If these are excluded for comparison, 2020 saw a modest reduction in expenditure due to the church closures during lockdown. It may be surprising that this change was not more significant, but the three largest costs we have to meet are the parish share (by far the biggest), insurance, and utilities. Of these, the first two were not affected at all by the pandemic; utilities were only slightly lower than normal because many of the lockdown restrictions were at times of year when our gas and electricity consumption are low anyway.

Overall, in spite of all the difficulties, we finished 2020 with a small surplus which will go towards rebuilding our depleted reserves and will also allow us to undertake some important environmental projects within the church.

I am very grateful for the support I receive from Jenny Harden, Judith Pengilly, and Hannah Leamy: without their help and encouragement it would not be possible for me to look after our church finances.

3.2 Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the Wallingford PCC to maintain as a reserve approximately three months of general running costs (amounting to £30,000) plus a further amount as contingency for quinquennial and other works arising. The target level for this contingency is £90,000 giving a total target for reserves of £120,000.

3.3 Grant making policy

The total of donations made by the PCC, plus collections taken at special services (including Christmas, Easter, Harvest), should approach 10% of the PCC's unrestricted income. The management of this giving is delegated to the Social Responsibility Group. The current practice is to support at least one UK charity and one overseas charity. One of the charities must be Christian based. Collections for emergency disaster appeals and one-off charities are agreed by the PCC. The special circumstances of the past year, in particular the lack of services for taking special collections, made it impossible to adhere to this policy in 2020.

3.4 Stewardship

A financial report was prepared as usual at the beginning of 2020 but because of the pandemic was never presented. There was no stewardship campaign during the year.

Stephen Harrison, Treasurer

4. Team Rector's Report

What is perhaps most remarkable in this most remarkable of years, is that so much of our church life has continued without interruption. So, I want to begin by expressing my thanks to the COVID-19 Continuity Group (Churchwardens, Richard Carling and Emma Cross, and PCC Secretary, Wendy Muggeridge) for all that they have done to enable this to happen. Each of them has given incredibly generously of their time and skills. I am enormously grateful to each of them. Additionally, we have also been well supported by a large number of other individuals and our thanks go to them as well.

2020 has been a steep learning curve! We have learned a great deal as the year has progressed particularly in terms of technology. Apart from just one Sunday, it has been possible to offer an online service every week since Palm Sunday. The delivery of these services has been well received. I am so grateful to those who have developed the technology to make this possible. I am also grateful to Judith Ward and members of the choir for contributing the various hymns and musical items for these services.

Sunday morning coffee has continued by Zoom and this has been an important way for us to stay in contact with each other. Our Parish Network Groups have also been another important way to stay in touch. Thank you to the leaders of the groups. The contact you have made with those in your groups has been greatly appreciated. The weekly update is a further element in keeping in touch and points to the importance of good, clear and regular communications. The Christmas e-Card was hugely appreciated and I am so grateful to Judith Ward for allowing me to use her beautiful composition 'Love came down at Christmas'.

As I write, the pandemic situation sadly continues and it is difficult to evaluate what the long-term effects will be on society in general but more specifically the church. In common with most churches across the Church of England the pandemic has had a very big effect on our finances. Members of our churches here, however, have been hugely supportive in sustaining their giving so generously; this generosity is much appreciated when life is challenging for all of us.

Whilst much has continued without interruption, it has been much harder, for example, to keep in touch with children by digital means. For the most part, school was online and so it was not easy to motivate children to spend yet more time on Zoom. This seems to have been experienced in many churches and I have attended a number of webinars (online conferences) which have highlighted this real concern. We have been able, however, to continue to deliver craft packs to all our family service contacts (thanks both to Jennie Bispham and Hannah Smith) which continue to be warmly received. We managed one Family Service 'physically' in All Hallows Churchyard and one on Harvest Sunday in St Mary's, both of which were well attended. Our Christingle service in December took place both in church and online.

We have learned a great deal during 2020 and there will be much more to discern from what has happened. It will be important, at the right moment, to reflect carefully on all that has taken place and work out very carefully our future priorities.

Amidst all that has been happening we saw a number of comings and goings during 2020. At our (postponed APCM) we thanked in particular Roger Morgan, Christine Dawson and Mavis Bolton as they stepped down from the PCC. Each of them has made a significant contribution to the life of our Parish. We were delighted, however, to welcome Emma Cross as a new churchwarden to work alongside Richard Carling.

We were privileged to have Rachel Meyrick as our Children and Families Worker. Very sadly, she along with her husband George (a student on placement with us and training for ordination) and family left the area in the summer so that George could start his curacy in London. Between them they made such a very big impact on our parish and, in particular Rachel, on many young lives. We wish them every happiness in their new parish.

As Rachel left, we were very fortunate in being able to appoint Hannah Smith as our new Children and Families Worker. It's a delight to have her in post. As you might imagine it was not easy taking up this role when it was not possible to meet in a physical way. Hannah, however, is working very hard to overcome these obstacles and develop our online presence.

We have also been pleased to welcome Henry Hope who is training for ordination at Ripon College Cuddesdon. Henry has immersed himself in parish life and it has been really good to have his insight and support over the last few months. It was great to hear him play the saxophone at our socially distanced picnic in August.

Towards the end of 2020 we also said farewell to Bishop Colin Fletcher. Whilst he was our Bishop for just 7 years or so, he had been Bishop of Dorchester for 20 years. We are very grateful for his ministry and wish him every happiness in retirement. Bishop Colin's successor, the Ven. Gavin Collins (Archdeacon of the Meon) was appointed in November 2020 and begins work here in early 2021. We very much look forward to welcoming him.

2020 also saw us become an Eco Church!



Our churches were given a **silver award** by the A Rocha foundation for our work in expressing our care for God's creation. This is something that we had been working towards since early 2019, being inspired by our 2018 Autumn talks entitled '**Cherishing God's Earth**' in memory of John Gordon.

In achieving this award we have shown how we express our care for God's world through our **worship and teaching** (e.g. Autumn 2018 talks, Live Lent Care for God's Creation and 'Saying Yes to Life' 2020 study group), our **buildings and land** (e.g. installation of LED lights at St Mary's), how we engage with our **local**

community (e.g. 2019 Lent Plastic Challenge, co-organising and hosting a Climate Action Fair in 2020) and the personal **lifestyle** choices we all make (e.g. encouraging everyone to complete an environmental footprint calculator, review our water usage, use Fairtrade). Yes, we've done a lot to reflect on how our lives and the choices we make impact on God's beautiful creation alongside our relationship with God the Creator.



What does being an eco-church mean? It means that we are trying to become a church which takes seriously the implications of this aspect of our faith - that we begin to realise just how central this is in our faith and what its practical implications are.

This is a huge achievement and I would like to thank Emma Cross, and those who have supported her, for their immense efforts in leading this. It is an ongoing part of our life together and I hope the award will stimulate us to further action.

These are just a few highlights from 2020. You will find more details of our activities in the various reports and in particular our vision groups which are responsible for specific areas of our ministry. They are:

- Worship and Spirituality Group
- Outreach and Nurture Group
- Social Responsibility Group

In conclusion, my thanks to all who have contributed so generously (both in terms of time and resources) to the life of our parish. This includes all our church officers and those who do so much in less visible ways. Each of you plays an important part in making possible all that we are and do. Thank you.

The Revd David Rice, Team Rector

5. PCC Vision Groups & Sub Committees

5.1 Worship & Spirituality Group

We began the year, as we do so often, with our provision for Lent. This year we used the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent book in the context of Compline. Initially this was held in St Mary's church but moved online once the period of lockdown began. Ruth Valerio's book *Saying Yes to Life* was well received. As a result, we had hoped to hold an outdoor service later in the year to mark Creationtide, unfortunately, COVID-19 restrictions meant this was not possible. We hope, however, to do this, when restrictions are eased in 2021.



Events happened very rapidly at the start of the year in terms of lockdown. Perhaps not surprisingly the group's response to this, i.e. the need to provide online services, has taken up a great deal of its time and energy. We have had to work out ways of offering both Sunday worship and also worship for special occasions: e.g. All Souls' Day, Remembrance Sunday. Even when it has been possible to worship in our churches this has been very time consuming. We have been determined that this has been done as safely as possible.

I would like to record my thanks, to all who have made it possible for the worship of our churches to continue. It seems appropriate at this point to thank all who help lead worship in our churches, those who preach, read, sing, lead intercessions, act as sides people and our cleaners who do a great job keeping our churches ready for worship. This year has not been easy as sometimes our churches have been closed and sometimes open! I am so grateful for your commitment.

Like the Outreach and Nurture group this group has also been using the Parish Planning Tool (see that group report for fuller details about the tool). We have explored the strengths and characterises of our parish in the areas of worship and spirituality. In the light of what we have learned, we have defined our task as to develop:

a church that equips us in our walk with God to cherish ourselves, our community and the world.

We had begun to work out what the next steps might mean for us but, as explained above, our energies have been rather diverted. Once again though there are many opportunities online. A very positive development during the time of pandemic has been the introduction of **'Prayer with the Heart'**. One of the issues that lockdown has thrown up for people, is the use of silence. I am very grateful to Clare Stephenson for her skill and insight in introducing this service. It has been greatly appreciated by a good number of people.

Clearly the circumstances associated with the pandemic are changing quite rapidly. This means that the group will also need to adapt and change as the situation evolves. It will be particularly important for us to reflect on the implications and the provision of worship in these changing times. I am very grateful to members of the group for their commitment in this process.

The following table explains our pre-COVID-19 service provision:

Every Sunday	08:00	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)	St Leonard's
	18:30	Sung Evensong (Book of Common Prayer) About once a month Choral Evensong replaces Sung Evensong	St Leonard's
1st & 3rd Sundays and 4th Sunday if 5 Sundays in month	10:00	Parish Communion (Common Worship) with Children's Church JAM (Jesus & Me)	St Mary's
2nd Sunday	09:45	Children's craft activities	St Mary's
	10:15	Family Service	St Mary's
	11:15	Holy Communion (Common Worship)	St Mary's
Last Sunday	10:00	All Age Communion (Common Worship)	St Mary's
Every morning (Mon - Fri)	08:30	Morning Prayer (Common Worship)	St Mary's

Every Thursday	11:00	Holy Communion (Common Worship)	St Mary's
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The Revd David Rice

5.2 Outreach & Nurture Group

During 2019 and into the early part of 2020 priorities for this group focussed on two main areas:

- extending welcome from our church to the new areas of housing in our town, and
- discovering where, as a church, we can mesh in at a deeper level with some of the key community events in our town.

These priorities led, for example to a coffee morning for newcomers in St Mary's church at the start of 2020. Whilst an open invitation had been extended to all, this especially involved those who had recently moved into new housing in the town and those newly associated with our congregations. The morning was very well received and was a great opportunity for people to meet each other and to get to know one another. We had hoped to repeat this but unfortunately due to COVID-19 this has not **yet** been possible.

Also towards the end of 2019 and the start of 2020, we started to reconsider our priorities. To help us do this we used what is called the Parish Planning Tool. This tool was developed by the Diocese of Oxford and is based on appreciative inquiry i.e. it tries to discern what is positive and characteristic of a parish and discover how these strengths might be developed. Here is how it is described: *Local churches aren't a problem that needs fixing. The new Parish Planning Tool, developed by the Diocese of Oxford, helps people to focus on the positive core that's there in every church, discern where God is already at work in their community, and discover how they can best join in.*

This has led us to think more carefully about the purpose of the group and where we might best place our energy. We have been exploring this key question:

how might we make ourselves more open and accessible to those who are seeking a greater understanding of God?

The COVID-19 pandemic has certainly changed radically how we might go about answering this question and a great deal of our initial thinking has gone by the board. At the same time, however, the presence of so many people online has offered untold opportunities.

So, during Advent and Christmas we offered a range of activities. Many of these services and activities derived from the Church of England's Christmas campaign 'Comfort & Joy'. In their words: *'We hope that Comfort and Joy will enable us to build a campaign that both enables us to reconnect with the rich and joyous traditions of the past and to offer God's consoling love in the present.'* We extended this to cover **hope, peace, joy and love**. From the lighting of the candles on the advent wreaths in people's homes, the ribbons on the Tree of Remembering, the All Age Craft sessions, Prayer with the Heart and The Longest Night service through to the Advent Challenge, these themes ran through everything. During this season, our website and social media accounts (Facebook and Twitter) saw a significant increase in engagement from many people, some well beyond our town.

We had also begun to examine our provision for those who recognise that they have little understanding of the Christian faith and want to know more. We have in the past offered nurture courses e.g. Emmaus and Pilgrim. The Diocese are planning to launch **'Come and See'** for Lent 2021. Bishop Steven suggests, this should be an opportunity for all of us to discover more of what faith means and to **invite others to join us** as we explore this question afresh.

The publication of the Parish Planning Tool has enabled us both to affirm the strengths of our churches and to discover new priorities. We hope therefore to continue with what is already happening in a positive way and strike out in new directions.

The activities of this group focused on children & families will be covered below by our Children & Families Worker, Hannah Smith.

I would like to record my thanks to members of the group and also, on behalf of the group, thanks to those beyond the group who support this vital aspect of our life.

The Revd David Rice

5.2.1 Children and Families

This year has seen new challenges for the church presented by the changing face of the pandemic. During these challenges, Wallingford Parish has undergone a handover of the Children and Families Worker role from Rachel Meyrick to Hannah Smith. Hannah has been tasked with the job of building new Covid-friendly initiatives for our families, as well as adapting some of the current provision to meet with the changing conditions.

Services

Before the pandemic, the children and families of St Mary's, would enjoy a variety of worship styles throughout a calendar month: on the first, third (and any fifth) Sunday, the children could access JAM; the second Sunday would be our Family Service and the fourth would be the All-Age Eucharist:

- JAM is the separate provision for children, held in the Tower Room, and follows the general structure of the adult service. This is kindly supported by volunteers and led by the Children and Families Worker. We have been able to continue JAM at some points during the pandemic.
- The All-Age Eucharist had a developing presence with families; we sought to create a Stay and Pray area for children during family eucharists so that children could enjoy a play-altar and liturgical toys. Sadly, it was not felt possible to continue with this All-Age Eucharist during the pandemic. Where possible, this was replaced by an extra JAM session.
- The popular Family Services begin with crafts and are followed by a service on a specific theme which is accessible to children of all ages. Children enjoy songs and a story. These family services continued through the pandemic, adapting to the different legislative changes: one service was held outside, others in church and online. Craft packs were sent out to local families prior to the service for families to enjoy exploring at home. Our popular Christingle service was held with limited numbers in church and also online.



Other Church Family Initiatives

Pandemic restrictions led us to reach out to our church families with a weekly e-newsletter. The newsletter contains information on our ongoing family provision as well as family-accessible and lectionary-based bible extracts, eco-challenges and activities.

Christmas craft sessions were held weekly during Advent. These involved making wreaths, Christingles, painting stones and making table decorations.

Outreach Initiatives

We have also enjoyed reaching out to our local community. Before the pandemic, we offered Tiny Toes on a Wednesday morning: a toddler group for young children and their parents. Sadly, after a risk assessment, it was decided that it was not possible to continue this group safely under COVID-19 restrictions. We had been preparing a project called 'Open the Book' to reach out to schools with God's Word. Again, there was sadly no way of proceeding with this during the pandemic. However, when we were able, we offered free outside activities to the church family, the community and to schools. These included a Light Trail on All Hallows Eve and a Nativity Trail from Christmas Eve. Both events proved to be popular. For those taking part in the Nativity Trail on Christmas Eve, there was an additional activity in church afterwards.



Despite the challenges, we have received recognition of our work: we were pleased to receive the **Silver Eco Church** award, reflecting our whole-church strive for a greener and cleaner community. The children have enjoyed engaging with eco-friendly crafts and challenges.

Hannah Smith, Children & Families Worker

5.3 Social Responsibility Group

The Social Responsibility Group aims to raise awareness of social and justice concerns, linking this with our charitable giving.

The PCC endorsed our commitment to support one local charity (Refugee Resource) and one overseas charity (The Sharp Memorial School for the Blind, India) and £1,250 was given to each charity from Parish funds. We hope that the Parish's income will be sufficient so that we may continue to support them in the future. A long-term relationship helps strengthen our links and understanding of the charities' work. We receive regular updates from the Sharp Memorial School, and a speaker from Refugee Resource gave the address at the 10:00 online service in November.

Due to Covid restrictions the Group has been unable to hold the usual special collections during 2020 and therefore has been unable to meet the former target that charitable giving should match 10% of the Parish unrestricted income. The Group through the medium of The Rector's weekly Keeping in Touch emails has highlighted the following charities throughout the year: Fair Trade, Christian Aid, Prison Week and the Christmas charities of The Children's Society, Crisis, PACT, and UNCHR. We encouraged parishioners to contribute to the Christmas charities through the Advent and Christmas pages on the Church's website and in the Advent Challenge.

Philippa Bomford

5.4 Standing Committee

5.4.1 Fabric

We would like to offer our special thanks and appreciation to Mavis Bolton in gratitude for everything she has done to care for and maintain the fabric of our buildings over many years and for her help and support over the last year.

5.4.1.1 General

Both our churches are thoroughly inspected by an architect, currently West Waddy ADP, every five years, giving rise to a quinquennial inspection (QI) report which lists remedial work with a priority ranking. As both our churches are old and historic buildings, there is always a list of jobs to be done.

We are particularly grateful to the Friends of St Mary's and St Leonard's Churches for their fund raising to help ensure our churches are kept in such good condition.

We are also very grateful to our volunteers who help maintain our churchyards and to the Town Council gardening staff who keep the main grass areas tidy.

5.4.1.2 St Leonard's

Although the church was closed for most of the year, maintenance and repairs continued. The annual boiler service took place, as did annual servicing of fire extinguishers. Regular roof maintenance and minor roof repairs continued. Repairs were made to floor grilles in various places around the building and floor tiles were re-set around the font area. In the bell tower two louvres were re-aligned which included new brackets.

5.4.1.2 St Mary's

Again, although the church was closed for most of the year, maintenance and repairs continued. Six-monthly checks of the emergency lighting and the fire alarm took place; fire extinguishers were serviced as was the boiler; water saving devices were fitted to both toilets and to some taps; internal clear glass was cleaned; regular roof checks and minor roof repairs continued and moss was removed from one of the north facing roofs. A floorboard in the choir stalls was repaired.

There have been, in recent years, a number of concerns about aspects of St Mary's organ. Repairs have been undertaken which we are hoping have resolved matters. Our thanks to Judith Ward and to Roger Morgan for their help with this work.

As mentioned in our 2019 report, the PCC decided to replace the halogen lights in St Mary's with LED lights, as they are low maintenance, offer energy and cost savings, are long lasting and are also eco-friendly. The project finally came to fruition in June 2020 and was a great milestone after a few false starts due to the COVID-19 pandemic delaying the initial start combined with a shortage of lights arriving from China! A huge thank you to the PCC Standing Committee for all their work behind the scenes in making this happen – in particular, thank you to Mavis Bolton, Roger Morgan and Emma Cross. Most importantly, a big thank to those who very kindly funded the work – we are most grateful.

5.4.2 Health & Safety

Weekly Health and Safety checks continued throughout the year. These cover floors, stairs, carpets - looking for anything in poor condition, trip hazards etc. A more detailed check takes place once a month to include fire extinguishers and paths and steps outside. Every three months a general check of the whole of both building takes place, including all plugs and sockets, as well as a review of the accident book.

5.4.3 Churchwardens' Report

We have had the great pleasure and privilege of supporting David as Churchwardens and as members of the COVID-19 Continuity Group, as we have navigated together our response to COVID-19 through our weekly meetings. We were delighted to open our church doors for individual private prayer and public worship over the summer and to come together as a community through other activities. Our priority throughout the pandemic has been to 'keep safe' and to provide Church buildings that are Covid-safe and secure for everyone who uses them. This has involved the COVID-19 Continuity Group in hours of continual planning and preparation especially with the development of risk assessments and supporting method statements for all our worship and activities – such as choir practice. We are grateful for the support of the PCC throughout and in particular, to all of our volunteers who have given so generously of their time in so many different and unique ways.

September saw the 20th anniversary of David's appointment as our Team Rector. Over those 20 years David has worked hard to ensure our churches and parishes are best placed to serve God and his people. During the pandemic, there cannot be many parishes that have been so well and confidently served by their incumbent. He has consistently provided thoughtful and considered leadership as we worked our way through Government, Diocesan and other's guidelines on how to respond to the pandemic. He has helped us work through these challenges, consider our blessings and look to operate in imaginative ways. This has been, and continues to be, no mean feat and is a tribute to his skills, experience and dedication to us all.

Richard Carling & Emma Cross, Churchwardens

5.5 Choir Committee

Opportunities for live choral music were few in 2020, but there are still events on which to look back with pleasure and – from the midst of lockdown no. 3 – with gratitude.

The first Sunday of the year brought three services, including a baptism in St Leonard's and the Epiphany Carol Service. The first Choral Evensong of the year was in February at St Mary's, Henley, when the choirs of both parishes joined forces for Noble in B minor and Balfour Gardiner's Evening Hymn. Conducting was shared by Henley's Sebastian Thomson and Wallingford's Judith Ward, and the organist was Ben Giddens.

By mid-March, a growing Junior Choir had sung at three family services, the last of which reprised *Grannies and Grandads*, a favourite from their Dorchester Abbey concert in 2019. The adult choir were preparing for Holy Week, including a performance of Pergolesi's setting of *Stabat Mater*. Both choirs were set to sing *The Lord bless you and keep you* by Rutter on Mothering Sunday when the closure of churches was announced.

What does a choir do when it can't meet up? Thanks to the technology skills of several choristers, the answer is quite a lot, as long as people are happy to use computers and smart phones. We started Zoom rehearsals on 27th March, with the juniors following a week later. It was the beginning of a technological learning curve which was pretty steep for many of us in the early days and still brings challenges: coping with the sound delay, hearing the accompaniment clearly, sharing sheet music and audio on screen.

There were also practicalities such as permission forms for juniors, copyright issues and sourcing sheet music online. While not as good as the real thing, Zoom rehearsals were still an opportunity to meet and chat, as well as sing. We even did a virtual Salisbury cathedral session to make up for missing our summer tour!

Rehearsals in person were finally allowed in September, following Covid-safe guidelines prepared by Emma Cross and the COVID-19 Continuity Group. It was lovely to see choir members who hadn't done Zoom and wonderful to hear all four parts together again. Small groups of safely-distanced choristers were able to sing on Sunday mornings, at the All Souls services and at two Christmas carol services. Thanks are due to Wendy Muggeridge and her team for their skill and patience in balancing the sound. We even managed carol-singing in the market outside Centre 70 and also outside St Mary's on Christmas Eve. From inside the church, we live-streamed carols to care homes and Wallingford Hospital via YouTube. The juniors sang at a Harvest family service and at Christingle. We felt fortunate to be allowed to sing while the congregation was not.

When not able to sing live, choristers have provided hymns for Sunday morning services by recording them at home. Some have made highly creative use of growing technology skills, multi-tracking themselves singing and playing, composing harmonies and filming videos. A few have combined tracks recorded by choristers at home and produced whole-choir recordings. Several of these were part of services in the run up to Christmas and one, *O little town of Bethlehem*, with a wonderful video by Helen Swan, featured in the Rector's Christmas message and Radio Oxford's Christmas Carol Service.

Choir members have contributed to the life of the choir in many other ways too. Clare Stephenson set up a WhatsApp group. Hazel Needham and Barbara Wood co-ordinated Zoom supper evenings, featuring the cuisine of different countries week by week. Jane Ely, Cath Lidbetter and Kate Spence kept in touch with choir members through the Parish Network Groups. Olly Garland and Helen Swan streamed rehearsals in church via Zoom to reach choristers who were shielding at home.

While technology has enabled us to do far more in the circumstances than would have been possible a few years ago, it is sadly a barrier to some. The pandemic has made us treasure the joy of singing together even more than before.

Judith Ward, Director of Music

5.6 Communication Group

Communications took a more digital turn in 2020 due to the closure of the churches and COVID-19 implications. Early on in the first lockdown, March 2020, an email update (Keeping in Touch) was launched and distributed to over 200 email addresses on a weekly basis. A further 36 letters were either posted or hand-delivered to those without the Internet.

The big change on the communication side was the creation of online services, initially pre-recorded and then live streamed from St Mary's Church. From a fairly basic start on Palm Sunday, these services continued to be enhanced throughout the year, missing only one Sunday in September, due to technical problems. We were very lucky to be able to use the sound desk in St Mary's in a way that it had never been used before! My thanks to those who contributed the technical kit required or who volunteered to train as live-streamers. It's been said before in this report, but it was a very steep learning curve! Special thanks to Helen Swan, without whom we would not have achieved so much and so quickly. Thanks also to Alan Streets and Clare Stephenson who volunteered to help with the livestreaming.

The website was enhanced to include helpful advice and suggestions for prayer at home as well as some thoughts and ideas for our health and wellbeing during lockdown. Our social media platforms (Facebook and Twitter) played a big part in communicating latest news to everybody of our services and events, particularly during Advent and Christmas, when we saw high levels of engagement, not just from our congregation but beyond.

Parish Network Groups came into their own during the year as everybody in the parish was assigned a Parish Network Group leader, whose responsibility was to check on their group members periodically and feed any concerns back to David.

After one edition in early 2020, the bi-monthly Newsletter was put on hold; that and the weekly Pewsheets were effectively replaced by the weekly Keeping in Touch letter.

Wendy L Muggeridge

6. Cherishing God's Earth

The year began with members of the PCC Outreach and Nurture group working with local environmentalists to support the first ever **'Wallingford Sustainable Living Fair'** in St Mary's. The event, which took place in March, attracted about 120 people – from our local community, surrounding villages and towns and our Councillors. It was wonderful to witness the church buzzing with great conversations as people walked their way around the 20 plus stalls. One highlight of the event was the very popular children's corner organised by Rachel Merrick, our Children & Families Worker at the time – a big thank you. I am extremely indebted to Jan Ridley for the giving of her time and talents and to Amanda Griffin for asking us to be involved in this event. I would also like to extend my thanks to Wendy Muggeridge and Mavis Bolton for their support on the day.



Lent provided us with the opportunity to reflect once again upon our role in Cherishing God's Earth, as we followed *#LiveLent: Care for God's Creation* – the Church of England's Lent campaign. This initiative was inspired and informed by the Archbishop of Canterbury's 2020 Lent Book, *'Saying Yes to Life'* by Dr Ruth Valerio. I am grateful to the PCC Worship and Spirituality group for organising weekly study groups to explore the themes within *'Saying Yes to Life'*. I hope that through our Lenten worship and teaching, our parishioners had the opportunity to consider what we can do more of to care for our earth, with God as our creator and sustainer to guide and strengthen us.

Then in June, we went environmentally-friendly with our lighting in St Mary's as we replaced our halogen lights with LEDs, thanks to the work of the PCC

Standing Committee. With the installation of the LEDs lights complete, we made our application to become an Eco Church. I know that David was delighted to announce that we had achieved A Rocha UK Silver Eco Church award – especially as it coincided with Creationtide in September. I am grateful to everyone for the help and support given to enable us to achieve this award and for David's continual support. Gaining the award is a wonderful way to express our care for God's creation and how it is central to living out our faith and practice in this parish.



Shortly after receiving our award, A Rocha UK gave us the opportunity to be part of an online conference entitled *Eco Church: Working together to Net Zero* hosted by St Albans Diocese. I was invited to give a short talk on our recent experience of becoming a Silver Eco Church and to be a Q&A panellist. This was a great opportunity to share our story, and it has resulted in a couple of follow-up emails. I was very pleased that I wasn't able to see the 100 plus people I was talking to – thanks to Zoom Webinar!

In February 2020, the Church of England's General Synod set new targets for all parts of the church to become carbon 'net zero' by 2030. To help achieve this, the Church of England has organised a series of webinars to help us understand and support this very ambitious target. I am very grateful to Wendy Muggeridge for attending the webinars to help formulate our local response. The good news is that the PCC Standing Committee has made a commitment to look into environmentally-friendly options when replacing our heating boilers at St Mary's and St Leonard's in the future.



I ended last year's report with the words "How can we be more contemplative, more compassionate and more courageous about 'Cherishing God's Earth' in 2020?" Despite the challenges of this year, we have certainly lived this out when it comes to our role in Cherishing God's Earth. I am hugely grateful to David for his continued support and encouragement and for giving me the opportunity to share my love of God and his Creation in this unique way.

Emma Cross

7. Plans for the Future

Our main aims for 2021 and beyond include the following:

- **Lent** - during Lent we will be participating in the initiative by the Oxford Diocese 'Come and See', based around the book **'Pilgrim Journeys: the Creeds'**. We will be planning activities produced locally and which also incorporate material from the diocese.
- **Children & Families** – we will be looking to re-establish our Tiny Toes toddler group when possible and seek to continue our outreach to schools as well as participating in the Come and See initiative.
- **Social Responsibility Group** - depending on restrictions in 2021, it is possible that special collections held in Church will become a thing of the past, and the SRG's appeals for donations will be left up to individuals to make direct to the charities, as has been the case in 2020. With this in mind, the SRG will look at its terms of reference, and with the agreement of the PCC, update them.

- **Gas boiler project** - The gas boilers in both churches are nearly 20 years old. We will therefore be initiating a project to investigate the alternatives to the gas boiler at St Mary's, including those which are environmentally friendly and energy efficient.
- **Climate Sunday** – We are hoping to take part in the Climate Sunday initiative during the summer as part of our Cherishing God's Earth mission. This is in response to a calling made on all churches to hold a climate-focused service on any Sunday before 5 September 2021. We will use this opportunity to pray for God's earth and to make a commitment as a local church community to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Online Services** - As our online services are now a vital part of our ministry, we will be looking at ways to enhance the technology and to more fully embrace its potential, thinking particularly of how we can meet the needs of those on the periphery of the church.
- **Five yearly Inspections** - Church rules state that, every five years, church buildings must be inspected by a suitably experienced and qualified professional; this is called a quinquennial inspection (QI). As the last QI for both churches was carried out in 2016, we will be both tendering for an inspector and carrying out the inspections in 2021.
- **Health & Safety** – It is a Health and Safety requirement that we have an Electrical Installation Condition Report (EICR) every 5 years. This inspection will be carried out in both churches by a qualified electrician.
- **Health & Safety refresh** – We're planning a refresh of our Health and Safety Action Plan over the coming year and will be implementing some new ways of working to help keep us all safe and well.
- **Churchyards** – We are planning to explore how we can work with our wider community and organisations in caring and nurturing our churchyards as part of our Cherishing God's Earth mission. We will also consider how we might use our churchyards for outside worship and teaching.
- **Going for Gold with our Eco Church Award** – We will be creating an action plan through our PCC subgroups to help us to continue our response to 'Cherishing God's Earth' and to create our pathway to 'going for gold'.
- **Post-pandemic** – It is important to spend some time reflecting on lessons learned during the pandemic; we shall also focus once more on the Parish Planning Tool and will be restarting, when possible, activities such as choir, bell ringers etc.

8. Administrative Information

The parish of St Mary-le-More and St Leonard is situated in Wallingford, Oxfordshire. The churches are, together with those in Crowmarsh Gifford and Brightwell-cum-Sotwell, part of the benefice of Wallingford, which is within the Wallingford Deanery in the Diocese of Oxford within the Church of England. Wallingford PCC registered as a charity on 21 April 2009. The details are:

<u>Charity Name</u> :	The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary-le-More & All Hallows with St Leonard & St Peter, Wallingford
<u>Noted Working Name</u> :	Wallingford Parochial Church Council
<u>Registered Charity No.</u> :	1129240
<u>Charity Address</u> :	The Rectory, 22 Castle Street, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 8DW
<u>Bankers</u> :	Lloyds plc. 4 Market Place, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 0EH
<u>Independent Examiner</u> :	Hannah Leamy FCCA, 4 Fitzcount Way, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 8JP

Wallingford PCC is governed by the Church Representation Rules. PCC members are Trustees of the charity.

Trustees of the charity (PCC members) who have served at any time from 1st January 2020 until the date this report was approved are:

Name	Office	Elected
The Revd David Rice	Team rector	ex officio
Richard Carling	Churchwarden	ex officio
Emma Cross	Churchwarden & Deanery Synod representative	ex officio
Stephen Harrison	PCC Treasurer	2020
Wendy Muggeridge	PCC Secretary & Deanery Synod representative	ex officio

Prof Amy Smith	Deanery Synod representative	ex officio
Gavin Wood	Licensed Lay Minister	ex officio
Marie Amey		2018
Philippa Bomford		2018
Charlie Brampton		2020
Jacquie Hughes		2018
Jan Ridley		2019
Amanda Simons		2020
Helen Swan		2020
Jane Tuckett		2019
Luke Whitcomb		2018
Christine Dawson	<i>Churchwarden – stood down at APCM 4/10/2020</i>	<i>ex officio</i>
Roger Morgan	<i>Deanery Synod representative - stood down at APCM 4/10/2020</i>	<i>ex officio</i>
Mavis Bolton	<i>Stood down at APCM 4/10/2020</i>	2019

Election to the PCC is for a three-year term, although immediate re-election is possible. We are permitted 12 lay members on the PCC, governed by the number of people on the Electoral Roll. There are two vacancies.

Churchwardens are elected annually and serve for a maximum of six consecutive years. Re-election is possible after at least one year's break.

Deanery Synod representatives are elected every 3 years, according to a schedule set by the Diocese of Oxford and governed by the number of people on the electoral roll. Three representatives were elected at the APCM on 4th October 2020, these being Emma Cross, Wendy Muggeridge and Professor Amy Smith. The next date for elections will be at the APCM in 2023.

9. Structure, Governance & Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. Membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (Team Rector), two churchwardens, three Deanery Synod members plus lay members elected by those who are on the Electoral Roll of the church. All those who attend our services are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The members of Wallingford PCC are trustees of the charity and, as such, responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish as well as managing the parish's finances. The PCC met 8 times during 2020, 6 of these via zoom videoconferencing. Given its wide responsibilities, the PCC has a number of committees and groups, each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These committees and groups are all responsible to the PCC and report back to it regularly with recommendations of their decisions when appropriate, for approval by the PCC.

10. Wallingford Team Ministry



The parish of Wallingford is part of the Wallingford Team Ministry, along with the parishes of Crowmarsh Gifford and Brightwell-cum-Sotwell. The Team Rector is the Reverend David Rice and the Team Vicar is the Reverend Kevin Beer. The Team Rector's focus is mainly in Wallingford, whilst the Team Vicar focuses on Crowmarsh Gifford and Brightwell-cum-Sotwell; once a month, and during non-Covid times, they officiate in the other parishes.

The parish representatives of the Team Council are lay members of their PCCs and are elected at the first PCC meeting following the annual parochial church meeting. Licensed Lay Ministers are also entitled to be members of the Team Council. Membership of the Team Council during 2020 included the two clergy, Revd David Rice and Revd Kevin Beer, as well as the following lay members from each of the three parishes: Christine Dawson (until October 2020), Emma Cross (from October 2020) & Richard Carling (Wallingford), Margot Shawyer and Andy Lewis (Brightwell-cum-Sotwell) and Margaret Foster and Eva Thompson

(Crowmarsh Gifford). In addition, the PCC Treasurers of the three parishes were invited to the meeting in December to discuss the Parish Share: Stephen Harrison (Wallingford), Robin Shawyer (Brightwell-cum-Sotwell) and Frank Sadler (Crowmarsh Gifford).

The Team Council discusses and acts upon matters of general interest to the three parishes and also any specific matter that might be delegated to it by the Parochial Church Councils. There were two Team Council Meetings in 2020:

Meeting on 30th January 2020

Roger Morgan had passed on the details of the Parish Share breakdown to the Deanery Treasurer, and to the Diocese, and this had been agreed by them.

A 'Thank You' from Archdeacon Judy had been sent via email to the Benefice for the full payment of Parish Share 2019.

The APCM dates were shared, and it was given that new Parish Representatives should be appointed at these meetings.

An 'Open Book' Training Day to be held in Wallingford was announced, and would be open to 'Story Teller' volunteers initially once a month to present to Schools.

Team Services

The comment was made that members of the Team were not good at gathering together for Team Services; discussion ensued as to the possible reason for this: is it a timing issue, forgetfulness/change of venue, would an Evening Service have any merit, this and other questions were put forward, in the end it was decided to leave things as they are for now.

Team Service Dates

Team services were arranged as follows:-

26 th February 2020	11.00am Ash Wednesday : St Mary Magdalene's, Crowmarsh Gifford
	8.00pm St Leonard's Wallingford
11 th April 2020	8.00pm Easter Eve : St Mary's, Wallingford
21 st May 2020	7.30pm Ascension Day : St Mary Magdalene's, Crowmarsh Gifford
19 th July 2020	11.00am Team Service: St Mary Magdalene's, Crowmarsh Gifford
15 th November 2020	9.30am Team Service: St Agatha's, Brightwell cum Sotwell
17 th January 2021	10.00am Team Service: St Mary's, Wallingford

Team Council Meetings were arranged as follows:-

Wednesday 22nd July 2020

Thursday 26th November 2020 (Parish Share Discussion)

An email had been received from the Diocese concerning Historical Safeguarding Issues, and the Clergy have been requested to make enquiries within their Parishes of any known issues – both David and Kevin have responded to this.

Meeting on 1st December 2020

APCMs – Due to the restrictions caused by COVID-19 lockdown, no APCM meetings were held at the appointed time, however, Wallingford and Crowmarsh held theirs in October, whilst Brightwell held theirs in November.

Team Services – although it had not been possible to hold any of them, nor as planned, the VE Celebrations, from April to July, there were team services online.

Reflections on Church Life in light of the Pandemic and Lockdown, it was interesting to hear how technology had quickly taken over, with Services on Zoom, Live streaming on You Tube or Facebook; Zoom was widely used for Coffee meetings after the services across the Team. Shortly after the commencement of the Lockdown, our churches were re-opened for private prayer, but this opportunity had a variable response. There was a challenge in keeping up a useful dialogue with children; at Wallingford, craft sessions and lockdown family services were initially well received, but there was a growing risk of 'zoom overload' after a few months.

Parish Share Apportionment for 2021 – As no fundraising activities were possible during the year, a lack of funding was a topic across all Parishes – the Treasurers of both Brightwell and Crowmarsh were grateful for the fact that these congregations had signed up for the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS), as it had kept up a flow of income to pay the Parish Share payments. However, the forecast for 2021 does not look too rosy, and reserves will have to be dipped into, and in some cases totally used up, as there was no policy against dipping into reserves, and the Parish Share does have to be paid. It was agreed that we should go as far as we can, and closely monitor the situation. Mr George Curtis, the Deanery Treasurer, would need to be advised of any difficulty, and the Archdeacon should also be advised.

It was decided to sit down again in March to assess the situation, and again in September / October. Meanwhile Direct Debits will be honoured and see how far we can get – hopefully fund raising can start again later next year.

It was proposed that we will commit to the Parish Share payment in full, with the proviso that recognition must be given to the financial difficulties of Crowmarsh and Brightwell. Proposed Richard Carling. Seconded Andy Lewis.

The Team Apportionment for the Parish Share 2021 was agreed as follows:-

Brightwell	£ 32,908.00	[25.31%]
Crowmarsh	£ 29,402.00	[22.62%]
Wallingford	£ 67,690.00	[52.07%]
Total	£130,000.00	

Communication – since the first lockdown, it was recognised that it was increasingly important to use and share best practices. It was agreed that, in the interest of promoting good communication, all churchwardens should be invited to all Team Council meetings, while it is not possible to physically hold churchwardens' meetings.

The appointment of Secretary to the Team was adjourned, and Margaret agreed to stay on in that post.

Margaret Foster, Temporary Team Council Secretary

11. Wallingford Deanery Synod

Three lay members of the Wallingford PCC sit on the Deanery Synod. The deanery synod provides PCCs with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. Our Rector, Revd David Rice, is the Area Dean for the Wallingford Deanery, which includes Didcot (St Peter's, All Saints', Great Western Park and Ladygrove), Harwell, Chilton, Cholsey, Moulsoford, Hagbourne, Blewbury, Upton, South & North Moreton, Aston Tirrold & Aston Upthorpe, as well as Wallingford, Crowmarsh Gifford & Brightwell-cum-Sotwell.

Meetings of the deanery synod in 2020 were interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Consequently, only two deanery synod meetings were held and 4 meetings of the deanery synod standing committee.

The main focus of the year was to progress the mission action plan (MAP). This was an important piece of work, designed to support the mission of individual parishes and guide the life of our synod. The MAP is designed to help the deanery to focus on the issues considered important at PCC level in order to reflect these up to the diocese, providing vital input into Bishop Steven's Common Vision. The MAP was presented to the Dorchester Mission and Pastoral Committee in October 2020 and was well received.

Our MAP has four key focus areas:

- 1. Development of ministry to children, young people & families**
- 2. Developing our outreach to new & settled communities**
- 3. Development of appropriate patterns of worship**
- 4. Development of the Ministry in the Greater Didcot Garden Town area, both financially & structurally,**

One initiative emerging from the MAP was the creation of a program of Pilgrim Path walks across the deanery, to link parishes and benefices. Four walks were planned as part of this program, these being Blewbury, Wallingford, the Astons and Didcot/Hagbourne. Each pilgrimage was planned to start and end with prayers and refreshments would be included. Unfortunately this program was brought to an abrupt halt by the pandemic and will be rescheduled at a later date.

Another initiative to emerge was the Youth Initiative, working to develop a standalone Youth Trust to better equip secondary age youths; this involves churches in the Greater Didcot area and ecumenical partners.

At the meeting on the 11th of March 2020, Rachel Brockie spoke about the work of The Children's Society and how some children today live through some awful experiences. The Children's Society help by campaigning for law changes to make life safer for these children at risk, helping children to access the mental health support they need, striving to stamp out the trafficking of young people and criminal exploitation etc.

The meeting on the 24th of November 2020 focused on developing the church online, acknowledging that most churches had introduced an online service facility at some point since the start of the pandemic. The guest speaker was Revd Matt Hogg from St Albans, Fulham who spoke about online church, particularly social media, and how that can be used to connect with people, including those who attend church physically.

Finally, the Parish Share for 2021 was negotiated; this highlighted that some parishes would not be able to meet their parish share in 2021 and that others would struggle. For some parishes this is an ongoing problem, for others it is a direct result of the pandemic.

Wendy L Muggeridge, Wallingford Deanery Synod Secretary

12. Annual Financial Statements

Wallingford Parochial Church Council
Registered Charity Number 1129240
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 December 2020

Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	2020 total funds	2019 total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments from: (Note 2)					
Donations and legacies	127,112.89	1,955.00		129,067.89	163,917.32
Charitable activities	8,002.26			8,002.26	22,199.22
Other trading activities	3,274.14			3,274.14	13,079.70
Investments	4,800.52			4,800.52	3,929.47
Other incoming resources					598.73
Total income	143,189.81	1,955.00		145,144.81	203,724.44
Expenditure on: (Note 3)					
Raising funds	2,331.54			2,331.54	3,211.97
Charitable activities	123,184.57	4,567.10		127,751.67	202,314.96
Total expenditure	125,516.11	4,567.10		130,083.21	205,526.93
Net incoming / outgoing resources before transfer	17,673.70	(2,612.10)		15,061.60	(1,802.49)
Transfers (Note 12)					
Gross transfers between funds - in	11,250.00			11,250.00	
Gross transfers between funds - out	(11,250.00)			(11,250.00)	
Net incoming/outgoing before other gains/losses	17,673.70	(2,612.10)		15,061.60	(1,802.49)
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Gains and losses on investment assets (Note 13)	1,408.95		10,853.00	12,261.95	26,823.88
Net movement in funds	19,082.65	(2,612.10)	10,853.00	27,323.55	25,021.39
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	237,310.93	10,810.54	147,895.93	396,616.13	371,594.74
Total funds carried forward	256,393.58	8,198.44	158,748.93	423,939.68	396,616.13

The notes on pages 17 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

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Balance Sheet

Statement of Financial Position

	2020 total funds	2019 total funds
	£	£
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets (Note 7)	17,903.57	6,875.40
Investments (Notes 7 and 13)	173,969.69	161,707.74
	191,873.26	168,583.14
Current assets		
Debtors (Note 8)	10,174.40	24,536.13
Cash at bank and in hand (Note 9)	228,802.12	208,851.96
	238,976.52	233,388.09
Liabilities		
Creditors: amounts falling due in one year (Note 10)	6,910.10	5,355.10
Net current assets less current liabilities	232,066.42	228,032.99
Total assets less current liabilities	423,939.68	396,616.13
Represented by (Note 12)		
Unrestricted		
Unrestricted - General fund	154,359.44	131,855.20
Designated		
Designated - Choir fund	3,585.35	2,968.85
Designated - Reserve fund	23,926.86	22,057.64
Designated - Rector's discretionary fund	1,356.15	1,256.15
Designated - Jordan legacy	16,463.27	15,054.32
Designated - Ruth Chamberlain memorial trust fund	8,072.45	7,459.38
Designated - Bell ringers' fund	2,709.44	3,100.44
Designated - Youth and children work fund	46,519.35	54,157.68
Restricted		
Restricted - St Mary's tower fund	2,935.14	2,935.14
Restricted - Restricted fund	5,263.30	7,875.40
Endowment		
Endowment - Ruth Chamberlain memorial trust fund	19,893.17	18,613.20
Endowment - St Leonard's Church endowment funds	138,855.76	129,282.73
Funds of the church	423,939.68	396,616.13

Approved by the Parochial Church Council in general meeting on 9 March 2021 and signed on its behalf by Stephen Harrison (PCC Treasurer).

The notes on pages 17 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

Wallingford Parochial Church Council
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Note 1 - Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (effective 1 January 2015 the "SORP (FRS102)"). The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis. Financial statements are based on historical costs, except for investments which are shown at market value.

The financial statements include all transactions, assets, and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

Collections and appeals for nominated beneficiaries have not entered the accounts as they were collected on behalf of third parties.

The financial statements do not contain the accounts of informal groups of church members or of other groups which owe their main affiliation to another body.

Funds

The general fund of the PCC is an unrestricted fund. Some of the general fund has been earmarked by the PCC for particular purposes and these are referred to as Designated funds.

Endowment funds are included where the Trustees are the Rector and Church Wardens. These funds are small and their purposes are identified in the accompanying note 12.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income

Collections are recognised when received by the PCC.

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

Income tax recoverable on gift aided donations is recognised when the donation is received.

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

Funds raised by appeals, garden parties, social, and other events are accounted for gross. Any associated costs are disclosed under expenditure - raising funds.

Income from investments

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable.

Gains and losses on investments and other fixed assets

Realised gains or losses on investments are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains or losses are calculated as the difference between opening market value (or purchase price if later) and market value on the 31 December each year.

Resources Expended

Grants and donations, are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC. Other resources expended are accounted for when the liability arises on an accruals basis.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated land and buildings

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s. 96(2)(a) of the 2011 Charities Act.

All expenditure during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings is included in the Statement of Financial Activity (SOFA).

Listings of such expenditure are given in the notes to the accounts.

Other fixtures, fittings, and office equipment

Fixtures, furnishings and equipment used within church premises are written off linearly over four years unless a longer period is appropriate to reflect the useful life of certain assets. Individual items with a purchase price of less than £3,000 are written off when the asset is acquired. The write off period of certain assets is:

The grand piano purchased in 2013 is being written off linearly over ten years.

Short term deposits and cash

Short term deposits includes cash held on deposit either with Church of England Central Board of Finance Deposit Fund or at the bank.

Cash includes monies held in bank current accounts.

Wallingford Parochial Church Council
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Note 2 - Incoming Resources

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	2020 total funds	2019 total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies					
Standing order donations	71,988.50			71,988.50	66,383.00
Envelope donations	7,327.35			7,327.35	18,328.12
Loose plate collections	2,109.18			2,109.18	5,666.08
Giving through church boxes	243.57			243.57	296.70
One-off donations	13,487.00	1,680.00		15,167.00	6,583.03
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	22,451.84	125.00		22,576.84	22,972.62
Non-recurring one-off grants	4,566.86			4,566.86	34,576.75
Other funds generated	4,938.59	150.00		5,088.59	9,111.02
Donations and legacies income subtotals	127,112.89	1,955.00		129,067.89	163,917.32
Charitable activities					
Coffee sales	2,341.26			2,341.26	11,791.22
Fees for weddings and funerals	3,608.00			3,608.00	5,915.00
Verger, organ, bells, and choir fees	2,053.00			2,053.00	4,493.00
Charitable activities subtotals	8,002.26			8,002.26	22,199.22
Other trading activities					
Church lettings and sales - fund raising	3,274.14			3,274.14	13,079.70
Activities for generating funds subtotals	3,274.14			3,274.14	13,079.70
Investment income					
Dividends	4,437.50			4,437.50	3,295.23
Bank and building society interest	363.02			363.02	634.24
Investment income subtotals	4,800.52			4,800.52	3,929.47
Income from generated funds totals	143,189.81	1,955.00		145,144.81	203,125.71
Other incoming resources					
Insurance claims					598.73
Other incoming resources subtotals					598.73
Incoming resources grand totals	143,189.81	1,955.00		145,144.81	203,724.44

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Note 3 - Resources Expended

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	2020 total funds	2019 total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Raising funds					
Costs of fund raising and events	2,263.81			2,263.81	3,059.93
Costs of stewardship campaign	67.73			67.73	152.04
Raising funds expenditure subtotals	2,331.54			2,331.54	3,211.97
Charitable activities					
Giving - relief and development (Note 6)	2,500.00	600.00		3,100.00	1,250.00
Giving - home mission (Note 6)	2,050.00			2,050.00	50.00
Secular charities (Note 6)	100.00			100.00	1,250.00
Parish share	68,019.93			68,019.93	67,489.29
Ministry and mission	2,732.86	1,194.40		3,927.26	6,277.84
Assistant staff costs	8,359.54			8,359.54	5,152.83
Rector's working expenses	858.44			858.44	1,235.83
Recoverables vergers, organ, choir, bells	2,030.00			2,030.00	3,252.94
Costs of organists and choir	7,242.48			7,242.48	9,839.77
Flowers					18.95
Insurance	8,323.41			8,323.41	8,144.48
Organ and piano tuning	650.20			650.20	1,592.46
Church maintenance and sundries	5,291.45			5,291.45	8,233.56
Administration	640.00			640.00	640.00
Bank charges	332.86			332.86	689.32
Bad debts	189.00			189.00	
Utilities	6,834.79			6,834.79	7,517.30
Payment card charges	41.31			41.31	4.19
Repairs	2,388.00			2,388.00	75,917.09
Depreciation (Note 7)	4,600.30	2,772.70		7,373.00	3,759.11
Charitable activities sub-totals	123,184.57	4,567.10		127,751.67	202,314.96
Resources expended grand totals	125,516.11	4,567.10		130,083.21	205,526.93

Coffee is purchased both for fellowship (coffee after services) and fund raising (selling coffee in church). As it is not possible to separate these costs, they are all included in "Ministry and Mission".

Costs of "organists and choir" includes expenditure on choir tours.

Note 4 - Statement of Staff Costs

Fees from weddings and funerals due to the Director of Music and to the Verger are paid directly to them by the PCC.

Fees due to the choir and ringers are paid to the choir and ringers. The PCC paid honoraria for the vergers (£210) and for clerical work (£556). The organist was also paid monthly. The total for the year (organist plus honoraria) was £7,491.

Since September 2017, the PCC has employed one youth worker part-time as part of its mission to families.

The total paid to the youth workers in 2020 was £7,486 (2019: £4,629).

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Note 5 - Details of Certain Items of Expenditure

Trustees Fees

No trustees were paid in their capacity as trustees nor did they receive any expenses. No trustee received fees for any other services provided to the charity.

The total donations from trustees during the year were £34,765.

Independent Examination

No fees were paid for the independent examination of the accounts nor were any other fees paid to the independent examiner for other services.

Note 6 - Grants to Missions and Charities and Disposal of Special Collections

	2020 total £
Giving - relief and development	
PCC donation to Refugee Resource	1,250.00
Individual donation to Bartimaeus Chritable Trust (Sharp school for the blind) via PCC	600.00
PCC donation to Bartimaeus Chritable Trust (Sharp school for the blind)	1,250.00
Total	3,100.00
 Home mission	
Subsidy for Crowmarsh Parish Share	2,000.00
Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust	50.00
Total	2,050.00
 Secular charities	
Wallingford Food Bank	100.00
Total	100.00
 Total giving by the PCC	5,250.00
 Disposal of special collections	
Collections and appeals for nominated beneficiaries have not entered the accounts as they were collected on behalf of third parties.	
Children Heard and Seen	100.00
Fair Trade - Coffee collection 8 March	154.25
Sue Ryder Care - Winter recital proceeds	1,500.00
The Children's Society - J Pengilley collection boxes	549.03
Total for special collections	2,303.28

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Note 7 - Fixed assets

	2020 total £
Tangible fixed assets	
Cost	
Balance brought forward	103,668.45
Additions	18,401.17
Balance carried forward	122,069.62
Accumulated depreciation	
Balance brought forward	96,793.05
Depreciation charge for year	7,373.00
Balance carried forward	104,166.05
Net book value	
Brought forward	6,875.40
Carried forward	17,903.57
Tangible Fixed Assets includes the Yamaha C3 piano, the sound desk at St Leonard's, and LED lighting in St Mary's.	
Their net book values at the end of 2020 were £2300.00, £1802.70, and £13,800.87 respectively.	
(2019: piano £3,450 and sound desk £3425.40. The lighting was new in 2020.)	
Fixed asset investments (see also Note 13)	
Market value at beginning of year	161,707.74
Gain on revaluation	12,261.95
Market value at end of year	173,969.69

Note 8 - Debtors

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 total £	2019 total £
Debtors				
Outstanding wedding fees				189.00
Listed places of worship scheme grant				12,446.75
Gift aid	10,174.40		10,174.40	11,900.38
Debtors total	10,174.40		10,174.40	24,536.13

Note 9 - Cash at Bank

	2020 total £	2019 total £
Cash at Bank		
Lloyds current account	142,589.37	123,550.48
CBF1003 (Reserve)	72,645.15	72,346.95
CBF1005 (Ruth memorial)	13,567.60	12,954.53
Current assets total	228,802.12	208,851.96

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Note 10 - Creditors

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2020 total	2019 total
	£	£	£	£
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year				
Agency collections			1,496.00	71.00
Wedding fees taken in advance			972.00	600.00
Owing for junior choristers pay				233.00
Sundry creditors			604.00	613.00
Retention on tower works (Joslin's)				
Retention on tower works (Harri-Stone)			3,838.10	3,838.10
Creditors total			6,910.10	5,355.10

Note 11 - Commitments

The PCC recognised no further financial commitments at the end of 2020 other than those disclosed in creditors.

Note 12 Funds

	Balance brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Gains and losses	Balance carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted - General Fund	131,855.20	126,261.50	115,007.26	11,250.00		154,399.44
Designated - Choir Fund	2,968.85	731.00	114.50			3,585.35
Designated - Reserve Fund	22,057.64	15,384.24	2,265.02	(11,250.00)		23,926.86
Designated - Rector's Discretionary Fund	1,256.15	200.00	100.00			1,356.15
Designated - Jordan Legacy	15,054.32				1,408.95	16,463.27
Designated - Ruth Chamberlain Memorial Trust Fund	7,459.38	613.07				8,072.45
Designated - Bell ringers' fund	3,100.44		391.00			2,709.44
Designated - Youth and children work fund	54,157.68		7,638.33			46,519.35
 Restricted - St Mary's Tower Fund	 2,935.14	 	 	 	 	 2,935.14
Restricted - Restricted Funds	7,875.40	1,955.00	4,567.10			5,263.30
 Endowment - Ruth Chamberlain Memorial Trust Fund	 18,613.20	 	 	 	 1,279.97	 19,893.17
Endowment - St Leonard's Church Endowment Funds	129,282.73				9,573.03	138,855.76
	396,616.13	145,144.81	130,083.21	-	12,261.95	423,939.68

General Fund - general income and operating expenses.

Choir Fund - for fund raising and expenditure of the choir apart from funds provided by the PCC.

Reserve Fund - to cover cash shortfalls in the event of unforeseen circumstances such as emergency repairs.

Rector's Discretionary Fund - a sum of money donated by a parishioner for use at the Rector's discretion.

Jordan Legacy - shares remaining after the original legacy was fully spent. Now generating income for the PCC.

Ruth Chamberlain Memorial Trust Fund - endowment provides for the designated fund for costs first for altar, then cassocks, surplices, and choir hymnals and psalters.

St Mary's Tower Fund - money collected for the repair and restoration of St Mary's church tower.

Restricted Fund - set up in 2012 for Restricted payments from various sources including the Friends of St Mary and St Leonard.

The current balance of £5,263.30 consists of £2300.00 as the residual value of the Yamaha C3 grand piano purchased in 2013,

£1,802.70 as the residual value of the sound desk in St Leonard's church purchased in 2018,

and £1,160 in cash of which £625 is reserved for organ repairs.

St Leonard's Church Endowment Funds - investment income for the PCC General Fund.

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Note 13 - Details of Investments

			2020 total £	2019 total £
CCLA Shares - St Leonard's House	St Leonard's Church endowment funds	Endowment	77,273.18	72,301.24
<i>Custodian Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance. St Leonard's House; Income to Rector and Churchwardens for yearly expenses of Parish Church. Perpetual trust with loan to Parish under 1984 recoupment scheme; outstanding loan at 31 December 2020 £0.00. From 2005, accumulated interest and dividends paid to PCC. Recoupment repayment paid to ODBF by PCC.</i>				
CCLA Shares - St Leonard's Cottage	St Leonard's Church endowment funds	Endowment	56,542.70	52,265.89
<i>Custodian Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance. St Leonard's Cottage; Perpetual trust with object as for St Leonard's House. Recoupment scheme for loan of £4,047 made to Parish in 1974 concluded during 1998 and capital repaid. New recoupment scheme 1999 Charity Commission agreed release of £16,000 to PCC for repairs at St Leonard's or St Mary's. Outstanding loan at 31 December 2020 £2,560.00. From 2005, accumulated interest and dividends paid to PCC. Recoupment payment £640.00 per year.</i>				
CCLA Shares - St Leonard's Lands	St Leonard's Church endowment funds	Endowment	5,039.88	4,715.60
<i>St Leonard's Church Lands: general expenses of the Church. Rector and Churchwarden trustees. Perpetual trust with opening capital, represented by 246 CBF Investment units; income paid to PCC.</i>				
CCLA Shares - Jordan Legacy	Jordan Legacy	Designated	15,220.76	13,811.81
<i>306.14 Central Board of Finance Accumulation Investment Fund units purchased 9 December 1997 at 979.94p.</i>				
CCLA Shares - Ruth Chamberlain Trust	Ruth Chamberlain memorial trust fund	Endowment	19,893.17	18,613.20
<i>Wallingford St Mary's Ruth Chamberlain Trust; first for altar, then cassocks, surplices and choir hymnals psalters. Perpetual trust with opening capital of £1,000 represented by CBF Investment units; income paid to PCC.</i>				
Investments subtotal			173,969.69	161,707.74
 The realised and unrealised gains on investments in the year are			 12,261.95	 26,823.88

13.Independent Examiner's Report

Wallingford Parochial Church Council
Registered Charity Number 1129240
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT
for the year ended 31 December 2020

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Wallingford Parochial Church Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020, which comprises pages 16 to 24 of the annual report.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As members of the PCC who are also the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the account in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Church Accounting Regulations 2006 or under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act")) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, 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 no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements present 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with my examination which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act have not been met; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



Hannah Leamy FCCA
4 Fitzcount Way, Wallingford, Oxon, OX10 8JP
Relevant professional body: Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
Date: 1 May 2021

Wallingford PCC Annual Report 2020 approved by the PCC on 9th March, 2021 and signed on their behalf by the Reverend David Rice (PCC Chairman)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Rice', with a stylized flourish at the end.

The Reverend David Rice