

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES

England & Wales · Charity number 1129372

Details

Other names CHALFONT ST GILES PCC

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2009-05-01

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

Contact

Address The Rectory
2 Deanway
Chalfont St Giles
HP8 4JH

Phone 01494211738

Email saintgileschurch@gmail.com

Website www.csgparish.church

Activities

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

Activities: CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

Classification

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

Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£150,688	£146,627	-	-
2023-12-31	£125,712	£159,149	-	-
2022-12-31	£156,634	£141,514	-	-
2021-12-31	£156,634	£141,514	-	-
2020-12-31	£131,883	£140,191	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Daniel Edward Beesley	Chair	2022-01-27
David Arnold Jessel		2024-05-22
Janelle Dawn Stevenson		2024-05-22
John Ashurst Southworth		2025-01-16
John Peter Dugdale-Bradley		2021-11-01
Laura Zoe Julia Chapman		2024-05-22
MARGARET ANN CAREY		2024-05-22
Marc Seagrove		2025-05-11
Michael John Baldwin		2024-09-25
Rev Paul Evan Henderson		2018-06-23
Richard Spencer Paul Silman		2024-05-22
Tom Will Boundy		2021-05-12
Victoria Claire Neil		2025-05-11

Accounts

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chalfont Saint Giles (Diocese of Oxford)

Otherwise known as: **PCC of Chalfont St. Giles**



Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2024

Rector: The Rev'd Dan Beesley

Registered Charity Number 1129372

www.csgparish.church

CONTENTS

1	Who are we?	A1
2	What do we do?	
	2.1 Aims and Purposes	A1
	2.2 Objectives and Activities	A1
3	Review of the year	
	3.1 Worship, Prayer and Discipleship	A1
	3.2 Pastoral Care	A2
	3.3 Missionary	A2
	3.4 Outreach	A3
	3.5 Premises	A4
	3.6 Ecumenical Relationships	A5
4	Financial Review	
	4.1 Financial Position	A5
	4.2 Commentary on Receipts and Payments	A5
	4.3 Looking Forward to 2025 and beyond	A6
	4.4 Reserves Policy	A6
5	Deanery Synod	A6
6	Risk Management	
	6.1 Risk register	A7
	6.2 Safeguarding	A7
	6.3 Financial Risks	A7
7	Structure, Governance and Management	
	7.1 Parochial Church Council (PCC)	A7
	7.2 Standing Committee	A8
	7.3 Other Committees and Groups	A8
	7.4 Volunteers	A9
8	Administrative Information	
	8.1 Correspondence Address	A9
	8.2 PCC Members (Trustees)	A9
9	Independent Examiner's Report	A11
10	Financial Statements	A12 - A17

Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council January to December 2024

1 Who are we?

Chalfont St. Giles (CSG) Parish Church, High Street, HP8 4QF is one of two churches in the Benefice of Chalfont St. Giles, Seer Green and Jordans. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of CSG is a registered charity no. 1129372

The other church in the Benefice is Holy Trinity, Orchard Road, Seer Green, Buckinghamshire, HP9 2YA. Holy Trinity is a separate charity no. 1175583. Both churches are part of the Church of England.

2 What do we do?

2.1 Aims and Purposes

The PCC of CSG has the responsibility of working alongside the Rector, the Rev'd Dan Beesley, in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It is responsible for the maintenance and management of the church buildings and fabric. This includes the Reading Room, a 40-seat, Grade 2 listed building which is available for hire by the community.

2.2 Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at the church and become part of our parish community. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and considers how our services can involve the many groups who live within the parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, the Rector and PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and the supplementary guidance to charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel; developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus Christ;
- provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish; and
- missionary and outreach work beyond the immediate church community.

3 Review of the year

3.1 Worship, Prayer and Discipleship

The Rector, clergy and PCC aim to offer a range of services on Sundays, during the week and over the course of the year that enable our community to draw closer to God, worship with one another, and develop in spiritual maturity.

The principal act of worship each week takes place on Sundays at 9.30am and is the Parish Communion. A service of Holy Communion according to the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) is held at 8am. A contemporary service known as 'Connect' was introduced in January 2023. This was well received by visitors, e.g., attending for baptisms. However, core attendance declined and was not maintained at a sustainable level. In March 2024 the PCC decided to pause the service and to reflect on what changes were required, e.g., time and location.

A full programme of Sunday evening services was maintained throughout 2024, following its reintroduction in September 2023. These include Choral Evensong, Holy Communion with Prayers for Healing and other types of spirituality, e.g., Celtic Reflection.

During the week, there are currently 4 Home groups meeting for Bible study, prayer and fellowship. There is a monthly mid-week Holy Communion service. A Morning Prayer service is held Tuesday to Friday on Zoom.

For children and young people, there is an evening get-together for teenagers called Y-Zone, Messy Church is held once a month and a children's group has recommenced meeting during the sermon on Sunday mornings.

All are welcome to attend our services. As at January 2024 there were 154 on the electoral roll, rising to 157 in March and 161 at the 2024 APCM. Every 6 years, rather than updating, a new electoral roll is drawn up. This will next happen in April 2025. The average weekly attendance across all regular services, counted in October 2024 (2023) was 82 (76) aged 16 & over & 14 (12) under 16. Attendances were, of course, higher at services celebrating the major Festivals and other events, e.g., Remembrance, Baptisms etc.

During 2024 the church was used for:

- 5 (10) baptisms
- 7 (4) confirmations (*Candidates from Stoke Poges, Princes Risborough & Seer Green were also confirmed at the same service*)
- 1 (3) wedding(s)
- 7 (12) funerals & 1 (4) memorial service(s)
- 2 (6) interment of ashes in churchyard

In addition, our clergy took 3 (4) funerals away from church at local crematoria.

3.2 Pastoral Care

The Rector and PCC are committed to the pastoral care of all people in the CSG parish. Holy Communion is taken regularly to several housebound parishioners and others as and when required. Visits are made to people who are unwell at home or in hospital with the assistance of the Pastoral Care team. Appropriate safeguarding training and measures are in place.

3.3 Missionary

We support and promote the work of several charities:

- **Transform Trade** (formerly known as Traidcraft Exchange) works to reduce poverty by encouraging trading fairly with marginalized groups and campaigning against unjust trade rules. The church remains a certified fair-trade church and regular stalls are held in church selling goods from fair trade producers, many of which are not generally available in the shops. Members respond to periodic appeals for the Chiltern Trussel Trust foodbank using these products.
- **Street Kids Direct** is led by Steve and Lindsey Poulson and works with vulnerable young people in Honduras. It provides mentoring, creates safe spaces for at-risk children and young people to grow, and supports local project development.
- **A Rocha UK** – Helps equip churches to care for creation. The church has held the silver award since 2022.
- **Fawsett Trust** - is a local charity, originally established in 1905, and working with other groups in supporting our elderly village residents with vouchers at Christmas, exchangeable only in the village shops and so also helping them. The Trust receive contributions from the PCC, the Village Show, Helping Hands and Bucks Council Community Board and further individual contributions which enable this work to continue. Members of the church, including the Rector, are involved in the Board of Trustees.
- We have also supported the **Mission to Seafarers** (through Christmas card sales), **All Together Community** (through Harvest gifts and the Toy service) and the **Trussell Trust**.

During 2024 the charities listed below were supported by donations from Church funds, or collections taken, or other fund-raising activities.

	£
All Together Community (Lent Lunches)	1,370.00
Transform Trade (Traidcraft Exchange)	492.50
Street Kids Direct	492.50
A Rocha	492.50
Fawsett Trust	<u>492.50</u>
	3,340.00
Royal British Legion (Poppy appeal)	280.00

3.4 Outreach

The Church seeks to reach out in service to the local community. It runs a Mother and Toddler's group, known as Chatterbox, when up to 20 toddlers with a parent, grandparent or carer gather in the Reading Room on Thursday mornings during term-time. Following Chatterbox, the church operates Rendezvous which provides an opportunity for chat and light refreshments. Once-a-month, the Naomi group for widow(er)s meets at Rendezvous. Sadly, weekly attendance at Rendezvous has continued to decline. Towards the end of 2024 it was only meeting twice a month. Topical events are arranged at different times of the year, e.g., Pancake party, Christmas wreath making, Light party (Halloween), etc.

During the 6 Fridays of Lent, the church provides 'Lent Lunches' when home-made soup, bread and cheese are served in the Reading Room. Deliveries are also made to local businesses. In 2024, £2,370 was raised which was split between the All Together Community and the Reading Room.

The Rector and PCC seek to support the work of the village school. Members of the clergy take school assemblies and host visits to the church by pupils and parents for special events.

The church supports the under-12s Chalfont Wasps football team (providing half-time refreshments for spectators) and other village activities, e.g., the village show, Christmas lights switch-on, etc.

3.5 Premises

The church building is an important historic facility in the community. Parts of the building date back to the 12th century, with additions in several subsequent centuries. It contains mediaeval wall paintings and other historic features. From April to September, the church building was open daily to visitors, thanks to a dedicated group of 'Church Watch' volunteers. The church is also used for certain community events, e.g., it is used for talks in the Chalfont St. Giles Literary Festival and fund-raising concerts arranged by the Friends of CSG Parish Church in support of the church.

The Reading Room is an important community facility in the centre of the village. It is available for hire.

The PCC is responsible for the church building and the Reading Room. The last Quinquennial survey was conducted in 2022. During 2024, work on the church building mainly consisted of essential maintenance items. The pipe organ blower required urgent overhaul in early 2024.

In the churchyard, there are over 40 substantial trees. These are regularly inspected and, when necessary, action is taken to cut back or remove trees as appropriate. In 2024, extensive pruning of trees along the south side of the churchyard was carried out. This was necessary to reduce the risk of lead theft from the south aisle roof which would otherwise be hidden from view from the adjacent footpath.

Following redecoration of the interior of the Reading Room, plans to redecorate the exterior were delayed as because of its listed status, the planning authority insisted on the use of limewash. We appealed this, considering limewash to be inferior and more expensive than modern alternatives. However, our appeal has been unsuccessful and we will now need to use limewash. The most effective means of doing so, given the amount of staining is being investigated.

Looking ahead, a 5-year electrical inspection will be carried out early in 2025. The church gas boilers are now 25 years old and consideration will need to be given to their replacement when sourcing spares becomes problematic

The generous help of the Friends of the CSG Parish Church, both financially and in

voluntary labour in maintaining the church and Reading Room, is gratefully acknowledged.

3.6 Ecumenical Relationships

The church maintains links with the other CSG churches - Deanway United church and the Living Word International church through joint services from time to time. The church has good relations with other churches in the area and our clergy help other churches e.g., in interregnum, by taking services. They also participate in prayer meetings of church ministers.

4. Financial Review

4.1 Financial Position

The original budget for 2024 showed a deficit of £30k. At year-end, the operating loss was £22.5k. However, because of unbudgeted legacies of £26.5k, there was an actual net surplus of £4k. Net assets at year-end were £321k, an increase of £15k mainly due to favourable investment market conditions.

4.2 Commentary on Receipts and Payments.

The recurring **income** of £124k was £3k below budget and £1.5k lower than 2023. The main shortfall was due primarily to lower fees because of a reduction in the number of weddings and funerals.

Voluntary Receipts in the year totalled £99k, an increase of c£2.5k compared to 2023 and close to the 2024 budget, with favourable variances in Donations and Gift Aid rebates offset by a shortfall in Offerings.

Receipts from Fundraising Activities totalled £11.3k, £4k below budget due to the shortfall in wedding and funeral income partially offset by a favourable variance in income from other fund-raising events.

Reading Room receipts totalled £6.7k, £1k above budget and £2.3k higher than in 2023.

Income from Other Receipts totalled £5.6k which was marginally above budget due to higher than anticipated interest received following the transfer in early 2024 of £30k from the Smallbrook account to the higher-interest bearing CBF Deposit Fund. This offset lower than expected donations from the Friends due to the delayed Reading Room exterior repainting.

Expenditure totalled £147k, £13k lower than 2023 and £11k below the 2024 budget.

Reading Room costs were £4.8k, some £6k below budget due to the delayed exterior repainting (see para 3.5 above). Church operating and activities costs totalled £115k, marginally lower than 2023 due to a significant reduction in energy costs following the introduction of a new contract. These savings were offset by higher than anticipated organ repair costs.

Management and Administration costs totalled £14k, £1k below 2023 and £5k below budget due primarily to the delayed appointment of the administrator.

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2024 - net assets totalled £321k, an increase of c£15k in the year. Cash funds increased by the £4k because of the net surplus of income over expenditure. Investments increased in value by £11.3k due to the generally favourable market conditions experienced in 2024.

4.3 Looking Forward to 2025 and beyond

Over the last 12 years, the church has made considerable losses, totalling in excess of £240,000. These losses have been masked by some generous legacies which were given for the benefit of the parish. However, by their very nature, these are 'one-offs' and should not be relied upon for supporting recurring expenditure. The PCC have come to the conclusion that the present situation is unsustainable. If action is not taken, it believes that the church would run out of money in 5 to 8 years. This would leave us with no reserves to develop the church's ministry in the parish.

A major item in the church's expenditure is the parish share. In 2024 it represented over 70% of our income (apart from legacies). The 2025 parish share for CSG is £86.7k.

The PCC has reluctantly decided that in 2025 it will only pay the clergy ministry costs element of the parish share. This decision is for 2025 only; this matter will be reviewed again for 2026. This will enable us to set a break-even 2025 budget, with both income and expenditure set at £127k. Budget income excludes bequests, legacies or unanticipated grants and any additional expenditure on major projects and initiatives will be subject to approval by PCC and, as necessary, financed from reserves. The PCC desires to see the church grow with an increase in income.

4.4. Reserves Policy

The PCC policy remains unchanged. This states that an unrestricted reserve should be maintained in cash or liquid assets to cover between 6 and 9 months of anticipated recurring annual expenditure. This is in line with the recommendation of the Charity Commission. At the 2024 year-end, our cash reserves of c£83.5k were sufficient to cover in excess of 60% of anticipated future budgeted recurring costs. Actual reserve movements in 2025 will continue to be kept under close scrutiny by the Finance Committee and, if necessary, investments would be liquidated in order to ensure continued compliance with the policy.

5 Deanery Synod

The PCC is allowed 3 lay representatives at Deanery Synod and following the 2024 APCM, has taken up all the places. Attendance at Deanery Synod provides an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

In 2024, Deanery Synod met 3 times. The following topics were considered:

- A presentation from the Parish Development Advisor;
- The new Diocesan vision for children and young families and reports from various churches of their activities & Estates ministry;
- A wide-ranging Q & A session and discussion with the Bishop of Oxford, including Diocesan finance & LLF;

- Elections to the Diocesan Synod for the 2024-2027 triennium & a report on General Synod from the General Synod representative; and
- The Deanery contribution to Diocesan finances and the 2025 Parish share;

February 2024 saw the untimely passing of the Bishop of Buckingham, Rt Rev'd Alan Wilson. The Rt Rev'd Dave Bull, Rector of Marlow, has been announced as his replacement and his installation is expected to take place in early 2025.

6 Risk Management

The PCC has policies covering a broad range of risks – health & safety, financial management, Reading Room operations, conflicts of interest, personnel, etc. Health & Safety training is provided for key holders (e.g., Church Watch volunteers). The Fabric Committee always considers health & safety when carrying out its responsibilities. Risk Assessments are also prepared for special services.

6.1 Risk Register

The PCC maintains a register of the principal risks and uncertainties to which it is exposed. It assesses the impact and likelihood of each risk and the steps to be taken to manage the risk. This was reviewed in January 2024. The PCC has a programme of review for its policies - some are reviewed annually and some triennially'

6.2 Safeguarding

The PCC takes the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults very seriously. Safeguarding training and DBS checks are required for church members undertaking various duties. Safeguarding is a standing item at each PCC meeting where amongst other things, the Parish Dashboard is reviewed. To raise general awareness of safeguarding, a presentation was made in a Sunday morning service in November: this will be repeated regularly. The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

6.3 Financial Risks

Most of our income is derived from donations and offerings. The biggest financial risk to our finances apart from the loss of regular donors, would be unwise investment of reserves where significant funds are held. A cautious approach is taken in investment of these funds. £230.4k was held in investments with the CBF Church of England Investment Fund and £6.9k in the COIF Charities Investment Fund with the balance being cash in hand and at bank. Where appropriate, the Church also maintains adequate insurance across all identified risks.

7 Structure, Governance and Management

7.1 Parochial Church Council (PCC)

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC

operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The method and appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission under the full title of “The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chalfont St. Giles (Diocese of Oxford)” with a working name of “PCC of Chalfont St. Giles” (Charity no. 1129372). The members of the PCC are the trustees of the charity.

There are 12 elected positions on the PCC. Voting for PCC members takes place at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. PCC members are elected to serve for a term of 3 years. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and consider standing for election to the PCC. The clergy and churchwardens are ex-officio members of the PCC. The PCC can also co-opt members.

The PCC meets 5-6 times per year for normal business. In 2024, average attendance was 11. It is responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how funds are to be spent. Special meetings are held if required.

Resources for new PCC members (trustees) are provided by the Charity Commission and the Diocese. The church also has a comprehensive induction pack.

Some of the work of the PCC is delegated to various committees, as described in the following paragraphs.

7.2 Standing Committee

The Standing Committee is the only committee legally required. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. The Standing Committee would meet if any urgent matter arose which could not wait until the scheduled PCC Meeting.

7.3 Other Committees and Groups

Other committees and groups assist in the running of the church:

- The Finance Committee assists the Treasurer in his financial management role.
- The Fabric Committee looks after the church building, churchyard and Reading Room maintenance.
- The Discipleship and Missions Committee looks to encourage spiritual growth at all stages of the Christian life - introduction to the faith, preparation for baptism/confirmation, life-long learning and growth of each member together with outreach both within the local community and further afield.
- The Worship & Prayer Committee provides detailed planning for the programme of church services.
- The Children & Families Strategy Group considers ways to develop the church's ministry to children and young people.
- The Flower Guild arranges floral displays for church services and special events like weddings and funerals. They run Christmas wreath making evenings.
- The Pastoral Care team helps the clergy with this aspect of the church's ministry.
- Whilst the Eco-Committee is not currently meeting, there are individuals that promote this activity.

7.4 Volunteers

The achievements of the PCC are only possible because of the many volunteers who give generously of their time and energy. Volunteers undertake a wide variety of tasks including (but not restricted to) membership of the various committees and pastoral care, building and grounds maintenance, stewardship of finances and Gift aid giving, church cleaning, flower arranging, musicians and choir, children's and youth activities, welcome desk/sidespersons, assistance with the service of Holy Communion, intercession leaders, lesson readers, Reading Room bookings & management, serving tea & coffee, and general administration. The PCC gratefully acknowledges all such contributions.

8 Administrative Information

8.1 Correspondence address

The correspondence address is Chalfont St. Giles (CSG) Parish Church, High Street, Chalfont St Giles, HP8 4QF. The correspondence contact is the Rector (Rev'd Dan Beesley).

8.2 PCC Members (Trustees)

The Members of the PCC are the trustees of the charity. During the year, the following served as members of the PCC:

(i) *Ex Officio*

Clergy:

Rev'd Dan Beesley (Rector)
Rev'd Jenny Tebboth (SSM p/t)
Rev'd Paul Henderson (SSM p/t)

Churchwardens:

Richard Silman (from May 2024)
Janelle Stevenson (from May 2024)
Churchwarden positions were vacant until APCM 2024 – statutory duties of role were undertaken by the PCC

Treasurer

John Southworth (from November 2024)

(ii) *Elected Members as at 1 January 2024:*

(a) To APCM 2024

Tom Boundy
Kate Southworth
Tracey Wiggin

(b) To APCM 2025

John Bradley

(iii) *Elected at 2023 APCM (to APCM 2026)*

Peter Miles (became Deanery Synod representative at APCM 2024)
Jennifer Wilson

(iv) *Co-opted at APCM 2023 (to APCM 2026)*

John Southworth (Treasurer)

(v) *Elected at 2024 APCM (to APCM 2027)*

Tom Boundy
Laura Chapman
Dave Jessel

(vi) *Co-opted in June 2024 (to APCM 2025)*

Victoria Neil
Marc Seagrove

(vii) *Appointed in June 2024 to fill casual vacancy (to APCM 2027)*

Mike Baldwin

(viii) *Deanery Synod Representatives (also members of PCC) elected at APCM 2024 to APCM 2026 when fresh elections for all Deanery Synod representatives will take place):*

Margaret Carey
Marion Miles
Peter Miles

No Deanery Synod representative from January – May 2024.

Approved by the PCC on 27 April 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

R Silman

Richard Silman
Churchwarden & PCC Vice Chair

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the Parochial Church Council ("PCC") of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chalfont St Giles for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the summary of receipts and payments and the statement of assets and liabilities.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the 2011 Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- *examine the financial statements under section 145 of the 2011 Act.*
- *to follow the procedures laid down in General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 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 a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- *to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and*
- *to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act*

have not been met; or

b) which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached

Rupert St Clair-Burton CPA

Signed: RSC-B

St Clair Accountancy Solutions Limited,
Suite A
73, Woodside Road,
Amersham,
Buckinghamshire HP6 6AA

Date: 13 March 2025

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chalfont St Giles

Registered Charity no: 1129372

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted and Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Expendable and Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
		£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources						
Voluntary Receipts	4	96,968	2,020	0	98,988	96,505
Receipts from Fundraising	5	8,731	2,597	0	11,328	15,106
Receipts from Reading Room	6	5,380	1,370	0	6,750	4,413
Receipts from Church Activities	7	1,535	0	0	1,535	2,051
Other Receipts	8	3,662	1,943	0	5,605	7,637
Operating Receipts		116,276	7,930	0	124,207	125,712
Major Projects and Bequests	9	26,482	0	0	26,482	0
Total Receipts		142,758	7,930	0	150,688	125,712
Payments						
Voluntary Income Costs	10	1,970	0	0	1,970	2,940
Fundraising	11	5,726	277	0	6,004	7,107
Reading Room Expenses	12	4,299	515	0	4,814	15,117
Church Activities	13	114,172	1,238	0	115,410	117,527
Management and Administration	14	13,868	0	0	13,868	15,066
Other Costs	15	614	3,948	0	4,562	1,392
Total Operating costs		140,649	5,978	0	146,627	159,149
Net Receipts (Payments)		2,109	1,952	0	4,061	(33,437)
Net Inter Fund transfers		128	(128)	0	0	0
Gain/(loss) on Investments		0	0	11,345	11,345	25,042
2023 Balance brought forward		77,981	1,545	226,001	305,527	313,922
2024 Balance carried forward		80,218	3,369	237,346	320,933	305,527

This sheet is sourced from Assets and Liabilities by Fund
The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chalfont St Giles

Registered Charity no: 1129372

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Expendable and Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
FIXED ASSETS						
Investments at valuation	0	0	0	237,346	237,346	226001
CURRENT ASSETS						
Cash at Bank and in hand	28,637	225	3,369	0	32,231	15083
Cash on deposit with Central Board of Finance	9,357	41,999	0	0	51,356	19443
Shawbrook Bank	0	0	0	0	0	45000
Net current assets	37,994	42,224	3,369	0	83,587	79,526
TOTAL NET ASSETS	37,994	42,224	3,369	237,346	320,933	305,527

The Financial Statements were approved by the PCC Committee on 20th March 2025, and the Honorary Treasurer was authorised to sign them on the Committee's behalf.

Signed

J Southworth

Honorary Treasurer

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and Recommended Practice "Accounting and reporting by charities" (revised 2005).

The accounts are drawn up on the basis of "Receipts and Payments " (rather than "prepayments and accrual" accounting) as permitted by the Charity Commission for charities with a turnover of less than £250k a year. They are also drawn up under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investment assets at market value.

Incoming resources

Offerings and donations received for the general purposes of the charity are included as Unrestricted Funds. The relevant Gift Aid is shown separately. Donations whose application is restricted by the wishes of the donor are taken to Restricted Funds. Incoming resources are all accounted for gross and planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due.

Investment income, dividends, interest, and tax recoverable are accounted for when received.
All other income is generally recognised when it is receivable.

Resources expended

The church has followed the practice of writing off 100 per cent of the cost of any additions or modifications to the consecrated land and buildings and contents of the church.

Parish Share is paid regularly and is included in expenditure for the year in which it is paid.

Unrestricted fund grants (including donations to missions) are recognised when determined by the PCC. Amounts received specifically for missions are dealt with as restricted funds and the liability for payment is recognised when the amounts are received.

All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred.

Assets and Liabilities

The following assets are recognised but not attributed a value in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

*Moveable church furnishings held by the church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal;

*Land and buildings and improvements thereto, held on behalf of the PCC;

*Other fixtures, fittings, and office equipment where the PCC is free to dispose of such assets without faculty and where the original cost exceeded £1,000.

The following assets are recognised, and a monetary value given as part of the description in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

*Closing bank balances

*Closing revalued balances on investments

The following liabilities are recognised in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities

*Any loans or overdrafts advanced to the PCC;

*Any arrears of Diocesan Parish Share

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024, continued

Taxation

The Parochial Church Council is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted Funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees. Designated funds are Unrestricted Funds as they are not restricted by the donor and are available for any specified purpose endorsed by the PCC.

Restricted Funds are those donations and covenants where the donor has stipulated that the monies should be used for particular purposes. Any Restricted Funds received have been or will be disbursed for the purposes intended by the donor. All donations to the Fabric Fund for example are used to finance property repairs.

Endowment Funds are those where the donor has donated a capital sum, making the dividend or interest from the fund to be used as stipulated.

2. APB ETHICAL STANDARD - Provisions Available for Small Entities

In common with many other organisations of our size and nature we use our independent examiner to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

3. RESERVING POLICY

The policy remains unchanged such that a minimum reserve will be maintained, sufficient to cover between 6 and 9 months of anticipated recurring expenditure which in the 12 months to 31 December 2024 totalled £146,627.

To ensure the ongoing adequacy of this reserve and in accordance with the Charity Commission recommendation, as a minimum, 6 months of the anticipated recurring costs will be held in unrestricted reserves such that the minimum reserve requirement is covered by cash and other liquid assets.

At 31 December 2024 liquid funds totalled £83,587 which exceeds the minimum requirement and in 2025 a reduction in recurring expenditure is anticipated.

Actual reserve movements in 2025 will be kept under close scrutiny by the Finance Review Committee and, if necessary, investments will be liquidated in order to ensure continued compliance with the agreed policy.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chalfont St Giles

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted and Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Expendable and Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts					
4 Voluntary Receipts					
Offerings	13,065	0	0	13,065	14,688
Donations (incl. Gift Days)	63,860	1,655	0	65,515	63,445
HMRC Gift Aid Rebate	20,043	365	0	20,408	18,373
	96,968	2,020	0	98,988	96,505
5 Receipts from Fundraising					
Wedding and Funeral Fees	4,908	0	0	4,908	9,636
Fundraising Events Income	3,720	2,597	0	6,317	5,390
Magazine Income	103	0	0	103	80
	8,731	2,597	0	11,328	15,106
6 Receipts from Reading Room					
Reading Room Income	5,380	1,370	0	6,750	4,413
	5,380	1,370	0	6,750	4,413
7 Receipts from Church Activities					
Social Outreach	821	0	0	821	1,251
Children Youth & Messy Church	714	0	0	714	801
	1,535	0	0	1,535	2,051
8 Other Receipts					
Grants Received	0	1,435	0	1,435	6,015
Miscellaneous	1,013	320	0	1,333	570
Special gifts & Donations for Charities	433	0	0	433	263
Interest and Dividends	2,216	188	0	2,404	790
	3,662	1,943	0	5,605	7,637
Operating receipts	116,276	7,930	0	124,207	125,712
9 Project and Legacy receipts					
Major projects	0	0	0	0	0
Bequests and legacies	26,482	0	0	26,482	0
Asset and Investment Sales	0	0	0	0	0
	26,482	0	0	26,482	0
Total receipts	142,758	7,930	0	150,688	125,712

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chalfont St Giles

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted and Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Expendable & Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Payments					
10 Voluntary Income Costs					
Grants Given (including tithes)	1,970	0	0	1,970	2,940
	1,970	0	0	1,970	2,940
11 Fundraising Costs					
Fundraising Event Expenses	2,208	277	0	2,485	1,858
Wedding & Funeral Fees to ODBF	3,108	0	0	3,108	5,012
Magazine & Publicity	410	0	0	410	238
	5,726	277	0	6,004	7,107
12 Reading Room Expenses					
Light and Heat	1,668	0	0	1,668	3,439
Insurance	1,354	0	0	1,354	1,291
Operating Costs	1,146	0	0	1,146	671
Repairs and Improvements	132	515	0	647	9,716
	4,299	515	0	4,814	15,117
13 Church Activities Costs					
Parish Share	83,815	0	0	83,815	81,264
Heating and Lighting	6,860	0	0	6,860	11,191
Church and Churchyard Maintenance	6,448	0	0	6,448	8,380
Insurance	4,800	0	0	4,800	4,599
Organist, Music & Instruments	6,902	369	0	7,271	4,817
Other Operating Expenses	4,018	869	0	4,887	2,760
Social Outreach	115	0	0	115	351
Children, Youth & Messy Church	1,214	0	0	1,214	4,165
	114,172	1,238	0	115,410	117,527
14 Management and Administration					
Rector Vacancy	0	0	0	0	0
Travel, Hospitality, Visiting Clergy	884	0	0	884	2,105
Telephone and Internet	1,807	0	0	1,807	1,543
Office Admin Staff	3,424	0	0	3,424	3,167
Printing and Stationery	2,130	0	0	2,130	2,669
Office Other Costs	204	0	0	204	42
Audit & Accountancy	4,940	0	0	4,940	5,015
PCC & Deanery Expenses	0	0	0	0	40
Bank Charges	479	0	0	479	484
	13,868	0	0	13,868	15,066
15 Other Costs					
Special Gifts and Donations to Charities	614	3,948	0	4,562	1,392
	614	3,948	0	4,562	1,392
Total operating costs	140,649	5,978	0	146,627	159,149

Accounts

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish
of**

Chalfont Saint Giles (Diocese of Oxford)

Otherwise known as: **PCC of Chalfont St. Giles**

**Annual Report
and
Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st December 2023**

Rector: The Rev'd Dan Beesley

Registered Charity Number 1129372

www.csgparish.church

CONTENTS

1	Who are we?	A1
2	What do we do?	
	2.1 Aims and Purposes	A1
	2.2 Objectives and Activities	A1
3	Review of the year	
	3.1 Worship, Prayer and Discipleship	A1
	3.2 Pastoral Care	A2
	3.3 Missionary	A2
	3.4 Outreach	A3
	3.5 Premises	A4
	3.6 Ecumenical Relationships	A4
4	Financial Review	
	4.1 Financial Position	A5
	4.2 Commentary on Receipts and Payments	A5
	4.3 Looking Forward to 2024 and beyond	A5
	4.4 Reserves Policy	A6
5	Deanery Synod	A6
6	Risk Management	
	6.1 Risk register	A6
	6.2 Safeguarding	A6
	6.3 Financial Risks	A7
7	Structure, Governance and Management	
	7.1 Parochial Church Council (PCC)	A7
	7.2 Standing Committee	A7
	7.3 Other Committees and Groups	A7
	7.4 Volunteers	A8
8	Administrative Information	
	8.1 Correspondence Address	
	8.2 PCC Members (Trustees)	A8
9	Independent Examiner's Report	A11
10	Financial Statements	A12 - A17

Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council January to December 2023

1 Who are we?

Chalfont St. Giles (CSG) Parish Church, High Street, HP8 4QF is one of two churches in the Benefice of Chalfont St. Giles, Seer Green and Jordans. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of CSG is a registered charity no. 1129372

The other church in the Benefice is Holy Trinity, Orchard Road, Seer Green, Buckinghamshire, HP9 2YA. Holy Trinity is a separate charity no. 1175583. Both churches are part of the Church of England.

2 What do we do?

2.1 Aims and Purposes

The PCC of CSG has the responsibility of working alongside the Rector, the Rev'd Dan Beesley, in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It is responsible for the maintenance and management of the church buildings and fabric. This includes the Reading room, a 40-seat, Grade 2 listed building which is available for hire by the community.

2.2 Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at the church and become part of our parish community. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and considers how our services can involve the many groups who live within the parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, the Rector and PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and the supplementary guidance to charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel; developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus;
- provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish; and
- missionary and outreach work beyond the immediate church community.

3 Review of the year

3.1 Worship, Prayer and Discipleship

The Rector, clergy and PCC aim to offer a range of services on Sundays, during the week and over the course of the year that enable our community to draw closer to God, worship with one another, and develop in spiritual maturity.

The principal act of worship each week takes place on Sundays at 9.30am and is the Parish Communion. A service of Holy Communion according to the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) is held at 8am. A contemporary service known as 'Connect' was introduced in January. This well received by visitors, e.g., attending for baptisms. However, core attendance has not been maintained at a sustainable level. In early 2024 the PCC will need to consider whether the service should be paused while significant changes are made, including time/location.

In September, a full programme of Sunday evening services was reinstated. These include choral evensong, Holy Communion with healing prayer and other types of spirituality, including, e.g., Celtic Reflection.

During the week, there are 3 Home groups with a fourth due to start in early 2024. There is a monthly mid-week Holy Communion service. A morning prayer service is held Tuesday to Friday on Zoom.

For children and young people, there is an evening get-together for teenagers called Y-zone, Messy Church is held once a month and a children's group has recommenced meeting during the sermon on Sunday mornings.

All are welcome to attend our services. At January 2023 there were 150 on the electoral roll, rising to 153 at December. The average weekly attendance across all regular services, counted in October 2023, was 76 (aged 16 & over) + 12 (under 16). Attendances were, of course, higher at services celebrating the major Festivals and other events, e.g., Remembrance.

During 2023 the church was used for:

- 10 baptisms
- 5 confirmations (*4 CSG, 1 Seer Green*)
- 3 weddings
- 12 funerals & 4 memorial services
- 6 interment of ashes in churchyard

In addition, our clergy took 4 funerals away from church at local crematoria.

3.2 Pastoral Care

The Rector and PCC are committed to the pastoral care of all people in the CSG parish. Holy Communion is taken regularly to several housebound parishioners and others as and when required. Visits are made to people who are unwell at home or in hospital with the assistance of the Pastoral Care team. Appropriate safeguarding training and measures are in place.

3.3 Missionary

We support and promote the work of several charities

- **Transform Trade** works to reduce poverty by encouraging trading fairly with marginalised groups and campaigning against unjust trade rules. The church remains a certified fair-trade church and regular stalls are held in

church selling goods from fair trade producers, many of which are not generally available in the shops. Members respond to periodic appeals for the Chiltern Trussel Trust foodbank using these products.

- **Street Kids Direct** is led by Steve and Lindsey Poulson and works with vulnerable young people in Honduras. It provides mentoring, creates safe spaces for at-risk children and young people to grow, and supports local project development.
- **A Rocha UK** – Helps equip churches to care for creation. In 2022, we were awarded the silver award.
- **Fawsett Trust** - is a local charity, originally established in 1905, and working with other groups in supporting our elderly village residents with vouchers at Christmas, exchangeable only in the village shops and so also helping them. The Trust received contributions from the PCC, the Village Show, Helping Hands and Bucks C. Council Community Board and further individual contributions which enable this work to continue. Members of the church, including the Rector, are involved in the Board of Trustees.
- We have also supported the **Mission to Seafarers** (through Christmas card sales), **Altogether Community** (through Harvest gifts and the Toy service) and the **Trussell Trust**.

During 2023 the charities listed below were supported by donations from Church funds, or collections taken, or other fund-raising activities.

	£
Rennie Grove Hospice Care (Lent lunches)	1,135
Street Kids Direct Honduras	735
A Rocha	735
Transform Trade	735
Fawsett Trust	<u>735</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>4,075</u>
British Legion (Poppy appeal)	257

3.4 Outreach

The Church seeks to reach out in service to the local community. It runs a Mother and Toddler's group, known as Chatterbox, when up to 20 toddlers with a parent, grandparent or carer gather in the Reading room on Thursday mornings during term-time. Following Chatterbox, the church operates Rendezvous which provides an opportunity for chat and light refreshments. Once-a-month, the Naomi group for widow(er)s meets at Rendezvous. Sadly, weekly attendance at Rendezvous has not yet recovered to pre-Covid levels.

During the 6 Fridays of Lent, the church provides 'Lent lunches' when home-made soup, bread and cheese are served. Deliveries are also made to local businesses. In 2023, £2,270 was raised which was split between Rennie Grove Hospice Care and the Reading room.

The Rector and PCC seek to support the work of the village school. Members of

()

the clergy take school assemblies and host visits to the church by pupils and parents for special events.

The church supports the under-11s Chalfont Wasps football team (providing half-time refreshments for spectators) and other village activities, e.g., the village show, Christmas light switch-on, etc

.

3.5 Premises

The church building is an important historic facility in the community. Parts of the building date back to the 12th century, with additions in several subsequent centuries. It contains mediaeval wall paintings and other historic features. From April to September, the church building was open daily to visitors, thanks to a dedicated group of 'Church watch' volunteers. The church is also used for certain community events, e.g., it is used for talks in the Chalfont St. Giles Literary Festival.

The Reading room is an important community facility in the centre of the village. It is available for hire.

The PCC is responsible for the church building and the Reading room. The last Quinquennial survey was conducted in 2022. During 2023, work on the church building mainly consisted of essential maintenance items. In the churchyard, there are over 40 substantial trees. A substantial Lawson Cypress tree near one of the entrances gave cause for concern and was removed. A pruning survey was carried out and further tree work will be carried out in 2024. Other major work in the Churchyard involved rectifying the hole caused by a sunken grave and restoring the grave to its original condition.

The Reading room was redecorated internally. A proposal to redecorate the exterior was delayed. The planning authority is insisting on the use of limewash. This is considered inferior and more expensive than modern alternatives. Evidence is being compiled to appeal the decision.

The generous help of the Friends of the CSG Parish Church both financially and in voluntary labour in maintaining the church and Reading room is gratefully acknowledged.

3.6 Ecumenical Relationships

The church maintains links with the other CSG churches - Deanway United church and the Living Word International church through joint services from time to time. The church has good relations with other churches in the area and our ministers help other churches in interregnum by taking services. They also participate in prayer meetings of church ministers.

4. Financial Review

()

4.1 Financial Position.

The original budget for 2023 showed a deficit of £40k. The actual deficit at year-end was £33k. Because of favourable market conditions during the same period, church investments increased in value by £25k. Total reserves at year-end were £305k, an overall reduction of £8k.

4.2 Commentary on Receipts and Payments.

Total Receipts received in 2023 were £126k which was c£5k above budget. Regular giving by church members was £2.5k above budget and there were favourable balances in offerings and donations. £18.8k was recovered from the Gift Aid scheme, up from £17.4k in 2022. On Fundraising activities, an increase in wedding fees was offset by a decrease in other fundraising activities. Reading room receipts were £2k below budget due to lower than expected letting fees and the Lent lunches surplus. There was an increase of £5k in Other Receipts, primarily due to a donation of £6k from the Friends of CSG Parish Church towards the cost of repairs/redecoration within the Reading room

Total payments were £2k less than budget. Reading room internal repairs and redecoration were £9k above budget. A saving of £5k in energy costs, offset by an increase in churchyard maintenance resulted in Church operating costs being £3k lower than expected. Church activities costs were £4k less than budgeted mainly due to the cessation of the temporary Children and Families administration post. The saving in Management and Administration of £4k was mainly due to a vacancy in the church office following the resignation of the p/t administrator in May. The largest item of expenditure was our Parish share of the Oxford Diocesan Fund (£81k).

4.3 Looking forward to 2024 and future years.

The PCC approved a budget for 2024 with income of £128k and expenditure of £158k, a deficit of £30k. The budget provides for recurring income and payments. No provision has been included for bequests, unanticipated grants nor expenditure on major projects or initiatives.

During 2023, the Finance Committee reviewed many aspects of the church's income and expenditure and this work will continue in 2024 with a view to reducing the budget deficit.

The route of HS2 goes under the village and HS2 has a scheme for making grants to community groups. There is a pressing need for improvements to the Reading room to provide better disabled access, cloakroom facilities, energy efficiency, storage facilities and the kitchen area. Investigations have started with the intention of submitting a grant application to HS2. Only the community element (i.e., non-church), would be eligible. The church would be responsible for funding of the remainder. Nevertheless, this presents an exciting opportunity that the PCC wishes to pursue. A working Group is being formed, to include members of the community, to progress an application.

4.4. Reserves Policy



In 2023, the PCC decided that a reserve should be maintained sufficient to cover between 6 and 9 months of anticipated recurring annual expenditure (£140,000 as at 31 December 2023). As a minimum, the equivalent of 6 months' recurring costs would be held in unrestricted funds in cash or other liquid assets. As at 31 December 2023, liquid funds were £80,000, marginally above the minimum reserve. The Finance Committee will keep this under review to ensure adherence to the policy.

5 Deanery Synod

The PCC is allowed 3 lay representatives at Deanery Synod although only one place was taken up in 2023. Attendance at Deanery Synod provides an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. In 2023, Deanery Synod met 3 times. The following topics were considered:

- Community engagement including examples from 2 churches
- Deanery mission partners, Steve & Lindsay Poulson, reported on their work with young adults in Honduras
- Safeguarding developments
- The Deanery contribution to Diocesan finances and the 2024 Parish share
- A report on General Synod major issues from the General Synod representative
- The role of music in Worship

6 Risk Management

The PCC has policies covering a broad range of risks – health & safety, financial management, Reading room operations, conflicts of interest, personnel, etc. Health & safety training is provided for key holders (e.g., Church watch volunteers). The Fabric Committee always considers health & safety when carrying out its responsibilities. Risk Assessments are also prepared for special services.

6.1 Risk Register

The PCC maintains a register of the principal risks and uncertainties to which it is exposed. It assesses the impact and likelihood of each risk and the steps to be taken to manage the risk. This was reviewed in January 2024.

6.2 Safeguarding

The PCC takes the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults very seriously. It is a standing item at each PCC agenda where amongst other things, the Diocesan dashboard for the parish is reviewed. A refresh of safeguarding signage is being undertaken. The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

6.3 Financial Risks



Most of our income is derived from donations and offerings. The biggest financial risk to our finances apart from the loss of regular donors, would be unwise investment of reserves where significant funds are held. A cautious approach is taken in investment of these funds. £219k was held in investments with the CBF Church of England Investment Fund and £6.7k in the COIF Charities Investment Fund with the balance being cash in hand and at bank. Where appropriate, the Church also maintains adequate insurance across all identified risks.

7 Structure, Governance and Management

7.1 Parochial Church Council (PCC)

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The method and appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission under the full title of “The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chalfont St. Giles (Diocese of Oxford)” with a working name of “PCC of Chalfont St. Giles” (Charity no. 1129372). The members of the PCC are the trustees of the charity.

There are 12 positions on the PCC. Voting for PCC members takes place at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. PCC members are elected to serve for a term of 3 years. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and consider standing for election to the PCC. The clergy and churchwardens are ex-officio members of the PCC. The PCC can also co-opt members.

The PCC meets 6 times per year for normal business. In 2023, average attendance was 11. It is responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how funds are to be spent. Special meetings are held if required.

Resources for new PCC members (trustees) are provided by the Charity Commission and the Diocese.

Some of the work of the PCC is delegated to various committees, as described in the following paragraphs.

7.2 Standing Committee

The Standing Committee is the only committee legally required. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. The Standing Committee would meet if any urgent matter arose which could not wait until the scheduled PCC Meeting. It has also acted as the executive arm of the PCC, including setting the agenda for meetings.

7.3 Other Committees and Groups

Other committees and groups assist in the running of the church:

- The Finance Committee assists the Treasurer in his financial management role.
- The Fabric Committee looks after the church building, churchyard and Reading room maintenance.

- The Discipleship and Missions Committee looks to encourage spiritual growth at all stages of the Christian life - introduction to the faith, preparation for baptism/confirmation, life-long learning and growth of each member together with outreach both within the local community and further afield.
- The Worship & Prayer Committee provides detailed planning for the programme of church services
- The Children & Families Strategy Group considers ways to develop the church's ministry to children and young people.
- The Flower Guild arranges floral displays for church services and special events like weddings and funerals. They run Christmas wreath making evenings.
- The Pastoral Care team helps the clergy with this aspect of the church's ministry. Whilst the Eco-Committee is not currently meeting, there are individuals that promote this activity.

7.4 Volunteers

The achievements of the PCC are only possible because of the many volunteers who give generously of their time and energy. Volunteers undertake a wide variety of tasks including (but not restricted to) membership of the various committees and pastoral care, building and grounds maintenance, stewardship of finances, church cleaning, flower arranging, musicians and choir, children's and youth activities, welcome desk/sidespersons, assistance with the service of Holy Communion, intercession leaders, lesson readers, Reading room bookings & management, serving tea & coffee, and general administration. The PCC gratefully acknowledges all such contributions.

8 Administrative Information

8.1 Correspondence address

The correspondence address is Chalfont St. Giles (CSG) Parish Church, High Street, Chalfont St Giles, HP8 4QF. The correspondence contact is the Rector (Rev'd Dan Beesley)

8.2 PCC Members (Trustees)

The Members of the PCC are the trustees of the charity. During the year, the following served as members of the PCC:

(i) Ex Officio

Clergy:

Rev'd Dan Beesley (Rector)
 Rev'd Jenny Tebboth (SSM p/t)
 Rev'd Paul Henderson (SSM p/t)
 Rev'd Michelle Fotherby (Curate) (July to November)

Churchwardens:

Rachel Leonard (to APCM 2023)
 Jennifer Wilson (to APCM 2023)

()

Churchwarden positions vacant from APCM 2023 – statutory duties of role undertaken by the PCC

(ii) Elected Members as at 1 January 2023:

(a) To APCM 2023

Michael Baldwin
Christopher Neville
Janelle Stevenson
John Southworth
Garry Walton
Joseph Wiggin
Keith Wood-Smith

(b) To APCM 2024

Tom Boundy
Kate Southworth
Tracey Wiggin

(c) To APCM 2025

John Bradley

(iii) Elected at 2023 APCM (to APCM 2026)

Peter Miles
Jennifer Wilson

(iv) Co-opted at APCM 2023

John Southworth (Treasurer)

(v) Deanery Synod Representatives (also members of PCC):

Richard Bolton (to APCM 2023)
Janelle Stevenson (from APCM 2023) – resigned November 2023

Approved by the PCC on 20th March 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

J Southworth
John Southworth
Treasurer
12 May 2024

()

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the Parochial Church Council ("PCC") of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chalfont St Giles for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the summary of receipts and payments and the statement of assets and liabilities.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the 2011 Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- *examine the financial statements under section 145 of the 2011 Act.*
- *to follow the procedures laid down in General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 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 a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- *to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and*
- *to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act*

have not been met; or

b) which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached

Rupert St Clair-Burton CPA

*St Clair Accountancy Solutions Limited,
Suite A
73, Woodside Road,
Amersham,
Buckinghamshire HP6 6AA*

Date: 18 March 2024

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chalfont St Giles

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted and Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Expendable and Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
		£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources						
Voluntary Receipts	4	95,505	1,000	0	96,505	109,348
Receipts from Fundraising	5	12,429	2,677	0	15,106	13,681
Receipts from Reading Room	6	4,413	0	0	4,413	4,952
Receipts from Church Activities	7	2,051	0	0	2,051	1,826
Other Receipts	8	1,096	6,541	0	7,637	10,566
Total Receipts		115,494	10,218	0	125,712	140,374
Payments						
Voluntary Income Costs	9	2,940	0	0	2,940	1,750
Fundraising Costs	10	6,704	403	0	7,107	9,124
Reading Room Operating Costs	11	5,794	9,324	0	15,117	3,633
Church Operating Costs	12	26,930	0	0	26,930	22,990
Church Activities Costs	13	90,597	0	0	90,597	92,647
Management and Administration	14	15,066	0	0	15,066	18,419
Other Costs	15	257	1,135	0	1,392	5,746
Total Operating costs		148,287	10,862	0	159,149	154,310
<i>Excess of receipts over payments</i>		<i>(32,793)</i>	<i>(644)</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>(33,437)</i>	<i>(13,935)</i>
Non-recurring items						
Project expenditure		0	0	0	0	0
Gain (loss) on Market investments		0	0	25,042	25,042	(11,103)
2022 Balance brought forward		110,775	2,188	200,959	313,922	338,962
2023 Balance carried forward		77,982	1,545	226,001	305,527	313,922

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chalfont St Giles

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Designat -ed Funds	Restricted Funds	Expendable and Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
FIXED ASSETS						
Investments at valuation	0	0	0	226,001	226,001	200,959
CURRENT ASSETS						
Cash at Bank and in hand	4,090	9,449	1,544		15,084	48,859
Cash of deposit with Central Board of Finance	7,444	11,999	0	0	19,443	18,839
Shawbrook Bank	0	45,000	0	0	45,000	45,266
Net current assets	11,534	66,447	1,545	0	79,527	112,963
TOTAL NET ASSETS	11,534	66,447	1,545	226,001	305,528	313,922

The financial statements were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 20th March 2024

..

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and Recommended Practice "Accounting and reporting by charities" (revised 2005).

The accounts are drawn up on the basis of "Receipts and Payments " (rather than "prepayments and accrual" accounting) as permitted by the Charity Commission for charities with a turnover of less than £250k a year. They are also drawn up under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investment assets at market value.

Incoming resources

Offerings and donations received for the general purposes of the charity are included as Unrestricted Funds. The relevant Gift Aid is shown separately. Donations whose application is restricted by the wishes of the donor are taken to Restricted Funds. Incoming resources are all accounted for gross and planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due.

Investment income, dividends, interest, and tax recoverable are accounted for when received. All other income is generally recognised when it is receivable.

Resources expended

The church has followed the practice of writing off 100 per cent of the cost of any additions or modifications to the consecrated land and buildings and contents of the church.

Parish Share is paid regularly and is included in expenditure for the year in which it is paid.

Unrestricted fund grants (including donations to missions) are recognised when determined by the PCC. Amounts received specifically for missions are dealt with as restricted funds and the liability for payment is recognised when the amounts are received.

All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred.

Assets and Liabilities

The following assets are recognised but not attributed a value in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

*Moveable church furnishings held by the church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal;

*Land and buildings and improvements thereto, held on behalf of the PCC;

*Other fixtures, fittings, and office equipment where the PCC is free to dispose of such assets without faculty and where the original cost exceeded £1,000.

The following assets are recognised, and a monetary value given as part of the description in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

*Closing bank balances

*Closing revalued balances on investments

The following liabilities are recognised in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities

*Any loans or overdrafts advanced to the PCC;

*Any arrears of Diocesan Parish Share

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (cont.)

Taxation

The Parochial Church Council is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted Funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees. Designated funds are Unrestricted Funds as they are not restricted by the donor and are available for any specified purpose endorsed by the PCC.

Restricted Funds are those donations and covenants where the donor has stipulated that the monies should be used for particular purposes. Any Restricted Funds received have been or will be disbursed for the purposes intended by the donor. All donations to the Fabric Fund for example are used to finance property repairs.

Endowment Funds are those where the donor has donated a capital sum, making the dividend or interest from the fund to be used as stipulated.

2. APB ETHICAL STANDARD - Provisions Available for Small Entities

In common with many other organisations of our size and nature we use our independent examiner to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

3. RESERVES POLICY

The following policy was adopted by the Parochial Church Council in 2023 to the effect that a minimum reserve will be maintained, sufficient to cover between 6 and 9 months of anticipated recurring annual expenditure which at 31 December 2023 was close to £140,000.

To ensure the ongoing adequacy of this reserve and in accordance with the Charity Commission recommendation, it was agreed that, as a minimum, 6 months of the anticipated recurring costs should be held in unrestricted reserves such that the minimum reserve requirement is covered by cash and other liquid assets.

At 31 December 2023 liquid funds totalled £80,000, marginally above the minimum reserve target and in 2024 reserve movements will be kept under close scrutiny by the Finance Review Committee and, if necessary, investments will be liquidated in order to ensure continued compliance with the agreed policy.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (cont.)

	Unrestricted and Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Expendable and Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts					
4 Voluntary Receipts					
Offerings	14,688	0	0	14,688	12,282
Donations (inc. Gift Days)	62,445	1,000	0	63,445	60,523
HMRC Gift Aid Rebate	18,373	0	0	18,373	17,544
Bequests, Legacies	0	0	0	0	19,000
	<i>95,505</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>96,505</i>	<i>109,348</i>
5 Receipts from Fundraising					
Wedding and Funeral Fees	9,636	0	0	9,636	8,027
Fundraising Events Income	2,713	2,677	0	5,390	5,533
Magazine Income	80	0	0	80	121
	<i>12,429</i>	<i>2,677</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>15,106</i>	<i>13,681</i>
6 Receipts from Reading Room					
Reading Room Income	4,413	0	0	4,413	4,952
	<i>4,413</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>4,413</i>	<i>4,952</i>
7 Receipts from Church Activities					
Social Outreach	1,251	0	0	1,251	1,383
Children Youth & Messy Church	801	0	0	801	443
	<i>2,051</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2,051</i>	<i>1,826</i>
8 Other Receipts					
Grants Received	0	6,015	0	6,015	4,462
Miscellaneous	229	340	0	570	1,793
Special gifts & Donations for Charities	263	0	0	263	2,553
Interest and Dividends	604	186	0	790	1,758
	<i>1,096</i>	<i>6,541</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>7,637</i>	<i>10,566</i>
Total operating income	115,494	10,218	0	125,712	140,374
Asset and Investment Sales	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
	<i>115,494</i>	<i>10,218</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>125,712</i>	<i>140,374</i>
Total Receipts	115,494	10,218	0	125,712	140,374

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (cont.)

	Unrestricted and Designated Funds	Restrict ed Funds	Expendable & Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Payments					
9 Voluntary Income Costs					
Grants Given (inc. tithes)	2,940	0	0	2,940	1,750
	<i>2,940</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2,940</i>	<i>1,750</i>
10 Fundraising Costs					
Fundraising Event Expenses	1,454	403	0	1,858	3,054
Wedding & Funeral Fees to ODBF	5,012	0	0	5,012	5,830
Magazine & Publicity	238	0	0	238	240
	<i>6,704</i>	<i>403</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>7,107</i>	<i>9,124</i>
11 Reading Room Expenses					
Light and Heat	3,439	0	0	3,439	847
Insurance	1,291	0	0	1,291	1,179
Operating Costs	671	0	0	671	784
Repairs and Improvements	392	9,324	0	9,716	823
	<i>5,794</i>	<i>9,324</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>15,117</i>	<i>3,633</i>
12 Church Operating Costs					
Heating and Lighting	11,191	0	0	11,191	4,539
Church and Churchyard Maintenance	8,380	0	0	8,380	11,867
Insurance	4,599	0	0	4,599	4,306
Other Operating Costs	2,760	0	0	2,760	2,278
	<i>26,930</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>26,930</i>	<i>22,990</i>
13 Church Activities Costs					
Parish Share	81,264	0	0	81,264	79,325
Organist, Music & Instruments	4,817	0	0	4,817	5,041
Social Outreach	351	0	0	351	260
Children and Youth Work	4,165	0	0	4,165	8,021
	<i>90,597</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>90,597</i>	<i>92,647</i>
14 Management and Administration					
Travel, Hospitality, Visiting Clergy	2,105	0	0	2,105	1,221
Telephone and Internet	1,543	0	0	1,543	1,548
Office Admin Staff	3,167	0	0	3,167	8,346
Printing and Stationery	2,669	0	0	2,669	2,193
Office Other Costs	42	0	0	42	332
Audit & Accountancy	5,015	0	0	5,015	4,227
PCC & Deanery Expenses	40	0	0	40	135
Bank Charges	484	0	0	484	416
	<i>15,066</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>15,066</i>	<i>18,419</i>
15 Other Costs					
Special Gifts and Donations to Charities	257	1,135	0	1,392	5,746
	<i>257</i>	<i>1,135</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1,392</i>	<i>5,746</i>
Total Operating Costs	<i>148,287</i>	<i>10,862</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>159,149</i>	<i>154,310</i>

Accounts

PLEASE BRING THIS AGENDA/ REPORT PACKAGE WITH YOU TO THE MEETINGS

CHALFONT SAINT GILES PARISH CHURCH

ANNUAL MEETINGS

**Wednesday 10 May 2023 at 7:30pm in Church,
chaired by Rev. Dan Beesley, Rector**

AGENDA AND REPORTS

Please read the attached reports ahead of the meetings and, if you wish to clarify anything, contact the author of the particular report.

Apologies: Tom Boundy; [others ?]

AGENDA

PRAYER AND WELCOME

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

1. To appoint a clerk of the meeting
2. To note the number present and apologies received for absence
3. To approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 4 May 2022
4. To elect Churchwardens

TO BE FOLLOWED BY: PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Only those recorded on the electoral roll are eligible to vote at the meeting.

1. To appoint a clerk of the meeting
 2. To adopt the Updated Electoral Roll
 3. To approve the minutes of the Parochial Church Meeting held on 4 May 2022
 4. To receive the 2022 Financial Statements including:
 - Wardens' Report (see page 8)
 - Reports on Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council and its Committees (see page 9)
 - Other related reports (see page 14)
 - Report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the Church (see page 14)
 - Report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod (see page 16)
 - Report from the Stewardship Recorder (see page 17)
 - Financial Report by the Treasurer (see page 17)
 - Ministers' Review (see page 19)
 - Report of the Independent Examiner (see page 21)
 5. To appoint an Independent Examiner for the following year
 6. To approve the appointment of a Deputy Warden
 7. To elect 3 Representatives to the Deanery
 8. To elect lay representatives to the PCC (6 to bring to 12)
 9. Rector's 'Charge'
 10. Any other business
- Prayer

MINUTES OF CHALFONT ST GILES PARISH CHURCH 2022 ANNUAL MEETINGS

Minutes of Meetings held Wednesday 4 May 2022 at 8:00pm in Church chaired by Rev. Dan Beesley, the Rector

The Rector opened the meetings with prayers.

The Rector noted there will be three meetings tonight: first the meeting of Parishioners, then the meeting of the members on the Church Electoral Roll after which comes a short meeting for the Parochial Church Council only to formalise some appointments on the PCC going forward.

Copies of the Agenda and Reports pack had been distributed by email and some collected from Church. These largely span reportage of events in 2021.

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

1. **Clerk of the meeting:**

It was agreed that Richard Bolton be appointed Clerk of the meeting.

2. **Attendance and apologies:**

The Clerk reported that thirty-five parishioners were now present with thirty-two being on the electoral roll and three clergy.

Apologies had been received from Ann Alderson, Mary & Peter Bentall, Tom Boundy, Richard & Annette Bradley, Richard Hanney, Heidi Nolan, Mavis Roberts, Polly Richardson, Hannah Tew and Colin Smith.

3. **To approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 12 May 2021:**

The Rector noted that Minutes of the meeting held on 12 May 2021 had been distributed with the agenda. The minutes were approved by the meeting and signed as a correct record by the Rector.

4. **To elect Churchwardens:**

Rachel Leonard and Jenny Wilson, having been proposed and seconded and agreeing to stand for election as Churchwardens for 2022/23 and, there being no other nominations, they were duly elected by the meeting.

The Rector thanked them both warmly and wished them well.

The Rector closed the meeting of Parishioners at 7:15pm

PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The Rector noted that the number of people at this meeting had not changed.

1. **Clerk of the meeting:**

It was agreed that Richard Bolton be appointed Clerk of the meeting.

2. **To review the Electoral Roll:**

The Rector invited the Electoral Roll Officer, Kathleen Martin, to report. Kathleen confirmed that there are now 150 names on the list compared with 152 last time. The meeting voted to receive the Electoral Roll. The Rector thanked Kathleen for her work on this.

3. **To approve the minutes of the Parochial Church meeting held on 12 May 2021:**

The minutes were approved by the meeting and signed as a correct record by the Rector.

4. **To receive the Annual Report for 2021 including the Financial Statements:**

The Rector noted that the Annual Report for 2021 had been circulated with the Agenda and a number of report originators added a few words as they wished.

Speaking to the Churchwardens' Report, Rachel particularly drew attention to the thanks due to Rev Jenny Tebbboth and Rev Paul Henderson for covering services with Peter Miles and Gary Walton following the retirement of Rev Ian Brown and resignation of Rev Cassa Messervy. Also to the thanks due to the Vacancy Committee, to Tracey Wiggin who compiled the Parish Profile and to Tracey and Gary Walton on the Interview

MINUTES OF CHALFONT ST GILES PARISH CHURCH 2022 ANNUAL MEETINGS

Panel leading to the appointment of the Reverend Dan Beesley in October and his service of Collation, Induction and Installation on 27 January largely organised by Jenny Wilson. The Report draws attention to the many whose contributions were so valuable during the year across a range of activities.

John Southworth, the Treasurer, spoke to draw out aspects of his Report and thank his predecessor Mike Baldwin and the Finance Review Committee for their work: Chris Neville on Stewardship including gift aid and contactless giving and Mike Saunders for banking our money.

The Rector proposed adoption of the Financial Statements which was agreed.

5. **To approve the appointment of a Deputy Warden:**

Noting that Melainé Teahan is volunteering to continue in the post, the meeting agreed to her reappointment. The Rector expressed thanks for all she does to keep everything running in order and make arrangements.

6. **To elect a Representative to the Deanery Synod:**

Noting the resignation of Hannah Tew (with thanks for her service) the Rector noted that only one applicant, Richard Bolton, had been nominated and seconded. He was accordingly appointed. The Rector noted that the appointment of these Representatives will come up for review at the 2023 APCM.

7. **To elect lay representatives to the PCC:**

The Rector asked Richard Bolton to summarise the position. He reported there are four vacancies (one being a resignation following a move away and three as people have come to the end of their three-year term). The current term of co-opted members automatically concludes with this APCM. John Bradley has been appropriately nominated and seconded for a three-year term. Mike Baldwin, John Southworth and Keith Wood-Smith having come to the end of their 3-year terms has each been appropriately nominated and seconded to fill a one-year appointment. Thus there being four vacancies all are automatically appointed bringing PCC lay membership to its maximum of 12.

8. **To appoint an Independent Examiner for the following year:**

The Rector moved on to appointment of the independent examiner. Rupert St Clair-Burton of St Clair Accountancy Solutions Limited had reported, filling a vacancy, as independent examiner on the 2021 financial statements. The Treasurer confirmed the Finance Committee's recommendation that he be reappointed. The meeting reappointed him.

9. **Rector's charge:**

The Rector, having now been in post for 97 days, almost 14 weeks, spoke to his aims:

- Both Parishes need to be brought together as a real combined Benefice
- He is passionate for God and the Gospel and to grow the Kingdom of God in this Parish
- Now is the time to look out (Jeremiah 29, v7)
- As we serve and love others in the community, the Church prospers
- Be the spiritual centre of this Parish, bringing hope and mutual help
- We are called to be Jesus' hands and feet

Our information gathering is complete and until September we are now in a period of prayer and discernment: – why we do things as we do; and what we do not do that we should be doing.

We shall be reflecting on what is my purpose, vision and values – and why and how (Ephesians 4 v 15 speaking the truth in love, and Proverbs 24 cure of souls).

We need to redevelop the Reading Room for Church and community use, focus on the website and social media so it is relevant and right, discern a children's and family worker.

Above all to come together to worship God.

10. **Any other business:**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:45pm and was followed by a short meeting for the PCC only.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES

Loving people, Transforming lives and Glorifying God

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2022

Table of Contents

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES	5
Aims and Purpose	5
Background	5
Safeguarding Duty	6
GDPR	6
PCC Membership	6
PCC Structure	7
Benefice of Chalfont St Giles and Seer Green & Jordans	7
Fairtrade	8
Church Electoral Roll	8
Wardens' Report 2022 – 2023	8
PCC Review of the Year	9
Reports from PCC Committees	10
Children and Families Group	10
Communications Committee	10
ECO Committee	10
Ministry and Discipleship Committees	11
Social Outreach Report	13
Pastoral Care Report	13
Worship Committee	13
Other Reports	14
Chalfont St Giles Educational Foundation	14
Church Fabric & Furnishings	14
Church Watch Review	15
Deanery Synod Report	16
Flower Guild	16
Lent Lunches	16
Stewardship Recorder's Report for 2022	17
Treasurer's Financial Report to May 2023 APCM	17
Rector's Review of the Year	19
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT	21
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY	22
BALANCE SHEET	23
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS	24

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) effective 1 January 2019.

This report by your PCC for our Annual Parochial Council Meeting (APCM) is prepared as the formal Trustees Report required to be submitted to the Charity Commission for the year to 31 December 2022. It is presented for approval by the APCM.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Aims and Purpose

As a public benefit charitable trust, Chalfont St Giles Parochial Church Council (PCC) exists to promote the whole mission of the church in the ecclesiastical parish. It is responsible with the Rector for furthering the work of the church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The church is one of the two within the Benefice of Chalfont St Giles and Seer Green & Jordans.

The Charity Commission publishes guidance on public benefit and, in particular, supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. Specific Charity Commission classifications of the goods and services provided for community and social benefit are:

- Religious Activities – provides services
- The General Public / Mankind – makes grants to organisations
- Provides Buildings/ Facilities/ Open space

Each of these we do.

The PCC is governed by two pieces of Church of England legislation:

- The Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and
- The Church Representation Rules 2020.

Further details of the structure and governance of the PCC are included from page 9 to 11 below.

Our Mission Statement to November 2022 was **Loving God, Living Christ, Loving people**. It then evolved to **Loving people, Transforming lives and Glorifying God**.

Background

The Parochial Church Council has responsibility for the whole mission of the Parish Church of Chalfont St Giles to live in God's love and share its hope. It also has responsibility for the maintenance and management of the Church buildings and fabric and the Reading Room. It is registered with the Charity Commission, number 1129372. The members of the PCC are the charity's Trustees. The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. This report covers all activities of the Church and PCC in 2022.

As reported last year, on 9 May 2021 the Rector, Rev. Ian Brown, retired so the Benefice of Chalfont St Giles, Seer Green and Jordans then entered Interregnum. Rev. Cassa Messervy (Associate Minister, and Vicar of Holy Trinity Seer Green and Jordans) had earlier resigned after Easter Sunday, 4 April 2021. During the vacancies the mission of the Churches in Chalfont St Giles and Seer Green and Jordans was through the two clergy, Rev. Jenny Tebboth and Rev. Paul Henderson with the two licensed preachers, Peter Miles and Garry Walton together with the respective PCC and its committees and with legal and operational matters under control of the respective Churchwardens and Area Dean together with the PCCs. We were delighted that the interregnum process led to an offer being made to and accepted by Rev. Dan Beesley who on 27 January 2022 was collated by the Bishop of Buckingham and Inducted and Installed by the Archdeacon of Buckingham as Rector of the Benefice.

We continue to acknowledge, as our earlier Annual Reports noted, the remarkable input from clergy and lay involved in developing new ways for the Church to continue to function in the challenging circumstances of and post Covid, including new ways of working. In Spring 2022 we were delighted as a degree of normality resumed, for example the PCC being able to meet in Church rather than on Zoom, helpful as that facility had been.

Safeguarding Duty

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). Further information is on page 10 below.

GDPR

The PCC has taken note of and complied with the General Data Protection Regulation. The Church website includes a Data Privacy Notice setting out what personal data is, how we process it and the legal basis for this, the restricted basis on which it may be shared, for how long we keep it and the rights of the owner of personal data.

PCC Membership

Membership of the PCC is either ex-officio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules or co-opted within the Rules as necessary.

During 2022 the following served as members:

Incumbent: Rev. Dan Beesley (from his collation, induction and installation on 27 January 2022)

Churchwardens: Rachel Leonard
Jennifer Wilson

Deputy Churchwarden Melainé Teahan

Lay Chairman Tom Boundy

Deanery Synod Representatives:
Mary Bentall
Margaret Carey
Hannah Tew (to 4 May 2022)
Richard Bolton (from 4 May 2022)

PCC Members:

With effect from the 2022 Annual Parochial Church Meeting ("APCM") on 4 May 2022 Mike Baldwin, John Southworth and Keith Wood-Smith completed their three-year terms. The co-options also determined of Richard Bolton, and John Dugdale Bradley. The continuing PCC elected members were thus Tom Boundy, Chris Neville, Kate Southworth, Janelle Stevenson, Jeremy Valentine, Garry Walton, Joe Wiggin, and Tracey Wiggin. At the 2022 Annual Parochial Church Meeting Richard Bolton was elected a Deanery Representative following resignation of Hannah Tew. At this meeting John Dugdale Bradley was elected a lay member of the PCC. Mike Baldwin, John Southworth and Keith Wood-Smith were elected to further one-year terms. At the PCC meeting immediately following the 2022 Annual Parochial Church Meeting Tom Boundy was elected PCC Lay Chairman and John Southworth PCC Treasurer.

At the APCM Melainé Teahan was again reappointed Deputy Churchwarden for the ensuing year.

During 2022 in addition to the Churchwardens the following were Church Officers:

PCC Lay Chairman John Southworth to 4 May then Tom Boundy

PCC Secretary: Richard Bolton

PCC Treasurer: Michael Baldwin to 4 May then John Southworth

PCC Assistant Treasurer Sophie Bowles until resignation at the 2022 Annual Parochial Church Meeting

PCC Minutes Secretary: Not formally appointed – the PCC Secretary filled the breach.

Summarising, during 2022 – PCC elected members were:

To 4 May 2022	From 4 May 2022	At 31 December 2022
Michael Baldwin	Michael Baldwin	Michael Baldwin
Tom Boundy	Tom Boundy	Tom Boundy
John Southworth	John Southworth	John Southworth
Christopher Neville	Christopher Neville	Christopher Neville
Joseph Wiggan	Joseph Wiggan	Joseph Wiggan
Janelle Stevenson	Janelle Stevenson	Janelle Stevenson
Jeremy Valentine	Jeremy Valentine, resigned in February 2023	
Garry Walton	Garry Walton	Garry Walton
Keith Wood-Smith	Keith Wood-Smith	Keith Wood-Smith
Co-opted then elected at 2022 APCM		
John Bradley	John Bradley	John Bradley
Kate Southworth (co-opted)	Kate Southworth	Kate Southworth
Tracey Wiggan (co-opted)	Tracey Wiggan	Tracey Wiggan
Co-opted again:		
Richard Bolton (co-opted)	Richard Bolton became a Deanery Representative	

The term of a co-opted member is to the following APCM when reappointment is permissible.

PCC Structure

The PCC has a Standing Committee and a number of sub-committees. During 2023 the sub-committee structure was simplified:

2022 Structure:

Discipleship

Mission

Pastoral Care

Children & Families

Worship

Communications

Eco-Church

Finance

Fabric

Reading Room Management

2023 Structure:

Discipleship & Mission

Ministry & Outreach

Prayer & Worship

Operations

The sub-committees report to, and obtain permission for planned activities and expenditure from, the PCC at its regular meetings. Representatives of the PCC attend the Amersham Deanery Synod meetings and report back to the PCC.

The PCC **Standing Committee** (Rev. Dan Beesley (Incumbent), Church Wardens, PCC Lay Chairman, Secretary & Treasurer) acts as the Executive arm of the PCC, including setting the agenda for its meetings and taking any urgent actions affecting the welfare of the Church that may arise between meetings. Rev. Jenny Tebboth (Assistant Minister) and Rev. Paul Henderson (Assistant Minister) attend on occasion.

The Friends of Chalfont St Giles Parish Church, an independently registered charity, continues to provide much appreciated and valuable support to the Church including grounds maintenance and support with Fabric. 'Christians in Chalfont St Giles' being The Deanway United Church, Living Word International Church and ourselves continue to co-operate in providing Services on the Village Green on Good Friday and at the Feast of St Giles in September, and to support the turning on of the Christmas lights with other Christians present in the village.

Benefice of Chalfont St Giles and Seer Green & Jordans

The combined Benefice was led by Rev. Dan Beesley as Rector (Incumbent/Priest in charge) from his 27 January 2022 installation, assisted by Rev. Jez Carr from his installation on 28 September 2022 as Associate Minister and Vicar of Holy Trinity Seer Green and Jordans. The 2022 continuing team ministry were Rev. Jenny Tebboth (Assistant Minister), Rev. Paul Henderson (Curate). Linda West continued to be Licensed Lay Minister in Seer Green and Jordans, assisted by Janna Holder as Children and Families leader.

The two Benefice Churches are further linked by an enduring instrument which permits (with the consent of the respective Priest) a couple who are qualified to marry in one Church in the Benefice to marry in the other.

Fairtrade

The Chalfont St Giles Parish Church continues to be a Fairtrade church using Fairtrade ingredients and aiming to operate in a manner appropriate to that designation.

Church Electoral Roll

In 2022 the Electoral Roll was updated for the 2022 Annual Parochial Church Meeting and had 152 on the list.

Wardens' Report 2022 – 2023

This has been an important year in the history of Chalfont St Giles Parish church. We have just celebrated the first anniversary of the installation of Dan Beesley as Rector. He has spent that year getting to know the congregation and the people of the village and we have got to know him. It has been good to have a young family in the rectory and Paula, Jacob and Eloisa have certainly made their contribution to the life of the church. Dan has made himself available once a week in church to anyone who wants to speak with him so he is very accessible to all his parishioners. The appointment of Jez Carr as vicar of Seer Green and Jordans, the other part of our benefice, has also been very welcome.

An important new initiative instigated by Dan is the new service structure on Sundays. This is being trialled at the moment but shows promise by accommodating different styles of worship. The BCP service at 8 o'clock remains but the Parish Communion has been moved back, most recently to 9.30, to allow for a new more informal and modern service at 11 o'clock which we hope will encourage young families and others new to the church to join us in faith. Other areas such as the Home Groups and the "Sitting with God" sessions are continuing. As with many events in all areas of life, numbers at our services are yet to return to pre-covid levels; however there is a steady increase in church attendance.

We have also had many events and services to mark the passing of the church year. Christmas services were generally well attended and the mobile carol service was a success. The pancake race and the serving of pancakes in the Reading Room returned after a few years' break and Lent Lunches have been reasonably well attended and raised money for Rennie Grove and the Reading Room. All these represent a massive effort by those who organise and contribute to the events and we thank them all. We have also provided activities for children, organised for the most part by Janelle Stevenson. Messy Church and Families@4 are trying to build numbers again and Songs of Praise includes children from the Junior school. A Light Party was organised as an antidote to Halloween. The clergy have continued to visit the Junior and Infant schools.

Plans for the churchyard are in place with a new area having been identified for the interment of ashes, closer to the church. In addition an area for reflection has been suggested with a memorial and seating – these plans will hopefully come to fruition once funding decisions are made. We are very grateful to the Friends of the Parish Church and many volunteers who labour tirelessly to maintain the grounds. Anybody who is interested in helping will be warmly welcomed to a work party or two. The churchyard is an important part of our Eco-church ambitions, and it is a delight to welcome visitors and school parties to enjoy the natural flora and fauna. Huge thanks to all who contribute willingly their time and expertise.

The church has been involved in a number of initiatives in response to the economic crisis. Members of the congregation continue to donate to the Chesham Food Bank and the church has worked in partnership with the All Together Community to provide a warm space and hot meals. Knitters have made blankets for distribution to those who need them. Margaret Dykes continues to give the congregation a chance to buy fairly traded products, the Eco church committee has continued to promote green initiatives, the Toy service collects toys to distribute to children who need them and the Christmas shoeboxes do the same. Many members of the congregation are involved in promoting and organising these.

Events in church to raise funds for the church or the church building (these organised by the Friends) have included the Moonrakers concert, performances by Chris Sykes and Florian Mitrea, a performance of The Pirates of Penzance, and of course concerts by the St Giles Consort. The church has also raised money by hosting events for the Literary Festival. Fundraising is an area that the PCC will be

considering in the near future, so ideas or offers of leadership and contribution in this area will be very welcome. The refurbishment of the Reading Room also remains an issue under discussion.

Church watching has continued to be well organised by Tony Ferguson and the church has had many visitors from near and far. As some of the church watchers are now having to drop out it is vital that new people step forward to volunteer for this very worthwhile activity. It is good for the church to be open for visitors and for local people seeking a quiet place.

While many areas of the church are flourishing and the signs of new growth and living up to our mission are evident, there are a few challenges that need to be met and we call on each of our parishioners to consider how they might be involved in building our church and community into a strong and supportive unit. Whether it is in an active role contributing to the various activities, giving of time, ideas and expertise, or being involved in the worship services, we would love to hear from you.

May we stand together in Loving People, Transforming Lives and Glorifying God.

Rachel Leonard and Jennifer Wilson – Churchwardens, 17 April 2023

PCC Review of the Year

The PCC met on 7 occasions in 2022 (2021: 7 plus the Section 11 and 12 Vacancy meetings) with an average of 15 (2021:18) members in attendance. 1 (2021: 5) of these meetings was held by Zoom.

An ongoing matter of focus for the PCC in 2022 (and continuing) has been the aim for a formal Families Worker and the role involved, and the Church audio visual resource. All meetings considered Safeguarding and finances. In addition to regular reviews of policies, committee reports, and ongoing management of Church matters, including maintenance and the ongoing review of the wider impact of the General Data Protection Regulations, topics from each meeting are highlighted below:

- January: Licensing of Rev Dan Beesley on 27 January. Lent lunches. Date of 2022 APCM and vacancies then arising. Reports on Services (including new sunrise service on Easter Sunday morning), Tithes, Parish Share paid, Eco plans. Appointments of: bookkeeping provider (and Mandates); and Independent Examiner. Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June. Grateful thanks to the clergy for their remarkable achievements during the interregnum.
- March: APCM planning. Services for new Church year. Thanks for replacement of Church flag financed by a bellringer. Seer Green & Jordans vacancy update. Policies review, risk assessments and Health & Safety. Achievement of transfer of investments to CCLA. The PCC agreed to remit to the Standing Committee final approval of the Report and Accounts they having been circulated first.
- May: A short meeting followed the APCM to consider co-option, appoint Tom Boundy as PCC Lay Vice-Chair and John Southworth as Treasurer.
- A second meeting later in the month adopted the Eco Committee's draft Plan and to discuss this with the sub-committees. Meeting approved removal of two willows and noted the need for the quinquennial survey in 2022 and recommendation of a full tree survey. The coming 175th anniversary of Holy Trinity, Seer Green, was noted.
- July: The PCC noted the 28 September installation at Seer Green and Jordans of Rev Jez Carr on a 'House for Duty' basis. The report on the 9 July PCC Away Day included the need for blue sky thinking on the decline in our Church attendance, low involvement of children, and loss of the spiritual heart of the village.
- October: The meeting considered in considerable detail the future pattern of Services, agreeing that no decision be taken at this meeting. The matter will come before the November meeting and all were asked to pray and reflect on this vital work.
- November: The PCC agreed, applying a change in the Charities Act, to remove the restriction on application of a fund for the altar and chancel area. Much of the rest of the meeting was about the future pattern of Services. By vote, the pattern of 08:00 BCP, 09:00 Parish Communion and 11:00 Connect (family-oriented Service) was approved, start date to be subject to discussion with the Bell Master and Choir Director. Further discussion took place on values, mission and vision for our church following reflection and discernment, with the new Mission of 'Loving people, Transforming lives and

Glorifying God'. The Rector also presented the Mission Action Plan (MAP) for 2023. The PCC agreed that in a clergy vacancy safeguarding records be held in a locked cabinet in the Inner Vestry. The PCC agreed to transition to a new sub-committee structure wef 1 January 2023, this to focus on the four over-riding aspects of: Mission & Outreach; Prayer & Worship; Discipleship & Mission; and Operations. The PCC noted the need to revive Communications and that the Eco aspect needs to be fundamental to all groups. Further consideration was given to the Churchyard. Church advice on the legal position of PCC members was noted. The quinquennial survey and tree reports were discussed and agreement subject to a facility for the felling of a Lawson cypress by the Plumb Gate and, as recommended, to apply for a facility to remove two further. The meeting agreed that 2023 Lent lunch funds be held equally for the benefit of refurbishing the Reading Room and for Rennie Grove Hospice Care (formerly Iain Rennie).

2023

To bring up to date:

In January the PCC considered the start of the new Service pattern from 8 January 2023; Service attendance data as collected by John Davidge for many years; the fall in Christmas Services attendance; 2022 Tithe recipients; the need for a paper on proposed charges for heating the Church; possibly renting the Church as a meeting venue; the approved size of ledger stones; and the APCM date of 10 May.

In March the PCC discussed the initial working of the new Service pattern, agreeing an initial variation; were addressed by Victoria Neil, the new Safeguarding Officer, and discussed the Rector's letter on same-sex blessings while noting that worship was a matter for him alone. While not unanimously sharing the Rector's view, the PCC agreed they support the Rector as leader of our Church. Developments in the Mission Action Plan were discussed.

Reports from PCC Committees

Children and Families Group

It was agreed in November to create a working group to replace the Children and Families Committee.

The new website continues to list the advertisement for a full time Children and Families worker. Thus far there have been no interested parties.

With the purchase of the iknow church program there will be an effort made to amalgamate the children and families database with the church wide database.

The church youth group (Yzone), Messy Church and Chatterbox continue to thrive. Our 'Sunday school' provision has not yet re-started as there have been so few children in Church on Sundays. Activities continue to be offered in the creche area for both the 9am and the 11am services.

Janelle Stevenson, 7 March 2023

Communications Committee

The Committee did not meet.

ECO Committee

As anticipated, Chalfont St Giles formally received its Eco Church Silver award in the summer of 2022. This is an achievement of which our church can be rightly proud.

By this stage, we already had a PCC approved strategy for attaining Gold by April 2024, whilst always being clear that the awards are not the ends in themselves but simply measures of progress and commitment. The Eco Committee were due to present this strategy to the sub-committee chairs in September 2022 so that they could be briefed on what it asked of them. However, this event was cancelled following the death of Her Majesty the Queen and has not yet been reorganised pending the restructuring of the church's committee structures.

The above means that, while Eco Church work has continued, we have not made much progress in terms of embedding it deeply within the wider church, as will be necessary to attain Gold. Instead we have, for example:

- presented to the Deanery Synod on how we attained Silver and on our vision for attaining Gold;
- held our second annual Eco Church service;
- spoken in church services about A Rocha;
- conducted a local survey of the community's environmental concerns and activities; and
- engaged with local environmental fora and the Parish Council.

Our Church could now simply maintain our Silver status, continuing to look to be environmentally friendly where it can, fostering environmental awareness in our congregation and, importantly, the link between God's creation and faith. At a time of significant other change, there would be nothing wrong in this and it is indeed much more than most churches have achieved. In fact, the Church should not proceed to Gold on a half-hearted basis, as there is a risk of pretence, whereas it has become clear that attaining it would be a major endeavour, requiring the support of the whole congregation, a great deal of effort from a wide range of people and the visible commitment of the PCC and church leadership, ultimately leading to an A Rocha audit of our claims.

On the other hand, should the Church wish to make this a priority - growing Eco roots deep into the Church's governance structures, worship and activities - there is now a great foundation for doing so, along with a PCC endorsed strategy, though the original target date for achieving Gold, April 2024, is now likely to be overly ambitious.

The next step is for the Church leadership and the Eco team to discuss this commitment and how the strategy could work under the new committee structure. A recommendation can then be put to the PCC early in 2023/4 asking either that it reconfirms its active support for the endorsed strategy or that it confirms a preference for a less ambitious approach but one still seeing concerns for Creation and the environment as an important part of our faith and identity, in keeping with our hard earned Silver Eco Church status, perhaps consolidating - at least for the moment - what has already been achieved.

Keith Wood-Smith, 28 February 2023

Ministry and Discipleship Committees

These two committees have been meeting as a joint group since October 2022 and, in the interests of efficiency, will continue to do so for the time being since there is substantial overlap between both the agendas and the personnel. The terms of reference have not yet been revised but will combine, encouraging spiritual growth in all stages - introduction to the faith, preparation for baptism/confirmation, encouraging each member of our Church to keep growing in faith throughout their life, with our commitment to outreach both within the local community and further afield.

Margaret Dykes has now stepped down from chairing the Mission Committee but remains part of the team. Many thanks to Margaret and also to Kevin who has stepped down after very many years' serving on the Mission Committee.

We have reviewed and updated the charities we support with a church 'tithe', replacing R.O.P.E. with Christians Against Poverty. We have retained Street Kids Direct, The Fawcett Trust, Transform Trade (formally Traidcraft Exchange) and A Rocha. We have also supported the Mission to Seafarers, The Children's Society (through Christingle), Altogether Community, The Bible Society and the Trussell Trust.

Each one is represented by a 'Mission Champion' who keeps in touch with the charity, represents it to the congregation, gives an update of their work each year to the congregation at a 10:00am service and writes articles for the Parish Magazine. A new system of selecting and championing charities is planned to allow participation of the wider congregation in the choice of new charities to support.

The Five Marks of Mission:

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth

Traidcraft Exchange has been renamed Transform Trade but their mission remains the same which corresponds with our fourth mark of mission: To transfer unjust structures of society to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation.

Throughout 2022 we held a Traidcraft stall in Church fulfilling one of the commitments of being a Fair-Trade Church. Traidcraft plc is in administration and we are endeavouring to continue to have a Fair-Trade presence in Church.

The name Traidcraft will continue as the Traidcraft Trust continues.

Christians Against Poverty – Christians Against Poverty is a Christian charitable company specialising in debt counselling for people in financial difficulty, including those in need of bankruptcy or insolvency – corresponding to marks 1, 3 and 4 of the five marks of mission. We were unable to arrange a visit from CAP in 2022.

Our nearest group is based in The Hub in Chalfont St Peter.

Street Kids Direct – We enjoyed an inspiring visit from Steve and Lindsay Poulson in January 2022. Steve led our YZone group a couple of times while they were in the country and they have kept us in touch with their work in Guatemala through regular prayer-letters.

A Rocha UK is a Christian charity working for the protection and restoration of the natural world and committed to equipping Christians and churches in the UK to care for the environment. **Responding to the biblical mandate to care for the earth, and demonstrating the Christian hope for God's world, they work with:**

- Churches through their [Eco Church programme](#)
- Christian environmental leaders through their interdenominational convening work
- Families and individuals through their [Wild Christian](#) scheme and community, supporting people to enjoy, nurture and defend nature in their own homes and communities, and by campaigning
- Christian land managers through their [Partners in Action](#) network.

St Giles Parish Church is signed up to the **Eco Church** programme and, having gained the Bronze award in 2021, achieved Silver status in summer 2022. (See also the Eco Committee report on page 10)

Fawsett Trust - is a local charity working with other groups in supporting elderly residents in need in Chalfont St Giles with vouchers at Christmas, exchangeable only in our village shops. We are grateful for the contributions from the Village Show, the PCC, the Parish Council and Buckinghamshire Council and for the generous further individual contributions, a number in thoughtful memory of the late Frederick Nolan, which have enabled this work to continue.

Community Outreach - We have increased our cooperation with the Altogether Community via the warm space initiative in the Reading Room, at Harvest and with toys from our toy service.

Rendezvous continues to provide a valuable community meeting place midweek.

Last year Lent Lunches raised money for the Reading Room and for Street Kids Direct.

The Church had a strong presence at the village show for the first time in several years.

A link has been forged with the Wasps Under 10 football team (church league) in the village and our relationship with the school remains strong through assemblies, Songs of Praise, seasonal services and a transition session with year 6. A special service for school leavers was held in church in 2022.

A couple of home groups are meeting regularly. We hope to increase the number of home groups in the coming year. Numbers for Morning Prayer on zoom have fallen this year.

We have welcomed seven children for baptism in the past year. There were no confirmations in 2022.

Jenny Tebboth, 1 March 2023

Social Outreach Report

Little has changed over the past year. Members of the outreach team continue to support Rendezvous, Songs of Praise lunches, Lent lunches and Marriage prep catering.

Attendance at Rendezvous has been disappointing, nowhere near pre COVID levels.

Pat Searle, 9 March 2023

Pastoral Care Report

The committee have returned to the usual pattern of meeting three times a year since Covid restrictions were lifted.

We offer pastoral support to our church family and the community when a need arises usually from a referral 'by word of mouth' or a contact through the church pastoral care leaflets or the website. We work closely with our clergy team.

In addition, we prepare and deliver small posies of flowers at Harvest and Mothering Sunday when in addition we prepare flowers for distribution in the Sunday services.

As a team we are involved in the All Souls Day service in October.

Home Communion stopped during Covid but is offered when there is need.

Since the reorganisation of the committee structure Pastoral Care is no longer required to prepare a formal report for each PCC meeting.

Margaret Carey - Pastoral Care Co-ordinator, 1 March 2023

Worship Committee

Committee Members: Cathy Langdale, Chair, Rev Dan Beesley, Polly Richardson, Secretary, Sylvia Morrison-Moore, Keith Wood-Smith. Regular attenders: Rev Jenny Tebboth and Chris Weaver

2022 opened much more auspiciously than 2021 and we were very glad to welcome Dan to share our biscuits at our first meeting in February. This gave him the chance to explain his vision for a worship which is always very well led in all its aspects and thus worthy of God.

We were able to plan for a full season of Lent and Dan sought to follow our traditions in his first year. He even topped them by washing feet rather than hands on Maundy Thursday and by lighting a bonfire at the Easter vigil.

For the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in June we encouraged Rev Dan to secure a spot on the stage for the church to open the street party, accompanied by many children from the Junior School alongside the church choir.

September was momentous. After a very moving service on the village green on 4th September, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II died on 8th September. This meant adapting our worship to offer opportunities for the parish to come and mourn together.

We revived to celebrate Harvest with a pithy talk on farming from Simon Swerling, chair of the Village Show committee. October saw Climate Sunday, a punchy service created by Keith Wood-Smith and then in November we were most grateful to be able to reopen the church to the uniformed groups for Remembrance Sunday.

In August the committee reviewed the evening services and made the decision to bring the time forward to 6 pm always. The number of services remained lower than pre-pandemic. There is a guaranteed evening service every 4th Sunday, which alternates between BCP evensong and a fuller Choral Evensong. Dan explained that he does not want to overload the clergy who are also required to help in the Seer Green rota. However there is space for further lay led services. Polly Richardson and John Bradley regularly lead a service of Celtic Worship four times a year.

Our small 30 minute shift seemed to pass without notice, in contrast to the seismic shift experienced when the PCC voted to move the 10 am service an hour earlier to 9 am. The Worship Committee is meeting in March to consider how to help iron out some of the problems occasioned by this transition

and also likes to hear views from parishioners as we are keen that our services remain accessible to those who wish to attend.

Our committee is to be renamed the committee for Worship and Prayer.

We spent our first meeting in January 2023 fixing the dates of all key occasions throughout the year. Now subsequent meetings will involve planning both worship and prayer for all of these.

Cathy Langdale, 6 March 2023

Other Reports

Chalfont St Giles Educational Foundation

The Chalfont St Giles Educational Foundation is a small village charity that has a small annual income. Under its constitution 40% of its income goes to the Parish Church Sunday School. A further 40% goes to the Village School. The Foundation can also provide small grants for educational purposes to young people living in Chalfont St Giles. The Rector chairs the committee of trustees. The trustees met in January 2023 and made awards as above.

Richard Hanney, 18 February 2023

Church Fabric & Furnishings

As in prior years the overall condition of the fabric in the Church is good, with only relatively minor problems being encountered and no major items outstanding. The normal regular routine maintenances on the services necessary to run the Church were carried out in 2022. These include tuning and servicing the organ and its motor, annual inspections of: the fire extinguishers; the lightning conductor; the Served drainage system; and the boilers, and PAT (portable appliance testing). There were no major problems in any of these. Repairs, as necessary, were carried out on the boilers when problems were identified. Other minor repairs in the Church were carried out as needed; this included repairs to the projector screen. Gas meters were replaced at no charge.

The lead roof alarm system continued to operate throughout the year albeit with the occasional false alarm. Roof cameras have been installed over the South aisle as further security for the lead roof. However, the responsive fire alarm system installed in the Church in 2019 gave more false alarms than was acceptable and failed completely in October 2022. Extensive work was carried out by the supplier at its own cost in November 2022 and the system now appears to be working satisfactorily.

Work is being carried out to modernise the controls of the heating system in the Church. The operational procedures relating to this are also being devised as there will have to be strictly controlled access, especially with higher energy prices.

A new flagpole was installed in 2022 in time for the required use for Royal and other significant national occasions.

A Quinquennial Survey (QQS) was carried out as required in 2022. The report identified areas within the Church (and Churchyard) for the Committee to follow up. These have been prioritised and are being addressed according to importance. A copy of the QQS has been provided to the PCC.

The Churchyard was maintained throughout the year by voluntary labour from the Friends of the Church, and from a Church group. The apple tree by the Merlin's Cave wall fell down and was removed at minimum cost. Two rotten willows at the end of the Churchyard by the stream were also removed. In line with the recommendations of the Church a full tree survey of the approximately 40 substantial trees in the Churchyard was carried out and provided to the PCC. Of concern are the 3 Lawson Cypress by the Plumb gates, the one closest to the gates being most vulnerable to the more frequent violent storms being faced. Work is being carried out to have this first tree removed in 2023. Overall these trees are of no significant historical interest and were planted in the 1960s.

The Logbook of work carried out as well as the Register recording the locations of Burials of Ashes in the Churchyard has been prepared for 2022.

Colin Smith Chairman, Fabric Committee, 20 January 2023

Reading Room Fabric

Since taking over responsibility for the fabric of the Reading room, the Fabric Committee has undertaken the following activities:

An estimate has been received for the redecoration of the outside of the Reading Room (presented at January 2023 PCC). At the time of writing a further estimate from a second company is being sought, with a visit to the Reading Room on Friday 10 March.

The windows have been repaired with further painting required in warmer weather.

The Ivy at the back has been removed. Poisoning will be undertaken when the ivy begins to grow in the spring.

A full report on the Reading Room as part of the Quinquennial survey was received last year. The Fabric Committee is working through the actions.

Jeremy Valentine, Fabric Committee, 9 March 2023

Church Watch Review

With Easter on the horizon, another season of Churchwatch is not far behind. It is now four years since I first got involved with Churchwatch, following a chance meeting with Jill Dearlove. It has been a very enjoyable and fulfilling experience for me, and as usual, I would urge more volunteers to join the programme. Please contact me by email or phone (my details are below), or volunteer through the church. Even if you can only do one shift in the year, do please come forward. Every shift is a contribution and eases the burden for the rest.

In reviewing 2022, I am indebted to Roger Foord for his analysis of the Visitors Book and concise summary:

"I found 325 comments during the season, that is those who made an entry in the Visitors Book. Many visitors were local but from the U.K. there were people from Scotland, Cambridge, County Durham, Yorkshire, and many from London.

40 comments were from overseas visitors. They came from:

Afghanistan	Denmark (2)	Kenya
Australia (7)	Finland	Netherlands
Austria	France (2)	New Zealand (2)
Burma	Germany (2)	Philippines
Canada (3)	Italy (2)	USA (12)
China	Japan	

The comments made were consistently in admiration of the Church itself: the flowers for the Jubilee had many comments and there were a large splattering of appreciative comments about ourselves and the interesting aspects we gave for their visit.

Typical were:

"Enchanting Church	Stunned! I've passed this church many times.
Warm welcome	I was missing a treat!
An excellent guide	Special thanks to the people who police the church.
Such a Holy Spirit	Wonderful! God's eternal presence."
What a treasure to discover	

Thanks again, Roger. 2022 was a very cosmopolitan year for us!

Ingrid and Fred Van Crugten from Holland, visited us in May and left us some drone footage of the church. Scott Pickering put some lovely piano music over it and the result was a beautiful artefact. Most of you will have seen it already but it bears repetition.

Another highlight was the visit of over seventy children from a school in Harrow. Rachel, Ann and I managed to maintain some semblance of order, and were rewarded with some beautiful cards and messages from the children when they returned from their summer holiday.

Finally, I should note the lying-in-state of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The response from our Churchwatch community was superb and facilitated a large number of visitors to the church, and signing of the Book of Condolences.

Thank you all for your wonderful efforts.

Tony Ferguson, 6 March 2023
tony@ibl.ie 07769 361 795

Deanery Synod Report

Each Parish elects, usually for three-year terms, representatives from their Church to the Deanery Synod.

Our Deanery is the Amersham Deanery Synod under the Area Dean Rev Peggy Ludlow and consists of clergy and lay members.

There are 4 meetings a year at 8:00pm at local Parish churches: March, June, September, November/ December.

The meetings include reports back from the General Synod Meetings, Local Church information, a Treasurer's Report and any issues arising. There is usually an interesting talk on a specialist subject or from Missionaries we support.

Anyone is welcome to attend these meetings whether they are a Deanery Synod representative or not.

Dates of Meetings and venues will be announced later, see link <https://www.amershamdeanery.org.uk>, where past meeting agendas, reports and minutes may also be found.

Mary Bentall, 26 February 2023

Flower Guild

Our Flower Guild has recently welcomed 2 new members bringing our number to 18. The friendship of our Guild is a joy especially now that the weeks when we can arrange flowers in Church are not inhibited by Covid.

We continue to arrange flowers for weddings and funerals in the colours requested by brides and by bereaved families.

In June 2022 our flowers were designed for the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations in the manner of a flower festival. Arrangements filled every possible place and depicted the major events of the Queen's life.

Sadly in September our flowers were appropriate for the Queen's Memorial Service Day.

As for the Queen's Jubilee we shall look forward to designing special flowers for the Coronation of our King. We hope that many people, including those attending the Coronation party on the village green, will visit our Church in May to offer prayers for King Charles and to enjoy our work.

This year as in past years we shall hold 2 Christmas Wreath ring workshops early in December in our Church. These workshops offer an outreach to the village and provide a welcome source of income to our Flower Guild funds.

Mavis Roberts - Flower Guild Leader, 27 February 2023

Lent Lunches

Although we were unable to run Lent lunches in either 2020 or 2021 through Covid restrictions, we were delighted to hold a full "set" of lunches in 2022 for the six Fridays (4 March to 8 April). We are very grateful to the volunteers who have again stepped forward in 2023 (24th February to 31st March) to make and donate batches of soups, and/or help in setting up, serving, clearing up, washing up or delivering soups to some thirty shops and businesses in the village. We shall be asking the Co-op if they will again support us as in the past by donating loaves and milk over the six weeks. We are grateful to all those who support this Lent charity event, whether by taking lunch in the Reading Room or in their shops and offices; and their generous donations.

The charities we will support in 2023 are Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care) and the Reading Room.

Kathleen Martin, 19 February 2023

Stewardship Recorder's Report for 2022

The financial income of the Parish Church has shown some improvement in the last twelve months following the passing of the pandemic but has, as yet, failed to keep pace with growing inflation and get back to the levels of 2018.

We still have a band of generous regular givers who pay by Standing Order and some who pay by regular or annual generous gifts.

This number has increased by one as we have lost two but gained three new subscribers and now stand at 64.

We would welcome more people to set up new standing orders.

The total donated this year by Standing Orders and the envelope scheme amounted to £61,791.30 resulting in a Gift Aid claim from HMRC of £15,448.23

Income from the contactless machine was £2,733. The Gads Scheme for open plate cash (including the contactless machine when gift aid is not stated) was claimed at the end of March when our total just got above the maximum allowance of £8,000 for the tax year resulting in a payment of £2,000 from HMRC. This results in a gift aid figure of £17,448.23.

This compares with:

2018 £20,721;

2019 £19,190;

2020 £17,965;

2021 £18,294.

We are still not maximising our use of the gift aid scheme, and I would encourage everyone to move to Standing Orders for your donations, especially if you are a UK tax payer, or to use the envelope scheme by filling in the envelopes with your details. Just putting money into an unmarked envelope does not qualify for Gift Aid payments from HMRC.

Thanks to all our regular donors for your continued generous support and please, if possible, give some thought to increasing your donations to help us cope with the current inflationary situation.

Chris Neville - Stewardship Secretary, 8 March 2023

Treasurer's Financial Report to May 2023 APCM

2022 proved to be very much a "back to something like normal" year given the absence of Covid related uncertainties, the end of the interregnum and Dan commencing as our Rector in January. From a financial perspective, as measured by the Income & Expenditure account, the outcome was better than anticipated, the loss of £14k incurred being £26k favourable compared to the budget, see below for summary details.

As in previous years we must be thankful for the continuing support of our regular Standing Order givers, this bedrock of our income having been well supported by contributions from other attendees to services, supplemented by recoveries of tax relief from HMRC and legacies received.

Throughout the period the Finance Review Committee (FRC) provided oversight, monitoring and management of our many and varied financial and related activities. Special thanks are due to Mike Baldwin who continued to contribute significantly, drawing upon his massive experience, and to Chris Neville who, in addition to his ongoing role as Stewardship Officer now deals with all church payments and has assumed responsibility for a number of additional procedures including diocesan returns. Thanks also to Rev Paul Henderson for the time and significant financial knowledge and expertise he has provided, and to John Bradley who joined the Committee during the course of the period, contributing insight and challenge, drawing as necessary on his highly relevant experience with other charitable organisations.

Mike Saunders has continued to deal efficiently with our bank paying-in requirements, not helped by closure of our local NatWest banks; Gemma Finn has proved to be a competent and helpful bookkeeping resource and St Clair Accountancy Solutions, our new Independent Examiner, dealt professionally and cost effectively in checking and giving approval to the 2021 financial statements and were appointed by the May 2022 APCM to carry out the 2022 financial statements examination.

Summary of 2022 Financial Performance

The 2022 accounts report a loss for the year of £14k, £26k better than budget arising from Income totalling £140k, £17k above budget, less Expenditure of £154k, £10k below budget.

It must be noted that, without the £19k Legacies received, the loss would have been £33k, and that the below budget expenditure was owing primarily to non-recruitment of a full time Children and Families worker.

Income and Expenditure details are provided in the Statement of Financial Activity section of this Annual Report. Main points to note as follows.

Income

Voluntary Receipts totalled £109k, £2k above budget due to a favourable variance of £15k in Legacies offset by Offerings, £6k below budget, and donations £5k below budget due primarily to lower than anticipated receipts in December.

Receipts from Fundraising Activities totalled £13.7k, £3.5k above budget including income from events of £5.5k, £4.5k above budget. Reading Room receipts totalled £5k, £1.5k above budget comprising Letting Fees and a share of the Lent Lunch surplus.

Other Receipts totalled £10.6k, £8k above budget including a grant of £2.3k from the Friends of the Church towards the new flagpole, £2.2k of energy/warm spaces related grants from the Diocese, an anonymous donation of £2k received from CAF in connection with the All Together Group, and final dividend payments received from Old Mutual investments.

Expenditure

The Parish share, £79k was responsible for over 50% of total church expenditure, excluding on-payment of gifts received for individuals, equivalent to 65% of our recurring income.

Church Activities including the Parish share totalled £116k, £14.5k below budget due primarily to a saving of £22k from non-recruitment of a full-time Children & Families Worker partially offset by spend of c£12k on Church and Churchyard Maintenance, £6k above budget due to flagpole renewal, Quinquennial survey, and related expenditure.

Other Costs which totalled £5.7k, £5.4k above budget, included distribution of the Lent Lunch surplus, payment of the CAF donation to the All Together Group, together with payments to other charities including the World Day of Prayer.

Net Assets at 31 December 2022

Net assets/Reserves totalled £314k, comprising Cash Funds of £113k (36% of total reserves), £14k below the closing 2021 balance caused by the 2022 deficit. Investments at market value were £201k, a fall of £11k since 31 December 2021 due to unfavourable market movements.

Budget 2023

The 2023 budget was approved by the January PCC and is for a deficit of £40k arising from a combination of income totalling £122k less expenditure of £162k, noting that this level of loss is close to those budgeted for both 2022 and 2021.

The 2023 budget comprises recurring income and expenditure which, as agreed by the PCC, excludes capital expenditure on proposed new Audio Visual equipment and Families & Children's work resourcing, both of which will be subject to consideration in due course for approval by the PCC and drawn from reserves.

The budgeted income of £122k is a reduction of £18k compared to actual 2022 receipts due to assumed non recurrence of:- legacy income; grants from The Friends and other entities, offset by modest increases in: Offerings and Donations; Reading Room receipts; and Fundraising event income.

Budgeted expenditure is £8k higher than that incurred in 2022 - the main reason for the increase being provisions for significantly higher energy related costs and an increased Parish Share.

Measures to mitigate the budgeted loss are being initiated by the FRC including a review of all categories of current expenditure, together with proposed delegation of responsibility for management of energy usage and cost saving initiatives to the Fabric Committee.

Additional income generating events are also to be encouraged in connection with which it is suggested that consideration should be given to re-establishing the former Events Committee.

John Southworth, 27 February 2023

Rector's Review of the Year

It is appropriate to start this report from the date of my licencing to the parish and benefice on 27 January 2022. First, I would like to thank everyone who worked so hard during the vacancy to keep the parish running, especially when there was also a vacancy in Seer Green and Jordans. You all did an amazing job and to help me in settling into my new role very smoothly; there are unfortunately far too many names to mention because it was a whole church effort and that was one of the reasons we held our 'Thank You' service in October.

The first part of the year we spent getting to know everyone in our church and meeting key people from our community, as well as attending as many meetings and events as possible. This was a great way to get to know better and to gain an understanding of how our community put on events, the response and how well we all worked together.

2022 was a time to understand how we operated as a church and what God was calling us to do. As a whole church we entered into this by listening to what God had to say to us through Jeremiah 29:4-14, with a special focus on verse 7. This was followed up by further discernment by the PCC in July with an Away Day. As a church, a PCC and by myself, we spent many months listening to God to discern our new Mission, Vision and Values which are:

MISSION

Loving People, Transforming Lives, Glorifying God.

VISION

To be a thriving church that brings God's blessings to our village through prayer, relationships and living our faith out daily.

VALUES

Generous Open Seeking Praying Engaging Listening.

Our Mission, Vision and Values will shape our ministry as a church over the coming years.

The continuing need for recovery from Covid has always been present with us over the past year and the church has coped well with all of the challenges. Like many other churches across the land our numbers were down, with very few people under the age of thirty. With these challenges in sight and looking to the long-term future of the church, the PCC started to discuss what types of services we offered and how these would engage both our current congregation and those who don't worship with us. This period of discussion and discernment led to us adopting a new service pattern which started on 8 January 2023. The services have been well received and attendances have been beyond my expectations, which gives us a great platform on which to build.

There were many events that we participated in or attended. As a church it was great to come together with the other churches in Chalfont St Giles for the Walk of Witness and Service and demonstrated to the village the great unity amongst our churches. It was also exciting for us to start the village Jubilee celebrations by holding a service with our pop-up choir. At the Village Show we won the Jester Cup for the best (although only) decorated store and had a lot of fun with families and kids that came to our store to decorate a treasure chest, as the theme for the show was 'Pirates'.

Last year was a great celebration with the Queen's Jubilee but also a very sad year for us as a nation when our wonderful Queen died and our nation entered into a time of national mourning. Thank you so much for our Church Watch volunteers who stepped in to ensure that the church was kept open during this time and also during the heat wave in the summer.

During the past year we have looked at how the church operated with volunteer numbers down after so many people have given so much to the church in the past and as we await new people to join us. When I arrived, we had 10 sub-committees and after understanding how our church operated, we have now changed it to 4 sub-committees with Finance and Fabric still retaining their status but now sitting under the Operations committee. All of this will free up time to devote to God's calling on us as a church and make us more effective in our meetings with a clear focus. Some of the sub-committees have moved over to become working groups freeing them up from the administration that is required of a sub-committee.

As a PCC we also agreed a new Mission Action Plan for 2023. The Mission Action Plan was developed and formulated throughout the past year through understanding our church and our relationship with the wider parish. This will enable us as a church to focus on going 'Deeper' in our faith as a congregation and 'Wider' in our

engagement with our parish. This combined with our Mission, Vision and Values will give us a strategic focus over the coming year.

It has been encouraging to build on existing relationships with the school and make them stronger, as well as welcoming the new headteacher, Mr Haywood. We also built on relationships with other organisations and businesses, as well as making new relationships in the parish. Bringing the church back to the spiritual heart of the village and parish has been welcomed by a great deal of people and we all look forward to making more new friends and building on existing relationships.

This year the General Synod voted in favour of blessing same-sex marriages. This is something that I have theologically stated I cannot do and this is something that as a church we will have to navigate together as there are differing opinions about this and we wait for the General Synod in July to confirm and ratify the changes.

It has been a great year with so much going on and so much to celebrate and for which to thank God. I really do thank all of you for all that you do for our wonderful church and for your graciousness with all of the changes that have happened in order for our church to grow and engage.

Many blessings,

Rev. Dan, 15 March 2023

This report by your PCC for our 2023 Annual Parochial Council Meeting (APCM), prepared as the formal Trustees Report, was approved and authorised for issue by the PCC (being the Trustees) and on 15 March 2023 the following were authorised to sign on the Trustees' behalf:

Tom Boundy
PCC Lay Chair

John Southworth
PCC Treasurer

Date: 19 April 2023

Date: 19 April 2023

- o - O - o -

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the Parochial Church Council ("PCC") of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chalfont St Giles for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the summary of receipts and payments and the statement of assets and liabilities.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the 2011 Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility:

- To examine the financial statements under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 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 a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met; or
- b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

[Duly signed]

Rupert St Clair-Burton CPA
St Clair Accountancy Solutions Limited,
11, Church Farm Courtyard,
High Street,
Chalfont St Giles,
Buckinghamshire
HP8 4QH.

Date: 15/03/23

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES
REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1129372

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted and Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Expendable & Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Voluntary Receipts	4	107,452	1,897	-	109,349	134,236
Receipts from Fundraising	5	11,483	2,198	-	13,681	12,413
Receipts from Reading Room	6	3,130	1,822	-	4,952	240
Receipts from Church Activities	7	1,826	-	-	1,826	926
Other Receipts	8	7,745	2,636	185	10,566	8,819
Total Receipts		131,636	8,553	185	140,374	156,634
PAYMENTS						
Voluntary Income Costs	9	1,750	-	-	1,750	2,000
Fundraising Costs	10	8,868	257	-	9,125	6,537
Reading Room Expenses	11	3,633	-	-	3,633	3,412
Church Activities Costs	12	112,346	3,291	-	115,637	106,486
Management and Administration	13	18,419	-	-	18,419	15,102
Other Costs	14	2,609	3,137	-	5,746	7,977
Total Operating Costs		147,625	6,685	-	154,310	141,514
Excess / (shortfall) of receipts over payments		(15,989)	1,868	185	(13,936)	15,120
Transfer between funds		7,333	(7,148)	(185)	-	-
Gain on market investments		-	-	(11,103)	(11,103)	17,053
Net movement of funds		(8,656)	(5,280)	(11,103)	(25,039)	32,173
Balance brought forward		119,432	7,468	212,062	338,962	306,789
Funds this year end carried forward		110,776	2,188	200,959	313,923	338,962

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES
REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1129372

BALANCE SHEET
AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Expendable & Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
FIXED ASSETS						
Investments at valuation	-	-		200,959	200,959	212,062
CURRENT ASSETS						
Cash at bank and in hand	26,671	20,000	1,822	366	48,859	63,041
Cash on deposit with Central Board of Finance	6,840	11,999	-	-	18,839	18,593
Shawbrook Bank	10,817	34,449	-	-	45,266	45,266
Net current assets	44,328	66,448	1,822	366	112,964	126,900
TOTAL NET ASSETS	44,328	66,448	1,822	201,325	313,923	338,962
CAPITAL FUNDS						
Permanent Endowment Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
INCOME FUNDS						
Endowment Funds	-	-	-	201,325	201,325	211,062
Restricted Funds	-	-	1,822	-	1,822	7,468
Designated Funds	-	66,448	-	-	66,448	66,425
Unrestricted Funds	44,328	-	-	-	44,328	54,007
TOTAL FUNDS	44,328	66,448	1,822	201,325	313,923	338,962

These accounts were approved by the Standing Committee on [xx] April 2023 as authorised by the Committee of Members on 15 March 2023 when they authorised the Honorary Treasurer to sign them on their behalf:

Signed:

John Southworth
Honorary Treasurer

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and Recommended Practice "Accounting and reporting by charities" (revised 2005).

The accounts are drawn up on the basis of "Receipts and Payments " (rather than "prepayments and accrual" accounting) as permitted by the Charity Commission for charities with a turnover of less than £250k a year. They also drawn up under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investment assets at market value.

Incoming resources

Offerings and donations received for the general purposes of the charity are included as Unrestricted Funds. The relevant Gift Aid is shown separately. Donations whose application is restricted by the wishes of the donor are taken to Restricted Funds. Incoming resources are all accounted for gross and planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due.

Investment income, dividends, interest and tax recoverable are accounted for when received.

All other income is generally recognised when it is receivable.

Resources expended

The church has followed the practice of writing off 100 per cent of the cost of any additions or modifications to the consecrated land and buildings and contents of the church.

Parish Share is paid regularly and is included in expenditure for the year in which it is paid.

Unrestricted fund grants (including donations to missions) are recognised when determined by the PCC.

Amounts received specifically for missions are dealt with as restricted funds and the liability for payment is recognised when the amounts are received.

All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred.

Assets and Liabilities

The following assets are recognised but not attributed a value in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

*Moveable church furnishings held by the church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal;

*Land and buildings and improvements thereto, held on behalf of the PCC;

*Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment where the PCC is free to dispose of such assets without faculty and where the original cost exceeded £1,000.

The following assets are recognised and a monetary value given as part of the description in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

*Closing bank balances

*Closing revalued balances on investments

The following liabilities are recognised in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities

*Any loans or overdrafts advanced to the PCC;

*Any arrears of Diocesan Parish Share

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022, continued

Taxation

The Parochial Church Council is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted Funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees. Designated funds are Unrestricted Funds as they are not restricted by the donor and are available for any specified purpose endorsed by the PCC.

Restricted Funds are those donations and covenants where the donor has stipulated that the monies should be used for particular purposes. Any Restricted Funds received have been or will be disbursed for the purposes intended by the donor. All donations to the Fabric Fund for example are used to finance property repairs.

Endowment Funds are those where the donor has donated a capital sum, making the dividend or interest from the fund to be used as stipulated.

2. APB ETHICAL STANDARD - Provisions Available for Small Entities

In common with many other organisations of our size and nature we use our independent examiner to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

3. RESERVES POLICY

The following policy was adopted by the Parochial Church Council in 2021 to the effect that a minimum reserve will be maintained, based upon 9 months of recurring expenditure which at 31 December 2022 was close to £116,000.

To ensure the ongoing adequacy of this reserve, church net assets will be apportioned 40:60 as between investment and liquid funds respectively such that the minimum reserve requirement is covered by cash and other liquid assets.

At 31 December 2022 liquid funds totalled £113,000, being 35% of total net assets and marginally below the minimum reserve target.

Movements in the respective ratios in 2023 will be kept under close scrutiny by the Finance Review Committee and, if necessary, investments will be liquidated in order to ensure compliance with the agreed policy.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022, continued

	Unrestricted and Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Expendable & Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
4 VOLUNTARY RECEIPTS					
Offerings	12,282	-	-	12,282	8,068
Donations (inc Gift Days)	59,245	1,278	-	60,523	63,286
HMRC Gift Aid Rebate	16,925	619	-	17,544	19,781
Grants, Bequests, Legacies	19,000	-	-	19,000	43,101
	107,452	1,897	-	109,349	134,236
5 RECEIPTS FROM FUNDRAISING					
Wedding and Funeral Fees	8,027	-	-	8,027	10,603
Fund Raising Events	3,335	2,198	-	5,533	1,610
Magazine Income	121	-	-	121	200
	11,483	2,198	-	13,681	12,413
6 RECEIPTS FROM READING ROOM					
Reading Room Income	3,130	1,822	-	4,952	240
	3,130	1,822	-	4,952	240
7 RECEIPTS FROM CHURCH ACTIVITIES					
Social Outreach	1,383	-	-	1,383	529
Children Youth & Messy Church	443	-	-	443	397
	1,826	100	-	1,826	926
8 OTHER RECEIPTS					
Grants received	2,171	2,291	-	4,462	-
Provision of Service	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	1,793	-	-	1,793	1,522
Special gifts & Donations for Charities	2,254	299	-	2,553	6,843
Interest and Dividends	1,527	46	185	1,758	454
	7,745	2,636	185	10,566	8,819
TOTAL RECEIPTS	131,636	8,553	185	140,374	156,634

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022, continued

	Unrestricted and Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Expendable & Endowment Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
9 VOLUNTARY INCOME COSTS					
Grants given (including tithes)	1,750	-	-	1,750	2,000
10 FUNDRAISING COSTS					
Fundraising Event Expenses	2,797	257	-	3,054	737
Wedding & Funeral Fees to ODBF	5,830	-	-	5,830	5,648
Magazine & Publicity	241	-	-	241	152
	8,868	257	-	9,125	6,537
11 READING ROOM EXPENSES					
Light and Heat	847	-	-	847	712
Insurance	1,179	-	-	1,179	1,130
Operating Costs	784	-	-	784	775
Repairs and Improvements	823	-	-	823	795
	3,633	-	-	3,633	3,412
12 CHURCH ACTIVITIES COSTS					
Parish Share	79,325	-	-	79,325	80,796
Heating and Lighting	4,539	-	-	4,539	2,594
Church and Churchyard Maintenance	8,576	3,291	-	11,867	6,378
Insurance	4,306	-	-	4,306	4,134
Organist, Music & Instruments	5,041	-	-	5,041	2,931
Other Operating Expenses	2,278	-	-	2,278	3,559
Social Outreach	260	-	-	260	127
Children, Youth & Messy Church	8,021	-	-	8,021	5,967
	112,346	3,291	-	115,637	106,486
13 MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION					
Rector Vacancy	-	-	-	-	1,374
Travel, Hospitality, Visiting Clergy	1,221	-	-	1,221	677
Telephone and Internet	1,548	-	-	1,548	887
Office Admin Staff	8,346	-	-	8,346	8,524
Printing and Stationery	2,193	-	-	2,193	2,437
Office Other Costs	333	-	-	333	165
Audit & Accountancy	4,227	-	-	4,227	1,038
PCC & Deanery Expenses	135	-	-	135	-
Bank Charges	416	-	-	416	-
	18,419	-	-	18,419	15,102
14 OTHER COSTS					
Special gifts and Donations to Charities	2,609	3,137	-	5,746	7,977
	2,609	3,137	-	5,746	7,977
TOTAL OPERATING COSTS	147,625	6,685	-	154,310	141,514

Not 18419

Accounts

PLEASE BRING THIS AGENDA/ REPORT PACKAGE WITH YOU TO THE MEETINGS

CHALFONT SAINT GILES PARISH CHURCH

ANNUAL MEETINGS

**Wednesday 4 May 2022 at 7:30pm for 8:00pm in Church,
chaired by Rev. Dan Beesley, Rector**

AGENDA AND REPORTS

Please read the attached reports ahead of the meetings and, if you want to clarify anything, contact the author of the particular report.

Apologies: Kathleen Martin; Hannah Tew;

AGENDA

PRAYER AND WELCOME

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

1. To appoint a clerk of the meeting
2. To note the number present and apologies received for absence
3. To approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 12 May 2021
4. To elect Churchwardens

TO BE FOLLOWED BY: PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Only those recorded on the electoral roll are eligible to vote at the meeting.

1. To appoint a clerk of the meeting
 2. To adopt the Updated Electoral Roll
 3. To approve the minutes of the Parochial Church Meeting held on 12 May 2021
 4. To receive the 2021 Financial Statements including:
 - Wardens' Report (see page 11)
 - Reports on Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council and its Committees (see page 12)
 - Other related reports (see page 18)
 - Report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the Church (see page 18)
 - Report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod (see page 19)
 - Report from the Stewardship Recorder (see page 20)
 - Financial Report by the Treasurer (see page 21)
 - Ministers' Review of 2021 (see page 22)
 - Report of the Independent Examiner (see page 25)
 5. To appoint an Independent Examiner for the following year
 6. To approve the appointment of a Deputy Warden
 7. To elect a Representative to the Deanery (1 to bring to 3)
 8. To elect lay representatives to the PCC (4 to bring to 12)
 9. Rector's 'Charge'
 10. Any other business
- Prayer

**Minutes of Meetings held Wednesday 12 May 2021 at 7:00pm by Zoom, chaired by
John Southworth (PCC Lay Chair),**

The Chairman opened the meetings by inviting Rev. Jenny Tebbboth to lead prayers.

The Chairman noted there will be three meetings tonight: first the meeting of Parishioners, then the meeting of the members on the Church Electoral Roll after which comes a short meeting for the Parochial Church Council only to formalise some appointments on the PCC going forward as well as to catch up on arrangements being made for the Vacancy situation, particularly as regards appointment of Parish representatives who will serve on the committee that will be selecting our new Vicar.

Copies of the Agenda and Reports pack had been distributed by email and some collected from Church. Although spanning reportage on 2020, this meeting is for a short period of appointment terms as the previous meeting was delayed to October from the intended April 2020 date because of the impact of CV-19.

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

1. Clerk of the meeting:

It was agreed that Richard Bolton be appointed Clerk of the meeting.

2. Attendance and apologies:

The Clerk reported that thirty-four parishioners were now present with thirty-three being on the electoral roll and one clergy.

Apologies had been received from Margaret Carey and Colin Smith.

3. To approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 21st October 2020:

The Chairman noted that Minutes of the meeting postponed from April 2020 and held on 21st October 2020 had been distributed with the agenda.

The minutes were approved by the meeting and as a correct record by the Chairman.

4. To elect Churchwardens:

Noting that thanks to Eileen Baldwin had been expressed at the 2020 APCM when she gave notice she would be standing down at this meeting, the Chairman endorsed those, further expanding on Eileen's work in bringing common sense and pragmatism and always being in the right place at the right time, not least with the need for the Wardens to plan for the interregnum / vacancy and the changes thrown by the CV-19 situation. As well, they have been considering the graveyard and the gravestones and what may need to be done and Eileen has been at the centre of all that. Noting that we are sorry that she is now standing down, the Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Eileen and wished her a happy retirement. All agreed.

Responding, Eileen said the last 3 years have been a voyage of learning and adventure and a great time working with the other wardens, Kate to begin with, then Hannah and Rachel and recently getting to know Jenny Wilson. Rachel Leonard added that we have a token of thanks for Eileen and that Jenny Wilson and she will meet Eileen for coffee and to present it in person.

The Chairman moved on to looking to the future. Rachel has served as Warden for some 6 months. She and Jenny, having been proposed and seconded and agreeing to stand for election as Churchwardens for 2021/22 and, there being no other nominations, they were duly elected by the meeting.

The Chairman thanked them both warmly and wished them well in this extraordinary time.

The Chairman closed the meeting of Parishioners at 7:11pm

PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Noting that only those on the electoral roll are eligible to attend, the Chairman commented that the number at the meeting had changed. The Clerk reported that there were now thirty-three members on the electoral roll present and two clergy.

1. **Clerk of the meeting:**

It was agreed that Richard Bolton be appointed Clerk of the meeting.

2. **To review the Electoral Roll:**

The Chairman invited the Electoral Roll Officer, Kathleen Martin, to report. Kathleen confirmed that there are now 152 names on the list compared with 154 last time. We lost 7 people but have 5 additions. The meeting voted to receive the Electoral Roll. The Chairman thanked Kathleen for her work on this.

3. **To approve the minutes of the Parochial Church meeting held on 21st October 2020:**

The minutes were approved by the meeting and as a correct record by the Chairman.

4. **To receive the Annual Report for 2020 including the Financial Statements:**

The Chairman noted that the Annual Report for 2020 had been circulated with the Agenda and invited the various report originators to say a few words if they wished.

Speaking to the Churchwardens' Report, Eileen noted that attendance numbers were difficult to assess this year. However, everyone had pulled together.

Kate Southworth adding to the Children & Families Report commented that we are advertising for a new full time Leader in Families Ministry, the new title for the job recommended by diocese. She asked that people let her know of any contacts in other churches throughout the country so we can add them to our list of people to approach. Kate added that Janelle Stevenson is busy doing things with the children – she produced brilliant material for Pentecost.

Turning to Communications, the Chairman invited Sylvia Valentine to comment. She responded by asking for feedback on how to communicate effective information.

For the Discipleship Committee, Rev. Jenny Tebboth commented that YZone now has a charismatic leader taking Alpha for this term but we still need to work on leadership for next year. She is encouraged that we have a confirmation service coming up; 4 candidates from our Church and 2 from Saint Mary's Amersham, adding that we are looking to adapt the discipleship part of the website to more extensively introduce and grow people in the faith.

Keith-Wood Smith added to the ECO Church report saying we have a Service coming up when he is going to be speaking about ARocha, one of our missions, and their work in trying to reflect and be concerned about the environment as an expression of our Faith. We have now established an Eco Church Committee and he will be presenting the terms of reference for that committee to the May PCC. He added that we really need all the committees and the PCC to be thinking about these things and working with the Eco Committee on this - and bringing in the wider congregation.

Richard Bolton spoke about Fawcett Trust, commenting that it is helpful to know a bit before Christmas how much money we have available, so that we don't over commit because it's quite tight on money coming in and money going out. He thanked the other members of the Committee for their involvement and the PCC for the Tithe contribution, which is very helpful. The Trust does good work, is appreciated by the recipients and helps the local shopkeepers as the vouchers can only be used in the village.

On Street Kids Direct, Margaret Dykes commented that we do not yet have a champion. We originally had Steve Poulson come and talk to us, being the young man from Amersham who travels over to work with the charity, and he did a wonderful presentation. She is trying to get a video to present.

Turning to Pastoral Care the Chairman acknowledged the considerable help at this difficult time of committee members to individuals in the village and around.

MINUTES OF CHALFONT ST GILES PARISH CHURCH 2021 ANNUAL MEETINGS - CONTINUED

Jeremy Valentine spoke to the work of the Fabric Committee on the Reading Room wall noting that we are pretty sure where the damp is coming in but are going to experiment to confirm this and reach the solution. Then we will get the inside painted and the floor will be sanded.

Turning to the Worship Committee, Cathy Langdale said we are planning for the services in May and onwards. More interaction with Seer Green & Jordans is taking place. Richard Bolton noted that the 08:00 BCP communion service is currently rotating between the two churches – the previous week 3 members of Chalfont St Giles went to Seer Green & Jordans, this week 2 came to join us from there. Kathy noted plans for special services in June – Creation Sunday on 27th.

For Fabric Committee Jeremy Valentine said it has been a busy year and will not be any quieter next year as there are one or 2 larger bills coming our way like the flagpole.

Melainé Teahan added to Church Watch report with a big thank you to everybody who volunteered, commenting that so many people were so generous with their time it was unbelievable. She noted that Tony Ferguson is aiming to open church Tuesday to Sunday in Spring/Summer.

Turning to the Deanery Synod, Mary Bentall commented that it meets 4 times a year and interesting information comes down from the General Synod. Anyone can attend, the next meeting is Thursday 24 June – the location varies. The Amersham Deanery website is run by Dorothy Potter with brilliant information and resources.

On the Lent Lunches, Kevin Searle reported that they had to be cancelled for 2021 through CV-19. He appealed for someone to run the Lunches in 2022, 2021 having been intended to be his last year. He added that the situation of the Ensors in the Far East is getting worse and worse and communication channels are being disrupted. Re-consideration may be necessary as to who should benefit from the funds raised.

Frances Hawkins, adding to Rendezvous, said there was a hope to restart in September but more help is needed in the kitchen.

Turning to the Stewardship Recorder's report, the Chairman acknowledged the superb job in maintaining the level of giving despite the CV-19 ambush of the Stewardship Campaign. Chris Neville noted the losses of members of the Congregation through deaths or moves away and the need to revive the Campaign when circumstances permit.

Financial Report by the Treasurer:

Mike Baldwin talked in considerable detail about the financial outcome of 2020 and the prospects for 2021 saying that despite serious reduction in our service attendances and church activities, income from offerings and donations held up strongly at 96% of the 2019 level. Most of the shortfall was down to the losses of Easter, Remembrance and Christmas Day Special Services. He gave thanks to God and to all our regular contributors for their faithfulness and support in continuing to look after our financial needs. Mike gave his personal thanks to those who've carried the weight of looking after our voluntary finances so healthily:

- Chris Neville for his work on Gift Aid and the contactless, giving system that is yielding good benefits;
- Mike Saunders who has mastered the skill of getting the banks to take our money;
- Sophie Bowles who until October looked after our bills and kept our accounts balanced.

Mike noted the work of the Fabric Committee and the much larger than usual contribution from the Friends of the Church in offset of maintenance project costs.

Responding to Tom Boundy, Mike noted that 2019 offerings included legacies of £6,000 so the fall in 2020 on a consistent basis was some £4,000. In 2020 bequests of £15,000 are shown separately. In April 2021 a further legacy of £37,000 was received. Mike stressed his view that legacy income should be used for improvement and developments in facilities and activities (eg financing the Children's and Family Worker)- viewing these as investments.

Jenny Wilson asked about the Parish Share. Mike responded that it is mainly driven by the size of the electoral roll and church attendance in October: it covers the Rector's cost, an element of diocese administration, and training of new pastors.

Keith Wood-Smith asked about the proposed transfer of investments to a new sort of ethical investment strategy. Mike responded that the plan is there and James White is looking into this. The intent is to invest in Church of England ethical funds run by CCLA (short for Churches, Charities and local Authorities).

Cathy Langdale asked how it is intended to fund the youth and families worker going forward. Mike responded that we've budgeted for a three-year coverage of the cost by taking money out of our asset balance - reckoning to take about £100,000 out of our £300,000 current balance. This will be an investment with the aim that more people join our membership.

Margaret Dykes asked if we will continue to invest in Shawbrook? Mike responded probably so in the short term – an advantage being the Government guarantee of some £75,000/85,000 of monies due by a bank but also depending on interest rates. However, in administration terms the fewer banks we have the better. Margaret was concerned about Christian ethics. They agreed to follow this up outside the meeting.

Mike added a personal postscript to all that's been going on saying it's been a great privilege to be your treasurer on and off for about eight years or so, and I'll be handing over to John Southworth after he is able to complete his current responsibilities as PCC Lay Chair and Chair of the Vacancy Committee. Mike added it has been a joy to be part of the Standing Committee and the PCC teams over the time, noting that they have grown in cohesiveness over the years. Mike added that teamwork is a great skill when it can be achieved and is going to be an important skill to maintain during the vacancy period. It is the ultimate demonstration of loving each other by building on each other's strengths and not undermining each others' weaknesses. He prayed that it will continue to grow.

The Chairman proposed a heartfelt vote of thanks for all that Mike has done to now, noting that Mike will continue temporarily until the Chairman has become free from his other church duties. All agreed.

The Financial Statements were approved for adoption.

Rachel Leonard noted that Jenny Wilson and she have a token of our appreciation to present to Mike probably at a 10:00 o'clock service in a couple of months time.

The Chairman moved on to the Rector's Review of 2020 and paid tribute for all the work that Ian had done, helping a lot of people individually and personally and we wish him every happiness in the coming years. The Chairman noted that so many initiatives were stymied by the pandemic but nevertheless initiatives have been taken so the church has grown in areas that perhaps it never thought it would during lockdown. Some benefits will be carried forward and Ian's played his part in that. His report is very full, very comprehensive and very informative and was taken as read and with thanks for all Ian has done for us and for the church over the last seven years.

5. To approve the appointment of a Deputy Warden:

Noting that Melainé Teahan is volunteering to continue in the post, the meeting agreed to her reappointment. The Chairman expressed thanks for all she does to keep everything running in order and make arrangements.

6. To elect lay representatives to the PCC:

The Chairman asked Richard Bolton to summarise the position. He reported there are five vacancies as people have come to the end of their three-year term and are not seeking to be re-elected for one year. Five people have put themselves forward and been proposed and seconded appropriately. They are, in alphabetical order, Tom Boundy, Francis Hawkins, Kate Southworth, Jeremy Valentine, and Tracey Wiggins.

There being 5 vacancies and 5 candidates the meeting noted their automatic appointment.

7. To appoint an Independent Examiner for the following year:

The Chairman moved on to appointment of the independent examiner. Mike reported on this, noting that for many years we've used Lee & Company in Rickmansworth as our independent examiners. However, we now pay them £600 a year and they find it difficult to complete the task quickly. We have now received an offer from the company that supplies our software who will carry out the same function for a cost of £150 per annum, and they assure us that they can complete the task in a much shorter time and so he recommended that Paxton Computers be appointed as our independent examiners for 2021. The Chairman asked if Paxton are professionally qualified to sign off this report? Mike responded that they've claimed that they are authorised but this needs to be confirmed. Subject to that being satisfactory they were appointed.

8. **Mission Action Plan:**

The Chairman invited Rev. Jenny to speak to the Mission Action Plan. She noted that the recollection in Ian's report that on Saturday 9 February 2020 we went away to think about mission action planning seemed a long time ago and that the virus had put a spanner in quite a few of our plans but opened up new avenues of development. So Jenny has updated the mission action plan (originally devised by Rev. Paul, herself, Eileen and Rachel, as wardens, and Rev. Ian) to set out some priorities for this period of vacancy, bearing in mind the changes that will be ongoing in our practice throughout this time and the fact that we will not have an incumbent to allow us to make very ambitious plans.

The verse from Psalm 1 that she had chosen for this is:

They (The Blessed) are like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf will not wither – whatever they do prospers.

So her first point was that although we have lost an incumbent and we've had all these changes, the source of our fruitfulness has not changed and continues to feed us in exactly the same way so we can continue to be fruitful through this year. The plans don't look very ambitious but we can build ourselves into a congregation that loves each other, that all contributes to our church life, using the different gifts that God has given us. If we ensure that no member of our Church family feels left out, those who can't attend in person or those who are away for various reasons, we will be a congregation that an incoming incumbent will love to work with and we'll find joy, so that's my prayer and will take us a fair bit of work and not just a few of us but all of us. There's quite a lot of teamwork required. In addition to the Mission Action Plan, Eco-Church will be going ahead, Families work will be going ahead, developing creative worship will be devised. These are just the priorities for a recovery period and a period of vacancy.

We've got a looking ahead section as well because there are some big projects which we still have very much in our hearts and in our minds: we want a Children and Families worker; we want to make our website truly useful and attractive; we've got the churchyard project going on, and the Reading Room needs some refurbishment to make it a place of hospitality for our current time. So those are the big things going forward, but plenty to do in the meantime. So I commend it to you for something to pray about and consider your own part in. Small groups are going to be very important in this plan as units of pastoral care, units of spiritual growth and units of care for each other - so that is one of our big aims for this year.

9. **Any other business:**

Eileen Baldwin noted that in March 2019 when churches were closed for public worship, we wondered how we were going to manage to get together for worship and how to keep in contact with one another. Peter Heaps came to our rescue and week on week for all these months Peter has been there, recording Sunday services to go on the website as well as latterly videoing services including funerals so that people who couldn't attend could watch, and he's really helped us out of quite a deep ditch, so I went round to see Peter during the week with a small token of our thanks for his professionalism and help. He was very appreciative. And while we're thanking people, I just would like to say that many people in our church community do a great deal of work and give their time and their efforts and they've not been mentioned tonight so I would like to say many thanks to the unsung heroes who keep us going from week to week and from month to month.

After the Chairman's thanks to all involved in the drafting of the splendid Parish Profile for the Benefice, about to go forward to the PCCs and Sections 11 and 12 meetings, and thanks particularly to Tracey Wiggin and the designer, the meeting closed with prayer led by Rev. Jenny, again referencing Psalm 1:

Blessed are those who do not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but who delight in the law of the Lord and meditate on his law day and night.

They are like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf will not wither – whatever they do prospers.

The meeting closed at 8:45pm and was followed by a short meeting for the PCC only.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES

Loving God, Living Christ, Loving people

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2022

Table of Contents

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES.....	8
Aims and Purpose.....	8
Background	8
Safeguarding Duty	9
GDPR	9
PCC Membership	9
PCC Structure	10
Benefice of Chalfont St Giles and Seer Green & Jordans	11
Fairtrade.....	11
Church Electoral Roll.....	11
Wardens' Report May 2021 – March 2022.....	11
PCC Review of the Year.....	12
Reports from PCC Committees.....	13
Children and Families Committee.....	13
Communications Committee Report	13
Discipleship Committee	14
ECO Committee	14
Mission Committee.....	15
Social Outreach Report.....	16
Pastoral Care Report	16
Reading Room Management Committee	17
Worship Committee.....	17
Other Reports.....	18
Chalfont St Giles Educational Foundation	18
Church Fabric & Furnishings	18
Church Watch	18
Deanery Synod Report.....	19
Flower Guild	20
Lent Lunches	20
Stewardship Recorder's Report for 2021	20
Treasurer's Financial Report for 2021	21
Ministers' Review of the Year 2021	22
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT	25
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY.....	26
BALANCE SHEET	27
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS	28

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) effective 1 January 2019.

This report by your PCC for our Annual Parochial Council Meeting (APCM) is prepared as the formal Trustees Report required to be submitted to the Charity Commission for the year to 31 December 2021. It is presented for approval by the APCM.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Aims and Purpose

As a public benefit charitable trust, Chalfont St Giles Parochial Church Council (PCC) exists to promote the whole mission of the church in the ecclesiastical parish. It is responsible with the Rector for furthering the work of the church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The church is one of the two within the Benefice of Chalfont St Giles and Seer Green & Jordans.

The Charity commission publishes guidance on public benefit and, in particular, supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. Specific Charity Commission classifications of the goods and services provided for community and social benefit are:

- Religious Activities – provides services
- The General Public / Mankind – makes grants to organisations
- Provides Buildings/ Facilities/ Open space

The PCC is governed by two pieces of Church of England legislation:

- The Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and
- The Church Representation Rules 2020.

Further details of the structure and governance of the PCC are included from page 9 to 11 below.

Our Mission Statement is **Loving God, Living Christ, Loving people.**

Background

The Parochial Church Council has responsibility for the whole mission of the Parish Church of Chalfont St Giles to live in God's love and share its hope. It also has responsibility for the maintenance and management of the Church buildings and fabric and the Reading Room. It is registered with the Charity Commission, number 1129372. The members of the PCC are the charity's Trustees. The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. This report covers all activities of the Church and PCC in 2021.

Readers will know that the Coronavirus pandemic and requirement for social distancing included closures of the Church building and Reading Room for various periods from December 2020 until July 2021 restricting various activities and restrictions on the number of participants permitted in certain events. Most of the activities reported in this document were affected by this.

On 9 May 2021 the Rector, Rev. Ian Brown, retired so the Benefice of Chalfont St Giles, Seer Green and Jordans then entered Interregnum – in fact he took his last service on 18 April. Rev. Cassa Messervy (Associate Minister, and Vicar of Holy Trinity Seer Green and Jordans) had earlier resigned after Easter Sunday, 4 April 2021. During the vacancies the mission of the Churches in Chalfont St Giles and Seer Green and Jordans was through the two clergy, Rev. Jenny Tebboth and Rev. Paul Henderson with the two licensed preachers, Peter Miles and Garry Walton together with the respective PCC and its committees and with legal and operational matters under control of the respective Churchwardens and Area Dean together with the PCCs. Although the two parishes of Chalfont St Giles and Seer Green & Jordans had hitherto operated relatively independently, as a Benefice, together with our fellow Parish we prepared a draft Benefice Profile having each produced reports on the needs of the Parishes and the churches and then prepared an initial Parish Profile. The draft Benefice Profile was submitted to the Diocese of Oxford which then considered the broader needs of the Church and their impact on the Benefice. We are grateful to Rev. Gill Lovell, Parish Development Adviser, for her guidance through the process and for chairing the first joint PCC meeting on 12 April 2021. The 2021 annual meetings of the Chalfont St Giles Parish members and of the Church members (on 12 May 2021), the required Section 11 Parish PCCs joint meeting (on

1 June 2021) to deal with formal matters, including the appointment of Parish Representatives (namely Garry Walton and Tracey Wiggin from Chalfont St Giles and Janine Dunnell and Olwyn Davison-Oakley from Seer Green & Jordans), and the meetings of Chalfont St Giles PCC were chaired by John Southworth, PCC Lay Chair. The formal Section 12 Benefice meeting on 8 June 2021 was chaired by the Archdeacon of Buckingham. We also acknowledge the considerable input during 2021 and continuing beyond the date of this meeting of our two Clergy – together with Rev. Brown down to his retirement - in steering the Parish both through lockdowns and towards what we believe was an effective Interregnum together with an increasing on-line presence. We acknowledge the heroic efforts of all engaged in the lead to and preparation of the respective draft Parish profiles leading to the Benefice profile which was accepted by Diocese subject to their own inclusion of text. We are hugely grateful to the 4 Parish Representatives (2 from each Parish) who worked together with Deanery and Diocese as the interview panel. We are delighted that the interregnum process led to an offer being made to and accepted by Rev. Dan Beesley who on 27 January 2022 was collated by the Bishop of Buckingham and Inducted and Installed by the Archdeacon of Buckingham as Rector of the Benefice.

As our earlier Annual Reports commented looking at the earlier part of 2020 but still applicable: as many organisations trying to cope with the disruption of Covid we have tried new ways of working – Services on line, some recorded in Church and others on Zoom, mission largely by telephone and email, meetings by Zoom to support the mission of the Church and enable its business to be agreed and transacted. We acknowledge the remarkable input from clergy (whether local, diocesan or arch-diocesan) and lay involved to develop new ways for the Church to continue to function in these challenging circumstances. The clergy have risen to the need to develop on-line models of worship. Together with lay members in the various parish teams they have made strenuous efforts to achieve contact with parishioners in the restricted circumstances.

Thankfully, all this effort continued for the remainder of 2020 and down to date. We thank God for the care and energy of all involved.

At the 2021 Annual Parochial Church Meeting in May, Eileen Baldwin stood down as Church Warden. She had been active in this role for 3 years, the last 14 months or so being particularly challenging. We warmly thank her again for her caring service, as well as being diligent and capable, and for her involvement in all sorts of administrative, pastoral and caring roles.

Also at this meeting Mike Baldwin stepped down as Treasurer although delaying the actual moment until John Southworth became free to take the position. Mike had come back to this role for 3 years after a previous stint, and has been instrumental in improving our systems in various areas, our accounting and the reporting on this. Again, we warmly thank him for taking up this burden again and leading our finances through, in particular, the difficult times of Church lockdowns.

In expressing our thanks to both, we wish them a happy and fulfilling 'retirement' and are glad they will continue as Church Members.

Safeguarding Duty

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). Further information is on page 13 below.

GDPR

The PCC has taken note of and complied with the General Data Protection Regulation. The Church website includes a Data Privacy Notice setting out what personal data is, how we process it and the legal basis for this, the restricted basis on which it may be shared, for how long we keep it and the rights of the owner of personal data.

PCC Membership

Membership of the PCC is either ex-officio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules or co-opted within the Rules as necessary.

During 2021 the following served as members:

Incumbent:	Rev. Ian Brown (to his retirement on 9 May 2021)
Churchwardens:	Eileen Baldwin (to 12 May 2021) Rachel Leonard Jennifer Wilson (from 12 May 2021)
Deputy Churchwarden	Melainé Teahan
Lay Chairman	John Southworth (from 10 July 2019)

Deanery Synod Representatives:

Mary Bentall
Margaret Carey
Hannah Tew

PCC Members:

With effect from the 2021 Annual Parochial Church Meeting ("APCM") on 12 May 2021 Margaret Dykes, Ed Fitch, Bridget Paice, Phillip Rutter and Sylvia Valentine having served the three-year term, ceased PCC membership. The co-options also determined of Richard Bolton, Kate Southworth and Tracey Wiggin. The continuing PCC elected members were thus Michael Baldwin, Chris Neville, John Southworth, Janelle Stevenson, Garry Walton, Joe Wiggin and Keith Wood-Smith. At the 2021 APCM Tom Boundy, Frances Hawkins, Kate Southworth, Jeremy Valentine and Tracey Wiggin having been nominated were elected for three-year terms. At the PCC meeting immediately following the 2021 APCM Richard Bolton was co-opted to the PCC as lay member. On 1 November 2021 John Dugdale Bradley was co-opted to the PCC as lay member.

At the APCM Melainé Teahan was again reappointed Deputy Churchwarden for the ensuing year. During 2021 in addition to the Churchwardens the following were Church Officers:

PCC Secretary: Richard Bolton
PCC Treasurer: Michael Baldwin
PCC Assistant Treasurer: Sophie Bowles
PCC Minutes Secretary: Not formally appointed – a number of PCC members and the PCC Secretary filled the breach.

Summarising, during 2021 – PCC elected members were:

To 12 May 2021	From 12 May 2021	At 31 December 2021
Margaret Dykes		
Edward Fitch		
Bridget Paice		
Philip Rutter		
Sylvia Valentine		
Michael Baldwin	Michael Baldwin	Michael Baldwin
John Southworth	John Southworth	John Southworth
Keith Wood-Smith	Keith Wood-Smith	Keith Wood-Smith
Christopher Neville	Christopher Neville	Christopher Neville
Joseph Wiggin	Joseph Wiggin	Joseph Wiggin
Janelle Stevenson	Janelle Stevenson	Janelle Stevenson
Garry Walton	Garry Walton	Garry Walton
	Tom Boundy	Tom Boundy
	Frances Hawkins, resigned July 2021 on moving away	
	Jeremy Valentine	Jeremy Valentine
Co-opted from 21 October 2021, then elected at 2021 APCM		
Kate Southworth (co-opted)	Kate Southworth	Kate Southworth
Tracey Wiggin (co-opted)	Tracey Wiggin	Tracey Wiggin
Co-opted again:		
Richard Bolton (co-opted)	Richard Bolton (co-opted)	Richard Bolton (co-opted)
Co-opted in September 2021		John Dugdale Bradley (co-opted)

The term of a co-opted member is to the following APCM when reappointment is permissible.

PCC Structure

The PCC has a Standing Committee and a number of sub-committees:

Children & Families
Communications
Discipleship
Eco-Church (set up April 2021)
Fabric
Finance
Mission
Pastoral Care
Reading Room Management
Worship

The sub-committees report to, and obtain permission for planned activities and expenditure from, the PCC at its regular meetings. Representatives of the PCC attend the Amersham Deanery Synod meetings and report back to the PCC.

The PCC **Standing Committee** (Rev. Ian Brown (Incumbent) until his retirement, Rev. Jenny Tebboth (Assistant Minister), Rev. Paul Henderson (Assistant Minister), Church Wardens, PCC Lay Chairman, Secretary & Treasurer) acts as the Executive arm of the PCC, including setting the agenda for its meetings and taking any urgent actions affecting the welfare of the Church that may arise between meetings.

The separately registered charity The Friends of Chalfont St Giles Parish Church continues to provide much appreciated and valuable support to the Church and keeps the PCC informed of its activities. 'Christians in Chalfont St Giles' being The Deanway United Church, Living Word International Church and Hope Church and ourselves continue to co-operate in providing Services on the Village Green on Good Friday and at the Feast of St Giles in September, and to support the turning on of the Christmas lights with other Christians present in the village.

Benefice of Chalfont St Giles and Seer Green & Jordans

As noted above the combined Benefice, which has operated since the beginning of 2015, continued to be led by Rev. Ian Brown as Rector (Incumbent/Priest in charge) until his retirement, assisted until her resignation after Easter Sunday, 4 April 2021, by Rev. Cassa Messervy (Associate Minister, and Vicar of Holy Trinity Seer Green and Jordans). The 2021 continuing team ministry were Rev. Jenny Tebboth (Assistant Minister), Rev. Paul Henderson (Curate then Assistant Minister) and, again until her retirement in Spring 2021, Rev. Angela Thompson (Assistant Minister emerita). Linda West continued to be Licensed Lay Minister in Seer Green and Jordans, assisted by Janna Holder as Children and Families leader.

The two Benefice Churches are further linked by an enduring instrument which permits (with the consent of the respective Priest) a couple who are qualified to marry in one Church in the Benefice to marry in the other.

Fairtrade

The Chalfont St Giles Parish Church continues to be a Fairtrade church using Fairtrade ingredients and aiming to operate in a manner appropriate to that designation.

Church Electoral Roll

In 2021 the Electoral Roll was updated for the 2012 Annual Parochial Church Meeting and had 152 on the list.

Wardens' Report May 2021 – March 2022

It has been an interesting year for the parish in that dealing with the pandemic was complicated by the fact that we also entered an interregnum in April 2021 when Ian Brown retired after seven years of service. Saying goodbye to him and to Julie was necessarily somewhat restricted by the covid regulations but we were very pleased to hold a farewell tea party in September to have a proper chance to do this. This was very well attended and volunteers provided a splendid array of cakes.

The interregnum itself brought out the best in many of the people who had to shoulder the responsibility of making it work. First and foremost we have to thank Jenny and Paul who made sure that our services went ahead while also covering Seer Green and Jordans as Cassa had moved on at the same time as Ian. In the eight months of the interregnum, we only had to call on the services of stand-in clergy on five occasions, which shows just how hard they were working. Thanks are also due to the very many people, too many to mention by name, who supported us with offers of help, involvement in activities and prayers during a time which could have been much more difficult for us than it actually turned out to be.

We also have to thank the Vacancy Committee, chaired by John Southworth, Tracey Wiggin, who compiled the Parish Profile, and Garry Walton, who served with Tracey on the interview panel. The result was the appointment of the Reverend Dan Beesley in October, in record time. Dan, Paula and their children arrived in January and, as I write, are settling in and getting to know people. His service of Collation, Induction and Installation on 27 January was a terrific occasion. and thanks go to Jenny Wilson who carried most of the burden of organisation.

We continued to advertise for a Children and Families' worker but have not yet found a suitable candidate. Thanks to Kate Southworth for masterminding this process. Janelle Stevenson is filling this role part time in the interim and has worked very hard together with Jenny to organise activities and material for use at home in order to continue to engage with the children in the Congregation during the pandemic.

While Covid wreaked havoc in people's lives, we did our very best to ensure that people were able to join together in worship, either online or in person. A huge 'thank you' is extended to Peter Heaps for his faithful recording and editing of so many services and 'well done' to all those who faithfully attended Church and coped with the various restrictions and guidelines we had to have in place. Our constant endeavour was to provide

opportunity while being respectful of different points of view and feelings on how to manage the pandemic. Your stamina, compliance and support are gratefully acknowledged.

The churchyard is a dynamic and ongoing project that was being championed by the Wardens during the interregnum and is now moving forward under Dan's leadership. We certainly appreciate all involved in its upkeep and the provision of their insight, brawn, and brains to resolve some of the areas of consideration we have. The many aspects of the churchyard include maintenance, school ministry, wild flowering, cremations, remembering our loved ones and the preservation of the monuments. Many conversations and discussions have been had, many more to go and we will keep you informed as plans develop and we find ways to accommodate and meet the various needs.

Sadly during the past year we have lost a number of members of our Congregation. Some have died and others have moved away from the village to be closer to family as they get older. We are grateful to all of them for the contribution they made while they were with us. One new initiative was the formation of Naomi's Friends, a group for widows, organised by Frances Hawkins. This now meets regularly.

We have had a number of concerts this year despite the restrictions of covid. Opera Integra gave a concert in memory of Judith Wright, the Friends organised a concert performance of "The Mikado" and the St Giles Consort gave us two concerts. All these helped the Church financially.

It was with great excitement that several highlights of our church calendar were able to resume later in 2021 and in the early part of this year. The joyful sound of children once again filled the church as Songs of Praise returned, as did the Harvest Festival, Christingle and the Crib Service. The mobile carol service was an exciting innovation. The ever-popular Rendezvous returned and most recently the Lent Lunches are well underway. A huge thanks goes to all who make these activities happen.

As I write the world is being shaken by the horrific attack on Ukraine by President Putin and his supporters. We have to put our trust in God and pray that this dreadful conflict will be brought to a swift and just conclusion. As a Christian community in Chalfont St Giles, we must come together in prayer and practical support for all those in need at this horrible time.

As we look forward to another year of loving and serving our Lord, thank you for all your kindness and generosity of spirit, and may we stand united in our common purpose across the Benefice.

Rachel Leonard - Churchwarden

PCC Review of the Year

In addition to the Section 11 and 12 Vacancy meetings, the PCC met on 7 occasions in 2021 (2020: 9) with an average of 18 (2020:17) members in attendance. 5 of these meetings were held by Zoom.

An ongoing matter of focus for the PCC in 2021 (and continuing) has been the aim to recruit a Families Worker, ideally full-time, and meantime of a Temporary Families Worker. Meetings earlier in the year all touched on the Interregnum compilation of the Parish Profile and the Mission Action Plan (MAP). Most meetings also considered the impact of Covid and of the Vacancy and the impact on the MAP, and Safeguarding. In addition to regular reviews of the financial position, safeguarding and policies, committee reports, and ongoing management of Church matters, including maintenance and the ongoing review of the wider impact of the General Data Protection Regulations, topics from each meeting are highlighted below:

- January: Discussion of the three-point action plan produced by the three Clergy and two Wardens – Spiritual Growth and Development, Growth in Discipleship, and Growth in Community Engagement together with the need for a sustainable pattern of Services across the Benefice during the looming Vacancy. Also: of the new Benefice Vacancy Committee and its work, consultations being undertaken in Church and Parish for the Parish Profile, contacts with Rev Gill Lovell; update on a possible ashes area in the churchyard; approval of Communion in both kinds by intinction, and the closure of the Church from 31 December 2020 other than for funerals .
- March: The Diocesan Articles of Enquiry, the '7 Minute Briefings' on two reported events and the safeguarding implications were discussed. The reopening of Church on Easter Day was approved including a dawn service in the Churchyard. The PCC noted that the Independent Examiner had approved the 2020 Accounts and agreed that the Standing Committee be authorised to accept the accounts on their behalf having circulated them first. This being Rev Ian's last PCC, a vote of thanks for his contributions over 7 years was unanimously endorsed.
- May: A short meeting followed the APCM to consider co-option, appoint PCC Lay Vice-Chair and Treasurer, note the issue by Diocese of the Vacancy Notice on 10 May, consider process for selecting Parish Representatives and the state of the Parish Profile.

A second meeting later in the month noted, among a number of regular issues, the Diocese's letting of the Rectory until 21 November.

- July: The timetable and actions were noted for advertising, applications and shortlisting leading to interviews with applicants on 13 October. The resignation from the PCC of Frances Hawkins was reported and the huge contributions over many years to Church and village of her late husband and herself acknowledged. There was much discussion about trees in the Churchyard. An HS2 Notification of Service of temporary possession over part of the Churchyard was reported. There was discussion on Parish Share (75-80% of our costs). The Wardens reported that the Archdeacon's periodic Inspection had taken place on 15 July and resulted in a checklist of things to do.
- September: Announced that on 13 October, the shortlisted candidates will give a 7-10 minute sermon in Church. Risk Assessments (to be venue driven) review were noted. The PCC approved the proposed review of signatories under various bank mandates and that investments should be transferred from Old Mutual to CCLA Church of England funds (with thanks to James White for writing a report on this).
- November: The PCC agreed on the need for a specification for Church overhead projector /internet connectivity /Wi-Fi and livestreaming. The PCC accepted outline proposals for the Christmas season. The PCC approved: the proposed appointment of an Independent Reviewer subject to satisfactory references; the 2022 Budget of a £40,000 deficit which included the assumption of a Families Worker, an Act of Faith, but not capital expenditure; the resumption in 2022 of the Friday Lent Lunches and agreed how the funds raised would be shared.

Reports from PCC Committees

Children and Families Committee

In February, a proposal for the appointment of a 'Temporary Support worker for Families work' was received by the Standing Committee and Janelle Stevenson was appointed to the post. This has enabled our family's ministry to continue throughout the Vacancy. Janelle has been able to establish our data base and maintain contact with baptism families by sending them seasonal material to encourage them to practice their faith with their children at home. She has enabled our Youth Group YZone to continue to flourish and has gradually re-started in-person ministries such as Chatterbox and Family@4 as well as new means of outreach such as the 'Dad's Night Out' and courses in first aid and CPR for those in charge of babies and children. This was an invaluable appointment. Our 'Sunday school' provision has not yet re-started as there have been so few children in church on Sundays.

Our work with the school has been disrupted but we were able to lead a transition day for the year 6 children and led assemblies in Seer Green as well.

It was agreed that we should continue to seek a full time Families Minister even during the Vacancy and Kate with her team have faithfully pursued that aim but, despite attracting a number of candidates, none of them were felt to offer what we need as a church. Since the arrival of Dan, this project has been paused.

Kate Southworth has chaired our Children and Families Committee for many years and did so throughout 2021. She has recently retired from the post and the committee is currently without a chair. We have registered our thanks to her for flying the flag for our families work with such commitment over a long time.

Jenny Tebboth

Communications Committee Report

The Committee met three times between January 2021 – January 2022. We aim to provide a central source for communication within the Church community and for the wider village community.

I am keen to step down as Chair as I feel we need a person who is more involved with Church life and can bring together all the elements of communication more effectively. We would welcome suggestions or offers to take up the role.

Updates as follows:-

- Pew Sheet

The pew sheet continues to be emailed to all on the Church database on a weekly basis (with the option to opt out). It contains information on services and events for the coming week, news of future events, and still is the main form of week-on-week communication within the Church community.

- Parish Magazine

We have moved to a quarterly online edition of the magazine which has been well received and huge thanks are due to Kevin Searle who stepped in at the beginning of 2021 to take over coordination and production of the magazine. Peter and Mary Bentall have continued to produce and distribute a small number of paper copies to those members of the congregation unable to access the magazine online and we are grateful to them for their help.

The magazine will be a focus for discussion in 2022 as we need to decide what purpose we want the magazine to serve, the best format for it to be in and the continuing issue of recruiting people to help create it.

Contributions to the magazine can be sent to stgileschurchmagazine@hotmail.co.uk

- Church Website

During 2021 we carried out some research into the efficacy of the website and based on this feedback we have revamped it to improve navigation and its look and feel.

Audio recordings and videos of services are posted here every week along with the Orders of Service and the pew sheet. The site gives details of all Church activities, together with links to relevant contacts.

- Noticeboards

The notice boards are updated on a weekly basis – and thanks are due to Ray Luker who stepped in to take this on while Meg was shielding during 2021.

- Church Facebook Page

The Church Facebook page is up and running and has really grown during the past year. We have used this to post events, news and highlights of Church life.

Jo Sutton, 16 February 2021

Discipleship Committee

The purpose of this committee is to encourage spiritual growth in all stages:

- 1) *introduction to the faith*
- 2) *preparation for baptism/confirmation*
- 3) *encouraging each member of our Church to keep growing in faith throughout their life.*

Due to lock-down uncertainties and our move toward a double vacancy, the energy of this group has been largely absorbed in staffing the service rota across the Benefice and the provision of teaching through sermons. Large projects were not possible in the Vacancy when staffing was so stretched.

However, there was a course for Lent using the diocesan 'Come and See' material whose aim was to make contact with on-line attenders who were new to church since the pandemic. We based our Lenten preaching around the book 'The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry' by John Mark Comer and have enjoyed sermon series in both Ephesians and the book of Ruth.

During the year we have worked on content for a 'Growing in Faith' tab on the website which is now in place. We have welcomed 12 children for baptism during the year and baptism preparation evenings are back in the calendar. We have continued to maintain contact with baptism families by sending them seasonal material to encourage them to practice their faith, with their children at home. Four candidates were confirmed at the twice-postponed service in June.

Small groups have gradually resumed their valuable work online and in person including YZone and 'Naomi's Friends'. Morning prayer continues well attended.

Jenny Tebboth

ECO Committee

Having set up its new Eco Committee in April 2021, the Church has already gained A Rocha 's bronze status and are at the point of achieving silver. While these awards are not the ends in themselves, they are a positive measure of progress and an Eco Church Plan is now being developed with the aim of taking the Church to gold status by April 2024. This will move us from being a Church with an Eco Committee to a fully fledged Eco Church in which all parts contribute to its Eco vision:

"By March 2024 St Giles will be a church which demonstrably lives out our faith in God and our love for our global neighbours through a comprehensive approach to caring for the Earth in all our activities, thereby not just reflecting the Church of England's concern for the environment, but also leading amongst its churches, inspiring our community and growing - spiritually and in numbers - as we help restore creation for God, humanity and all life for whom the world is a shared home".

The specific aims of the plan are as follows:

- To have care for God's creation embedded in our culture as an integral and inspirational pillar of our communal and individual faith and worship;
- To ensure our Church is as environmentally responsible as possible both in minimising those things that harm the environment and in maximising those things which it does to restore it;
- To encourage Church members, in so far as they individually feel able, to minimise those things they do that harm the environment and those things they do which restore it in their outside lives;
- To be visible in our Parish as a church which cares for the natural world, thereby both encouraging the wider public also to act and drawing those who share our values – especially the young – to try our services;
- To campaign appropriately on local, national and global environmental issues (we are in the process of producing a survey to ascertain local views and current actions of reducing climate change).

A strong, collaborative partnership has been established with Holy Trinity Seer Green, who are also working on their own Eco Church progress.

Keith Wood-Smith

Mission Committee

The Five Marks of Mission:

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth

The Mission Committee meets regularly and major items have been:

- To set up "ECO" Church as a committee in its own right.
- To place a larger statement on our beliefs in the Church porch,
- To review and update the list of charities we support:
 - A Rocha UK [the Rock],
 - Fawsett Trust,
 - Rope (Reaching Oppressed People Everywhere), (removed March 2022 and replaced with
 - Christians Against Poverty
 - Street Kids Direct, and
 - Traidcraft Exchange.

Each one is represented by a 'Mission Champion' who keeps in touch with the charity, represents it to the congregation, gives an update of their work each year to the congregation at a 10:00am service and writes articles for the Parish Magazine.

In addition, we support and raise money each year for the Mission to Seafarers, The Children's Society (through Christingle), the Ensors, Saunderton Lodge homeless accommodation, Altogether Community, The Bible Society and the Trussell Trust.

Our community outreach initiatives – Rendezvous, Lent Lunches and Chatterbox – all resumed in 2021/22 after the lockdown restrictions.

We are grateful to Ray Luker for his work with the notice boards.

Margaret Dykes

Mission Champion reports:

A Rocha UK is a Christian charity working for the protection and restoration of the natural world and committed to equipping Christians and churches in the UK to care for the environment. **Responding to the biblical mandate to care for the earth, and demonstrating the Christian hope for God's world, they work with:**

- Churches through their Eco Church programme
- Christian environmental leaders through their interdenominational convening work
- Families and individuals through their Wild Christian scheme and community, supporting people to enjoy, nurture and defend nature in their own homes and communities, and by campaigning
- Christian land managers through their Partners in Action network.

St Giles Parish Church is signed up to the **Eco Church** programme and, having gained the bronze award, is on track to gain the silver award by Spring 2022 and aims for the gold award by April 2024.

Keith Wood-Smith

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) our latest charity to join our tithing programme was put forward by a member of the Congregation. CAP offer debt counselling, and local community groups providing practical and emotional support and show people that there is always hope. **Our nearest group is based in The Hub in Chalfont St Peter.**

Margaret Dykes

Fawsett Trust is a local charity supporting elderly residents in need in Chalfont St Giles with vouchers at Christmas, exchangeable only in our village shops. I was invited to talk with the Congregation in November about our support. We are grateful for the contributions from the PCC and from the Parish Council and for the generous further individual contributions which have enabled this work to continue.

Richard Bolton

ROPE (Reaching Oppressed People Everywhere), now **Project Possible**, is a local charity headquartered in Amersham. Frances Hawkins talked with the Congregation about their work in April 2021.

'The foundations of our approach stem from our almost 30 years of working with international partners. We invest into partnering with a small network of on-the-ground, local organisations and churches led by local visionaries who seek to bring about transformational change in their communities. Living in their own communities, they have the vision and drive to transform lives for those in poverty but need access to resources and wider networks.'

They currently work with 21 partners across 16 countries around the world.

Margaret Dykes

Street Kids Direct - Our Deanery and Parish have a particular link with Steve Poulson one of their programme Development Managers.

Steve supports Street Kids Direct partnered projects in a range of ways, from donor relations, to implementing the child protection policy, in an effort to strengthen and develop them. Steve also helps coordinate the Honduras mentoring programme and programmes in Talanga and Ciudad España, Honduras. We were delighted to welcome Steve in January to update us with his work and for us to congratulate him in person on his marriage. Yzone are now the mission champion.

Margaret Dykes

Traidcraft Exchange is a Christian charity working to reduce poverty by trading fairly with marginalised groups.

Traidcraft continues under Margaret Dykes' energetic hand. The initial stall after the Covid lockdowns was in September and now they continue monthly although the "click and collect" model of trading, which allows people to e-mail or phone orders to her which she then arranges to deliver in a Covid-safe way, continues. She has also spearheaded the Church's support for the Chiltern Food Bank raising money from a wide range of supporters to purchase goods from Traidcraft in support of the Food Bank's mission. Since the beginning of the Covid emergency £47,000 has been raised directly for this project which included support for the 310 Christian Advent calendars donated at Christmas 2020 and 2021. Other direct donations have been generated to the Food Bank.

Margaret Dykes

Social Outreach Report

Members of the outreach team aim to support Rendezvous, Songs of Praise lunches, Lent lunches, Marriage prep catering, and the Advent Supper. Covid, however, made 2021 difficult and, when we were permitted to operate, numbers were low. Looking forward to 2022 we have been open for Rendezvous with Rachel Leonard preparing the bacon sandwiches. Songs of Praise lunches are going ahead without adults going into church. Lent lunches are also going ahead with Kathleen Martin organising. We have also prepared the marriage lunch for 20 people in Church which was appreciated.

Pat Searle

Pastoral Care Report

The Pastoral Care Committee met three times this year (termly). We offer pastoral care to members of our church family and the wider village community. Contact is generally through recommendation by word of mouth or from our pastoral care pamphlets available in the library, chemists and GP surgery. Following a contact, members of our group offer support and pastoral care for however long it may be needed. Often a relationship will develop specifically with one of us although we support each other as a group.

In addition, we support prayer ministry and the delivery of home communion once a month when requested. (Home communion had to be suspended during Covid but will shortly be resumed when considered to be safe).

Church services are supported practically by the Pastoral Care Team with small bunches of flowers delivered after Mothering Sunday and Harvest Festival. The PC Team fully support the All Souls Service in November.

Covid and the limitations that it has imposed on pastoral care has been challenging but it has in some ways raised our profile particularly during 'lock down' when keeping in touch with all parishioners was vital.

Margaret Carey - Pastoral Care Co-ordinator, February 2022

Reading Room Management Committee

Committee Members; Peter Crown (Chair), Kevin Searle, Chris Neville, Bridget Paice, Ed Fitch.

Improvements during 2021 in some areas – disappointments in others. In summary:

- The Reading Room committee still remains two people short for which we seek any volunteers from the PCC please.
- Bookings for using the Reading Room are below pre Covid levels but the facilities are getting lots of use albeit we are losing the Bridge club as they are finding the wearing of masks another niggles too far.
- The floor still looks good but from time to time an area "rolls up" which necessitates lifting of all "springing" wood blocks and re-laying with very gloopy black jack to re-stick that particular area; we called in a specialist who was surprised just how good the floor looks and advised that it would be a shame to lift and relay the entire area and so far as long as possible we will continue to deal with situations as they arise.
- The Fabric Committee are still progressing (with external advice from a Lime Wash specialist company) the front elevation which is badly stained and in need of a face lift.
- The rear section of wall that shows signs of damp had three coats of Lime Wash and looks better but still needs further attention. We are working with the Fabric Committee to complete the protective covering of waterproof felt to, we hope, prevent the ingress of water and damp to the top of the exposed wall.
- We have received two offers of financial assistance in respect of a replacement cooker as and when required.
- We have been unable to convince Buckinghamshire Council that we are worthy of a Covid Grant despite the other charities in the village receiving Council donations. We are though being encouraged to submit a proposal for a "Project" encompassing a larger storage shed and a disabled / ladies / baby change facility but this would need approval by the Council and conservation society and clearly will not proceed unless a grant is awarded.
- The Reading Room is effectively Chalfont St. Giles' church and village hall and supports the village in many ways. We will welcome the combined expertise of the Community and acquaintances to present a document to break down the Council's resistance to our plight which arises from the fact that as owned by the Church they are of the opinion that we are financially shielded. Sadly not true.
- We had recently shown up on the Buckinghamshire Building Society radar, who were wanting to offer financial help to local facilities and we were hoping we might qualify but once again we have slipped off the favoured list.

Peter Crown

Worship Committee

Committee Members - Cathy Langdale (Chair), Rev Ian Brown/ Rev Dan Beesley, Polly Richardson (Secretary), Sylvia Morrison Moore, Keith Wood-Smith. Regular attenders: Rev Jenny Tebboth and Chris Weaver

Looking back at 2021, we began with the Church closed but finished, thanks be to God, with it reopened and offering almost our usual welcome.

Thus in January, after a large number of Christmas services in 2020 with numbers restricted for each, we had to close until Holy Week, when being prudent we were able to open for worship on Easter Day and then for the solemn service on 18th April at which Rev Ian Brown stood down as our Rector.

We could not welcome the Scouts for St George's Day; Ascension Day was streamed live from Seer Green Church; but by June 27th we were able to enjoy a service marking 'Climate Sunday' with much input from Keith Wood-Smith.

Songs of Praise were not able to unite the schoolchildren with the adults of the parish in church, the adults met in the Reading Room, but the Praise went ahead.

In September we celebrated Harvest and all agreed that it should remain in September rather than in October, as formerly.

Our All Souls Service was well attended but then came the omicron variant and our committee decided it wasn't possible to hold services indoors on Remembrance Sunday as the virus was so widespread amongst schoolchildren. Instead prayers were said and wreaths laid in the churchyard.

By Advent, thanks to the warm support of our Churchwardens, we made plans to hold our usual rich variety of services to welcome the community. We were able to offer a Christingle and Toy service and a superb crib service thanks to sterling work from Janelle Stevenson. Then we held our traditional Carols by Candlelight and also took our new 'travelling' carol service round the village midweek. Christmas itself was celebrated with three services on Christmas Eve and two on Christmas Day.

We would like to record our grateful thanks to Rev Jenny who took the lead during our interregnum supported by Paul, Peter and Garry.

Cathy Langdale 7 March 2022

Other Reports

Chalfont St Giles Educational Foundation

The Chalfont St Giles Educational Foundation is a small village charity that has a small annual income. Under its constitution 40% of its income goes to the Parish Church Sunday School. A further 40% goes to the Village School. The Foundation can also provide small grants for educational purposes to young people living in Chalfont St Giles. The Rector chairs the committee of trustees.

Richard Hanney

Church Fabric & Furnishings

Overall, the condition of the fabric in both Church and Reading Room is good, with only relatively minor problems being encountered and no major items outstanding. The normal regular tuning and servicing of the organ and its motor, and the annual inspections of the fire extinguishers, the lightning conductor and the Served drainage system were carried out. The responsive fire alarm was maintained together with the lead roof alarm system.

The annual boiler service and safety check took place as scheduled. PATs (portable appliance testing) have been carried out on all appliances. LED lights have been installed in the Church except in the organ loft, which is rarely used. Small cracks on the nave wall are being monitored. Other minor repairs in the Church were carried out as needed. A recent problem, which is being addressed, is the outside lights in the Churchyard, some of which are not working.

The Churchyard was maintained throughout the year by voluntary labour from the Friends, and from a Church group. Pruning of trees was carried out with appropriate official approvals and a programme drawn up for work in 2022. The Plumb Gates are operating well and minor work were completed on the lych gate closer. A new flagpole has been purchased and this will be installed early in 2022. Roof cameras have been installed over the South aisle as further security for the lead roof. Following a break-in, security on the shed has been improved. New plaques for the War Memorial have been received and put in place.

The Log Book of work carried out as well as the Register recording the locations of Burials and Ashes in the Churchyard has continued to be maintained.

Colin Smith
Chairman, Fabric Committee

Church Watch

The Church watch programme enables the Parish Church to be open and available to the public from Tuesday to Sunday inclusive. In 2021 we had some 44 volunteers covering an estimated 373 shifts (each shift two hours long) which enabled us to keep the church open from mid April to Oct 1st (10am to 4pm) - six days each week and bank holidays with only a small handful of shifts being missed. Visitor numbers showed a gradual increase over the year - Heather W holds the record at 24; the best I managed in one shift was 16 and Benedicte, who had not had a visitor in several years, was thrilled to get ten in one shift in September!

We will get a better handle on actual visitor numbers in the coming year but the visitors make the effort worthwhile: we had the daughter and granddaughter of our organist in the 1930s; a Cambridge professor who specialised in Churchyards; a PHD academic who wrote his thesis on Thomas Valentine, our Non-

Conformist vicar; many who were baptised / wed in the church etc.. Church watch is about people and friendship – and I particularly like an email from Rachel on 23 July:

"... This morning I only had one visitor but so worth it. He was an elderly gentleman with his very small dog who told me that he had been married in the church in 1966, just a week before the World Cup final. It then emerged that his wife had died last November so he was marking his wedding anniversary by visiting the church. He sat quietly for a while but then we had a really good chat and he was telling me all about the village as he was growing up. Apparently he camped last night and had been really cold! It makes you realise how worthwhile church watching is."

The old chap had gone to all that effort to get there so thank God the doors were open for him!

For Church Watch 2022, we are thinking about extending the offer to include coffee and biscuits. I am keen on promoting the church as an antidote to loneliness. For this to work we need to have two volunteers per shift so we will have a recruitment drive between now and Easter.

Any help you can offer will be really appreciated!

Tony Ferguson

Deanery Synod Report

Synod usually meets four times a year at 8pm, having gathered from 7:30, but meetings in 2021 were on 18 March, 16 September and 25 November 2021.

Under the shadow of Covid, meetings were held on Zoom and live streaming continued for many Churches. Issues discussed included taking Home Communion and the challenges of working with families and children during the pandemic.

Topics raised were on 'How do we rebuild the Church' from the Pandemic; 'Why do we do what we do? - Is it because we have always done it?'; Rev. Gill Lovell, Parish Development Officer for Buckingham Archdeanery, took Questions and Answers on 'How do we Capitalise on Zoom?' coming out of the Pandemic, illustrating how six Churches who had not previously interacted set up weekly Zoom meetings.

Cassa Messervy spoke of a tree cut down but 'From the Stump of Jesse, from its roots a Branch will bear fruit' (Isaiah 11 v.1)

Five Churches within the Oxford Diocese set up a live Zoom on the first Sunday of the month for the deaf and hard of hearing and appointed a new Ministry to support it.

Bishop Steven addressed the River of Life, focusing on links between climate change and biodiversity, with our own mission as a Diocese to safeguard the integrity of creation as a climate emergency.

Talks in the Deanery Synod:

Occupational and Public Health Aspects of the Covid Pandemic by Rev. Brian Ludlow.

The Challenge of a Head Teacher.

Steve Poulson spoke of his work with Street Kids Direct in Honduras.

Vacancies arising:

Rev. Ian Brown has retired as Rector of Chalfont St. Giles, Seer Green and Jordans.

Rev. Canon Tim Harper has now retired from St. Mary's in Amersham.

Rev. Martin Williams has resigned from Co-Chair of the Amersham Deanery.

Appointments:

Rev. Peggy Ludlow as Area Dean of the Amersham Deanery.

Rev. Dan Beasley installed as Rector of Chalfont St. Giles, Seer Green and Jordans.

Rev. Jeremy Moody to be Curate at Great Chesham who has also in the past been involved with Embrace the Middle EaSt.

Mr. Lawrence Tebboth to stand again as Lay-Chair of Amersham Deanery.

Mrs. Julie Dziegiel Amersham Deanery Treasurer has been elected Vice Chair of the Oxford Diocese Board of Finance.

Dr. Andrew Bell, Rev. Jeremy Moody and Mrs. Julie Dziegiel were elected from the Amersham Deanery to the General Synod.

Vacancies in the Deanery when writing this update:

Rector St. Mary's Amersham on the Hill – interviews took place on 3 February.

Rector for Beaconsfield.

Team Vicar for Chesham House for Duty, Seer Green.

Curate for Denham.

There is a visit to Oberammergau on 16th June 2022 to be led by Rev. Christof Lindner of Denham. Places are filled but if anyone would like to be on a waiting list in case of a cancellation, please contact Lawrence Tebbott.

The Rt Rev. Stephen Croft, Bishop of Oxford is undertaking a round of visits to every Deanery in the Oxford Diocese. He will be in Amersham Deanery (at St Mary's Chesham) on 5th May 2022.

Do collect and read the new free Pathway magazine from the back of Church or ask me for one. It is good reading.

Everyone is welcome at a Deanery Synod meeting. Interesting people give talks and it is an opportunity to meet people from other Parishes.

Dates of Meetings for the remainder of 2022: 23 June, 15 September and 24 November. Venues will be announced later.

Link <https://www.amershamdeanery.org.uk> The information is updated continuously.

Mary Bentall, 27 January 2022

Flower Guild

As in 2020 our opportunities to place flowers in our church has been impacted by Covid. In the past year we have arranged flowers for the Sundays when services could be held and two smaller vases when the church was open for prayer and visitors only.

There were four weddings only for which we arranged flowers. We hope that the flowers arranged for the seven funerals brought comfort to the bereaved families at sad times.

At the request of our dear past chairman, Jill Dean, donations in her memory were given to the Flower Guild. We are most grateful to Jill for her wish and for the generosity of her friends and family.

Happily in this year Covid restrictions were relaxed sufficiently for us to hold two evenings of Christmas Wreath Ring workshops. These provide an outreach to the village and a welcome source of income to our Flower Guild funds.

All our members look forward in hope to full access to our Church in 2022.

Mavis Roberts - Flower Guild Leader

Lent Lunches



We were unable to run Lent lunches in either 2020 or 2021 through Covid restrictions. Planning for the 2022 group of lunches for six Fridays (4 March to 8 April) is at an advanced stage and volunteers have come forward to make and donate batches of soups, and/or help in setting up, serving, clearing up, washing up or delivering soups to some thirty shops and businesses in the village. We shall be asking if the Co-op will supported us as in the past by donating loaves and milk over the six weeks. We are grateful to all those who support this Lent charity event, whether by taking lunch in the Reading Room or in their shops and offices; and their generous donations.

The charities we will support in 2022 are Street Kids Direct (information on page 16) and the Reading Room.

Kathleen Martin

Stewardship Recorder's Report for 2021

Stewardship in 2021 has continued in very much the same way as in 2020 with the Pandemic being a major factor in the church being closed, reduced size of the congregation and no passing of the collection plates.

However we do have a band of regular givers who pay by standing order and some who pay by regular or annual generous gifts. This number has reduced this year to 63. Four less than last year. But the total donated by these generous members has increased this year to £56,042 compared to £53,497 last year. The vast majority of these donors are tax payers and so we have been able to claim Gift Aid on most of these donations, at 25%

Obviously with the interregnum and the reduction in organised services and fund raising activity due to the pandemic there has been little opportunity to improve matters during 2021. But we have more than held our own due to donations of smaller sums using the envelope scheme, the contactless collection plate and some generous one off donations, on most of which we have been able to claim gift aid,

As a result the total eligible for Gift Aid and GADS scheme for 2021 was £73,177 resulting in payments from HMRC over the year of £18,294.

This compares with:

*2018 £20,721

*2019 £19,190

*2020 £17,965

I hope that in 2022 with a return to more normal activities the figures will recover and I encourage everyone to realise that the Church, like other businesses and charities, has been hit badly by the pandemic and so everyone must keep supporting the needs of the church by donating as generously as possible.

Chris Neville - Stewardship Secretary

Treasurer's Financial Report for 2021

2021 proved to be another challenging year from the financial perspective as Covid related uncertainties, restrictions and the inevitable impact on church activities continued throughout the period. Notwithstanding this our financial performance as measured by the Income & Expenditure account and Statement of Assets was positive, see below for summary details.

Throughout the past year we have been fortunate to enjoy the continuing support of our regular Standing Order givers, for which sincere thanks must be given, this bedrock of our income having been well supported by contributions from other attendees to services, supplemented by recoveries of tax relief from HMRC and legacies received.

The Finance Review Committee (FRC) has provided oversight, monitoring and management of our many and varied financial and related activities. Special thanks are due to my predecessor Mike Baldwin who has contributed massively throughout, remaining in post until September when I took over the role of Treasurer. During this time Mike has continued to manage a number of highly complicated issues, the Old Mutual transfer and utilities to name but two.

Thanks are also due to: Chris Neville who, in addition to his Stewardship and related responsibilities has taken on a number of additional tasks including the counting rota; James White who stood down from the FRC in the Autumn after providing very helpful investment related advice; and Paul Henderson who has given generously of his time and considerable financial expertise. We must also remember in our thanks Mike Saunders for his outstanding reliability in banking our many and various receipts every week throughout the lockdowns and resulting restricted bank access.

The FRC met regularly throughout 2021 to review and monitor the Church's financial results and to agree necessary actions in connection with key issues. Over the last year these have included: the transfer, primarily for ethical reasons, of church investments from Old Mutual to the CBF Church of England Fund; dealing with changes to bank and investment company mandates; redefining our Reserving Policy; the appointment of a new Independent Examiner; and, in the latter part of the year when it became apparent that no volunteer was prepared to take on the Assistant Treasurer responsibilities, the appointment on a consultancy basis of Gemma Finn, a qualified bookkeeper.

Summary of 2021 Financial Performance

The 2021 accounts, (which are subject to examination by the Independent Examiner), report a surplus in the year of £15k, £23k better than budget and which compares to a deficit of £8k in 2020. The surplus arises from Income totalling £157k less Expenditure of £142k, details being included in the financial section of the Annual Report, key points to note as follows.

The total income of £157k noted above is reduced to £107k on deduction of non-recurring items, (Legacies, Bequests, Grants and Gifts). Our core income, comprising voluntary giving, receipts from fundraising and the Reading Room was in total close to that received in 2020, an excellent result in the circumstances.

Legacies received in the year totalled £43k, £6k above the budgeted amount, £28k higher than in 2020 and it must be noted that, in the absence of this essentially non-recurring income, a deficit of £28k would have been incurred.

Expenditure in the year totalled £142k, £10k below budget, close to that incurred in 2020. Notable features include savings v budget of £16k in the cost of Families work as a result of non-recruitment of a full-time worker and £3.7k in Tithing costs due to overestimation in the 2021 budget. A key point to note is that the 2021 Parish Share totalled £81k, being 60% of church expenditure excluding gift repayments, and 75% of our recurring income.

Church Assets/Reserves. The church's investment assets, the majority of which were managed by Old Mutual, performed well, recording an increase in value of £17k to stand at £212k at the end of the year. However, this really reflects the rise in worldwide stock exchanges and the fact that investments are stated in the annual accounts at their quoted values at the accounting date. This is therefore essentially a snapshot which would be different when taken at any other date.

The increase in value of investments, combined with the net surplus of £15k has resulted in an increase of £32k in our net assets which totalled £339k at the year end.

Budget 2022

The budget was approved by the November PCC and is for a deficit of £41k arising from a combination of income totalling £123k, less expenditure of £164k.

The main assumption which has been applied is that there will be no recurrence of the pandemic and associated lockdown restrictions experienced in 2020 and 2021, such that church and related activities will enjoy a return to relative normality benefitting also from the end of the interregnum and appointment of our new Rector.

The budgeted income of £123k is a reduction of £27k compared to actual 2021 receipts due primarily to the assumed non-recurrence of £38k of legacy income, offset by modest increases in Offerings, Donations and Reading Room receipts.

Budgeted expenditure is £29k higher than that incurred in 2021, the main reason for the increase being provision for a full time Families Worker, annual cost £28k, which would be an increase of some £23k compared to actual expenditure incurred on this resource in 2021.

Whilst a budget deficit of this magnitude is not something any Treasurer would feel comfortable with, it should be remembered that the decision to fund the Families Worker from reserves was taken by the PCC only after serious consideration of the financial implications, on the grounds that investment of a significant portion of our reserves in providing this essential, additional resource, is justified being a key element in our quest for future growth and financial sustainability.

John Southworth
12 March 2022

Ministers' Review of the Year 2021

We started 2021 knowing that a double vacancy was looming in the benefice as Cassa planned to move to her new job after Easter and Ian's final Sunday before retirement was fixed for 18th April just two weeks later. We were also about to lose Eileen as a Churchwarden and Mike as Treasurer and, of course, were still in an uncertain period on account of the pandemic. I would like to pay tribute to Ian who worked so hard right up to his last day making sure we had people to fill these important roles before he left. He also ensured that we had a sustainable pattern of services in place across the Benefice and that Peter Miles and Garry Walton were licenced to preach so that the life of the Church could continue smoothly through the vacancy. Ian was also gracious in encouraging the Vacancy Committee to get ahead with planning the profile before he left so that we could begin the recruitment process as soon as possible thereafter.

Our heartfelt thanks were due for the ministry of Ian with Julie and, despite the difficult circumstances of being unable to gather in large numbers, we were able to give him a sincerely grateful and celebratory send-off and express our thanks to him with gifts.

We had our final Saturday recorded service on 17 April and reverted to recording the 10am service in the church building from 25 April. Again, we must pay tribute to Peter Heaps whose faithfulness and reliability enabled us to have a properly edited recording of the service on the Church web site each week and whose skills have considerably enhanced the experience of many families whose wedding or funeral services were held in Church this year.

The lock-downs have made us aware that we need to improve our AV system so as to allow live streaming, better quality pictures on the screen and maybe extra screens so that they can be seen from every part of the church. Possibilities for this work are now being explored.

The vacancy period was a time of 'stepping-up' for many of us. We have been extremely grateful to the Vacancy Committee whose hours of work across the Benefice culminated in a stunning Benefice profile, a good number of applicants and a successful interview day with the appointment of our new Rector, Rev. Dan Beesley, who was Licenced on 27 January 2022 just nine months after Ian's departure (fast by Church of England standards). The

whole process was supported by prayer; each morning at morning prayer on zoom and each Wednesday by a group set up for the purpose. Our 9am zoom prayer time continues to be strongly supported and is one of the things we will retain going forward.

Thanks also to our wardens, Rachel, and (Eileen and then) Jenny who, though new to the post, willingly got to grips with their responsibilities and led us through the tangle of Covid restrictions, inspections, complications of the churchyard, provision of supply clergy for the few services where we needed them, keeping the expenses flowing and taking responsibility for the multitude of decisions and paperwork that arise in church life from day to day as well as striving to keep the church community connected when we had been and still were separated through the Covid restrictions.

In this work they were supported by the Standing Committee chaired by John Southworth then Tom Boundy and with Richard Bolton as our indefatigable secretary, John gradually assuming the duties of Treasurer. Special thanks again to Mike Baldwin who has had to retain some of the treasury work and gone the extra miles for us with good grace and his usual diligence. The legal and financial side of our church life has been well cared for and enabled us to emerge from Vacancy in good order. Thank you to you all, and to the PCC.

We were fortunate to have the addition of Janelle to the staff team who has leant her energy, creativity and efficiency to keeping in touch with our children and families over lock-down and has gradually re-started our family focussed ministries 'Chatterbox' with Marion Miles and Family@4. Our search for a full-time family's minister has been faithfully pursued by Kate Southworth and her team but has not yet borne fruit.

Thanks to Sylvia Valentine for maintaining the work of the church office from home and flexing her hours to accommodate the needs of the church; and for her work with Jo Sutton on not only maintaining our website but improving it over the Vacancy.

The ministry team were able, with some outside support, to staff a good range of services across the Benefice using a single rota and single set of readings for both churches as well as sharing an 8am communion service each week at the alternating venue. It was good to build closer ties with Holy Trinity in advance of the arrival of a new Rector.

Our choir and musicians led by Cathy Langdale and Chris Weaver have maintained the strongest possible lead to our worship despite all the restrictions. We were able to enjoy some memorable services including for Climate Sunday, Harvest, an extraordinarily full offering of Christmas services and concerts from the marvellous St Giles Consort. We are very blessed with our team of musicians who have flexibly covered all the services – sometimes at very short notice. Special thanks must go to Peter Miles who has stepped in to play the organ on a number of occasions.

Other highlights have included the achievement of our bronze Eco-church award in recognition of our on-going work to live our church life in tune with creation, a visit from Steve and Lindsey Poulson whom we support via Street Kids Direct, a visit from Louise Chamberlain of 'All Together Community', and the flourishing of our young people in YZone with members of the group growing into leadership. Well done Elizabeth and Lauren – ably supported by Janelle and Tracy.

Our usual work with the school has been very disrupted during 2021 but we were able to cooperate with them at harvest time to collect a generous pile of food gifts which were distributed via 'All Together Community' and the Food Bank.

Our Mission Action Plan was necessarily modest for 2021 but we have sought to make the most of the opportunities for ministry and outreach despite the restrictions of Covid. Just one example would be the 'Day of Reflection' held on 23 March 2021 in which the community were invited to tie ribbons on the church railings in memory of those who had been lost in the pandemic. These ribbons were made afterwards into a memorial 'banner' by Elaine Watts with Mary Bental which became a focus during the season of Remembrance and will be a lasting memorial.

We have conducted five weddings and welcomed 12 children for baptism during the year. Baptism preparation evenings and the wedding preparation day are now back in the calendar. Four candidates were joyfully confirmed at a twice-postponed service in June. We have also taken 22 funerals, many of them for much loved members of our church family. We remember with deep gratitude, Alun Roberts, Mike Greenaway, David Worley, Jill Dean, Peter Parkin, Ken Lees, Corris Keen, Joyce Norton and also little Charlie Mason.

Each of these services (and all our services) have been efficiently staffed by our Welcomer's team led by Melainé Teahan. Thank-you to all of them for hours given to ensure people feel at home and are well cared for in our services.

A number of church members have moved away during the course of the year including Frances Hawkins, Roger Rodemark, Audrey Rivett, Karin and Dafydd Turner-Higgins and Peter Hogg. Antonia Lee has also moved (though

she still has a foothold in the village) and special thanks go to her for holding our Safeguarding this past year. We will miss all of you sadly!

It has been truly heartening to see the energy, creativity and sheer hard work that has enriched the life of the Church during the vacancy; from each of our committees and from the Church Watch team and the Friends of the Church. Space does not allow us to list them all but it has been gratifying just how much has been achieved during the complicated period in our church life that we have just been through.

It has been a joy to be part of this church community and to serve with you all and we look forward to the challenges of the next chapter and serving with Dan.

Jenny Tebboth on behalf of the Clergy team

- o - O - o -

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the Parochial Church Council ("PCC") of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chalfont St Giles for the year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise the summary of receipts and payments and the statement of assets and liabilities..

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the 2011 Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 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 a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
- have not been met; or
- b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

[Duly signed]

Rupert St Clair-Burton CPA
St Clair Accountancy Solutions Limited,
11, Church Farm Courtyard,
High Street,
Chalfont St Giles,
Buckinghamshire
HP8 4QH.

Date: 24/03/22

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES
REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1129372

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted and Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Expendable & Endowment Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Voluntary Receipts	4	134,236	-	-	134,236	110,901
Receipts from Fundraising	5	12,413	-	-	12,413	8,781
Receipts from Reading Room	6	240	-	-	240	1,525
Receipts from Church Activities	7	826	100	-	926	770
Other Receipts	8	712	7,927	180	8,819	9,906
Total Receipts		148,427	8,027	180	156,634	131,883
PAYMENTS						
Voluntary Income Costs	9	2,000	-	-	2,000	3,575
Fundraising Costs	10	6,537	-	-	6,537	4,719
Reading Room Expenses	11	3,412	-	-	3,412	2,644
Church Activities Costs	12	102,414	4,072	-	106,486	114,482
Management and Administration	13	15,102	-	-	15,102	14,391
Other Costs	14	330	7,647	-	7,977	380
Total Operating Costs		129,795	11,719	-	141,514	140,191
Excess / (shortfall) of receipts over payments		18,632	(3,692)	180	15,120	(8,308)
Transfer between funds		(884)	64	820	-	-
Gain on market investments		-	-	17,053	17,053	3,443
Net movement of funds		17,748	(3,628)	18,053	32,173	(4,865)
Balance brought forward		101,684	11,096	194,009	306,789	311,654
Funds this year end carried forward		119,432	7,468	212,062	338,962	306,789

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES
REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1129372

BALANCE SHEET
AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Expendable & Endowment Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
FIXED ASSETS						
Investments at valuation	-	-		212,062	212,062	194,009
CURRENT ASSETS						
Cash at bank and in hand	42,861	20,000	180	-	63,041	48,517
Cash on deposit with Central Board of Finance	6,613	11,970	10	-	18,593	18,585
Shawbrook Bank	3,533	34,456	7,277	-	45,266	45,678
Net current assets	53,007	66,425	7,468	-	126,900	112,780
TOTAL NET ASSETS	53,007	66,425	7,468	212,062	338,962	306,789
CAPITAL FUNDS						
Permanent Endowment Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
INCOME FUNDS						
Endowment Funds	-	-	-	212,062	211,062	194,009
Restricted Funds	-	-	7,468	-	7,468	11,096
Designated Funds	-	66,425	-	-	66,425	66,423
Unrestricted Funds	53,007	-	-	-	54,007	35,261
TOTAL FUNDS	53,007	66,425	7,468	212,062	338,962	306,789

The financial statements were approved by the Standing Committee on 25 April 2022 as authorised by the Committee of Members on 16 March 2022 who authorised the Honorary Treasurer to sign them on their behalf:

Signed:

John Southworth
Honorary Treasurer

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and Recommended Practice "Accounting and reporting by charities" (revised 2005).

The accounts are drawn up on the basis of "Receipts and Payments " (rather than "prepayments and accrual" accounting) as permitted by the Charity Commission for charities with a turnover of less than £250k a year. They also drawn up under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investment assets at market value.

Incoming resources

Offerings and donations received for the general purposes of the charity are included as Unrestricted Funds. The relevant Gift Aid is shown separately. Donations whose application is restricted by the wishes of the donor are taken to Restricted Funds. Incoming resources are all accounted for gross and planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due.

Investment income, dividends, interest and tax recoverable are accounted for when received.

All other income is generally recognised when it is receivable.

Resources expended

The church has followed the practice of writing off 100 per cent of the cost of any additions or modifications to the consecrated land and buildings and contents of the church.

Parish Share is paid regularly and is included in expenditure for the year in which it is paid.

Unrestricted fund grants (including donations to missions) are recognised when determined by the PCC. Amounts received specifically for missions are dealt with as restricted funds and the liability for payment is recognised when the amounts are received.

All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred.

Assets and Liabilities

The following assets are recognised but not attributed a value in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

*Moveable church furnishings held by the church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal;

*Land and buildings and improvements thereto, held on behalf of the PCC;

*Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment where the PCC is free to dispose of such assets without faculty and where the original cost exceeded £1,000.

The following assets are recognised and a monetary value given as part of the description in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

*Closing bank balances

*Closing revalued balances on investments

The following liabilities are recognised in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities

*Any loans or overdrafts advanced to the PCC;

*Any arrears of Diocesan Parish Share

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021, continued

Taxation

The Parochial Church Council is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted Funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees. Designated funds are Unrestricted Funds as they are not restricted by the donor and are available for any specified purpose endorsed by the PCC.

Restricted Funds are those donations and covenants where the donor has stipulated that the monies should be used for particular purposes. Any Restricted Funds received have been or will be disbursed for the purposes intended by the donor. All donations to the Fabric Fund for example are used to finance property repairs.

Endowment Funds are those where the donor has donated a capital sum, making the dividend or interest from the fund to be used as stipulated.

2. APB ETHICAL STANDARD - Provisions Available for Small Entities

In common with many other organisations of our size and nature we use our independent examiner to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

3. RESERVES POLICY

During the year the following policy was adopted by the Parochial Church Council;

A minimum reserve will be maintained, based upon 9 months of recurring expenditure which at 31 December 2021 was close to £100,000.

To ensure the ongoing adequacy of this reserve, church net assets will be apportioned 40:60 as between investment and liquid funds such that the minimum reserve requirement is covered by cash and other liquid assets.

At 31 December 2021 liquid funds totalled £127,000, being 37.5 % of total net assets, marginally below the target due to an increase in the investment valuation in the latter part of the year.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021, continued

	Unrestricted and Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Expendable & Endowment Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
4 VOLUNTARY RECEIPTS					
Offerings	8,068	-	-	8,068	8,975
Donations (inc Gift Days)	63,286	-	-	63,286	69,394
HMRC Gift Aid Rebate	19,781	-	-	19,781	17,532
Grants, Bequests, Legacies	43,101	-	-	43,101	15,000
	134,236	-	-	134,236	110,901
5 RECEIPTS FROM FUNDRAISING					
Wedding and Funeral Fees	10,603	-	-	10,603	7,040
Fund Raising Events	1,610	-	-	1,610	1,328
Magazine Income	200	-	-	200	413
	12,413	-	-	12,413	8,781
6 RECEIPTS FROM READING ROOM					
Reading Room Income	240	-	-	240	1,525
	240	-	-	240	1,525
7 RECEIPTS FROM CHURCH ACTIVITIES					
Social Outreach	529	-	-	529	681
Children Youth & Messy Church	297	100	-	397	89
	826	100	-	926	770
8 OTHER RECEIPTS					
Grants received	-	-	-	-	8,701
Provision of Service	-	-	-	-	30
Miscellaneous	444	1,078	-	1,522	242
Donations for Charities	-	6,843	-	6,843	-
Interest and Dividends	268	6	180	454	933
	712	7,927	180	8,819	9,906
TOTAL RECEIPTS	148,427	8,027	180	156,634	131,883

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021, continued

	Unrestricted and Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Expendable & Endowment Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
9 COSTS OF GENERATING VOLUNTARY INCOME					
Grants given (including tithes)	2,000	-	-	2,000	3,575
10 FUNDRAISING COSTS					
Fundraising Event Expenses	737	-	-	737	442
Wedding & Funeral Fees to ODBF	5,648	-	-	5,648	4,206
Magazine & Publicity	152	-	-	152	71
	6,537	-	-	6,537	4,719
11 READING ROOM EXPENSES					
Light and Heat	712	-	-	712	792
Insurance	1,130	-	-	1,130	1,119
Operating Costs	775	-	-	775	409
Repairs and Improvements	795	-	-	795	324
	3,412	-	-	3,412	2,644
12 CHURCH ACTIVITIES COSTS					
Parish Share	80,796	-	-	80,796	79,856
Heating and Lighting	2,594	-	-	2,594	2,933
Church and Churchyard Maintenance	6,303	75	-	6,378	12,610
Insurance	4,134	-	-	4,134	4,124
Organist, Music & Instruments	2,931	-	-	2,931	10,561
Other Operating Expenses	3,285	274	-	3,559	3,514
Social Outreach	14	113	-	127	109
Children, Youth & Messy Church	2,357	3,610	-	5,967	775
	102,414	4,072	-	106,486	114,482
13 MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION					
Rector Vacancy	1,374	-	-	1,374	-
Travel, Hospitality, Visiting Clergy	677	-	-	677	1,269
Telephone and Internet	887	-	-	887	1,359
Office Admin Staff	8,524	-	-	8,524	8,242
Printing and Stationery	2,437	-	-	2,437	2,479
Office Other Costs	165	-	-	165	98
Audit & Accountancy	1,038	-	-	1,038	944
PCC & Deanery Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
	15,102	-	-	15,102	14,391
14 OTHER COSTS					
Special gifts and Donations to Charities	330	7,647	-	7,977	380
	330	7,647	-	7,977	380
TOTAL OPERATING COSTS	129,795	11,719	-	141,514	140,191

Accounts

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES

Loving God, Living Christ, Loving people

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Background.....	2
Safeguarding Duty.....	2
PCC Membership	3
PCC Structure	4
Benefice	4
Fairtrade	4
Electoral Roll	4
Wardens' Report.....	4
PCC Review of the Year.....	5
Reports from PCC Committees.....	6
Children & Families.....	6
Communications	7
Discipleship.....	7
Mission (including Nominated Charities)	8
Social Outreach	9
Pastoral Care.....	9
Reading Room Management.....	10
Worship.....	10
Other Reports.....	10
Educational Foundation.....	10
Church Fabric & Furnishings	11
Church Watch.....	11
Deanery Synod.....	11
Flower Guild.....	12
Lent Lunches	12
Rendezvous.....	13
Stewardship Recorder's Report	13
Treasurer's Financial Report	13
Rector's Review of the Year	15
Mission Action Plan Pre and Post Covid	17
Independent Examiner's Report.....	18
Statement of Financial Activity	19
Balance Sheet.....	20
Notes to the Accounts.....	21

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES

Loving God, Living Christ, Loving people

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020

Background

The Parochial Church Council has responsibility for the whole mission of the Parish Church of Chalfont St Giles to live in God's love and share its hope. It also has responsibility for the maintenance and management of the Church buildings and fabric and the Reading Room. It is registered with the Charity Commission, number 1129372. The members of the PCC are the charity's Trustees. The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. This report covers all activities of the Church and PCC in 2020.

Readers will know that the Coronavirus pandemic and requirement for social distancing, including the required closure of the Church building since March 2020, has restricted various activities. Most of the reports in this document are affected by this development. The Church has been in lockdown three times in 2020 and, immediately after Christmas 2020 had to re-enter this. Planning for 2021 has been difficult with this background.

Further, on 6 May 2021 the Rector, Rev Ian Brown, retires so we are now in early stages of an Interregnum. As we are a Benefice, although the two parishes of Chalfont St Giles and Seer Green & Jordans have hitherto operated relatively independently, together with our fellow Parish we are in the midst of preparing a draft Benefice Profile having each prepared an initial Parish Profile. The draft Benefice Profile will be submitted to the Diocese of Oxford which will consider the broader needs of the Church and their impact on the Benefice. During this interregnum the mission of the Churches in Chalfont St Giles and Seer Green and Jordans will be through the two clergy, Rev. Jenny Tebboth and Rev Paul Henderson with the two licensed preachers, Peter Miles and Garry Walton together with the PCC and its committees and with legal and operational matters under control of the Churchwardens and Area Dean together with the PCC. We are grateful to Rev Martin Williams, Assistant Area Dean, for agreeing to chair these 2021 meetings of the Chalfont St Giles Parish members and of the Church members. We also acknowledge the considerable input during 2020 and continuing beyond the date of this meeting of the two Clergy – together with Rev Brown down to his retirement - in steering the Parish both through lockdown and towards what we pray will be an effective Interregnum together with an increasing on-line presence.

As our 2019 Annual Report commented looking at the earlier part of 2020:

As many organisations trying to cope with the disruption of Covid we have tried new ways of working – Services on line, some recorded in Church and others on Zoom, mission largely by telephone and email, meetings by Zoom to support the mission of the Church and enable its business to be agreed and transacted. We acknowledge the remarkable input from clergy (whether local, diocesan, or arch-diocesan) and lay involved to develop new ways for the Church to continue to function in these challenging circumstances. The clergy have risen to the need to develop on-line models of worship. Together with lay members in the various parish teams they have made strenuous efforts to achieve contact with parishioners in the restricted circumstances.

Thankfully, all this effort continued for the remainder of 2020 and down to date. We thank God for the care and energy of all involved.

At the 2021 Annual Parochial Church Meetings, Eileen Baldwin will be Standing down as Church Warden. She has been active in this role for 3 years, particularly challenging over the last 14 months or so. We warmly thank her for her caring service, as well as being diligent and capable, and for her involvement in all sorts of administrative, pastoral and caring roles.

Also, at this time Mike Baldwin will be stepping down as Treasurer. Mike came back to this role 3 years ago after a previous stint and has been instrumental in improving our systems in various areas, our accounting and the reporting on this. We warmly thank him for taking up this burden again and leading our finances through, in particular, the difficult times of Church lockdowns.

In expressing our thanks to both, we wish them a happy and fulfilling 'retirement' and are glad they will continue as Church Members.

Safeguarding Duty

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). Further information is at page 5 below.

Membership

Membership of the PCC is either ex-officio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules or co-opted within the Rules as necessary.

During 2020 the following served as members:

Incumbent:	Rev. Ian Brown
Churchwardens:	Eileen Baldwin Hannah Tew (to 21 October 2020) Rachel Leonard (sworn in on 1 November 2020 but effectively from 21 October 2020)
Deputy Churchwarden	Melainé Teahan
Lay Chairman	John Southworth (from 10 July 2019)
Deanery Synod Representatives:	Mary Bentall Margaret Carey Maren Saville (to 21 October 2020) Roy Stroomer (to 21 October 2020) Hannah Tew (from 21 October 2020)

PCC Members:

Gordon Bull had resigned and then, sadly, died in May 2020. Joseph Wiggin was co-opted as a Lay member on 15 January 2020 and Chris Neville on 4 June 2020. With effect from the 2020 Annual Parochial Church Meeting ("APCM") on 21 October 2020 Melonie Calam and Gillian Cranefield having served the three-year term, ceased PCC membership. Mr Bolton ceased PCC membership having been elected to serve for the allowed further period after conclusion of his three-year term at 10 April 2019. The continuing PCC elected members were thus Michael Baldwin, Margaret Dykes, Edward Fitch, Bridget Paice, Phillip Rutter, John Southworth, Keith Wood-Smith and Sylvia Valentine. At the 2020 APCM Christopher Neville and Joseph Wiggin, having been co-opted to the PCC in 2020 until the date of the APCM and having been nominated were elected for three-year terms. Janelle Stevenson and Garry Walton having been nominated were also elected for three-year terms. At the PCC meeting immediately following the 2020 APCM Richard Bolton, Kate Southworth and Tracey Wiggin were co-opted to the PCC as lay members.

At the APCM Melainé Teahan was again reappointed Deputy Churchwarden for the ensuing year. During 2020 in addition to the Churchwardens the following were Church Officers:

PCC Secretary:	Richard Bolton
PCC Treasurer:	Michael Baldwin
PCC Assistant Treasurer	Sophie Bowles
PCC Minutes Secretary:	Not formally appointed – a number of PCC members have filled the breach.

Summarising, during 2020 – PCC elected members were:

To 21 October 2020	From 21 October 2020	At 31 December 2020
Richard Bolton	Richard Bolton (co-opted)	Richard Bolton (co-opted)
Melonie Calam	Melonie Calam	
Gillian Cranefield	Gillian Cranefield	
Margaret Dykes	Margaret Dykes	Margaret Dykes
Edward Fitch	Edward Fitch	Edward Fitch
Bridget Paice	Bridget Paice	Bridget Paice
Philip Rutter	Philip Rutter	Philip Rutter
Sylvia Valentine	Sylvia Valentine	Sylvia Valentine
Michael Baldwin	Michael Baldwin	Michael Baldwin
John Southworth	John Southworth	John Southworth
Keith Wood-Smith	Keith Wood-Smith	Keith Wood-Smith
	Christopher Neville	Christopher Neville
Co-opted from 15 January 2020, then elected at 2020 APCM		
Joseph Wiggin	Joseph Wiggin	Joseph Wiggin
	Janelle Stevenson	Janelle Stevenson
	Garry Walton	Garry Walton
	Kate Southworth (co-opted)	Kate Southworth (co-opted)
	Tracey Wiggin (co-opted)	Tracey Wiggin (co-opted)

The term of a co-opted member is to the following APCM when reappointment is permissible.

PCC Structure

The PCC has a Standing Committee and a number of sub-committees:

Children & Families
Communications
Discipleship
Fabric
Finance
Mission
Pastoral Care
Reading Room Management
Worship

The sub-committees report to, and obtain permission for planned activities and expenditure from, the PCC at its regular meetings. Representatives of the PCC attend the **Amersham Deanery Synod** meetings and report back to the PCC.

The PCC **Standing Committee** (Rev Ian Brown (Incumbent), Rev Jenny Tebboth (Assistant Minister), Rev Paul Henderson (Assistant Minister), Church Wardens, PCC Chairman, Secretary & Treasurer) acts as the Executive arm of the PCC, including setting the agenda for its meetings and taking any urgent actions affecting the welfare of the Church that may arise between meetings.

The separately registered charity **The Friends of Chalfont St Giles Parish Church** continues to provide much appreciated and valuable support to the Church and keeps the PCC informed of its activities. The Deanway United Church, Living Word International Church and Hope Church and ourselves all as 'Christians in Chalfont St Giles' continue to co-operate in providing the Services on the Village Green on Good Friday and at the Feast of St Giles in September, and to support the turning on of the Christmas lights with other Christians present in the village.

Benefice of Chalfont St Giles and Seer Green & Jordans

The combined Benefice, which has operated since the beginning of 2015, continues with Rev. Ian Brown as Rector (Incumbent/Priest in charge). In 2020 the Rector was assisted by Rev. Cassa Messervy (Associate Minister, and Vicar of Holy Trinity Seer Green and Jordans), Rev. Jenny Tebboth (Assistant Minister), Rev Paul Henderson (Curate then Assistant Minister) and Rev. Angela Thompson (Assistant Minister emerita). Linda West is Licensed Lay Minister in Seer Green and Jordans, assisted by Janna Holder as Children and Families leader.

The two Benefice Churches are further linked by an enduring instrument which permits (with the consent of the respective Priest) a couple who are qualified to marry in one Church in the Benefice to marry in the other.

Fairtrade

The Chalfont St Giles Parish Church continues to be a Fairtrade church using Fairtrade ingredients and aiming to operate in a manner appropriate to that designation.

Church Electoral Roll

In 2020 the Electoral Roll was updated for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting and had 154 on the list.

Wardens' Report October 2020 – May 2021

The last paragraph of the Wardens' report prepared for the APCM in April 2020 but presented in October 2020, said that we faced difficult times ahead. We did not know then how difficult or for how long the disruption to our Church life would go on.

After a release from lockdown during the summer we were able again to have a Service in Church on Sunday mornings, albeit with masks, no singing and socially distanced. How good it was to get together again! Latterly, we were able to record these services. We were also able to open the Church building for private prayer, and a huge vote of thanks goes to those who gave their time to 'watch' the church and to those who cleaned the building after Services and church watching to keep it Covid safe. During the time when the Church was unable to be open, recorded services from our clergy, with participation from church members, were made available via our website and, in order that we could all keep in touch, the weekly pew sheet was emailed to as many of the Church community as could access the internet. Our huge thanks go to Peter Heaps for his time and amazing recording skills. Many different meetings were held via Zoom – Bible studies, Sunday morning coffee and chats, wardens' meetings, and daily prayer meetings.

Attendance numbers are difficult to assess this year, given the limited spaces in Church, but we believe the recorded Services have been well attended and appreciated. Attendance was badly hit over Christmas with a total of 137 worshippers over 4 services. Normally we would get more than that number on Christmas morning alone. But the Christingle bag project for the children was a great success and our thanks go to the Post Office who ran a window display for us.

Sadly, we have lost several of our older and dedicated members this year. We are grateful for all they gave us during their lifetimes.

Last summer was warm and sunny and our beautiful churchyard was well used by people getting together with friends for coffee, by office workers in the village having their packed lunches and by many who just wanted time to be quiet and reflect. We are very grateful to the churchyard maintenance team for keeping the grounds around the Church so well-tended. The churchyard has also been used this year for a prayer trail, a children's trail to learn about Zacchaeus, and for part of the nativity trail at Christmas. It is good to see the churchyard used as a village amenity.

We are grateful to the Friends of the Church for their generosity, not least in the restoring and refitting of the two brasses in the south aisle.

Sadly, our planned Coming Home Mission in June had to be cancelled.

And in the background to all of this we have been very conscious of Ian's retirement coming up. A Vacancy Committee has been set up over the Benefice, with a team of people from both parishes, which has been busy preparing a new Benefice profile. Our sincere thanks go to those who have carried out consultations, spent time collating information, finding suitable photographs, and producing a document portraying all the facets of our church family. During this time many have of you have given much time and effort but to our PCC chairman, John Southworth, and PCC secretary, Richard Bolton, we give special mention and thanks for their sound advice. And to Jenny and Paul, who will take on added pressures during the interregnum, we give our thanks and assurances of support.

We shall miss Ian and Julie for all they have done for us over the years and pray they will have a long, happy, and fulfilling retirement.

Eileen Baldwin - Churchwarden

PCC Review of the Year

In addition to an Away Day in February to discuss Mission and a Benefice meeting in October to discuss the coming Vacancy, the PCC met on 9 occasions in 2020 (2019: 7) with an average of 17 (2019:15) members in attendance.

An ongoing matter of focus for the PCC in 2020 (and continuing) has been the aim to recruit a Families Worker, ideally full-time. Most meetings also considered the progress of attempts to instal Wi-Fi in the Reading Room. *Many initiatives have been followed up this year including planning for a mission, an important element of our Mission Action Plan (MAP), intended to be run from 5-7 June 2020. In addition to regular reviews of the financial position, safeguarding and policies, committee reports, and ongoing management of Church matters, including maintenance and the ongoing review of the wider impact of the General Data Protection Regulations, topics from each meeting are highlighted below:*

- January: Procedure for the launch of the Stewardship Campaign by delivery of 'Giving Generously' was agreed. A Conflict of Interest Policy was approved and the collation of Church Policies in a single accessible file was noted as were two thefts of money from the Church and arrangements for the PCC Away Day to plan Mission Action for the Church. Change in the Church supported charities was agreed. The contactless card machine will be brought into use this month.
- March: The new 2020 Church Representation Rules were noted. Progress on the refurbishing of the floor memorial in the South Aisle was reported together with the correction of some names on the Churchyard War Memorial. Coronavirus began to impact with changes in the procedure for Communion and the Peace, a Coronavirus Plan and matters to be considered, and the forced cancellation of a planned April Messiah performance. Hannah Tew was thanked for having completed GDPR requirements in the context of the Stewardship Campaign. The appreciative enquiry approach for the PCC Away Day had been effective in the imagining of how we as a Church are being called to be more Christ-like: Discover, Dream, Design, Deliver and what this might mean. Kate Southworth resigned from Safeguarding and was thanked for her hugely appreciated work on this, and Antonia Lee was appointed to take over the safeguarding role. Thanks were expressed to Gillian Cranfield for her work in co-ordinating applications for DBS checks. Procedures around the upcoming APCM were noted including the resignation of Gordon Bull through ill-health. PCC authorised the Rector to nominate Garry Walton and Peter Miles to be authorised to Preach in the Benefice. Rev Jenny and the Children & Families Committee were thanked for holding the fort in the absence of a Families Worker. The Standing Committee was authorised to consider adoption of the 2019 Financial Statements when available.
- May: As a result of Covid all meetings from here on were agreed to be held by Zoom. The minutes of the 8 April Standing Committee meeting were approved, including: Coronavirus

continuity plan; Church security and Church Office arrangements; suspension of the 2020 APCM and elections probably to October; suspension of the planned Coming Home Mission, the archdeaconry visitation and the piano concert; cancellation of wedding arrangements; change in Trustees registered with Old Mutual; retainer fees agreed for organists; approval of Zoom subscription; and guidelines for video conferencing with young people. Rev Ian reported that: he had made a video of the Church interior and churchyard available on the Church website; funeral charges have been waived but will now recommence; thanks were expressed to the Pastoral Care Team for maintaining contacts with the challenged and to Sylvia Valentine for keeping church admin going. The first meeting of the Finance Review Committee was reported and an invitation to James White to join this approved. Initial consideration was given to an ashes area in the churchyard and further thoughts on Mission Action planning. A contribution to Friends of the Church towards the installation costs of the corrected plates on the churchyard War Memorial was approved, subsequently fixed at £200. Thanks were given to the PCC members who would have come off had the April APCM taken place but remain in place.

July: An additional meeting considered the re-opening of the Church for Services and approved this and its frequency and the opening of the Church for private prayer. Also endorsed the Risk Assessment which had been carried out.

The meeting a week later noted that the Bishop of Buckingham had approved in principle Garry Walton and Peter Miles' authorisation to Preach in the Benefice. The meeting noted: that Church had re-opened at 11:00 am on Sunday 12 July with pre-booked congregation members, recorded by Peter Heaps for the Church website; Holy Communion will not yet be offered; the recorded audio service will continue; wedding and funeral services may be held in Church subject to numbers; and there will be some private baptisms necessary. The Diocesan planning tool 'Emerging from Coronavirus' was put forward for completion. Rev Jenny reported that in the Summer holidays there will be two installations in the churchyard for families. Praise was given for the children's activities on the website. Votes of thanks were given to Frederique Henderson for the Ark and Rev Jenny for YZone as they laid down these responsibilities.

September: Rev Ian announced his retirement in May 2021 in his 40th year of Ministry. The Standing Committee had met Rev Gill Lovell, Parish Diocesan Adviser (PDA), to discuss preliminary steps for the Vacancy and what is needed. Eileen Baldwin announced that she will retire as Churchwarden at the 2021 APCM after three terms and Hannah Tew also announced she will retire following change in her family circumstances. Mike Baldwin announced he will retire as Treasurer at the same time. PCC approved reversion of the 11:00 am Sunday Service of the Word to 10:00 am, that periodic Holy Communion services be reinstated in October, and that 08:00 BCP Holy Communion service recommence from 20 September. PCC gave warm thanks to Bridget Pace, Peter Heaps and Sylvia Valentine for their considerable help at this time. PCC expressed gratitude for the Friends' committed support to the Church over the period to April 2021 of £11,562 before adding the War Memorial cost and, potentially, security cameras. PCC approved the date for the 2020 APCM of 21 October.

October: An extra meeting was held on 14 October in particular to consider further: the proposal for a Families Worker to be appointed as soon as may be; collaboration of the two Benefice Parishes; Interregnum steps and structure; and the need to renegotiate the working arrangements of continuing clergy.

A short meeting held immediately after the APCM to co-opt Richard Bolton, Kate Southworth and Tracey Wiggin to PCC, to appoint Mike Baldwin as Treasurer and Richard Bolton as PCC Secretary.

November: The PCC approved a document on 'Approaching Interregnum' which had been discussed with Rev Gill and now needed to be shared with Seer Green & Jordans Parish; approved the proposed Benefice Vacancy Committee; approved the planned consultations of congregation and parish; approved that the flag on the Church flagpole be replaced; approved the membership of PCC committees and the list of Welcomers; and approved the Worship Committee plan for Christmas Services.

Reports from PCC Committees

Children and Families Committee

An advert advertising for a Families worker was placed in a wide number of periodicals, including Premier Christianity, other Christian magazines, diocesan links and local Churches. Contact with other organisations has also been made. We have so far had no responses that met our needs, and we ask you all to pray for future advertising.

Report back on what we could do in 2019 / 2020 -

- Manning the Sunday morning Ark was a challenge and, sadly, there were only a small number of children coming, sometimes one or two, sometimes slightly more.
- Jenny Tebboth took on Families @ 4 and Messy Church which were going well; as always, we seek to attract more outsiders.
- Chatterbox on a Thursday morning was run by Frances and Marion. At present it has had to close again due to lockdown - a shame as it was well attended and extremely popular.
- The Choir children met up for Choir Pizza after Friday night rehearsals, and this was a greatly enjoyed activity. Friday YZone is currently not running.
- Before lockdown, the secondary school young people were going to the Vestry group during the morning Service, a vitally important group for this age.
- Lock down has halted nearly all children's work for now. However, over Christmas 'outreach advent packs' were sent out, which proved to be well received.

The recent survey of the Congregation to inform the process of preparation of a Parish and Benefice Profile has highlighted the Church support for children's work and we continue to seek a full-time experienced families worker.

Kate Southworth

Communications Committee

The Committee met 4 times between January 2020 – January 2021. We aim to provide a central source for communication within the Church community and for the wider village community. Updates as follows: -

- Pew Sheet

The pew sheet is now emailed to all on the Church database on a weekly basis (with the option to opt out). It contains information on services and events for the coming week, news of future events, and has become the main form of week-on-week communication within the Church community.

- Parish Magazine

After 5 years in post, Alistair stepped down this year from his role of compiling and editing the magazine. A huge thank you to Alistair for all his efforts in producing a great magazine. We are delighted to welcome Kevin Searle into the role of Editor. Since the covid crisis the magazine has moved on-line and into a quarterly format. We are in an experimental phase, moving away from its former monthly and paper manifestation. During 2020, Peter and Mary Bentall have been producing and distributing a small number of paper copies to those members of the congregation unable to access the magazine online and we are very grateful to them for their help.

Contributions to the magazine can be sent to stgileschurchmagazine@hotmail.co.uk

- Church Website

The website has become our most important method of communication in the past year. Audio recordings and videos of services are posted here every week along with the Orders of Service and the pew sheet. The site gives details of all Church activities, together with links to relevant contacts. It was built by a member of the congregation a few years ago and is maintained by the Parish Administrator. We are planning to upgrade it during 2021.

- Noticeboards

When it is possible, we update the notice boards on a weekly basis – and thanks to Meg Blunsdon for this. We have plans to add a staff notice board in the porch of the Church.

- Church Facebook Page

The Church Facebook page is up and running and has really grown during the past year. We have used this to share videos and prayers during this year while Church services could not run.

Jo Sutton

Discipleship Committee

The purpose of this committee is to encourage spiritual growth in all stages:

- 1) introduction to the faith
- 2) preparation for baptism/confirmation
- 3) encouraging each member of our Church to keep growing in faith throughout their life.

The lock-down cut short our Stewardship campaign, caused the cancellation of our summer mission with Roger Simpson and with it, the planned autumn follow-up 'Christianity Explored' course.

However, we were able to complete our excellent series of talks on 'Searching Questions' with Clare Williams from OCCA by means of recorded talks and a zoom session.

Our Confirmation services have been postponed not once but twice. No new date has yet been booked.

Neither baptism preparation days nor baptisms have taken place, but we have kept in touch with previous baptism families through the Faith at Home initiative spearheaded by the Children and Families Committee.

We held our ten days of prayer between Ascension and Pentecost by means of prayer stations around the churchyard which were well received and not only by members of our Church. The benefits of taking our Church life outside the building is one of our learning points from the pandemic.

Over Advent we encouraged use of the 'Time to Pray' app from the Church of England.

Home groups took a break for the first half of the year but have come back on-line now with three groups currently meeting by zoom (one started during lockdown) and more planned if we get some take up from the Diocesan 'Come and See' outreach. A couple of the groups have not yet re-formed. We intend to keep using the Diocesan 'Personal Discipleship Plan' in addition to home groups.

YZone (our youth group) met over the summer in a limited way by zoom but is currently without a leader – a serious hole in our Church discipleship provision as there is potential for a thriving group in the village.

We have been aware of the invisible congregation who listen to on-line services; a sermon series on Christian basics was designed to speak to this group and we are participating in the diocesan 'Come and See' initiative hoping to meet some of them.

Our 2021 Lent series is based around 'The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry' by Paul Mark Comer.

Peter Miles and Garry Walton now have permission to preach and have joined the preaching team which is a great blessing especially as we prepare for the Vacancy. We will continue to integrate teaching on creation-care into our service structure.

It has been very encouraging to see the number of people at Morning Prayer each day increase greatly through our use of zoom. This is another positive outcome from the pandemic and will probably continue.

Jenny Tebbboth

Mission Committee

The Five Marks of Mission:

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth

The Mission Committee meets regularly, and major items have been:

- The Coming Home Mission with Roger Simpson had to be postponed due to Covid and, as we enter vacancy, we do not envisage this happening until at least 2022.
- To continue to work towards "ECO" status.
- To make a larger statement on our beliefs, positioned in the Church porch,
- To review and update the list of charities we support:
 - A Rocha UK [the Rock],
 - Fawsett Trust,
 - Rope (Reaching Oppressed People Everywhere),
 - Street Kids Direct, and
 - Traidcraft.

Each one is represented by a 'Mission Champion' who keeps in touch with the charity, represents it to the congregation, gives an update of their work each year to the congregation at a 10:00am service and writes articles for the Parish Magazine.

In addition, we support and raise money each year for the Mission to Seafarers, The Children's Society (through Christingle), the Ensors, Saunderton Lodge homeless accommodation and the Trussell Trust.

Our community outreach initiatives – Rendezvous Lent Lunches and Chatterbox - have not been able to take place this year but during lockdown around 100 'Try Praying' booklets were taken from dispensers at the Reading Room and by the lych gate.

Jenny Tebbboth

Mission Champion reports:

A Rocha UK is a Christian charity working for the protection and restoration of the natural world and committed to equipping Christians and churches in the UK to care for the environment. Responding to the biblical mandate to care for the earth, and demonstrating the Christian hope for God's world, they work with:

- Churches through their Eco Church programme
- Christian environmental leaders through their interdenominational convening work
- Families and individuals through their Wild Christian scheme and community, supporting people to enjoy, nurture and defend nature in their own homes and communities, and by campaigning
- Christian land managers through their Partners in Action network.

St Giles Parish Church is signed up to the **Eco Church** programme and expect to gain the bronze award by the end of the year.

Keith Wood-Smith

Fawsett Trust is a local charity supporting elderly residents in need in Chalfont St Giles with vouchers at Christmas, exchangeable only in our village shops. We are grateful for the contribution from the PCC and for the generous further individual contributions which enable this work to continue.

Richard Bolton

ROPE (Reaching Oppressed People Everywhere) is a local charity headquartered in Amersham.

'The foundations of our approach stem from our almost 30 years of working with international partners. We invest into partnering with a small network of on-the-ground, local organisations and churches led by local visionaries who seek to bring about transformational change in their communities. Living in their own communities, they have the vision and drive to transform lives for those in poverty but need access to resources and wider networks.

They currently work with 21 partners across 16 countries around the world.

Frances Hawkins

Street Kids Direct - Our Deanery and Parish have a particular link with Steve Poulson one of their programme Development Managers.

Steve supports Street Kids Direct partnered projects in a range of ways, from donor relations, to implementing the child protection policy, in an effort to strengthen and develop them. Steve also helps coordinate the Honduras mentoring programme and programmes in Talanga and Ciudad España, Honduras.

No mission champion at present

Traidcraft Exchange is a Christian charity working to reduce poverty by trading fairly with marginalised groups.

Traidcraft continues under Margaret Dykes' energetic hand; however, due to the restrictions imposed during the pandemic, running stalls after services has not been possible. Margaret has developed a "click and collect" model of trading which allows people to e-mail or phone orders to her which she then arranges to deliver in a Covid-safe way. She has also spearheaded the Church's support for the Chiltern Food Bank raising money from a wide range of supporters to purchase goods from Traidcraft in support of the Food Bank's mission. Since the beginning of the Covid emergency £30,000 has been raised for this project which included support for the 165 Christian Advent calendars donated at Christmas.

Margaret Dykes

Social Outreach Report

Members of the outreach team aim to support Rendezvous, Songs of Praise lunches, Lent lunches, Marriage prep catering, and the Advent Supper. We started the year in 2020 as normal with Rendezvous, Songs of Praise lunches and Lent lunches, but all went pear-shaped shortly after!

Pat Searle

Pastoral Care Report

The Pastoral Care Group have met 3 times this year. We offer support to those from our parish and the wider community whenever there is need and for as long as that need remains. Contact is generally by word of mouth or

from our publicity leaflets available in Church, the chemist, the GPs surgery and the library. After the initial visit by a member of the team, support continues while there is a need.

A new MAP document is in preparation for April 2021. We will continue pastoral care in every area and to support prayer ministry in Church whenever we can. Support through home communion visits is also offered. We have welcomed a new member to our team, Ruth Walton. The Pastoral Care team supported clergy at the All Soul's Day service in November, made and delivered posies of flowers locally following Harvest Festival and took flowers to the community following the on-line Mothering Sunday service in March.

COVID - The consequences of Covid have been the biggest challenge for the team this year. The clergy's priority was to ensure that every member of the Church family was contacted and offered support where needed during lock-down and beyond. The names on the electoral roll were divided into 17 groups and one person was asked to make contact and continue indefinitely wherever necessary. This arrangement is continuing.

This year has stretched our pastoral care role. It is, however, an honour to be involved in this much needed role.

Margaret Carey - Pastoral Care Co-ordinator

Reading Room Management Committee

The Reading Room is still very much in need of maintenance and decoration, plus an additional disabled / baby change toilet and more storage; this will be addressed when we are able to let the facility as Covid restrictions ease.

The Committee met on 25 February 2021 to discuss an application to Bucks CC for a £10,000 grant towards costs consequential to Covid; this has to be submitted before 31 March 2021.

There has been a problem with the wood block floor lifting, probably as a result of lack of heat: the floor has now been repaired and is due to be sanded and treated when there is a glimmer of hope of the paying public being able to use our facility.

The ever damp rear wall has probably been traced to a very old section of flint wall beneath the more modern brickwork and proposals are awaiting approval by the Fabric Committee.

The Fabric Committee are looking at treating the external front wall which is the backdrop to the newly refurbished War Memorial.

Peter Crown

Worship Committee

Committee Members - Cathy Langdale (Chair), Rev Ian Brown, Polly Richardson (Secretary), Sylvia Morrison Moore, Keith Wood-Smith. Regular attender - Rev Jenny Tebbot

We met just twice in 2020.

The first time was in January to plan ahead for Easter, by which time, sadly, the church had been obliged to close to prevent the spread of Covid19.

The second was in October when with hopes of gradual easing of restrictions, we planned ahead for limited opening in Advent and at Christmas. Realising that the Church would not be able to host a large congregation for a carol service we planned a Travelling Carol service for Sunday 20th December, thanks to the kindness of Simon Swerling who offered his farm trailer. Alas, that too had to be cancelled the day before.

But we were able to host five services of Holy Communion over Christmas, which was a way in which as many parishioners as wished could worship in a safe space.

Now we have met in February and March 2021 to plan ahead for worship provision as lockdown is eased, which coincides with the interregnum beginning in May.

We have thanked Rev Ian for his superb leadership and have agreed provisional plans for the service pattern during the interregnum.

Cathy Langdale

Other Reports

Chalfont St Giles Educational Foundation

The Chalfont St Giles Educational Foundation is a small village charity that has a small annual income. In 2020 it provided grants of £240 to both the Village School and the Parish Church Sunday School. The Foundation can also provide small grants to young people for educational purposes. The Rector chairs the committee.

Church Fabric & Furnishings

Overall, the condition of the fabric in both Church and Reading Room is good, with only relatively minor problems being encountered and no major items outstanding. The normal regular tuning of the organ and the annual inspections of the fire extinguishers and the Served drainage system were carried out. The routine servicing of the organ blower motor was carried out, and asbestos removed from the motor box. A responsive fire alarm was installed and maintained together with the lead roof alarm system. Brasses were re-sited and installed.

The annual boiler service and safety check took place as scheduled. PATs (portable appliance testing) have been carried out on all appliances. LED lights have been installed in the Church. Small cracks on the nave wall are being monitored. Other minor repairs in the Church were carried out as needed.

Minor repairs to the roof of the South Aisle and the Tower as well as repairs to the 'dog kennel' roof next to the Vestry door were carried out. The work included repairing a section of the Church wall opposite the entrance door to the Vestry, and capping the external chimney cap.

The Churchyard was maintained throughout the year by voluntary labour from the Friends, and from a Church group. Pruning of trees was carried out with appropriate official approvals and a programme drawn up for work in 2021. The Plumb Gates were refurbished, and minor work remains to be completed on the lych gate closer. A new flagpole is required, and this will be installed in 2021. New plaques for the War Memorial have been placed by the local Council.

The Log Book of work carried out as well as the Register recording the locations of Burials of Ashes in the churchyard has continued to be maintained.

Colin Smith
Chairman, Fabric Committee

Church Watch

As a result of the Covid Pandemic, Church Watch took on a more extended role in 2020 as Churches, which had been temporarily closed for services from the end of March, became eventually allowed to open for Private Prayer whilst strictly adhering to set guidelines. This was a tall order - if we could get enough volunteers there was always the question of the Covid cleaning and its expense.

But we did it. With an amazing group of volunteers including the Clergy, we managed to open 10am-4pm Tuesday to Sunday daily from 16th June through to 27th September. This was carried out in sessions 10-12am, 12-2pm and 2-4pm with daily cleaning done by our employed cleaner and weekend cleans carried out by volunteers. Even when services were allowed to resume on a limited basis from 4th July, Church Watch continued.

Come October, when Church Watch usually ends for the year, our volunteers were so committed they wanted to carry on, so we went through October with sessions of 10-12am and 2-4pm (including cleaning) and finally finished on 31st October.

I believe in all that time there was ONLY one 2hr. session that was not covered.

This provided a much needed sanctuary, quiet time, private prayer time and sometimes just someone to see (distancing of course) to so many people that it was a remarkable outreach from the Parish Church of Chalfont St Giles, and an amazing success.

My sincere thanks to ALL who made this possible.

Melainé Teahan

Deanery Synod Report of the most recent meeting

Synod met on Zoom on 26 November 2020. Revs Ian, Cassa and Jenny attended the meeting.

Mr Lawrence Tebbott (Lay Chair) was Chairman, welcomed Synod and thanked Mr Dave Kidner in charge of zoom.

Devotions - Synod joined in song with 'There is a Redeemer' played by Lindsey Mackie. Rev Ian led a short devotion.

Mrs Stephanie Summerell advised that details of the recent Diocesan Synod meeting are on the Deanery website.

The Chairman drew attention to the UK Governments' Independent Faith Review to which individuals can submit comments.

Mrs Dziegiel (Hon Treasurer) presented the 2021 Amersham Deanery Parish Share Allocations and how these are calculated. In response to a question as to the likely 2022 share, this could not yet be answered but all treasurers are kept informed. Committed monthly giving has proven resilient in the pandemic.

Synod broke into 11 groups to discuss 'Living Well through the next 6 months' which had been Oxford Diocesan Webinar Discussions on:

- Working with adults coming to faith, and
- Rebuilding ministry with children

Discussion groups' comments included:

- The challenges of working with children during the pandemic
- A feeling of breakdown as churches are not seeing many families
- but some inter-generational worship to encourage young people to feel they belong.

The Chairman welcomed new Clergy and noted we had said goodbye to Rev James Leach (Gerrards Cross) and will be doing so on his retirement in May to Rev Ian Brown (Chalfont St. Giles) and later to the Rev Canon Tim Harper (Co- Area Dean, from Amersham with Coleshill).

Sadly, recent severe storms meant we were unable to contact Steve Poulson working with Street Kids Direct in Honduras, whom we support as one of our Missions. The interesting report in his November 2020 letter is on the Synod website. Subsequent to Synod his safety was confirmed, and he was congratulated on his engagement!

The meeting closed with Grace.

Looking at on-line services, there is an interesting and challenging video on the Synod website by Nick Cuthbert 'Before You Go Back ...' asking 'Why Do We Do What We Do'? Is it because we have always done it that way?

The Deanery Synod meetings take place four times a year with good and interesting speakers, and give insight into the working, planning and aspirations of the Deanery. All are welcome to attend. At present meetings are on Zoom and the link is available if you would like it. The next meeting will have been on Thursday 18 March at 7.30 for 8pm start.

Link <https://www.amershamdeanery.org.uk>

Mary Bentall

Flower Guild

The membership of our Flower Guild numbers 15. On 1st February 2021 we were saddened by the death of Jill Dean. Previously, Jill was for 10 years leader of our Flower Guild. She and Peter have arranged flowers in our Church for many, many years. Jill will be greatly missed.

In the past year the impact of Covid has affected our opportunities to arrange flowers in Church. In 2020 our flowers were placed in the Church when services could be held, and 2 smaller vases were arranged when the Church was open for prayer and visitors only.

In November due to social distancing rules we were unable to hold our annual 2 workshops for the making of Christmas Wreath Rings. In the past these have been a welcome source of income for our Flower Guild funds and a welcome outreach to the village.

All weddings were cancelled for 2020 except for one lovely couple who were prepared to accept the restriction of 7 people only for their service.

In the last 6 months an unusually large number of funerals (not for Covid reasons) have been taken by our clergy. We have arranged flowers for the services at the bereaved families' requests and hope that we have brought comfort at sad times.

We look forward to unrestricted access to our Church later in 2021.

Mavis Roberts - Flower Guild Leader

Lent Lunches



We were unable to run Lent lunches in either 2020 or 2021 through Covid restrictions. Planning for the 2020 group of lunches for six Fridays was at an advanced stage when we had to abandon it. Usually some thirty volunteers make and donate a total of thirty batches of soups, and/or help in setting up, serving, clearing up, washing up or delivering soups to some thirty shops and

businesses in the village. In 2019 the Co-op supported us by donating ninety-five loaves and 15 litres of milk over the six weeks, and we were grateful to all those who supported this Lent charity event, whether by taking lunch in the Reading Room or in their shops and offices; and their generous donations.

The charities we hoped to support are RAPE Crisis (covering High Wycombe, Chiltern and South Bucks districts), the Ensor missionary work in the Far East sharing 80% and the remaining 20% to the Church for its pastoral work in the local community.

Kevin Searle

Rendezvous

In previous years Rendezvous has provided a welcoming café-style space in the Reading Room every Thursday reaching out to many villagers, with bacon and cheese sandwiches, home-made cakes, tea and coffee always available. We look forward to being able to resume when the current pandemic allows.

Frances Hawkins

Stewardship Recorder's Report for 2020

2020 began enthusiastically with a planned Stewardship Drive, 'Living Generously', taking place during early spring. This was curtailed by the outbreak of the pandemic and never really completed. It did, however, generate over £5,000 in one-off donations (plus Gift Aid), two newly set up standing orders of monthly giving, an increase in existing standing orders of over £3,600 per year, and one promise of a legacy.

We currently have 67 members giving donations by Standing Orders which is one less than last year and this has generated a total of £53,497 (plus Gift Aid) in the last twelve months.

Obviously with the Church being closed for long periods, contributions in the collection plate and through the envelope scheme have been greatly reduced as well as there being no donations from the likes of Lent Lunches and Pancake Café. But during the year over £4,000 has been donated in smaller cash sums and the contactless plate has contributed a further £2,000 to our income, enabling us to claim under the small donations scheme (GADS). There have also been some very generous one-off donations from some of our membership.

As a result, the total eligible for Gift Aid and GADS for 2020 was £71,863.60 resulting in payments from HMRC over the year of £17,965.90.

This compares with:

- 2015 £16,721
- 2016 £19,705
- 2017 £19,906
- 2018 £20,721
- 2019 £19,190

I hope that in 2021, with a return to a more normal routine, the above figures will recover, and I encourage everyone to keep supporting the needs of the Church by donating as generously as possible.

Chris Neville - Stewardship Secretary

Treasurer's Financial Report for 2020

The year started well with the launch of the 2021 Stewardship Campaign but, very soon, the financial position of the Church was overtaken by the impact of restrictions associated with managing the Covid pandemic, the consequent cancellation of many of our outreach activities and, most particularly, the closure of the Church to normal worship for the great majority of the year.

The matter of greatest concern was the extent to which these constraints would damage our inflow of regular offerings and donations, which might have led to our running out of liquid funds.

However, I offer a huge 'thank you' to our regular Standing Order donors, who in the most part have maintained their regular support; and also pass on our gratitude as well to those who normally make their donations at our services, but who have sent in cheques to maintain their giving. In addition, you will note that we received generous additional donations as part of the Stewardship Campaign, cut short as a side effect of Covid restrictions, and also a number of legacy bequests and considerable support from the Friends of grants towards a number of fabric and equipment maintenance needs. Details of all of these items can be found in the body of the accounts

As a consequence, although the level of donations has dropped overall, we have been able to keep afloat.

Additional thanks are due to Chris Neville who has maintained our submissions for HMRC Gift Aid rebate and Mike Saunders who has continued to take cheques and cash to the Bank during lockdowns and in all weathers. I am personally hugely grateful to both for their faithful support. Sadly Sophie Bowles, who has been our Assistant Treasurer, suffered considerable health issues and has had to resign from that position. Again, we are hugely grateful for her support and work over a number of years.

During the year, we started our 'Financial Review Committee' with the prime purpose of ensuring we keep an eye on the longer-term implications of managing our money: everything from 'Cash Flow' to 'Ethical Investment'. Again, my thanks to John Southworth, James White, Chris Neville and, latterly, Rev Paul Henderson for being willing to give their time and expertise to the consideration of these important issues.

Turning to the accounts themselves, let me point out the highlights, which you will find in the 'Notes'.

Income:

- Offerings (at Sunday services) dropped significantly but were compensated to some extent by increases in donations (made at times separate from services). Irreplaceable were the losses of our major services (Easter, Christmas and Remembrance) which attract larger than average congregations
- Bequests of £15,000
- Grants from Friends, given for specific project purposes – and therefore recorded as 'restricted'
- Significant reductions in receipts from 'Fundraising' (events and Reading Room lettings)

All of which left a net effect on total income of only £2,000 less than in 2019 - a remarkable result in the circumstances.

Items worthy of noting amongst our expenses:

- An accounting error in 2019 resulted in all insurance for the Reading Room being charged to the Church for 4 months. But add together insurance for both Church and Reading Room for both 2019 and 2020 and you'll see that actually total insurance is just 1.7% more than in 2019 as the result of a new contract with Ecclesiastical, the Church's insurers
- Large increase in maintenance costs, offset by support from grants from the Friends
- Significant reduction in Administration costs, brought about by:
 - an undesirable reduction in travel costs forced on us by lockdowns following a considerable reduction in the visiting of parishioners, partially offset by an increase in phone calls
 - Significant reduction in printing and copying costs brought about by a renegotiated contract

So overall, our costs were reduced by over £12,000

And our net position was that we had to dip into our reserves by about £9,000: we had anticipated having a £28,000 loss for the year but, in the event, our costs were significantly reduced as we could not take on the Families Worker, whose costs had been anticipated

BUT that is also offset by the fact that the market value of our investments was around £5,000 higher than at the end of the previous year

For the future:

- This has been one of the most difficult years on which to base an estimate, since so much depends on the National situation with regard to the Covid pandemic. We've worked on the assumption that we shall not get back to a full range of Church activities until the end of July 2021.
- However, we still take the view that our longer-term future, depends hugely on our work amongst families and it is still our aim to recruit a Families Worker.
- And we have to take account of additional costs associated with managing the Interregnum, bearing in mind that the Parish Share costs associated with having a full time Rector are not reduced during the Interregnum
- We are assured that we shall be receiving during the year a very generous bequest of £37,000 from the estate of the late Barbara Betts. We thank God for the fact that former parishioners wish to leave us with significant support.

Putting that all together we anticipate that we shall end up with a deficit at the end of 2021 of around £8,000. BUT do remember that without Barbara Betts' legacy, it would be closer to a deficit of £40,000 – and, in the longer run, relying on 'one-off' bequests to support our operating costs is not a wise or sustainable situation.

It is my belief that we should be aiming to use bequests to improve the infrastructure and facilities of our Church, in a way that leads to lasting benefit for future generations. The gap between regular income and operating expense is still a major challenge to the membership and requires some fundamental debate about finding a resolution.

Mike Baldwin
February 2021

Rector's Review of the Year 2020 (including the first quarter of 2021)

Last year this report referenced the Brexit debate as the backdrop to our Church and national life. The Brexit settlement came into being at the start of 2021. In the end it arrived with barely a murmur, so thoroughly have our lives been changed by the Covid crisis over the past year. It was 23rd March 2020 when our lives changed, and the unprecedented lockdowns began. Church life was cancelled in the sense that our regular and settled pattern of Church worship, pastoral contacts, social events and all normal routine abruptly ended.

The Church quickly developed alternative means to reach the faithful locally and nationally through online worship; live-streamed services on YouTube and Facebook became regular features. The Diocese of Oxford produced a weekly worship event chaired by the Bishops and others featuring a wide variety of worship with participants from across the diocese. These we accessed on the Church website which rapidly became the focus for our own weekly audio recorded services thanks to the skill and expertise of Peter Heaps, former professional sound engineer, and Sylvia Valentine our Administrator and web master. 'Zoom' came along and entered all our daily lives as the means for sharing in Morning Worship, PCC meetings and for all meetings when actual face to face contact was not possible.

I want to pay tribute to all who have worked so hard to adapt to the new realities over these past months. To Sylvia in the Church Office who has had to adapt to mainly working from home and holding things together on the web site and through the electronic pew sheet weekly news. Sylvia has coped with many other issues, not least seeing the usual boundaries which work in the physical space which the office affords, become so blurred. This virtual world of work no longer affords any real boundaries at all. My ministerial colleagues across the benefice, Cassa, Jenny and Paul have all stepped forward to learn new virtual skills as well as adopting older practices, like phone calls to those without the facility of an internet connection. We have all had to react to changing circumstances as gradually freedoms were curtailed and new ways of being Church were discovered. Our morning prayer meetings on zoom started in March 2020. Those morning prayer times are still in operation at the time of writing and have drawn many more people to prayer than had been the case when prayers were said in Church with just two or three of us alone, now including Church members Gill Walmsley in Australia, Shirley Woodall in Cheshire and Joyce Norton in Northampton!

We have needed to shut down the Church at times. At other times, the Church watch team have performed heroically to enable parishioners to come into the Church and gain a little peace and quiet from the coronavirus raging all around. The Churchwardens, deputy warden Melainé Teahan, and team of volunteers have had to learn the new ways of welcoming people wearing masks and sitting silently apart in Church for funerals and services of worship. We held a very few weddings during this time including one for just six persons in total present! Cathy Langdale has adapted to the new musical realities, with husband Peter in support together with our excellent team of organists led by Chris Weaver and with the Rutter twins as well. All of these, with our smaller than usual choir, have worked miracles enabling musical worship to continue to this present time.

The Pastoral Care Team have been to parishioners a source of loving care in any number of ways, ranging from the distribution of 190 postcards with short messages of encouragement, to endless phone calls and practical caring actions. New pastoral carers have appeared to take charge of small groups of parishioners who have little access to on-line technology and thus keeping them in touch with Church life. Margaret and Bill Dykes have developed their Tradecraft work to channel over £30,000 (to date) worth of goods paid for by parishioners to support the Chiltern Food Bank. A wonderful and generous response to need, but also a terrible sign of the reduced financial times we are living through.

Many features of Church life have changed and adapted in the Covid crisis. Our mission to the parish entitled 'Coming Home' to be led by Roger Simpson in June was cancelled. Instead, our contact with the Oxford Centre for Christian Apologetics enabled us to use their resource to hold a series of talks and discussions on zoom. The Diocese of Oxford has tracked the many new and occasional participants in on-line worship over the past year and offers a course entitled 'Come and See' which began in spring 2021 and in which we are taking part. Our Church business has been interrupted by the world pandemic. Our AGM could not be held in person but was postponed and held on zoom in the autumn. Hannah Tew laid down her work early as Churchwarden since the covid crisis forced her to spend her time in home schooling her children and in searching for paid employment. We thank Hannah most warmly for her work among us wishing her and her family well in these hard times. And we welcomed Rachel Leonard stepping forward as our incoming warden in Hannah's place. Sophie Bowles, our Assistant

Treasurer, contracted cancer over the past year and has undergone treatment which has severely disrupted her life. Sophie has had to lay down her role and we do thank her most sincerely and wish her a successful return to full health.

Mike Baldwin has carried the dual roles of Treasurer and Assistant Treasure and has been hugely challenged by the extra workload. Mike is always resourceful and hardworking, and we thank Mike for his great faithfulness, skill and boundless energy in keeping our finances on course in the difficult financial circumstances which are reported elsewhere in this report. The Baldwin household has been front and central in keeping our Church afloat this past year. Eileen as a Churchwarden has been tireless in her role and we thank her for her kind and caring leadership. Eileen has brought many people together and has been the kind and effective glue binding many church members and projects together during the three years of her wardenship. Both Eileen and Mike have signalled their need to step back from their roles this spring and we thank them both for the loads which they have carried for us all. The Standing Committee of the PCC led by John Southworth and under the eagle eye of Richard Bolton, its Secretary, has been vital in taking forward Church business and helping us to adapt to the changing times. John is a hard-working and diligent chair of the PCC. Richard has a remarkable command of the detail across the whole range of church business and I thank them both for the incredible job they have undertaken for the church at its business end. And particular thanks to Richard who has put all of this Annual Report together! A Benefice Vacancy Committee has been set up under John's chair as preparations are made for the Vacancy when I leave in early May.

I pay tribute to Rev Cassa Messervy who has been my most able full-time colleague in Seer Green and Jordans. The new reality in the Benefice to come is that as Cassa and I both leave in short order, Cassa to take up new ministry in the Wychert Vale Benefice in Haddenham, and myself into retirement, this will have a significant impact upon the Churches. Since Cassa has been such an effective minister in the villages, my attention has been almost entirely focused upon Chalfont St Giles. My successor as Rector will necessarily have to share the time more fully across the three villages of the Benefice and its two Churches. Holy Trinity Church will receive a new minister in time (after the appointment of the Rector here) but that minister will most likely be House for Duty once again (as it was back in 2014 before Cassa's arrival) working just three days a week in return for free housing in the vicarage.

Rev Angela Thompson has been a vital part of our church since she came as one of the first women to enter ordained ministry in the Church of England. She has served in the Parish as curate in training and as Self Supporting Minister, caring for the needs of many in times of joy and in sorrow. Angela brought her particular gifts and emphasis in the ministry of prayer for healing to our church. The evening service of Holy Communion with prayers for healing will return after the covid crisis and bring strength and wholeness to many. This is in part a testimony to Angela for which we are all deeply grateful. Since husband Robin has been unwell, Angela has drawn back from active involvement in church life. As time has passed, she has relinquished her valuable work as local hospital chaplain to care for Robin full time. Angela no longer holds Permission to Officiate (PTO) and so the time to say goodbye to Angela in a formal capacity has arrived. Angela will still be available to support members of the Pastoral Care Team as and when. Her great pastoral wisdom and counsel will always be so much in demand. We thank Angela for her presence with us; for her prayers, her inspiration and we wish her and Robin well in their life together.

I warmly thank Revs Jenny Tebboth and Paul Henderson for their tireless hard work and inspiration. Jenny and Paul both arrived as callow Curates in training some years back. Look at them now and give thanks to God for the gift which they are to the Benefice! I could not have enjoyed my time with you all half so much without these two. They are a joy and a great asset. Look after them kindly and well throughout their time of Ministry to come.

We have lost many loved members of our Church and community to death this past year. It has been so hard for their families having to say goodbye to loved ones with extremely limited numbers of people able to be present ranging from 6 to 30 as at present. As I write this, in the past year of the Covid crisis from among our Church members we have commended into God's hands, Rosemary Hogg, Gordon Rivett, Gordon Bull, Myles Hawkins, Joan Tunstall, Judith Wright, Ann Auket, Ella Tyrell, Alun Roberts, Mike Greenaway, David Worley, Jill Dean, Peter Parkin, Ken Lees and a past Church member Ian Anderson. It has been my sad but privileged duty to take part in several of their funeral services.

In common with my able colleagues Jenny and Paul we have welcomed into the Ministerial Team Peter Miles and Garry Walton. Garry and Peter have received the Bishop of Buckingham's 'Authorisation to Preach' in the Benefice. The opportunities for their preachments have been rather limited to date but we know that in the Vacancy they will be a great resource for the Church and support to Jenny and Paul, as well as to Linda West and Janna Holder in Seer Green.

It has indeed been my privilege to share with you as Rector for these past seven years. I could not have wanted for a better Church community in which to see out the last of my almost 40 years in Ministry. Thank you all for making Julie and I so welcome among you. Thank you for supporting us so fully and so well throughout our time here with

you. It is the greatest joy to be able to share the good news of the Gospel of Christ here in this place. Pray for your ministers; support them as best you can. Consider too if God is calling you (yes you!) to Ministry in the Church today. These are challenging but exciting times and I pray that God will raise up more willing workers to serve the work for the growth of the Kingdom of God here in this place.

Ian Brown

OUR MISSION ACTION PLAN Pre and Post Covid

- On Saturday 9 February 2020, the PCC went away (to the village Infant School) to consider where we are now with our mission action planning
- We used a method called 'Appreciative Inquiry' recommended to us through work carried out by and across the Diocese of Oxford
- Appreciative Inquiry proceeds in four stages:
 - Discovery
 - Dream
 - Design
 - Delivery
- **Discovery:** Appreciative Inquiry is an approach to the Church which asks questions of appreciation such as: What do we value about this Church? Where does the Church do well? What are our stories around our experience of Church from which we can learn?
- **Dream:** We looked at two biblical stories from the gospel of Luke to help us forward: the calling of the first disciples (chapter 5 verses 1-7) and the parables of the mustard seed and yeast (chapter 13 verses 18-21)
- **Design:** We began to talk together about a 'statement of intention' arising out of the stories and dreams we shared, and some lines of interest emerged: going out into the community, making our worship more accessible to all, being more culturally relevant more inviting and welcoming with better use of our facilities of the Church building and churchyard and then to better nurture spiritual growth
- **Delivery:** putting the theory into practice...

And then along came Coronavirus!

Perhaps all of this terrible time of Covid will have one positive outcome here; we may well need to include a greater number of people and a wider range of stories about the Church than we imagined back in February 2020. Furthermore, the Rector's retirement in May 2021 forces us to think afresh into and beyond the Vacancy. And this may be and become a particularly good thing for our ongoing Mission Action Planning.

At its meeting on 17 March 2021 the PCC approved the proposed Mission Action Plan for the Vacancy. This will guide our Church life for the time being until the appointment of our next Rector and another stage in our Church life unfolds.

Ian Brown
March 2021

- o - O - o -

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the Parochial Church Council ("PCC") of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chalfont St Giles for the year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise the summary of receipts and payments and the statement of assets and liabilities..

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the 2011 Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 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 a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
- have not been met; or
- b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



John David Lee BA FCA
Lee Accounting Services 2018 Limited
Trading as Lee & Co
Chartered Accountants
26 High Street
Rickmansworth
Hertfordshire WD3 1ER

Date: 17/5/21

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES
REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1129372

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY IN THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted and Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Expendable & Endowment Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Voluntary Receipts	4	95,308	593	-	95,901	105,840
Receipts from Fundraising	5	8,781	-	-	8,781	17,604
Receipts from Reading Room	6	1,525	-	-	1,525	4,904
Receipts from Church Activities	7	770	-	-	770	2,588
Other Receipts	8	973	8,756	177	9,906	2,114
Total Receipts		107,357	9,349	177	116,883	133,050
PAYMENTS						
Voluntary Income Costs	9	3,575	-	-	3,575	4,600
Fundraising Costs	10	4,573	146	-	4,719	8,312
Reading Room Expenses	11	2,609	35	-	2,644	3,689
Church Activities Costs	12	104,731	9,751	-	114,482	112,687
Management and Administration	13	14,311	80	-	14,391	20,140
Other Costs	14	310	70	-	380	2,705
Total operating costs		130,109	10,082	-	140,191	152,133
Transfer between funds		5,850	(251)	(5,599)	-	-
Total Payments		135,959	9,831	(5,599)	140,191	152,133
Surplus of receipts over payments		(28,602)	(482)	5,776	(23,308)	(19,083)
Major non-recurring items:						
Bequest received		15,000	-	-	15,000	-
Gain(loss) on market investments		-	-	3,443	3,443	21,195
Net movement of funds		(13,602)	(482)	9,219	(4,865)	2,112
Balance brought forward		115,286	11,578	184,790	311,654	309,542
Funds this year end carried forward		101,684	11,096	194,009	306,789	311,654

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES
REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1129372

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restrict ed Funds	Expendable & Endowment Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
FIXED ASSETS						
Investments at valuation	-	-	-	194,009	194,009	190,566
CURRENT ASSETS						
Cash at bank and in hand	27,973	20,000	544	-	48,517	26,758
Cash on deposit with Central Board of Finance	6,611	11,967	7	-	18,585	18,505
Shawbrook Bank	677	34,456	10,545	-	45,678	75,825
Net current assets	35,261	66,423	11,096	-	112,780	121,088
TOTAL NET ASSETS	35,261	66,423	11,096	194,009	306,789	311,654
CAPITAL FUNDS						
Permanent Endowment Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
INCOME FUNDS						
Endowment Funds	-	-	-	194,009	194,009	184,790
Restricted Funds	-	-	11,096	-	11,096	11,578
Designated Funds	-	66,423	-	-	66,423	81,613
Unrestricted Funds	35,261	-	-	-	35,261	33,673
	35,261	66,423	11,096	194,009	306,789	311,654
TOTAL FUNDS	35,261	66,423	11,096	194,009	306,789	311,654

The financial statements were approved by the committee of members on
Treasurer to sign them on their behalf:

who authorised the Honorary

Signed:

Mike Baldwin
Honorary Treasurer

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and Recommended Practice "Accounting and reporting by charities" (revised 2005).

The accounts are drawn up on the basis of "Receipts and Payments" (rather than "prepayments and accrual" accounting) as permitted by the Charity Commission for charities with a turnover of less than £250k a year. They are also drawn up under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investment assets at market value.

Incoming resources

Offerings and donations received for the general purposes of the charity are included as Unrestricted Funds. The relevant Gift Aid is shown separately. Donations whose application is restricted by the wishes of the donor are taken to Restricted Funds. Incoming resources are all accounted for gross and planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due.

Investment income, dividends, interest and tax recoverable are accounted for when receivable. All other income is generally recognised when it is receivable.

An Endowment fund was received in March 2020. The amount and infrequent nature of the bequest was wholly exceptional and the receipt was separately disclosed as a "Major non-recurring item" in the 2020 Statement of Financial Activity.

Resources expended

The church has followed the practice of writing off 100 per cent of the cost of any additions or modifications to the consecrated land and buildings and contents of the church.

Parish Share is paid regularly and is included in expenditure for the year in which it is paid.

Unrestricted fund grants (including donations to missions) are recognised when determined by the PCC. Amounts received specifically for missions are dealt with as restricted funds and the liability for payment is recognised when the amounts are received.

All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred.

Expenditure incurred refurbishing the Vestry and installing a new sound system has been separately disclosed in the Statement of Financial Activity as a "Major non-recurring item" because of its value and the infrequent nature of such expenditure.

Assets and Liabilities

The following assets are recognised but not attributed a value in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

*Moveable church furnishings held by the church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal;

*Land and buildings and improvements thereto, held on behalf of the PCC;

*Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment where the PCC is free to dispose of such assets without faculty and where the original cost exceeded £1,000.

The following assets are recognised and a monetary value given as part of the description in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

*Closing bank balances

*Closing revalued balances on investments

The following liabilities are recognised in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities

*Any loans or overdrafts advanced to the PCC;

*Any arrears of Diocesan Parish Share

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020, continued

Taxation

The parochial church council is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted Funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees. Designated funds are Unrestricted Funds as they are not restricted by the donor and are available for any specified purpose endorsed by the PCC.

Restricted Funds are those donations and covenants where the donor has stipulated that the monies should be used for particular purposes. Any Restricted Funds received have been or will be disbursed for the purposes intended by the donor. All donations to the Fabric Fund for example are used to finance property repairs.

Endowment Funds are those where the donor has donated a capital sum, making the dividend or interest from the fund to be used as stipulated.

APB Ethical Standard - Provisions Available for Small Entities

In common with many other organisations of our size and nature we use our independent examiner to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

2. RESERVES POLICY

During the year the following policy was adopted by the Parochial Church Council;

- a) The church will seek to achieve an annual operating profit (income in excess of expenditure) equal in value to approximately three months of normal operating expenditure. This amount would currently be some £35,000).
- b) To ensure the ability to maintain the fabric of the church and other property, reserves will be retained that are at least equal to costs that might reasonably be incurred during one ten-year cycle of repair.

This amount has been estimated by the Fabric Committee to be some £250,000.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020, continued

	Unrestricted and Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Expendable & Endowment Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
4 VOLUNTARY RECEIPTS					
Offerings	8,975	-	-	8,975	18,814
Donations (inc Gift Days)	68,801	593	-	69,394	60,955
HMRC Gift Aid Rebate	17,532	-	-	17,532	19,910
Grants, Bequests, Legacies	-	-	-	-	6,161
	95,308	593	-	95,901	105,840
5 RECEIPTS FROM FUNDRAISING					
Wedding and Funeral Fees	7,040	-	-	7,040	9,758
Fund Raising Events	1,328	-	-	1,328	5,971
Magazine Income	413	-	-	413	1,875
	8,781	-	-	8,781	17,604
6 RECEIPTS FROM READING ROOM					
Reading Room Income	1,525	-	-	1,525	4,904
	1,525	-	-	1,525	4,904
7 RECEIPTS FROM CHURCH ACTIVITIES					
Social Outreach	681	-	-	681	2,320
Children Youth & Messy Church	89	-	-	89	268
	770	-	-	770	2,588
8 OTHER RECEIPTS					
Miscellaneous	242	-	-	242	1,128
Donations for Charities	-	-	-	-	339
Interest and Dividends	701	55	177	933	407
Provision of Service	30	-	-	30	-
Grants received	-	8,701	-	8,701	240
	973	8,756	177	9,906	2,114
Total receipts	107,357	9,349	177	116,883	133,050

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHALFONT ST GILES
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020, continued

	Unrestricted and Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Fund (Shares)	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
9 COSTS OF GENERATING VOLUNTARY INCOME					
Grants given (including tithes)	3,575	-	-	3,575	4,600
10 FUNDRAISING COSTS					
Fundraising Event Expenses	296	146	-	442	2,642
Wedding & Funeral Fees to ODBF	4,206	-	-	4,206	4,979
Magazine & Publicity	71	-	-	71	691
	4,573	146	-	4,719	8,312
11 READING ROOM EXPENSES					
Light and Heat	757	35	-	792	1,354
Insurance	1,119	-	-	1,119	707
Operating Costs	409	-	-	409	1,075
Repairs and Improvements	324	-	-	324	553
	2,609	35	-	2,644	3,689
12 CHURCH ACTIVITIES COSTS					
Parish Share	79,856	-	-	79,856	79,514
Heating and Lighting	2,933	-	-	2,933	5,112
Church and Churchyard Maintenance	8,296	4,314	-	12,610	5,610
Insurance	4,124	-	-	4,124	4,447
Organist, Music & Instruments	5,794	4,767	-	10,561	6,046
Other Operating Expenses	3,514	-	-	3,514	3,092
Social Outreach	109	-	-	109	615
Children, Youth & Messy Church	105	670	-	775	8,251
	104,731	9,751	-	114,482	112,687
13 MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION					
Travel, Hospitality, Visiting Clergy	1,189	80	-	1,269	3,321
Telephone and Internet	1,359	-	-	1,359	1,002
Office Admin Staff	8,242	-	-	8,242	8,190
Printing and Stationery	2,479	-	-	2,479	5,754
Office Other Costs	98	-	-	98	673
Audit & Accountancy	944	-	-	944	756
PCC & Deanery Expenses	-	-	-	-	444
	14,311	80	-	14,391	20,140
14 OTHER COSTS					
Donations to Charities	310	70	-	380	2,705
	310	70	-	380	2,705
Total operating costs	130,109	10,082	-	140,191	152,133