

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. ALKMUND'S, WHITCHURCH. SHROPSHIRE.

England & Wales · Charity number 1129900

Details

Other names	ST ALKMUND'S PCC, WHITCHURCH, SHROPSHIRE
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2009-06-01
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

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Activities

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

Activities: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch, Shropshire supports the Church in providing a service to parishioners - to deliver a pastoral care and concern for all parishioners near and far; to provide a place of worship (prayerful and other) and to nurture souls to suit everyone's individual and diverse needs.

Classification

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

Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£181,861	£160,866	-	-
2023-12-31	£176,689	£365,632	-	-
2022-12-31	£166,353	£161,720	-	-
2021-12-31	£144,718	£161,474	-	-
2020-12-31	£269,616	£381,363	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Chris Precious	Chair	2024-03-10
ELAINE BUCKNELL		
Hilda Francis-Roberts		2021-05-02
JOHN CASTLEDINE		2014-04-06
JOHN WALTER STOKES		
Jane Rylands		2016-04-17
Linda Martin		2022-04-24
Lynne Bowden		2024-05-19
PAULINE STOKES		2013-02-18
Rev Philippa Alice White		2024-03-10
Sarah Radford		2024-05-19
Sheila Chase		2016-04-17

Accounts

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council of St Alkmund's Church

For the year ended 31st December 2024

Charity registration number: 1129900

The Parochial Church Council of St Alkmund's Church Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2024

Charity registration number: 1129900

Objectives and Activities

The trustees of the PCC are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit and have had regard to it in their administration of the Charity. The trustees believe that, by promoting the work of the Church of England in the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch, it helps to promote the whole mission of the Church (pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical) more effectively, within the Ecclesiastical Parish, and that in doing so it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers; and
- Promoting Christian values and service by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

Achievements and Performance

- See elsewhere for all the mid-week activities and the ways in which the St Alkmund's community fulfils its remit for worship, pastoral care, outreach, community service and civic involvement.
- There are usually two services each Sunday, with the addition of an 8am service on the first Sunday of each month.
- All who live in the town have a right to the occasional offices. In 2024 there were 7 weddings and 20 baptisms. There were 32 funerals in church followed by burial or cremation (and 10 cremations only).

Financial Review Melanie Williams - Treasurer

The arrival of Rev Chris Precious as the new Rector of St Alkmund's Church, along with his trainee curate Rev Pippa White in March was welcomed. The IDS fund was helpful in decoration costs of the Rectory (£3,200) and utility bills revealed a slight overcharge that was eventually resolved. At the APCM, I gave notice that I wished to resign from post and at the time of writing we are in the process of recruiting someone. This will be a paid position as there has not been any interest from volunteers. With this in mind, I have tried to promote Giving Direct – the most efficient system (for the Treasurer) for regular giving, administered on our behalf by Lichfield Diocese Board of Finance who claim Gift Aid on a monthly basis. There has been an increase in the number of donors from 8 in August to 17 in December. I would like to extend my thanks to all who have made the move to this method or have been prompted to start giving regularly in this way. The most significant single expenditure item was the CCTV system upgrade which was completed at a cost of £5,410. James Kellas, our Music Director, started Fridays@One organ & piano recitals in December 2023 and they continue to entertain audiences outside our traditional congregation. Income from donations from these is £2,201, expenditure £788 and a brought forward balance (transfer of income from James Kellas' first recital in December 2023) means these have generated so far a closing balance of £1,516. A generous legacy of £20,000 from a devoted parishioner was much appreciated. Total surplus for the year was £20,996, of which £2,187 was unrestricted.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance in the bank accounts of at least three months' unrestricted payments plus £10,000 for Restricted General expenditure. The purpose of the policy is to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. Total unrestricted expenditure was £145,013 in 2024, so 3 months equates to £36,253 (2023: £36,989), plus £10,000 is £46,253. The balance in the bank accounts at the year-end was £76,309 (2023: £55,762) which covers the required contingency.

Safeguarding

The PCC believe they have fulfilled their 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).

Review of the Year

Church Wardens Reports - John Stokes & Sheila Chase

A very busy year following some minor works regarding reordering in hand with architects. Grand Piano loaned to us by Whitchurch Stown Council due to civic Centre being closed. New photocopier installed (on lease).

Outstanding

Some minor items and the accessible toilet, a faculty sent in to put in rear porch instead of the vestry. Some tarmac work to entrance – work in hand. Some work to front pillars etc – work in hand.

AOB

- * PAT testing carried out on all electrical appliances.
- * All fire extinguishers serviced and renewed where necessary.
- * Roof alarm serviced.
- * Security alarm serviced.
- * Fire alarm serviced.
- * Gutters maintenance carried out by Mr Simon Dudleston.
- * The church organ and piano underwent its regular tuning and servicing during the year.
- * Old graveyard - grass cut and strimmed.
- * Memorial Gardens - strimmed and maintained
- * Rectory Garden - lawns mowed by SP mowing.
- * All graves underwent the annual safety check.
- * Various signs under Health and Safety erected where appropriate around the church and grounds.
- * Bridgewater streets properties - The management of these two apartments is carried out by Barbers Estate Agents.
- * Fire alarms tested weekly by John Stokes and Alison Dunne.
- * Repairs to the boiler and serviced.

Safeguarding - Meriel Edge

The PCC has complied with the duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to the House of Bishop's guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). Safeguarding is of immense importance in St Alkmund's Church. It features as an agenda item at every PCC meeting. In the past. Safeguarding policy and procedures are reviewed annually at the January meeting. Moving forward, periodic reviews will also take place during the year. Photographs and contact details of Mrs Meriel Edge, Incumbent Reverend Chris Precious and Curate Miss Pippa White are displayed in the Church porch should anyone wish to make contact.

The following groups/people undergo training and adhere to the safeguarding policy – Incumbent, Churchwardens and Deputy Churchwardens, Time Together leaders and team, Bell Ringers, Baptism welcomers, Bible Study, Choir leaders, Homes Communion Teams, Residential Homes team, Junior Church, Prayers for Healing, Bubble Church leaders, Pastoral visitors and Transport. DBS documentation is continually reviewed, and persons are contacted who need to update/refresh their DBS or Safeguarding training. Alison Dunne and Meriel Edge have supported people in achieving this. The required number of people have completed their leadership safeguarding training which involves two meetings and additional written work. Safeguarding is at the centre of our faith, in our practice, in our worship, in our praying, and in our believing. In other words, safeguarding is an integral to the very DNA of the Church rather than an appendage, with good safeguarding behaviours flowing naturally and intuitively. Theology, by which we simply mean clear thinking about God and the faith we share, has been interwoven into all our learning and the development pathways. As IICSA identified, this requires a significant shift in the Church's culture as a whole system approach. Safeguarding support everyone in developing and maintaining the necessary values, beliefs, knowledge, and skills to safeguard and protect children, young people, and vulnerable adults as outlined in the 'Promoting a Safer Church' House of Bishops policy statement (2017). Copies of this Safeguarding Learning and Development Framework 2021-2024 are available on request. Safeguarding meetings take place as and when required. The Churchwardens and Safeguarding Officer discuss relevant matters as and when needed. Considerations take place and solutions are reached. Rest assured, the Safeguarding team take their roles very seriously and act to the very best of their ability to keep the church and everyone in it as safe as possible.

Electoral Roll - Paul Williamson

At the 2024 APCM 146 names were on the list and 12 of those lived outside the Parish. My thanks to Alison for her support.

PCC Secretary – Elaine Bucknell

At the beginning of 2024 it was busy with meetings involving the building Contractors and the Architect, in relation to outstanding issues with the re-ordering work. Rev Chris Precious joined us on 10th March and took over that responsibility (much to my relief) and is continuing the battle to get approval for the Accessible Toilet. The Annual Parish Meetings were delayed due to problems getting the year end accounts approved, eventually taking place on 19th May. At this meeting four of the five Deputy Churchwardens resigned, David Fisher, Pauline Green, John Castledine and Tom Rylands, with only one remaining on the PCC. Steve White unfortunately had to resign from the PCC later in the year due to health issues. On a positive note, three new members have joined, Sarah Radford, Irene Daldry and Lynne Bowden, bringing us back to a total of 16. At a later meeting the role of Deputy Warden was changed to Worship Assistant, but the duties remain the same. Two members of the congregation are being trained to join Paul and myself in fulfilling this role. The problem of people using the Church Car Park on non-church business is on-going with several persistent offenders. We continue to be represented in Churches Together, Christian Aid, Friends of St Alkmund's, Time Together, Whitchurch Fairtrade Group, Whitchurch Relief in Need and the Higginson's Charities.

Bargates Hall - Sheila Chase

Bargates Hall continues to flourish with new bookings, though we are very sad to lose the Guides and Brownies, due to having no helpers to run the activities. A few of the bookings came due to the

closure of the Civic Centre, though others that are with us, enjoy the atmosphere that the Hall affords them. Maintenance is an ongoing issue, that is dealt with as and when required, by Simon Dudleston and his team, always a pleasant gentleman and easy to work with. We have had to replace the rear door out to the playground as that had become rotten along the bottom and water was constantly coming into the hallway.

All electrical appliances are PAT tested, and if found up to be faulty they are replaced.

Alarm system is tested weekly, by John and myself, any issues are reported to ADT who respond quickly, annual services are booked in for April of each year.

All safety certificates are in place on the notice boards in the hall way and the rooms, ie , Fire Safety Certificates, Insurance Certificates, and Assembly points in the event of a fire.

My contact details are also available for anyone to contact me if they encounter any problems.

Churches Together in Whitchurch – Celia Churchill

Our 2024 Churches Together events started in January with a Christian Unity service hosted by St Georges. With the start of Lent in February there were shared Lent lunches each week with donations for Christian Aid. There was also a Christian Film “Undaunted” shown using St John Talbot School projection facilities and open to all in the community. The Maundy Thursday Service was led by the Beacon Church and a Walk of Christian Witness took place on Good Friday led by St Johns. The Christian Aid Service in May was hosted by St Johns church using the materials made available by Christian Aid nationally. Pre -election hustings in June were held in St Johns and hosted by Churches Together and chaired by Rev Chris Precious. The AGM took place in July followed by speakers Dr Isabel Carter and Moira Matthews from South Shropshire who gave a challenging talk entitled “What does climate change mean for Christians and what can we do about it?” Beacon church hosted this event.

As part of the Blackberry Fair Churches Together were invited to contribute to the Theme of “Unity through love Peace and Hope” and a range of lovely activities on this theme took place in all four churches. There was a Churches Together coffee morning in October in the Market Hall providing a small fund to cover the cost of the hire of a Lent film

Remembrance Day included remembrance at the Cenotaph and a special Civic Service at St Alkmund's with a good turnout of uniformed groups for this significant occasion. A further collaboration took place with Churches Together and the organisers of the Blackberry Fair and there was a “High Street Advent Calendar Event” with the churches depicting the biblical meaning of Christmas. A quiet reflective Advent Churches together service was hosted by St Georges as an antidote to the busyness of domestic Christmas preparation A Churches Together Christmas card was designed, printed and should have been distributed to all residential addresses in Whitchurch. Unfortunately, the distribution by the Royal Mail was incomplete and Churches Together offer apologies for this. Important activities in the town continue to be undertaken ecumenically and they include: Fair Trade, Christian Aid, The Food Bank, Time Together, The Hospital Chaplaincy, The Bible Society and Action on Climate Change Churches Together has had a busy year with several new events in the calendar all of which have been well supported by the four churches comprising Whitchurch Churches together St Alkmund's, St George's, St John's and The Beacon Church.

Foundation Governors Whitchurch Church of England Federation – Jane Rylands

In January 2024 Sarah Camacho became Principal of the Whitchurch Federation which comprises the Infants and the Juniors. Rev Chris has become a Foundation Governor, I am the other. Both Rev Chris and Rev Pippa take regular school worship sessions (as does the Methodist Church's Children's Worker) and have found many other ways to contribute to school life and particularly the aspects which relate to the Church of England foundation and our own church links with them. In May the Junior School had a Church School inspection (SIAMs) and received a very encouraging and affirming report. In the summer the Federation

was awarded the status of Growing Faith Learning Hub, part of a national initiative with funding for two years so I look forward to reporting on the fruits of that next year!

Whitchurch Junior C of E Academy Experience Days - Wendy Darter

We were delighted to welcome the students of the Junior Academy for four Experience Days this year. The Y5 came at Easter, the Y6 at Pentecost, Y3 at Harvest and the Y4 at Christmas. Each class comes for half a day and learns about five different aspects of the festival, in small groups led by volunteers. The class then gather in the chancel for a concluding session. We have been pleased to be led by Rev Chris, with the help of a great bunch of volunteers including Rev Pippa. Once again, we have had volunteers from St George's, the Beacon Church and retired clergy in addition to those from St Alkmund's congregation. We would always be happy to have more volunteers. We all enjoy these sessions, and they are well received by the students, who respond with ideas and questions. We hope that what they have learned and discussed will in some way shape their future attitudes and that they feel God's presence while they are in church.

Junior Church/Sermon Slot - Jane Rylands

Meriel, Jane and Wendy continued to offer a Junior Church session on all but the first Sunday in term time supported by a small group of assistants. It is always interesting from a leader's perspective to focus on one element of the weekly readings to share and think about with our young people. Our young people seem to enjoy the challenges we give them – thankfully they do come back for more!

Reader's Report – Jane Rylands

It's been fun to be part of our new ministry team, also a blessing that with Tom's illness there has not been a pressure to be available. After a couple of months of doing very little for the Benefice, I have found much comfort from being involved again and am beyond grateful for the prayers and support that you have given Tom and me.

Deanery Report - Pauline Stokes

St. Alkmund's Representatives

Elected Lay Members of the Deanery Synod:

John Stokes

Pauline Stokes

Steve White

Clergy Members of the Deanery Synod:

Revd. Chris Precious

Revd. Pippa White

Revd. Sue Armstrong

The annual Deanery Eucharist Service for Ascension Day took place at St. Peter & St. Paul's Church, Wem, in May, and was attended by St. Alkmund's representatives. All parishes are invited to attend. Deanery Meetings also took place in Wem in March, Market Drayton in July, and Bargates Hall, in October.- Topics for discussion included "Shaping for Mission – Come follow Christ in the footsteps of St. Chad" – Each parish was invited to be purposeful about evangelism in our communities, and we each chose 3 of the 9 goals which we felt most closely fitted with current priorities and activities within our parishes. Then, we were asked to consider which of the 3 of the 9 goals would we find most *challenging*, and what small steps could we take towards overcoming those challenges, and what support might help us?

At the Meeting held in Whitchurch following on from the previous meeting, representatives were invited to talk about *one* thing that was going well in their parish, and one thing that parishes were worried about. Representatives then had the opportunity to share their concerns.

Time Together Report – Wendy Darter

In 2024 we were saddened by the deaths of two of our longest serving volunteers, Pauline Green and Marianne Hughes. They both played important roles and are very much missed.

Working in partnership with AgeUK the purpose of the Time Together group is to provide social, spiritual, physical and emotional support for those with Memory Loss or Dementia and their family members or carers. The group continue to meet twice a month on Wednesday afternoons when we enjoy a range of activities and entertainments. Boccia is a favourite, though the floor at Bargates is a challenge, being very uneven. We play games, have discussions and share memories. We have lots of fun with singing and are amazed at how our friends remember words. We also devour quite a lot of cake and biscuits along with tea and coffee, and twice a year have parties with even more treats. The great team of volunteers all enjoy our sessions as much as those we serve. Donations from grateful participants and from community organisations allow us to provide a full and varied programme.

Pastoral Care Group Report – Jill Wallace

Communion at Home ... for those unable to attend services in Church Revd Chris and a few of us are happy to bring Communion to your homes if you would let Revd Chris know or Alison in the Church Office.

Visiting ... Any who would value a visit when ill or unable to attend church there is the pastoral team who will gladly visit as required. There is a box under the Prayer Board for you to put in any names and addresses of any who would wish this or phone Alison in the Church Office.

Streaming Services ... How thankful we are to John Stokes and Mel Williams for working the sound system to enable this to happen, and Alison Dunne puts the link in the Pew Sheets to allow anyone at home to watch most of our regular services.

The Prayer Board ... This is used by many who visit the Church as well as our own members and prayer requests can be left at any time. They are remembered at the Sunday services and also in the Fauls, Tilstock and Whitchurch Prayer Link that is sent to any who would like it by Judy Bellingham.

Bible Reading Notes ... For those who would like to share in reading daily notes to help us to deepen our love for Jesus, there are regular notes available, samples at the back of church, so just let Jill Wallace know if you would like any of these ... if we send for them as a group, we have free postage!

Music Report – James Kellas

It has been a busy and fruitful year for the music department liturgically as well as extra-liturgically. The musical resources of the church with its beautiful organ and acoustic enable the choir and organists to explore varied and rewarding repertoire within the services.

The organ tuner, Philip Cartright, has continued to do an excellent job of maintaining the instrument and the tuning has continued to settle in more and more since he began his contract in 2023. Some mechanical faults have also been seen to such as silent pipes and stiff piston levers. With the Chappell piano having been moved from the civic centre in July 2024 and being sympathetically restored by piano technician, Paul Pickering, and our own Dennis Edwards carpentry skills, we have been enjoying bi-monthly concerts as part of a new recital series - Fridays@1. It has so far proved popular with local classical music lovers, regularly attracting 30+ audience members (sometimes as many as 80) and has brought more footfall into the church at the same time as raising money for the music department. With the money raised by the recital series we have purchased a lighter keyboard that one person can easily carry at choir practice - although the large

stage piano sounds clearer it was proving impractical to carry it from behind the organ, especially now the civic centre piano is in the way. We have also put the money towards new hymns books and payment for organists at services where I need to conduct. Liturgically we have added 2-3 new mass settings to the 10am services: the Nardone Mass, an Advent Mass and the MacMillan Mass. The Nardone is more challenging being rhythmically and melodically more mobile than the Rizza and Inwood we have been accustomed to - for this reason I have limited it to 1-2 times a month and I feel it provides a pleasing contrast. The Advent Mass is simple and effective and similarly the MacMillan Kyrie was picked up recently quite easily by the choir and congregation, both providing a more solemn atmosphere for Advent and Lent.

The choir numbers are holding steady, and we have welcomed a few new members over the year. Given some recent shuffling around we also now have two tenors and basses quite consistently for evensong! Unfortunately, we sadly lost the wonderful Marianne.

The choir are to be fully commended and appreciated for their hard work and commitment which keeps the wheels of the music department moving each week. We continue to meet on Wednesday evenings for an hour to prepare for the two Sunday services. These practices are proportioned roughly 1/3 towards the morning service and 2/3 towards evensong due to the weightier repertoire for the evening. For the 9 Lessons & Carols in December Alison helped produce an attractive service booklet which contributed to slightly more formal and special feel. The choir prepared some challenging repertoire for several weeks in the run up and were boosted by some local "extras" on the day, especially in the bass and tenor sections. Henry did a fabulous job as organist on the day.

I want to finally take this opportunity to thank the various musicians who have covered me on various occasions when my full-time job as Lead Accompanist at Shrewsbury School has overlapped with my responsibilities at St Alkmund's - principally Stewart, Sam, Angela and Helen. I am extremely grateful to them all for their professionalism, enthusiasm and willingness to help on a consistent basis. It has also been a pleasure working with Reverend Chris and Pippa throughout year and we are fortunate they both are very supportive of the music department.

Church Office – Alison Dunne

The Church office continued to be busy throughout 2024, with the welcome addition of Rev Chris and Rev Pippa joining us to enable me to resume to my normal duties of pewsheets, posters, rotas etc. Throughout the year we saw many funerals, sadly many of whom were known personally to us. Also, bookings for baptisms and weddings, and an increase in enquiries for the booking of the church. With the introduction of the online LED system to enable all funerals, weddings and baptisms to be recorded electronically, and providing the facility for enquiries to be made directly to us via the St Alkmund's website. Our DBS and Safeguarding courses kept me busy with new volunteers joining us and the ongoing renewals. Our live streaming of services has been received well with numbers of people watching increasing throughout the year. The office continued to be open from Monday to Friday from 9am-2pm throughout 2024.

Wednesday FTW Bible Study group - Jill Wallace

This past year we have mainly looked at the life of Jesus in Luke's Gospel with the help of Tom Wright's Study notes. However, some of us found it difficult to understand Tom's questions, so have decided to mainly read the Bible passage chosen and discuss it, taking it in turns to lead the group and discuss the Bible notes from our various translations. At present we are looking at the shorter Epistles beginning with James. For the winter we have been meeting in the Church Vestry (when there was no funeral or church function) for warmth but will continue in Bargates once the warmer weather comes! How much we do miss Pol Green following her sudden death just before Christmas. We welcome all who come and share in with us as we learn together and discuss informally, enjoying a cup of tea and biscuits at the end.

Flower Arrangers – Sheila Chase

With Sue Fawcett stepping down as team leader, we were left with no one at the helm, so Rev Chris and I, stepped in to keep the group together and up to date with various dates for displaying their wonderful creations, with the weekly rota on display in the Flower Vestry.

We always receive many compliments about how beautiful the flowers in St Alkmund's always look. Especially the displays for Easter and Christmas, our Church comes alive with the scent and display of seasonal colours. Well done great Teamwork.

Bell ringing - Malcolm Monie

Despite a severe shortage of our own ringers, we have managed to ring for most Sunday morning services thanks to ongoing support from two members of the Malpas band: Chris and Sarah. Our numbers have been further reduced by injury [Malcolm Aird] and ill-health [Mike]. In addition, Paul has had to pause his bell-ringing due to work and family commitments. On a more positive note, we have welcomed a new learner to the band. Helene had just started to ring on Sundays when winter approached, and she and her husband decamped to the Canary Islands. We look forward to their return in the spring!

Practices have been held on most Thursday evenings. As well as those mentioned above, we have frequently been joined by Peter and Ray from Ellesmere along with Guy from Hanmer. We have also welcomed a number of visitors during the year and rung for several weddings. The band is still very low on numbers, and we are actively recruiting both new and experienced recruits. The Whitchurch Gossip kindly gave us a half page feature in the December issue.

Baptism Welcome Group - Wendy Darter

We have had a steady flow of baptisms over the past year, led by Rev Chris and Rev Pippa, who have both introduced new features to the service. We continue to visit the families at home so that we volunteers can talk to the parents about the service and the promises they are going to make. These meetings sometimes take place in church, but we still talk about the Godparents and their important role in nurturing the child as well as the practical aspects of the service.

Unfortunately, few families return to church services, but it is good to greet them when we meet in town and show them that they are remembered. Anyone who would like to volunteer to make home visits or assist at baptism services please contact the church office.

Social Working Group

Easter Breakfast- We started our year with our Easter Breakfast in Bargates Hall, at which we offer a full English, with toast, fruit juice and tea/ coffee, many thanks for all the hard work of the team that prepare this, those that came certainly enjoyed it.

Coffee Morning-We held our Coffee Morning in the Sports Hall, this year due to the closure of the Civic Centre, though the morning started early for the helpers, by mid-morning we were really busy with over £500 being raised.

Parish Outing-We made our usual outing to Llandudno ,with so many wanting to join us ,we had to have a large mini bus on hand to get everyone there, This was the first outing for Rev Chris, Laura and family joined us ,on arrival many made their way for refreshments, the sun shone for us and everyone enjoyed the visit, a Prize Draw was done on the return journey, thanks to Elaine and team on coach one ,and Alison and team on coach two ,and to all who provided draw prizes. Harvest Lunch was served in Bargates Hall, our menu consisted of Jacket potatoes with various fillings, and various fruit crumbles offered as a dessert, along with the usual refreshments. Thanks to all helpers and congregation that joined us.Christmas Eve-This year we served light refreshments of tea/ coffee, sausage rolls etc at the back of Church, due to all of our helpers involved with assisting at both of our Crib services.This takes us to the end of 2024, looking forward to seeing you all in 2025.

After Service Refreshments - Dorothy Cartlidge & Wendy Darter

Throughout 2024 the refreshments team made good use of the new servery. We have served coffee, tea and biscuits after morning service and after each Memorial service. We also served mince pies after several December services as well as the Crib Festival. We were able to add some new names to the rota allowing one team to stand back for the winter months. We would be delighted to have more volunteers to take a turn every six weeks or to be on standby to cover a holiday or illness. Meanwhile we are very grateful to all our volunteers.

The Children's Society - Rebecca Sims

As a church we support the work of the Children's Society through individual collection boxes and our annual Christingle service. Collection boxes are emptied on a yearly basis in September, or sooner if requested. The total raised this year was £1002.99. Thank you to everyone who generously contributes in this way. Also, to the people who don't hold a box but like to make a yearly donation instead. An additional £50 was also sent, which came from the sale of the 'Christmas tree hats'. Thank you to Doreen, Wendy and Sarah for the donation and all your hard work. We held our annual Christingle service in December. The service was better supported this year and a total of 78 Christingle oranges were given out. Children and adults alike made up their own Christingles throughout the service, so everyone had a bag of materials to collect on their way into church. Everyone seemed to enjoy this. Huge thanks to Rev Pippa who wore an inflatable orange suit and became our 'human Christingle' through the service! Donations at the service totalled £149.82.

The Children's society does wonderful work supporting deprived children, especially helping children in family trauma, runaways, refugees and child carers. A big thank you to everyone who supports this very important work. The box collection is invaluable to what we contribute to the society, so if you haven't got a box please do consider it. Just ask me if you would like any more information on becoming a box holder. Many thanks to everyone.

Hospital Chaplaincy Team – Rev Pippa White

It has been a pleasure to lead the hospital chaplaincy team since March 2024, with the ladies providing spiritual and pastoral support to the patients and staff of Whitchurch Community Hospital. Our team currently stands at three members, after the sad passing of Pol Green in December 2024. The team is purely voluntary, with the hospital no longer paying us for this service, and therefore there are no minimum contractual hours to fulfil. Each volunteer usually visits the hospital for an afternoon per week, delivering spiritual and pastoral care, prayer cards, holding crosses, or Holy Communion (reserve bread and wine kept in the chaplaincy locker at the hospital) when appropriate.

It was great fun to provide Christmas carolling around the hospital on the afternoon of the 18th December 2024 – this replaced the Crib Service previously held in the hospital and was an ecumenical affair. Together with Christmas cards for all patients and staff, and visiting on Christmas Day, the hospital was very grateful for our services around Christmastime and continues to thank us for our work year-round. As our numbers of volunteers have become small, we are currently in the process of recommending to the hospital six new candidates to join our team: three people from St. George's church, and three people from the Beacon Church. The team meets every 4-6 weeks, to support one another and to share stories, and any changes in COVID regulations.

Residential / Nursing Homes' Services - Pauline Stokes

Each month, our small team visits Greenfields, and starting in the autumn we began to visit Weston House once again after a break of two or three years, following Covid. We also visit our friends in St. John's Park, too. Either the Rev. Chris our Rector, or Rev. Pippa takes the

service, with Rev Pippa usually leading the little service at Weston House, duly accompanied by Freddie her dog, which goes down a treat with the residents at Weston House!

(I came across a report written back in 2018, when we visited 5 Homes in Whitchurch in the same week each month, but sadly Edgeley House & Court, and Cloverfields, are no longer in existence.) However, we visit during the second week in each month - Weston House on a Wednesday afternoon, and St. John's Park followed by Greenfields on Thursday mornings. We start our service with a well-known hymn, continuing with a shortened Communion Service, during which one of our team will read, usually, part of Sunday's Gospel, followed by a short reflection by Rev. Chris or Rev. Pippa. Following the distribution of Communion to the residents, we end our little service with another hymn. It is humbling, when some of the residents who cannot read the service booklet or follow the words of the hymns because of their poor eyesight, remember parts of the service, or they will join in with the singing – wonderful! Afterwards, we circulate and have a chat with the residents, whom I am sure appreciate the time we spend with them – some we have known for quite some time on our visits each month. If you can spare a little time each month to join us, we would be delighted!! Later in the month we have a "Songs of Praise" at Greenfields, led by our Reader, Jane Rylands, accompanied by the "songsters" – (she says with tongue in cheek!!) from church to help with the singing. Once again, it is something which the Residents do appreciate, for some regularly attended church, wherever that might have been in the country, before moving to Greenfields, and we very often ask them about that time, and it brings back memories for them. Do join us, if you can!!

Crib Festival - Doreen Ashurst and Wendy Darter

We were pleased to be able to celebrate our Annual Crib Festival in November last year. We had 85 cribs on display and many visitors passing through Church during the day, not all of whom were regular attenders. As ever this year the festival was a valuable outreach event which was supplemented by the 'The Green Hat Tree' which raised donations for the needy both locally and nationally.

Fairtrade Report - Mrs Judy Bellingham

St Alkmunds continues to be a Fairtrade Church. This means that we agree to serve Fairtrade tea/coffee at our services and events and other things like sugar and biscuits if possible. We also agree to support Fairtrade Fortnight. We have done this in the past by having a Big Brew in church. This year we had it in the Market Hall and it was very successful. The Christmas Card and Gift Coffee Morning in October was held in Bargates Hall and was well supported. Thank you to all who attended. I continue to have a stall in the Whitchurch Market each Friday and have had stalls at Blackberry Fair and the Christmas Lights Switch on. We also have a representative at Whitchurch Fairtrade Town Group and Churches Together. Every time we choose to buy a Fair trade product, we are helping someone less fortunate to make a decent living for their family. If you can't come to the market on Fridays, I can let you have goods either in church or other place.

The Friends of St. Alkmund's, W/ch - Alex Williamson, Chair

The Friends of St Alkmund's Whitchurch is a standalone charity with the principal objective of raising funds to support the preservation, repair, restoration and improvement of the fabric of St Alkmund's. The Friends raise funds through annual memberships and fundraising events. During 2024 we held a number of events including:

- Quiz & hotpot supper, raising over £400;
- Strawberry Tea (courtesy of Mr & Mrs R Hutchinson-Smith), raising over £400;
- Opera for the People concert by Nicola Mills raising over £1,300; and
- raffles at the above events and at other events.

The Friends AGM was held on 14 May. We welcomed two new trustees at the AGM, Rev'd Chris Precious and Sarah Matson. After the business of the AGM, we were entertained by James Kellas, Director of Music for St Alkmund's, who enlightened us on the workings of the church organ and

played two pieces composed by Bach to demonstrate the full capability of the organ. We are thrilled to confirm that Nicola Mills has agreed to come back to St. Alkmund's on 17 October 2025 to perform her 'Spoonful of Julie' musical. Information on booking will be made available nearer the time. I would like to extend a huge 'thank you' to Hilda Francis-Roberts and Allison Haycox who have overseen the raffles at numerous events and finally, a sincere thank you to all of you who are members of The Friends and those who have supported our events, making them enjoyable occasions at the same time as raising funds.

Rector's Report St Alkmund's, Whitchurch

Mothering Sunday back on 10th March 2024 was an unusual day to begin a new ministry, and of course by that time the wonderful St Alkmund's congregation knew there were two priests joining them, not just the new rector but his curate too. The welcome my family and I have received coming to Whitchurch has been exemplary, and we are so grateful to you all for your Christian warmth and hospitality.

2024 has been an exciting year as we have strengthened relationships with our local schools and The Blackberry Fair, meanwhile continuing the excellent community support we offer through the hard work of the St Alkmund's family. 2024 has also been a tough year as we have said farewell to dear congregation members who have died or moved away from the area to be nearer to family. St Alkmund's Church building is beautiful and attracts people from far and wide to come and appreciate its splendour. What I want to really celebrate in this report is the church of St Alkmund's, that is, all the wonderful people who worship in the building and give so freely of their time and talents all through the year in loving service to their church family and the community of Whitchurch. There are too many people to thank individually here each and every year, but please know that you are appreciated for being you- whatever your role in our church family. My particular thanks go to our church wardens John and Sheila, to Pauline and Alison in the office, who have put up with an incoming new boss with good humour and tireless dedication- to you a heartfelt thank you. An extra note of thanks to Mel our outgoing treasurer, for her dedication over 10+ years and for her patience with an extended recruitment period for our next treasurer.

All the wonderful activities that have been mentioned in the pages of this annual report are grounded in prayer. As a church we pray together, help together and give together our time and our talents in Christ's service. The challenge we face going forward is to move away from a culture of service to a culture of participation, with Bubble Church starting in the New Year and other intergenerational initiatives to follow, 2025 will be an exciting time for us as a church.

Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a Body Corporate established by the Church of England (PCC Powers Measure 1956, and the Church Representation Rules 2006) and is a Charity with the Charity Commission. The PCC is governed by the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended that came into effect on 2nd January 1957, and the Church Representation Rules.

The method of appointment of the PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The Council comprises the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, a representative of the Readers, those elected to the Deanery Synod, and other members who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, by those on the Electoral Roll. The PCC members receive training from courses run by the Diocese. Members of the congregation are always urged to join the Electoral Roll, and to stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance in the parish, and for all financial matters. The PCC meet 6 times a year. [Given its responsibilities, the PCC has a number of sub committees, each dealing with a particular aspect of

parish life. These include Worship, Mission and Outreach, Buildings and Finance and Youth Work. Each reports back to the PCC with the minutes of their meetings.]

Related

Donations from related parties (PCC members) included £7,250 for the Renewal Project.

Reference and Administrative details

The Church is situated in Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 1LB and is part of the Deanery of Wem & Whitchurch, in the Diocese of Lichfield. The correspondence address is the Rectory, Church Street, Whitchurch, Shropshire. SY13 1LB. Registered charity number 1129900. Our website address is: www.stalkmunds.com

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2024 until the date this report was approved were:

Ex Officio Members

The Incumbent	The Reverend Christopher Precious (Chairman) The Reverend Philippa White (Curate)
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Reader	Jane Rylands
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Churchwardens	John Stokes Sheila Chase
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Deanery Synod Reps	John Stokes Pauline Stokes Steve White
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Elected Members	Elaine Bucknell (Secretary) Melanie Williams (Treasurer) Linda Martin Meriel Edge John Castledine Sarah Radford Hilda Francis-Roberts Paul Williamson Lynne Bowden Irene Daldry
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Bank	Barclays plc
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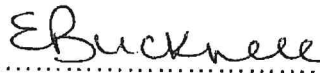
Investment Managers	CCLA
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Independent Examiner	Jonathan Hill, Lichfield Board of Finance
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Approved by the PCC on ~~14th~~^{17th} May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:


.....

Reverend Chris Precious (Chairman)


.....

Mrs Elaine Bucknell (Secretary)

The Parochial Church Council of St Alkmund's Church, Whitchurch Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

Accounting Policies

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions. They have also been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals as the pence are not being shown.

Cashflow Statement

The Charity has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 from the requirement to produce a Cash flow statement on the grounds that the income does not exceed £500,000.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Accounting Estimates and Prior Year Errors

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period.

No material prior year errors have been identified in the reporting period.

Description of Funds

Unrestricted funds are income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are therefore not included in its "free reserves" as disclosed in the trustees' annual report.

Restricted funds comprise of two elements:

a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest

b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

Endowment funds are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend capital as income, and where the use of any income or other benefit derived from the capital may be restricted or unrestricted. Full details of all their restrictions are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Income

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received or when the PCC becomes entitled to the resource and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and Legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Accounting Policies continued

Expenditure

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Governance and Support Costs

Support costs should be allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the PCC and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources eg by allocating staff costs by time spent and other costs by their usage.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts by s.10(2)(a)&(C) of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the Church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements.

No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial.

Investments

Investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued initially at cost and subsequently at market value at the year end. Investments held for re-sale are treated as current asset investments.

Debtors

Debtors are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount. Subsequently they are measured at cash expected to be received.

Creditors and Accruals

Creditors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts. Accruals are measured on best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

Independent Examiner's report to the trustees/members of The PCC of Whitchurch Registered charity number: 1129900

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024 which are set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the 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 accounts 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 material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 
Jonathan Hill FCMA CGMA
Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance
St Marys House, The Close, Lichfield. WS13 7LD

Date: 22/05/2025

PCC of Whitchurch

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	93,214	3,759	19,993	—	116,966	104,150
Income from charitable activities	13,840	—	—	—	13,840	17,561
Other trading activities	22,822	—	1,152	—	23,974	22,682
Investments	17,324	—	9,757	—	27,081	31,120
Other income	—	—	—	—	—	1,176
Total income	147,200	3,759	30,902	—	181,861	176,689
Payments						
Raising funds	3,343	298	—	—	3,641	3,390
Expenditure on charitable activities	141,670	1,118	14,436	—	157,225	362,241
Total expenditure	145,013	1,417	14,436	—	160,866	365,632
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	2,187	2,343	16,466	—	20,996	(188,943)
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in	2,512	103	1,680	—	4,295	2,012
Gross transfers between funds - out	(1,783)	—	(2,512)	—	(4,295)	(2,012)
Other recognised gains / losses	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gains / losses on investment assets	4,569	—	8,045	—	12,614	54,117
Net movement in funds	7,485	2,446	23,679	—	33,610	(134,826)
Total funds brought forward	1,132,508	2,481	363,977	—	1,498,966	1,633,793
Total funds carried forward	1,139,993	4,927	387,656	—	1,532,576	1,498,966
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
General Fund	1,139,993	—	—	—	1,139,993	1,132,508
Designated						
Bell Designated	—	2,557	—	—	2,557	2,512
Piano/ Organist	—	1,516	—	—	1,516	—
Vacancy Support Fund	—	854	—	—	854	(31)
Restricted						
Church Buildings Fund Scheme	—	—	220	—	220	220
Fabric Restricted	—	—	367,820	—	367,820	351,654
Growing Faith Foundation Learning Hub	—	—	10,000	—	10,000	—
Interior Decorating Scheme	—	—	1,627	—	1,627	4,077
Lectern Restricted	—	—	1,000	—	1,000	1,000
Time Together	—	—	6,989	—	6,989	7,026

PCC of Whitchurch

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

Balance sheet

	Total funds	Prior year funds
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	892,300	892,300
Investments	563,727	551,113
	<u>1,456,027</u>	<u>1,443,413</u>
Current assets		
Debtors	3,163	7,143
Cash at bank and in hand	76,309	55,762
	<u>79,472</u>	<u>62,905</u>
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	2,923	7,352
	<u>2,923</u>	<u>7,352</u>
Net current assets less current liabilities	<u>76,549</u>	<u>55,553</u>
Total assets less current liabilities	<u>1,532,576</u>	<u>1,498,966</u>
Total net assets less liabilities	<u>1,532,576</u>	<u>1,498,966</u>
Represented by		
Unrestricted		
General Fund	1,139,993	1,132,508
Designated		
Bell Designated	2,557	2,512
Piano/ Organist	1,516	—
Vacancy Support Fund	854	(31)
Restricted		
Growing Faith Foundation Learning Hub	10,000	—
Fabric Restricted	367,820	351,654
Time Together	6,989	7,026
Church Buildings Fund Scheme	220	220
Interior Decorating Scheme	1,627	4,077
Lectern Restricted	1,000	1,000
Agency collection	—	—
Funds of the church	<u>1,532,576</u>	<u>1,498,966</u>

Approved by the PCC on 4th May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Chris Precious

 The Revd Christopher Precious
 Chair

E Bucknell

 ELAINE BUCKNELL
 PCC SECRETARY

PCC of Whitchurch

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

Statement of assets and liabilities - 2024

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Fixed assets - Investments						
CCLA Investment Fund CB3008499 -	62,801	—	—	—	62,801	61,396
CCLA Investment Fund CB3028464 -	52,257	—	—	—	52,257	51,088
CCLA Investment Fund CB3028465 -	89,138	—	359,531	—	448,669	438,629
Totals	204,197	—	359,531	—	563,727	551,113
Fixed assets - Tangible assets						
Bargates Hall -	584,282	—	—	—	584,282	584,282
3a Bridgewater Street -	154,009	—	—	—	154,009	154,009
3b Bridgewater Street -	154,009	—	—	—	154,009	154,009
Totals	892,300	—	—	—	892,300	892,300
Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand						
Barclays Current Account -	1,194	2,415	7,909	—	11,517	10,660
Barclays Deposit Account -	44,101	2,512	18,111	—	64,725	45,000
Petty Cash -	26	—	—	—	26	84
Flowers Petty Cash -	41	—	—	—	41	18
Totals	45,362	4,927	26,020	—	76,309	55,762
Current assets - Debtors						
Interior Decorating Scheme -	—	—	1,627	—	1,627	4,077
Church Building Fund Scheme -	—	—	220	—	220	220
Sundry Debtors -	—	—	—	—	—	1,675
Prepayments -	137	—	—	—	137	—
Accounts Receivable -	1,179	—	—	—	1,179	1,172
Totals	1,316	—	1,847	—	3,163	7,143
Liabilities - Agency accounts						
Agency collections -	—	—	(258)	—	(258)	(802)
Totals	—	—	(258)	—	(258)	(802)
Liabilities - Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year						
Accruals -	—	—	—	—	—	4,247
Accounts Payable -	3,182	—	—	—	3,182	3,906
Totals	3,182	—	—	—	3,182	8,153
Grand total	1,139,993	4,927	387,656	—	1,532,576	1,498,966

Statement of Assets and Liabilities – 2023

Class and nominal code	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Last year
Fixed Asset - Investments						
6450: CCLA Investment Fund CB3008499	61,396	-	-	-	61,396	56,116
6455: CCLA Investment Fund CB3028464	51,088	-	-	-	51,088	46,695
6460: CCLA Investment Fund CB3028465	87,143	-	351,486	-	438,629	594,185
Total	199,627	-	351,486	-	551,113	696,996
Fixed Asset - Tangible Assets						
6430: Bargates Hall	584,282	-	-	-	584,282	584,282
6441: 3a Bridgewater Street	154,009	-	-	-	154,009	154,009
6442: 3b Bridgewater Street	154,009	-	-	-	154,009	154,009
Total	892,300	-	-	-	892,300	892,300
Current Asset - Cash At Bank And In Hand						
6501: Barclays Current Account	10,339	40	282	-	10,660	16,860
6505: Barclays Deposit Account	35,376	2,512	7,111	-	45,000	25,024
6530: Petty Cash	84	-	-	-	84	106
6531: Flowers Petty Cash	18	-	-	-	18	3

Total	45,816	2,552	7,393	-	55,762	41,993
Current Asset - Debtors						
6560: Interior Decorating Scheme	-	-	4,077	-	4,077	3,514
6561: Church Building Fund Scheme	-	-	220	-	220	220
6565: Sundry Debtors	1,675	-	-	-	1,675	53
Z05: Accounts Receivable	1,172	-	-	-	1,172	786
Total	2,847	-	4,297	-	7,143	4,573
Liability - Agency Accounts						
6699: Agency collections	-	-	(802)	-	(802)	(1,660)
Total	-	-	(802)	-	(802)	(1,660)
Liability - Creditors: Amounts Falling Due in One Year						
6601: Accruals	4,176	71	-	-	4,247	884
Z04: Accounts Payable	3,906	-	-	-	3,906	2,847
Total	8,082	71	-	-	8,153	3,730
Net total assets	1,132,508	2,481	363,977	-	1,498,966	1,633,793

Fund movement by type - 2024

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/losses	Closing
GFF - Growing Faith Founda						
Restricted	—	10,000	—	—	—	10,000
Sub-total for GFF	—	10,000	—	—	—	10,000
General - General Fund						
Unrestricted	1,132,508	147,200	145,013	729	4,569	1,139,993
Sub-total for General	1,132,508	147,200	145,013	729	4,569	1,139,993
Bell - Bell Designated						
Designated	2,512	45	—	—	—	2,557
Sub-total for Bell	2,512	45	—	—	—	2,557
Piano - Piano/ Organist						
Designated	—	2,201	788	103	—	1,516
Sub-total for Piano	—	2,201	788	103	—	1,516
VSF - Vacancy Support Fund						
Designated	(31)	1,513	628	—	—	854
Sub-total for VSF	(31)	1,513	628	—	—	854
Fabric - Fabric Restricted						
Restricted	351,654	18,205	10,084	—	8,045	367,820
Sub-total for Fabric	351,654	18,205	10,084	—	8,045	367,820
Time Toget - Time Together						
Restricted	7,026	2,447	1,152	(1,332)	—	6,989
Sub-total for Time Toget	7,026	2,447	1,152	(1,332)	—	6,989
CBFS - Church Buildings Fun						
Restricted	220	—	—	—	—	220
Sub-total for CBFS	220	—	—	—	—	220
IDS - Interior Decorating						
Restricted	4,077	250	3,200	500	—	1,627
Sub-total for IDS	4,077	250	3,200	500	—	1,627
Lectern - Lectern Restricted						
Restricted	1,000	—	—	—	—	1,000
Sub-total for Lectern	1,000	—	—	—	—	1,000
Grand total	1,498,966	181,861	160,866	—	12,614	1,532,576

Fund movement summary – 2023

Fund	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/Losses	Journals	Closing
	General						
Unrestricted	1,106,257	142,346	147,954	1,012	30,848	-	1,132,508
Sub-totals	1,106,257	142,346	147,954	1,012	30,848	-	1,132,508
	Bell						
Designated	2,512	-	-	-	-	-	2,512
Sub-totals	2,512	-	-	-	-	-	2,512
	VSF						
Designated	-	1,988	2,019	-	-	-	(31)
Sub-totals	-	1,988	2,019	-	-	-	(31)
	Fabric						
Restricted	514,061	28,651	214,326	-	23,269	-	351,654
Sub-totals	514,061	28,651	214,326	-	23,269	-	351,654
	Time Together						
Restricted	6,229	3,642	1,332	(1,512)	-	-	7,026
Sub-totals	6,229	3,642	1,332	(1,512)	-	-	7,026
	CBFS						
Restricted	220	-	-	-	-	-	220
Sub-totals	220	-	-	-	-	-	220
	IDS						
Restricted	3,514	63	-	500	-	-	4,077
Sub-totals	3,514	63	-	500	-	-	4,077
	Lectern						
Restricted	1,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,000
Sub-totals	1,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,000
Totals	1,633,793	176,689	365,632	-	54,117	-	1,498,966

Analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024

					Total	
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS

Donations and legacies

Planned Giving - Gift Aid - Bank	31,814	—	—	—	31,814	38,646
Planned Giving - Gift Aid (Card Machine)	1,059	—	—	—	1,059	—
Other planned giving	5,867	—	300	—	6,167	4,680
Loose plate collections	4,665	—	—	—	4,665	5,831
Other Donations eg Funerals	2,511	45	9,443	—	11,999	5,864
Giving through church boxes	1,597	—	—	—	1,597	1,767
One-off Gift Aid gifts	779	—	—	—	779	958
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	7,451	—	—	—	7,451	9,395
Legacies	20,000	—	—	—	20,000	11,000

Recurring grants - LDBF IDS & CBFS Bonus	—	—	250	—	250	63
Recurring grants - LDBF Extra Parishes	—	—	—	—	—	36
Recurring grants - Fauls Admin Contribut	2,400	—	—	—	2,400	2,261
Recurring grants - Tilstock Admin Contri	2,400	—	—	—	2,400	2,256
Recurring Grants - LDBF Vacancy Support	—	1,513	—	—	1,513	1,988
Recurring Grants - Growing Faith Foundat	—	—	10,000	—	10,000	—
Non-recurring one-off grants	10,363	—	—	—	10,363	16,127
Other funds generated	2,309	2,201	—	—	4,510	3,280
Total	93,214	3,759	19,993	—	116,966	104,150

Income from charitable activities

Statutory Fees for weddings	2,423	—	—	—	2,423	1,100
Statutory Fees for funerals	6,820	—	—	—	6,820	7,883
Local Fees for weddings	770	—	—	—	770	348
Local Fees for funerals	3,827	—	—	—	3,827	5,366
Hospital Chaplaincy	—	—	—	—	—	2,864
Total	13,840	—	—	—	13,840	17,561

Other trading activities

Rummage sales etc	906	—	—	—	906	365
Church hall lettings	20,401	—	1,152	—	21,553	19,955
Hire of Church	916	—	—	—	916	1,372
Parish magazine and other income	599	—	—	—	599	990
Total	22,822	—	1,152	—	23,974	22,682

Investments

Dividends	5,541	—	9,757	—	15,298	19,750
Bank and building society interest	542	—	—	—	542	269
Rent from 3a Bridgewater Street	5,640	—	—	—	5,640	5,640
Rent from 3b Bridgewater Street	5,600	—	—	—	5,600	5,460
Total	17,324	—	9,757	—	27,081	31,120

Other income

Insurance claims	—	—	—	—	—	1,176
Total	—	—	—	—	—	1,176
INCOME TOTAL	147,200	3,759	30,902	—	181,861	176,689

EXPENDITURE

Raising funds

Costs of fetes & other events	1,859	298	—	—	2,158	1,925
Investment management costs	1,484	—	—	—	1,484	1,465
Total	3,343	298	—	—	3,641	3,390

Expenditure on charitable activities

Giving to missionary societies	—	—	—	—	—	1,000
--------------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	-------

Home mission	160	—	—	—	160	150
Secular charities	—	—	—	—	—	2,000
Parish Share	41,486	—	—	—	41,486	40,673
Salary of parish administrator	17,943	—	—	—	17,943	16,319
Rector expenses - mileage	852	—	—	—	852	180
Rector expenses - postage and other misc	11	—	—	—	11	10
Rector expenses - publications	64	—	—	—	64	95
Rector expenses - hospitality	18	—	—	—	18	80
Rector expenses - telephone	190	—	—	—	190	292
Rector expenses - computer	40	—	—	—	40	80
Rector expenses - house insurance	41	—	—	—	41	—
Rector expenses - training	414	—	—	—	414	—
Rector expenses - Rectory garden	—	—	—	—	—	825
Reader/Deanery Synod and other expenses	(278)	318	3,200	—	3,240	961
Education	21	—	1,332	—	1,353	1,512
Parish training and mission	474	—	—	—	474	225
Bubble Church	1,974	—	—	—	1,974	—
Church running - insurance	6,461	—	—	—	6,461	6,127
Church office - telephone	2,132	—	—	—	2,132	2,223
Organ / piano tuning and organist	10,225	490	—	—	10,715	7,322
Church maintenance	10,361	—	5,410	—	15,771	11,819
Cleaning	3,718	—	—	—	3,718	3,270
Upkeep of services	3,347	311	—	—	3,657	3,501
Upkeep of churchyard	6,008	—	—	—	6,008	4,788
Upkeep of car parks	1,798	—	—	—	1,798	49
Printing/Photocopying	2,254	—	(180)	—	2,074	2,961
Postage & Stationery	984	—	—	—	984	1,003
Office Equipment	2,978	—	—	—	2,978	2,807
Annual Subscriptions	1,542	—	—	—	1,542	918
Bank Charges	523	—	—	—	523	604
Visiting speakers / locums	—	—	—	—	—	180
Memorial Book	560	—	—	—	560	705
Church running - electric	4,546	—	—	—	4,546	5,025
Church running - gas	8,072	—	—	—	8,072	7,142
Church running - water	273	—	—	—	273	250
Church running - heating and lighting	—	—	—	—	—	3,710
Hall running - electricity	2,131	—	—	—	2,131	2,261
Hall running - gas	2,475	—	—	—	2,475	3,032
Hall running - insurance	388	—	—	—	388	388
Hall running - maintenance	3,109	—	—	—	3,109	4,957
Hall running - water	441	—	—	—	441	508
Hall running - consumables	163	—	—	—	163	150
Governance costs examination/audit fee	175	—	—	—	175	—
Church major repairs - structure	—	—	456	—	456	196,762
Church major repairs - professional fees	—	—	4,219	—	4,219	16,515
Church interior and exterior decorating	—	—	—	—	—	2,545
Bridgewater Street property costs	3,597	—	—	—	3,597	6,318
Total	141,670	1,118	14,436	—	157,225	362,241
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	145,013	1,417	14,436	—	160,866	365,632
GRAND TOTAL	2,187	2,343	16,466	—	20,996	(188,943)

Allocation of Support Costs

Support costs comprise Trustee Training and Governance Costs etc. Due to the nature of the financial activities of the PCC, these would be allocated across Charitable Expenditure which comprises the majority of its expenditure and as such are automatically charged there.

PCC of Whitchurch

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

Staff Costs

	2024	2023
Wages & Salaries	£ 24,042	£ 19,517
Average number of employees	3	2

During the year the PCC employed an administrator and church cleaner (both part-time). Our organist James Kellas is now on an employment contract (from August 2024). The administrator's salary attracts additional employer pension costs. There were no employers NI contributions as the PCC benefits from the Employers NI Allowance. The PCC uses the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) for its pension payments.

There were no employee benefits to key management personnel in the previous or current year.

Trustees' Remuneration & Expenses

No trustee was employed and no trustee received remuneration during the year.

1 Trustee has been reimbursed £1,060 (2023: £552) for travel and phone expenses incurred during the year.

Related Parties

No other expenses were paid to any other PCC member, persons closely connected to them, or related parties.

Donations from related parties (PCC members) totalled £7,996 (2023: £10,335). This is the total of all giving/donations made by PCC members who served during the year ie. includes planned/regular giving as well as any one-off donations.

Fees for the examination of the accounts

	2024 £	2023 £
Independent Examiner's fees	245	175
Other fees (eg accountancy services) paid to the Independent Examiner	0	0

Analysis of Transfer between Funds

Analysis of Transfer between Funds 2024

Description	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total £
Transfer to Interior Decorating Scheme	(500)		500	0
Hire of Church Hall - Time Together	1,152		(1,152)	0
Photocopying Recharge - Time Together	180		(180)	0
Piano Recital Dec 23	(103)	103		0
Total	729	103	(832)	0

Analysis of Transfer between Funds 2023

Description	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total £
Transfer to Interior Decorating Scheme	(500)		500	0
Hire of Church Hall - Time Together	1,152		(1,152)	0
Photocopying Recharge - Time Together	360		(360)	0
Total	1,012	0	(1,012)	0

Fixed Assets

a. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Cost/Value 01/01/2024	Additions	Disposals	Revaluation	Depreciation	Cost/Value 31/12/2024
Bargales Hall	584,282.00					584,282.00
3a Bridgewater Street	154,009.00					154,009.00
3b Bridgewater Street	154,009.00					154,009.00
Total						892,300.00

The Tangible Fixed Assets are shown at historical cost and are not revalued each year. The properties are well-maintained and an impairment review is carried out periodically.

b. Fixed Asset Investments

	CCLA No	Cost/Value 01/01/2024	Additions	Disposals	Revaluation	Cost/Value 31/12/2024
Unrestricted Fund						
CCLA Investment Fund Shares	CB3028464-001	51,088			1,169	52,257
CCLA Investment Fund Shares	CB3028465-001	87,143			1,995	89,138
CCLA Investment Fund Shares	CB3008499-001	61,396			1,405	62,801
Total Unrestricted		199,627			4,569	204,196
Restricted - General Fabric						
CCLA Investment Fund Shares	CB3008465-001	351,486			8,045	359,531
Total Restricted		351,486			8,045	359,531
Total Investments		551,113			12,614	563,727

Current Assets

a. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
IDS & CBFS	1,847	4,297
Gift aid recoverable	0	1,615
Prepayments and accrued income	137	60
Other debtors – Church Hall lettings Dec 2024	1,179	1,172
Total	3,163	7,143

Liabilities

a. Amounts falling due in one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals	0	4,247
Accounts payable	3,182	3,906
Agency payments/ collections	(258)	(802)
Total	2,923	7,352

Prior Year Comparative

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	85,155	1,988	17,008	-	104,150	102,915
Income from charitable activities	17,561	-	-	-	17,561	12,185
Other trading activities	21,530	-	1,152	-	22,682	19,421
Investments	16,925	-	14,195	-	31,120	31,832
Other income	1,176	-	-	-	1,176	-
Total income	142,346	1,988	32,355	-	176,689	166,353
Payments						
Raising funds	3,390	-	-	-	3,390	1,663
Expenditure on charitable activities	144,564	2,019	215,658	-	362,241	160,056
Other expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure	147,954	2,019	215,658	-	365,632	161,720
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	(5,609)	(31)	(183,303)	-	(188,943)	4,633
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in	1,512	-	500	-	2,012	2,932
Gross transfers between funds - out	(500)	-	(1,512)	-	(2,012)	(2,932)
Other recognised gains / losses						
Gains/losses on investment assets	30,848	-	23,269	-	54,117	(92,995)
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	26,251	(31)	(161,046)	-	(134,826)	(88,362)
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward	1,106,257	2,512	525,023	-	1,633,793	1,722,154
Total funds carried forward	1,132,508	2,481	363,977	-	1,498,966	1,633,793

Accounts

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Charity Commission Annual Return 2023

[Print](#) [Cancel](#)

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. ALKMUND'S, WHITCHURCH. SHROPSHIRE.

Charity registration number: 1129900

Most of the information you give in this form will become publicly available on the Register of Charities. Any field that the Charity Commission will not display will be clearly marked.

This document is a record of the information provided in the Annual Return 2023.

PART A - Charity information

Financial period

Financial period start date

01/01/2023

Financial period end date

31/12/2023

Income and spending

Income £

£ 176,689

Spending £

£ 365,632

Number of contracts from government

How many contracts (other than grant agreements) did your charity receive from central government or a local authority during the financial period for this return?

0

Number of grants from government

How many grants did your charity receive from central government or a local authority during the financial period for this return?

1

Value of grants from government

What was the total value of the grants received from central government or a local authority during the financial period for this return?

£ 14,431

Income breakdown

Donations and legacies (excluding Endowments Received)

£ 104,150

Charitable activities

£ 17,561

Other trading activities

£ 22,682

Investments

£ 31,120

Other

£ 1,176

Corporate donations

What was the value of your charity’s single highest value donation received from a corporate donor during the financial period of this return?

£ 0

Donations from individuals

What was the value of your charity’s single highest value donation received from an individual during the financial period of this return?

£ 10,000

Donations from related parties

What was the value of your charity’s single highest value donation received from a related party during the financial period of this return?

£ 4,320

Grantmaking

Is grant making the main way your charity carries out its purposes?

No

Recipients of grants

Please round all figures to the nearest pound (do not enter decimal points or commas).

Individuals

£ 0

Other charities

£ 3,000

Other organisations that are not charities

£ 0

Grant recipients related parties

Are any of the grant recipients related parties to the charity?

No

Trustee payments

Excluding out of pocket expenses, for what were any of the trustees paid during the financial period for this return?

☒e. None of the trustees have been paid

Did any of the trustees resign and take up employment with your charity in the financial period of this return?

No

Income from outside the UK

Did your charity receive income from outside of the United Kingdom in the financial period of this return?

No

Delivering activities outside the United Kingdom

Did your charity deliver charitable activities outside of the United Kingdom in the financial period of this return?

No

Spending outside England & Wales

Did your charity spend funds outside of the United Kingdom in the financial period of this return?

No

Total Spending outside England & Wales

£

Trading subsidiaries

Does the charity have any trading subsidiaries?

No

Charity contact details correct

Is the contact address displayed from the Register of Charities, correct?

Yes

Charity headquarters details correct

Is this the same address that you use as your charity's administrative headquarters?

Yes

Charity contact address

Address Line 1

THE RECTORY

Address Line 2

CHURCH STREET

Address Line 3

WHITCHURCH

Address Line 4

Address Line 5

Postcode

SY13 1LB

Country

Charity Headquarters address

Address Line 1

THE RECTORY

Address Line 2

CHURCH STREET

Address Line 3

WHITCHURCH

Address Line 4

Address Line 5

Postcode

SY13 1LB

Country

Membership type

Is the charity part of a wider group structure with a parent body and subsidiary bodies?

no, the charity is not part of a wider group structure

Employment contract types

People were permanently employed by your charity

2

People were on fixed-terms contracts with your charity

0

Self-employed people were working for your charity

1

Total overseas employees

How many of the people above work on behalf of your charity outside of the United Kingdom?

0

Total employee payroll

What was the total amount spent on employee payroll during the financial period relating to this return?

£ 19,517

Employees' salaries

Did any of your charity's employees receive total employment benefits of £60,000 or more in the financial period of this annual return?

No

Governance policies

Internal charity financial controls policy and procedures

Yes

Safeguarding policy and procedures

Yes

Financial reserves policy and procedures

Yes

Complaints policy and procedures

Yes

Serious incident reporting policy and procedures

Yes

Internal risk management policy and procedures

Yes

Trustee expenses policy and procedures

Not applicable

Trustee conflicts of interest policy and procedures

Yes

Investing charity funds policy and procedures

Yes

Campaigns and political activity policy and procedures

Not applicable

Bullying and harassment policy and procedures

Yes

Social media policy and procedures

No

Engaging external speakers at charity events policy and procedures

No

Safeguarding

Has your charity provided services to children and/or adults at risk in the financial period of the return?

No

Serious Incidents

Has your charity reported all Serious Incidents (including any historical incidents) that the charity became aware of during the financial period of this return?

There were no incidents to report

External risk and impact

Donations

Unknown/No Change/Not Applicable

Other income - grants

Unknown/No Change/Not Applicable

Other income - contracts

Unknown/No Change/Not Applicable

Other income - investment

Unknown/No Change/Not Applicable

Expenditure on charitable activities

Unknown/No Change/Not Applicable

Expenditure on overheads

Unknown/No Change/Not Applicable

Number of volunteers

Unknown/No Change/Not Applicable

Number of employees

Unknown/No Change/Not Applicable

Number of trustees

Unknown/No Change/Not Applicable

Fundraising activities

Unknown/No Change/Not Applicable

Capacity to deliver services

Unknown/No Change/Not Applicable

Total service demand

Unknown/No Change/Not Applicable

Volunteers

Excluding trustees, provide an estimate of the number of volunteers who carried out charitable activities on behalf of your charity in the United Kingdom during the financial period of this return?

73

Privacy statement

Any information you give us will be held securely and processed only in accordance with the rule on data protection. We will not disclose your personal details to anyone unconnected to the Charity Commission unless:

- you have consented to their release; or**
- we are legally obliged to disclose them; or**
- we regard disclosure as either (a) necessary so that we can properly carry out our statutory functions or (b) necessary in the public interest.**

We may share and disclose information about you with relevant public authorities, regulatory bodies and agencies, outside the Charity Commission but only if:

- we can lawfully do so; and**

• we decide that disclosure is necessary for national security, crime detection, prevention, and law enforcement, or other issues in the public interest

Information we collect about you

We will use this information:

To enable us to carry out our statutory functions and duties;

This will include the following actions:

(a) update, consolidate, and improve the accuracy of our records;

(b) undertake crime detection and prevention and law enforcement and assist the third parties specified above to investigate or prevent crime and carry out law enforcement;

(c) data analysis, testing, research, statistical and survey purposes

Information we receive from other sources.

Information we receive from other sources

We may combine this information with information you give to us and information we collect about you.

We may use this information and the combined information for the purposes set out above (depending on the types of information we receive).

We will ensure that any such disclosure and use is proportionate; considers your right to respect for your private life; and is done fairly and lawfully in accordance with the data protection principles of the Data Protection Act.

The Data Protection Act 1998 regulates the use of 'personal data', which is essentially any information, however stored, about identifiable living individuals.

As a 'data controller' under the Act, the Charity Commission must comply with it. Any changes we may make to our privacy statement in the future will be set out in the replacement version of this form.

Please check back frequently to see any updates or changes to our privacy policy.

Declaration

This annual return has not been submitted and no Declaration has been made

Accounts

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch, Shropshire

For the year ended 31st December 2022
Charity registration number: 1129900

Prepared for the

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 23rd April 2023



**The Parochial Church Council of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch
Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2022**

Charity registration number: 1129900

Reference and Administrative details

Charity Name & Number

St Alkmund's Parish Church
Charity number: 1129900

Address

St Alkmund's Church, c/o The Rectory, Church Street, Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 1LB

PCC Members from APCM 2022

Judy Bellingham
Elaine Bucknell (PCC Secretary)
John Castledine
Sheila Chase (Churchwarden)
Celia Churchill
Meriel Edge
David Fisher
Hilda Francis-Roberts
Pauline Green (Lay Chair)
Judy Hunt (Rector & PCC Chair)
Linda Martin
Jane Rylands
Tom Rylands
John Stokes (Churchwarden & Deanery Synod)
Pauline Stokes (Deanery Synod)
Steve White (Deanery Synod)
Melanie Williams (PCC Treasurer)

Names and addresses of advisers

Bank	Barclays plc
Investment Managers	CCLA One Angel Lane, London EC4R 3AB
Independent Examiner	Jonathan Hill FCMA CGMA, Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance

Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a Body Corporate established by the Church of England and is a Charity registered with the Charity Commission. The PCC is governed by the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended that came into effect on 2nd January 1957, and the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended).

- Trustees (PCC members) are appointed by election at the APCM; ex-officio on the PCC are all clergy licensed to the parish, churchwardens and members of Deanery, Diocesan and General Synods.
- New trustees are given an induction pack.
- A Standing Committee exists, and other committees include the Bargates Hall Committee, and a Finance Committee. Other groups meet: the Social Working Group and various pastoral groups.
- Safeguarding and Data Protection have received considerable attention this year and all our policies are now reviewed annually in January.

Objectives and Activities

Promoting the Gospel and the doctrines of the Church of England

Vision statement:

Our church is a place where all are welcome, and God can be found.

We seek to:

- **build up our spiritual life through prayer and teaching,**
- **actively encourage lay involvement in mission and outreach,**
- **and share the good news of the Gospel with the whole community.**

Public Benefit

The trustees of the PCC are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit and have had regard to it in their administration of the Charity. The trustees believe that, by promoting the work of the Church of England in the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch, it helps to promote the whole mission of the Church (pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical) more effectively, within the Ecclesiastical Parish, and that in doing so it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers; and
- Promoting Christian values and service by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

Achievements and Performance

See elsewhere for all the mid-week activities and the ways in which the St Alkmund's community fulfils its remit for worship, pastoral care, outreach, community service and civic involvement

There are usually three services each Sunday; figures for 2022 —

8.00am — average attendance 6.4
10.00am — average attendance 65.7
6.30pm — average attendance 16.4
(of whom 9.2 had attended morning services on the same day)

All who live in the town have a right to the occasional offices. In 2022 there were 2 weddings and 42 baptisms, There were 33 funerals in church followed by burial or cremation (and 18 at the Graveside or Crematorium only).

STATISTICS FOR ST ALKMUND'S WHITCHURCH

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022
Electoral Roll	144	155	149	147
Average Sunday (*) Adult Attendance	100	(Oct) 58	64.8	79.3
Average Sunday (*) Under 16 Attendance	4	4	3	4.3
8.00am	11	7	6.5	6.4
10.00am	76.4	44	52.6	65.7
6.30pm (new)	16.5	10	9.2	7.2
6.30pm (total)	25	7	16.7	16.4
Easter Communicants (**)	136	N/A	N/A	89
Easter Attendees (**)	172	N/A	N/A	127
Advent Special Attendees	1710	158	220	1229
Christmas Communicants	125	83	80	121
Christmas Attendees	1092	102	148	675
Baptism (u16)	29	12	14	41
Baptism Adult	0	1	0	1
Funerals (with Church service)	46	21	35	33
Funerals (at Crem Only)	19	55	21	18
Interment of Ashes in GoR	10	15	8	11
Weddings	10	0	10	2
Prayer & Dedication of Marriage	0	0	0	0

Statistics for St Alkmund's 2019 - 2022

The statistics are shown in the table above. Please note that the Average Sunday Attendance (*) for 2019-22 figures include Harvest, Mothering Sundays but exclude Baptisms, Easter, Remembrance, Christingle, Memorial & Thanksgiving and Carol Services, and the Queen's Reflective & Memorial Services. 2020 & 2021 figures affected by Covid-19.

Financial Review

The overall financial position for 2022 is a small surplus of £4,633 (2021 deficit of £16,756) before losses on revaluation of investments at the end of the year of £92,995 (2021 gains of £86,429). The global problems of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the affect this has on utility costs, rising inflation and the Cost of Living crisis are all challenges we face as a church, too.

We negotiated new contracts from 1st July for Church and Bargates electricity and Bargates gas. The contract for Church gas renews 1st January 2023 so we managed to negotiate in advance for this too. We chose 2 year contracts as we hope the current issues will be overcome by then.

The start of the year saw the resignation after ill health of our administrator, Jo Lavin, and also her partner, our Bargates caretaker, Wayne Edwards. Whilst we managed to recruit a new administrator, Alison Dunne, in May, a hall caretaker proved more difficult. Sheila Chase, Church Warden and Social Working Group leader (to name just a couple of her many roles) took on the role. Special mention has been given to her in the Rector's Report, but she has been instrumental in not only accommodating many new groups, but also in bringing the building up to regulation standards.

Our card machine is becoming a regular mechanism for receiving donations. We have used Goodbox's Goodplate up until now, but unfortunate news of their going into receivership made me nervous. Whilst there has been no issue with receiving payments from them, I felt it prudent to source an alternative. We purchased a Dona machine and stand just before Christmas – and the results are promising. Society is becoming more familiar with making payments by card (or other device) and even not carrying cash so it is important that we provide the facility for people to make donations however they wish.

Subcontracting the management of our domestic property, 3 Bridgewater Street, to Barbers Estate Agents relieves us of the many landlord duties and regulations that are not in our field of expertise. Whilst we have had to spend nearly £7,000 to bring them up to standard, it has not been a distraction to us as the agents have dealt with all the work required in a prompt manner. They have also negotiated rent increases in the year.

I must give thanks to all our fundraisers who have worked tirelessly to help boost our revenue through a coffee morning, plant sale, crib festival, harvest lunch, easter breakfast and many other activities throughout the year. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on free reserves (net current assets) which equates to at least three months unrestricted payments and £10,000 in Restricted General reserves. Total unrestricted expenditure was £130,608 in 2022, so 3 months' equates to £32,652, plus £10,000. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The balance of the free reserves at the year end was £44,496 which is marginally higher than this target.

Investment Policy

The charity is granted power to invest in suitable investments under the PCC Powers Measure 1956 and the Trustees Act 2000. As a charity, the Trustees have a duty of care to take such advice as is appropriate before investments are undertaken. This advice is sought from the Central Board of Finance (CCLA) in London.

The charity's investment policies are based on two key principles: -

- Ethical Investment – this includes ensuring that investments are held in companies which have high standards of corporate governance and act in a responsible way towards stakeholders.
- Long-term responsibilities – the trustees are aware of their long-term responsibilities in respect of the Restricted and Unrestricted reserves and as a result follow a prudent approach to investment decisions.

Investment policy for long-term funds is aimed primarily at generating a sustainable income, with due regard to the need for the preservation of capital value, and the possible need to realise investments to meet operational needs. The charity does not have a policy of generating income at excessive or high risk – known as “purchasing income”, where high returns are guaranteed at the expense of capital.

In summary, the charity has an overall policy to maximise income while preserving the real value of its funds. Due to the nature of the charity, an ethical investment policy is taken into consideration when investments are made:

The charity follows the Ethical Investment Advisory policy as recommended by the Lichfield Diocese which includes the following:

“We aim to invest in companies that:

- * will develop their business in the interests of shareholders;
- * demonstrate responsible employment practices;
- * are conscientious concerning issues of corporate governance, the environment and human rights;
- * are sensitive to the community in which they operate.”

Planned giving, collections and donations are the main sources of fund raising along with tax recoverable.

Safeguarding

Meriel Edge

The PCC believe they have fulfilled their 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).

Safeguarding is of immense importance in St Alkmund's Church. It features as an Agenda item at every PCC meeting and has a full and comprehensive risk assessment which is regularly scrutinised and updated, when necessary. The following groups/people undergo training and adhere to the safeguarding policy – Incumbent, Churchwardens and Deputy Churchwardens, Time Together leaders and team, Baptism welcomers, Bible Study, Choir leaders, Homes Communion Teams, Residential Homes team, Junior Church, Prayers for Healing, Pastoral visitors, Tower Captain and Transport.

DBS documentation is continually reviewed and persons are contacted who need to update/refresh their DBS or Safeguarding training. Reverend Judy and Alison Dunne have supported people in achieving this

19 people have renewed their DBS check this year and 34 people have done the same with their safeguarding training. A few people have yet to do this. Safeguarding is at the centre of our faith, in our practice, in our worship, in our praying, and in our believing. In other words, safeguarding needs to become integral to the very DNA of the Church rather than an appendage, with good safeguarding behaviours flowing naturally and intuitively. Theology, by which we simply mean clear thinking about God and the faith we share, has been interwoven into all our learning and the development pathways. As IICSA identified, this will require a significant shift in the Church's culture. Achieving a paradigm shift in safeguarding requires a "whole system" approach within which change is achieved by the inter-relatedness of different strands. One developmental strand is "safeguarding learning". This framework sets out the form that safeguarding learning needs to take to contribute effectively to the paradigm shift envisioned and to overall organisational change. The safeguarding learning pathways support participants in developing and maintaining the necessary values, beliefs, knowledge, and skills to safeguard and protect children, young people, and vulnerable adults as outlined in the 'Promoting a Safer Church' House of Bishops policy statement (2017).

Copies of this Safeguarding Learning and Development Framework 2021-2024 have been printed out by Meriel Edge and placed at the back of Church for any interested parties to read. The plan of the PCC to put in place a small benefice Safeguarding Committee to ensure this paradigm shift is achieved was realised this year with two meetings: Clergy, Reader, PSO's and Churchwardens.

Reporting Serious Incidents

A Serious Incident is an adverse event, whether actual or alleged, which results in or risks significant harm to the charity's beneficiaries, employees, office holders, volunteers or to others who come into contact with the charity through its work, loss of the charity's money or assets, damage to the charity's property or harm to the charity's work or reputation.

The trustees are not aware of any Serious Incidents in the last year.

Church Wardens' Report

John Stokes and Sheila Chase

- * PAT testing carried out on all electrical appliances.
- * All Fire Extinguishers serviced and renewed where necessary.
- * Roof Alarm serviced.
- * Security alarm serviced and a new radio box fitted in the Vestry.
- * Fire Alarm up-graded and serviced.
- * Church clock, and church bells serviced.
- * Gutters maintenance carried out by Mr Simon Dudleston.
- * The church organ underwent its regular tuning and servicing during the year by Mr Jim Molyneaux.
- * Old grave yard - grass cut and strimmed.

- * Memorial Gardens - strimmed and maintained
- * Rectory Garden - lawns moved, boundary hedges cut, holly trees trimmed by SP Mowing.
- * Unsafe branches lopped off trees in the Memorial garden and old grave yard.
- * All graves underwent the annual safety check.
- * Boiler room - door repaired and painted.
- * Further work carried out to the lead on the south side of the church roof.
- * Stonework to the first arch in the gallery repaired.
- * 2 new hand rails fitted by the Chancel steps.
- * Rectory stone boundary wall collapsed, and its rebuilding has taken place - Work carried out by the Diocese.
- * Various signs under Health and Safety erected where appropriate around the church and grounds.
- * Bridgewater street properties - The management of these two apartments is carried out by Barbers Estate Agents.
- * Fire alarms tested weekly by John Stokes and Alison Dunne.

Electoral Roll

Mr Paul Williamson

1st January 2023 is the date names are recorded for the purpose of the APCM. At that time 140 names were on the list and 12 of those lived outside the Parish. On 1st January 2022 147 names were on the list with 11 living outside the Parish. My thanks to Revd Judy and Alison for their support.

PCC Secretary

Mrs Elaine Bucknell

During 2022 two members resigned from the Council but we were delighted to welcome a new member, Linda Martin, after the Annual meetings in April. We had our seven regular meetings, three of which had to be conducted by Zoom, and one extra in June held in the Church. During these meetings many projects have been discussed, approved and carried out including – Chancel Step Rails, Repairs to the Cracked Archway, Fire Alarm System Extension/Upgrade and Raising of the Chandelier. We have been involved in numerous discussions/many revisions of the re-ordering plans and are currently investigating the replacement of the central heating boiler in the Spring of 2023. We have also approved the necessary expenditure for the continuing maintenance of Bargates Hall to meet the necessary requirements for hiring premises. Several members continue to discourage the general public from using the Church Car Park but with little success and some heated discussions! We continue to be represented in Churches Together, Christian Aid, Friends of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch Fairtrade Group and the Higginson's Charities.

Bargates Hall

Sheila Chase

I am happy to report that all works required at Bargates Hall have now been done, with all work logged so that all services and contracts can be renewed with our preferred contractors when they are due.

The Fire Alarm is now under maintenance contract with ADT as is the Church so that inspections and testing can be carried out at the same time.

Our Health and Safety certificates are all up to date and issued by Mr Tony Williams of A & H Safety Consultants Ltd of Wrexham and will be reviewed 31 October 2023.

Access signs from the Church Car Park have been put in place to identify Wheelchair access into Church via the ramp, along with signs indicating uneven ground.

Mr Tony Dodd from Via Della Emilia Ltd Tree Surgeons, has been removing any dead and decayed trees out of the lower Car Park, Foot Path and Garden of Remembrance.

The Hall has seen a continued increase in bookings over the last 12 months, our thanks to the Food Bank for their use during Covid period. We now have the Guides and Brownies as regular users, along with groups, Elevate, Time Together, Keep fit and many others, rooms are also being used for regular meetings, and training.

Maintenance has been carried out by Simon Dudleston who has done a sterling job of replacing windows with safety glass, painting all the window frames, replacing carpet tiles, clearing gutters and down pipes.

The water heater has been checked and serviced by Mark Smith who is a catering engineer, all items for use in the Hall have been PAT tested.

The notice board is up to date with, Contact Numbers, Insurance certificate and Health & Safety Report.

All Fire Exits are Clearly marked, Fire Meeting Point sign in place and the system is checked every week. Thank you to John S and Alison for helping with this, it's very much appreciated. My thanks to Standing and Bargates Hall Committee Members for all your Support in making Bargates somewhere to be proud of.

Churches Together in Whitchurch

Revd Judy

Groups associated with Churches Together

Important activities in the town are undertaken ecumenically, and the Churches Together Committee receives reports from these:

Fair Trade

Christian Aid

The Food Bank

Time Together

The Hospital Chaplaincy

The Bible Society

Action on Climate Change

Action on Afghan Refugees

Church Services

We were able to continue with our 'liturgical year' for the churches in the town: a service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity hosted by the Beacon Church; a Maundy Thursday service hosted by St John's Church, the Good Friday Walk of Witness prepared by St Alkmund's Church, a Christian Aid service hosted by St John's and a Bible Society Service hosted by St George's. The Beacon Church and St Alkmund's joined together for a Civic Service to celebrate the life of Queen Elizabeth II and St John's and St Alkmund's joined together for Remembrance Sunday.

Lent Activities

The Lent Lunches for Christian Aid resumed..

The AGM was held on 7th June 2022, hosted by the Beacon Church.

During the business meeting, Eileen Livesey was elected as Chairperson with Dora Marlow as Vice-Chair. Sue Collins will continue as Treasurer for one more year and Celia Churchill was confirmed as Minutes Secretary.

Churches Together Christmas Card

This was produced in 2022 and was delivered by Royal Mail to all households with an SY13 1** address. It was hand delivered by members of all 4 churches to other addresses. Year 6 children at WJA were invited to submit entries, from which one was chosen for the front cover and 2 others were highly commended for the back page.

Foundation Governors Whitchurch Church of England Federation Jane Rylands

I have changed my 'special interest' area as a governor from Special Needs to Early Years this year. It has been a joy to see what is in place for the Nursery and Foundation age groups. The department has affiliated itself with a scheme called 'The Curiosity Approach' which has entailed a lot of changes to their traditional approach with alterations being made to make the environment more home like and a lot of emphasis on child-led developmental play both inside and outside as well as strategies to lead them to readiness for the 3 Rs. There is also an emphasis on the use of natural materials rather than plastics.

I have maintained my link with all things in the RE and spirituality spheres. The children's visits to St Alkmund's for the Experience sessions, including an additional one this year for the Infants, are a valuable addition to what they do in school.

Sarah Cope, the Principal of the Infants and Nursery, and more latterly the Executive Head of the Federation, left the academies at the end of 2022 to take on an administrative role within the MAT. Her successor as Principal is Sarah Camacho.

There is currently a vacancy for a second Foundation Governor.

Whitchurch Junior C of E Academy Experience Days

Wendy Darter

We were delighted to welcome the students of the Junior Academy for four Experience Days this year. The Y5 came at Easter; the Y6 at Pentecost; the Y3 at Harvest and the Y4 at Christmas.

Each class comes for half a day and learns about five different aspects of the festival, in small groups led by volunteers. The class then gather in the chancel for a concluding session with Rev Judy Hunt.

These sessions are well received by the students who respond with ideas and questions. We hope that what they have learned and discussed will in some way shape their future attitudes. We were pleased to have some new volunteers this year who also enjoyed the Experience Days

Junior Church/Sermon Slot

Jane Rylands/Meriel Edge/ Wendy Darter

We have had three families attending regularly on Sunday mornings, one of them newcomers to the congregation and it has been a pleasure getting to know the young people and working with them to develop their knowledge of the Christian faith and to explore how to bring it into their everyday lives. At the end of the year we have had to say goodbye to Diana Marchand who has been a wonderful support and contributor to our young people's work and we wish her and her husband well in their new home nearer their family.

Reader's Report

Jane Rylands

I have maintained my pattern of contributing to the pattern of services throughout the Benefice preaching on average once a month but also leading and participating in other services and taking my share of duties on the Junior Church / Sermon Slot rota.

In preparation for the vacancy, in the autumn I undertook a course in funeral ministry and Revd Judy has begun to enable me to shadow her and contribute to some funerals. This is not an area that I have time to specialise in but I was seeking a confidence to step up should there be a specific need.

Deanery Report

Revd Judy

Elected Lay Members of the Deanery Synod:

John & Pauline Stokes

Steve White

Clergy Members of the Deanery Synod:

Revd Judy Hunt

The Synod met once on 16th June 2022: there was a brief report from Diocesan Synod, a discussion about the Deanery Vision and information provided by the Revd Deborah Walton on her work in the two secondary schools.

Work on videos for "Open the Book" Collective Worship sessions has gone ahead, led by Bridget Hodges.

The Clergy Chapter met (by Zoom) regularly.

Vacancies in the Deanery: the Revd Rich Creswell left in the summer (Shawbury group) and the Wem group post was advertised in the autumn with an appointment made.

Time Together Report

Revd Judy

The purpose of the Time Together group is to provide social, spiritual, physical and emotional support for those with Memory Loss or Dementia and their family members or carers. We work in partnership with AgeUK and this is very helpful.

The group continued to meet twice a month on Wednesday afternoons. During the last two years, we have 'lost' some members, through death or through health deterioration, but we have gained a couple too.

We have received several generous donations from grateful participants and from Community Organisations.

Hospital Chaplaincy Team

Revd Judy

The hospital chaplaincy team has been providing support for patients and staff at Whitchurch Community Hospital since October 2015. The team is led by Revd Canon Dr Judy Hunt and is currently comprised of eight lay volunteer members from St Alkmund's and Holy Immanuel Fauls Churches and also includes Revd Sue Armstrong. Revd Sue's dog, Merlin, is a qualified PAT (Pets as Therapy) dog and so sometimes visits with Sue – bringing a much appreciated canine presence. Roman Catholic ministers and a Quaker contact are also available if needed.

St Alkmund's PCC has an agreement with the Hospital to provide a service of at least 6 hours per week throughout the year. In practice, during normal times, it is usually more. At least one person of the team visits the hospital every weekday. Weekends and special Holy days are covered by arrangement amongst

the team. Lay members are authorised to administer Holy Communion and consecrated bread and wine are kept in a cupboard at the Hospital for use, as required.

All this regular visiting continued to be on hold because of the Coronavirus pandemic and, more recently, because the Hospital administration team has not been able to process the new DBS checks which we need. Revd Judy was occasionally called in for individual patients.

The Team also usually plans and participates in activities at the Hospital; this usually includes an Easter / Springtide event, a Harvest Celebration and the Christmas Crib Service.

Pastoral Care Group Report

Jill Wallace

Pastoral Care is something which is shared by many of us through visiting neighbours and caring for those in our Community. However, a few members are available to do the following:

Communion at Home ... For those unable to attend services in church, we offer Communion in their homes, and 3 or 4 of us take monthly Communion to those who ask. This is much appreciated.

Visiting ... This is continuing to those who would value a visit when ill, or bereaved or no longer able to attend Church, and is perhaps a more 'formal' visit than simply visiting our friends and neighbours!

Prayer may be offered and/or a Bible reading and the weekly Pew Sheet and sometimes the printed sermons are shared when wished for. Judy Bellingham also records and takes round DVD's of the sermons if available to a number of people so that they can watch at home.

Streaming Services ... This is another pastoral outreach to enable those who wish to share in the services, but cannot be there in person. We are hoping to do this more often in the future when we have our new sound system in place.

Services for reflecting on... We try to put the service talks/sermons onto the website, and also hard copies in a mauve folder on the righthand side as you come into church for you to look at and/or take home.

The Prayer Board ...Used by many who come into the church from all over, where they can put prayer requests onto the board (these are left on for about a fortnight). A weekly Prayer Link is sent to all who wish to pray at home, and we include these prayers in general during the church services. If you would like to receive the FTW Prayer Link please let me know and I can email it to you weekly, or let you have a hard copy if preferred. There is a box by the Prayer Board for anyone to put in a request for a home visit.

Bible Reading Notes ... Another way of deepening our love for Jesus and sharing in pastoral care is by having a regular personal Bible Reading time, and sample copies of various reading aids are again on the right as you come into church. Just let me know if you would like regular copies of any ... we send off for them as a group and save the postage. The cost is between £4 to £6 per copy every 3 or 4 months.

Jill Wallace (01948666233 or email jwillwall40@yahoo.co.uk)

Dementia-Friendly Church

Pauline Green

Much of our Dementia Friendly Ministry as a church takes place through Time Together, general Pastoral Care and the work with our Residential and Care Homes . The Hospital Chaplaincy visits have been on hold throughout 2022 due to current restrictions in place imposed by the Hospital Authority managing infection control. (Hospital Chaplaincy to resume once restrictions have been lifted). We have been awarded a Diocesan Certificate again for this work in 2022.

We keep in touch with other churches involved in similar work through the regional meetings hosted by Sarah Thorpe - Diocesan Dementia - Friendly church enabler Diocese of Lichfield

Music Report

Mr Richard James

As stated last year, the organ is tuned regularly and, although the pitch is subject to the varying temperature of such a large church, this is normal and I have no additional recommendations for any changes to the current heating practices. I have been very pleased with the work of the current tuners, but now St Alkmund's needs to find another tuner of good repute after the retirement of Jim Molineux. I will assist in researching a replacement before I leave. The grand piano is of a satisfactory standard for choir solo accompanying. The electric keyboard serves as a satisfactory instrument for choir rehearsals, but currently lacks a sustaining pedal and I am currently researching a replacement.

Transporting the keyboard from the cupboard and back for every rehearsal requires two people and is, to be honest, an inconvenience. The St Alkmund's Choir is again processing and robing! This has been a boost to the singers and they continue to show real commitment and loyalty and are progressing as a musical group. Additional sopranos and altos have joined including two young choristers and this had boosted the sound. The choir rose to the occasion for the Nine Lessons and Carols and there were many positive comments about the singing. A Big Sing for the Blackberry Fair was a great success with more singers attending than expected and this is definitely something that could be repeated for future years.

Frustration remains with the recruitment of broken voices, but illness of members has affected attendance of late. This report is written after giving notice in November and I will continue in the role of Director of Music until the end of February 2023. I have thoroughly enjoyed the last two years working at St Alkmund's, especially playing the organ, working with the choir and performing recitals. It has been a privilege to contribute to the liturgy each week. I have valued the support of Revd Judy, the loyalty of the choir and the warmth of welcome from the congregation. I am certain that a replacement can be found to step in and continue building music at St Alkmund's. There is so much potential for music making in the church and I hope that, with the re-ordering of parts of the church allowing a greater performance space, more opportunities will be opened up. Sadly, with my other increasing musical commitments, I feel that I do not have the time to properly fulfil the role as detailed in the job description. I wish my successor and all the musicians that contribute to the life of the church the very best for the future.

Parish Office and On-line Matters

Revd Judy

In the early part of 2022, Jo Lavin resigned from the post of Benefice Administrator and St Alkmund's Clerk. We are grateful for the creativity she brought to the role and for her many years with us. I am also grateful to those who assisted in office work during Jo's absence and the time when we were without someone in post—especially Pauline Stokes in Whitchurch and Caroline Sewry in Fauls.

Having advertised and interviewed, we were very pleased to appoint Alison Dunne to this post and have been delighted with her work since she joined us in May.

During the year, we have livestreamed a service on most Sundays - thanks to Mel Williams and a small team. Also a small group have worked on a replacement sound system with an integrated camera. The current sound system has served us well, but is now beyond its 'sell-by' date in terms of being able to get replacements parts and an integrated system will improve the quality of our recordings and livestreaming. We are very grateful for the expertise of Glyn Chapman (Beacon Church) who has given us a great deal of help. We hope to get permission to install a new system soon.

Church Office

Alison Dunne

On joining as Benefice Administrator in May 2022 I can only say that it has been a pleasure to meet and become part of such a welcoming Benefice, with a special 'Thank you' to Pauline who helps me hugely. I have hit the ground running as the office is a very busy environment, with the office now being open Monday - Friday between 9am - 12noon. The position is always evolving with no two days the same! Main aspects of the position are the publishing of the weekly FTW and St Alkmund's pewsheets, and the Bi-monthly FTW Newsletter. The general day to day paperwork is generated from the requirements from our three churches, to include advertising, posters, leaflets and service updates. I also assist Revd Judy with the documentation for Weddings/Funerals/Bookings etc. Duties also include taking telephone enquiries, leaflet production, printing, weekly updating of our social media sites to ensure that we reach the wider community - Facebook, websites for Whitchurch, Fauls & Tilstock, including the 'Church Near You' Websites.

Wednesday FTW Bible Study group

Celia Camplin

It is with great sadness that I write this report, when I remember one of our loyal members who has just passed away. Margaret and her friend May were very loyal, they came most times and added much to the group. Margaret didn't like reading out aloud but her comments and burst of knowledge gave all of us something to think about.

God bless you Margaret. You are now with the Lord and away from any pain and suffering you experienced here during the past few months. We will try to continue knowing you are with us spiritually.

During this past year we have looked, at great depth, at the Book Numbers. We have found it hard going at times, our previous knowledge of the 40 years plodding through the wilderness that Moses had to put up with, the people's groaning and whining, and wanting to go back to Egypt, was enough to drive anybody scatty! But with God's organising, they continued.

Here is a lesson for us!.....When life seems so hard and unfair, do we turn to the Lord for help. He knows us all so well and has everything under control. HIS plan is always the RIGHT one, not ours. Do we listen or not!

Anyway we got as far as 'home base' which is what we called Kadish just a matter of a hair's breath from the Promised Land, when we called it a day and turned the pages in our Bibles to St Matthew's Gospel.

We will continue reading this powerful Gospel in the weeks ahead. Hopefully, reaching the Passion story towards Easter. We would love to have some new members, especially from Fauls or Tilstock,- remember the 2nd and 4th Wednesday in the month, 2.00pm in Bargates Hall. You'll all be very welcome.

Flower Arrangers

Sue Fawcett

There goes another great year of Floral decorations in St.Alkmunds.

We started the year with a blaze of colour as we celebrated Easter. Lots of warmth in colour and freshness to welcome the spring weather and to lift our spirits to give us hope for the year ahead. As flower arrangers, along with the help of many others, we aim to provide the means for us to remember and celebrate loved ones or events who are close to us in a tactile way. This hopefully gives comfort, recognition and remembrance to all who participate, while others reap benefit from purely the beauty, colour and form of nature. Harvest festival symbolises and emphasises the meaning of our beautiful world in which we live. The plentiful produce, the sharing and giving we were able to demonstrate with our displays and floral arrangements, remind us just how lucky we are. Remembrance was marked with our traditional red poppy and laurel displays which stood in every corner of the church to honour those who are no longer with us. As more difficult times for many, start to take hold this Autumn, it seemed fitting to bring boldness, colour and warmth into play. Vibrant colours portray warmth, comfort and cheeriness which started our festive period of Advent with style. The fruits of our labour, I know are enjoyed by everyone, both locally and by visitors alike. We as Flower arrangers aim to reach as many people as we can to brighten their lives even just a little. Our enthusiastic team also benefit by helping others and each other. So, I would like to thank all of those involved, both on a weekly basis and those who help at the bigger events throughout the year. Their continued efforts to produce wonderful arrangements, collect materials and for the many donations are invaluable. I know this is hugely appreciated. My heartfelt thanks to all.

If anyone locally wishing to find out more about Flower Arranging in the church, then do not hesitate to contact:

Sue Fawcett 07855067296.

Guild of Service

Sue Wainwright

As always members of the Guild continue to go above and beyond to keep St Alkmunds the shining jewel in our town of Whitchurch. All our ladies & gentleman have kept up the good work whenever possible to make sure that our church is admired by visitors and of course the people of the town. I am very grateful to all the members and it has been good to welcome a couple of people – but there is always room for more!

Bell ringing

Malcolm Monie

The regular band of Peter, Helen, Mike and myself have been regularly augmented by Chris and Sarah from Malpas and Malcolm Aird. The latter used to ring at Whitchurch when he lived in the town.

Occasionally we have been joined by Stephen Stoker from Congleton who has a seasonal caravan pitch at Mile Bank. We rang for two weddings which was fewer than in 2021 when everyone was playing catch-up after the Covid lockdowns. We also rang for the funeral of David Gillespie who was a regular member of the band in the Nineties and Noughties. Practices have been held on most Thursday evenings. As well as those mentioned above, we were frequently joined by Peter, Vicky and Ray from Ellesmere.

Currently we have one learner, Paul Bennett who is doing well and should soon be ready to join in with service ringing. However, the band is still very low on numbers, and we are actively recruiting both new and experienced recruits. The death of Queen Elizabeth II and the proclamation of King Charles III gave us further opportunities to ring the bells but it did mean that the muffles were on and off the bells like yo-yos, especially as one of the weddings was in the middle of it all!

Baptism Welcome Group

Wendy Darter

In 2022 we continued to hold several baptisms each month to accommodate those who had to postpone during the pandemic, as well as newer babies. Quite a few of our candidates are now toddlers, enjoying running around the church, but as we only have one family at each service this is not a problem. We have also had several baptisms at the 10.00am service and a new service booklet has been produced for these occasions.

We continue to visit the families at home so that we volunteers can talk to the parents about the service and the promises they are going to make. These meetings sometimes take place in church but we still talk about the Godparents and their important role in nurturing the child as well as the practical aspects of the service.

Unfortunately, few families return to church services, but it is good to greet them when we meet in town and show them that they are remembered. Anyone who would like to volunteer to make home visits or assist at baptism services please contact the Rector.

Plant Sale

Janet Ivens and Judy Bryant

2022 saw the easing of covid restrictions and our first sale in Bargates for two years. Thanks to our ever willing helpers and John Foster's trusty flat bed truck, the entire nursery was moved from Tarporley Road to Bargates in a record time. There was no shortage of eager customers who also enjoyed the refreshments provided and were even able to pay by card at one of the three checkouts - a sign of the times! The final total including sundry plants sold in the weeks after the sale amounted to £1,731.92.

Sadly 2022 is likely to be the last Plant Sale in the present format as Janet and I are not getting any younger. If anyone feels moved to take over the reins please let us know. Thank you everyone for your unfailing support.

Social Working Group

Sheila Chase

Although we were getting back into the swing after Covid Lockdown it was a busy year for St Alkmund's Church Social Working Group.

The Year started in April on Sunday 17th with our Easter Breakfast in Bargates Hall, slightly down in numbers, but for those who came along a full English Breakfast was served, with plenty of Tea, Coffee and Fruit Juice, for the cost of £6:00 per head.

Saturday 23rd April: Our Organist, Richard gave a musical recital in Church 7:00 pm till 8:00pm, SWG served refreshments afterwards.

Saturday 7th May: Plant Sale in Bargates 10:00 am till 12pm, organised by Janet Ivens and Judy Bryant.

Saturday 16th July: Our Parish Outing to Llandudno saw us leave Church with a full coach of happy people, We had lovely weather while we were there, and everyone enjoyed themselves. During our journey Elaine Bucknell held a prize draw, raising funds for The Historic Churches Trust, a fabulous amount of £177:00 was raised. Thank you everyone.

Tuesday 21st June: Friends AGM, Refreshments served, cakes Tea and Coffee, thank you to the SWG team for baking and serving.

Friday 12th August: We held a Coffee Morning at The Civic Centre. We had many stalls and lots of helpers, a fantastic amount of £616.17 was raised.

Sunday 2nd October: We held a Harvest Lunch in Bargates Hall, a lovely lunch was enjoyed by those who came along, thank you to all SWG members who prepped and served lunch to everyone.

On Wednesday 12th October: Careers Fest at Sir John Talbot's School. Wendy and myself attended Sir John Talbot's School to represent St Alkmund's Church and serve refreshments to the other businesses attending this event. We had baked and made all the goodies on offer and served Tea and Coffee all day. Many questions were asked by the students about our Church, though it was possibly the goodies on offer which brought them our way. All of the businesses were grateful for the refreshments served, all in all a very pleasant day, forging links within our community.

Saturday 12th November: A Christmas Coffee Morning was held at The Civic Centre, this was run by Hilda with help from members and friends of St Alkmund's Church as well as SWG. A terrific £2,181 was raised.

Thursday 15th November: Sir John Talbot's School held a Christmas Concert in Church. Members of SWG were on hand all day in Church to provide refreshments for the staff and be on hand with any visitors that came into Church during the children's rehearsals. Refreshments were served after the concert.

Friday 16th November: A concert was held by Peter Edge on Friday evening, members of the SWG were on hand to serve refreshments of Mulled Wine and Mince Pies.

Saturday 24th December: Light tea served in Bargates Hall to Church members who were on duty during the Crib services. Thank you to Doreen for making the soup, which was served with freshly baked bread rolls, mince pies and cream, plus a selection of Wine, Mulled wine and Tea and Coffee. Thank you Wendy for your help and to those who helped us clear up afterwards.

We have a few dates for the coming year already.

The Children's Society

Rebecca Sims

As a church we support the work of the Children's Society through individual collection boxes and our annual Christingle service. 70 people hold collection boxes which are emptied on a yearly basis or sooner if requested. The total raised this year was £1095.15. An excellent result, especially with people not using as much cash now and so not having as much loose change. Thank you to everyone who generously

contributes in this way. Also to the people who don't hold a box but make a yearly donation. It was wonderful to see over 130 people attend the Christingle service in December and have representatives from the schools taking part too. 140 Christingle oranges were prepared, with around 110 being given out at the service. The rest will be made into Christingle marmalade. A total of £212.32 was raised, this is made up of £144.32 donations and £68 from the sale of chocolate oranges. This year the Infant and Junior Academy agreed to distribute a template for a collecting cube to each child, after not doing so for the last 2 years due to the pandemic. Unfortunately the uptake on this was very low with only 8 being returned. A few were returned at the service, but for most of the donations at church envelopes were used. We will need to look at a different way of doing this next year as there is the expense of card and ink to take into consideration. An idea for next year could be to still advertise the event within the schools, but perhaps ask the children to bring a jar to collect loose change in and then invite them to bring that to the Christingle service? The Children's society does wonderful work supporting deprived children, especially helping children in family breakdown, runaways, refugees and child carers amongst others. A big thank you to everyone who supports it. The box collection is particularly invaluable to what we've been able to contribute to the society this year, so if you haven't got a box please do consider it. Just ask me if you would like any more information on being a box holder.

Residential / Nursing Homes' Communion

Pauline Stokes

Visits to our Residential and Nursing Homes continued during the year – though from only a couple of years ago, how things have changed. We now only visit regularly Greenfields and St. John's Park each month. Sadly, we have not visited Weston House since Covid, and Edgeley House and Cloverfields are no longer in operation.

However, our small team of visitors remain faithful, and we look forward to our visits, when we meet up with familiar faces! Usually held during the second week in the month – firstly to St. John's Park, where we meet in their lovely Day Room. Sadly numbers are very low, but we always enjoy our visit with Revd. Judy, and the residents, certainly appreciates our visits. (Remember – *"where two or three are gathered together, there am I in the midst"*) And yes, though small in numbers, we *always* make sure we sing a couple of seasonal hymns, too. (sometimes quite gustily !!)

From there, we travel to Greenfields Nursing Home, where, we are always made most welcome by the Staff and residents. Again, things have changed since Covid, sadly we no longer are able visit Bluebell, where we visited residents with Dementia, however we are able to hold our Communion Service with the residents in Snowdrop, now in the comfort of their Day Room., led by Revd Judy, and supported by our team. The Rector, so aptly gives a short reflection on the Gospel reading, which is much appreciated by the residents. After the service we are able to circulate and talk to the residents, some of whom have become 'old' friends! – which is lovely!

Jane Rylands, our Reader takes a lovely, short "Songs of Praise" Service in Snowdrop, when our team join in with the residents with the singing, and take part with readings, etc. Jane, too gives a short reflection on the special readings of the day, which is always much appreciated. We endeavour to hold such a service each month, but sometimes it is postponed, usually because of illness, so we look forward even more to the next "Songs of Praise" !! Once again, after the service, we like to circulate amongst the residents and have a chat with them!

Crib Festival

Doreen Ashurst and Wendy Darter

We were pleased to be able to celebrate our Annual Crib Festival in Church in November. We had 100 cribs to display and almost 400 Visitors attended on the day, many of whom were not regular attenders. Again a valuable outreach event which raised £183 in donations.

Whitchurch Foodbank Report

Mrs Pauline Stokes

The use of Food Banks has certainly been mainstream news on our Television Screens, during this past year, which has brought attention to the plight of so many people struggling to put food on their tables, or pay their bills, when they are already "down and out" so to speak!! – but apparently, now including, many people who *do* have jobs, but who just cannot make ends meet !!

Whitchurch Food Bank is playing its part - (It is 9 years since we began operating !) During the first six months of 2022 we had over 400 referrals to Food Bank, which provided more than 12 tonnes of food for 600 adults and 339 children. During the summer we invited Schools to put forward the names of families who might struggle to provide lunchtime food for their children over the 6 week period. Food vouchers were given to parents of children eligible for Free School Meals for the first 3 weeks of the holiday and our Food

Bank was pleased to be able to support families for the remaining 3 weeks. Thanks to our volunteers, we picked, packed and distributed **984 kg** of food which was then collected at Bargates by the families.

At the time of writing, I do not have full details to hand of our Christmas distributions which took place on 23rd December – this was a huge operation in itself (and we are still recovering from it!!) But, without all our wonderful volunteers, it would just not have been possible!!

I conclude with a quote from an Email we received, which says it all, as they say:

“To all the Staff at Whitchurch Food Bank. – My Son and I called in for the first time today, and I have no other words than – Thank you. Truly humbled and in awe of the supplies you gave us, from after weeks of feeding the kids, and eating their left overs, we will have a proper family meal tonight. On top of that, the kids have something to open on Christmas Day, and Santa can fill their stockings with sweet treats. I’m not ashamed to say, I cried with relief *all* the way home. Thank you for all you do and for making us feel so welcomed”

And, finally, a huge **“Thank you”** to every single one of you who have made donations to Food Bank, whether by personally bringing in bags of food, etc. to Bargates, or by making financial donations – these have truly been outstanding, not only from our wonderful community of Whitchurch, but also from *all* the local villages and towns round about, too – **Bless you all & THANK YOU !!**

Fairtrade Report

Mrs Judy Bellingham

St Alkmunds renewed their Fairtrade Church status in 2022. This means that we agree to serve Fairtrade tea/coffee at our services and events and other things like sugar and biscuits if possible. We also agree to support Fairtrade Fortnight. We have done this in the past by having a Big Brew in church. Hopefully we can have one in 2023. I continue to have a stall in the Whitchurch Market each Friday and have had stalls at Blackberry Fair and the Christmas Lights Switch on. We also have a representative at Whitchurch Fairtrade Town Group. Thanks to all of you who have supported Traidcraft despite not having the stall in church. I am hoping to start the stall again this year. Traidcraft have stopped doing their catalogues so now if you want to order anything you need to look on their website. I can get anything for you to save postage. Just let me know. Every time we choose to buy a Fair trade product we are helping someone less fortunate to make a decent living for their family.

The Friends of St. Alkmund’s, Whitchurch

Revd Judy, Chair

Main Project: The Chancel Step Handrails

Money was raised during 2022 with a number of events:

Strawberry tea in the Rectory Garden,

A concert with Jean Martyn,

An Open Garden at the Beeches (courtesy of the Bradshaw family),

A talk on a trip “From Bargates to the Bosphorus” (thanks to Garry & Celia Churchill),

An Evening at Etzio (thanks to Etzio staff and to Sandra Stone for organising this once again)

A Christmas Social Evening courtesy of Mr & Mrs F Dimelow

The Friends AGM was held on 14.06.2022.

Trustees for the coming year were appointed:

The Revd Judy Hunt Ex-officio and Chair

Mr Simon Edge Elected and Treasurer

Mrs Hilda Francis-Roberts PCC Nomination

Mr Ray Hatton Elected and Secretary

Mrs Belinda Hutchinson-Smith Elected

Mrs Alex Williamson PCC nomination and Membership Secretary

Mr Tom Rylands PCC nomination

Mr Chris Smith Elected

After the business part of the meeting; we had a talk from Simon Lyon about his ‘sound and vision’ work for television programmes. The brightness of the sun hindered us seeing the images he’d brought for projection but he made up for this in his words! Raffles were held on numerous occasions—thanks to Hilda Francis-Roberts and Allison Haycox. Looking ahead, the programme for 2023 has yet to be finalised but the date for the AGM is Thurs 4th May with Anna Turner (Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire) as the speaker. During 2022, Anna kindly agreed to be our Patron.

FTW Report

Revd Judy

The FTW co-ordinating group for the three parishes, with PCC representation from each, met in January, March and June. No progress was made on the vacant House for Duty post.

The links between the three parishes have been key in helping us forward after Covid.

Administrative support for all three parishes was provided by Jo Lavin and then Alison Dunne. Website and Social Media development have been important.

We held a training session for those who had been approached or offered to lead worship. This leading then took place, with another feedback session later in the year. It has proved to be a good use of people's gifts and will be very helpful in the forthcoming vacancy.

The Clergy and Reader team members move around the 3 parishes to lead and preach at Sunday Services. The other leaders have a mixture of 'practice', some staying in their home parish and some going to others in the benefice too.

Revd Judy has overall oversight and particular responsibility for Whitchurch and Tilstock and Revd Sue for Fauls. Revd Sue has also taken on some aspects of ministry in Tilstock.

The Treasurers and Clergy have been in contact during the year.

Time Together and the Hospital Chaplaincy are joint ventures too.

The FTW section to intercessions in all three parishes in our main Sunday services and by e mail round to those who wish to pray at home has continued; thanks to Jill Wallace, together with Caroline Sewry, Joan Hockenhull and Judy Bellingham.

There is an item on the agenda at each Coordinating group meeting to highlight any requests for support from any of the three parishes.

There has been a sharing of resources and a working together in times of lockdown: prayer & nurture, pastoral care and ensuring communication are areas of this in particular.

Online / Livestreamed services have been appreciated.

Mutual support has been strong for social and fundraising events.

A new group formed in September to work on the Benefice Profile, with Jane Rylands as Chair, again with representatives from each of the Parishes.

Thanks to all who have prayed, worked together and provided support and encouragement.

Rector's Report St Alkmund's, Whitchurch

Revd Judy

In 2022, we started to emerge fully from the Covid Pandemic but continued to be aware of its effect.

Numbers at Sunday services are down but people are enjoying being able to meet again in different ways.

Sadnesses

The death or illnesses of several 'core' members of St Alkmund's community

The loss of Jo Lavin as our benefice Administrator & Parish Clerk

The lack of movement on DBS checks so that we can resume Hospital Chaplaincy Ministry

The lack of movement on having a House-for-Duty post clergy colleague

The loss of Messy Church and of a Junior Chorister contingent

The news from Richard James that he will be stepping down as Director of Music at the end of February 2023

Challenges

Challenges have been linked to the sadnesses—see above

Ensuring that our income did not plummet during the year

Other challenges have come through the work continuing on the church building and on Bargates Hall

Regular individual and corporate prayer for God's help in meeting these challenges with grace and hope has been important, and has been answered.

Joys

The arrival of Alison Dunne as our Benefice Administrator & Parish Clerk

A strengthened prayer network – in St Alkmund's but also with Fauls and Tilstock

Zoom meetings with an increased attendance compared with face-to-face ones

Junior Church meetings and feedback

Our activities

There is much to be thankful for in the year as a whole, as you can read above and in the rest of this booklet. First and foremost, we are thankful to God, but following closely on – we are also thankful for each other. In each area listed below, I would like to include thanks to the people involved:

The continuing ministry of Jane Rylands as Reader and Revd Sue The oversight & ministries exercised by the Churchwardens and their deputies, Treasurer, Secretary, and other PCC and Standing Committee members.

The week by week preparation and 'on a Sunday' work with service sheets, Junior Church, bell-ringing, welcome, music, cleaning, flowers, readings, intercessions and communion distribution

The pastoral care exercised in many different ways

The prayer life of the church and its people; leading of Wednesday prayers by various lay people on Zoom; thanks to Judy Bellingham for overseeing this as well as taking DVDs of services out to those who don't have internet connections

Wendy Darter's work as Baptism Co-ordinator

Time Together and the ministry exercised throughout; and thanks to Pol Green as our Dementia-work Co-ordinator

The links and activities with the four local schools

The publication of the Newsletter; the work of our Administrator, Alison Dunne in general and to Pauline Stokes for proof-reading.

The upkeep and regular use of Bargates Hall, especially to Sheila Chase who has taken on the role of Bargates Manager—as well as becoming Churchwarden. Congratulations to her, also, for being chosen as "Whitchurch Citizen of the Year"!

The funds given to charities from our Christingle and Harvest Services, our general involvement with Christian Aid & Fair Trade and our support of our link missionaries via CMS and Crosslinks

The PCC unrestricted finances showing only a small deficit, the faithful and accurate work of our treasurer

All the work of our Social Working Group, including the fundraising Civic Centre Coffee morning

The Plant Sale – thanks to Judy Bryant & Janet Ivens

The Christmas Coffee Morning—thanks to Hilda Francis-Roberts and team

The Crib Festival—thanks to Doreen Ashurst and Wendy Darter; also Jane Rylands

The continued fundraising work of the Friends of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch

Work on the church building, carpark and Bargates Hall—with thanks to Garry Churchill for his work on statutory Statements of Need *etc*

Ongoing work on Safeguarding (see elsewhere) - thanks to Meriel Edge

Mission Action Plan (MAP)

We have kept our activities under review, bearing in mind the Diocesan priorities of Discipleship, Vocation and Evangelism:

Discipleship:

Sunday services – including livestreaming and the talks / sermons which are available afterwards in printed form or on the church website

Confirmation Courses for adults and young people

Holy Week input on Zoom

Autumn Discipleship Course on Zoom

Advent Meditative service

Evangelism

On-line group work; stream-lining of our publicity and other outreach, including "A church near you" website

Blackberry Fair Involvement

Crib Festival

Reflections and services on Church Facebook

Posts on Whitchurch Town Facebook site

Schools' work

Vocation

Conversations leading to people feeling able to offer new ministries e.g.

Co-leading of Zoom groups

Leading at services

Workload

There has been a 'shifting' within the workload of church members—with some needing to cut back but others being able to offer more.

For myself, I'm very glad that Alison Dunne was appointed and that she has done so much with the administration to keep us all up to date with safe-guarding training and DBS checks! This has taken a load off me and enabled me to do more of equipping and planning for the vacancy

I am aware that this will be my last annual report—but my prayers for you all will continue in the future.

Conclusion

By God's grace and through our prayer and action, we have continued to see positive developments in 2022. The way in which members of St Alkmund's work together continues to be inspirational.

Thanks to all involved and thanks be to God.

Approved by the PCC on 27th February 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Julian M Mont
Reverend (Chairman)

EBucknell
Secretary (Vice Chairman/Secretary etc)

Rector
Rev Canon Dr J M Mont

Independent Examiner's report to the trustees/members of The PCC of St Alkmund's Church, Whitchurch

Registered charity number: 1129900

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022 which are set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the 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 accounts 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 material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Jonathan Hill FCMA CGMA

Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance

St Marys House, The Close, Lichfield. WS13 7LD

Date: 05/04/2023 .

The Parochial Church Council of St Alkmund's Church, Whitchurch

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

Accounting Policies

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions. They have also been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals as the pence are not being shown.

Cashflow Statement

The Charity has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 from the requirement to produce a Cash flow statement on the grounds that the income does not exceed £500,000.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Accounting Estimates and Prior Year Errors

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period.

No material prior year errors have been identified in the reporting period.

Description of Funds

Unrestricted funds are income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are therefore not included in its "free reserves" as disclosed in the trustees' annual report.

Restricted funds comprise of two elements:

a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest

b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

Endowment funds are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend capital as income, and where the use of any income or other benefit derived from the capital may be restricted or unrestricted. Full details of all their restrictions are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Income

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received or when the PCC becomes entitled to the resource and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and Legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Expenditure

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts

Accounting Policies continued

received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Governance and Support Costs

Support costs should be allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the PCC and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources eg by allocating staff costs by time spent and other costs by their usage.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts by s.10(2)(a)&(C) of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the Church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements.

The Tangible Assets are shown at historical cost and are not revalued each year. The properties are well maintained, and an impairment review is carried out periodically.

Investments

Investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued initially at cost and subsequently at market value at the year end. Investments held for re-sale are treated as current asset investments.

Debtors

Debtors are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount. Subsequently they are measured at cash expected to be received.

Creditors and Accruals

Creditors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts. Accruals are measured on best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

Whitchurch PCC

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	86,732	38	16,145	—	102,915	86,805
Income from charitable activities	12,185	—	—	—	12,185	15,319
Other trading activities	18,349	—	1,072	—	19,421	15,136
Investments	16,014	—	15,818	—	31,832	27,459
Other income	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total income	133,280	38	33,036	—	166,353	144,719
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	1,663	—	—	—	1,663	321
Expenditure on charitable activities	128,945	—	31,112	—	160,056	161,154
Total expenditure	130,608	—	31,112	—	161,720	161,474
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	2,672	38	1,924	—	4,633	(16,756)
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in	1,932	—	1,000	—	2,932	600
Gross transfers between funds - out	(1,000)	—	(1,932)	—	(2,932)	(600)
Other recognised gains / losses						
Gains / losses on investment assets	(20,456)	—	(72,539)	—	(92,995)	—
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	—	—	—	—	—	86,429
Net movement in funds	(16,853)	38	(71,547)	—	(88,362)	69,673
Total funds brought forward	1,123,110	2,474	596,570	—	1,722,154	1,652,482
Total funds carried forward	1,106,257	2,512	525,023	—	1,633,793	1,722,154
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
General Fund	1,106,257	—	—	—	1,106,257	1,123,110
Designated						
Bell Designated	—	2,512	—	—	2,512	2,474
Restricted						
Agency collection	—	—	—	—	—	—
Church Buildings Fund Scheme	—	—	220	—	220	220
Fabric Restricted	—	—	514,061	—	514,061	584,931
Interior Decorating Scheme	—	—	3,514	—	3,514	3,014
Lectern Restricted	—	—	1,000	—	1,000	1,000
Time Together	—	—	6,229	—	6,229	7,406

Whitchurch PCC

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2022

	Total funds	Prior year funds
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	892,300	892,300
Investments	696,996	789,992
	<u>1,589,296</u>	<u>1,682,292</u>
Current assets		
Debtors	4,573	3,639
Cash at bank and in hand	41,993	44,612
	<u>46,567</u>	<u>48,251</u>
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	2,070	8,388
	<u>2,070</u>	<u>8,388</u>
Net current assets less current liabilities	<u>44,496</u>	<u>39,863</u>
Total assets less current liabilities	<u>1,633,793</u>	<u>1,722,154</u>
Total net assets less liabilities	<u>1,633,793</u>	<u>1,722,154</u>
Represented by		
Unrestricted		
General Fund	1,106,257	1,123,110
Designated		
Bell Designated	2,512	2,474
Restricted		
Church Buildings Fund Scheme	220	220
Fabric Restricted	514,061	584,931
Interior Decorating Scheme	3,514	3,014
Lectern Restricted	1,000	1,000
Time Together	6,229	7,406
Agency collection	—	—
Funds of the church	<u>1,633,793</u>	<u>1,722,154</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 27/02/2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Signature: John M. Hunt

Name: Revd Canon Dr J M Hunt; RECTOR

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts

Allocation of Support Costs

Support costs comprise Trustee Training and Governance Costs etc. Due to the nature of the financial activities of the PCC, these would be allocated across Charitable Expenditure which comprises the majority of its expenditure and as such are automatically charged there.

Staff Costs

	2022	2021
Wages & Salaries	£ 19,388	£ 18,929
Average number of employees	3	3

During the year the PCC employed an administrator, church cleaner and organist (all part-time). There was a period between March and May, between Jo Lavin's resignation and Alison Dunne's appointment, when there were no administrator salary costs. Our organist, Richard James gave notice of resignation at the end of the year, so we are seeking to make a new appointment soon. The administrator's salary attracts additional employer pension costs of £294.83 (2021 £379.17). There was no employers NI. The PCC use the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST), for its pension payments.

There were no employee benefits to key management personnel in the previous or current year.

Trustees' Remuneration & Expenses

1 Trustee was paid expenses during the year of £2,244 (2021 £2,053).

Related Parties

No other expenses were paid to any other PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties.

Donations from related parties (PCC members) totalled £10,455 (2021 £12,740). This does not include donations made by debit/ credit card as these are anonymous, unless offered specifically.

Fees for the examination of the accounts

	2022 £	2021 £
Independent Examiner's fees	150	150
Other fees (eg accountancy services) paid to the Independent Examiner		

Analysis of Transfer between Funds 2022

	Unrestricted £	Restricted IDS £	Time Together £
Payment to Diocese for Interior Decoration Scheme becomes Restricted Debtor	(500)	500	
Hire of Church Hall and Photocopying recharges for Time Together Sessions	1,072 360		(1,072) (360)
Total	932	500	(1,432)

Analysis of Transfer between Funds 2021

	Unrestricted £	Restricted IDS £	CBFS £
Payment to Diocese for Schemes become Restricted Debtors	(600)	400	200

Fixed Assets

Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold Buildings £	Freehold Buildings £	Total £
	Bargates	3a & 3b	
	Church Hall	Bridgewater Street	
Cost or Valuation			
As at 1 st Jan	584,282	308,018	892,300
Additions in the year			
Disposal in the year			
Revaluation (if any)			
Value at 31st Dec	584,282	308,018	892,300
Accumulated Depreciation			
As at 1 st Jan			
Charge for the year			
Disposals			
Value at 31st Dec			
Net Book Value at 1st Jan 2022	584,282	308,018	892,300
Net Book Value at 31st Dec 2022	584,282	308,018	892,300

The Tangible Assets are shown at historical cost and are not revalued each year. The properties are well maintained, and an impairment review is carried out periodically.

Investments

	At 1 st Jan £	Additions £	Disposals £	Transfers £	Change in market value £	At 31 st Dec £
Unrestricted funds						
CCLA Investment Fund Income Shares						
CCLA 620371001S	52,925				(6,230)	46,695
CCLA 620371002S	89,682				(6,739)	82,943
CCLA 120002469S	63,604				(7,488)	56,116
Total Unrestricted	206,211				(20,456)	185,754
Restricted Funds						
CCLA Investment Fund Income Shares						
CCLA 620371002S	583,781				(72,539)	511,242
Total	789,992				(92,995)	696,996

Current Assets

Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
LDBF IDS & CBF Schemes	3,734	3,234
LDBF Extra Parishes claims	53	
Prepayments and accrued income		346
Other debtors	786	58
Total	4,573	3,639

Liabilities

Amounts falling due in one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Accruals	884	150
Agency collections	(1,660)	(1,494)
Other creditors	2,846	9,732
Total	2,070	8,388

Statement of assets and liabilities as at 31 December 2022

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Fixed assets - Investments						
CCLA Investment Fund 2469S -	56,116	—	—	—	56,116	63,604
CCLA Investment Fund 1001S -	46,695	—	—	—	46,695	52,925
CCLA Investment Fund 1002S -	82,944	—	511,242	—	594,185	673,463
Totals	185,755	—	511,242	—	696,996	789,992
Fixed assets - Tangible assets						
Bargates Hall -	584,282	—	—	—	584,282	584,282
3a Bridgewater Street -	154,009	—	—	—	154,009	154,009
3b Bridgewater Street -	154,009	—	—	—	154,009	154,009
Totals	892,300	—	—	—	892,300	892,300
Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand						
Barclays Current Account -	17,795	83	(1,018)	—	16,860	4,397
Barclays Deposit Account -	13,190	2,429	9,405	—	25,024	40,000
Petty Cash -	106	—	—	—	106	95
Flowers Petty Cash -	3	—	—	—	3	119
Totals	31,093	2,512	8,387	—	41,993	44,612
Current assets - Debtors						
Interior Decorating Scheme -	—	—	3,514	—	3,514	3,014
Church Building Fund Scheme -	—	—	220	—	220	220
Sundry Debtors -	53	—	—	—	53	346
Accounts Receivable -	786	—	—	—	786	59
Totals	839	—	3,734	—	4,573	3,639
Liabilities - Agency accounts						
Agency collections -	—	—	(1,660)	—	(1,660)	(1,494)
Totals	—	—	(1,660)	—	(1,660)	(1,494)
Liabilities - Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year						
Accruals -	884	—	—	—	884	150
Accounts Payable -	2,847	—	—	—	2,847	9,733
Totals	3,730	—	—	—	3,730	9,883
Grand total	1,106,257	2,512	525,023	—	1,633,793	1,722,154

Statement of Assets and Liabilities 2021 Comparatives

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Last year
Fixed Asset - Investments						
6450: CCLA Investment Fund 2469S	63,604	-	-	-	63,604	55,644
6455: CCLA Investment Fund 1001S	52,925	-	-	-	52,925	46,301
6460: CCLA Investment Fund 1002S	89,682	-	583,781	-	673,463	451,618
Totals	206,211	-	583,781	-	789,992	553,563
Fixed Asset - Tangible Assets						
6430: Bargates Hall	584,282	-	-	-	584,282	584,282
6441: 3a Bridgewater Street	154,009	-	-	-	154,009	154,009
6442: 3b Bridgewater Street	154,009	-	-	-	154,009	154,009
Totals	892,300	-	-	-	892,300	892,300
Current Assets - Cash At Bank And In Hand						
6501: Barclays Current Account	167	45	4,186	-	4,397	15,143
6505: Barclays Deposit Account	25,668	2,429	11,905	-	40,000	190,003
6530: Petty Cash	95	-	-	-	95	127
6531: Flowers Petty Cash	119	-	-	-	119	-
6535: Bargates Petty Cash	-	-	-	-	-	100
Totals	26,047	2,474	16,091	-	44,612	205,373
Current Asset - Debtors						
6560: Interior Decorating Scheme	-	-	3,014	-	3,014	2,514
6561: Church Building Fund Scheme	-	-	220	-	220	-
6565: Sundry Debtors	346	-	-	-	346	2,532
205: Accounts Receivable	59	-	-	-	59	1,196
Totals	405	-	3,234	-	3,639	6,242
Liabilities - Agency Accounts						
6699: Agency collections	-	-	(1,494)	-	(1,494)	1,215
Totals	-	-	(1,494)	-	(1,494)	1,215
Liabilities - Creditors: Amounts Falling Due In One Year						
6601: Accruals	150	-	-	-	150	2,050
204: Accounts Payable	1,703	-	8,029	-	9,733	1,732
Totals	1,853	-	8,029	-	9,883	3,782
Grand Total	1,123,110	2,474	598,570	-	1,722,154	1,652,482

Fund movement by type for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/losses	Closing
Bell - Bell Designated						
Designated	2,474	38	-	-	-	2,512
Sub-total for Bell	2,474	38	-	-	-	2,512
CBFS - Church Buildings Fun						
Restricted	220	-	-	-	-	220
Sub-total for CBFS	220	-	-	-	-	220
Fabric - Fabric Restricted						
Restricted	584,931	31,349	29,680	-	(72,539)	514,061
Sub-total for Fabric	584,931	31,349	29,680	-	(72,539)	514,061
IDS - Interior Decorating						
Restricted	3,014	-	-	500	-	3,514
Sub-total for IDS	3,014	-	-	500	-	3,514
Lectern - Lectern Restricted						
Restricted	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Sub-total for Lectern	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Time Toget - Time Together						
Restricted	7,406	1,687	1,432	(1,432)	-	6,229
Sub-total for Time Toget	7,406	1,687	1,432	(1,432)	-	6,229
General - General Fund						
Unrestricted	1,123,110	133,280	130,608	932	(20,456)	1,106,257
Sub-total for General	1,123,110	133,280	130,608	932	(20,456)	1,106,257
Grand total	1,722,154	166,353	161,720	-	(92,995)	1,633,793

Fund Description

The restricted funds comprise:

General Fabric Fund

LDBF Interior Decoration Scheme

LDBF Church Building Fund Scheme

Lectern

Time Together

To maintain the Church building

Fund set up to assist funding for the decoration of the Rectory

Fund set up to assist funding for Church Building

Bequeathed my Mavis Bancroft in memory of her 3 x great grandfather who made it

Dementia-friendly group where sufferers and carers meet regularly in Bargates Hall to socialise and share experiences

The designated funds are to help maintain the bell-ringing services of the Church

Fund movement 2021 comparatives

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/(losses)	Closing
Bell						
Designated	2,429	45	-	-	-	2,474
Sub-total for Bell	2,429	45	-	-	-	2,474
CBFS						
Restricted	-	20	-	200	-	220
Sub-total for CBFS	-	20	-	200	-	220
Fabric						
Restricted	528,016	20,534	35,464	-	71,845	584,931
Sub-total for Fabric	528,016	20,534	35,464	-	71,845	584,931
IDS						
Restricted	2,514	100	-	400	-	3,014
Sub-total for IDS	2,514	100	-	400	-	3,014
Lectern						
Restricted	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Sub-total for Lectern	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Time Together						
Restricted	6,910	1,120	624	-	-	7,406
Sub-total for Time Together	6,910	1,120	624	-	-	7,406
General						
Unrestricted	1,111,613	122,900	125,387	(600)	14,584	1,123,110
Sub-total for General	1,111,613	122,900	125,387	(600)	14,584	1,123,110
Grand Total	1,652,482	144,719	161,474	-	86,429	1,722,154

Summary of Assets by Fund - 2022

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	At 31/12/2022 £	At 31/12/2021 £
Fixed Assets	892,300	-	-	-	892,300	892,300
Investment Assets	185,755	-	511,242	-	696,996	789,992
Current Assets	31,933	2,512	12,122	-	46,567	48,251
Current Liabilities	(3,730)	-	1,660	-	(2,070)	(8,388)
	1,106,257	2,512	525,023	-	1,633,793	1,722,154

Summary of Assets by Fund - 2021

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	At 31/12/2021	At 31/12/2020
					£	£
Fixed Assets	892,300	-	-	-	892,300	892,300
Investment Assets	206,211	-	583,781	-	789,992	553,563
Current Assets	26,452	2,474	19,325	-	48,251	211,616
Current Liabilities	(1,853)	-	(6,535)	-	(8,388)	(4,997)
	1,123,110	2,474	596,570	-	1,722,154	1,652,482

Analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2022

					Total	
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS						
Donations and legacies						
Planned Giving - Gift Aid - Bank	41,853	—	—	—	41,853	42,582
Planned Giving - Gift Aid (Envelopes)	820	—	—	—	820	1,066
Other planned giving	4,097	—	345	—	4,442	4,842
Loose plate collections	7,101	—	150	—	7,251	3,603
Other Donations eg Funerals	13,681	38	165	—	13,884	3,817
Giving through church boxes	1,189	—	—	—	1,189	1,182
One-off Gift Aid gifts	437	—	—	—	437	956
Donations appeals etc	—	—	—	—	—	1,100
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	9,069	—	—	—	9,069	8,631
Legacies	—	—	15,485	—	15,485	1,500
Recurring grants - LDBF IDS & CBFS	—	—	—	—	—	120
Bonus	—	—	—	—	—	—
Recurring grants - LDBF Extra	131	—	—	—	131	148
Parishes	—	—	—	—	—	—
Recurring grants - Faults Admin	1,367	—	—	—	1,367	1,743
Contribut	—	—	—	—	—	—
Recurring grants - Tilstock Admin	1,348	—	—	—	1,348	3,036
Contri	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-recurring one-off grants	2,418	—	—	—	2,418	11,238
Other funds generated	3,221	—	—	—	3,221	1,243
Total	86,732	38	16,145	—	102,915	86,805
Income from charitable activities						
Statutory Fees for weddings	876	—	—	—	876	3,039
Statutory Fees for funerals	5,194	—	—	—	5,194	5,636
Local Fees for weddings	110	—	—	—	110	594
Local Fees for funerals	1,705	—	—	—	1,705	1,750
Fund Raising activities	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hospital Chaplaincy	4,300	—	—	—	4,300	4,300
Total	12,185	—	—	—	12,185	15,319
Other trading activities						
Rummage sales etc	1,732	—	—	—	1,732	2,892
Church hall lettings	15,094	—	1,072	—	16,166	10,489
Hire of Church	716	—	—	—	716	765
Magazine income - advertising	—	—	—	—	—	—
Parish magazine and other income	807	—	—	—	807	989
Total	18,349	—	1,072	—	19,421	15,136
Investments						
Dividends	4,911	—	15,818	—	20,730	17,083
Bank and building society interest	24	—	—	—	24	13
Rent from 3a Bridgewater Street	5,625	—	—	—	5,625	5,460
Rent from 3b Bridgewater Street	5,453	—	—	—	5,453	4,903
Total	16,014	—	15,818	—	31,832	27,459
Other income						
Insurance claims	—	—	—	—	—	—
Surplus - sales of fixed assets	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—
INCOME TOTAL	133,280	38	33,036	—	166,353	144,719

EXPENDITURE

Raising funds

Fees paid to fund raisers	—	—	—	—	—	—
Costs of applying for grants	—	—	—	—	—	—
Costs of stewardship campaign	—	—	—	—	—	—
Costs of fetes & other events	81	—	—	—	81	38
Investment management costs	1,582	—	—	—	1,582	283
Total	1,663	—	—	—	1,663	321

Expenditure on charitable activities

Giving to missionary societies	2,000	—	—	—	2,000	2,000
Giving - relief and development agencies	500	—	—	—	500	—
Home mission	10	—	—	—	10	1,260
Secular charities	500	—	—	—	500	—
Parish Share	40,673	—	—	—	40,673	35,397
Assistant staff costs	—	—	—	—	—	—
Salary of parish administrator	10,403	—	—	—	10,403	13,018
Rector expenses - mileage	340	—	—	—	340	289
Rector expenses - postage and other misc	25	—	—	—	25	59
Rector expenses - publications	95	—	—	—	95	116
Rector expenses - hospitality	220	—	—	—	220	178
Rector expenses - telephone	1,066	—	—	—	1,066	954
Rector expenses - computer	240	—	—	—	240	220
Rector expenses - house insurance	38	—	—	—	38	37
Rector expenses - training	220	—	—	—	220	200
Rector expenses - Rectory garden	—	—	—	—	—	—
Curate/HfD/OLM expenses - mileage	—	—	—	—	—	185
Curate/HfD/OLM expenses - publications	—	—	—	—	—	114
Curate/HfD/OLM expenses - hospitality	—	—	—	—	—	—
Curate/HfD/OLM expenses - telephone	—	—	—	—	—	68
Curate/HfD/OLM expenses - computer	—	—	—	—	—	120
Curate/ HfD/ OLM Expenses - House Insura	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reader/Deanery Synod and other expenses	—	—	—	—	—	15
Education	52	—	1,792	—	1,844	751
Parish training and mission	—	—	—	—	—	152
Church running - insurance	5,749	—	—	—	5,749	5,650
Church office - telephone	1,681	—	—	—	1,681	1,541
Organ / piano tuning and organist	6,850	—	—	—	6,850	4,520
Church maintenance	8,062	—	15,986	—	24,048	7,110
Cleaning	2,930	—	—	—	2,930	3,268
Upkeep of services	2,802	—	—	—	2,802	1,913
Upkeep of churchyard	5,072	—	—	—	5,072	3,673
Upkeep of car parks	285	—	—	—	285	14,395
Printing/Photocopying	3,816	—	(360)	—	3,456	2,218
Postage & Stationery	1,079	—	—	—	1,079	599
Office Equipment	3,407	—	—	—	3,407	2,477
Annual Subscriptions	1,593	—	—	—	1,593	1,051
Bank Charges	500	—	—	—	500	409
Visiting speakers / locums	—	—	—	—	—	—
Memorial Book	521	—	—	—	521	665
Church running - electric	4,323	—	—	—	4,323	2,072
Church running - gas	2,198	—	—	—	2,198	1,473
Church running - water	182	—	—	—	182	181
Church running - oil	—	—	—	—	—	—
Church running - heating and lighting	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hospital Chaplaincy costs	—	—	—	—	—	—

Hall Caretaker costs	—	—	—	—	—	2,000
Hall running - oil	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hall running - electricity	1,616	—	—	—	1,616	724
Hall running - gas	4,291	—	—	—	4,291	1,297
Hall running - insurance	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hall running - maintenance	4,234	—	—	—	4,234	1,209
Hall running - telephone	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hall running - water	316	—	—	—	316	24
Hall running - consumables	52	—	—	—	52	389
Governance costs examination/audit fee	150	—	—	—	150	150
Church major repairs - structure	—	—	1,152	—	1,152	32,672
Church major repairs - professional fees	—	—	12,541	—	12,541	2,791
Church interior and exterior decorating	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hall + major repairs - structure	4,157	—	—	—	4,157	7,360
Hall + major repairs - installation	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hall + interior and exterior decorating	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bridgewater Street property costs	6,696	—	—	—	6,696	4,190
New building parsonage house	—	—	—	—	—	—
New building house for curate	—	—	—	—	—	—
New building Church	—	—	—	—	—	—
New building Hall	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	128,945	—	31,112	—	160,056	161,154
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	130,608	—	31,112	—	161,720	161,474
GRAND TOTAL	2,672	38	1,924	—	4,633	(16,756)

Statement of Financial Activities 2021 comparatives

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	79,512	45	7,247	—	86,804	217,582
Income from charitable activities	15,319	—	—	—	15,319	11,757
Other trading activities	14,735	—	400	—	15,135	12,091
Investments	13,333	—	14,125	—	27,459	28,185
Other income	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total income	122,899	45	21,773	—	144,718	269,616
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	320	—	—	—	320	—
Expenditure on charitable activities	125,066	—	36,087	—	161,153	381,363
Total expenditure	125,387	—	36,087	—	161,474	381,363
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	(2,488)	45	(14,314)	—	(16,756)	(111,747)
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in	—	—	600	—	600	1,115
Gross transfers between funds - out	(600)	—	—	—	(600)	(1,115)
Other recognised gains / losses						
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	14,583	—	71,844	—	86,428	219,345
Net movement in funds	11,496	45	58,131	—	69,672	107,598
Total funds brought forward	1,111,613	2,429	538,439	—	1,652,481	1,544,883
Total funds carried forward	1,123,109	2,474	596,570	—	1,722,154	1,652,481

Accounts

STATISTICS FOR ST ALKMUND'S WHITCHURCH

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021
Electoral Roll	169	144	155	149
Average Sunday (*) Adult Attendance	108	100	(Oct) 58	64.8
Average Sunday (*) Under 16 Attendance	6	4	4	3
8.00am	12.3	11	7	6.5
10.00am	78	76.4	44	52.6
6.30pm (new)	17	16.5	10	9.2
6.30pm (total)	26	25	7	16.7
Easter Communicants (**)	148	136	N/A	N/A
Easter Attendees (**)	189	172	N/A	N/a
Advent Special Attendees	1510	1710	158	220
Christmas Communicants	116	125	83	80
Christmas Attendees	1092	1092	102	148
Baptism (u16)	20	29	12	14
Baptism Adult	0	0	1	0
Funerals (with Church service)	55	46	21	35
Funerals (at Crem Only)	14	19	55	21
Interment of Ashes in GoR	12	10	15	8
Weddings	9	10	0	10
Prayer & Dedication of Marriage	0	0	0	0

Statistics for St Alkmund's 2018—2021

The statistics are shown in the table above. Please note that the Average Sunday Attendance (*) for 2017-19 figures include Harvest, Mothering Sundays but exclude Baptisms, Easter, Remembrance, Christingle, Memorial & Thanksgiving and Carol Services.

2020 & 2021 figures affected by Covid-19.

ST ALKMUND'S

WHITCHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT

Prepared by

Annual Parochial

Sunday 2

give financially

- Co-leading of Zoo
 - Staying in touch w
 - Hosting Zoom me
 - Getting DVD discs
- DVD players but n

Workload

- There have been changes in some church volunteers by the things we have managed to try. Our priorities have changed, and
- In 2020, mainly because my own workload was at a high level. In August 2021, I am now working full-time, especially as I had hoped to be at the end of the year. I am now doing DBS and Safeguarding training and do some training for lay

Conclusion

By God's grace and through our efforts, we can see positive developments in Alkmund's work together continuing. Thanks to all involved and the



- The PCC unrestricted finances showing only a small deficit, the faithful and accurate work of our treasurer
- The Plant Sale – thanks to Judy Bryant & Janet Ivens
- The continued fundraising work of the Friends of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch
- Work on the church building, carpark and Bargates Hall
- Ongoing work on Safeguarding (see elsewhere) and on Data Protection – with thanks here to Jo Lavin, Mel Williams, Paul Williamson and Meriel Edge

Mission Action Plan (MAP)

We had hoped to draw up a new MAP for 2020, and then again for 2021 but Coronavirus intervened. We have kept our activities under review, bearing in mind the Diocesan priorities of Discipleship, Vocation and Evangelism:

Discipleship:

- Sunday services – including livestreaming and the talks / sermons which are available afterwards in printed form or on the church website
- Lent Course on Zoom
- Living in Love & Faith Course
- Advent Meditative services

Evangelism

- Review of Music and its place in our Mission – included theological study and then underpinned the appointment process of our new Director of Music
- On-line group work; stream-lining of our publicity and other outreach, including “A church near you” website
- Young People's choir
- Reflections and services on Church Facebook and YouTube and also on a town Facebook group

Vocation

- Conversations leading to people feeling able to offer new ministries during Covid-19 lockdown *e.g.*
 - Co-ordination of pastoral care
 - Pastoral phone calls
 - Prayer over the phone
 - Leading on changing the way in which congregation members

Reference and

Charity Name & Number

St Alkmund's Parish Church
Charity number: 112990

Address

St Alkmund's Church, c/o
Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 2JH

PCC Members from APCM 2019

Judy Bellingham (PCC Secretary)
Elaine Bucknell (PCC Secretary)
John Castledine
Sheila Chase
Celia Churchill
Meriel Edge
David Fisher
Hilda Francis-Roberts
Pauline Green (Lay Chair)
Judy Hunt (Rector & PCC Secretary)
Caroline Hulse
Sam Johnson (until September)
Jane Rylands
Tom Rylands
John Stokes (Churchwarden)
Pauline Stokes (Deanery Secretary)
Jill Wallace (Churchwarden)
Steve White (Deanery Secretary)
Melanie Williams (PCC Secretary)

Bankers

Barclays plc

Independent Examiner

Staff at Lichfield Diocese

Structure, Governance and Management

PCC's Constitution

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

- Trustees (PCC members) are appointed by election at the APCM; ex-officio on the PCC are all clergy licensed to the parish, churchwardens and members of Deanery, Diocesan and General Synods.
- New trustees are given an induction pack
- A Standing Committee exists and other committees include the Bargates Hall Committee, and a Finance Committee. Other groups meet: the Social Working Group and various pastoral groups.
- Safeguarding and Data Protection have received considerable attention this year and all our policies are now reviewed annually in January

Objectives and Activities

- Promoting the Gospel and the doctrines of the Church of England
- Vision statement:
Our church is a place where all are welcome and God can be found.
We seek to:
 - ◊ build up our spiritual life through prayer and teaching,
 - ◊ actively encourage lay involvement in mission and outreach,
 - ◊ and share the good news of the Gospel with the whole community.

Public benefit

The trustees of the Charity are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit and have had regard to it in their administration of the Charity. The trustees believe that, by promoting the work of the Church of England in the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Alkmund, Whitchurch, it helps to promote the whole mission of the Church (pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical) more effectively, within the Ecclesiastical Parish, and that in doing so it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers; and
- Promoting Christian values and service by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

Reserves Policy:

The Reserves Policy of Whitchurch PCC is to hold 3 months' costs in Unre-

- phone line and on Facebook for Collective Worship in
- Livestreaming of services
- Special services recorded
- Zoom and face-to-face meetings
- Zoom and face-to-face T
- Junior Church meeting a

Our activities

There is much to be thankful for during the coronavirus pandemic, as you can see. First and foremost, we are thankful for each other. We are also thankful for each other. We include thanks to the people in

- The continuing ministry of Sam (until July).
- The oversight & ministry of their deputies, Treasure Committee members.
- When possible to hold the extra that had to be of Covid-19, plus the m work with service sheets, flowers, readings, interce
- The pastoral care exercised adapting during Corona
- The prayer life of the ch prayers by various lay p for setting this up
- The links and activities
- The publication of the m our Administrator, Jo La Also the work Jo has do ed-needs, plus on the w
- The upkeep and regular sively during most of th wards for the first 10 m
- The funds given to char vices, our general involv our support of our link

other churches in Whitchurch and the Friends of St Alkmund's too.

Sadnesses

- The community of St Alkmund's was 'hit' by the death of a number of core members whose presence and whose contribution to the life and ministry of our church are much missed.
- The opportunity to meet together physically for fellowship and nurture has been tough – especially for those who cannot join in anything that is on-line.
- Missing the physical get-togethers for both Messy Church and Time Together for many months, plus the lack of opportunity to serve *via* the Hospital Chaplaincy and Homes Services.
- The unexpected departure of Revd Sam Johnson and his family in September.
- The resignation of Wayne Edwards as Bargates Manager / Caretaker

Challenges

- Challenges have been linked to the sadnesses – particularly in caring for those who are bereaved, whilst feeling wider losses brought about by Coronavirus restrictions. community bereavement too.
- Continuing to minister in our community despite these challenging losses amidst the longer term fatigue associated with the Coronavirus pandemic
- Losing the Revd Sam Johnson and the unwillingness of Diocesan Senior Staff to respond adequately to our requests for information about the vacant House for Duty post have been additional challenges.
- Ensuring that our income did not plummet during the year
- Other challenges have come through the work continuing on the church building and on Bargates Hall
- Regular individual and corporate prayer for God's help in meeting these challenges with grace and hope has been important, and has been answered.

Joys

- The arrival of Richard James as Director of Music; although this came about through the sadness of loss of three of our former organists, we are delighted that Richard accepted the appointment and our worship has been enhanced through his work with the choir, as well as through his organ playing
- The formation of a Young People's Choir
- A strengthened prayer network – in St Alkmund's but also with Fauls and Tilstock
- Regular Zoom meetings for prayer and for fellowship
- Regular Messages for Christian outreach and nurture on a local

stricted Reserves and £10,000. The restricted expenditure was £12,000. The total income was approximately £31,303. At the end of the year the cash and cash accounts which meet

Achievements

- See elsewhere for all the many achievements of St Alkmund's community for the year. Outreach, community service, etc.
- There are usually three services each week affected by Coronavirus pandemic. 8.00am – average attendance 10.00am – average attendance 6.30pm – average attendance (of whom 7.5 had attended)
- All who live in the town have been married. There were 10 weddings, 1 funeral. Venues of funerals were in church followed by Graveside or Crematorium

Financial Review

We started 2021 in 'lockdown' and we seem to be in a much better position. The availability of lateral flow tests has increased. Rates were extremely high in the early months but have become minimal for the vaccination campaign. As an Independent Examination body, we were asked to chair the Finance Co-ordinators' meeting. In doing so, we were asked to review the coding structure used by the church. We have 'switched places' in the year. Income was £122,899 and expenditure £112,899. A permanent change the pattern of weekly giving envelopes and the closure of Barclays bank branch.

However, various fund-raising events have taken place. Table members of the congregation have contributed to the additional revenue:

Plant Sale £1,400

Christmas Fayre £1,500

Civic Centre Coffee Morning £1,000

Harvest Lunch £180

Christmas Crib Festival £150

Thanks to everyone involved.

The Bridgewater Street properties required more maintenance than in previous years and in order to ensure we fulfil our legal obligations as a landlord, we chose Barbers to manage the property. The management charge is 11% and is included in the cost of 'Raising Funds', the gross rental income being recorded in 'Income and Endowments from: Investments'.

The car parking area was resurfaced at a cost of £12,600.

Restricted income £21,773 and expenditure £36,087 gives a net deficit of £14,314.

The stonework repairs were completed by the end of the year and there was some extra leadwork required to deal with water ingress at an additional cost to 2020 of £23,374.29. In memory of Anne Monie, the South Porch doors were glazed at a cost of £5,150 net of DCMS grant. An auto-regulator was fitted to the tower clock mechanism costing £2,420 after DCMS grant, which was funded by the Friends of St Alkmund's Church. £150,000 shares were purchased in August after it was clear all the structural building work had been completed, in order to bring us into line with our Reserves Policy. The gain on revaluation of 33734.23 CCLA shares at the year end was £86,428.

Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2021 accounts

Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance

Church Wardens' Report

John Stokes and Jill Wallace

2021 was again a very busy year for the upkeep of St. Alkmund's Church and its grounds, with once more, the added problems of having to work within the Covid 19 Restrictions.

- ✦ Further work was carried out to the lead on the North and South sides of the Church Roof
- ✦ Church Clock – Regulator fitted.
- ✦ Glass panels were inserted to the entrance door leading into Church from the Porch, enabling people to look into the church through the glass panels.
- ✦ New fittings and bulbs to the floodlights outside church, and a new Time clock.
- ✦ Parts of the Tarmac which were sinking on the Car Park, were repaired and relined. Plus part of the Rectory drive was re-tarmaced.
- ✦ PAT testing carried out on all electrical appliances and equipment, and electrical Tests also to any remedial work carried out
- ✦ Fire Extinguishers serviced
- ✦ Gutter maintenance carried out by Wayne Edwards
- ✦ Annual inspection of the Church Bells was carried out.
- ✦ Roof - Alarms, both Fire and Security were all tested

but the lack of someone in the means that Revd Judy will have had been hoped.

Church life (worship, pastoral ly impacted by the pandemic, parishes have been key and h Administrative support for all have been able to keep comm and by hard copy; this has inc Steps. Website development h Coronavirus information and When public worship has take bers move around the 3 paris Revd Judy has overall oversigh Whitchurch and Tilstock and l on some aspects of ministry i The Treasurers and Clergy ha Time Together and the Hospit has been kept going with all t Together started to meet 'fac The FTW section to intercessi services and by e mail round tinned

There is an item on the agenc highlight any requests for sup There has been a sharing of r lockdown: prayer & nurture, p are areas of this in particular. Online services have been app Mel Williams (Whitchurch) has Church Near You" for all three Mutual support has been stro **Thanks** to all who have praye and encouragement.

Rector's Report St Alkmund

2021 will be remembered as t ic. Our Church life was affecte open but public worship did r spite lockdowns and restrictio pastoral care and Christian nu North Shropshire area. Our ou in more normal times, we aim wherever possible: with those

Money had been raised in 2020 by publicity about the need to install a new auto-regulator at a cost of £2,420 plus VAT. Donations received totalled £1,725 and some of these were gift-aided.

The autoregulator was installed in the autumn of 2021; it has kept the clock to time and did alter the hour for the change at the end of October. The Friends paid the whole cost of £2,420; VAT was reclaimed by the PCC *via* the DCMS scheme.

The Friends AGM was held on 30.09.2021.

Trustees for the coming year were appointed:

The Revd Judy Hunt Ex-officio and Chair
 Mr Simon Edge Elected and Treasurer
 Mrs Hilda Francis-Roberts PCC Nomination
 Mr Ray Hatton Elected and Secretary
 Mrs Belinda Hutchinson-Smith Elected
 Mrs Alex Williamson PCC nomination and Membership Secretary
 Mr Tom Rylands PCC nomination
 Mr Chris Smith Elected

After the business part of the meeting; we had a talk and 'organ demonstration' from Richard James, the new Director of Music at St Alkmund's. This was really interesting, highly informative and amusing, too. Sincere thanks to Richard.

Events in 2021

We were not able to go ahead with some events because of the Coronavirus Pandemic. Numbers interested in a meal at Etzios were not sufficient for this event to be booked

A raffle was held on two occasions: at the AGM and at the Ninebarrow Concert that took place in early December

FTW Report

This year was greatly affected by Coronavirus. The FTW co-ordinating group for the three parishes, with PCC representation from each, met four times during the year, either in person or by Zoom.

No progress was made on the vacant House for Duty post. Tom Rylands contacted the Bishop of Lichfield on behalf of the churchwardens. He was directed to the Bishop of Shrewsbury who told him to make the case for the post *via* the Deanery Shaping for Mission group. This group, however, said that staffing was not within their remit. Contact with the Deanery Facilitator (appointed by the Diocese) was attempted but with no response.

The Revd Sam Johnson, curate, left us in early September. This was a shock for the parishes and there was no 'proper' goodbye, nor reasons given. This has been difficult for us all

Revd Judy announced at all three APCMs in 2021 that she hopes to retire around Easter of 2023. Planning for the vacancy will need to start early,

Revd Judy

✦ The Organ underwent its annual service this year.

✦ Gas Boiler Annual Service - *Gas for a date for this work*

✦ Old Grave Yard - grass mowed and, boundary hedge together with the maintenance

✦ All Graves - annual safety

✦ Baby Memorial Area - Grass repair to Seats in the Garden

Bridgewater Street Property has now been handed over to

Safeguarding Report 2021

The PCC has complied with the Safeguarding Policy and Clergy Discipline Measures. The Bishop's guidance on safeguarding is of immense importance as an Agenda item at every PCC meeting. A comprehensive risk assessment which is necessary.

The following groups/people have been involved in updating the safeguarding policy - Incumbent, PCC members, Time Together leaders and members, Bible Study, Choir leaders, Homes team, Junior Church, and Transport.

DBS documentation is continuing to be updated by those who need to update/refresh their training. It is expected to be challenging these COVID restrictions. People have been encouraged to go to <http://safeguardingtraining.org.uk> and supported others in updating their training. A new Safeguarding Learning and Development Framework by the National Safeguarding Centre sets out details of the current and expected expectations of Church of England Safeguarding is at the centre of our mission, and in our praying, and in our belief. It is to become integral to the very fabric of our life, with good safeguarding being a part of our Theology, by which we simply live out the faith we share, has been integral

opment pathways. As IICSA identified, this will require a significant shift in the Church's culture as a whole system approach

Achieving a paradigm shift in safeguarding requires a "whole system" approach within which change is achieved by the inter-relatedness of different strands. One developmental strand is "safeguarding learning". This framework sets out the form that safeguarding learning needs to take to contribute effectively to the paradigm shift envisioned and to overall organisational change. The safeguarding learning pathways support participants in developing and maintaining the necessary values, beliefs, knowledge, and skills to safeguard and protect children, young people, and vulnerable adults as outlined in the 'Promoting a Safer Church' House of Bishops policy statement (2017).

Copies of this Safeguarding Learning and Development Framework 2021-2024 have been printed out by Meriel Edge and placed at the back of Church for any interested parties to read.

It is the plan of the PCC to put in place a small benefice Safeguarding Committee to ensure this paradigm shift is achieved.

Electoral Roll

Mr Paul Williamson

January 2022 is the date names are recorded for the purpose of the APCM. At that time 147 names were on the list and 11 of those lived outside the Parish. On 1st January 2021 153 names were on the list with 14 living outside the Parish

My thanks to Revd Judy and Jo Lavin for their support.

PCC Secretary Mrs Judy Bellingham and Mrs Elaine Bucknell

St Alkmund's PCC met bi-monthly during 2021 on a Monday evening on Zoom because of the pandemic until July. We welcomed new members Hilda Frances Roberts and Celia Churchill. We did manage to have face to face meetings in Bargates Hall from July onwards. A full list of members can be seen at the start of this report booklet.

The internal front doors were replaced and have made a big difference to the appearance as you enter the church.

Covid-19 restrictions continued to cause disruption of services. Our online presence on Youtube and Facebook continue with one service being streamed each week and reflections recorded via this media and also by telephone. A lot of people who do not normally attend church have viewed these services and appreciated them. We started meeting for services in church again on 18th April with restrictions.

The empty vicarage at Tilstock and the use of St Alkmund's Church car park by the general public have continued to be concerns.

We continue to be represented on Churches Together, Christian Aid, The Friends of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch Fairtrade Group, The Foodbank and the Higginson's Charities.

eral years, no oranges were l
The total raised for the Child
result compared to last year.
The Children's Society does v
children, especially helping r
panied, and child carers amo
supports it.

It is obvious that this year the
valuable to what we've been
so, if you haven't got a box,
a box to anyone who would l

Crib Festival

We were pleased to be able to
Church in November after be
cribs to display and many vis
many of whom were not regu
ble outreach to the communi

Whitchurch Foodbank Re

We continue to have a box at
Foodbank. Things have had t
food continued to be delivere
they are back to receiving cli
Bargates being in use by othe
it on Tuesday and Friday mor
room too. There has continu
to the crisis.

Fairtrade Report

We have not started having a
day of each month due to Co
the Whitchurch Market each
from time to time due to Cov
our 10 years of being a Fairtr
celled due to the pandemic. V
to all of you who have suppo
church. I have stock at home
one who would like to. Every
we are helping someone less
family. St Alkmund's continu

The Friends of St. Alkmund

Main Project: The Church T

start to the morning, but we had fantastic support as the town got busier. Many thanks to all who helped in anyway – total raised was £808.89.

Friday 24th September Tilstock Coffee Morning at The Civic Centre. Due to illness many of our social Group and Church Members helped Tilstock with this event, grateful thanks were sent from Barbara Ellison.

Thursday 30th September Refreshments served in Church at The Friends of St Alkmund's A.G.M.

Sunday 3rd August Harvest Lunch in Bargates. All food was prepared in Bargates Hall as COVID safe as possible. The New Menu seemed to go down very favourably with those who enjoyed the lunch. Jacket potatoes with various fillings and selection of sweets were offered at the cost of £5:00 ph.

Wednesday 13th October Careers fest in Church hosted by Sir John Talbots School, Rotas were arranged so that the morning was covered to serve refreshments to all the exhibitors.

Saturday 13th November Christmas Coffee Morning in Bargates was organised by Hilda Francis-Roberts and raised £1,500.

Friday 3rd December Nine Barrow Concert in church - team on duty for refreshments

Friday 24th December Light Tea in Bargates was cancelled due to COVID
Dates for 2022

Concert re-arranged for 7th May, Coffee morning at Civic Centre 12th August.

The Children's Society

We, as a church, continue to give good support to The Children's Society, with our regular contributions year on year.

There are still 71 boxes in use which are emptied once a year, unless they are full, in which case, are emptied as needed. The total box money this year was £1,364, a very good result, especially as more people are now not using cash, so don't have the odd change to put in their boxes. Thank you everyone who contributes so generously.

The Christingle Service is the other major fund raising event for the Society. Rebecca Sims has taken over this part of the administration for the Children's Society for which I'm extremely grateful. Due to Covid restrictions we were unable to distribute collecting candles to the children in our schools as in the past and things had to be done differently, but I do thank Judy for generously allowing the service to go ahead and for all the work she put into preparing for it.

Much thought was given as to how the oranges could be made as safe as possible considering the Covid restrictions, and Rebecca and Jacob came up with the idea of small lollipops instead of raisins and dolly mixtures. The lollipops were individually wrapped and the sticks easily pierced the oranges. Optimistically, 100 oranges were prepared by loyal helpers. We were delighted by the numbers who came for the service, which as ever, was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended, and, for the first time in sev-

Mrs Sue Collins

Bargates Hall

It has been another very difficult year. Restrictions in place. However, we have, this year, had unlimited use of the Hall (Covid Restrictions) and we are grateful to The Food Bank for ensuring the premises were available for the Bargates Hall. We are most grateful for the financial support also. The Hall was used for the distribution of food as food was distributed by tea.

Works carried out:-

PAT Testing carried out on all electrical tests carried out also.

✦ **N.B** - The Fire Alarm is now awaiting parts from the manufacturer to the Alarm system.

✦ Work to the roof carried out. Amos overhauled the Roof Tiles.

✦ A Canopy was installed between the two rooms. A canopy installed underneath the Canopy.

✦ Some minor works were carried out in the yard, thanks to Dennis Edwards and Dudleston.

The Manager, . Wayne Edwards, has been in Bargates Hall, effective from 3rd August. Wayne for all the work he carried out on the premises, during his time in the hall to lettings in October/November.
N.B. As a result of the Resignation of the PCC Standing Committee, too many orders were brought up to date due to Covid Restrictions.

Churches Together in Wharfedale Groups associated with Churches Together

Important activities in the town of Wharfedale
Churches Together Committee

Fair Trade (including the "Fair Trade" Christian Aid
The Food Bank
Time Together
The Hospital Chaplaincy
The Bible Society

Action on Climate Change
Action on Afghan Refugees

Church Services

We had planned to continue with our 'liturgical year' for the churches in the town but during 2021 all were cancelled because of the Coronavirus Pandemic.

Lent Activities

The usual face-to-face Lent activities were cancelled.

The AGM was held on Tues 29th June. During the business meeting, Revd Sam Johnson was elected as Chair; no vice-chair or secretary were elected and Sue Collins was willing to continue as treasurer. The speaker was John Prockter -who heads up "*Catalyst Youth Trust*". He arranged for the "Jesus Bus" to visit SJT which was a great success.

Covid related event: on Sunday 22nd August, Churches Together organised an event in Jubilee Park, with stands from some local businesses and charities, together with a Service of Thanksgiving.

COP-26: Churches Together supported an event in the town to raise awareness of the issues being discussed at COP-26

By-Election Hustings: Churches Together organised a Hustings meeting with candidates from the following parties (although all were invited): Conservative, Green, Labour and Liberal Democrat.

The Churches Together Christmas Card

This was produced in 2021 and hand delivered by members of all 4 churches. Clients at the Bradbury Centre were invited to submit entries, from which one was chosen.

Goodbye to one & Welcome to another

During the year, we said goodbye to the Revd Rob Weir and welcomed the new minister for St John's - the Revd Donna-marie Broadbent-Kelly.

School Governors'

Jane Rylands

Liz Walsh retired from her role as a foundation governor at the beginning of the year having completed more than two 'terms' of office mostly at the Infant School but latterly with the Federation of the Infants and the Juniors. She was a great support to the school as well as an able questioner of strategy with a good eye on what was needed to improve and consolidate success. The vacancy created currently remains unfilled.

Covid has made it a frustrating time to be a governor with all meetings on zoom and next to no support visits possible although I was able to attend excellent zoom sessions with the Diocesan Advisor and also to speak with the Special Needs Co-ordinator about the way she had operated her role to support the more vulnerable pupils through the pandemic. There was huge pressure especially on senior staff and they worked extremely hard to cope.

The Infant Academy had a new RE lead in September and there has been good liaison between him and Rev Judy to enable her to contribute to

season in 2021. We rang for a the one day in August. We made thanks to help from Peter, Ray of other local ringers. The continuing pandemic has been teaching new ringers. However 2022 to recruit both returning

Baptism Welcome Group

In 2020 many baptism were performed in church and at local venues of Since July 2021 we have been to accommodate those who had Quite a few of our candidates the church but as we only had a problem.

In the past the families have volunteered can talk to the parent are going to make. For safety place in church in 2021 but with an important role in nurturing the service.

Unfortunately few families return to greet them when we meet in the bereaved.

Anyone who would like to volunteer for baptism services please contact the

Plant Sale

It is good to report that our spring collection time to pick up orders raised in excess of £1,200 with a 'vice plant boot Sale' which began in 2022 will hopefully see us back at Bargates Hall in early May confirmation of date and place. Many thanks for your support

Social Working Group

The first meeting back was held in Church, to discuss our forthcoming **Friday 6th August** Coffee Morning to be held after

As the main organiser of the flower arranging team I would like to convey my thanks to all involved for their continued commitment and support throughout this year. In addition, thanks to all our regular people who provide wonderful materials at crucial times of the year, enabling us to continue to produce our displays. If anyone would like to join this very friendly and joyful team, whether you would like to join our Altar Rota or contribute in any way, then please contact me on: 07855067296.

Sue Wainwright

I am very grateful to all the members we have but it would wonderful if we could attract even more to join our teams.

Malcolm Monie

All weddings in 2020 were cancelled or postponed which led to a bumper

Collective Worship there.
Wendy Darter prepared Expectant teachers to lead in the spring in church at Harvest and Christmas.

Whitchurch Junior C of E

In 2020 we were unable to have the Y6 at Pentecost due to COVID. We filmed our usual presentation for the school. This was daunting for the children. For Christmas 2020 I prepared a presentation for the school by Y4, led by teachers. For Easter 2021 the teachers prepared a presentation for the school but for Pentecost we went to the church. Y3 came for Harvest and Y4 for the class comes for half a day and Y5 for the festival in small groups led by the teachers. The chancel for a concluding session. These sessions are well received and questions. We hope that in some way shape their future.

Junior Church/Sermon Slides

Our lead team this year has been Rylands with Belinda Hutchins and Marchand supporting. There was clearly much ongoing work especially as our two most experienced members offered our usual in-service sessions. Sam set up an Easter trail around the school through the schools as well as the children's home. We also purchased Easter gifts for about 100 children.

Reader's Report

I have tried to be a good supervisor, to have agreed 'hours' as well as come to Bible Study courses and minister. I want to be part of this active church and that others do in Christ's name.

Steve White

Revd Judy Hunt

Revd Sam Johnson (until Sept)

In March, the Deanery response to Shaping for Mission was presented and discussed. Some Deanery projects are underway: developing a Chaplaincy team for schools, a Deanery "Open the Book" provision and looking at training for lay people to lead services and at developing some kind of agricultural chaplaincy.

In November, the focus was on the new arrangements for Parish Share agreed by the Diocesan Synod: it will be called the Common Share and have different factors involved in calculating the amount being asked from each parish. The formula is based on the Multiple Deprivation index (UK Government statistics) and the number of part or full time clergy. Some parishes will see a considerable increase (although not being asked for until 2023) – often because they have not been paying their “proper share” of the clergy that they have had. Whitchurch will see a decrease from 2022 onwards.

The Clergy Chapter met (by Zoom) regularly.

Also, the Revd Deborah Walton gave a talk about Chaplaincy and the work she is doing in our secondary schools (September).

Time Together Report

The purpose of the Time Together group is to provide social, spiritual, physical and emotional support for those with Memory Loss or Dementia and their family members or carers. We work in partnership with AgeUK and this is very helpful.

The group continued to meet twice a month on Wednesday afternoons despite the Coronavirus pandemic. This was by Zoom until the end of July but in August we resumed 'face-to-face' meetings, much to the joy of our members.

We have 'lost' some members this year, through death or through health deterioration, and we have not yet gained other members. This will need to be a priority in 2022.

We have received several generous donations from grateful participants and from Community Organisations.

Hospital Chaplaincy Team

The hospital chaplaincy team has been providing support for patients

Revd Judy

start to meet until August 2020 haven't started to return since. In August we looked at the Letter as we read the first Letter, such *ourselves that when we saw th* selves what was it there for. I tion and there seemed to be n As we approached October, I study next. Many years ago Ju course she was doing and the too.

So I gave them a sheet containing Judy studied, the Apostles Creed which we use in church especially. For one reason or another some meeting in December I handed over. There were only a few of us at the Lord's Prayer when we met. They also suggested the Book of Common Prayer. I admit I've never looked at it in detail, but over the Christmas break, only a few of us will be a new start in more ways than one. Different in Lent, I'll leave it up to you. I know it always looks very serious, but I'm surprised what crops up for discussion. You come and see?

2nd and 4th Wednesday every
be very welcome No drinks or

Flower Arrangers

Well what a challenging year of it has been, but that flowers still keep blooming and bring cheer.

Throughout the year, our little group has supported one another, but have also been able to produce some stunning displays. Our efforts, we hope have been a source of joy and remembrance and have given people and visitors alike.

Our first celebration of colour
us all a collective spirit to war
actly what everyone needed to
times which were upon us. Ou
Whitchurch through colour an
Throughout the summer we w

The St Alkmund's Choir has been hugely affected by Covid in terms of continuity and the requirements of social distancing. This has improved over recent months, with only short periods of extra restrictions. I look forward to the choir processing and robing again, hopefully sometime in 2022. The choir members are extremely loyal and professional in their approach to rehearsing and singing at services. As a group, they are quick to learn, eager to sing well and there is great joy in their collective success when they do sing at their best. An example is the Nine Lessons and Carols at which their hard work over the preceding weeks bore fruit and I was so delighted with the choir's sound, ensemble and balance. Indeed, a member of the congregation described their singing as 'electric'. There is a small core of tenors and basses which was added to at Christmas, but I look to try to establish a greater and more consistent presence of broken voices.

The formation of a group of young singers, termed 'Choristers', has been a success. There are now 4 new singers, aged 10-14, who rehearse on Thursday evenings and some attend the 10.00 Holy Communion. Their participation in the Nine Lessons and Carols service was greatly appreciated and their contribution will hopefully increase throughout the year.

Parish Office and On-line Matters

During the course of 2021 the Parish Office, staffed by our part-time Parishes' Administrator Jo Lavin, continued to publish the Parish Magazine of St Alkmund's, Fauls & Tilstock and The Chancel Steps, which also accommodates news from our other two parishes. The production of the regular Pewsheets plus posters for events, once these were allowed, was completed week by week.

The role of Parish Administrator has continued to be a busy one throughout the pandemic, and 2021 built on the experience of 2020 with more material online. The website (www.stalkmunds.com) served as an effective means of communication for church members and for those making enquiries. I am very grateful for Jo's skills and flexibility of working.

Towards the end of 2021, Jo was off work and others stepped in to help. I am particularly grateful to John and Pauline Stokes (proof reading, printing and folding the pew sheets for St Alkmund's), Caroline Sewry (printing off and delivering the pew sheets for Fauls and Tilstock), Wendy Darter for all the administration to do with baptisms, Mel Williams for taking on many tasks in the office (especially sorting out the wifi and leading with equipping us for livestreaming, updating our "A Church Near You" sites and some other Facebook work), Jane Rylands (for leading on Twitter for us) and Elaine Bucknell (producing this Annual Reports booklet).

Afternoon Bible Study Group

This is going to be quite a short report as the Bible Study group didn't

Revd Judy Hunt

and staff at Whitchurch Community Hospital. The team is led by Revd Canon Dr. There are eight lay volunteer members from the Churches and also includes Revd Judy Hunt who is a qualified PAT (Pets as Therapists) - bringing a much appreciated touch of nature and a Quaker contact are also involved. St Alkmund's PCC has an agreement for a team of at least 6 hours per week throughout the year. At normal times, it is usually more. The team visits the hospital every weekday. Weekly services are an arrangement amongst the team to provide Holy Communion and confession. The team is on board at the Hospital for use, and the team is on board. All this regular visiting continues throughout the virus pandemic. Revd Judy was very helpful to the patients.

The Team also usually plans a service for the year, this usually includes an Easter service, a service for the cause of the Coronavirus pandemic and the Christmas Crib Service. We stayed in touch with the Hospital throughout the activities and on-line services. The team is appreciated. We sent a Christmas card to the patients, telling them of our prayers.

The Team usually meets regularly to discuss this ministry, to discuss improvements, ideas for engaging and helping the patients. These have been replaced by e mail.

Pastoral Care Group Report

This has been another unusual year due to Covid restrictions. The group has helped in so many and varied ways.

DVD's of the services from St Alkmund's

given to those who can use them. Judy Bellingham taking them to the patients.

Several have asked for Communion

start again in October, and St Alkmund's opened their doors again in October for Communion, though there were measures to ensure safety for the residents.

It has been good to see folk at services

which Revd Judy and the team have been welcomed by the patients.

Mrs Celia Camplin

out how to get the best sound quality with the help of ideas from the team and others willing to add their technical know-how.

Also for much of the year the free phone short reflections from one of the services has been available, reaching people in their homes, with Revd Judy or Revd Sue or Jane speaking, though are in abeyance at present. The regular sermons we also try to put on our **website, with hard copies in a mauve folder at the back of church** for any who would like to reflect on a sermon again or were unable to attend.

The church prayer board has been well used and prayers are left on the board usually for about 2 weeks then removed for others ... these are added to the FTW Prayer Link so that those who wish can pray at home for those mentioned, as well as at one of the church services on Sundays.

Bible Reading Notes are available and sample copies to take are at the back of church on the rack. If you would like to be a regular reader, please let Jill Wallace know and yours will be added to the order.

A Box by the Prayer Board for those who need visiting ... Just put your request for others or yourself in the box with name and address and phone number, or let Revd Judy know.

Thank you to all who help with on-going pastoral care by giving your time caring and listening day by day to those in our community ... sharing the love of Jesus with all around.

Dementia-Friendly Church

Pauline Green

Much of our Dementia-Friendly Ministry as a church takes place through Time Together, the Hospital Chaplaincy, general Pastoral Care and the work with our Residential and Care Homes. We publicise this work in the local press and, when Covid-restrictions allow, through involvement in town events. We were awarded a Diocesan Certificate again for this work in 2021. We keep in touch with other churches involved in similar work through the regional meetings hosted by Sarah Thorpe.

Messy Church

Messy Church met just once physically in 2021—a July meeting in the Rectory garden. Rev Sam and his family prepared a regular family session of worship and activity broadcast through facebook and the Messy Church team contributed to several Messy Church video specials. The hope to re-start this group has sadly had to be put on hold because of the departure of Revd Sam and Leah Johnson.

Music report – January to June 2021

Revd Judy

Normal church services did not take place in the early months of 2021. In May, we gathered again, but with only choir allowed to sing until 25th July. We are very grateful to those who provided 'organist cover' in these first 6 months: Angela Davies, Ted Chegwin and Stewart Smith. However, the first few months of the year were used productively to con-

sider how to move forward with our mission, following the sad loss of Revd Sam in 2020 and the ongoing illness of Revd Judy in 2021.

A PCC working group met to consider the future of the church. A book by Andy Thomas entitled 'The Future of the Church' was read at the meeting, we produced a Back to the Future report, and set out our hopes for the future, together with a new PCC Constitution. A Person Specification for a new Organist was agreed by the PCC and we went forward to recruit a new organist. A number of church musicians for the future were identified, including Bussey (including helping us with the organ), and Stewart Smith. Four people were interviewed for the choir in a wide variety of styles. The choir was impressed with the musical abilities of the new organist. It stood out to us – there was no one else who had offered to Richard James. Thank you to all who helped most immediately.

Music Report—July to December 2021

This report reflects the time period during which I was appointed as Director of Music and the duties during the last week of the year. I was able to join the extremely welcoming and very fortunate in my induction to the support of Revd Judy and indeed the Church Wardens. The congregation, the organ playing, the choice of hymns, and the acknowledgement of the reputation, and the legacy of David, and the years and the support that Andy has given me in the last year.

The organ is tuned regularly and is subject to the varying temperature of the room "the course" and I have no added to the current heating practices. The approach of the firm of tuners is a standard for use in church and the piano on Thursday evenings. The organ is used for weddings, funerals and services and the choir accompanying for the Sunday services. The electric keyboard serves as a good alternative but questionable as an instrument. The electric keyboard serves as a good alternative but currently lacks a sustaining pedal.

THE PCC OF ST ALKMUND'S CHURCH, WHITCHURCH

End of Year Financial Statements

Year ending 31 December 2021

The Parochial Church Council of St Alkmund's Church, Whitchurch Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

Accounting Policies

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions. They have also been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals as the pence are not being shown.

Cashflow Statement

The Charity has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 from the requirement to produce a Cash flow statement on the grounds that the income does not exceed £500,000.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The Charity has reviewed its cash flow forecasts and considered the impact on going concern, concluding that the going concern basis remains an appropriate basis of preparation for these financial statements given the likely cash flow impact of operations for 12 months from the date of signing this report.

Accounting Estimates and Prior Year Errors

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period.

No material prior year errors have been identified in the reporting period.

Description of Funds

Unrestricted funds are income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are therefore not included in its "free reserves" as disclosed in the trustees' annual report.

Restricted funds comprise of two elements:

- a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest
- b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

Endowment funds are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend capital as income, and where the use of any income or other benefit derived from the capital may be restricted or unrestricted. Full details of all their restrictions are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Income

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received or when the PCC becomes entitled to the resource and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and Legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Expenditure

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Governance and Support Costs

Support costs should be allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the PCC and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources eg by allocating staff costs by time spent and other costs by their usage.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts by s.10(2)(a)&(C) of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the Church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements.

No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial.

Investments

Investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued initially at cost and subsequently at the mid - market value at the year end. Investments held for re-sale are treated as current asset investments.

Accounting Policies continued

Debtors

Debtors are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount. Subsequently they are measured at cash expected to be received.

Creditors and Accruals

Creditors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts. Accruals are measured on best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

Whitchurch PCC

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	79,512	45	7,247	—	86,804	217,582
Income from charitable activities	15,319	—	—	—	15,319	11,757
Other trading activities	14,735	—	400	—	15,135	12,091
Investments	13,333	—	14,125	—	27,459	28,185
Other income	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total income	122,899	45	21,773	—	144,718	269,616
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	320	—	—	—	320	—
Expenditure on charitable activities	125,066	—	36,087	—	161,153	381,363
Total expenditure	125,387	—	36,087	—	161,474	381,363
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	(2,488)	45	(14,314)	—	(16,756)	(111,747)
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in	—	—	600	—	600	1,115
Gross transfers between funds - out	(600)	—	—	—	(600)	(1,115)
Other recognised gains / losses						
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	14,583	—	71,844	—	86,428	219,345
Net movement in funds	11,496	45	58,131	—	69,672	107,598
Total funds brought forward	1,111,613	2,429	538,439	—	1,652,481	1,544,883
Total funds carried forward	1,123,109	2,474	596,570	—	1,722,154	1,652,481
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
General Fund	1,123,109	—	—	—	1,123,109	1,111,613
Designated						
Bell Designated	—	2,474	—	—	2,474	2,429
Restricted						
Agency collection	—	—	—	—	—	—
Church Buildings Fund Scheme	—	—	220	—	220	—
Fabric Restricted	—	—	584,930	—	584,930	528,015
Interior Decorating Scheme	—	—	3,014	—	3,014	2,514
Lectern Restricted	—	—	1,000	—	1,000	1,000
Time Together	—	—	7,405	—	7,405	6,909

Whitchurch PCC

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2021

	Total funds	Prior year funds
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	892,300	892,300
	892,300	892,300
Current assets		
Debtors	3,639	6,242
Investments	789,991	553,562
Cash at bank and in hand	44,612	205,373
	838,242	765,177
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	8,388	4,996
	8,388	4,996
Net current assets less current liabilities	829,854	760,181
Total assets less current liabilities	1,722,154	1,652,481
Total net assets less liabilities	1,722,154	1,652,481
Represented by		
Unrestricted		
General Fund	1,123,109	1,111,613
Designated		
Bell Designated	2,474	2,429
Restricted		
Church Buildings Fund Scheme	220	—
Fabric Restricted	584,930	528,015
Interior Decorating Scheme	3,014	2,514
Lectern Restricted	1,000	1,000
Time Together	7,405	6,909
Agency collection	—	—
Funds of the church	1,722,154	1,652,481

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 28.02..... 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Signature: Judith M Hunt

Name: JUDITH M HUNT; RECTOR

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts

Allocation of Support Costs

Support costs comprise Trustee Training and Governance Costs etc. Due to the nature of the financial activities of the PCC, these would be allocated across Charitable Expenditure which comprises the majority of its expenditure and as such are automatically charged there.

Staff Costs

	2021	2020
Wages & Salaries	£ 18,929	£ 16,866
Average number of employees	3	3

During the year the PCC employed an administrator, organist and church-cleaner (all part-time). Subsequent to the sad loss of our previous organist, we recruited a new organist in June. The administrator's salary attracts pension contributions. The PCC use the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) for its pension payments.

There were no employee benefits to key management personnel in the previous or current year.

Trustees' Remuneration & Expenses

No Trustee expenses have been incurred during the year.

Related Parties

No other expenses were paid to any other PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties.

Donations from related parties (PCC members) totalled £12,740 (2020 £11,316).

Fees for the examination of the accounts

	2021 £	2020 £
Independent Examiner's fees	150	150
Other fees (eg accountancy services) paid to the Independent Examiner		

Analysis of Transfer between Funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted IDS	Restricted CBFS
	£	£	£
Payment to Diocese for Schemes become Restricted Debtors	(600)	400	200

Fixed Assets

Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold Buildings – Bargates Church Hall £	Bridgewater Street Properties £	Total £
Cost or Valuation			
As at 1 st Jan	584,282	308,018	892,300
Additions in the year			
Disposal in the year			
Revaluation (if any)			
Value at 31st Dec	584,282	308,018	892,300
Accumulated Depreciation			
As at 1 st Jan			
Charge for the year			
Disposals			
Value at 31st Dec			
Net Book Value at 1 st Jan 2021	584,282	308,018	892,300
Net Book Value at 31st Dec 2021	584,282	308,018	892,300

Investments

	At 1 st Jan £	Additions £	Disposals £	Transfers £	Change in market value £	At 31 st Dec £
Unrestricted funds						
CCLA Investment Fund income shares	101,944	89,682			14,584	206,210
Restricted Funds						
CCLA investment Fund income shares	451,618	150,000	(89,682)		71,845	583,781
Total	553,562	239,682	(89,682)		86,429	789,991

Current Assets

Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
LDBF Interior Decoration & Church Buildings Scheme	3,234	2,514
Gift aid & VAT recoverable		2,532
Prepayments and accrued income	346	
Other debtors	58	1,195
Total	3,639	6,242

Liabilities

Amounts falling due in one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Accruals	150	2,050
Agency collections	(1,494)	1,215
Other creditors	9,732	1,731
Total	8,388	4,996

Statement of assets and liabilities 2021

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Fixed assets - Tangible assets						
Bargates Hall -	584,282	—	—	—	584,282	584,282
3a Bridgewater Street -	154,009	—	—	—	154,009	154,009
3b Bridgewater Street -	154,009	—	—	—	154,009	154,009
Totals	892,300	—	—	—	892,300	892,300
Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand						
Barclays Current Account -	166	45	4,185	—	4,397	15,142
Barclays Deposit Account -	25,665	2,429	11,905	—	40,000	190,003
Petty Cash -	95	—	—	—	95	127
Flowers Petty Cash -	119	—	—	—	119	—
Bargates Petty Cash -	—	—	—	—	—	100
Totals	26,047	2,474	16,090	—	44,612	205,373
Current assets - Debtors						
Interior Decorating Scheme -	—	—	3,014	—	3,014	2,514
Church Building Fund Scheme -	—	—	220	—	220	—
Sundry Debtors -	346	—	—	—	346	2,532
Accounts Receivable -	58	—	—	—	58	1,195
Totals	405	—	3,234	—	3,639	6,242
Current assets - Investments						
CCLA Investment Fund 2469S -	63,603	—	—	—	63,603	55,643
CCLA Investment Fund 1001S -	52,924	—	—	—	52,924	46,301
CCLA Investment Fund 1002S -	89,682	—	583,780	—	673,463	451,618
Totals	206,210	—	583,780	—	789,992	861,580
Liabilities - Agency accounts						
Agency collections -	—	—	(1,494)	—	(1,494)	1,215
Totals	—	—	(1,494)	—	(1,494)	1,215
Liabilities - Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year						
Accruals -	150	—	—	—	150	2,050
Accounts Payable -	1,703	—	8,029	—	9,732	1,731
Totals	1,853	—	8,029	—	9,882	3,781
Grand total	1,123,109	2,474	596,570	—	1,722,154	1,652,481

Statement of assets and liabilities 2020 comparatives

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Fixed assets - Tangible assets						
Bargates Hall -	584,282	—	—	—	584,282	449,833
Totals	584,282	—	—	—	584,282	449,833
Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand						
Barclays Current Account -	13,927	—	1,215	—	15,142	13,119
Barclays Deposit Account -	103,898	2,429	83,675	—	190,003	30,000
Petty Cash -	127	—	—	—	127	199
Flowers Petty Cash -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bargates Petty Cash -	100	—	—	—	100	100
Totals	118,052	2,429	84,890	—	205,373	43,419
Current assets - Debtors						
Interior Decorating Scheme -	—	—	2,514	—	2,514	2,201
Church Building Fund Scheme -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sundry Debtors -	776	—	1,755	—	2,532	107,056
Accounts Receivable -	1,195	—	—	—	1,195	72
Totals	1,971	—	4,269	—	6,242	109,330
Current assets - Investments						
3a Bridgewater Street -	154,009	—	—	—	154,009	118,570
3b Bridgewater Street -	154,009	—	—	—	154,009	118,570

CCLA Investment Fund 2469S -	55,643	—	—	—	55,643	52,063
CCLA Investment Fund 1001S -	46,301	—	—	—	46,301	43,322
CCLA Investment Fund 1002S -	—	—	451,618	—	451,618	614,251
Totals	409,962	—	451,618	—	861,580	946,776
Liabilities - Agency accounts						
Agency collections -	—	—	1,215	—	1,215	(1,049)
Totals	—	—	1,215	—	1,215	(1,049)
Liabilities - Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year						
Accruals -	2,050	—	—	—	2,050	67
Accounts Payable -	607	—	1,123	—	1,731	5,457
Totals	2,657	—	1,123	—	3,781	5,524
Grand total	1,111,613	2,429	538,439	—	1,652,481	1,544,883

Fund movement by type – 2021

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/losses	Closing
Bell - Bell Designated						
Designated	2,429	45	—	—	—	2,474
Sub-total for Bell	2,429	45	—	—	—	2,474
CBFS - Church Buildings Fun						
Restricted	—	20	—	200	—	220
Sub-total for CBFS	—	20	—	200	—	220
Fabric - Fabric Restricted						
Restricted	528,015	20,533	35,463	—	71,844	584,930
Sub-total for Fabric	528,015	20,533	35,463	—	71,844	584,930
IDS - Interior Decorating						
Restricted	2,514	100	—	400	—	3,014
Sub-total for IDS	2,514	100	—	400	—	3,014
Lectern - Lectern Restricted						
Restricted	1,000	—	—	—	—	1,000
Sub-total for Lectern	1,000	—	—	—	—	1,000
Time Toget - Time Together						
Restricted	6,909	1,120	623	—	—	7,405
Sub-total for Time Toget	6,909	1,120	623	—	—	7,405
General - General Fund						
Unrestricted	1,111,613	122,899	125,387	(600)	14,583	1,123,109
Sub-total for General	1,111,613	122,899	125,387	(600)	14,583	1,123,109
Grand total	1,652,481	144,718	161,474	—	86,428	1,722,154

Fund Description

The restricted funds comprise:

General Fabric

To maintain the Church building.

LDBF Interior Decoration Scheme

Fund set up to assist funding for the decoration of the Rectory.

LDBF Church Building Fund Scheme

Fund set up to assist funding for Church buildings.

Lectern

Bequeathed by Mabel Bancroft in memory of her great great great grandfather who made it.

Dementia Friendly - Time Together

Dementia sufferers and their carers meet regularly in Bargates Hall to socialise and share experiences.

The designated funds are to help maintain the bell-ringing services of the Church.

Fund movement by type – 2020 comparatives

		Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/losses	Closing
BELL - Bell Ringers							
Designated		3,381	680	1,632	—	—	2,429
Sub-total for BELL		3,381	680	1,632	—	—	2,429
FABRIC - GENERAL FABRIC							
Restricted		639,058	137,362	255,864	—	7,459	528,015
Sub-total for FABRIC		639,058	137,362	255,864	—	7,459	528,015
IDS - LDBF Interior Decora							
Restricted		2,201	62	—	250	—	2,514
Sub-total for IDS		2,201	62	—	250	—	2,514
LECTERN - LECTERN							
Restricted		1,000	—	—	—	—	1,000
Sub-total for LECTERN		1,000	—	—	—	—	1,000
TIMETOG - Dementia Friendly -							
Restricted		6,652	927	430	(240)	—	6,909
Sub-total for TIMETOG		6,652	927	430	(240)	—	6,909
General - General fund							
Unrestricted		892,590	130,583	123,437	(10)	211,886	1,111,613
Sub-total for General		892,590	130,583	123,437	(10)	211,886	1,111,613
Grand total		1,544,883	269,616	381,363	—	219,345	1,652,481

Summary of Assets by Fund - 2021

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total £
Fixed Assets	892,300	--	--	--	892,300
Investment Assets	206,210	--	583,781	--	789,991
Current Assets	26,452	2,474	19,324	--	48,250
Current Liabilities	(1,853)	--	(6,535)	--	(8,388)
	1,123,109	2,474	596,570	--	1,722,154

Summary of Assets by Fund - 2020

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total £
Fixed Assets	892,300	--	--	--	892,300
Investment Assets	101,944	--	451,618	--	553,562
Current Assets	120,026	2,429	89,160	--	211,615
Current Liabilities	(2,657)	--	(2,339)	--	(4,996)
	1,111,613	2,429	538,439	--	1,652,481

Analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2021

					Total	
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS						
Donations and legacies						
0101 - Planned Giving - Gift Aid - Bank	42,582	—	—	—	42,582	46,719
0110 - Planned Giving - Gift Aid (Envelopes)	1,066	—	—	—	1,066	9,808
0201 - Other planned giving	4,541	—	300	—	4,841	—
0301 - Loose plate collections	3,602	—	—	—	3,602	2,839
0401 - Other Donations eg Funerals	3,626	—	190	—	3,816	8,134
0410 - Giving through church boxes	1,182	—	—	—	1,182	758
0501 - One-off Gift Aid gifts	956	—	—	—	956	1,470
0550 - Donations appeals etc	1,000	—	100	—	1,100	—
0601 - Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	8,630	—	—	—	8,630	12,340
0701 - Legacies	—	—	1,500	—	1,500	77,000
0801 - Recurring grants - LDBF IDS & CBFS Bonus	—	—	120	—	120	62
0802 - Recurring grants - LDBF Extra Parishes	147	—	—	—	147	70
0803 - Recurring grants - Faults Admin Contribut	1,742	—	—	—	1,742	1,788
0804 - Recurring grants - Tilstock Admin Contri	3,035	—	—	—	3,035	481
08A1 - Non-recurring one-off grants	6,200	—	5,037	—	11,237	56,108
0901 - Other funds generated	1,198	45	—	—	1,243	—
Total	79,512	45	7,247	—	86,804	217,582
Income from charitable activities						
1101 - Statutory Fees for weddings	3,039	—	—	—	3,039	157
1102 - Statutory Fees for funerals	5,636	—	—	—	5,636	5,212
1105 - Local Fees for weddings	594	—	—	—	594	—
1106 - Local Fees for funerals	1,750	—	—	—	1,750	949
1210 - Fund Raising activities	—	—	—	—	—	1,139
1230 - Hospital Chaplaincy	4,300	—	—	—	4,300	4,300
Total	15,319	—	—	—	15,319	11,757
Other trading activities						
0910 - Rummage sales etc	2,892	—	—	—	2,892	—
1240 - Church hall lettings	10,089	—	400	—	10,489	11,504
1241 - Hire of Church	764	—	—	—	764	—
1250 - Magazine income - advertising	—	—	—	—	—	240
1260 - Parish magazine and other income	989	—	—	—	989	346
Total	14,735	—	400	—	15,135	12,091
Investments						
1001 - Dividends	2,957	—	14,125	—	17,083	16,893
1020 - Bank and building society interest	13	—	—	—	13	159
1030 - Rent from 3a Bridgewater Street	5,460	—	—	—	5,460	5,460
1040 - Rent from 3b Bridgewater Street	4,902	—	—	—	4,902	5,672
Total	13,333	—	14,125	—	27,459	28,185
Other income						
1310 - Insurance claims	—	—	—	—	—	—
1320 - Surplus - sales of fixed assets	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—
INCOME TOTAL	122,899	45	21,773	—	144,718	269,616

EXPENDITURE

Raising funds

1701 - Fees paid to fund raisers	—	—	—	—	—	—
1710 - Costs of applying for grants	—	—	—	—	—	—
1720 - Costs of stewardship campaign	—	—	—	—	—	—
1730 - Costs of fetes & other events	37	—	—	—	37	—
1740 - Investment management costs	283	—	—	—	283	—
Total	320	—	—	—	320	—

Expenditure on charitable activities

1801 - Giving to missionary societies	2,000	—	—	—	2,000	2,750
1830 - Giving - relief and development agencies	—	—	—	—	—	—
1850 - Home mission	1,259	—	—	—	1,259	—
1870 - Secular charities	—	—	—	—	—	—
1910 - Parish Share	35,397	—	—	—	35,397	54,416
2001 - Assistant staff costs	—	—	—	—	—	—
2050 - Salary of parish administrator	13,018	—	—	—	13,018	12,638
2101 - Rector expenses - mileage	288	—	—	—	288	586
2102 - Rector expenses - postage and other misc	58	—	—	—	58	55
2103 - Rector expenses - publications	115	—	—	—	115	100
2104 - Rector expenses - hospitality	177	—	—	—	177	273
2105 - Rector expenses - telephone	954	—	—	—	954	982
2106 - Rector expenses - computer	220	—	—	—	220	200
2107 - Rector expenses - house insurance	37	—	—	—	37	36
2108 - Rector expenses - training	200	—	—	—	200	200
2109 - Rector expenses - Rectory garden	—	—	—	—	—	1,125
2111 - Curate/HfD/OLM expenses - mileage	185	—	—	—	185	333
2113 - Curate/HfD/OLM expenses - publications	113	—	—	—	113	76
2114 - Curate/HfD/OLM expenses - hospitality	—	—	—	—	—	10
2115 - Curate/HfD/OLM expenses - telephone	68	—	—	—	68	48
2116 - Curate/HfD/OLM expenses - computer	120	—	—	—	120	160
2117 - Curate/ HfD/ OLM Expenses - House Insura	—	—	—	—	—	—
2120 - Reader/Deanery Synod and other expenses	15	—	—	—	15	90
2170 - Education	127	—	623	—	751	733
2201 - Parish training and mission	151	—	—	—	151	—
2301 - Church running - insurance	5,650	—	—	—	5,650	5,751
2310 - Church office - telephone	1,541	—	—	—	1,541	1,665
2320 - Organ / piano tuning and organist	4,519	—	—	—	4,519	5,734
2330 - Church maintenance	7,109	—	—	—	7,109	7,105
2331 - Cleaning	3,267	—	—	—	3,267	2,683
2340 - Upkeep of services	1,913	—	—	—	1,913	2,872
2350 - Upkeep of churchyard	3,672	—	—	—	3,672	5,367
2355 - Upkeep of car parks	14,394	—	—	—	14,394	30
2360 - Printing/Photocopying	2,217	—	—	—	2,217	1,373
2361 - Postage & Stationery	599	—	—	—	599	1,195
2362 - Office Equipment	2,477	—	—	—	2,477	2,156
2363 - Annual Subscriptions	1,051	—	—	—	1,051	1,588
2364 - Bank Charges	409	—	—	—	409	624
2370 - Visiting speakers / locums	—	—	—	—	—	—
2380 - Memorial Book	665	—	—	—	665	—
2401 - Church running - electric	2,071	—	—	—	2,071	2,004

2410 - Church running - gas	1,473	—	—	—	1,473	3,300
2420 - Church running - water	181	—	—	—	181	176
2430 - Church running - oil	—	—	—	—	—	—
2440 - Church running - heating and lighting	—	—	—	—	—	—
2501 - Hospital Chaplaincy costs	—	—	—	—	—	327
2510 - Hall Caretaker costs	2,000	—	—	—	2,000	3,088
2520 - Hall running - oil	—	—	—	—	—	—
2530 - Hall running - electricity	723	—	—	—	723	721
2540 - Hall running - gas	1,296	—	—	—	1,296	1,221
2550 - Hall running - insurance	—	—	—	—	—	—
2560 - Hall running - maintenance	1,209	—	—	—	1,209	280
2570 - Hall running - telephone	—	—	—	—	—	—
2580 - Hall running - water	23	—	—	—	23	287
2590 - Hall running - consumables	388	—	—	—	388	59
2601 - Governance costs	150	—	—	—	150	—
examination/audit fee	—	—	—	—	—	—
2701 - Church major repairs - structure	—	—	32,672	—	32,672	243,198
2710 - Church major repairs - professional fees	—	—	2,791	—	2,791	12,816
2720 - Church interior and exterior decorating	—	—	—	—	—	—
2801 - Hall + major repairs - structure	7,360	—	—	—	7,360	—
2820 - Hall + major repairs - installation	—	—	—	—	—	—
2830 - Hall + interior and exterior decorating	—	—	—	—	—	—
2840 - Bridgewater Street property costs	4,189	—	—	—	4,189	918
2901 - New building parsonage house	—	—	—	—	—	—
2910 - New building house for curate	—	—	—	—	—	—
2920 - New building Church	—	—	—	—	—	—
2930 - New building Hall	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	125,066	—	36,087	—	161,153	381,363
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	125,387	—	36,087	—	161,474	381,363
GRAND TOTAL	(2,488)	45	(14,314)	—	(16,756)	(111,747)

Statement of Financial Activities 2020 comparatives

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Income and endowments from:</i>						
Donations and legacies	91,436	680	124,012	—	216,128	139,890
Income from charitable activities	10,808	—	—	—	10,808	17,151
Other trading activities	11,851	—	240	—	12,091	16,610
Investments	14,147	—	14,037	—	28,185	34,532
Other income	2,340	—	62	—	2,402	3,849
Total income	130,583	680	138,352	—	269,616	212,034
<i>Expenditure on:</i>						
Expenditure on charitable activities	123,437	1,632	256,294	—	381,363	282,082
Total expenditure	123,437	1,632	256,294	—	381,363	282,082
Gains / losses on investment assets	211,886	—	7,459	—	219,345	128,271
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	219,032	-952	-110,482	—	107,597	58,222
<i>Transfers</i>						
Gross transfers between funds - in	552	—	562	—	1,115	1,442
Gross transfers between funds - out	-562	—	-552	—	-1,115	-1,442
<i>Other recognised gains / losses</i>						
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net movement in funds	219,022	-952	-110,472	—	107,597	58,222
<i>Reconciliation of funds</i>						
Total funds brought forward	892,590	3,381	648,911	—	1,544,883	1,486,660
Total funds carried forward	1,111,613	2,429	538,439	—	1,652,481	1,544,883

Independent Examiner's report to the trustees/members of The PCC of Whitchurch

Registered charity number: 1129900

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021 which are set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the 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 accounts 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 material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 
Jonathan Hill FCMA CGMA
Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance
St Marys House, The Close, Lichfield. WS13 7LD

Date: 01 April 2022

Accounts



ST ALKMUND'S CHURCH
WHITCHURCH
ANNUAL REPORTS FOR
2020

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 18th April 2021

Prepared for the
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Sunday 18th April 2021



STATISTICS FOR ST ALKMUND'S WHITCHURCH

Year	2017	2018	2019	2020
Electoral Roll	176	169	144	155
Average Sunday (*) Adult Attendance	109	108	100	(Oct) 58
Average Sunday (*) Under 16 Attendance	9	6	4	4
8.00am	13.2	12.3	11	7
10.00am	87	78	76.4	44
6.30pm (new)	15.5	17	16.5	10
6.30pm (total)	25	26	25	7
Easter Communicants (**)	193	148	136	N/A
Easter Attendees (**)	478	189	172	N/A
Advent Special Attendees	1673	1510	1710	158
Christmas Communicants	153	116	125	83
Christmas Attendees	1218	1092	1092	102
Baptism (u16)	38	20	29	12
Baptism Adult	2	0	0	1
Funerals (with Church service)	65	55	46	21
Funerals (at Crem Only)	21	14	19	55
Interment of Ashes in GoR	-	12	10	15
Weddings	9	9	10	0
Prayer & Dedication of Marriage	0	0	0	0

Statistics for St Alkmund's 2017—2020

The statistics are shown in the table above. Please note that the Average Sunday Attendance (*) for 2017-19 figures include Harvest, Mothering Sundays but exclude Baptisms, Easter, Remembrance, Christingle, Memorial & Thanksgiving and Carol Services.

Also, note that the Easter figures (**) were boosted in 2017 by Easter Eve Confirmations. 2020 figures affected by Covid-19.

Conclusion

By God's grace and through our prayer and action, we have continued to see positive developments in 2020. The way in which members of St Alkmund's work together continues to be inspirational.

Thanks to all involved and thanks be to God.

Judy Hunt, Rector
January 2021

Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name & Number

St Alkmund's Parish Church
Charity number: 1129900

Address

St Alkmund's Church, c/o The Rectory, Church Street,
Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 1LB

PCC Members from APCM 2020

Judy Bellingham (PCC Secretary)
Elaine Bucknell
John Castledine
Sheila Chase
Meriel Edge
David Fisher
Pauline Green (Lay Chair)
Judy Hunt (Rector & PCC Chair)
Caroline Hulse
Sam Johnson
Jane Rylands
Tom Rylands
John Stokes (Churchwarden & Deanery Synod)
Pauline Stokes (Deanery Synod)
Jill Wallace (Churchwarden)
Steve White (Deanery Synod)
Melanie Williams (PCC Treasurer)

Bankers

Barclays plc

Independent Examiner

Staff at Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance

Structure, Governance and Management

PCC's Constitution

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

- Trustees (PCC members) are appointed by election at the APCM; ex-officio on the PCC are all clergy licensed to the parish, churchwardens and members of Deanery, Diocesan and General Synods.
- New trustees are given an induction pack
- A Standing Committee exists and other committees include the Bargates Hall Committee, and a Finance Committee. Other groups meet: the Social Working Group and various pastoral groups.
- Safeguarding and Data Protection have received considerable attention this year and all our policies are now reviewed annually in January

Objectives and Activities

- Promoting the Gospel and the doctrines of the Church of England
- Vision statement:
Our church is a place where all are welcome and God can be found.
We seek to:
 - ◇ build up our spiritual life through prayer and teaching,
 - ◇ actively encourage lay involvement in mission and outreach,
 - ◇ and share the good news of the Gospel with the whole community.

Public benefit

The trustees of the Charity are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit and have had regard to it in their administration of the Charity. The trustees believe that, by promoting the work of the Church of England in the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Alkmund, Whitchurch, it helps to promote the whole mission of the Church (pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical) more effectively, within the Ecclesiastical Parish, and that in doing so it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers; and
- Promoting Christian values and service by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

with service sheets, bell-ringing, welcome, music, cleaning, flowers, readings, intercessions and communion distribution

- The pastoral care exercised in many different ways, expanding and adapting during Coronavirus restrictions
- The prayer life of the church and its people; leading of Wednesday prayers by various lay people of Zoom; thanks to Judy Bellingham for setting this up
- The links and activities with the four local schools
- The publication of the magazine and Chancel Steps; the work of our Administrator, Jo Lavin and to Pauline Stokes for proof-reading. Also the work Jo has done on signage and other Covid-19 associated-needs, plus on the website has been vital for us
- The upkeep and regular use of Bargates Hall (The Foodbank exclusively during most of the year), thanks to our Manager, Wayne Edwards
- The funds given to charities from our Christingle and Harvest Services, our general involvement with Christian Aid & Fair Trade and our support of our link missionaries *via* CMS and Crosslinks
- The PCC unrestricted finances showing a small surplus; the faithful and accurate work of our banking team and treasurer
- The Plant Sale – which was the only fundraising event that went ahead (albeit in an amended way); thanks to Judy Bryant & Janet Ivens
- The continued fundraising work of the Friends of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch
- Work on the church building
- Ongoing work on Safeguarding (see elsewhere) and on Data Protection – with thanks here to Jo Lavin, Mel Williams, Paul Williamson and Meriel Edge

Workload

There have been changes due to Coronavirus and I am aware that some church volunteers have had their ministries much diminished by the things we have not been able to do. For others, their ministries have changed, and even grown, during this time.

In past years, I have written in the annual report with some concern about my own workload and the sustainability of this. Coronavirus did add to workload initially. I have sought and gained from various types of assistance, which have been beneficial. From May onwards, the gains and losses of ministry in lockdown or during restrictions tended to even out. plus the very welcome arrival of Sam as curate, to both share the workload and to develop new areas as part of his ministry and training with us, my own workload is at a more sustainable level.

Joys

- We have gained some new members.
- Revd Sam Johnson and his family have joined us part-way through the year
- People have stepped into new leadership roles to enable us to continue to minister during the Coronavirus pandemic; many of us have learnt new computer skills for this to be possible!
- We quickly set up a large e mail list so that people could stay in touch *via* a weekly mailing of how help could be obtained, of news, and of resources for prayer and Bible Study; thanks to John Standerline for his rapid collating of data
- Over 40 volunteers offered this help with regular phoning, shopping, prayer, or picking up medication. Thanks to Jill Wallace for co-ordinating the requests for help with these offers that had been made.
- A strengthened prayer network – in St Alkmund’s but also with Fauls and Tilstock
- Regular Zoom meetings for prayer and for fellowship
- Regular Messages for Christian outreach and nurture on a local phone line and on Facebook and YouTube; these include sessions for Collective Worship in our schools
- Livestreaming of services from St Alkmund’s and recording of services to post from all three churches
- Special services recorded for our Care Homes and Hospital, plus mailings of much material to them
- Zoom nurture and outreach courses
- Zoom Time Together and Messy Church sessions
- A few meetings of Junior Church, when allowed.

Our activities

There is much to be thankful for in the year as a whole, despite the Coronavirus pandemic, as you can read above and in the rest of this booklet. First and foremost, we are thankful to God, but following closely on – we are also thankful for each other. In each area listed below, I would like to include thanks to the people involved:

- The continuing ministry of Jane Rylands as Reader and Revds Sue & Sam.
- The oversight & ministries exercised by the Churchwardens and their deputies, Treasurer, Secretary, and other PCC and Standing Committee members
- When possible to hold them, the regular Sunday services, with all the extra that had to be done before and after the services because of Covid-19, plus the more ‘normal’ preparation and ‘on the day’ work

Reserves Policy:

The Reserves Policy of Whitchurch PCC is to hold 3 months' costs in Unrestricted Reserves and £10,000 in Restricted General Reserves. Total unrestricted expenditure was £123,437 in 2020, so 3 months' equates to approximately £30,859. At the end of the year, there was £205,912 in bank accounts which by far exceeds the policy, and in hindsight due to the unprecedented lockdown in March we didn't actually need to convert shares into cash.

Mission Action Plan: MAP

We had hoped to draw up a new MAP for 2020 but Coronavirus intervened. We have kept our activities under review, bearing in mind the Diocesan priorities of Discipleship, Vocation and Evangelism:

Discipleship:

Sunday services – including the talks / sermons which are available afterwards in printed form or on the church website

Discipleship and Equipping for Evangelism:

Lent Course (interrupted by Covid-19) based on Andrew Smith's book "Vibrant Christianity in Multifaith Britain"

Zoom study group on Tom Wright's book "God and the Pandemic"

Zoom Study group on Paula Gooder's Book "A journey through the Wilderness"

Vocation:

Conversations leading to people feeling able to offer new ministries during Covid-19 lockdown *e.g.*

Co-ordination of pastoral care

Pastoral phone calls

Prayer over the phone

Leading on changing the way in which congregation members give financially

Co-leading of Zoom groups – see above and below

Staying in touch with Time Together members

Hosting Zoom meetings

Getting DVD discs of messages and services to those with DVD players but not computers

Evangelism:

Christianity Explored Course on Zoom – Revd Sam and co-leaders

Reflections and services on Church Facebook and YouTube and also on a town Facebook group

Also decisions were taken to carry out two separate reviews in 2021, both of which will impact all three aspects of our church life:

a Music Review and a Review of our On-line Presence

See other sections of the report for what was done during the year

The contribution of volunteers is immense

– all activities rely on volunteers

Achievement and Performance

- See elsewhere for all the mid-week activities and the ways in which the St Alkmund's community fulfils its remit for worship, pastoral care, outreach, community service and civic involvement
- There are usually three services each Sunday; figures for October 2020—affected by Coronavirus pandemic:
 - 8.00am – average attendance 7
 - 10.00am – average attendance 44
 - 6.30pm – average attendance 17
 - (of whom 7 had attended morning services on the same day)
- All who live in the town have a right to the occasional offices. In 2020 all weddings booked were postponed, as were many baptisms, and venues of funerals were also affected by Covid-19. There were 21 funerals in church followed by burial or cremation (and 55 at the Graveside or Crematorium only) and 12 baptisms, one of which was an adult.

Financial review: 2020

Mrs Mel Williams, Treasurer

See separate documents for detailed accounts

Financial Review

.At the start of 2020 the major stonework repair project was well under-way. There were some hefty bills to pay to the contractor so we sold some of the shares we had invested for this purpose at the end of March – just as the Government were closing the country down. The contractors were sent home and the church doors were locked. It was a surreal time for all. It marked a sea change in many aspects of our way of life – including the life of the Church. Weddings and funerals were cancelled, schools were closed, we were told to work from home if possible. A new word 'furlough' has become old news. As businesses had to close, the government stepped in to pay 80% of wages – our Church cleaner included. For my part, cash handling became problematic so we took steps to negate the risks. Most of our congregation have taken up the options to donate by non-cash means willingly whether this be by standing order, Direct Debit through the Diocese's Giving Direct initiative (by which the Diocese also take care of the recovery of Gift Aid), through a Donate button on our website, or by card payment over the phone or on the Goodplate at Church services when they are able to take place. I'd like to thank all for their continued generosity and understanding.

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £130,583, of which £56,227 came from planned voluntary donations, and a further £12,227 was from Gift Aid. Grants of £14,104 were received from various bodies to help with the Covid-19 crisis that has hit so many charitable organisations. All Bargates activities were cancelled with the exception of the Whitchurch Food-bank which took over the whole of the hall as its activities expanded. Re-

Rector's Report St Alkmund's, Whitchurch

Revd Judy

2020 will be remembered as the year of the Coronavirus pandemic in all aspects of life. Our Church life was affected deeply. Our church buildings were closed for many months. When private prayer, and later public worship, was allowed to resume, we had to act quickly but thoroughly in terms of signage, provision of hand sanitisers and of doing our best to ensure social distancing in and around the church building. Despite lockdowns and restrictions, we were able to continue to provide pastoral care and Christian nurture for many in our community and the North Shropshire area. Our outreach continued in different ways and, as in more normal times, we aimed to do this in partnership with others wherever possible: with those from Fauls and Tilstock parishes, the three other churches in Whitchurch and the Friends of St Alkmund's too.

Sadnesses

- The community of St Alkmund's was 'hit' by the death of a number of core members whose presence and whose contribution to the life and ministry of our church are much missed.
- The opportunity to meet together physically for fellowship and nurture has been tough – especially for those who cannot join in anything that is on-line
- The lack of congregational singing from the middle of March onwards
- Missing the physical get-togethers for both Messy Church and Time Together, plus the opportunity to serve *via* the Hospital Chaplaincy and Homes Services

Challenges

- Challenges have been linked to the sadnesses – particularly in caring for those who are bereaved, whilst feeling wider losses brought about by Coronavirus restrictions. community bereavement too.
- Continuing to minister in our community despite these challenging losses and 'down to' the creative and willingness to adapt, plus the ongoing faithful resilience and willingness of St Alkmund's congregation members in giving their time, energy, care and skills.
- Losing the Revd Elaine Attack as she moved to Frodsham and the unwillingness of Diocesan Senior Staff to allow us to advertise the vacant House for Duty post have been additional challenges.
- Other challenges have come though the work continuing on the church building: replacing the most worn exterior sandstone and repairing windows (most of which have been leaking for many years). Further water ingress has extended this work onto the roof of the building.
- Ensuring that our income did not plummet during the year
- Regular individual and corporate prayer for God's help in meeting these challenges with grace and hope has been important and has been answered.

- 2x book groups that I participated in
- Initial Ministerial Education (IME) training and events have all been on zoom but I have had several of them
- Joining in with prayers on zoom, and some Friday afternoons
- Co-ordinating Whitchurch Churches together walk around nativity
- Lots of involvement with Tilstock primary school including collective worship in each class bubble each week.
- Some involvement with time together where possible.
- Baptism and wedding visits and baptism services (before they stopped again!)
- Involvement with remembrance services
- Two online messy church videos and one opportunity for a zoom call afterwards (although no attendees!)
- Involvement in leading and preaching at Christmas services
- Planning harvest services alongside Jane
- Part of the shaping for mission team – which as of December was just moving into it's information gathering stage
- Writing articles for the parish magazine / chancel steps
- Short video with 'Jam' exploring the different objects in the church
- Creating a "harvest experience" video
- Organizing a online crib festival
- Attended some Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS) leadership events
- Leading an advent reflective service
- Recording and editing care home services

As I look ahead into the coming year I am currently involved in the music review group, exploring music in Whitchurch and across the benefice and co-ordinating the online/media group which will be looking at our engagement with digital technology.

I'm also still part of the shaping for mission group which will soon (hopefully!) be drawing some threads together from the questionnaire responses and beginning to discern where God is at work across this deanery.

As well as this we've started a weekly FTW Families video where we explore one of the set passages for the week in a family friendly and accessible way.

For 2021 I'm excited to see what God will do across the benefice and how even something as devastating as Coronavirus can reveal something of His glory. I am certain that this is a key and pivotal moment in the life of the national church, but also in the life of our church. I look forward to continuing to serve alongside you as together we discern God's call for our benefice and I feel privileged to be a part of what God is doing in Whitchurch and beyond.

Every blessing.

stricted income of £138,352 included a welcome legacy of £77,000 from Mrs Olive Clay and DCMS Grants to reclaim VAT on fabric renovations. The stonework and window repairs were almost completed by the end of the year at a total cost of £374,458 less total DCMS Grants received £55,395, meaning a total net cost of £319,062.76 – of which £251,245 was spent and £41,324 was recovered (ie net £209,921 cost) in 2020.

Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2021 accounts

Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance

Church Wardens' Report

John Stokes and Jill Wallace

2020 was again a very busy year for the upkeep of St. Alkmund's Church and grounds with the added difficulty of having to work with the Covid 19 Restrictions coming into place during the early part of the year.

Work commenced on the repairs and renewal to the **Stone work**, with scaffolding encasing much of the church during this time. The work was completed in the Autumn of 2020.

Work to the North and South **windows** took place, including restoring the panels of medieval glass. Cleaning of the windows also took place. Repairs to the **lead work** on the West end of the roof took place following rain ingress in the Rear Porch (Kitchen). Further repairs planned to be carried out to the lead above the Organ.

Roof – New rope installed from outside Bell ringing chamber to help with safety when moving around the Roof is required for maintenance. Installation by Wayne Edwards.

Repairs to the **roof** above the main **entrance porch** to the church.

Work on the **Organ** carried out on the organ console

Complete **deep clean** carried out to church, following the Covid 19 Lock Down

Faculty approved for **glass panels** to be inserted in the entrance doors into church (not the porch doors).

PAT Testing carried out on all Electrical appliances in church and Bargates Hall by Barlows of Malpas.

Sound System overhauled with parts renewed.

Old Grave Yard and Rectory Garden – Grass and boundary hedge cut, holly trees trimmed by new contractor, **SP. Mowing** also Rectory Lawns mowed *etc*

Gutter maintenance etc. carried out to church roof by Wayne Edwards.

Gas Boiler annual servicing.

Church Roof – Remote Intruder Alarm inspected and serviced.

Pigeon deterrent curtain working well on main door.

Fire Alarm system checked.

Tom Rylands checked the wire rope to the **Font Cover**.

Electrics inspection was carried out by Princes of Ellesmere and work carried out to bring up to required standards.

Repairs to **Water Tank** situated at the top of the North Porch Stairs.

Notice Board – timbers treated and repairs carried out to the notice doors, plus varnishing to the two church seats, situated in the church yard - work by **Dennis Edwards**

New Keys cut for main door and church vestry.

Fire Extinguishers serviced.

Lightning Conductor 5 year check by TVR, and work carried out to bring it up to the required standard

External ground lights now at end of natural life. Securasound instructed to replace 8 new lights..

Tree Work carried out by Benbow Brothers Ltd. to the Beech and White beam Trees in the church yard, close to the road (Church Street).

Bridgewater Street properties Annual safety checks carried out in line with our responsibilities as Landlords.

New **Telephone system** installed.

Safeguarding Report 2020

Meriel Edge (Safeguarding Officer)

The PCC has complied with the duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to the House of Bishop's guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Safeguarding is of immense importance in St Alkmund's Church. It features as an Agenda item at every PCC meeting and has a full and comprehensive risk assessment which is regularly scrutinised and updated, when necessary.

The following groups/people undergo training and adhere to the safeguarding policy – Incumbent, Churchwardens and Deputy Churchwardens, Time Together leaders and team, Messy Church, Baptism welcomers, Bible Study, Choir leaders, Homes Communion Teams, Residential Homes team, Junior Church, Prayers for Healing, Pastoral visitors and Transport.

DBS documentation is continually reviewed and persons are contacted who need to update/refresh their paperwork. This has obviously been more difficult these past twelve months due to COVID restrictions. People have, however, gained access by visiting <http://safeguardingtraining.org> C of E portal.org and Reverend Judy has supported others in updating their documentation.

The current position is thus: CO/1 and leadership training had been planned and advertised for 2020 but was obviously cancelled. Once training resumes, the following will be the focus:-

Time Together – one occasional helper and one involved in various forms of pastoral work (CO/1)

The Treasurers and Clergy have been in contact during the year.

Messy Church met early in the year and has had on-line material later on Time Together and the Hospital Chaplaincy are joint ventures: contact has been kept going with all through the months of the pandemic

There is now FTW section to intercessions in all three parishes in our main Sunday services and by e mail round to those who wish to pray at home too

There is an item on the agenda at each Coordinating group meeting to highlight any requests for support from any of the three parishes

There has been a sharing of resources and a working together in times of lockdown: prayer & nurture, pastoral care and ensuring communication are two areas of this in particular

Zoom meetings and telephone meetings have helped some people to stay in touch and many positive and appreciative comments have been made about our phone line messages and our Facebook / YouTube recorded or livestreamed services and messages

Thanks to all who have prayed, worked together and provided support and encouragement.

Curate's report

Sam Johnson

Hello!

Well, as far as starts to ordained ministry life and our time here in Whitchurch go – this is quite a way from how I imagined it!

After finishing my studies (MA Theology and Ministry) in Durham we arrived in Whitchurch to as warm a welcome as I'm sure would be manageable given the circumstances – so thank you for that.

Unfortunately there was no trip to Lichfield cathedral and not even any services in the churches! Instead I was licenced via zoom and spent time seeing people from the waist up. Imagine my surprise in mid-July when I realised you all had feet!

In September I did get ordained – at a very small service and Rev Sue represented the churches at the service.

Since arriving here there have been several things I've been involved with:

- Video reflections – these have been well received
- Editing together online services – a slight change from the March restrictions we moved to filming and editing together services in November
- In person services, preaching and leading.
- Several zoom meetings, and some in person for PCC and standing committee.
- Quite a large number of funerals – I'm some way ahead of my curacy cohort in that regard.
- Christianity explored faith course on zoom which I led.

FTW REPORT ON 2020

Judy Hunt, Rector

The year began with us being aware that Revd Elaine Attack would be moving on and that Sam Johnson would be joining us as curate. These may well be the only two main expectations for 2020 that actually came about!

We did become a legal benefice at the end of January. The only joint service that took place before the Coronavirus pandemic and associated restrictions started was on Ash Wednesday (26th February 2020) at Tilstock. The FTW co-ordinating group for the three parishes, with PCC representation from each, managed to meet twice during the year, in February and November.

We had a disappointing meeting with the Bishop of Shrewsbury in mid-March and it appears that the Senior Staff are no longer supportive of a House-for-Duty role that is tied to our current mission and ministry, despite having assured us that this would happen before we finally agreed to the parishes becoming a benefice. We were still charged for this post during the whole of 2020 and the same was due to happen for 2021 but a decrease in the Parish Share for each Parish has been negotiated.

We were not able to say a proper 'goodbye' to Revd Elaine but she has settled well in Frodsham.

Sam Johnson did join us at the end of June but could not be ordained (because of the pandemic) until late September. For the time in-between he was a licensed lay worker with us. This was by no means the easiest of years for a family to move or for new work which usually relies so much on 'physically being present' to be taken on. Sam, however, has more than risen to the challenge and it's a real positive to have him and the family with us. He has been leading worship, preaching and taking Collective Worship at Tilstock School among other things. His video-editing skills have been put to good use!

Church life (worship, pastoral care, nurture and outreach) has been greatly impacted by the pandemic, but the links between the three parishes have been key and have been strengthened in some ways:

Administrative support for all three parishes was provided by Jo Lavin. We have been able to keep communication going out widely – electronically and by hard copy; this has included pew sheets and magazines / Chancel Steps. Website development has also been important. Signage and other Coronavirus information and publicity has been vital.

When public worship has taken place, the Clergy and Reader team members move around the 3 parishes to lead and preach at Sunday Services. Revd Judy has overall oversight and particular responsibility for Whitchurch and Tilstock and Revd Sue for Fauls. The arrival of Revd Sam means that he has taken on some ministerial roles in Tilstock

Deputy Churchwardens and new organist (CO/1 and leadership module)
 Captain of Bell Ringers (leadership module)
 Any new members of teams
 Safeguarding Officer (C3 due April 2021)
 Rector and Reader (C3 due September 2021)

DBS

Reverend Judy has taken on the role of administrator for these. The checks are currently completely up to date with nine renewed this year and one new one completed. There are three people who may offer transport who are yet to be done.

Electoral Roll

Mr Paul Williamson

1st January 2021 is the date names are recorded for the purpose of the APCM. At that time 153 names were on the list and 14 of those lived outside the Parish. On 1st January 2020 144 names were on the list with 14 living outside the Parish

My thanks to Revd Judy and Jo for their support.

PCC Secretary's Report

Mrs Judy Bellingham

St Alkmund's PCC met bi-monthly during 2020 on a Monday evening in Bargates for January and then on Zoom because of the pandemic. Full list of members can be seen at the start of this report booklet. We started to spend the John Heatley legacy and the repairs to the stonework and windows have been completed. No work has been done on the inside of the church apart from general maintenance but we are hoping to replace the internal front doors soon with glass panels to make the church look more inviting to visitors. There has been a lot of upheaval due to Covid-19 restrictions and services had to be stopped for a time. We have increased our online presence on Youtube and Facebook with services being streamed and reflections recorded via this media and also by phone. A lot of people who do not normally attend church have viewed these services and appreciated them. We were pleased to welcome Sam and Leah Johnson and family in July. It has been a strange time for them as we are only able to meet up online or socially distanced and it has been difficult for them to meet other members of the congregation as they normally would. Sam has been invaluable in teaching us to use the technology to enable us to move online. There have not been any concerts in church this year due to Covid restrictions. We continue to be represented on Churches Together, Christian Aid, The Friends of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch Fairtrade Group, The Foodbank and the Higginson's Charities. We have only been able to reach out into the community via social media etc this year. All our usual events had to be cancelled. This has been a year like no other.

Bargates Hall

Wayne Edwards, Caretaker/Manager

It has been very different year for Bargates Hall, the first part of the year was largely as normal until we had to close to groups due to the Covid-19 outbreak and restrictions. All those affected have been very accepting of the situation—thank you. Whilst closing to these groups does not sound like very good news we are pleased that this closure has enable us to help the wider community by allowing Whitchurch Foodbank unlimited use of the premises, enabling them to help the many people who have been in particular need of their services; this number has been greatly increased by the pandemic. Extra funding for them has meant that they have been able to make a series of extra payments for which we are very grateful. I would also like to thank the foodbank volunteers for keeping the Hall clean and tidy during their sole use of the premises. The annual regular maintenance has also come to a halt to give the foodbank free run of the building—hopefully this will alter during the coming year.

Churches Together in Whitchurch

Revd Judy

Groups associated with Churches Together

Important activities in the town are undertaken ecumenically, and the Churches Together Committee receives reports from these:

- Fair Trade (including the “Big Brew” hosted in St Alkmund’s)
- Christian Aid
- The Food Bank
- Time Together
- The Hospital Chaplaincy
- The Bible Society

Church Services

We had planned to continue with our ‘liturgical year’ for the churches in the town but during 2020, all were cancelled because of the Coronavirus Pandemic.

However, St John’s hosted an on-line Christian Aid service with participation from all four churches.

Lent Activities

In Lent 2020, the Lent Lunches were cancelled and only part of the Lent Course was held (based around the book “Vibrant Christianity in Multifaith Britain” by Andrew Smith.

No AGM was held

made several donations to St Alkmund's as a thank you for use of Bargates without extra charge. Volunteers over 70 were not allowed to continue to help during the pandemic and many other younger volunteers have stepped up to help as they were furloughed.

Fairtrade Report

Mrs Judy Bellingham

We had to stop having a Traidcraft stall at the back of church on the 2nd Sunday of each month due to Covid restrictions. I continue to have a stall in the Whitchurch Market each Friday when it is open. It has been closed from time to time due to Covid restrictions. We were hoping to celebrate our 10 years of being a Fairtrade Town this year but it had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. We hope to do something next year. Thanks to all of you who have supported Traidcraft despite not having the stall in church. I have stock at home and can order from the catalogue for anyone who would like to. Every time we choose to buy a Fair trade product we are helping someone less fortunate to make a decent living for their family

The Friends of St. Alkmund’s, Whitchurch

**Revd Judy Hunt,
Chair**

The Main Project was the Church Tower Clock:

Money was raised by publicity on the need to install a new auto-regulator at a cost of £2,420 plus VAT. Donations received totalled £1,725 and some of these were gift-aided.

The Friends AGM was held on 08.09.2020.

Trustees for the coming year were appointed:

The Revd Judy Hunt Ex-officio and Chair

Mr Simon Edge Elected and Treasurer

Mrs Hilda Francis-Roberts PCC Nomination

Mr Ray Hatton Elected and Secretary

Mrs Belinda Hutchinson-Smith Elected

Mrs Alex Williamson PCC nomination and Membership Secretary

Mr Tom Rylands PCC nomination

Mr Chris Smith Elected

Events in 2020

All cancelled because of the Coronavirus Pandemic

Sunday 4th October Harvest Lunch in Bargates Hall

Saturday 14th November Christmas Coffee Morning in Bargates Hall.

Saturday 28th November Crib Festival.

Saturday 5th December Border Singers Concert in St Alkmund's Church,

Thursday 24th December Light tea to be served in Bargates between services for those helping or taking part in the service.

As we are all too aware, due to COVID-19 most of these events did not take place .

The Children's Society

Mrs Sue Collins

We, as a church, continue to give good support to The Children's Society, with our regular contributions year on year.

There are now 71 boxes in use which are emptied once a year, unless they are full, in which case, are emptied as needed. We also had 2 very generous donations, making the total amount of box money for 2020, £1737.87 a very good result. Thank you everyone who contributes so generously.

The Christingle Service is the other major fund raising event for the Society. Rebecca Sims has taken over this part of the administration for the Children's Society for which I'm extremely grateful. Due to Covid restrictions we were unable to distribute collecting candles to the children in our schools as in the past and things had to be done differently, but I do thank Revd Judy for generously allowing the service to go ahead and for all the work she put into preparing for it. In spite the huge amount of work Rebecca and her helpers put into it, sadly the service was very poorly attended and contributions were, therefore, very low compared to previous years amounting only to £88.72. Perhaps with the advent of the vaccine things will return to normal next year.

The Children's Society does wonderful work supporting deprived children, especially helping runaways, refugee children, often unaccompanied, and child carers amongst others and I do thank everyone who supports it.

It is obvious that this year the box collections have been particularly invaluable to what we've been able to contribute to the work of the society so, if you haven't got a box, do consider it. I am always willing to supply a box to anyone who would like one, so do please ask.

Sue Collins 667845

Whitchurch Foodbank Report

Mrs Judy Bellingham

We continue to have a box at the back of church for donations to the Foodbank. Things have had to change a lot during the pandemic. All food is now delivered to clients. No one is allowed to come in person to collect food.. St Alkmund's has allowed the Foodbank exclusive use of Bargates during the pandemic as it is not being used for other groups. There has been a lot more demand on services due to the crisis. Foodbank have

The Churches Together Christmas Card

This was not produced in 2020 due to the advice against hand delivery of printed materials. One class of pupils from the White House School were asked to design a border for our poster – and three winners were chosen and used.

Welcome

During the year, we welcomed Fr Thaddaeus who is now serving at St George's.

Whitchurch (Church of England) Federation:

Whitchurch (Church of England) Junior Academy and

Whitchurch (Church of England) Infant Academy

Mrs Liz Walsh

Like most schools, this last year has been difficult for the Whitchurch C of E Federation.

The Principal, Mrs Sarah Cope, and the Senior Management team have worked tirelessly to keep the education of all the children in the Nursery, Infant and Junior Schools available as much as possible.

From the beginning of the pandemic both schools were reordered with one way systems, bubbles of pupils and numerous restrictions to keep everyone safe. There have been copious variations of the Government COVID-19 Risk Assessments to follow, the latest being number 14! All have been strictly adhered to; this often requiring last minute revisions. All Governor meetings have been on Zoom to keep us up to date with developments, visits

and most training have been cancelled.

At the beginning of November the first positive cases occurred in the Infant and Nursery school. The school was subsequently closed for a few days for deep cleaning.

At the November half term Mrs J Rowlandson the Head of the Infant and Nursery School left to take up a new headship. She has been replaced by Mrs S Gilmore.

Mrs Cope and all the staff of both schools are to be congratulated for keeping the pupils taught either in school or at home in this challenging time, and need our prayers for the future.

Deanery Report

Revd Judy

Elected Lay Members of the Deanery Synod in 2020:

John & Pauline Stokes

Steve White

Clergy Members of the Deanery Synod in 2020:

Revd Judy Hunt

Revd Sam Johnson (from Sept)

The Lay members were re-elected at the APCM on 18.10.2020

The Synod did not meet at all during 2020 because of Covid-19 restrictions

The Clergy Chapter did not meet from April to October inclusive

Revd Deborah Walton was licensed to the PEW group of parishes and to a Chaplain-type role in both Sir John Talbot's and Thomas Adams

Secondary Schools

The Deanery has formed a "Shaping for Mission Team" to take forward the work in 2021 on this Diocesan initiative. Local members are:

Mrs Marjorie Jones (Prees)

Mrs Cresswell (Shawbury *etc*)

Revd Adam Clayton (Myddle *etc* and Rural Dean)

Revd Paul Cawthorne (Hadnall *etc*)

Revd Rich Cresswell (Shawbury *etc* and Assistant Rural Dean)

Revd Sam Johnson (FTW benefice)

Whitchurch Junior C of E Academy Experience Days

Wendy Darter

This year we were not able to have the children in Church for Easter and Pentecost.

When Harvest came we had the expertise of Rev Sam and he videoed our volunteers presenting each of the types of Harvest. This video was shown in school but was rather long with none of the usual activities.

At Christmas we delivered to school all the stories, discussion topics and activities for the Y4 teachers to present to the children themselves. This went well and was enjoyed and may be repeated at Easter.

We hope that it won't be too long before we can have the children in church again.

Reader's Report

Jane Rylands

A quieter year than usual! I only began a contribution to the pattern of recorded online offerings of the church towards the end of the first lockdown when I felt I could contribute something focused towards our families with young children. Since then I have had a regular slot. It was lovely to have a few weeks of 'in church' worship in the autumn and up to Christmas and to play a part in leading and preaching for some of those, including what felt like real trips out to Fauls and Tilstock.

Plant Sale & Produce Stall Miss Janet Ivens & Mrs Judy Bryant

Covid raised its ugly head just as the plants were at their peak growing time. Realising a sale in an indoor venue would be out of the question, we were determined to find an alternative way to satisfy our faithful customers. A few phone calls later and our new system was taking shape: orders to taken by phone, payment to our wonderful treasurer Mel by card and delivery by willing members of Helping Hands to the grateful recipients. It worked and most important of all we still managed to raise around £1200.

This spring we hope to repeat the winning formula. The sale will take place around the 1st May and all details will be advertised well in advance. Thank you to everyone who supported us so magnificently last year.

Social Working Group Annual Report.

Mrs Sheila Chase

The Social Working Group is made up of members of St Alkmund's Church congregation. New members are always welcome to come along and join us.

Our first meeting of the New Year was held on Tuesday 18th February 2020 at 7:30 pm in St Alkmund's Church Office.

We started the year with our diary full of confirmed dates, which were as follows.

Sunday 29th March

FTW Songs of Praise in St Alkmund's Church @ 10:30 am

This was to include Elaine's Leaving do, unfortunately this was probably the first of the 'extra' events Cancelled due to Covid-19

Sunday 12th April Easter Breakfast.

Thursday 23rd April Nine Barrow Concert in Church @ 7:30 pm

Saturday 2nd May Plant Sale usually held in Bargates Hall was changed to a remote ordering system (see Plant Sale Report)

Friday 8th May VE Day

Sunday 17th May Rogation Service at Tremloes Stud Farm @ 6:30 pm

Tuesday 2nd June Rebecca Byrne in Concert, 7:30 pm in Church

Friday 12th June Coffee Morning at the Civic Centre

Saturday 13th June FTW Festival

Saturday 13th June Party in the Park, for those involved with Fair Trade.

Sunday 14th June Bishop Sarah (Shrewsbury) 10:00am service.

Thursday 18th June Ordination of Sam Johnson our new Curate @ Lichfield @ 5:00 pm,

Sunday 28th June Bring and Share Lunch in Bargates Hall after the 10:00 am service for all three Parishes

Saturday 4th July, Parish Outing to Llandudno.

Saturday 11th July, Jean Martyn in Concert @7:30 pm in Church

Monday 27th July Cello Concert @ 3:00 pm refreshments required,

Saturday 3rd October, Blackberry Fair.

brought pleasure and cheer to an otherwise difficult year. Thank you to all dedicated people who come along and grace this lovely building with their talent to the Glory of God. If you would like to join us just pop along on a Friday Morning or leave contact details with Jo in the Parish Office. There are quite a few dates available on the Altar Flower Rota, too.

Guild of Service

Sue Wainwright

Not a lot to say about the Church cleaning rota Our teams continue to do an amazing job and as always we would love more members to join us. It's been a difficult last ten months for everyone but as usual we have continued to do our best and will not doubt carry on in the coming months. With the vaccine there is a light at the end of the tunnel unless someone turns the torch off

Bell ringing

Malcolm Monie

The year started off normally enough but the lockdown in March caused the cessation of all ringing for several months. Sunday ringing resumed in July but was limited to 15 minutes on alternate bells to comply with Covid regulations. We are fortunate to have a large and well-ventilated ringing room. Further lockdowns have also interrupted ringing and the move into Tier 3 before Christmas brought us down to ringing just one bell. We have been unable to hold practices or do any teaching since March. This is a frustration to us and especially to learners Sam and Leanne. The former had just started ringing on Sunday mornings when we went into the first lockdown.

The regular band of Peter, Helen, Mike and myself have been helped out by Robin Gilbert from Tilstock on a number of occasions when one of us was unavailable. Jacob returned to Bath University but was able to ring with us in the run-up to Christmas.

We had been looking forward to a bumper season of weddings to ring for, but of course, none of them took place.

Hopefully, we will get back to more normal ringing during 2021 and that we will be able to progress our efforts to rebuild what has become a rather depleted band.

Baptism Welcome Group

Mrs Wendy Darter

The pandemic has meant that many families chose to delay their baptism bookings until 2021. For those who decided to go ahead, after church opened again, we held some pleasant services, just one family at a time, each with a few guests.

In place of home visits we had to rely on telephone conversations and all paperwork and even the Baptismal Candle had to be individually sealed and quarantined for 72 hours before the service.

We hope to be able to reach out to the families of all who have been baptised in recent times with the Rev Sam's online Bible story and activities for young people.

Junior Church and Sermon Slot Jane Rylands and Meriel Edge

As the year began Meriel and I continued to share leadership of the morning service sessions with our youngsters and were wonderfully supported by a team of volunteers and with a particular mention of Judy Bellingham who ensures that there are photocopied activity sheets for the children to use in the pews. As Meriel and my skill sets are complementary we hope that our different styles provide an interesting variety of activities and approaches to the sharing of the Christian message with our young people.

Of course, much of this year has been spent in lockdown with no meetings in church. We have both supported the video recordings for families collated by Rev Sam - although branded 'Messy Church' we hope that our younger 10 o'clockers also enjoyed them.

When services were allowed again in the autumn we did our best to run sessions for those children who came to church: initially the weather was good enough to go outside and to be unrestricted by masks although perhaps slightly harder to maintain the children's focus! The need to be socially-distant, to not share equipment, to create a good atmosphere within an environment which felt alien and to share a message in the shortened time scale made for a very challenging few weeks!

Time Together Report

Revd Judy

The purpose of the Time Together group is to provide social, spiritual, physical and emotional support for those with Memory Loss or Dementia and their family members or carers. We work in partnership with AgeUK and this is very helpful.

The group continued to meet twice a month on Wednesday afternoons in the first part of the year but had to stop this 'physical' meeting in early March due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

We stayed in touch with members by phone and e mail, plus the delivery of AgeUK activity packs - either by e mail or hard copy for the rest of the year. This contact was enhanced from October to December for those who could Zoom - twice monthly Zoom meetings were held. These were greatly appreciated by the 5 families who were able to participate.

We have 'lost' some members this year, through death or through health deterioration, and we have not yet gained other members. This will need to be a priority in 2021 once we can meet physically once more.

We have received several generous donations from grateful participants and from Community Organisations.

Hospital Chaplaincy Team

Revd Judy

The hospital chaplaincy team has been providing support for patients and staff at Whitchurch Community Hospital since October 2015. The team is led by Revd Canon Dr Judy Hunt and is currently comprised of eight lay volunteer members from St Alkmunds, Holy Immanuel Faults Church and the Beacon Church and also includes Revd Sue Armstrong. Revd Sue's dog, Merlin, is a qualified PAT (Pets as Therapy) dog and so sometimes visits with Sue – bringing a much appreciated canine presence. Roman Catholic ministers and a Quaker contact are also available if needed.

St Alkmund's PCC has an agreement with the Hospital to provide a service of at least 6 hours per week throughout the year. In practice it is usually more. At least one person of the team visits the hospital every weekday. Weekends and special Holy days are covered by arrangement amongst the team. Lay members are authorised to administer Holy Communion and consecrated bread and wine are kept in a cupboard at the Hospital for use, as required.

Team members provide conversation and a listening ear for any concerns for the patients and pray with all those who would like it, including visitors. Hospital Staff also appreciate being able to talk with Chaplaincy Team Members. Each patient is offered a prayer card and a bookmark contact card with the telephone numbers of Revd Judy and Revd Sue on them. In addition, small palm-size holding crosses made from smooth olive tree wood are given to those who would like one. Patients have found these comforting. The turnover of patients is often high but some are on the wards for several weeks, so Team members get to know them quite well. Interaction with those in Outpatients also occurs. Team members help each other by writing short notes in a notebook about those they have spoken with and any points of note about a patient but they are always aware of the legalities of confidentiality and Health and Safety. The visiting continued until the middle of March and was then put on hold because of the Coronavirus pandemic. Revd Judy was occasionally called in for individual patients.

The Team also plans and participates in activities at the Hospital; this usually includes an Easter / Springtide event, a Harvest Celebration and the Christmas Crib Service but all had to be cancelled in 2020 because of the Coronavirus pandemic.

We stayed in touch with the Hospital by e mail and by providing resource activities and on-line services. This continuing contact which was much appreciated as were Christmas Cards sent to be given to patients.

The Team usually meets regularly at St Alkmund's Rectory to reflect on this ministry, to discuss improvements or any difficulties, and exchange ideas for engaging and helping the patients. In the middle and later part of 2020, these 'physical' meetings were replaced by Zoom meetings.

I continue to enjoy working with Revd Sue, & Revd Judy, and look forward of building a good working relationship with our new curate—Revd Sam. I would like to urge the congregations to continue to provide articles, reports and especially photographs for use in all the above publications when it is possible. Together we can continue to improve the quality of our publications.

My thanks, as always, to Mrs Pauline Stokes, for the help and support she gives me each week and especially this year for her phone calls which have helped keep me sane. Thank you.

Afternoon Bible Study Group

Mrs Celia Camplin

This will be a very short resume of what happened in 2020 regarding the group. We managed to start looking at the Acts of the Apostles in 2019 and finished it in January / February 2020. We were wondering how St Peter arrived in Rome about the same time as St Paul was there, and how they both managed to be martyred about the same time. We looked to see if the Bible was any help, and as we couldn't find any references we decided to see if St Peter's Letters offered a clue.

So these Letters were due to be started in March. However the lockdown put pay to that!

Keswick too was cancelled this year, but there is always some hope in 2021.

I have kept in touch with the group by sending cards for the major festivals and kept in touch in other ways. I've booked the room in Bargates and sent a list of the hopeful dates to all members of the group. Hopefully when we can meet again, we shall look at St Peter's Letters. I'll let everyone know when that will be!

May I wish everyone safe months ahead, and keep to all the rules. If anyone would like to join us, we meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month, at 2.00pm in Bargates Hall. You will be very welcome. My phone number as in the magazine. See you there.

God bless, and stay safe.

Flower Arrangers

Firstly, the whole team were saddened by the loss of our longest serving member Mrs Muriel Simkiss who died 31st July 2020. Muriel led the team for many years along with Olive Walker and Shirley Lakin before they hung up their florist's scissors and afterwards with Ruth. We give thanks for Muriel's life and service and miss her terribly. Rest in peace.

The Team continued to work as hard as ever when the Covid-19 restrictions permitted. Fortunately they were able to do displays for many of the Sundays and were especially pleased to be able to do so for Harvest—even though they had to work in a Covid Safe manner. 'We each took charge of a particular display and worked dotted around the church'. We all have our favourite flowers and colours so hopefully they have

Boyne Clarke and Angela Davies returned to play at Evening Prayer where, once we were allowed to sing again, first an anthem was sung, and then gradually, one of the canticles and sometimes another hymn was added. The choir is now rather depleted of men with the sad death of Roger Duffell and the retirement of John Malam, both of whom are sadly missed, but we are grateful to Celia and Garry Churchill who have joined us. We also much appreciate Rev Judy singing with us when she can. Thanks to the work done by Rev. Judy, we were able to have a Carol Service, different from usual as everything else is, but enjoyable none the less.

Singing in a choir, socially distanced from each other, is not easy and we have had no choir practices for any service, including the Carol Service, since March, but we continue to do the best we can.

Without doubt, the greatest sadness of the year was the sudden death of Dr Bob (Rob) Fowler, our brilliant organist, in November. Bob could always be relied on to play whatever was asked of him, traditional or modern hymns alike, and was faithfully there for the few who turned up for choir practice for the morning service on a Wednesday evening, before Coronavirus struck. He also had the ability to fill any gaps that the hymns didn't fill, with totally improvised music. If anyone congratulated him on his excellent playing, he always said it was a God given gift and nothing to do with him!!

He was a great musician and will be hugely missed by us all.

We are grateful to Ted Chegwin and Angela Davies for helping out with playing the organ for 10.00am services in December, including at Christmas.

Parish Office

Jo Lavin, Parish Administrator

During the course of 2020 the Parish Office continued to publish the Parish Magazine of St Alkmund's, Fauls & Tilstock and The Chancel Steps, which also accommodates news from our other two parishes. The website www.stalkmunds.com was replaced by a new site which went live early 2020 and towards the end of the year efforts turned to setting up a website, for each of Fauls and Tilstock which will go live in early 2021.

The production of the regular weekly Pewsheets along with extra 'Covid Restrictions' versions of service booklets to use during these strange, stressful and frightening times.

The role of Parish Administrator has continued to be a busy one though out the pandemic, for many weeks work having to be done from home instead of the office. And much of the work moving from the printed word to being online which has meant an expansion of the St Alkmund's website to include more pastoral content including Pewsheets, links to Prayer Resources and welfare resources in addition to links to online services and weekly prayer contributions from the clergy and reader.

Pastoral Care Group Report

Jill Wallace

2020 has been such an unusual, difficult, frightening year for many during the Pandemic, and continues to be into 2021, but HOPE is looming with the advent of the Vaccine being rolled out as fast as possible.

The Church Pastoral Care Team has been busy helping in a variety of ways, putting faith into practice ... along with Helping Hands, a Whitchurch Town -based team, also helping in a variety of ways.

Our aim is to support the vulnerable who are shielding, the elderly and any others needing help in various ways ... sending out Church materials, doing shopping, collecting prescriptions, phoning those on their own, and trying generally to prevent anyone from feeling neglected or uncared for.

So much comes under the term 'pastoral care'!

Revd Judy, Revd Sue, Revd Sam and Jane Rylands our Reader, have made it possible for those with computers to access the on-line services, and those without computers, to listen to a spoken 'Reflection' on a local phone number once or twice a week. Also Judy Bellingham has learned how to copy the services onto discs so that those with DVD players can watch the services at a later date in the comfort of their own homes ... so much has been going on as we all discover new ways of using modern technology, some finding it easier than others! We also try to put the sermons/ talks/reflections on line and also hard copies in a folder in church for anyone to take home to catch up or reflect on further.

FTW Prayer Link is a way of encouraging us to pray at home ... we receive weekly information by email or hard copy of those who are ill or who have passed away in our 3 parishes, Fauls, Tilstock and Whitchurch. Also any prayer requests for our schools and communities, and from the notes written by anyone and put on our **Church Prayer Board**, for two weeks at a time, when they are removed to make room for others. Please let us know if anyone else would like to receive the Prayer Link sent regularly.

Pastoral visiting to help with the Care Homes' Communion and private home communions have had to stop since Covid-19 arrived, but church materials are sent by Revd Judy to the Care Homes and some of the Residents can watch the Videos and Services in this way. We recorded a special Harvest and a special Christmas service for them. Also one Care Home requested a Worship Service that they could take themselves.

Personal Bible Reading Notes are sent from The Bible Reading Fellowship and Scripture Union regularly and samples are on the shelves in Church if anyone would like to take a sample home to try.

Thanks to everyone who has helped in so many different ways this year.

Jesus said: 'I am the Vine, you are the branches. If anyone remains in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing' from John's Gospel, and in James we read: 'faith, if not accompanied by action, is dead.'

Residential/Nursing Homes' Communion Mrs Pauline Stokes

2020 certainly a year we shall never forget!

Our small, but committed team of visitors to the Homes, started the New Year by taking Communion into the Care and Nursing Homes in our town. Usually the second week each month we start by visiting Edgeley House & Court, followed by visits to Weston House, Cloverfields, and to Snowdrop and Bluebell at Greenfields, also calling at St. John's Park, too (when we enjoy catching up with news with some of the Residents.) – Sadly, but understandably, we were only able to take Communion into the Homes in January, February, & March, before Covid struck and *Lockdown!!!*

Our short Communion Service begins with a hymn, usually fitting in with the churches year (e.g. Epiphany, Lent, &c) a Reading and a short reflection on the theme of the reading, the service is usually led by Revd Judy, though occasionally a member of the team will lead the service, and closing with a final hymn. We then take the opportunity to have a chat to the residents, some of whom have become old friends of ours over the years.

We value, too, our visits to the residents who have Dementia, when we sing just one verse of a very well known hymn, say the Lord's Prayer with them, and finish with singing the verse again – and it is lovely when memories are re-awakened!

We were pleased to have two Songs of Praise services at Greenfields, in January and February *before Lockdown* - when the residents really enjoyed singing the hymns! Jane Rylands our Reader leads this informal service, and she too gives a short reflection on a reading – always 'food for thought, too.'

Though we have been unable to visit the Homes, because of Covid, since March, the Residents and their families, and all the Staff *are* very much in our thoughts and prayers – and sadly, we lost some of our friends whom we have come to know over the years – God Bless them!

Dementia-Friendly Church

Pauline Green

Much of our Dementia-Friendly Ministry as a church takes place through Time Together, the Hospital Chaplaincy, general Pastoral Care and the work with our Residential and Care Homes. We publicise this work in the local press and, when Covid-restrictions allow, through involvement in town events. We were awarded a Diocesan Certificate again for this work in 2020. We keep in touch with other churches involved in similar work through the regional meetings hosted by Sarah Thorpe.

Messy Church

Messy Church would usually meet every other month on a Sunday in Bargates Hall.

We have been unable to meet in 2020 due to the Covid Restrictions. Instead we have put a video on Facebook/YouTube. During Covid-19 we have missed our messy church families. We hope to re-start in 2021 (dates tba). Messy Church families were invited to set up the Crib at a special Sunday service on the 20th December. <https://www.facebook.com/StAlkmundsWhitchurch>

Church Music (part 1)

Dr Robert Anthony Fowler

MUS.DOC, MA, FWTC, L.L.S.M.

Organist & Choirmaster, St Alkmund's Church

In January the keyboards of the organ were removed and remedial work carried out including re-felting and renewing pins. The electronic keyboard was used for Sunday services and several funerals. It was wonderful once this work was completed towards the end of February and the improvements to the organ very noticeable.

We welcomed Bishop Sarah to our service on 15th March, but unfortunately a few days later a national lockdown was announced and services suspended. After a few weeks it was agreed that organ maintenance was allowed so I played once a week to ensure the organ was kept in good working order.

All weddings planned for this year were postponed. After a short respite of normal services we were put in to the tier system meaning reduced numbers, social distancing, no singing except for the choir and no chatting or socialising inside the building.

"Dr Bob" prepared this report early in November but unfortunately he died suddenly on 2nd December. The church has lost an extremely talented and committed organist and I have lost a wonderful loving husband.

Elaine Bucknell

Church Music (part 2)

Mrs Sue Collins, Choir

Church music has suffered considerably over the course of this year for various reasons. The obvious one, of course, was the coronavirus lockdown when, from late March to mid-July we had no services or music.

Services began again on July 19th, though no singing was allowed, but it was a joy to have Dr Bob Fowler, our organist, playing before and after the 10.00am services, and one or two hymns during the distribution of communion. This was extended to playing a joyful piece during the offertory. Singing was at last allowed by small choirs, socially distanced, on September 6th, and Bob then accompanied the choir for hymns during the service.

The PCC of St Alkmund's Church, Whitchurch

End of Year Financial Statements

Year Ending 31 December 2020

ST ALKMUND'S CHURCH, WHITCHURCH PCC - 1129900

Statement of Financial Activities

For the period from 01 January 2020 to 31 December 2020

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £	Prior year total funds £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	2(a)	91,436	680	124,012	—	216,128	139,690
Income from charitable activities	2(b)	10,808	—	—	—	10,808	17,151
Other trading activities	2(c)	11,861	—	240	—	12,091	16,610
Investments	2(d)	14,147	—	14,037	—	28,185	34,632
Other income	2(e)	2,340	—	62	—	2,402	3,849
Total income		130,583	680	138,352	—	269,616	212,034
Expenditure on:							
Expenditure on charitable activities	3	129,437	1,632	266,294	—	381,363	282,082
Total expenditure		129,437	1,632	266,294	—	381,363	282,082
Gains / losses on investment assets	7(b)	211,886	—	7,459	—	219,345	128,271
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer		219,032	(952)	(110,482)	—	107,597	58,222
Transfers							
Gross transfers between funds – in	8	662	—	662	—	1,116	1,442
Gross transfers between funds – out	6	(562)	—	(562)	—	(1,116)	(1,442)
Other recognised gains / losses							
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use		—	—	—	—	—	—
Net movement in funds		219,022	(952)	(110,472)	—	107,597	58,222
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward	11	892,690	3,381	648,911	—	1,544,883	1,486,860
Total funds carried forward	12	1,111,613	2,429	538,439	—	1,652,481	1,544,883

ST ALKMUND'S CHURCH, WHITCHURCH PCC - 1129900

Balance sheet (Church of England)

As at: 31 December 2020

	Note	As at 31/12/2020 £	As at 31/12/2019 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	7(a)	892,300	686,973
Investments	7(b)	553,562	709,636
		<u>1,445,862</u>	<u>1,396,609</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	8(a)	5,598	109,330
Cash at bank and in hand	8(b)	205,912	43,419
		<u>211,511</u>	<u>152,749</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	9	2,842	4,408
Provision for liabilities and charges due within one year	9	2,050	67
		<u>206,618</u>	<u>148,274</u>
Net current assets less current liabilities		<u>206,618</u>	<u>148,274</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1,652,481</u>	<u>1,544,883</u>
Total net assets less liabilities		<u>1,652,481</u>	<u>1,544,883</u>
Represented by			
Unrestricted			
Unrestricted - General fund	10	1,111,613	892,590
Designated			
Designated - Bell Ringers	10	2,429	3,381
Restricted			
Restricted - GENERAL FABRIC	10	528,015	639,058
Restricted - LDBF Interior Decoration Scheme	10	2,514	2,201
Restricted - LECTERN	10	1,000	1,000
Restricted - Dementia Friendly - Time Together	10	6,909	6,652
Restricted - Agency collection		—	—
Funds of the church		<u>1,652,481</u>	<u>1,544,883</u>

Approved by the PCC on 22/02/2021 and signed on its behalf by:

The Revd Canon Dr Judy Hunt (PCC Chairman)

Judith M Hunt

The notes on pages 4 to 12 to form part of these accounts

The PCC of St Alkmund's Church, Whitchurch - Charity Commission No 1129900

Cash Flow Statement

As at: 31 December 2020

	2020		2019	
	£	£	£	£
Net Cash from Operating Activities		35,784		(211,774)
Cash Flows from Investing activities				
Dividends, interest and rent from Investments	28,185		34,533	
Sale of Fixed Asset Investments	<u>170,092</u>		<u>97,192</u>	
Net cash provided by/ (used in) Investing activities		198,277		131,725
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		<u>234,061</u>		<u>(80,049)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		43,419		123,468
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December		<u><u>277,480</u></u>		<u><u>43,419</u></u>
Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) before Investment gains/(losses)				
Net Income before Investment gains/(losses) 31 December		(111,897)		(70,048)
Adjustments for:				
Dividends, interest and rent from Investments		(28,185)		(34,533)
Decrease/ (Increase) in debtors		103,732		(108,342)
(Decrease)/ Increase in creditors		267		(851)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		<u><u>(35,783)</u></u>		<u><u>(211,774)</u></u>
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents				
Cash at bank and in hand		<u><u>277,480</u></u>		<u><u>43,419</u></u>

1) ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCC's and with the Regulations' true and fair view' provisions. They have been prepared under FRS102(2016) and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

ASSETS

Consecrated and benefice property

In so far as consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of 'charity' by Section 10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011, such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Currently these consist of Buildings - namely Bargates Hall and property No 3 Bridgewater Street, Whitchurch which is converted into 2 dwellings 3a and 3b.

The valuation of 3a and 3b Bridgewater Street are based on the Ecclesiastical Insurance re-build value. This has increased by almost 30% since the last revaluation in 2013. Bargates Hall has been increased by the same proportion from the 2013 figure. The valuation of Bridgewater Street has also been compared to the valuation of similar properties in the same area. No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties is not less than their carrying value.

Judgement and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting practice requires the trustees to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of income and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results in the future could differ from those estimates. In this regard, the trustees believe that the only significant area of judgement relate to the valuation of the properties.

Investments

Investments are shares held with CCLA in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund and are valued at the published value 31st December.

FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds

These represent the remaining income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are therefore not included in its 'free reserves' as disclosed in the Trustee's report.

Restricted Funds

These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions provided are shown in the notes to the accounts.

ST ALKMUND'S CHURCH, WHITCHURCH PCC - 1129900

**Analysis of income and expenditure
Selected period: 01 January 2020 to 31 December 2020**

	Note	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Endowment £	This year £	Total Last year £
Income and endowments							
<i>Donations and legacies</i>							
40100 - Regular Giving - Bankers Orders		46,419	—	300	—	46,719	41,912
40110 - Regular Giving - Weekly Envelopes		9,808	—	—	—	9,808	18,304
40120 - Regular Giving - White Envelopes		1,470	—	—	—	1,470	4,455
40130 - Collections - Cash		2,839	—	—	—	2,839	9,960
40140 - Donations (incl GAYL)		2,859	—	—	—	2,859	5,642
40150 - Wallbox Collections		768	—	—	—	768	1,613
40200 - Gift Aid Recovered		12,227	—	112	—	12,340	26,286
41140 - Other Donations - Restricted		—	—	82,275	—	82,275	15,649
43100 - Appeal Income - Restricted		—	—	—	—	—	425
46120 - Non-Statutory Fees - Weddings		—	—	—	—	—	297
46140 - Non-Statutory Fees - Funerals		949	—	—	—	949	2,205
46130 - Income for Bell Ringers Fund		—	—	—	—	—	69
49000 - Grants		14,104	680	41,324	—	56,108	14,070
Donations and legacies Totals	2(a)	91,436	680	124,012	—	216,128	139,890
<i>Income from charitable activities</i>							
42100 - Fund Raising		1,139	—	—	—	1,139	2,774
46110 - Statutory PCC Fees - Wedding		157	—	—	—	157	2,965
46130 - Statutory Fees - Funeral		5,212	—	—	—	5,212	6,212
46200 - Income from Social Group activities		—	—	—	—	—	900
46400 - Hospital Chaplaincy		4,300	—	—	—	4,300	4,300
Income from charitable activities Totals	2(b)	10,808	—	—	—	10,808	17,151
<i>Other trading activities</i>							
46100 - Church Hire		—	—	—	—	—	822
46300 - Bargates Room Hire		11,264	—	240	—	11,504	13,944
46100 - Magazine Advertising		240	—	—	—	240	154
46110 - Photocopier Income		120	—	—	—	120	139
46120 - Parish Magazine		74	—	—	—	74	215
46140 - Memorial Book entries		25	—	—	—	25	750
46180 - Sundry Income		127	—	—	—	127	585
Other trading activities Totals	2(c)	11,851	—	240	—	12,091	16,610
<i>Investments</i>							
44100 - Dividends Received		2,855	—	14,037	—	16,893	23,413
44110 - Bank Interest Received - PCC Current Acc		159	—	—	—	159	378
46500 - Rental Income - 3a Bridgewater Street		5,460	—	—	—	5,460	5,460
46510 - Rental Income - 3b Bridgewater Street		5,672	—	—	—	5,672	5,280
Investments Totals	2(d)	14,147	—	14,037	—	28,185	34,532

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Endowment £	This year £	Total Last year £
Note						
Other income						
43110 - LDBF Decoration Scheme Bonus	—	—	62	—	62	62
48200 - LDBF Mileage Refunded	70	—	—	—	70	185
61910 - Administration Contribution from Fauls	1,788	—	—	—	1,788	1,674
61920 - Administration Contribution from Tilstoc	481	—	—	—	481	1,926
Other income Totals	2(e)	2,340	62	—	2,402	3,849
Income and endowments	130,583	680	138,352	—	269,616	212,034
Grand totals						

Expenditure

Expenditure on charitable activities

50100 - Parish Share	54,416	—	—	—	54,416	53,415
51000 - Mission Giving and Donations	2,750	—	—	—	2,750	19,245
52000 - Retired Clergy Fees and Expenses	—	—	—	—	—	14
52010 - Other Fees & Expenses	—	—	—	—	—	228
52110 - HFD/ Curate/ OLM Mileage	333	—	—	—	333	—
52130 - HFD/ Curate/ OLM Publications	76	—	—	—	76	—
52140 - HFD/ Curate/ OLM Hospitality	10	—	—	—	10	120
52150 - HFD/ Curate/ OLM Telephone	48	—	—	—	48	—
52160 - HFD/ Curate/ OLM Computer	160	—	—	—	160	—
52210 - Rector Expenses - Mileage	586	—	—	—	586	873
52220 - Rector Expenses - Postage & other misc i	55	—	—	—	55	37
52230 - Rector Expenses - Publications	100	—	—	—	100	116
52240 - Rector Expenses - Hospitality	273	—	—	—	273	300
52260 - Rector Expenses - Telephone	982	—	—	—	982	970
52260 - Rector Expenses - Computer	200	—	—	—	200	240
52270 - Rector Expenses - House Insurance	36	—	—	—	36	35
52280 - Rector Expenses - Training	200	—	—	—	200	200
52290 - Contribution to upkeep of Rectory Garden	1,125	—	—	—	1,125	1,440
52410 - Reader Expenses	90	—	—	—	90	—
54100 - Church Electricity	2,004	—	—	—	2,004	1,731
54110 - Church Gas	3,300	—	—	—	3,300	4,637
54120 - Church Water	176	—	—	—	176	155
54210 - Church Cleaner	2,683	—	—	—	2,683	2,546
54300 - 'Green' Grounds Maintenance (SPM)	5,397	—	—	—	5,397	4,938
54310 - Church Maintenance	9,058	1,632	—	—	10,690	7,775
54320 - Church Insurance	5,751	—	—	—	5,751	5,732
54400 - Service Consumables	2,872	—	—	—	2,872	2,486
54410 - Annual Subscriptions	1,588	—	—	—	1,588	1,343
54500 - Organist	2,149	—	—	—	2,149	6,037
55100 - Maintenance Costs - Restricted	—	—	243,198	—	243,198	115,988
55110 - Professional Fees	150	—	12,666	—	12,816	16,971
56110 - Hospital Chaplaincy Fees	300	—	—	—	300	1,200
56120 - Hospital Chaplaincy Travel Expenses	27	—	—	—	27	275
58100 - Christian Education	303	—	430	—	733	1,159
58120 - Churches Together Expenses	—	—	—	—	—	100
60110 - Printing/ Photocopying	1,373	—	—	—	1,373	2,798
60120 - Telephone/ Broadband	1,685	—	—	—	1,685	1,018
60130 - Stationery	1,195	—	—	—	1,195	777

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Endowment £	This year £	Total Last year £
Note						
60140 - Office Equipment	2,158	—	—	—	2,158	2,141
60150 - Bank Charges	624	—	—	—	624	707
61000 - Administrator Wages	12,270	—	—	—	12,270	11,784
61100 - Administrator ER Costs - Nil/ Pension	368	—	—	—	368	325
62100 - Bargates - Electricity	721	—	—	—	721	726
62110 - Bargates - Gas	1,221	—	—	—	1,221	907
62120 - Bargates - Water	287	—	—	—	287	273
62130 - Bargates - Maintenance	280	—	—	—	280	3,776
62140 - Bargates - Running Costs	59	—	—	—	59	622
62150 - Bargates - Caretaker Costs	3,088	—	—	—	3,088	5,088
64110 - 3a Bridgewater Street Maintenance	258	—	—	—	258	208
64120 - 3b Bridgewater Street Maintenance	175	—	—	—	175	135
64210 - 3a Bridgewater Street Insurance	242	—	—	—	242	234
64220 - 3b Bridgewater Street Insurance	242	—	—	—	242	234
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	123,437	1,632	256,294	—	381,363	282,082
Expenditure Grand totals	123,437	1,632	256,294	—	381,363	282,082

The PCC of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch - Charity Commission No 1129900

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
4 (a) Staff Costs		
Salaries	16,498	18,391
Pension Costs	368	325
	<u>16,866</u>	<u>18,716</u>

During the year the PCC employed an administrative clerk, a cleaner and an organist.

4 (b) Related Parties

2 Trustees have been reimbursed £3,062 (2019 £2,891) for travel, phone and other such expenses incurred during the year.

No other expenses were paid to any other PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties.

Donations from 12 Trustees (PCC members) totalled £11,316 (2019 £12,214).

5 Independent examiner's remuneration

The amount payable to Lichfield Diocese Board of Finance for independent examination services for 2020 is £150.

6 Analysis of Transfer between Funds

	Unrestricted	General	Restricted	Time Together	
	£	£	IDS	£	£
Payment to Diocese becomes Restricted debtor	(250)		250		
Time Together use of Bargates Hall	240			(240)	
Corresponding contras	313		(313)		
Corresponding contras	(313)		313		
	<u>(10)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>(240)</u>	
Transfers In	553		563		1,115.0
Transfers Out	(563)	0	(313)	(240)	(1,115.0)

The PCC of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch - Charity Commission No 1126800
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

7 FIXED ASSETS

7(a) Tangible Assets

	Bargates Hall	3 Bridgewater Street	Total
	£	£	£
At Cost or Valuation			
As at 1 Jan 2020	449,833	237,140	686,973
Additions in the Year			
Disposals in the Year			
Revaluation (if any)	134,449	70,878	205,327
Value at 31 Dec 2020	584,282	308,018	892,300
Accumulated Depreciation			
As at 1 Jan 2020			
Charge for the Year			
Disposals			
As at 31 Dec 2020	-	-	-
Net Book Value at 01 Jan 2020	449,833	237,140	686,973
Net Book Value at 31 Dec 2020	584,282	308,018	892,300

7(b) Investments

	At					At
	01-Jan	Additions	Disposals	Transfers	Change in Market Value	31-Dec
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds						
Investments	95,385				6,559	101,944
Restricted funds						
Investments	614,251		(170,092)		7,459	451,618
Endowment funds						
Investments						
Total	709,638	0	(170,092)	0	14,018	553,562

8 CURRENT ASSETS

8(a) Debtors

	2020	2019
	£	£
Accounts Receivable	552	72
Sale of shares 30/12/19		97,192
Gift Aid Receivable	777	936
IDS Account	2,514	2,202
VAT reclaim	1,755	8,365
Other Debtors		545
	5,598	109,330

8 (b) Cash at Bank and in Hand

	2020	2019
	£	£
Barclays Current Account	15,682	13,119
Barclays Deposit Account	190,003	30,000
Petty Cash	127	200
Bargates Petty Cash	100	100
	205,912	43,419

9 Liabilities

	2020	2019
	£	£
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year		
Accounts Payable	1,627	5,457
Agency Collections	1,215	(1,048)
Accruals	2,050	67
	4,892	4,476

The PCC of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch - Charity Commission No 1129900

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

10. FUNDS

The restricted funds comprise:

General Fabric	To maintain the Church building.
LDBF Interior Decoration Scheme	Fund set up to assist funding for the decoration of the Rectory.
Lectern	Bequeathed by Mabel Bancroft in memory of her great great great grandfather who made it.
Dementia Friendly - Time Together	Dementia sufferers and their carers meet regularly in Bargates Hall to socialise and share experiences.

The designated funds are to help maintain the bell-ringing services of the Church.

11. SUMMARY OF FUND MOVEMENTS - 2020

Fund and type	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted						
General - General fund	892,590	130,583	123,287	-10	6,559	906,436
Sub-totals	892,590	130,583	123,287	-10	6,559	906,436
Designated						
BELL - Bell Ringers	3,381	680	1,632	—	—	2,429
Sub-totals	3,381	680	1,632	—	—	2,429
Restricted						
FABRIC - GENERAL FABRIC	639,058	137,362	255,864		7,450	528,015
IDS - LDBF Interior Decoration Scheme	2,201	62	—	250	—	2,514
LECTERN - LECTERN	1,000	—	—	—	—	1,000
TIMETOG - Dementia Friendly - Time Together	6,852	927	430	-240	—	6,909
Sub-totals	648,911	138,351	256,294	10	7,459	538,439
Totals	1,644,883	269,616	381,213	—	14,018	1,447,304

SUMMARY OF FUND MOVEMENTS - 2019

Fund and type	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted						
General - General fund	857,686	153,891	133,630	(387)	15,030	892,590
Sub-totals	857,686	153,891	133,630	(387)	15,030	892,590
Designated						
BELL - Bell Ringers	3,312	69	—	—	—	3,381
Sub-totals	3,312	69	—	—	—	3,381
Restricted						
FABRIC - GENERAL FABRIC	618,741	54,157	147,055	(25)	113,240	639,058
IDS - LDBF Interior Decoration Scheme	1,889	62	—	250	—	2,201
LECTERN - LECTERN	1,000	—	—	—	—	1,000
TIMETOG - Dementia Friendly - Time Together	4,032	3,854	1,397	162	—	6,652
Sub-totals	625,662	58,074	148,452	387	113,240	648,911
Totals	1,486,660	212,034	282,082	—	128,271	1,644,883

The PCC of St Ailmund's, Whitchurch - Charity Commission No 1129900
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

12. SUMMARY OF ASSETS BY FUND

	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted	Endowment	At 31/12/2020	At 31/12/2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Fixed assets</i>						
Tangible assets	688,973	—	—	—	688,973	688,973
Investments	101,944	—	451,618	—	553,562	709,836
Fixed assets	789,917	—	451,618	—	1,240,635	1,398,809
<i>Current assets</i>						
Debtors	1,328	—	4,269	—	5,598	109,830
Cash at bank and in hand	116,592	2,429	84,890	—	205,912	42,419
Current assets	117,921	2,429	89,159	—	211,511	152,249
<i>Liabilities</i>						
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	353	—	2,838	—	2,692	4,408
Provision for liabilities and charges due within one	2,050	—	—	—	2,050	67
Net current assets less current liabilities	117,518	2,429	86,321	—	206,768	148,274
Total assets less current liabilities	906,436	2,429	538,439	—	1,447,304	1,544,883
Total net assets less liabilities	906,436	2,429	538,439	—	1,447,304	1,544,883
<i>Represented by</i>						
<i>Unrestricted</i>						
Unrestricted - General fund	906,436	—	—	—	906,436	892,630
<i>Designated</i>						
Designated - Bell Ringers	—	2,429	—	—	2,429	3,381
<i>Restricted</i>						
Restricted - GENERAL FABRIC	—	—	528,015	—	528,015	539,058
Restricted - LDRF Interior Decoration Scheme	—	—	2,514	—	2,514	2,201
Restricted - LECTERN	—	—	1,000	—	1,000	1,000
Restricted - Dementia Friendly - Time Together	—	—	6,909	—	6,909	6,652
Restricted - Agency collection	—	—	—	—	—	—
Funds of the church	906,436	2,429	538,439	—	1,447,304	1,544,883

13 PRIOR PERIOD COMPARATIVE SOFA for the year ending 31 December 2019

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Income and endowments from:</i>					
Donations and legacies	103,410	69	36,410	—	139,889
Income from charitable activities	17,151	—	—	—	17,151
Other trading activities	15,650	—	950	—	16,610
Investments	13,891	—	20,840	—	34,632
Other income	3,786	—	62	—	3,848
Total income	153,891	69	58,074	—	212,034
<i>Expenditure on:</i>					
Expenditure on charitable activities	133,630	—	148,452	—	282,082
Total expenditure	133,630	—	148,452	—	282,082
Gains / losses on investment assets	15,030	—	113,240	—	128,271
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	35,291	69	22,862	—	58,222
<i>Transfers</i>					
Gross transfers between funds - in	480	—	952	—	1,442
Gross transfers between funds - out	(877)	—	(565)	—	(1,442)
<i>Other recognised gains / losses</i>					
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	—	—	—	—	—
Net movement in funds	34,904	69	23,249	—	58,222
<i>Reconciliation of funds</i>					
Total funds brought forward	857,686	3,312	625,682	—	1,486,660
Total funds carried forward	892,590	3,381	648,911	—	1,544,883



**DIOCESE OF
LICHFIELD**

Independent Examiner's report to the trustees/members of The PCC of Whitchurch

Registered charity number 1129900

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020 which are set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the 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 accounts 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 material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Date: 14/04/2021, ...

Jonathan Hill FCMA CGMA

Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance

St Mary's House, The Close, Lichfield WS13 7LD

Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance

St Mary's House, The Close, Lichfield, WS13 7LD

Tel: 01543 306030 Fax: 01543 306039

Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance Inc. is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England (Company No. 239561).
The Board is a Registered Charity (No. 1107827).



Independent Examiner's report to the trustees/members of The PCC of Whitchurch

Registered charity number 1129900

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Date: 14/04/2021

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