

The Parish Church of St Mary Portchester

Charity Registration No 1130090

2022 REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

Meeting for the election of Churchwardens and
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Tuesday 30th May 2023

Those residents in the parish or on the Electoral Roll of the church may attend part A of the meeting. Only those on the Electoral Roll may attend part B.

1. Opening Prayer
2. Welcome and Apologies
3. Presentation of Clerk and Tellers

A. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

4. Minutes of the Vestry meeting of 2022
5. Matters arising
6. Election of Churchwardens
 - 1 nomination: Denise Simmons*
 - 1 Vacancy (to be appointed at a later date)*
7. Portchester Parish Hall Accounts
8. Any other business

B. ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)

9. Minutes of the 2022 Annual Parochial Church Meeting
10. Matters arising
11. Presentation of Electoral Roll
12. Election of members to the Parochial Church Council:
 - 7 Vacancies and 7 nominations: Chris Hayes, Steve Oliver, Cheryl Owen, Tanya Simpson, Eric Standen, Ray Norman, Mark Wood.*
13. Election of members to the Deanery Synod
14. Appointment of External Auditor
15. Financial Accounts
16. Reports:
 - (i) Vicar's general church report
 - (ii) Diocesan Synod
 - (iii) Deanery Synod
 - (iv) Safeguarding
 - (v) Fabric
 - (vi) Sound and technical team
17. Any other business (to be presented to the Chairman prior to the meeting)
18. Vote of thanks
19. Conclusion

Portchester Parish Hall Accounts

Expenditure	"2021"	"2022"
Cleaning	£4,934.40	£9,793.34
Windows	£300.00	£300.00
Repair/Servicing	£966.80	£2,668.38
Waste Collection	£414.60	£399.58
Utilities (Gas, Electric, Sewage and Water Rates)	£2,400.00	£2,669.78
Gardening	£4,601.50	£2,095.00
Supplies	£13.56	£385.41
Insurance	£1,946.61	£2,193.86
Postage & Office supplies & Management Fees	£957.83	£143.25
Management Fee		£260.00
Replacement windows & equipment		£2,470.00
Total Expenditure	£16,535.30	£23,378.60
Surplus for the year	£21,922.58	£20,556.58
	£38,457.88	£43,935.18
Receipts	"2021"	"2022"
Hire of Hall (Cash)	£392.00	£1,245.50
(Cheques)	£9,061.17	£18,048.50
(Dir Credits)	£9,110.50	£19,889.50
Rent from Office (includes electricity) - Direct Credits	£2,852.67	£1,699.56
Lease from Scouts	£160.00	£160.00
Revenue from Boxtree Court flats	£300.00	£300.00
Sub Totals	£21,876.34	£41,343.06
Lloyds Interest	£2.11	£10.82
Grants from FBC (2021) Refunds from SEE & Business Stream (2022)	£16,573.43	£2,087.55
COIF Interest	£6.00	£493.75
Total Receipts	£38,457.88	£43,935.18
Bank Balances at end of year	"2021"	"2022"
COIF	£50,605.51	£51,099.26
Lloyds	£62,256.70	£83,768.12
Lloyds Deposit Account	£21,908.09	£21,108.91
Plus credits	£635.00	£3,220.00
Less payments	£1,542.40	£2,764.47
Balance at end of year	£133,862.90	£156,431.82
Boxtree Court Accounts	"2021"	"2022"
B/F	£8,765.21	£1,754.31
Boxtree Court Receipts	£6,060.00	£6,312.00
£100 from Glanvilles Solicitors - No.5 Flat sold		£100.00
	£14,825.21	£8,166.31
Less Expenditure	£13,070.90	£4,315.87
	£1,754.31	£3,850.44
In Bank A/C @ end of year	£2,154.31	£4,507.68
2021 cheque not presented. 2022 payments made	£400.00	£294.58
End of year includes the unpaid cheque & refunds from British Gas		£462.66
Total for end of years	£1,754.31	£4,213.10
Utilities Breakdown for 2021 no payments made for Sewage/Waste = A/c in credit £904.05		
Utilities Breakdown for 2021 =£2400 Electricity = A/C in credit £1791.02		
Utilities Breakdown no payments made for Gas in 2021 = A/C in credit £1268.12		
Sewage and water & electricity credits all repaid in 2022 (new providers)		
Gas in credit £218.03 at end of November 2022		

Elaine Emery (Treasurer)

Ann Featherstone (Auditor)

25th April 20
2023

The Parish Church of St Mary's, Portchester

Minutes of meetings held in the Church

on Tuesday 31st May 2022 at 7pm

1.OPENING PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Rev Dr Ian Meredith welcomed everyone to the meetings of the Parish and the Congregation of St Mary's Portchester. He thanked everyone for coming out in an evening, and for their interest in St Mary's Church. He explained how the meeting will be focusing on the 'machinery' of the Church – what goes on behind the scenes to make everything happen – and electing people to offices for the rest of the year.

Ian then read a passage of scripture from Luke, Ch1 (beginning at v39) – today being the Feast of the Visitation of Mary, the Mother of our Lord, to Elizabeth, Mother of John the Baptists. He then continued with an opening prayer.

2.APOLOGIES

Denise Simmons stated that the following had submitted apologies.

Barbara Andrews
Jane Baker
Mike Baker
Justin Capps
Carol Gay
Pauline Jennings
Susan Hubbard
Sylvia Hunns
Michael Moore
Penny Moore
Sally Nguyen
Liz Niece
Richard Niece
Dawn Traer
John Walton

3.PRESENTATION OF CLERK AND TELLERS

Clerk – Rev Ian Meredith introduced Denise as clerk.

Tellers – no tellers were required as insufficient nominations for vacant posts.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The first part of the meeting was open to any resident of the village of Portchester; the second part of the meeting is only for those listed on the church Electoral Roll.

4.MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF 2021 – tabled

Portchester Parish Hall accounts were presented; no questions were forthcoming regarding these.

The minutes from APCM held Sunday 27th June 2021 were presented and accepted.

Proposed Ray Norman

Seconded Liz Bartlett

As there were no objections and by a show of hands the minutes were accepted.

5.MATTERS ARISING – none were raised.

6.ELECTION OF CHURCH WARDENS

Denise Simmons stated that she was willing to stand again, and had been proposed and seconded. Billy Bean, who was unable to be here tonight, was also willing to stand again, and had been proposed and seconded.

Rev Ian Meredith stated that no other names had been nominated, therefore we declare that Denise Simmons and Billy Bean are elected as Church Wardens for the next year. He thanked them both for standing – it is much appreciated.

7.PORTCHESTER PARISH HALL ACCOUNTS – tabled

The annual report and accounts of Portchester Parish Hall were presented as required by the 1907 Trust Deed. They are shown on page 2 of the booklet and were noted and adopted as correct.

This meeting is held, and the parish are presented with the Parish Hall accounts. It is held historically as the annual meeting was held in the Parish Hall, but we are no longer the majority trustees of the Parish Hall. There were no questions.

8.AOB FOR THE PARISH OF PORTCHESTER – none.

At this point, anyone not on the church electoral roll was invited to leave. All remained seated. Anyone on the Electoral Roll is the nearest to church membership and will give you the ability to vote at the meeting.

The meeting was then closed.

NOTE: These minutes have been scrutinised by the PCC. The minutes are believed to be a true record of the meeting and are commended to the APCM 2023 for their acceptance.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

9.MINUTES OF THE 2021 ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

These are on pages 4-12 of the document supplied. The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting held in 2021

Proposed: Judy Sherry

Seconded: Jean Withinshaw

10.MATTERS ARISING - none

11.PRESENTATION OF ELECTORAL ROLL

Denise Simmons stated that she would continue to handle the Electoral Roll for the time being. Last year, as per the minutes, there were 269 with 51 living outside the parish, so that's 23% of our congregation travel to worship here. This year, we have taken 11 off, and we've managed to keep our numbers at 273, and that's 19.41% live outside the parish, so more are living inside the parish than last year. She thanked everyone for coming and for staying on the Electoral Roll.

Rev Ian Meredith was pleased to see an increase in the Electoral Roll, considering 11 had been taken off. He believes there's potential for up to a further 70 people who could be added to the Roll: these are people whose names are on the Attenders' Roll (the separate Roll of those who attend St Mary's Church and who are under our pastoral care) – which would give us around 340 people who belong to the Church.

12.ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Rev Ian Meredith stated that 2 members who have served for several years were standing down tonight: Sally Young, our Treasurer; and Kay Walker, who had agreed last year to stay on for 1 more year to see through some administrative tasks she had been involved in. Although Kay continues to work behind the scenes, family matters mean she is not able to be so active at the moment. We thank them both for their time on the PCC.

Denise Simmons stated that Ian Parker, Keith Phillips and Steve Traer were up for re-election tonight. There was 1 new member, Jackie Mitchell, who had taken on the PCC Secretary role for the last few meetings, and now comes on as a member in her own right.

There are currently 2 vacancies for which we could co-opt people during the year for 1 year (in the first instance) who could then go on to see if they would like to be elected in their own right. Anyone interested in this should speak to Ian or Denise.

13.ELECTION OF MEMBER TO DEANERY SYNOD

Denise Simmons advised we can have 3 representatives. At the moment, we have Gerry Anderson, who is also our Synod rep; Peter Bradley; and Diana Bolton – who came on last year, just after the APCM, when she saw the need. Peter Bradley has done 3 years, but is prepared to stand again. Peter is also an excellent member of the Standing Committee, and we value your time – thank you.

14.APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Sally Young, Treasurer, explained that for the last 2 years' accounts, we had used Portsmouth University. But for 2021 accounts, it became a problem because the total income for the Church was over £250k, which means you cannot have only an independent examiner. You have to have a Chartered Accountant to examine the accounts. Portsmouth University worked with us and, by chance, the Course Director from the year before is a Chartered Accountant and – for a mere £200 – she offered to sign them off for us, which was very generous. We cannot appoint an external examiner because we are over £250k; we have to go to a Chartered Accountant, and this is under discussion at the moment.

Rev Ian Meredith clarified that we are not in a position to appoint anyone tonight, but it will be done at the PCC meeting at the end of June.

15.ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Sally Young, Treasurer, reported that St Mary's accounts are in good order – thanks to the generosity of our parishioners. At present, 56 parishioners give through the very successful Parish Giving Scheme; 70 who donate via the bank by standing order; and many people who donate regularly via the donation plate or weekly into envelopes.

Sally encouraged others who are interested to consider the Parish Giving Scheme, which is easy and can be done online or over the phone. For details, speak to Emma in the office.

Sally wanted to give special thanks to those within the Church who have given her such loyal help in this role: Roger Millard; Tony Gillam; and Steve Traer. She also thanked her daughter (not present), who is a Chartered Accountant, and who helps her with the accounts at year end to get them ready to be examined.

She also took the opportunity to recognise Neil Sherry who, for many years, has recorded the income and expenditure of the tea room, which has been a tremendous help to Sally and to the Church as a whole.

Points to note in the accounts included one disappointment – the 'Charity Checkout donating' button on the website, which was set up during the first lockdown. Last year's donations did not cover the cost of the licence, so we decided to cancel it. However, on a positive note, new this year is the contactless 'donation station' at the back of the Church, which is already proving very successful. Donations through the candle box have also increased significantly since it was re-sited into the main body of the Church.

The tea room continues to go from strength to strength through the hard work of our volunteers and Ron Prior, our catering manager. Due to its success, we are currently in the process of setting it up as a separate trading subsidiary, in line with the Charities' Commission regulations.

From this year's income, we will be able to give £10k to charitable causes. For the past 2 years, we have given to small, local charities as it helps to build a connection. Suggestions

for this year's charities should be given to Emma as soon as possible, so the PCC can decide how to distribute the money.

There are many other projects we will be working on throughout this year, thanks to everyone's generosity.

Rev Ian Meredith thanked Sally for her stewardship of the accounts.

16.REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE DEANERY SYNOD – tabled.

Ref Ian Meredith gave a short update. He is also the Area Dean of Fareham, looking after 10 parishes from Portchester in the east to Warsash in the west. Currently 5 (soon to be 6) of the parishes are in vacancy, so there will be only 4 parishes with vicars. He thanked everyone for their patience, as his workload has meant being able to do less parish visiting.

On a positive note, the 'forced amalgamations' of parishes (mentioned at last year's meeting) is now off the table, with the arrival of the new Bishop.

17.REPORT ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD – tabled.

Rev Ian Meredith advised that our new Bishop will be coming to a service at St Mary's in September (4th or 18th), when we will hold another of our joint services for our 3 congregations. He will preside at the Eucharist and be the preacher that day. (He already receives copies of our newsletter, and is looking forward to coming to Portchester.)

The Diocese produces a very good newsletter, and our youth element was featured in the most recent edition. We will feature in the next issue, too, regarding 'alternative worship' – and this will cover other 'other' services such as the 11.30, evening and joint services.

18.REPORT ON SAFEGUARDING – tabled.

Rev Ian Meredith reported that there had been 1 safeguarding issue in the tea room in the past year, which had now been closed.

Denise Simmons advised that the safeguarding role has become much more of an undertaking that it had previously been, with courses, training and forms to be completed. Tanya Simpson has been appointed to replace Jane Baker, who is retiring from the role this year. Tanya cannot start until September, so Jane has offered (with the PCC's agreement) to cover until then.

19.REPORT ON THE FABRIC OF THE CHURCH – tabled.

Rev Ian Meredith stated that the fabric of the building is in good shape and he gave his grateful thanks to the individuals on the team for all the jobs they do, saving the Church thousands of pounds. It is very much appreciated.

20.REPORT FROM THE SOUND AND TECHNICAL TEAM – tabled.

Rev Ian Meredith noted that many of the Fabric team are on the Sound and Technical team. He commended the team for the good sound system, and is looking forward to the arrival of the electronic drop-down screen they will install shortly (similar to the one at Alverstoke).

21.REPORT FROM THE PRAYER CHAIN TEAM – tabled.

22.ANY OTHER BUSINESS – none presented to the Chairman prior to the meeting.

23.THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – tabled.

Rev Ian Meredith stated that, as he has mentioned in many newsletters and sermons, the last 2 years have been his most difficult in ministry ever – what with no services or restricted services, and not being allowed to visit people. But we held together and came through it. He thanked everyone for the love and support showed to him.

He mentioned how many people treat the church the way they would treat a supermarket (with the vicar as the manager) – only there for their convenience, and not caring about the people who run it. But the church is different – it is a true family of honest, loving and good people that cares for, and about, one other. And our care for Ian is what keeps him going. He is still enjoying his time here, but has never been busier!

Going forward, Ian said there will be 2 appointments under the new Bishop's vision: a youth worker and an "Anna Chaplain" (a role offering support for seniors in the church who are being neglected e.g after moving into nursing homes, they can slip through the net).

Ian also thanked 2 servers who are stepping down from office for health reasons and presented them with a small gift to mark the occasion: Liz Bartlett and Hazel Bunker.

We will be welcoming 2 new servers: Chris Hayes and Mark Wood, and there could be a third one soon, so the team is building up again.

Ian also gave special thanks and a small gift to Neil Sherry, who has been tea room treasurer for last year, faithfully dealing with accounts, and providing a monthly report. (With the threshold for VAT now passed, we are now looking a different way of managing the tea room finances, separating it from the work of the Treasurer.)

Finally, Ian gave thanks to Sally Young, our Treasurer. She took on the role early in 2019, when the finances were in a mess. She did an incredible amount of work behind the scenes (with the help of her aforementioned daughter, Natalie, a Chartered Accountant) and managed to get the finances back on track. We now have regular understandable, accountable, and reliable accounts, thanks to her stewardship. The accounts are now healthy and in a far better place than they have been in this Church for a long time. For personal reasons, Sally is now relinquishing the post of Treasurer.

In the next Newsletter, Ian will be looking for volunteers to create a new finance team, including a treasurer and an assistant treasurer. (With the tea room accounts now separate, this takes a great weight off the future treasurer.)

Ian again thanked everyone present for their love and support – all those he had named and all those he had forgotten to name!

NOTE: These minutes have been scrutinised by the PCC. The minutes are believed to be a true record of the meeting and are commended to the APCM 2023 for their acceptance.

General Church Report (Rev Ian Meredith)

After the 'Covid year' of 2021, this year saw us returning to some sort of normality. Have our numbers returned to what they were pre-Covid? Yes, I think so, although we have to add all three Sunday services together. Although the 9.30 Parish Eucharist is not as full as it previously was, when you add the 11.30 congregation to that, it probably exceeds previous years. Of course numbers aren't everything and behind each statistic is a person – someone we were once in fellowship with, and journeying in faith with us, but no longer do so. St Mary's has recovered mainly thanks to the many new people who have joined us last year, and we are so encouraged by this.

March saw the appointment of our new Bishop, Jonathan Frost, and although not technically part of the 2022 report, it was lovely to have him at our 2023 Epiphany service.

Staff. This year we appointed several new staff members who have greatly helped our ministry: Judith Williams our organist has endeared herself to us, and has entered fully into the life of the church, not just while playing. Later in the year we appointed Eric Standen as our Seniors' Minister and Anna Chaplain, and also Tanya Simpson as youth minister. Frit has already come from these, with more of our older members feeling cared for and visited, and the growing number of young people at Connect and Momentum on Fridays. Jackie Mitchell came on as our PCC Secretary and her contribution has been much valued. Steve Oliver took over as our Treasurer this year, and we have greatly appreciated his ministry among us, which has also extended to HR manager and also line manager for some of our staff.

Ministry Team. Our team has been supplemented this year by the addition of two retired clergy, Rev Adam Gay and Rev Philip Parker-Osler. Tim McIlroy was licensed as a Reader at the cathedral. Others have ministered at our 11.30 service, such as Richard Gunton, Jeff Gennings and Steve Oliver, and it is thanks to all these that we are able to provide such a variety of services.

Fabric gifts

Due to the generosity of one friend who donated £1,000 and others who gave, we were able to fit the church out with new pew cushions. A large screen was purchased for the New Room, which can be used for showing films, powerpoint presentations, and is also regularly used for displaying church news and notices.

Mission

10% charity giving. We continue to be able to give away a tithe of our offerings and regular giving, and this year we have away £3,752. This of course does not represent 10% so it means that we have a balance of funds available to give away throughout the year.

Refugee Project. Arising from the contemplative Prayer group with some additional friends, we set up a support group in order to house a refugee family. Although the purchase of the house was by the charity 'Hope into Action', the internal furnishings, garden have been provided by our church members, some giving very generous donations. We continue to collect food for Ukraine, and Adam and Carol have hosted a Ukranian refugee family.

In October we distributed leaflets to over 8,000 homes in the parish, and although the fruit of this has been slow, it has been constant, as new people appear almost every week.

Alpha course

Of course, ministry like funerals particularly have a missional side, and many people start coming, or return to church after a funeral has been handled well pastorally.

Royal Occasions

This year saw two important commemorations for Queen Elizabeth and we held Civic Services to honour her. The first was in February to mark 70 years of her reign. Sadly in September, our beloved Queen died and we opened the church for people to sign a book of remembrance, and held a Civic Service.

Falklands 40.

This year also saw the 40th anniversary of the Falklands campaign which we marked with a special service. We do have our own dedicated Falklands Memorial as part of the churchyard. Despite a couple of offers to develop this, it still lies in a sadly neglected state, and perhaps here is a project for the future. On the subject of veterans, we hosted and service and buffet lunch in May for the D-Day veterans and their carers.

Outside use the church

We saw the return of AA to our New Room on Thursday evenings. Although not technically a ministry of St Mary's, by offering hospitality and a safe space, is a way of supporting those recovering from alcoholism and other addictions. Spinnaker Brass also found a base at St Mary's and they practice in the church every Monday evening. We appreciated their contribution at the summer 'Soundwave' and the Christmas Carol services.

Theology Group

We had a series of good speakers and discussions at our monthly meetings. Sadly we had to let this group close, as we were not able to get the hall for a morning. This shows the desperate need for more church accommodation, and there is the possibility of starting up this group again, perhaps on an evening.

Artists

One very exciting and successful project this year was our local artists' exhibitions which were held throughout the year. This gave the opportunity for artists to display and sell their work, and brought thousands of people through the church door to see them. We also raised £4,000 which will go towards the restoration of artists' graves in the churchyard.

The Friends of St Mary's.

Sadly this year the charity had to close. Despite appeals for new committee members, no one came forward. Over the years the Friends had provided many useful and lovely things for the church: sound PA cabinet, defibrillator, art in the transept. They gave the balance of their account to the PCC, but we will be able to put this to good use as we have other projects in mind.

Musical events

In July Justin and Emma Capps organised a mini music festival, "Soundwave", which brought some talented musicians to the church as well as hundreds of visitors. It was a very worthwhile event, even if it made a financial loss, but it would be good to have more events like this in the future. The Japanese violinist Fumi Otsuki with pianist Sarah Kershaw held a lunch time concert in August which was well supported. We used to have

these throughout the summer, and again we wonder if there is someone who would like to begin this again.

Teaching Ministry

In September we hosted a day conference on 'Faith in the workplace'. This was attended by around 40 people, and has given us some idea for future conferences. Sunday night services include a teaching ministry and these have been greatly appreciated.

Discipleship and growth

We held another very successful Alpha course this year, and seven of our members were confirmed at the Cathedral in Easter and again in December. We held our first baptism by full immersion service for many years.

St Mary's Lambs.

It was sad to see the end of our toddler group last year, as there was no one willing to take this on. Some things need to die a death in order to be re-born, and this year Jennifer Olding felt moved to start this again. A new team were soon in place to support her, and the group has gone from strength to strength.

Communications

We continue to use social media to communicate our message, and are pleased to see a growing number of people engaging with our Facebook and Instagram. The newsletter 'St Mary's News' goes out by e-mail each month. We are often sad to learn that some people don't read it, or even get it. This year we started to produce the newsletter in magazine format, leaving sometimes up to 100 copies in the Tea Room and church. These are all taken.

Time and space do not permit to report on the myriad of other things which happen at St Mary's, and the many people who make these happen; and of course our members and friends who support them. The Tea Room in particular, under Ron's leadership and his amazing team of volunteers, has provided the finances to do a lot of what we do.

Despite all that we do, we realise we still can't please everyone: for some the worship isn't good enough; there is not enough pastoral care; there could be more teaching, and we are probably not evangelistic enough; the Spirit isn't moving enough; we don't have enough musicians and young people – the list goes on, so much grist for the mill with those with a ministry of criticism. However, we can only do what we do with the people and gifts (and time) God sends us. Jesus is the one who alone can build his church, and Jesus is the one who draws people to himself. We do what we can. For a medium sized middle-of-the-road parish church, we have been so incredibly blessed, we have been a blessing to many people, and the Lord has used us, probably in ways we don't even know, to build his kingdom here in Portchester and beyond.

Thank you for keeping faith with us, for your financial giving, and for the many gifts you share with us.

Diocesan Report (Gerry Anderson)

Diocesan Synod met three times this year.

This report provides links to the meeting reports on the Diocesan web-site. These provide the official narrative. I have also included my brief personal comments and views as given to the PCC.

April 2022 Synod

The official report is at <http://www.portsmouth.anglican.org/synod/april-2022/>

G A COMMENTS I objected to the previous minutes where I had spoken to the increase in central cost from about 10% of the budget to 30% and this had been left out of the minutes.

I was encouraged by Jonathan's emphasis on working with young people and adults; they are the future church. I was also encouraged by his emphasis on following Jesus Christ's leading in what we do and the mention of the Holy Spirit. I was, at the time, puzzled by Anna Chaplaincy for the older folk; I thought Anna was prayerfully faithful and prophetic and was offering ministry.

June 2022 Synod

The official report is at www.portsmouth.anglican.org/synod/june-2022/

G A COMMENTS This meeting had little on the agenda of any substance. I felt we were talked at and there was little dialogue. The only decision taken was to change the legal status of the Board of Education to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

As a result of the decision at the previous Synod the DAC had done some work on reducing the diocese's carbon footprint. The main area of reduction would be vicarages and clergy housing. In Oxford diocese (a large diocese) the cost had been estimated to be £M10.

November 2022 Synod

The official report is at www.portsmouth.anglican.org/synod/nov-2022/.

To understand the bishop's views on relationships please read his address from the link within the report.

G A COMMENTS Unfortunately I didn't make the meeting having driven into Old Portsmouth intending to use the parking in the Grammar School. This had been arranged at the last minute, and I found, along with others, the gates firmly locked.

G Anderson 19/5/23

Safeguarding Report (Tanya Simpson, Parish Safeguarding Officer)

This report runs from 24th September 2022 as that is when I took over as Safeguarding Officer for the Parish.

During this time the following numbers have completed their DBS and safeguarding training:

DBS – 6

Courses

Basic awareness - 33

Foundation - 34

Domestic Abuse - 23

Leadership – 2

We were able to offer a face to face training session with Julia Barton from the Dioceses, this was very well attended.

Q&A Sessions

I have attended 2 Safeguarding Q&A sessions on zoom lead via the Dioceses which has been very useful and helpful.

Safeguarding Training

Safeguarding Officers have had 1 safeguarding update session. It was announced during this session that DBS ID's can now be submitted online while applying for your certificate. The cost for this will be covered by the Dioceses and reviewed later on. This will save time and the process of getting your DBS should be sped up.

Parish Safeguarding Dashboard

I am pleased to report we have now moved on stage 3 of the Dashboard. This is an ongoing process and regularly gets reviewed and actioned.

Safeguarding Conference

I was unable to attend the last Safeguarding Conference due to my commitments in school, however the next one is scheduled for September and I have already signed up for that. The feedback was very good from the last one so I am looking forward to this.

Safeguarding Reports

There have been 2 safeguarding reports since September. These have both now been closed.

Fabric team report 2022-2023 (Ray Norman)

We on the fabric team consider it to be a great honour to oversee the day-to-day maintenance of our beautiful historic building; I would at this time like to thank all the members of the team and volunteers for all their hard work this year.

Over the past year we have been able to continue with all of the normal annual maintenance issues as an example,

- Inspection of lightning conductor
- P.A.T. Testing
- Repair and maintenance of our lighting system
- Repairs of the wall surrounding our churchyard
- Cleaning and maintenance of drains both surface and waste
- Carry out any work identified after the recent Quinquennial Inspection

And many other routine day-to-day maintenance issues.

We had a very successful cleaning day when the floor was re polished and returned to its former glory, we also carried out a high-level clean in the areas our cleaners cannot reach.

Over the past year we have continued to engage with new technology such as drone surveys of the church building, which has enabled us to see broken tiles and replace them before they cause us to have problems. We've been able to see into the gutters and see any obstruction and deal with it before they block and cause damage to the building.

This year we are carry out extensive work in the paddock behind the Vicarage we will soon be demolishing the existing outbuildings and replacing with 3 new large storage sheds.

Kate Tame and her team have continued to find many graves which had gone missing due to the grass growing over them and headstones being broken and removed in the distant past.

In the near future we will give attention to improving the lighting in the Chancel and replacing the high level spots in the nave with a more energy efficient equivalent, very soon now we will be installing a new larger motorised back projection screen.

There are many unseen maintenance issues throughout the year and we are pleased to carry them out both for our Lord and for you.

Ray Norman

St Mary's fabric team

Sound and technical team report 2022-2023

Over the past year we have endeavoured to continue to improve both sound and visual aids within the church, we have purchased new foldback speakers for use with the music group, and we have improved the positioning of the projector for the back projection screen.

We are now able to connect to the projector through our network from many points in the church, within the next few weeks a new electric back projection screen will be installed in the Chancel, and we also will soon be installing a new more powerful projector to cope with our new larger back projection screen.

We now film many different types of Church services throughout the year enabling those people who are unable to get to church through ill health or away on holiday to still enjoy in our services.

If you feel you may be able to contribute to our technical team please speak to one of the team and we will be very pleased to tell you all about the work we do week to week and we are always looking for new members.

Ray Norman

St Mary's sound and technical team

**The Parochial Church Council
of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary, Portchester
Charity No 1130090**

Ex Officio members

Incumbent: The Reverend Dr Ian Meredith

Readers: Mrs Carol Gay (25 May 2016 – present)
Mr Tim McIlroy (24 September 2022 – present)

Churchwardens: Mrs Denise Simmons (30th October 2021-present)
Mr Maurice Bean (30th October 2021 – present)

Elected Members

Diocesan Synod Mr Gerald Anderson

Deanery Synod: Mr Peter Bradley
Mrs Diana Bolton

Lay Representatives: Mr Ian Parker (24 April 2015 – present)
Mr Ray Norman (2 April 2017 – present)
Mrs Denise Simmons (2 April 2017 – present)
Mr Stephen Traer (15 April 2018 – present)
Mr Chris Hayes (25 October 2020 – present)
Mr Keith Phillips (15 April 2018 – present)
Mrs Dawn Traer (15 April 2018 – present)
Mr Peter Bradley (1 April 2019 – present)
Mrs Sally Young (1 April 2019 – present)
Mrs Kay Walker (2 April 2017 – present)
Mr Michael Crate (30th October 2021 – present)
Mrs Diana Bolton (30th October 2021 – present)
Mr Steve Oliver (14 September 2022 – present)
Mr Eric Standen (22 June 2022 – present)
Mrs Jackie Mitchell (31 May 2022 – present)

**The Parochial Church Council
of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary, Portchester
Charity No 1130090**

Dep Churchwardens: Mr Peter Bradley
Mrs Dawn Traer

PCC Secretary Mrs Jackie Mitchell (22 June 2022 – present)

PCC Treasurer Mrs Sally Young (1 April 2019 – 31 August 2022)
Mr Steve Oliver (1 September 2022 – present)

Trustees

Chair: The Reverend Dr Ian Meredith

Other: Mrs Denise Simmons
Mr Raymond Norman
Mr Peter Bradley
Mr Stephen Traer
Mrs Sally Young
Mrs Kay Walker
Mr Ian Parker
Mr Keith Phillips
Mr Gerald Anderson
Mrs Dawn Traer
Mr Chris Hayes
Mr Michael Crate
Mrs Diana Bolton
Mr Eric Standen
Mr Steve Oliver
Mrs Jackie Mitchell

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 Mrs Diana Bolton
 Mr Eric Standen
 Mr Steve Oliver
 Mrs Jackie Mitchell

Income: 2022 & 2021,

Title	Description	2022	2121
Subject to 10% Charity Giving			
Parish Giving Scheme	PGS	50,690	48,705
Regular giving	Through bank DD; CAF, Envelopes	53,019	44,841
Collections	Plate/Basket Offerings	15,384	11,553
Total		119,093	105,099
	10% to Charity Fund Exc GA	12,000	
Tax recoverable through PGS	Parish Giving Scheme	12,226	-
Tax recoverable through Gift Aid	Gift Aid envelopes, cash	12,506	21,707
Interest: Bank & investments		285	280
Bells Fund	Weddings & New bells	520	200
Building Fund	Monthly Giving, Off Donations Blue small collection boxes	240	4,999
Collection Boxes (Cash)	Pillar safe, candles, blue box in Tea Room;	2,312	2,189
Contactless Sum Up	Church Card Machine	1768	0
Donations	Alpha Course, and other donations.	2,611	18,187
Farmer & Ruel Fund	One Off Donations & Monthly Donations	1,190	240
Fees – Funerals & Churchyard	Includes Roses, Labyrinth,	13,543	5,340
Fees - Weddings	Includes bells	40,362	10,420
Fundraising & Social events (general)	Events, Concerts, Gala, Christmas Fayre, Soundwave, BBQ, Harvest Supper, Int Food Fest	7,304	2,208
Grants	Fareham Borough Council	2,700	1,680
Legacies	Bequests etc	0	1,000
Rental: Jute Close	Jute Close Property	12,578	12,672
Rental: Church & New Room	Including New Room, Spinnaker Brass, AA	965	440
Refunds	Solicitor,	4,609	2
Sales of books & merchandise	Books;	0	50
St Mary's Lambs	Weekly Donations/Subs	140	0
Tea Room net profit	Tea Room	107,158	115,070
Youth	Connect & Momentum & Fireworks	1,540	1,810
SPECIAL PROJECTS			
Artists memorials		4,325	
High Tide		890	
Refugee Project		7,960	
TOTAL		356,825	303,393

Expenditure: 2022 & 2021

Title	Description	2022	2021
Altar & Sanctuary	Worship material Communion, oil, books, Cloths,	397	79
Bank charges	Lloyds Bank	658	663
Bells	Bell Tower Survey	600	0
Existing Church Building Projects	TV, AV, Church Cushions, Faculty Charges	5,632	1,169
New Building Project	Architects, QS fees	7,616	0
Charity Giving (10% Fund)	Includes £1,000 transferred to F&R	3,752	2,287
Churchyard maintenance	Faculty for Exhumation, etc	459	54
Cleaners & cleaning material	Cleaner Fees & Materials	200	1,440
Concerts & events	Soundwave	2,150	1,101
Diocese fees	For weddings & funerals.	15,442	17,303
Employees tax & NI & NEST Pension	Statutory Deductions	9,628	8,016
Fabric & Building maintenance	Cess pit cleaning, Boiler Maintenance, Toilet Door Repair	4,196	5,455
Farmer & Ruel	Vicar's Discretionary Fund	500	1,450
Fees	Legal, accountants	2,505	3,780
Flowers	Church Flowers	621	535
Hospitality & Social events	Biscuits after services Receptions, meals & accommodation.	839	154
High Tide (Youth)	Westbook IOW Res.	1,260	0
Insurance & licenses	CCLI, Ecclesiastical	3,722	3,107
Jute Close maintenance	Rental Property Maintenance	150	0
Ministers' (retired) fees	Weddings & Funerals	2,105	1,085
Organists payments	Church Organists Fees	3,950	3,170
Organ replacement & maintenance	Including piano tuning	120	125
Outreach, mission and discipleship	Alpha, leaflets, house group, teaching material, Wedding Fayres	888	228
Paddock	Clearance of Paddock Area	0	0
Parish Hall hire	Evening & Day services & church events	2,660	1,455

Other hall rent	St Andrews, Hayling Isl.	100	100
Parish Office rent etc	Office Admin Office	3,058	1,398
Publishing of books	Bryan Jerrard's, etc.	0	0
Office expenses	Phone, IT, photocopier	3,939	3,632
Special Projects	Refugees, High Tide,	12,000	0
Parish Share	Diocese	99,108	106,317
Printing and Advertising	Posters, Xmas cards etc	597	711
Refunds	Weddings, bells, etc.	1,000	920
Salaries & Wages	Bell ringers, Choir, and all staff.	51,180	37,515
Stationery & postage	Office Admin	3,665	2,088
Thanksgiving for ministry	Including donations to visiting speakers	541	50
Training	PCC Away days, staff training, First Aid,	655	20
Utilities	Gas, Electric & Water	10,181	10,103
Vicarage	Vicarage Gardener	1,800	1,800
Vicar's expenses,	Mainly travel; training, retreats,	2,643	1,650
Youth & Children	Youth, , Cadets, Schools, monastic	885	530
St Marys Lambs	Lamb's resources	84	40
TOTAL		261,486	219,530

Total Income: 356,825

Total Expenditure: 261,486

Income over expenditure: 95,339

31st December 2022 List of Funds & Investments

Name	Description	2022	2021
ENDOWMENTS			
Jute Close	Curate's house	400,000	225,000
Dore Avenue	Former Curate's house & church room.		20,531
Ascension Church	Former church in White Hart Lane		15,9381
North Boarhunt	Land sold in 1901		1,127
Other Endowments			70
DESIGNATED FUNDS (PCC Resolution October 2022)			
10% Charity	10% of collections & regular giving	8,248	-
Artists Memorials	Repair & restoration of artists' graves	4,125	-
Bells	Repair and purchase of new bells	25,469	2,299
Building	Building Extension (including Fees)	106,545	88,892
Farmer & Ruel	Vicar's discretionary hardship fund	6,515	5,395
Friends of St Mary's	Balance from former charity	2,847	-
Legacies	Legacies given for general purposes	1,845	1,845
Organ Replacement	Depreciation & purchase of next organ Plus repairs and maintenance	4,374	375
Paddock Development	For young people 3 Storage sheds	2,700	-
St Mary's Lambs	Wednesday Toddler group	56	140
Youth Fund	Connect & Momentum	733	747
TOTAL		163,457	99,693

10% Charity Giving

We donate 10% of our regular giving (bank standing orders, Parish Giving Scheme, envelopes, and cash collections to other Christian missions and charities. In former years we dispersed the whole year's fund in one go, but now we keep some back so that we can give to causes which arise during the year. We invite members of the church to nominate charities and ministries, but we prefer these to be smaller and more local where possible, and for the member to have a personal involvement or interest in that charity.

£252	Urban Saints (Christian youth ministry, formerly 'Crusaders')
£200	Spinnaker Brass
£400	TS Tenacity (Nautical Cadet Corps, Portchester)
£300	Friends of the Homeless, Fareham (Food bank)
£400	Motiv8 (Local mental health charity working with young people)
£400	The Rainbow Centre, Fareham (people affected by neurological conditions)
£250	New Foundations (Christian ministry to ex prison offenders)
£50	The Royal British Legion (Service personnel and veterans)
£500	Soteria Trust (Andy Economides' ministry in Nigeria)
£1,000	Farmer & Ruel Fund (Portchester parishioners in need of financial help)
TOTAL:	£3,752