

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bushey



Annual Report Year ending December 2020

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Chairman's Report for 2020

I would hazard a guess that 2020 has been the most difficult year in the life of the parish for many decades.

On 23rd March 2020, 13 months before the date of this year's Annual Parochial Church meeting, the country, having watched the spread of the coronavirus across the world with increasing alarm, was stunned by the instruction from the Prime Minister to stay at home. Churches, along with businesses, schools and the public sector closed almost all normal activities.

I write therefore about a year when we have either been in complete lockdown, or at least in measures which restrict our normal social and economic activities, and therefore also our church life has been very considerably restricted.

As a staff team, we began the task of learning how to set up services online, at first, and like everyone else, using phones and the streaming facility on Facebook to produce improvised services. In the first lockdown, having been instructed to close church buildings, these were all from clergy homes, managing as best we could to create a sense of sacred space and time, which would enable us to worship together though geographically separate.

We began the task of trying to keep in touch with people to offer pastoral care as best we would by telephone but found this challenging whilst trying to keep up with the need to produce online worship, and the daily demand of decision-making in response to frequently changing conditions with the pandemic. On the positive side, we quickly established the online daily prayers, which have allowed many more people to join in prayer for the parish and the world. To have the structure of the office for their daily prayers in a time when so many other familiar way of structuring our lives have disappeared. This has continued throughout the later using the restream software, which now allows several people to be audible and visible joining in prayers together.

The learning curve with using iPhones, livestreaming, drop box, video editing and a number of other software tools was, from my point of view, quite steep, and I should pay tribute to my colleagues, who approached these challenges with determination and enthusiasm, helping me to climb the hill, albeit at a slower rate.

Throughout this year, Fr Tim and Rev Andy have been excellent colleagues, showing great creativity and resourcefulness with every new episode in Bushey parish's pandemic year. Fr Tim, in particular, has helped the parish maintain a strong online presence on Facebook, advertising services, and producing conversations which have multiplied our following considerably. and later in establishing a YouTube channel as a further platform for online worship and communication.

Realising that the lockdown measure would prevent us from making use of the office facilities, we furloughed our administrative staff, and as clergy worked exclusively from home. The invitation of the diocese, and with his agreement and mine, Rev Andy entered a period of furlough, during which he was much missed. We were glad to welcome him back to his ministry with us in July.

The two nurseries who are the church's tenants, together with a plethora of other groups and individuals who use the churches facilities in Church House, the John Stobart Hall and Holy Trinity also had to close. Consequently, the parish's income streams from building hire completely dried up. We were also unable to put on the fairs, jumble sales, recitals, Saturday lunches and special events that have been so much a feature of Bushey parish life.

As we had come over many years to a very heavy reliance on these income streams, we quickly found ourselves in a difficult situation, despite much faithful ongoing commitment to giving from regular members, there has also been a significant drop in income from collections in services, and of course for weddings.

In respect of the musical life of the parish, our musical director James-Mooney Dutton, having invested in a Hauptwerk Virtual Organ, was quickly helping us across the parish to worship, recording sound files for hymns, organ voluntaries and liturgical music. Not very long after, James began to work with the St James choir, all working from their own homes in the complex task of crafting choral music from layers of recordings, never once in the same place as any other singers or musicians. The results were remarkable, and really helped to lift our worship as the first lockdown proceeded.

The situation changed so considerably in the summer, as with the announcing of the easing of lockdown measures, we began to consider how to return safely to the Churches. We formed the Reopening Task force, across the three churches, designed to help us think through the practicalities of producing thorough Risk Assessments, and how to apply detailed advice from government about making churches COVID safe. A number of our hall users as well as our nurseries were able to open up their operations during this time.

Through its partnership with the Red Trust, the parish has supported the foodbank, which under the direction of Melvyn Roberts, and now of Mia Handley, has stepped up its operations during the year, and has seen great steps forward in the efficiency and smooth running of operations. Sadly, the foodbank has needed to serve many more families in 2020, as the economic effects of the pandemic have been felt in the parish. However, the foodbank has risen to the challenge of stepping up the volume of distribution whilst remaining COVID-safe. The foodbank is well-supported by volunteers and has seen a continual stream of generous food donations from across the geographical parish and beyond.

One of the great joys of the year was Rev Andy's priesting, together with that of his colleague Joshua Brocklesby – the conclusion of his diaconal first year as Curate. After a very carefully managed, but deeply joyful service on the 29th September at St Mary Watford, Andy came to celebrate his first eucharist as a priest at St James on the Feast of St Michael and all Angels. We were all struck by how at ease he was in celebrating the eucharist, falling naturally into a precious part of ministry for which God has been preparing him for many years. Since then, we have been delighted to see him go from strength to strength in his liturgical, preaching and pastoral ministry. His kindness, diligence, intelligence and transparent love for God has been evident to all, and a real asset in the life of the parish.

From the St James perspective, we also owe Fr Tim a great debt of gratitude for driving forward two related projects – Firstly, the installation of a new and much-needed new sound system. We now have a resolution to the problems continually affecting our services from the old sound system, allowing a flexible, easy-to-use and above all, reliable management of sound in the church.

Following on shortly from that, Tim steered the installation of a web camera and a streaming facility. Without these, our response to the pandemic in terms of online worship would have been much weaker. However – these developments will continue to be important for many years to come, as we continue to need to make provision for people unable or not yet ready to attend to church.

We also recognise increasing numbers who are using online provisions to 'check out' church and get some sense of what Christian faith and worship is all about. People coming in to St James for weddings and funerals will increasingly expect this to be a standard feature of these events. Like so many parishes, what has been driven by absolute necessity, will be a necessary and important part of our life for the foreseeable future, and something which we will continue to need to develop.

On a personal note, I would also pay tribute to Tim for his remarkable ability to think ahead, for his conscientiousness, thoroughness, and attention to detail, at a time when these qualities have been at a premium. His determination to give a wide public profile our Lord Jesus Christ and the life of the church, and his skill in doing so, have been exemplary. I could not have been more fortunate in both the ordained colleagues I have worked with during this time.

In a year in which we have not had parish wardens, I have been enormously grateful to pro-wardens Annie White, Gill Onslow and Marion Golding for their work in practical problem-solving, and pastoral care for each of the three congregations, their kindness, faithfulness and encouragement. There has nonetheless been a considerable administrative burden for me as rector through having to field all kinds of matters without senior lay officers. I am enormously grateful that with two, energetic and gifted volunteers for the role of parish warden, we will, at the Annual Vestry Meeting this year, elect two parish wardens, and have full lay representation on the leadership team of the parish.

The parish's engagement with families and young people during lockdown has been challenging, but we have worked in a number of significant ways to try and stay in touch, and provide opportunities for families to be spiritually nourished, and connected to the Christian story. The Messy Church team based at St Paul's have continued to be active with a remarkable program of phoning and emailing to express our continued prayer and care. There have been two Messy Church videos put online, and several 'Messy-Church-in-a Bag' give-aways (with crafts, stories, snacks and prayers on a biblical theme). In North Bushey, Revd Andy and Alison Saunders worked hard to stay in

touch with the Holy Trinity youth group, using socially distanced gathering outside the church when possible, and WhatsApp chat and Zoom gatherings in times of higher COVID incidence.

Andy and Tim, during Advent, developed an ingenious Advent trail, in which posters placed around the parish gave participants access to prayer and story videos via QR codes. This had a wide take-up as people sought to be outdoors and participate in the Christmas story despite the impossibility of coming to church. Andy and I have followed up with Lent trail, with locations around Bushey linked to stories from the Storyteller Bible. We have, in the last few months had several enquiries about baptisms, indicating that there is still an interest in making connection with Christian faith, perhaps more so. We are making plans to work on these new relationship as we look towards re-engaging with face-to face children and families work later this year.

Since tier 4 restrictions and the post-Christmas lockdown, we have made significant steps towards strengthening our pastoral care, with a renewed commitment to telephone support, and with the increased participation of a number of kind church members in developing a distribution network to take parish magazines, weekly pew sheets and worship materials to those who are without internet access, and care packs to our key workers and the housebound.

In October 2020, we at last held the APCM that would normally have been held in early April. The report of our outgoing Treasurer, Felicity Cox, focussed out attention on the disastrous effect on the parish of income lost through the pandemic. During the year, both she and I have attended Diocesan finance 'round tables' for incumbents and Treasurers and have sought to be completely transparent both with parishioners and with the Diocese about the seriousness of our situation. I pay warm tribute to Felicity's able and conscientious handling of our finances as Parish Treasurer over the previous five years. I am grateful also to her well-qualified and willing successor, Taiye Sanwo, who has kindly offered her time and skills to help us as a parish in this next chapter.

Having recorded a budget deficit of £62,000 in 2020, and facing this year a projected deficit of £75,000, in a year in which previous income streams will recover only slowly, and new ones have yet to be discovered, we now have to make significant changes to the way we run the parish, if there is to be Anglican Christian witness in Bushey in the future. Along with other parishes, COVID-19 has made our financial position considerably worse than it would have been, but fundamentally, it has starkly exposed an underlying financial unsoundness which is not typical of parishes, but has troubled Bushey for years.

Since November, we have, with the guidance of our new Archdeacon the Ven Jane Mainwaring, started a Restructuring Consultation. These discussions have involved our PCC and all three church councils in a careful but focused process of finding a way ahead for a sustainable church. At time of going to press, we are not yet resolved on the new structure for a parish. This will emerge in the coming months, with final decisions being taken within the PCC, and not imposed on us by the diocese. As we return to face-to-face meeting for our worship and weekday events, we should be clear that we are not returning to the old unsustainable normal but seeking a 'new normal'. In a recent sermon, I have asked the key question that I believe should guide us in our thoughts and decisions. *'How can we, as a parish, maximise the possibilities for people to encounter Jesus Christ?'* Please continue to pray for wisdom for all of those representing the three churches in finding a way to a joyful effective and sustainable future for Christian worship, mission and community in this parish.

2021, with the conclusion of this Restructuring Consultation, and the enacting of the decisions the PCC makes, will again be challenging. But we will have the very great joy of gradually resuming face- to-face worship and community activities. And the ingenious and faithful ways in which the parish has responded to the pandemic should strengthen our belief in the faithfulness of God and our ability to find, by God's grace, a way through our present difficulties. The joyful Easter message of Christ's triumph over death and evil reminds us that He is still with us, ever calling forth new beginnings and pouring out new resources, opening new horizons.

Revd Guy Edwards March 2021

Rector of Bushey

Administrative Information

The Parish of Bushey is a Registered Charity number 1130540, and has three churches: St James's (the Parish Church) is situated in Bushey High Street, St Paul's is situated in Bushey Hall Road (WD23 2EQ), and Holy Trinity is situated in Bushey Mill Lane (WD23 2AS). The parish is part of the Diocese of St Albans within the Church of England. The correspondence address is: the Parish Office, St James's Church House, High Street, Bushey, Hertfordshire, WD23 1BD. Our website is www.busheyparish.org

Rector: The Revd Guy Edwards

Associate Rector: Fr Tim Vickers

Curate: Revd Andrew Burgess

Lay Leader of Worship: Christine Cocks

Parish Office Manager: Jacqueline Birch

Honorary Parish Treasurer: Felicity Cox; Taiye Sanwo (from APCM)

PCC Secretary: Martyn Lambert

Churchwardens: Elizabeth Jones; Ingrid Harris (both resigned May)

Pro Wardens:

(Holy Trinity) Gill Onslow

(St James's) Annie White

(St Paul's) Jill Macey (until 2020 APCM); succeeded by Marion Golding

Deanery Synod Representatives: Christine Cocks, Maureen Fleming, and Ingrid Harris until APCM. Elected at APCM

Maureen Fleming, May Teague, and Greg Batts

Elected PCC members:

Felicity Cox (Until 2020 APCM)

Betty Greengrass, Gill Onslow, Stella Nichols (From 2019 APCM)

Ali Saunders, Annie White (Elected by PCC during 2019, elected at 2020 APCM)

Mia Handley, Russ Teague, Salome Jayaratnam, Marion Golding (at APCM 2020).

Co-opted PCC Members (After APCM): Gay Butler, Becky Pointer

Ex officio members of PCC are: Clergy, Churchwardens, Deanery Synod reps. The posts of Hon PCC secretary and Hon Treasurer, and those of pro-wardens, do not lead to an automatic place on PCC. Those wishing to be PCC members as well as PCC secretary, Treasurer or pro-wardens must stand for election in their own right. After serving on the PCC for three years it is currently the parish policy for people to take a year off before standing again.

Chair of Parish Buildings Committee: Roy Golding

Churchyard Warden: Ann E. White

Health and Safety Officer: Roy Golding

Safeguarding Officer: Fiona Gray

Parish Bankers; Santander, 52 High Street, Watford, Herts, WD17 2AL

Independent Examiner: Malcolm Lucas, Menzies LLP

Architect: Mr James Ford (Clague LLP)

Day to day management control of the churches is exercised by the Incumbent Revd Guy Edwards and the Churchwardens, Ingrid Harris and Elizabeth Jones, (vacant from October 2020) contactable through the Parish Office, St James's Church House, High Street, Bushey, Hertfordshire, WD23 1BD, Telephone 020 8421 8192.

Structure, Management and Governance

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a body corporate established by the Church of England. The Ecclesiastical Parish of Bushey operates under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956

The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission, number 1130540.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules, 2020. All those who attend our services are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC. All members of the congregations are invited to attend PCC meetings. but do not vote. PCC members receive information on trustee responsibilities, basic health and safety, risk management and safeguarding procedures.

The PCC held eleven meetings during the year, with eight being held via Zoom Conferencing. Much of the time was spent discussing ways to maintain church activities during the pandemic.

Issues raised for discussion at PCC meetings included:

- Clergy Operational Plan
- Flourishing Churches – Vision Day creating MAPs
- Keeping within the anti-COVID-19 rules and regulations regarding church opening.
- Delivering services online.
- Ways of keeping in contact with church members, and the wider church ‘family’, especially those without internet access and children and young people.
- Parish Restructuring/Recovery – (with members of other committees), led by the Archdeacon.
- Managing Finances. Paying the Parish Share.
- Install a new audio-visual system in St.James’s with integral streaming capabilities.
- Ensuring that all churches had appropriate licensing and safeguarding policies in place for streaming services.
- More formal arrangements for the churchyard and appointment of Churchyard Warden

The PCC operates the following sub committees that report back to it as necessary and their deliberations are discussed.

PCC Sub-Committees

Standing Committee:

Clergy. churchwardens, pro-wardens, Salome Jayaratnam, Jill Macey (until APCM),

Parish Buildings Committee: Chair: Roy Golding

Roy Golding, Gill Onslow, Len Richards, Keith Durant, Martyn Lambert.

Parish Finance and Stewardship Group Chair: Felicity Cox

Greg Batts, Christine Cocks, Betty Greengrass, Gill Onslow, Revd Guy Edwards, Fr Tim Vickers.

Church Committees

St James’s (*Chair: Fr Tim Vickers*)

To APCM: Elizabeth Jones (Churchwarden), George Crompton (Deputy warden), Annie White (Deputy warden), Ros van Oosterom (Secretary), Felicity Cox, Salome Jayaratnam, Greg Batts (CMF Rep). After APCM: Annie White (Pro-warden), Ros van Oosterom, Felicity Cox, Salome Jayaratnam, Greg Batts (CMF Rep). Kristian Schuhmacher, Mark Crampton, Ann White.

Holy Trinity (*Chair: Rector*)

To APCM: Gill Onslow (CMF Rep), Stella Nichols, Len Richards, Ali Saunders, Barbie Pocklington Betty Greengrass. After APCM: Gill Onslow (CMF Rep), Stella Nichols, Len Richards, Ali Saunders, Betty Greengrass.

St Paul’s (*Chair: Rector*)

To APCM: Christine Cocks (Deanery), Ingrid Harris (churchwarden), Jill Macey (pro-warden), Margaret Hotchkiss, Roy Golding, Peter Humphreys, Brian Walters, Jill Walters, Maureen Jones. Frances Turner. After APCM: Marion Golding (Pro-warden), Clare Humphreys, Brian Walters, Jill Walters, May Teague (Deanery), Frances Turner, Maureen Jones, Jill Macey, Roy Golding, Martyn Lambert.

Church Attendance

The average attendances at normal **Sunday** services was as follows:

	Before Pandemic	Between lockdowns
Holy Trinity:	15 adults	
St. James:	30 adults, 6 children	19 adults, 1 child
St. Paul:	25 adults, 1 child	25 adults, 0 children

The average **weekday** service attendances are as follows:

St. James:	8 (Holy Communion), 13 adults + 13 children (Forest Church)
St. Paul:	12 (Holy Communion), 19 adults + 22 children (Messy Church)

Electoral Roll

A complete revision of the **Parish Electoral Roll** was last carried out in **March 2019**.

After the update before the 2020 APCM there were **130** people on the Electoral Roll (2019 = 130)

Occasional Offices

Funerals: 7
Baptisms: 2
Weddings: 2
Burial of Ashes: 14

Statement of Public Benefit

The Members of the PCC have referred to the guidance in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the aims and objectives of the charity and in planning future activities. In particular the PCC considers how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives set.

The Parish of Bushey demonstrates public benefit with the following activities;

Regular public worship open to all

- The provision of sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation.
- Pastoral work, including visiting the sick, frail and bereaved.
- Teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
- Taking of religious assemblies in schools.
- Promotion of Christianity through staging of events and meetings and the distribution of literature.
- Promotion of the whole mission of the church through provision of activities for senior citizens, parents, toddlers, young people and other special needs groups.
- Teaching and discussion of Christian Ethics.
- Environmental/Ethical issues e.g. jumble sales (unsold items recycled), supporting other charities in the UK and overseas.
- Community involvement, including the support of local cultural events (music, artistic, etc.) and social action (our food bank (through Red Trust Bushey), Coffee & Chat).

Objectives and Activities

- The Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956 states that the PCC: is to co-operate with the Minister in providing in the ecclesiastical parish the whole Mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.
- In the Parish of Bushey we continue to develop within the Diocesan Living God's Love programme which includes deepening spirituality, outreach to the local community, and a Mission Action Plan.
- Our mission continues to be to proclaim the Gospel according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and assists in the involvement of the many groups that live within the parish.

Achievements and Performance

- Development of opportunities for prayer, reflection and faith sharing. Baptism and Marriage preparation provide opportunities for teaching, support and welcome to the church.
- Special Christmas services in each church welcome many families and schools to joyful celebration.
- A weekly "coffee, cake and chat" operates at St. Paul's which has been very well supported and some stay to share in the Eucharist afterwards. Once a month there is a lunch after the Service.
- Saturday lunchtime recitals and lunches at St James's. Lunches continued after recitals finished and were well attended and welcomed.
- 'Messy Church', monthly at St. Paul's for young children, continues to thrive.
- Parish Sunday Evening services include Choral Evensong at St. James's, and "discussion" Evensong on topical issues at St. Paul's – both monthly

2. Planning and development of fundraising activities

Well proven fundraising events - quiz nights, raffles, lunches, suppers, concerts, jumble sales, summer and Christmas sales, stewardship programmes; all provide opportunities to assist with financial support for the parish, and assistance to UK and overseas charities. They also have a social function and draw in members of the local community. A programme of summer lunchtime recitals were good occasions and successful 'fund-raisers' as well as drawing together the wider community.

3. Exploration of Eucharistic and Social Life in ways that lead to growth opportunities.

Lent and other discipleship courses were held across the parish which gave opportunities to learn and worship together in formal and informal settings, and to meet people. Special welcome services and Patronal Festivals and social events are joyful occasions and give opportunities to welcome members of other churches, and our local community.

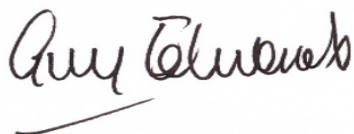
4. Ecumenical links

Bushey and Oxhey Churches Together organise a Good Friday service by the Village Green in which the Parish participates. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is supported within the Parish. Holy Trinity regularly joins with the other churches in North Bushey for worship, social activities and community involvement.

5. Links with other Faiths

Informal links are maintained with the Hertsmere Forum of Faith and Bushey Interfaith Forum

Approved by the PCC on xxth March 2021 and signed on their behalf by

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Guy Edwards', with a horizontal line underneath.

Rev Guy Edwards
Rector

Report: St. James's Church

2020 is a year we will remember as very different and challenging for us all. We started the year with the Saturday lunchtime recitals in February and March, which were very enjoyable. We were able to hold one fundraising event, the very successful Chinese night in February ran by Jessie and Revd Guy. During the first months of the year we were able to hold 3 baptisms, one at our All Age Parish Eucharist attended by over 100 people, and one later on in October under pandemic restrictions.

This promising start to the year took a different course when we went into lockdown suddenly in late March and no public worship was allowed in church until 25th July – St James's Day. Instead all our services were online from clergy homes. During this period of lockdown, we were unable to hold our spring and summer fairs, our recitals were cancelled and our usual activities were put on hold. We were pleased to be able to open our church for Private prayer three times a week from June. During this period the St James's Committee, with PCC approval, invested in a much needed new sound system and in light of our need to livestream services, an Audio Visual system.

Our highlight of the year was being able to celebrate St James's Day together. We did this with a cake, coffee and home-made produce stall in the churchyard, and painted rocks for children to find. We also held our first public service in church. Our Patronal Eucharist was held the next day, led online from inside church for the first time. Our first public service was held on 2nd August from St James Church, and we continued to worship in person until Tier 4 restrictions began in December.

Other highlights of the year were the start of a new outdoor service called Forest Church in the Churchyard led by Fr Tim, especially aimed at families; a sung Choral Requiem for all Souls', with music provided by Northwood Choral Society under the direction of Julie Bale; two community outdoor art projects – poppies for remembrance and angels for Christmas – both provided for by our local schools; and outdoor community carol singing in the churchyard just before Christmas. All of these services and events were greatly appreciated and enjoyed by our community.

Throughout this time, the church has been kept clean and in good order. Indeed the church is probably cleaner now than at the start of the year, and I am thankful for all those who have helped with this, and decorating the church with flowers and for the different seasons of the church year.

Finally, thanks to everyone who has helped us through 2020 in many different ways. I can't wait to be back together with you in person. If anyone feels inclined to join me in being pro-warden please let me know.

Annie White – Pro-warden

Report: St. Paul's Church

The year began much the same as normal for St. Paul's, with the usual pattern of services. Our popular mid-week Eucharist continued with an average 12 attending and our 11.15am Sunday service averaged a congregation of around 25 until the last service in March when the Pandemic brought restrictions.

We were able to celebrate St. Paul's Patronal festival on 26th January with a Parish-wide congregation of over 60 adults and 18 children. It was a particularly joyful occasion as three young people shared their first communion. The service was followed by the customary lunch which was very enjoyable.

St. Paul's hosted the World Day of Prayer on 6th March with a service put together by the Christian women of Zimbabwe. The Church was appropriately decorated and representatives from several local churches took part in the service.

When restrictions were lifted for a while and socially-distanced services were conducted, the congregation returned in the usual number, duly masked and sanitised !

The Wednesday coffee mornings were in their 6th year and in January, we welcomed the CPOs (Community Police Officers) for a regular Neighbourhood Beat Surgery. Although we haven't been able to meet for much of the year, several Wednesday 'regulars' have kept in touch by phone. We held just 2 jumble sales before restrictions were enforced.

We also managed socially-distanced 80th and 90th birthday garden celebrations for two of St. Paul's long-standing members of the congregation! Sadly, we lost 3 much-loved members of our congregation during the year, Sheena Young, Margaret Hotchkiss and Derek Shaw, all of whom are greatly missed.

Marion Golding – Pro-warden

Report: Messy Church at St. Paul's

2020 started very well for Messy Church. Numbers were growing and in March three new children/families came. Then the Pandemic struck. We have kept in touch with everyone by: email every month; birthday, new baby and new home cards; occasional contact by phone. Some families moved away during the year, but our register still shows 19 families and 39 children, with a core of 7 or 8 regular volunteers.

We have run Zoom meetings, Videos and Messy Church in a Bag and managed one socially distanced pick up in September. Unfortunately, St. Paul's doesn't lend itself to socially-distanced indoor meetings but with the promise of vaccination we hope to be able to meet for face to face Messy Church services some time next year.

Jane Groushko

Report: Holy Trinity Church

This year at Holy Trinity we went back to one 9.15 service in February. In March COVID 19 came with lockdown. When not in lockdown we had a few services, but no hall bookings.

Bushey Mill Resource Centre had been able to meet sometimes during lockdown.

We have been fortunate to be left some money from Mrs Beryl Simpkins in her will (£15729.78) specifically to be used in the maintenance at Holy Trinity Church.

As in the past years we at Holy Trinity feel we are in pause mode but still looking forward.

We are still listening to what God has to say, and hoping he will put us on the right road

Gill Onslow – Pro-Warden

Report: Watford Deanery Synod

The first Synod of the year was on 11th February at All Saints, South Oxhey, when we heard about good practice in Safeguarding from the safeguarding team at All Saints. We also heard from the Revd Pam Wise, Vicar of All Saints, about her continuing links with a church in Sweden following a visit there during her sabbatical a few years ago.

We then went into our first lockdown and May and September Synods were both cancelled. There was a final meeting for lay members of Synod only, via Zoom, on 11th November to catch up with each other and see how the parishes in the Deanery had coped during the pandemic. This was also the meeting when Pam Rastall stood down as Lay Chair. No one has offered to take over that role so it is currently vacant. The Revd Tony Rindl stood down as Rural Dean from December 2020 and the Revd Peter Waddell, vicar of Abbots Langley, was appointed the new Rural Dean in January 2021.

Maureen Fleming -- Deanery Synod Representative

Report: Safeguarding

The PCC complied with the duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops guidance in relation to safeguarding. The main safeguarding policies, relevant names and contact details are on display at all three churches of the parish, including Church House, in accordance with current directives.

Safeguarding is on the agenda at each PCC meeting.

Due to COVID, face to face Deanery safeguarding training was not able to take place.

Further guidance on resumption of training and new training guidelines is expected in 2021.

The PCC have been informed about the online safeguarding training courses C0 and C1 which are compulsory for every PCC member.

Fiona Gray – Safeguarding Officer

Report: Forest Church

A positive from the Pandemic is we have started new outdoor service aimed specifically at families. We are blessed with a large churchyard at St James, and it is a lot safer to meet outdoors in these times. Forest Church is an informal worship service, where we seek inspiration from the natural world, and weave that through scripture. It is very free flowing but each service involves praying, noticing God and sharing.

In 2020 we managed to meet 3 times – on 2nd September and 20th September, 18th October. We also held a trail in November – we decided not to meet during lockdown - and again sent out some ideas for a walk in December when we closed for public worship. Going forward the pattern will be to meet on 3rd Sunday of every month when we are able to do so safely.

Attendance has been incredible. Doing something for families and young people in these times when we are able to offer very little else in person. It is also building the Kingdom in a different way and using our resources effectively.

2nd September: 6 adults, 8 Children 'seek and ye shall find'

20th September: 13 adults, 15 children 'thankfulness'

18th September: 15 adults, 21 children 'consider the birds of the air'

We have also set up our own email for contact: forestchurch@busheyparish.org

Fr Tim Vickers

Report: Baptism Ministry

Baptism

We are pleased that in 2020 there were 4 baptisms (from the planned 15!) three of which took place before the Pandemic, and one in October as guidelines allowed. This does mean that 2021 promises to be a bumper year.

Baptism Preparation

As part of reviewing our baptism ministry, we took to re-starting regular monthly baptism preparation sessions on Saturday mornings once a month at St James's. We were able to hold a number of preparation session this way, led by Fr Tim and Revd Andy. Again the Pandemic put everything on hold, but rather than doing online preparation sessions, we are waiting for the time we can meet in person.

Fr Tim Vickers

Report: 100 Club

This is a fund-raising activity across all 3 churches and the Bushey Community and a prize draw is held every month. Half the money raised is given out in cash prizes and the rest is used to fund our activities across the Parish.

Prizes are given for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd numbers drawn on the third Sunday of each month, you can win more than once during the year and also can have more than one number.

Anyone can buy numbers from 1 to 100 for £60 per number. You can pay the £60 in one go or pay £15 per quarter or £5 per month by any method, although a regular Standing Order is the simplest.

Although some people may not be comfortable with gambling they can, of course, simply donate their winnings back to the Parish or buy another number.

2 cups of tea or coffee will cost approx. £5 and the benefit is over quickly. For £5 a month buying a lottery number you have the fun of the draw and the cash benefit

During the present Pandemic the churches have had to close. Obviously Sunday collections, Fundraising and refreshments in Church House have ceased and by supporting the Lottery it is a way to help support the Parish with funds it badly needs. Sometimes we tend to forget the Church is also a Charity.

We have now reached just over 50 numbers towards our goal of selling the full 100 and hope and trust we will attract new members. If you wish for more details please contact the new Administrator:

Clare Humphreys at St Paul's Church.

Betty Greengrass

Report: Buildings Committee

The Committee met for the last time in March 2020 and then, due to the Pandemic restrictions, held no further meetings. Only general maintenance and urgent repairs were carried out during the year and Committee members were kept updated about the majority of these, via email. During the latter part of the year, we welcomed Ann E. White on to the Committee to represent St. James's.

All three churches had their Quinquennial inspections during the year and the architect commented that all three buildings were in relatively good order. He has, however, recommended that a specialist contractor takes a look at the tower roof timbers at St. James's where there is evidence of wet rot.

Church House Flat changed hands in October which meant some minor repairs and tidying-up. There is an on-going problem with the flat roof and temporary repairs have been carried out. However, the church architect inspected the roof and made some verbal recommendations for which a quote has been given. No action was taken.

Holy Trinity had the hall, reception area and toilets redecorated and a new security fence fitted to the rear during the year.

St. Paul's had new storage cupboards built in the gallery area.

Note : The kitchen and toilet areas in both St. James's and St. Paul's are in urgent need of updating if we are to optimize our rental income.

Roy Golding

Report: Red Trust Bushey

The Red Trust Bushey (RTB) is a charity that seeks to support local residents, who may be in need and provide opportunities for people to meet to build relationships and community.

RTB used to host a Community Café at the Phoenix Community Centre on Farrington Avenue on Saturday's. The café was closed when lockdown was announced in March 2020 and has remained closed. This has been understandable, though RTB has felt the loss of not providing a café to meet residents. It is hoped that a café will restart later this year, but considerations will be given to the location of the café, and the ongoing situation with the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Foodbank held at St James's Church House, has continued to be a vital source of support to residents. As a result of the lockdown restrictions, the Foodbank has provided deliveries of food to people who have been isolating due to their health conditions or have difficulty in travelling to the hall. We have had a steady increase of people accessing the Foodbank, both of individuals and families of all ages and backgrounds. It has been a reminder that anyone, regardless of their past social or economic circumstances can find themselves needing help with Food.

Anyone can contact the service to receive support as no one requires a voucher or referral. This helps people who may otherwise be struggling as they wait for other support to be received, such as Universal Credit.

We welcomed Mia Handley to the team as the new Foodbank Manager following Melvyn's departure in December. Mia has been busy working with volunteers and service users and building on the networks with other charitable organisations in Bushey and Watford.

RTB was extremely grateful for the hard work Melvyn had given to Foodbank during his time as manager and the good relationships he had built with both service users and volunteers. We wish Melvyn all the best for his future activities with his church community in Watford and for his family.

We also want to acknowledge the dedication and hard work given by our wonderful volunteers. We have had new volunteers join as people wanted to support their community, because of the pandemic. If anyone has any enquiries about the Foodbank, please contact Mia – foodbank@redtrustbushey.org. Tel – 07483 260 440.

Another addition to our team is Natasha Harding, Community Worker and Pioneer. Natasha will be developing our activities to enable RTB to facilitate building relationships and supporting people who may be feeling isolated and lonely. As a result of the pandemic this work is even more important, and we are looking forward to the activities that will be able to take place when restrictions ease. Natasha is currently working with Mia and supporting service users to the Foodbank and on befriending activities. There is also work getting to know other organisations and services that work in Bushey to build RTB'S wider network and profile. As part of her pioneer role, Natasha is keen to increase time praying for God's guidance and wisdom as to what else RTB can do to support others. If you would like to find out more about future activities and volunteering opportunities, please contact Natasha via email – natasha@redtrustbushey.org Tel – 07484 802 893.

Report: Church Membership Fund (CMF)

2020 was a very difficult year for the CMF combined with the deaths of several long-standing members led to our Planned Giving decreasing further as a percentage of our Parish Share. Unfortunately, excluding our clergy, nobody joined the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) in 2020. During the year there were 72 active members, compared with 74 during 2019. There were 17 in the PGS and 57 in our traditional CMF SOs and Envelopes spread across our 3 churches.

Several members responded to calls for financial help during the COVID-19 and increased their regular giving. Several members in the PGS signed up for inflationary increases to be made to their regular giving at the end of the year. People outside the congregations also made some generous donations in recognition of our plight and the loss of almost all our usual fund-raising income which is reflected in the Gift Aid claims.

Active CMF Members during 2020 are compared with previous years in the Table below. Note these figures do not include our clergy who all joined the PGS.

It is worth noting that one member could represent a partner or a whole family. Sadly several of those listed in the 2020 column died during the year making 2021 even more challenging for the Parish to become financially sustainable.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Holy Trinity	21	17	14	13	13
St James's	73	63	56	44	44
St Paul's	21	20	18	17	15

We have over 120 people on the Electoral Roll (ER) and it would be wonderful to have support from those not currently in our CMF. At the time of writing, it is probably too late to expect the CMF to grow and save our 3 churches and 2 stipendiary clergy. Nevertheless, it would be great to have more people on the ER join the CMF and pledge and donate a regular amount to the Parish such that we can at least maintain what we have left.

If you are a member of one of our churches and are not already in the CMF, please consider joining. You may contact any of the CMF Representatives below, or one of the clergy; we really need you. Any amount you can afford will be received gratefully and you can change the arrangement anytime as you control your giving. Finally, if you are a tax payer you can offset your giving against your income tax with the HMRC to reduce your personal tax bill and we claim the at no cost to you!

St James (Greg Batts)
St Paul (Marion Golding)
Holy Trinity (Gill Onslow)

In addition, you can find everything about the CMF on the Parish Website.

Greg Batts – Parish CMF Officer (2020)

Report: St. James's Church Sacristy and Serving Teams

2020 started in a very positive manner. We had a few new people join our serving team at St James and also started to include liturgical deacons and subdeacons. We also found encouraging signs for young people to get involved and at our All Age Eucharist in February we had 15 servers of all ages on Sunday morning. In addition all of our sacristy needs were ably and efficiently overseen by Sacristan and Head Server Leon Soares.

Again, the pandemic meant that we have had to worship in many different ways – initial from our homes but later in a limited manner from church. It has not been possible to build on maintaining a consistently high quality worship in the Catholic tradition.

It is with great sadness that Leon Soares decided to step down from being Sacristan and head server, due to illness. We would like to thank Leon for his here in leading out worship and hope he will come back when he is better. I am especially grateful to Mark Crampton for his support during this time, which serving in all kinds of capacities. Thank you to everyone who has helped in the last year and we look forward to 2021 where we can look to build on our successes earlier in the 2020.

Fr Tim Vickers

Report: St James's Church Choir

2020 was such an unprecedented year; but in the midst of all the restrictions we were still able to contribute to the musical life of St. James's Church. As with all challenges – there are often many silver linings and although all the choir members and I miss making live music together – Technology has allowed us to keep sharing music to the congregation and with each other.

Whilst the choir were able to sing together they continued to support the regular Sunday Liturgies, providing support to the congregational singing and singing a Motet during the distribution of Communion. From January to March – the Epiphany Carol service was well received and were able to provide music for two evensongs.

Once lockdown was announced, the choir quickly responded by recording pieces virtually and were able to produce music for the new online services at Easter, usual Sunday services and also for evensong.

I am particularly grateful for the investment into the new sound system and wifi which has enabled us to have much flexibility in what we can do musically online.

As restrictions eased, the choir were able to contribute to services in small groups and choir members took it turn to cantor at services and we were fortunate to be able to provide live music for the Carol service in December. The collaboration with Northwood Choral Society on All Souls' Day where Fauré's Requiem mass was sung. The intimate setting was particularly poignant and moving where we remembered our lost loved ones.

Sadly, the choir were unable to sing as planned at Westminster Abbey in July and Norwich Cathedral in October due to Covid-19 restrictions, which no doubt would have been a tremendous experience for all involved.

Before the lockdown in March the Saturday recital series was fully booked with much loved musicians and there were many highlights to look forward to. Unfortunately, these had to be cancelled and I am very grateful to all those who assisted with the administration, particularly Jane Batts.

I am especially grateful to all the regular members of the Choir and the 'and friends' contingent who give of their time and talents to ensure that we can continue to make Music to such a high standard even it has had to be 'virtual'. I recognise that many of them have been pushed far outside their 'comfort zone' singing and recording individually and I am appreciative of all their efforts and resilience.

James Mooney-Dutton – Director of Music

Report: Pastoral Care - Pastoral Visiting and Home Communions

Pastoral Visiting

The way we think of pastoral care in the Parish changed dramatically in 2020. At the start we were concerned mainly with those who were sick, but as the pandemic struck had to think pastorally about everyone in our congregation and wider community. This was extra difficult as to start with as home visits and cups of tea were not possible. This has been an immense adjustment.

At the start of 2020 there had been plans for setting up a pastoral visiting group, with training planned for after Easter 2020. This was not possible and without a formal pastoral visiting group to oversee this, to start with this fell to clergy to oversee. We tried out different ways to care pastorally for those in our care. In the early days of the pandemic, at St James's we tried a system of lay led small groups, overseen by Fr Tim. This had some success but didn't quite work as hoped. In the end, we opted for Parish wide clergy 'call-list' to keep in touch with everyone. It's still a work in progress.

Notwithstanding this, we are gratefully the pastoral care is not the care of any one person or group, and many in our congregation have been silently and lovingly caring for each other, including offering afternoon tea's, leaving messages of hope (and food) on doorsteps and much more.

Home Communions

Again, plans for a formalised Home Communion team were put on hold because of the pandemic. For much of 2020 it was not possible to bring communion to people in their homes, due to the Coronavirus restrictions. A delayed APCM, meant it was not possible to re-appoint Eucharistic ministers for the year either.

However, we were pleased to be able to safely offer communion to those who requested it (especially to Jill Bonell before she died) and for Home Communion at Christmas – on people's doorsteps - for those who may not have received that year. We are grateful that some were able to receive before Tier 4 restrictions came into place in late December.

Fr Tim Vickers

Report: St James's Bellringers

2020 started with good attendances for service ringing on Sunday mornings and Thursday practices. Two first Thursday quarter peals of Grandsire Triples were scored with bands comprising mainly local ringers. Ringing came to an abrupt halt when the lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic began on 16th March. Churches were closed and services were live streamed from clergy homes. As restrictions were eased ringing was allowed to resume in a limited way.

The first occasion that the bells were rung after the lockdown was to celebrate the Feast Day of St James on July 25th, 2020 and then continued on Sunday mornings until the second lockdown began on 5th November. Ringers were required to wear facemasks and be at least 2 metres apart when ringing unless they were in the same household. Hand sanitiser was used, and ringers were only allowed to ring one bell. The maximum time for ringing was 15 minutes and 72 hours must elapse before the bells were rung again. The later was later reduced to 48 hours. We were able to ring bells 1, 3 and 5 providing the ringers of 1 and 3 were in the same household. If all three ringers were of the same household we were able to ring 3, 4 and 5. The bells were also rung to celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on 15th August as it was also the 75th anniversary of VJ Day.

Before the first lockdown two peals and seven quarter peals were rung in the tower. Sue Carpenter rang her first quarter peal on eight by ringing the treble to Grandsire Triples. Two quarter peals were in memory of Gill Flitton, who had been a regular Bushey ringer and one was in memory of Deb Crawley who regularly rang with some of our ringers.

Following the easing of restrictions in July we were able to resume handbell ringing in Roger and Kath Baldwin's Garden. We moved to Holy Trinity Church to continue our handbell practices at the end of October but these have now ceased because of the second lockdown.

A handbell quarter was rung in memory of Joan Wyatt and one on 29th September to celebrate the Revd. Andy Burgess's ordination to the priesthood and his first Mass.

The faculty for works on the clock was obtained but we are still waiting for Cumbria Clocks Ltd to give us a date for commencement of the work.

I would like to thank all our ringers for their determination and fortitude during the last year and hope that ringing will be back to normal in the near future.

Stuart Brant – Tower Captain

Report: Youth Group

Looking back at the Youth Group register for 2020 shows that we met for six sessions from 10th January until 6th March, and then did not meet again until 16th October. This is just one more sign of the impact the pandemic had on the social fabric of our communities. When Youth Group resumed, this was under strict social distancing measures, and continued until 11th December. The effect of the lockdown can be seen in the fact that our average attendance dropped from ten young people per session at the beginning of the year to four by the end of the year. Those who returned in October form a core group, and sadly we haven't seen some of the more fringe members since the lockdown began.

During the lockdown, we kept in touch with the young people using Zoom and WhatsApp. This form of online contact was initially well received, however as the months went on it became clear that 'Zoom fatigue' had settled in. It was good therefore to be able to start meeting in person again, despite the restrictions that were in place. We delivered Christmas gifts at the end of the year to those on our register, and this was well received by the group. The youth have been in generally good spirits throughout the year, however there was some disappointment and anxiety for those who are at GCSE and A-Level stage.

Unfortunately the lockdown also meant that our monthly 'Friday Films' at Holy Trinity only managed two sessions in January and February. We did not attempt to restart this in the Autumn, deciding instead to focus efforts on Youth Group. A decision will need to be made in 2021 when social distancing comes to an end, whether or not to continue this monthly outreach event.

Revd Andy Burgess

Report: Social Media - Facebook and Livestreaming

Social Media

With the pandemic, our use of social media has become a vital part of our ministry and how we communicate with people in the parish, and beyond. We continue to use our social media pages to advertise services and what is going on in each church, to connect and share our values with those online. In affect to share the faith as best we can and encourage others to join us. Each of the pages has a number of admins, and I am particularly grateful to Christine for her work with the St Paul's page, and for Ann White and Jane Batts for posting photos on the St James's page.

The parish began the year with 3 facebook pages, one for each church. It was decided that during the pandemic, we would start a new page 'Bushey Parish Livestream Services' for all our parish wide services, and a YouTube Page 'Parish of Bushey'.

All our pages have seen growth over this year, which is great because it means we are reaching more people in our community.

Social Media: Page Statistics

	Likes 1 st Jan	Likes 31 st Dec	Change
St. James's	582	922	340 (58%)
St. Paul's	91	124	33 (36%)
Holy Trinity	184	232	48 (26%)
Livestream Services		185	

Biggest post: RIP George on St. James's 26th December, 87,500 views.

YouTube 2020: 69 subscribers, 131 public videos.

Livestreaming

One new and positive addition to our social media is our ability to livestream services. It is fair to say that this has seen a lot of experimentation, and mistakes, over the year. We began livestreaming out Parish Eucharist and Daily Office from March 2020. Initially we broadcast using facebook live which was easier for individual members of the clergy, and our LLW Christine, to livestream from their homes. We decided this was a better way to reach more people and easier to manage than a zoom service.

In October 2020 we decided to invest in 'Restream' which enabled us to stream to all our facebook and YouTube pages at the same time. One feature allows us to have people join in services virtually from their homes. Our livestreaming capability was advanced significantly by the investment in a new sound system and livestreaming system at St James's Church.

Although the numbers below look fascinating, we are probably reaching 30-40 people on a Sunday morning in lockdown. Less if in-person worship is taking place. The other views are people who look for a few seconds. In total, our committed viewers are less that we would hope across all our churches if worshipping in person. So whilst the numbers are promising, we need to find new ways to engage people digitally as part of an strategy for evangelism.

Figures for livestreaming

All facebook pages 2020	Compared to 2019	YouTube Page 2020
244.8 hours viewed (10 days worth)	268 minutes viewed (4.4 hours)	Views: 3,784
9,900 1 minute + views	No views over 1 minute	Watch time: 363.7 hours.
79,532 3 second views	871 3 second views	(15 days worth)
6312 engagements	79 engagements	

My thanks to Kristian Schuhmacher who was able to assist with live-streaming services not just in person at Christmas but also remotely from Germany. We truly are a global church.

Fr Tim Vickers

Report: Parish Website - busheyparish.org

Having established a new parish website in 2019, 2020 was about maintaining and updating the website with relevant information. There are now five website administrators, who publish news stories, keep the calendar up to date, and keep information current. The website was very helpful when the lockdown began in March 2020 as a way of gathering our COVID-19 updates in a single place. We also used the website for taking service bookings when re-opening began, and signing people up for our Advent Trail.

With regard statistics, in 2020, we had 14,312 total visits with 38,441 total page views. That is about 275 visits a week on average. 49% of those were from a desktop machine, 39% from a mobile, and 12% from a tablet. 7,462 of the visits were 'direct' to our website (directly typing in our URL), 4,803 were referred from Google, and 1,359 from Facebook. Our top pages were the Homepage (7,845 views), About St James's (3,194 views), Worship at Home (2,366 views), Live (1,861 views), News (1,824 views), What's On (1,254 views) and Contact (920 views).

Revd Andy Burgess

Report: St James's Churchyard

The churchyard at St James's is one of the largest in South East England. It has been closed to new burials since 1984. We now mainly bury cremated remains into existing family plots or in the Garden of Remembrance. There is the occasional full burial in a family plot, but this is increasingly rare. In 2020 there was one full burial in a family plot. The cremated remains of xx were buried in the Garden of Remembrance and xx were interred in family graves. As a closed churchyard the local authority are responsible for the maintenance of the grass and hedges. They cut the grass and trim the hedges on a periodic basis throughout the year. This is at no cost to the PCC. Responsibility for the maintenance of the actual graves rests with the families.

The churchyard has been well used in lockdown. More people have been walking and taking exercise and have discovered the churchyard and the open countryside that lies beyond it. It really is a wonderful community asset. The churchyard has also been used for the Forest Church initiative when restrictions have permitted. In November many children from local schools painted poppies on stones for Remembrance Day. These were placed on all the War Graves and around the Memorial Cross. This was well received by the whole community and a huge thank you goes to all those who took part in this project.

It seems that in lockdown many people have been tracing their family trees and we have seen an increase in queries regarding the location of a relatives resting place. We have been able to assist with this and some have visited to see the graves.

In October our small but enthusiastic working party worked tirelessly to cut back a large overgrown area of brambles and ivy which had encroached and obscured several graves. This was efficiently cleared and we all enjoyed working together on a very sunny autumn day. We hope to do more in 2021, Covid permitting.

Late last year we started a project to research the lives of some of those resting in the churchyard. It is important that we capture and document peoples lives so they are so much more than a name on a stone. The project is called Stories behind the Stones and we aim to have one article a month in the Parish Magazine focusing on one person.

The feedback has been positive and where possible we have worked with the families of those written about.

I am indebted to Jane Batts for her support and input with research. I also want to thank Peter Manhire for the work he tirelessly does on the ground tidying up and clearing paths. It is much appreciated.

If you are interested in helping out or want to know more please email churchyard@busheyparish.org

Ann White – Churchyard Warden

Bushey Parochial Church Council Honorary Treasurer's Report 2020

The pandemic has had significant impact on the activities of the church. The financial situation of the church has been weakened as we had to use reserves. The income of the Church decreased significantly in 2020 largely due to reduction in hall bookings and lower levels of plate giving both the result of the impact of Covid19 limiting worship in church buildings and loss of income from Fund raising activities.

Overall in 2020, our total expenses exceeded our total income by £65k, compared to 2019 when the shortfall was £30k.

Income

In 2020 the total receipts of unrestricted funds were £157k which was £75k less than 2019.

Our planned giving and gift aid donation was £10.5k less than 2019.

Mainly due to the lockdown the collection at services and total voluntary donations was £12k less than 2019.

Income from Charitable and other trading activities was £42k less than 2019.

A legacy of £15,730 was received to be used specifically for the maintenance of Holy Trinity Church.

Expenditure

Our total unrestricted expenditure in 2020 was £234k which was £28k less than in 2019.

The change in expenditure is predominantly due to a total of £63k decrease in expenditure for the following:-

- Refurbishment of church house flat cost £20k in 2019 (a one off)
- Ministry expenses - £25k less than 2019
- Other running costs and costs of raising funds - £11k less than 2019 due to reduction in activities
- Church running Expenses - £5k less than 2019 (due to the reduction in the use of the church)
- Missionary and Charitable giving - £2k less than 2019

The above decrease in expenditure totaling £65k was offset by increase of £26k in the Parish Share amount as a result of having the Clergy of 3 for the whole year and the Clergy Accommodation for the curate for the full year was £9k more than 2019

This left us with a shortfall of income to expenditure for unrestricted activities of £77k compared to, £31k in 2019, £79k in 2018, £85k in 2017 and £84k in 2016 .This shortfall is likely to continue in 2021 and until our activities are back to normal levels . These level of losses cannot be sustained in the longer term.

Please see the tables which summarise the Parish income and expenditure for 2020. The impact of the lockdown is evident in the comparison to 2019 figures.

The parish must endeavor to control expenditure tightly and increase income and cease utilizing reserves for running costs, in order to remain a going concern in the eyes of the charity commission.

The PCC will need to consider a refresh of the stewardship campaign in 2021 to increase planned giving donations to a level where they meet the parish share. In 2020 planned giving was 57% of the Parish Share, a decrease on 2019 when it was two thirds (67%) of the share.

Parish Share

We only paid 85% (£105,723) of our Parish Share of £124,338 to the Diocese. £18,615 was outstanding for 2020 and is shown as a creditor in the accounts. Payment of the outstanding parish share is not legally enforceable, however the PCC will endeavor to settle the amount.

The move to the Parish Giving Scheme, has eased cash flow and simplified our administration.

Reserves

The PCC has applied a total of £58,761 from Trinity House and Falconer Hall reserves in 2020.

Trinity House

In 2020 £41,207 was drawn down from the TH reserves of which £34k was used towards the payment of the Parish Share, £1,920 for the repair of the boiler and £740 for Floor Sanding at St Paul's. £2,506 was used for maintenance. £2,041 for the payment of Quinquennial Inspection fees.

Falconer Hall

In 2020, £17,554 was drawn down of which £13,000 was used towards the payment of the New Audio System and £4,554 was used for the Camera Streaming system in St James Church.

Holy Trinity Legacy

£15,730 legacy donation was received in 2020 for Holy Trinity of which £4,154 was used towards decorating and other expenses.

Parish Deposit Account

There is £3,471 in the Parish Deposit account

St James Account

There is £3,855 which is sufficient to cover the Tower clock repair which was approved by the PCC at circa £3,500.

IT Equipment

£20,586 was spent on IT equipment, the New Audio and Camera Streaming equipment at St James. This expenditure has been capitalised and will be depreciated over 5 years

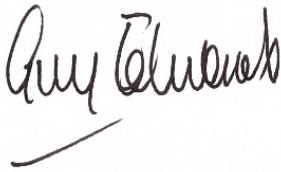
We are grateful for the incredible generosity of many congregations who, through their giving, have met the cost of ministry and enabled the Parish to continue to serve the community.

My hope is that the outcome of the Parish restructure will help us to develop a financially sustainable parish which can go forward in strength to meet the future needs of the Parish.



Taiye Sanwo
Hon. Parish Treasurer
March 2021

Approved by the PCC on 17th March 2021 and signed on their behalf Rev Guy Edwards, PCC Chair.



Parochial Church Council of Bushey

Notes to the Accounts for the Year ended 31 December 2020

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bushey is a Parochial Church Council established under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and the Church Representation Rules, and is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales, number 1130540. Details of the principal office are included in the PCC's Annual Report.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bushey meets the definition of a Public Benefit Entity under FRS102.

1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following the Charities SORP (FRS 102) published on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value. 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 do they include groups that are informal gatherings of church members."

The financial statements are presented in sterling and rounded to the nearest £.

2. Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted. Restricted funds are those funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions are provided in note 8. Endowment funds, where the capital must be retained, are also explained in note 8.

3. Incoming Resources

Voluntary income

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised only when received. Tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the donation is recognised. Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is reasonably certain. Funds raised by fund raising events are accounted for gross.

Other income

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

Income from investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for when receivable.

Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

4. Resources Used

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The Diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Any parish share unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet. Costs of generating funds include the cost of stewardship campaigns, investment management costs and costs relating to rental properties. Charitable activities comprise the costs relating to the work of the parish. Governance costs represent the costs of running the PCC as a legal entity and include the costs of preparation and independent examination of the accounts.

5. Fixed assets

Consecrated property and movable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s10 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's Inventory which can be inspected at any reasonable time.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings, or on individual items under £1,000 is written off.

Land and buildings are shown at cost or at valuation based on 1970 figures.

Depreciation

Fixtures and Fittings are depreciated at 10% of cost and Office Equipment is depreciated at 25% of cost. Buildings are depreciated at 2%. However, since the 1970 valuations included the land it is assumed that each contributed 50% to the original valuation such that the effective depreciation is 1% as land does not depreciate.

6. Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

7. Current assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove un-collectable. Short-term deposits include cash held on de-posit either with the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England Funds or at the bank.

8. Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to expend resources.

9. Going Concern

As set out above, the PCC's financial position will be adversely affected by the Covid 19 virus out-break. However, having considered the financial position of the Church and in particular the level of reserves the PCC is of the opinion that it will remain a Going Concern for at least twelve months from the date of approval of these accounts. The accounts are accordingly prepared on the Going Concern basis.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31st December 2020

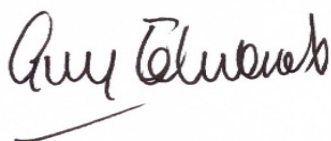
		2020				2019			
		<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Endowment Funds</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Endowment Funds</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	Notes	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies	2a	83,695	15,730	-	99,425	116,770	-	-	116,770
Charitable activities	2b	12,801	-	-	12,801	16,730	-	-	16,730
Other trading activities	2c	50,918	-	-	50,918	89,659	-	-	89,659
Investments	2d	3,740	2,276	-	6,016	4,869	2,228	-	7,097
Other	2e	4,644	-	-	4,644	3,363	-	-	3,363
Total Income		155,798	18,006	-	173,804	231,391	2,228	-	233,619
EXPENDITURE ON									
Raising funds: other costs	3c	14,152	-	-	14,152	46,823	-	-	46,823
Ministry expenses	3b	219,143	5,512	-	224,655	215,726	1,319	-	217,045
Total Expenditure		233,295	5,512	-	238,806	262,549	1,319	-	263,868
Net (Expenditure)/Income before Transfers		(77,497)	12,494	-	(65,002)	(31,158)	909	-	(30,249)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net (Expenditure)/Income after Transfers		(77,497)	12,494	-	(65,002)	(31,158)	909	-	(30,249)
Unrealised gains on investments		700	3,126	2,041	5,867	1,174	7,139	4,666	12,979
Net Movement in Funds		(76,797)	15,620	2,041	(59,135)	(29,984)	8,048	4,666	(17,270)
Balances brought forward at 1 Jan 2020		682,596	51,967	29,582	764,145	712,580	43,919	24,916	781,415
Balances carried forward at 31 Dec 2020		605,800	67,587	31,623	705,010	682,596	51,967	29,582	764,145

BALANCE SHEET

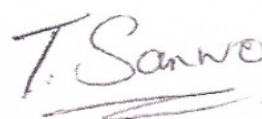
as at 31st December 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Assets			
Buildings & land	5a	58,795	59,590
Fixtures & Fittings & Equipment	5a	19,118	-
Investment funds	6a	90,867	85,000
		168,780	144,590
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors & prepayments			
- Gift Aid recoverable		2,016	3,332
- Other prepayments and accrued income		5,617	1,623
Deposit funds	6b	550,102	616,009
Cash & bank balances		4,568	4,832
		562,303	625,796
LIABILITIES			
Amounts falling due within one year			
Trade creditors		(120)	(3,341)
Taxation and social security		-	-
Accruals and deferred grants received		(25,953)	(2,900)
Total current liabilities		(26,073)	(6,241)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		536,230	619,555
Net Assets		705,010	764,145
FUNDS			
Endowment Funds	7	31,623	29,582
Restricted Funds	7	67,587	51,967
Unrestricted Funds	7	605,800	682,596
Total Funds		705,010	764,145

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 17th
March 2021 and signed on its behalf by



Rev Guy Edwards
Rector



Taiye Sanwo
Hon. Parish Treasurer

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONT'D)
for the year ended 31st December 2020

2 INCOME

	2020			2019		
	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
2a Donations and legacies						
Planned Giving						
CMF (planned giving)	61,951	-	61,951	66,608	-	66,608
Gift Aid donations	2,283	-	2,283	8,468	-	8,468
Income Tax						
Recovered	14,012	-	14,012	23,103	-	23,103
Collections (open plate) at all services	1,673	-	1,673	5,153	-	5,153
Grants	-	-	-	2,000	-	2,000
Sundry						
Donations/Appeals	3,776	-	3,776	9,952	-	9,952
VAT recovered	-	-	0	1,486	-	1,486
Legacies	-	15,730	15,730	0	-	0
TOTAL	83,695	15,730	99,425	116,770	-	116,770
2b Charitable activities						
Church lettings	200	-	200	2,400	-	2,400
Parish Breakfast	218	-	218	1,243	-	1,243
Parish Magazine	260	-	260	647	-	647
Wedding income	1,365	-	1,365	2,731	-	2,731
Statutory Fees & other fees	10,758	-	10,758	9,709	-	9,709
TOTAL	12,801	-	12,801	16,730	-	16,730
2c Other trading activities						
Hall & Gallery						
Lettings	27,397	-	27,397	53,987	-	53,987
Parish Rentals (Church House Flat)	15,122	-	15,122	5,628	-	5,628
Fund-raising events	8,399	-	8,399	30,044	-	30,044
TOTAL	50,918	-	50,918	89,659	-	89,659
2d Investments						
Dividends & interest including reclaimed tax	4,659	1,358	6,017	5,778	1,319	7,097
TOTAL	4,659	1,358	6,017	5,778	1,319	7,097
2e Other						
Disposal of property	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grant Income - Furlough Scheme	4,504	-	4,504	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	140	-	140	2,820	-	2,820
TOTAL	4,644	-	4,644	2,820	-	2,820
TOTAL INCOME	156,717	17,088	173,805	231,757	1,319	233,076

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONT'D)
for the year ended 31st December 2020

3	EXPENDITURE ON	2020			2019		
		<u>Unrestricte</u>	<u>Restrict</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
		<u>d Funds</u>	<u>d Funds</u>		<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	
		£	£	£	£	£	£
3	Charitable activities						
2	Missionary and charitable giving:						
	Home missions & other Church Societies	-	-	-	91	-	91
	Secular charities	-	-	-	2,315	-	2,315
	Ministry:						
	Diocesan Parish Share	124,338	-	124,338	98,173	-	98,173
	Clergy expenses	886	-	886	7,406	-	7,406
	Clergy Accommodation	20,246	-	20,246	10,800	-	10,800
	Clergy education & training	400	-	400	907	-	907
	Work with Families & children of Parish	275	-	275	16,151	-	16,151
	Other outreach	822	-	822	2,618	-	2,618
	Churches:						
	running expenses	15,473	-	15,473	14,166	-	14,166
	maintenance & repairs	12,414	4,593	17,007	18,120	1,319	19,439
	improvements	1,044	-	1,044	-	-	-
	music	6,755	-	6,755	9,612	-	9,612
	upkeep of services	6,039	-	6,039	9,324	-	9,324
	depreciation	2,533	-	2,533	795	-	795
	Parish magazine & other publicity	626	-	626	443	-	443
	Churchyard upkeep	1,794	-	1,794	1,158	-	1,158
	printing & stationery	3,822	-	3,822	4,060	-	4,060
	administration & Parish Office	18,958	-	18,958	16,105	-	16,105
	bank charges	33	-	33	-	-	-
	Independent examiner & accountancy	3,604	-	3,604	3,482	-	3,482
	TOTAL	220,062	4,593	224,655	215,726	1,319	217,045
3	Raising Funds: other costs						
h	Church halls/flat:						
	running costs	10,832	-	10,832	19,323	-	19,323
	improvements (CH Flat refurbishment)	-	-	-	19,731	-	19,731
	costs of fetes, bazaars, other events	3,320	-	3,320	6,858	-	6,858
	costs of stewardship campaign	-	-	-	368	-	368
	TOTAL	14,152	-	14,152	46,280	-	46,280
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	234,214	4,593	238,807	262,006	1,319	263,325

2020

Charitable donations (net of any designated donations received):

No payments were made to Charities in 2020.

Related Party Transactions

- 1 No member of the PCC received payment in respect of their service as PCC members.
- 2 One related person to a member of the PCC received payment, Bob Harris £1,050 for burial of ashes internment.
- 3 No other expenses were paid to members of the PCC.

The expenses paid to clergy may include a small, immaterial proportion which relates to their functions as PCC members.

- 4
- 5 Aggregate donations to the parish from PCC of which we have records (CMF members) were £7,560.60
- 6 These payments were made under the PCC Powers Measure as amended by The Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure 2014.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONT'D)
for the year ended 31st December 2020

		2020			2019		
		<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
		<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>		<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	
		£	£	£	£	£	£
4	STAFF COSTS (Director of Music, and Parish Administration)*	<i>Included in relevant headings, above</i>					
	Wages & salaries	23,107	-	23,107	25,743	-	25,743
	Social security costs	144	-	144	1,267	-	1,267
	Pension costs	-	-	-	539	-	539
	Staff training costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Staff travel & subsistence costs	-	-	-	139	-	139
	TOTAL	23,251	-	23,251	27,688	-	27,688

**During 2020 the PCC employed Parish Administration staff, none of whom earned more than £60,000.*

The PCC regard the key management of the parish as being the incumbent, who is paid directly by the diocese, together with the two Churchwardens, both of whom are unpaid.

The average number of employees during the year was 2020:2.0, 2019:2.5

5 FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY THE PCC

5a

	<u>Land and Buildings</u>	<u>Fixtures and Fittings and Equipment</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	£	£	£
<i>Cost/Valuation</i>			
At 1 January 2020	79,515	4,212	83,727
Disposal during the year	-	(4,212)	(4,212)
Additions during the year	-	20,856	20,856
At 31 December 2020	79,515	20,856	100,371
<i>Depreciation</i>			
At 1 January 2020	19,925	4,212	24,137
Disposal depreciation written back	-	(4,212)	(4,212)
Charge for Year	795	1,738	2,533
At 31 December 2020	20,720	1,738	22,458
<i>Net Book Value</i>			
At 31 December 2020	58,795	19,118	77,913
At 31 December 2019	59,590	-	59,590

Land and Buildings

Land and Buildings comprise the following:-

	<u>At Cost</u>	<u>Disposals</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£	£	£	£
5b Church House & extension	31,003	-	31,003	31,003
Stockwell Hall	24,512	-	24,512	24,512
John Stobbsart Hall	24,000	-	24,000	24,000
	79,515	-	79,515	79,515

Land and buildings shown at valuation are based on 1970 figures. Church House Flat is held for future use for Church work and is not treated as a long term investment

Depreciation

Fixtures and Fittings are depreciated at 10% of cost and Office Equipment is depreciated at 25% of cost. Buildings are depreciated at 2%. However, since the 1970 valuations included the land it is assumed that each contributed 50% to the original valuation such that the effective depreciation is 1% as land does not depreciate.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONT'D)
for the year ended 31st December 2020

6a FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	2020				2019
	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Endowment Funds</u>	<u>TOTAL FUNDS</u>	<u>TOTAL FUNDS</u>
	£	£		£	£
Market Value at 1 January 2020	10,152	45,266	29,582	85,000	72,021
Disposal in the year	-	-	-	-	-
Net gains/(losses) on revaluations in the year ended 31 December 2020	700	3,126	2,041	5,867	12,979
Market Value at 31 December 2020	10,852	48,392	31,623	90,867	85,000

The principal funds of the parish are invested with the CBF (Central Board of Finance) or the SADB (St Albans Diocesan Board of Finance) in the form of deposit funds from which interest accrues. These are included within the cash funds of the PCC (see above).

Investments constitute shares held with the CBF Investment Fund and for which dividends are received. As with such investments, the value of these shares fluctuates up and down, as do the dividends received. They are valued at the bid (sale) price on 31st December 2020.

6b Deposit Funds

	2020	2019
	£	£
Church Fabric Fund	426	426
Farm Way	323	323
Churchyard	5,453	4,755
Ellis	2,165	1,947
Trinity House Proceeds	176,245	216,601
Falconer Hall Proceeds	358,164	374,145
SJ Deposit Account	3,855	7,211
Parish deposit	3,471	10,601
	550,102	616,009

7 FUNDS

for the year ended 31st December 2020

	2020						2019					
	<u>Balance Brought Forward</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Transfers between Funds</u>	<u>Gains and Losses on Investments</u>	<u>Balance carried Forward</u>	<u>Balance Brought Forward</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Transfers between Funds</u>	<u>Gains and Losses on Investments</u>	<u>Balance carried Forward</u>
<u>Endowment Funds</u>												
The Bushey Church and Churchyard Trust Fund	22,582	-	-	-	1,559	24,141	19,021	-	-	-	3,561	22,582
Ellis Bequest (Grave Trust)	7,000	-	-	-	482	7,482	5,895	-	-	-	1,105	7,000
	29,582	-	-	-	2,041	31,623	24,916	-	-	-	4,666	29,582
<u>Restricted Funds</u>												
Miss F M Mitchell Bequest	45,266	1,358	(1,358)	-	3,126	48,392	38,127	1,319	(1,319)	-	7,139	45,266
The Bushey Church and Churchyard Trust Fund	4,754	699	-	-	-	5,453	4,063	691	-	-	-	4,754
Ellis Bequest (Grave Trust)	1,947	219	-	-	-	2,166	1,729	218	-	-	-	1,947
Holy Trinity-Legacy Funds	-	15,730	(4,154)	-	-	11,576	-	-	-	-	-	-
	51,967	18,006	(5,512)	-	3,126	67,587	43,919	2,228	(1,319)	-	7,139	51,967
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>												
Capital Reserve	59,590	-	(795)	-	-	58,795	60,385	-	(795)	-	-	59,590
Church Fabric Fund	10,153	305	(305)	-	700	10,853	8,979	296	(296)	-	1,174	10,153
Trinity House sale proceeds	216,601	850	(41,207)	-	-	176,244	254,398	1,758	(39,555)	-	-	216,601
Falconer Hall Sale Proceeds	374,145	1,573	(17,554)	-	-	358,164	371,354	2,791	-	-	-	374,145
SJ Deposit	7,211	-	(3,356)	-	-	3,855	14,042	756	(7,587)	-	-	7,211
General Fund (inc parish deposit and Farm Way)	14,896	153,070	(170,077)	-	-	(2,111)	3,422	225,791	(214,317)	-	-	14,896
	682,596	155,798	(233,294)	-	700	605,800	712,580	231,391	(262,549)	-	1,174	682,596
Total Funds	764,145	173,804	(238,806)	-	5,867	705,010	781,415	233,619	(263,868)	-	12,979	764,145

ANALYSIS OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES BETWEEN FUNDS

	<u>2020</u>					<u>2019</u>				
	<u>Tangible Fixed Assets</u>	<u>CBF Investment Funds</u>	<u>Deposit Funds</u>	<u>Net Current Assets</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Tangible Fixed Assets</u>	<u>CBF Investment Funds</u>	<u>Deposit Funds</u>	<u>Net Current Assets</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>Endowment Funds</u>										
The Bushey Church and Churchyard Trust Fund	-	24,141	-	-	24,141	-	22,582	-	-	22,582
Ellis Bequest (Grave Trust)	-	7,482	-	-	7,482	-	7,000	-	-	7,000
	-	31,623	-	-	31,623	-	29,582	-	-	29,582
<u>Restricted Funds</u>										
Mitchell Bequest	-	48,392	-	-	48,392	-	45,266	-	-	45,266
The Bushey Church and Churchyard Trust Fund	-	-	5,453	-	5,453	-	-	4,754	-	4,754
Ellis Bequest (Grave Trust)	-	-	2,166	-	2,166	-	-	1,947	-	1,947
Holy Trinity-Legacy Funds	-	-	-	11,576	11,576	-	-	-	-	-
	-	48,392	7,619	11,576	67,587	-	45,266	6,701	-	51,967
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>										
Capital Reserve	58,795	-	-	-	58,795	59,590	-	-	-	59,590
Church Fabric Fund	-	10,852	-	-	10,852	-	10,152	-	-	10,152
Alliott Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trinity House sale proceeds	-	-	176,245	-	176,245	-	-	216,601	-	216,601
Falconer Hall proceeds	-	-	358,164	-	358,164	-	-	374,145	-	374,145
SJ Deposit	-	-	3,855	-	3,855	-	-	7,211	-	7,211
Parish Deposit/general fund	19,118	-	4,220	(25,448)	(2,111)	-	-	11,351	3,546	14,897
	77,913	10,852	542,484	(25,448)	605,800	59,590	10,152	609,308	3,546	682,596
<u>Total</u>	77,913	90,867	550,102	(13,872)	705,010	59,590	85,000	616,009	3,546	764,145

Parochial Church Council of Bushey

Notes to the Accounts for the Year ended 31 December 2020

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bushey is a Parochial Church Council established under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and the Church Representation Rules, and is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales, number 1130540. Details of the principal office are included in the PCC's Annual Report.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bushey meets the definition of a Public Benefit Entity under FRS102.

1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following the Charities SORP (FRS 102) published on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value. 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 do they include groups that are informal gatherings of church members."

The financial statements are presented in sterling and rounded to the nearest £.

2. Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Restricted funds are those funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions are provided in note 8. Endowment funds, where the capital must be retained, are also explained in note 8.

3. Incoming Resources

Voluntary income

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised only when received. Tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the donation is recognised. Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is reasonably certain. Funds raised by fund raising events are accounted for gross.

Other income

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

Income from investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for when receivable.

Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

4. Resources Used

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The Diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Any parish share unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet. Costs of generating funds include the cost of stewardship campaigns, investment management costs and costs relating to rental properties. Charitable activities comprise the costs relating to the work of the parish. Governance costs represent the costs of running the PCC as a legal entity and include the costs of preparation and independent examination of the accounts.

5. Fixed assets

Consecrated property and movable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s10 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011. Movable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's Inventory which can be inspected at any reasonable time.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings, or on individual items under £1,000 is written off.

Land and buildings are shown at cost or at valuation based on 1970 figures.

Depreciation

Fixtures and Fittings are depreciated at 10% of cost and Office Equipment is depreciated at 25% of cost. Buildings are depreciated at 2%. However, since the 1970 valuations included the land it is assumed that each contributed 50% to the original valuation such that the effective depreciation is 1% as land does not depreciate.

6. Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

7. Current assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove un-collectable. Short-term deposits include cash held on de-posiit either with the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England Funds or at the bank.

8. Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to expend resources.

9. Going Concern

As set out above, the PCC's financial position will be adversely affected by the Covid 19 virus out-break. However, having considered the financial position of the Church and in particular the level of reserves the PCC is of the opinion that it will remain a Going Concern for at least twelve months from the date of approval of these accounts. The accounts are accordingly prepared on the Going Concern basis.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF BUSHEY

I report to the members on my examination of the accounts of The Parochial Church Council of Bushey ("the PCC") for the year ended 31 December 2020 set out on pages 21 to 33.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the members of the PCC (and trustees for the purposes of charity law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the PCC's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

An independent examination does not involve gathering all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently does not cover all the matters that an auditor considers in giving their opinion on the accounts. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide. Consequently I express no opinion as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and my report is limited to those specific matters set out in the independent examiner's statement

Independent examiner's statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that The PCC has prepared the accounts in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- * accounting records were not kept in respect of the PCC as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- * the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- * the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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

Use of my Report

This report is made solely to the PCC, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the PCC those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the PCC as a body for my work or for this report.

Malcolm Lucas, FCA, DChA

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