

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR BRANKSOME ST ALDHELM POOLE DORSET

England & Wales · Charity number 1130874

## Details

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**Other names** BRANKSOME ST ALDHELM PCC

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Previously excepted

**Registered** 2009-07-30

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

## Contact

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**Address** The Parish Office  
The Branksom St. Aldhelms Centre  
401 Poole Road  
Branksome  
Poole  
Dorset

**Phone** 01202764420

**Email** [office@st-aldhelm.com](mailto:office@st-aldhelm.com)

**Website** [www.st-aldhelm.com](http://www.st-aldhelm.com)

## Activities

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

**Activities:** To promote in the Parish the whole mission of the Church, Pastoral evangelical ecumenical and social. Regular worship open to all takes place in Church and one day a week at Melton Court. Various activities are held regularly during the year for all ages and abilities, this includes a coffee morning on Tuesdays along with the Spring, Summer, and Christmas fairs

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31		-	-	-
2023-12-31	£134,983	£137,794	-	-
2022-12-31	£114,972	£118,510	-	-
2021-12-31	£98,546	£95,051	-	-
2020-12-31	£89,816	£94,730	-	-
2019-12-31	£120,294	£132,435	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Chloe Melissa Berry		2024-04-28
Clair Eaton		2018-04-22
DIANE EATON		2015-03-29
Denzil Miles Sheppard		2021-04-25
ELIZABETH JANE ROSEWARN		2025-05-21
Ian Clothier		2021-04-25
Ian GRAY		2017-04-02

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR BRANKSOME ST ALDHELM POOLE DORSET**

England & Wales - Charity number 1130874

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# Accounts

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**BRANKSOME, ST. ALDHELM'S CHURCH**

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

[www.st-aldhelm.com](http://www.st-aldhelm.com)

**PARISH REPORT &  
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

together with reports from church organisations

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

**VICAR**

Rev. Philip Martin

**CHURCHWARDEN**

Ian Gray

**HONORARY TREASURER**

Peter Sharp

**HONORARY SECRETARY**

Samantha Waldron



**BRANKSOME ST ALDHELM'S CHURCH**  
**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS**  
**AND**  
**THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**  
**SUNDAY 30TH APRIL 2023 HELD AFTER THE 10AM SERVICE**

## **AGENDA**

### **MEETING OF PARISHIONERS**

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. To elect 2 people to the office of Churchwarden

### **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

3. To receive the updated Electoral Roll and Report
4. To receive the Annual Report and accept the examined Accounts for 2022
5. To receive the Treasurer's Report
6. To receive the Churchwarden's Report
7. Vicar's Report & Memorial to the Departed
8. To receive the Deanery Synod Report
9. To elect members of the laity to the PCC & Sides Persons
10. To accept the minutes of the APCM for 1st May 2022
11. Matters arising from the 2022 minutes
12. Closing Prayer

**MINUTES FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS**  
**AND THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**  
**HELD ON 1<sup>st</sup> MAY 2022 FOLLOWING THE 10AM SERVICE**

**MEETING OF PARISHIONERS**

The meeting began at 11.05am and minutes were kindly taken by Christine Shaw.

Churchwardens – Peter Sharp stepped down as Churchwarden but will continue as the Hon. Treasurer. Ian Gray will continue as Churchwarden; a second Churchwarden can be chosen later in the year. The Crisis Committee will continue as a backup to the Vicar and Churchwarden. Thanks were given to both Ian and Peter.

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

To receive the report and accounts – proposed by Clair Eaton and seconded by Graham Wright. Unanimously agreed.

Treasurer - A question about finances going forward came from Judith to Peter the Treasurer:

Reply: improvement. Expenditure on the building to come of necessity.

£6000 deficit in Unrestricted funds. There will still be a deficit this year, more needs to be raised. Christmas Tree Festival – it was substantial but not much profit. Pip was disappointed by the response to the renewal of Giving. Annual invitation needs to be made to encourage this.

Churchwarden- Ian said many projects could be undertaken. The next Quinquennial Inspection is not that far away, 2023 and some progress is needed. The report suggested that photos should be taken of all the windows to form a record both for the archives and as a working document to assist with maintenance/vandalism. For the right person, this job would be relatively easy. The estimate for the glass repairs was £15,000.

Safeguarding – Rona has undertaken training. All PCC members have been appropriately vetted. There have been no safeguarding issues in the past year.

PCC Members – members already will continue with the expectance of Jackie Ree and Peggy Elliott who are standing down.

Nominations for new PCC members – Heather Brown, Jennifer Hamblin, Charlie Kendrick

Sidespersons – All existing sidespersons to continue with the exception of Donna Noonan who is stepping down and Dave Marsh -RIP.

Ian Clothier and Jane Rosewarn are to become sidespersons.

Acceptance of the minutes from the last meeting – Clair Eaton – proposed, Diane Eaton – seconded, unanimously voted, no matters ongoing.

Other Matters –

Ann Ballett – asked if PCC minutes could be available for everyone, it could be helpful to get more involvement. Pip replied – could be put on next newsletter/email/website. Everyone agreed.

John Smith – asked about Pottery Junction – could the minutes be included here? Is it making a profit?

Pip – didn't really want PCC minutes in a community document, copies of the magazine go to school & local families.

Fr Stephen is leaving after June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Live Streaming – work in progress, Diocese involved, will continue.

Andrew Dray – asked if the agenda for the PCC could be available at least a week ahead of meetings.

Ann Ballett – Christmas Tree Festival – need to bring in more of the community, then more money will follow.

Father John – thanked everyone for their welcome.

Wendy Brooke – we need to return to getting the uniformed units back to church. All Age services to be revived? Need to get the school back more.

Someone asked if we could start reusing the service books again.

Jane Rosewarn/Ann Ballett – said they hadn't received the Parish Report by email.

Ann Ballett – thanked Pip for his leadership – this was unanimously agreed by all.

Pip – we need new hymn books – updated – they need to be fully inclusive – larger print versions needed for those with impaired vision – though united a discussion is needed.

Meeting ended at 12noon with prayers.

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Vicar 30th April 2023

## **BRANKSOME ST. ALDHELM'S CHURCH**

Annual Report and Accounts for the Parochial Church Council  
for the year ended 31st December 2022

### **Administrative Information**

Branksome St. Aldhelm's Church is situated in St. Aldhelm's Road, Branksome, Poole, Dorset. BH13 6BT and is part of the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England. Correspondence should be addressed to The Parish Office, 401 Poole Road, Branksome, Poole, Dorset. Bh12 1AD.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a Charity registered with the Charity Commission.  
Charity Number: 1130874.

PCC members who have served from May 2022 until the date of this report was approved are:

### **Licensed Ministry Team**

<b>Incumbent</b>	Rev. Philip Martin, Chairman
<b>Curate</b>	Rev. Robyn Golden-Hann (joined in Sept 2022)
<b>Licensed Lay Reader</b>	Rona Orme

**Pastoral Team** Joy Warne, Jackie Ree, Tim Mitchell

**Churchwarden** Ian Gray

**Deanery Synod Reps** Andrew Dray, Gary Waldron

**Elected Members of PCC** Samantha Waldron, Clair Eaton, Diane Eaton, Ian Clothier,  
Tim Mitchell, Jennifer Hamblin, Charlie Kendrick, Denzil Sheppard

### **Officers of the PCC**

<b>Hon. Treasurer</b>	Peter Sharp
<b>Hon. Secretary</b>	Samantha Waldron
<b>Electoral Roll Officer</b>	Diane Eaton
<b>Health &amp; Safety Officer</b>	Tim Mitchell
<b>Safe Guarding Officer</b>	Rona Orme

**Elected Sides Persons** Christine Shaw, Ray Beverley, Lin Beverley, Isobel Woodbury,  
Lisa Stroud, Diane Eaton, Ian Clothier, Rona Orme

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

Branksome St. Aldhelm's PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure 1956. The method of appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC.

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

St. Aldhelm's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent, Rev. Philip Martin, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical.

It has maintenance responsibilities for the Church, the Branksome St. Aldhelm Centre and its surrounding grounds.

The major risk to which the PCC is exposed, as identified by the PCC members, have been reviewed and systems or procedures established to managed those risks.

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

**CHURCH ATTENDANCE**

There are 142 Parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, 54 of whom reside within the parish and 88 from outside the parish boundary. During the past year 2 parishioners have passed away and 1 has moved out of the area.

**REVIEW OF THE YEAR**

At the last Annual Parochial Church Meeting Mr Ian Gray was elected as Churchwarden for a further term of office. Mr Peter Sharp was re-elected as Honorary Treasurer.

The PCC held meetings in church throughout the year with the Crisis Committee meeting in between these meetings (Crisis Committee was the former name of the Standing Committee), minutes from the Crisis Committee meetings were taken to full PCC meetings for discussion where necessary.

**SAFEGUARDING**

Rona Orme was elected as Safeguarding Officer and has attended several training sessions. There were no safeguarding issues during this past year.

**LINKS**

Ecumenical links continue within the Deanery (Poole East Churches Together) as do our links with Busy Bodies Pre-School and Bishop Aldhelm's C.E. Primary School and our international links with the Anglican Church in Ecuador. The Parish supports the work of Poole Food Bank and regularly donates food which is then passed onto those in need within the Poole area.



## **Branksome St. Aldhelm**

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR 2022**

In the previous year's review it was noted that our finances had stabilised after the first quarter of 2021. This stability continued throughout 2022; Unrestricted Funds broke even. However, within that bald statement there were many differences from 2021 as normal life resumed after the pandemic.

Planned giving and collections, along with the concomitant gift aid, increased and came close to covering our diocesan share but the corollary of this is that nothing would be left for the day-to-day running of St. Aldhelm's. These costs are largely covered by the income we receive from hiring our premises which rose by 70% in the year. Our fundraising is important, too, with fairs and the Christmas tree festival back in full swing.

Apart from the inevitable increase in diocesan share, there were a number of major changes in our costs. Personnel expense rose sharply mainly due to the cessation of furlough payments. A reduction in the amount paid for heating was largely due to our successful application to the diocese's warm spaces fund. As the buildings get older, more is being spent on their maintenance. In 2022 this included such diverse items as the centre doors and the church drains. In 2023 we have already re-lit the church.

Virtually all the equipment purchases were made by the Friends. These included wifi improvements, new staging and part-payment for the new noticeboards. St. Aldhelm's Players have deposited £950 for the church to hold should they wish to re-form. If they have not done so within two years, then the money goes to the General Fund.

An additional financial challenge in 2023 is the change in arrangements for printing Pottery Junction. Once we have upgraded our equipment, the costs involved will not be too severe.

Peter Sharp—Hon. Treasurer

**BRANKSOME ST. ALDHELM  
CONSOLIDATED FUNDS YEAR TO 31/12/2022**

Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds		Actual to 31/12/2022	Actual to 31/12/2021	Change 2021>>2022
<b>11,901</b>	<b>53,487</b>	<b>Reserves at 1<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<b>65,388</b>	<b>61,893</b>	
39,678	2,388	Planned Giving	42,066	35,160	6,906
10,105		Collections	10,105	8,178	1,927
11,177		Gift Aid Received	11,177	11,867	-690
3,167	1,060	Bequests & Donations	4,227	10,562	-6,334
6,175	7,149	Fundraising Income	13,323	11,846	1,477
1,875		Fees Received	1,875	2,889	-1,014
30,518		Hire of Church & Hall	30,518	17,777	12,741
682	1,000	Sundries	1,681	268	1,413
<b>103,376</b>	<b>11,596</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>114,972</b>	<b>98,546</b>	<b>16,426</b>
61,824		Diocesan Share	61,824	58,878	-2,946
283		Fundraising Costs	283	55	-228
	1,000	Grants Given	1,000	1,705	705
15,971		Personnel Costs	15,971	9,565	-6,406
1,421	86	Travel & Expenses	1,507	727	-780
1,023		Postage & Telephone	1,023	1,007	-16
2,142		Printing & Stationery	2,142	1,877	-265
214		Bank Charges	214		-214
2,562		Gas, Electricity & Water	2,562	6,566	4,004
4,818		Insurances	4,818	4,452	-366
1,864		Services & Refreshments	1,864	1,674	-190
814		Cleaning & Bins	814	1,124	310
8,171	69	Repairs & Maintenance	8,241	5,875	-2,365
844	11,335	Equipment Purchases	12,179	882	-11,297
293		Licences	293	302	9
275	3,502	Sundries	3,777	362	-3,415
<b>102,518</b>	<b>15,992</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>118,510</b>	<b>95,051</b>	<b>-23,459</b>
<b>Transfers</b>					
<b>12,759</b>	<b>49,091</b>	<b>Reserves, 31<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>61,849</b>	<b>65,388</b>	
		HSBC Current Account	4,228		
		HSBC Deposit Account	22,010		
		CofE Deposit Account	35,512		
		Petty Cash	100		
			<b>61,849</b>		

**BRANKSOME ST. ALDHELM**  
**Unrestricted Funds, Year to 31/12/2022**

	General Fund	Parish Centre	Vicar's Fund	TOTAL
<b>Reserves at 1<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<b>-10,692</b>	<b>22,361</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>11,901</b>
Planned Giving	39,678			39,678
Collections	10,105			10,105
Gift Aid Received	11,177			11,177
Bequests & Donations	3,027		140	3,167
Fundraising Income	6,175			6,175
Fees Received	1,875			1,875
Hire of Church & Hall	5,122	25,396		30,518
Sundries	672			672
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>77,830</b>	<b>25,396</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>103,366</b>
Diocesan Share	61,824			61,824
Fundraising Costs	283			283
Grants Given				
Personnel Costs	10,341	5,630		15,971
Travel & Expenses	1,421			1,421
Postage & Telephone	1,023			1,023
Printing & Stationery	2,142			2,142
Bank Charges	214			214
Gas, Electricity & Water	247	2,315		2,562
Insurances	3,854	964		4,818
Services & Refreshments	1,864			1,864
Cleaning & Bins		814		814
Repairs & Maintenance	4,909	3,262		8,171
Equipment Purchases	844			844
Licences	231	62		293
Sundries	275			275
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>89,471</b>	<b>13,047</b>		<b>102,518</b>
<b>Reserves, 31<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>-22,333</b>	<b>34,710</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>12,749</b>

**BRANKSOME ST. ALDHELM**  
**Restricted Funds, Year to 31/12/2022**

	Church Energy	Maroy Fund	Organ Fund	Ecuador Fund	Friends	Players	TOTAL
<b>Reserves at 1<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<b>17,608</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>17,568</b>	<b>1,627</b>	<b>16,657</b>		<b>53,487</b>
Planned Giving	1,800		408		180		2,388
Collections							
Gift Aid Received							
Bequests & Donations		60			1,000		1,060
Fundraising Income				1,035	6,114		7,149
Fees Received							
Hire of Church & Hall							
Sundries			50			950	1,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>1,035</b>	<b>7,294</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>11,596</b>
Diocesan Share							
Fundraising Costs							
Grants Given				1,000			1,000
Personnel Costs							
Travel & Expenses		86					86
Postage & Telephone							
Printing & Stationery							
Computer Bureau							
Gas, Electricity & Water							
Insurances							
Services & Refreshments							
Cleaning & Bins							
Repairs & Maintenance					69		69
Equipment Purchases					11,335		11,335
Licences							
Sundries			3,502				3,502
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>86</b>	<b>3,502</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>11,404</b>		<b>15,992</b>
<b>Reserves, 31<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>19,408</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14,525</b>	<b>1,662</b>	<b>12,546</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>49,091</b>

**Pine Garth, 23 Lindsay Road, Poole BH13 6AN  
Tel : 01202 751553**

To: The Vicar, Church Wardens, Parochial Church Council and members of Branksome St. Aldhelms Church, Branksome.

I have examined the bank statements, receipts and payments for the year to 31 December 2022 and the records have been well maintained by the Church Treasurer. .

I can confirm that, in my view, the accounts correctly present the status of the parish finances for the year ended 31 December 2022.



John Sprackling  
23 Lindsay Road, Poole BH13 6AN  
02 March 2023

## **VICAR'S REPORT**

St Aldhelm's Church seems to shelter a diverse and rich assortment of God's people. During the past year we heard from Ruth Wilde, national coordinator of Inclusive Church. The organisation exists to encourage Churches in welcoming all people regardless of age, gender, sexual identity or neuro diversity. Every church describes itself as welcoming but I hope our affiliation to Inclusive Church will help us evaluate and to extend our welcome to those on the margins.

We are both venue-provider and partners to both St Thomas' Indian Orthodox Church and also the Mustard Seed Chapel with its roots in the African Pentecostal movement. More integral to our life as a church is our ministry to the Spanish-speaking community, chiefly in the form of twice-monthly Eucharists celebrated on Sundays at 1pm. Palm Sunday saw all three communities worshipping at the same time, variously in the Hall, Hall Lounge, Church and Jubilee Garden, each with their distinctive worshipping and musical style. Jesus said, 'In my Father's house are many rooms...' and in this respect at least St Aldhelm's is perhaps a good foretaste of heaven.

Our Spanish-speaking ministry has benefitted by the arrival among us of Beatriz Brooks, who is bi-lingual and recently completed a course of preparation in Lay Pioneer Ministry to equip her to serve beyond the usual or familiar remit of parish churches. This box our ministry to Spanish-speakers most certainly ticks. Later this year we hope to arrange an occasion when these communities and others who are – literally or metaphorically – 'under our roof' can meet and celebrate together.

Other partnerships enrich our life as well. Our Church Hall is venue for a wide variety of local and community activities. These provide a modest but helpful source of income to the church and at the same time enable much good to be done in the locality. In this – as in so much that pertains to our Church – we are indebted to Sam Waldron whose cheerful and innovative forbearance as well as administrative acumen keeps the show on the road. Within the church the Orchestra, and the Tuesday lunchtime recitals, provide rich and mutually beneficial opportunities. I want in addition however to here honour and celebrate the continuing contribution of our organist and choir: they combine a constant commitment to good music with cheerful and patient good humour. I love to join them for the easy bit of their weekly practice when they run through the upcoming hymns.

During 2022 we sadly bade farewell to Fr Stephen Flatt after he and his partner moved to retire up north. Rona of course remains a mainstay: her thoughtful, succinct, powerful sermons are a model for all who attend to the craft of preaching. She also gives a lead in identifying and welcoming strangers, and her wisdom and honesty are a frequent help to me. But in addition the past 12 months has seen a remarkable influx of others willing to support our ministry. I have already mentioned Beatriz. Two recently retired priests, Karen Kriwald and Belinda Marflitt, have found their way to us; Bishop Mark Santer, formerly Bishop of Birmingham (and a College Principal in Cambridge in the distant days when I was there as an undergraduate) brings his combination of modesty and immense experience; and Gary Waldron has embarked on training for ordained ministry (although this last is a mixed blessing for St Aldhelm's because while his ministry is intended ultimately to serve our parish he in the meantime must undertake training that gives less time for his activity here and then a curacy that will of course be at another, fortunate, church for perhaps a further three years.)

Most importantly, of course, our Ministry Team, and our life as a church, have been transformed by the arrival of a curate. I constantly remind myself, and others, that Robyn is here primarily to learn and to be formed for lifelong, sustainable and sustaining ordained ministry. In the process, however, Robyn's ministry here has already brought, and been, a huge blessing to us. One of the reasons I wanted to become your vicar was the hope of working with a curate. Once here I quickly sensed both

what a great context for a curacy this would be and also how much I thought our parish would benefit from such an experience. Mother Robyn's ordination as priest takes place in Salisbury Cathedral on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July at 4.30pm and I hope we will be there in numbers. Her First Mass next morning will be to lead us in our annual Dedication Festival, remembering the occasion of our Church's consecration by Bishop Wordsworth in 1894. The shared lunch to follow will, I hope, be a celebration of the diversity of St Aldhelm's Church and community.

We have welcomed Bishop Karen to baptise and confirm during the past year, but it was of course also wonderful to welcome a former vicar, Fr Stephen Lake, as our new diocesan bishop, when he came in December. Other visitors of note were Fr Carlos Villacis and Reverenda Gina Angulo, helping give a real face, and smile, to our link with the Anglican Church in Ecuador.

We face challenges: a lack of volunteers able to support several important roles within the church, and collectively our financial giving to the church is inadequate. I avoid saying what we 'ought' to do. The root of generous giving is not any 'ought'. The root of generous giving is thankfulness. For where there is a thankful heart, there is usually a generous as well as glad heart. The PCC Interim Committee will focus on the need for a concerted attempt to encourage such thankfulness and generosity among all our supporters, but always according to people's means (so that some may rightly even if reluctantly reduce their giving to the church while others will I trust gladly increase theirs.)

Finally, a big challenge is this wonderful building: a challenge and an opportunity – and a privilege. We are so fortunate to be the stewards of such a magnificent, awesome place of prayer and worship and fellowship. The challenge is for us to be good stewards who can pass it on to the next generation in an enhanced state. The Parochial Church Council recently came up with a dream list of wishes for the building. They were asked to be ambitious but not fanciful, to think big but to think realistically as well. They came up with the following thoughts but it is not an exhaustive and certainly not a final list. We won't agree with all and nor do I agree with them all. I read it however to encourage you to dream a little bit as well. For only if we are all excited by the possibilities will any of them come to fruition.

I quote from the minutes of the meeting and these items are not in any order of priority or importance: *Cleaning or renewing the curtains behind the altar...heating system...painting the walls...washing the flags above the war memorial...solar panels...toilets...sink with hot water...glass vestibules...clean the stained glass windows...repair loose windows...insulate in some way...destratification fans... variable lighting...external lighting...storage areas...new clock...extend set of altar frontals...cleaning the stonework of the font...sanding the floor...lighting above each of the stations of the cross pictures...more plugs and sockets...painting the bosses on the ceiling (no two are the same)...scaffolding tower.*

What is on your (ambitious but realistic) 'dream list'? How can you play a part in caring for and enhancing this house of God? Will we be faithful stewards of what he has entrusted to us?

We have doors open to all.

We have minds open to questions, to tradition and to the challenge of the new.

Let us most of all be open to the God whose human face is revealed in Jesus, let us trust in and be faithful to him who calls us now to trust and follow him. Amen.

Rev. Philip Martin

**MEMORIAL TO THOSE DEPARTED**

*Names of those departed since the last Annual Meeting*

*Adele Josephine Northway*

*John Nation-Grainger*

*Muriel Clarke*

*Heather Anne Brown*

*Thomas Fredrick Vennell*

*Stuart James Banks*

*Iris Mist*

*Jean Margaret Chapman*

*Shirley Kilgore*

*June Louisa Lewis*

*Jeanne Clark*

*Rowan Bagshawe*



## **CHURCHWARDEN REPORT**

This report represents the first full year post pandemic. Like the rest of society the church has had to face many changes and challenges. I hope that I have addressed what I can, but there is always more to do.

A number of maintenance projects have been successfully completed. Remedial work has been undertaken to the paths and car park area. The vestry window has been restored. Much work has been undertaken to prepare for replacement of high level lights and the restoration of an outside light missing since an act of vandalism some time ago. The store has had new doors and frame replacing badly worn fittings. Work has continued apace in the garden leading to its dedication during the Queen's Jubilee celebrations in June 2022, re-naming it 'The Jubilee Garden'. It was subsequently entered into the local authority blooms competition.

The Friends purchased new more manageable stage equipment along with new notice boards.

Work undertaken by Mr. D. R. Smith a number of years ago on the history of St. Aldhelm's and those churches carrying the dedication has been submitted to the small group on a project in Sherborne. A special day is to be held on Saturday 20th May 2023.

Investigations are taking place to allow better safe keeping of the works of art still held in the church.

Successful seasons of concerts have been held under the leadership of Ray and Lin Beverley. A Jubilee Picnic was held to mark the Platinum Jubilee and sadly in September special arrangements made to mark the death of Her Majesty.

A Fun Afternoon was held in the summer which proved very popular. This year marked the 20th year of the Christmas Tree Festival, thanks to Ann and Terry Ballett.

A successful visit to Salisbury Cathedral on Sunday 19th June 2022 for the Inauguration of the Ministry of the Right Reverend Stephen Lake.

Our new organist Jeff Williams has settled in well.

I would like to express my thanks to all those who volunteer for extra dates and responsibilities. I hope we can find some more.

Ian Gray—Churchwarden

## **CURATE'S REPORT**

Since ordination as deacon last year and beginning my ministry at St Aldhelm's on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2022, I've received a very warm welcome into this church and have felt fully embraced by the community here. There have been many positive experiences to reflect upon from the past few months (it's impossible to include everything in this report) but before mentioning a few key points, should like to offer a wholehearted thank-you for the generous welcome I have received and the kind patience with which you have guided your new curate as I find my feet in order to better serve this community.

### **An open, inclusive, warm space**

The 'Open Door' policy and ethos that St Aldhelm's engenders is a considerable positive in the life and mission of God's church in this place, something we can be justifiably proud of, particularly as it is increasingly un-common among many parish churches. Keeping the building unlocked for the benefit of all speaks volumes about not only our approach to mission and ministry, but also that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is indeed Good-News for everyone. Building upon this open-door philosophy, we received a generous grant from the diocese last year to enable us to function as a community Warm Space, enabling us to do more of what we were already doing though with a more intentional approach. Currently we provide free hot drinks daily (which are often taken advantage of) and whilst the weather is now getting milder, we have begun something precious and valuable upon which to build next winter.

In addition, it seems only appropriate that St Aldhelm's will become part of the Inclusive Church network, following discussions at PCC and input from the Inclusive Church national coordinator Ruth Wilde who came as a visiting preacher in January this year. It is hoped that connecting with a nationwide network of Inclusive churches will encourage us to be more conscious of inclusivity and to help us to notice where we might be unintentionally exclusive. It has been a positive experience to engage in discussion together and explore the issues of inclusivity as a church.

### **Homelessness**

There is a long-standing record here of extending a welcome to the homeless, creating an evident culture of tolerance, kindness and patient generosity. A collection of blankets and other essentials are kept on hand for ad-hoc distribution to rough sleepers as need arises; simple yet practical resources which speak of the open nature of St Aldhelm's. Given the endemic issues with homelessness in this area (and the often-attendant issues of mental health problems) this is inevitably an important and challenging part of our ministry. Fr Pip and I also have some occasional contact with the charity St Mungo's who are contracted by BCP council to provide practical support for the rough sleeper population.

### **Worship & Prayer**

It is important to acknowledge the central role that prayer plays in the life of the church. The fact that prayer is said in the building daily and that space is provided for visitors to light candles and offer their own intentions, provides a solid rock upon which to stand. Further to the above, the open door policy enables the church to become a real powerhouse of prayer, creating an atmosphere of devotion and reverence; a fact often commented upon by casual visitors to this place. The church is greatly valued by many people in the community, even if they are not regular worshippers, or even consider themselves to be Christian!

Worship is reverential and traditional yet manages to maintain a relaxed character to it. Creative elements have found expression particularly within the First Sunday Mass of each month. I believe it is a particular challenge for St Aldhelm's to keep a healthy and creative tension between the traditions we have inherited and the need to be adaptable and innovative in order to meet the needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Nevertheless, there is an acute awareness that we need to revive a serving team who can be available at each Sunday Mass, and an awareness of the desire expressed by many to use the high altar on a more regular basis.

The 8am Prayer Book service is underpinned by faithful regulars; those who volunteer to read the lessons also reveal a depth of Scriptural knowledge in the thoughtful and well researched preambles they deliver. Thursday evening Mass attracts a good few regulars, (including those who prefer a quieter and more contemplative style of worship) and is especially helpful for those who cannot attend Sunday Mass due to other commitments. The bi-monthly Spanish Mass has a strong core of regular worshippers and offers a very valuable (international) fellowship for Spanish speaking residents of the BCP area. The group has been further enhanced by the arrival of our newly commissioned Lay Pioneer, (and native Spanish speaker) Beatriz Brooks.

### **Baptisms and Funerals**

Occasional services form an important part of the mission of the church, especially as they often allow us to minister to those who we would not otherwise come in direct contact with. I have experienced (and conducted) several baptisms and funerals in the past eight months which have been a privilege to be a part of, though regrettably, no weddings have come my way yet as in keeping with the national trend, fewer funerals and weddings are conducted in church these days.

### **Pastoral Ministry**

Pastoral visits to housebound parishioners and our regular ministry at Melton Court and Lindsey Care have provided valuable opportunities to offer care for the emotional and spiritual well-being of some of the older and most vulnerable members of our community; visits which I have found personally transformative and a great privilege to undertake. However, the need is great, and we recognise the necessity of encouraging members of the congregation to consider training to become Lay Pastoral Assistants to help with this vital ministry.

### **Ministry to the Young**

Busy Bodies have welcomed me into their childcare sessions on a regular basis to entertain the children by playing guitar and singing simple songs and have assisted with various craft and art activities. This is an area of ministry that is ripe for development as there is potential for bringing aspects of the Christian faith into this sphere in a gentle and respectful way, whilst being mindful of the multivarious backgrounds and faiths of the families whose children attend Busy Bodies. The children have responded exceptionally well to engagement with music and take genuine delight in being allowed to have a go at 'playing' my guitar!

Bishop Aldhelm's School are very pleased to welcome Fr Pip and myself to lead collective worship for the whole school every Monday morning. The school leadership readily encourage active Christian engagement and involvement in the whole of school life, something to certainly rejoice in as we enjoy a good relationship with staff and children there. School engagement with St Aldhelm's (with their various activities and services held in our church building) is a valuable foundational investment in the lives of hundreds of young people many of whom may otherwise have little regular contact with traditional church life. In 2022 I became a foundation governor of Bishop Aldhelm's and have now taken up the role of Co-Chair of Governors along with Fr. Pip and am looking forward to learning how best to fulfil this role in order to better serve the needs of the school and to further deepen our mutual relationships.

### **In Conclusion**

I am conscious that there are many other aspects of life at St Aldhelm's that I cannot do justice to in this brief report, including our relationships with the Scouting and Guiding groups, the extraordinary musical life here (lunchtime recitals, orchestra, and other concerts) and of course the famous Poole Beer Festival and the even more famous Christmas Tree Festival, both beloved of so many people from far and wide! Therefore, I apologise to those people and for those activities I have failed to mention. Nevertheless, St Aldhelm's is an open and friendly church with many vibrant and supportive relationships across the local community, truly fulfilling its remit as a *parish* church; a Christian presence which exists for the benefit of

the whole community. As a consequence over the past nine months, I've experienced a tremendous richness of life and ministry that often leave me exclaiming "*they never taught me that at theological college!*" and I trust this enriching and ever surprising paradigm continues throughout my curacy. This year, by the grace of God, I hope to be priested by Bishop Stephen Lake at Salisbury cathedral on the 1<sup>st</sup> July, and will then look forward to taking an even more active role in the Sacramentality of our worshipping life together.

Mo. Robyn Golden-Hann—30<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**THE FOLLOWING REPORTS ARE  
FROM CHURCH ORGANISATIONS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31ST DECEMBER 2022**

## **FRIENDS OF ST. ALDHELM'S**

The Friends have continued to meet mainly at the recitals and coffee mornings.

There are now 40 members and we welcome anyone who wishes to join us and is interested in partaking in our friendly and enthusiastic work in promoting our worship at St. Aldhelm's.

The recitals continue and are very well attended and the lunches are very popular.

We have now been able to fund new staging which is much more versatile and easy to move. New noticeboards have recently been erected at four different sites around the church grounds.

We are very grateful to all the volunteers who support us at the recitals. Thanks go to Lin and Ray Beverley who work very hard to make the recitals such a success.

We hope to have a full season of recitals in the Spring and Autumn. Thanks to all the members who support us so faithfully.

Jackie Ree

## **MOTHERS' UNION**

Following on from the pandemic during 2022 we have enjoyed a full programme apart from an outing.

This year we have continued with our monthly Mass and have moved back into the Lady Chapel for our services. Thank you to Father Pip and Father John for taking the services and Mother Robyn who joined us in June for assisting at the services

In the afternoons we have had talks from Mark from Poole Wau partnership. Janet O'Connor on the hymn All Things Bright and Beautiful and also from Rona and Mother Robyn (part 2 to follow in 2023)

We hosted a soup lunch during Lent and enjoyed decorating our Christmas tree for the Christmas Tree Festival. In the summer we had a cream tea afternoon and a Christmas party in December.

We supported the Rockley Park mobile home by providing a Welcome pack for a family.

In December we said a sad Goodbye to Betty Magnall as she moved to Bedford to be nearer to her family but we also said Hello to Barbara M who will be enrolled in the next few months and Barbara S who has move to this area from Bury.

Many many thanks to Faye for organising and helping at meetings and Jane for keeping track of our Finances and all members for their continued support.

We are planning a full programme for 2023 and welcome you all to our meetings.

Please feel free to chat if you would like to find out more about the work of the MU or would like to come and be a Speaker at one of our meetings.

Diane Eaton

## GUIDING AT ST. ALDHELMS

We have 4 busy and active groups here at St Aldhelms, Rainbows aged 5-7 Brownies aged 7-10 Guides aged 10-14 and Rangers aged 14-18.

We have enjoyed lots of varied activities with all 4 sections and have completed lots of badges throughout the year. The girls have achieved lots of skill builders and have gained Bronze and silver awards.

We took part in lots of royal activities to celebrate the jubilee which included making bunting, crown jewels and royal games. We joined in the division Jubilee day at St Edwards school where over 200 girls came together and tried fencing, climbing, archery as well as crafts, food activities, toasting marshmallows around the campfire and completing the Royal escape room. The highlight was definitely when the ice cream van turned up as I think we had picked the hottest day of the year to celebrate!

Guide camp this year was in July and we took 18 Guides and Rangers to Buddens scout camp in Wareham. We had 7 action packed days pushing the girls out of their comfort zones and trying new activities, we tried mega sup, dragon boating, high ropes, climbing, abseiling rifle shooting and tomahawk throwing to name a few, as well as traditional camp craft and camp skills. We were extremely lucky with the weather, not a drop of rain all week, (dare I say it too hot at times) that's unheard of at Guide camp!

At the start of October, we held our annual sponsored bike ride in Poole park in Memory of our dear friend Dave, we had a great turn out and for the sun shone which makes a big difference to the day. We were presented with a cheque from Tesco for £680 towards our floor fund which was a very generous donation!

The Brownies enjoyed 3 nights away at Dudsbury Guide camp taking part in lots of activities with an under the sea theme, we made mermaids, jelly fish, had a treasure hunt and decorated treasure chests, we played glow stick Pictionary, Bingo and made oyster shell biscuits. The Brownies have to help with the day-to-day tasks and learn life skills such as cooking, washing up and basic cleaning skills! Most importantly they have lots of fun with their friends.

Remembrance Day saw all the uniformed groups back in church for a full parade which was great to see.

We held our Christmas Fayre at the end of November and the girls put their singing voices to the test as they entertained everyone with a selection of traditional campfire songs and some Christmas classics.

In December we enjoyed decorating our tree as part of the church tree festival which was very popular as always.

We took the Rainbows and Brownies to the Ugly Bug Ball at Dudsbury in March and took part in lots of bug related activities, we made bug hotels, bead worms, spoon spiders, we played lady bird beetle and went on a bug hunt! The day finished with a sing song which was great fun and proved the highlight of the day!

After 3 years of fundraising, we have finally achieved our goal and I'm pleased to say the new flooring is now down! We have so many people to say thank you to for helping make this happen but the **Biggest** thank you has to be to Our Dear friend and biggest supporter Dave Marsh whose legacy is now complete, and the new floor has been laid in his memory. Our Huge Thanks go to Barbara and all the family who have continued to support the work of St Aldhelms Scouts and Guides and help us achieve Dave's dream. Now onto the next project.....



**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR BRANKSOME ST ALDHELM POOLE DORSET**

England & Wales - Charity number 1130874

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# Accounts

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## BRANKSOME, ST. ALDHELM'S CHURCH

### PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

[www.st-aldhelm.com](http://www.st-aldhelm.com)

Registered Charity Number: 1130874

### PARISH REPORT & STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

together with reports from church organisations  
for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021

**Vicar**

Rev. Philip Martin

**Churchwarden**

Peter Sharp & Ian Gray

**Honorary Treasurer**

Peter Sharp

**Honorary Secretary**

Samantha Waldron *(from June 2021)*



**BRANKSOME ST ALDHELM'S CHURCH**  
**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS**  
**AND**  
**THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**  
**SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2022 HELD AFTER THE 10AM SERVICE**

# **AGENDA**

## **MEETING OF PARISHIONERS**

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. To elect 2 people to the office of Churchwarden

## **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

3. To receive the updated Electoral Roll and Report
4. To receive the Annual Report and accept the examined Accounts 2021
5. To receive the Treasurer's Report
6. To receive the Churchwarden's Report
7. Vicar's Report & Memorial to the Departed
8. To receive the Deanery Synod Report
9. To elect members of the laity to the PCC & Sides persons
10. To accept the minutes of the APCM for the 25<sup>th</sup> April 2021
11. Matters arising from the 2021 minutes.
12. Closing Prayer

**MINUTES FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS**  
**AND THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**  
**HELD ON 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2021 FOLLOWING THE 10AM SERVICE**

**MEETING OF PARISHIONERS**

Peter Sharp and Ian Gray were re-nominated as Churchwardens for another year. Thanks were given for their hard work.

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

**Electoral Roll**

Di Eaton is our Electoral Roll Officer.

She reported that we have 45 members living in the parish and 56 living outside the parish and there was 1 deletion.

**Annual Report and Accounts**

The reports included in the annual report were accepted.

Questions were invited.

Rona Orme: What progress is there for online giving, facebook?

Gary Waldron: Actively working to find out how we can raise funds/donations online. Card payment machine has been purchased. Looking at how to organise website and paypal giving. Ideas welcome. We do have a Just Giving page which is used primarily for raising funds for certain events.

**Treasurers Report**

The report was included in the annual report.

Questions were invited.

Nigel: What is Diocesan Share?

Fr Pip: Diocesan Share goes to pay for clergy fees, housing, teaching etc. There is a formula the Diocese uses based on the number of people attending the church and the ability of the church to pay. Last year the Diocesan Share was £58,500. Diocese is trying to reduce costs by reducing Clergy posts.

Nigel: Under exceptional circumstances can we suspend our Diocesan Share payments?

Peter Sharp (treasurer): We don't have a choice. Looking at the accounts the unrestricted reserves were £18,000 – this year this has reduced by over £10,000 leaving approx £8,000 left. With no income coming in, by the middle of the year funds will be zero. You cannot use restricted funds to pay for the share – it's against charity funding rules. By the end of June I will have to decide what bills to pay.

Fr Pip: I am reluctant for us not to pay. Our parish administrator has been furloughed and we have received money from the Government scheme. There have been no funds from hall hire or use of the church during the pandemic. This explains the large hit to the funds, it is hoped once the hall and concerts etc can resume the income will begin to return. Some money has come in, this is largely thanks to weekly giving via the Parish Giving Scheme. We will ask for one-off donations to help with our COVID pandemic financial deficit. We will ask people to review or revise their regular giving, all-be-it to reduce or increase and for new people to think about joining.

It might be counter intuitive but we also need to show a vision for the future and a fund for a once in a generation fundraise. To invest in this building for the future, we should be inviting people to consider donating. A lot of people have come to realise what their faith and our church building means to them. A committee will be set-up to start a campaign.

### **Churchwardens Report**

(Report included within the last Annual Report)

### **Vicars Report**

(Report included within the last Annual Report) Fr Pip hoped it stimulates some thought. He thanked the Ministry Team – Rona and Fr Stephen and everyone who have helped. There is a lot of potential and hope; younger people are getting more involved. The grounds continue to be improved. There is a social meeting planned for 27<sup>th</sup> June where both our congregation and the Hispanic congregation can get together. Ideas and aims for the future include: a clearer focus on basic Christian formation, shorter sermons, bible reflections, Stepping Stones for both adults and youngsters.

Jackie Ree – asked if Sunday School/Club will be restarting?

Rona Orme – not before the autumn.

### **Parish Safeguarding**

Heidi Moxam has stood down as safeguarding lead, Fr Pip thanked her for all the work she had done. Rona Orme will be taking on the role with the view of nurturing a successor for the role. Rona was nominated and unanimously voted as Safe Guarding Lead.

### **On-Line Presence**

Fr Pip asked Gary Waldron to report: we have lived streamed services during the pandemic. Over £4,000 was raised in just a few days to improve the sound system, computer, camera etc all ready to go, just needs Diocesan permission to move forward.

### **Open Building**

Increased number of visitors coming into church during the day.

### Church Hall

This is a huge benefit to the community, side garden improvements taking place.

### Curate & World-Links

We have applied for a Curate for 2022 – and we are awaiting to hear. We have good links with Ecuador, Sweden and Columbia.

### **Memorial to the Departed**

Fr Pip: We remembered all those who have lost their lives through the COVID crisis, some 100,000 people. We remember all church members who have died this past year. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

### **Deanery Synod Report**

Andrew Dray: I am a rep together with Gary Waldron and Fr Pip. We have had two online meetings. Church finances have been discussed and it is a national church problem. Looking to raise funds across the board, all churches have lost income due to the pandemic. Looking out to the wider church community to Ministry Teams, Churchwardens etc to share specialisms and information between the Deanery for things such as faculties.

Fr Pip: We have a good working relationship with other clergy in the Deanery. I meet with clergy from All Saints, Lilliput, Sandbanks, St. Luke's, St. Peter's; we meet monthly online or in person and are supportive of each other.

### **To Elect Members of the Laity to the PCC & Sides Persons**

Fr Pip: as we had a vote only in October at the last APCM it is hoped everyone vote then will continue for another year.

### **Crisis Committee**

The Crisis Committee was set up at the start of the pandemic crisis, meeting between PCC meetings. The committee are: Fr Pip, Churchwardens Peter & Ian, Clair Eaton, Ray Beverley, Diane Eaton, Rona Orme and Sam Waldron – all report back to PCC.

### **Acceptance of the Minutes from 18<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

The minutes were unanimously accepted.

### **Matters arising from the 2020 minutes**

Nothing raised.

**Closing Prayer**

Fr Pip read a reading from John. We are all God's children and we should love one another.  
Think big about the future of our church and trust in God.  
The meeting closed with a final blessing.

Signed the Chairman .....

## **BRANKSOME ST. ALDHELM'S CHURCH**

Annual Report and Accounts of the Parochial Church Council  
for the Year ended 31st December 2021.

### **Administrative Information**

Brankosme St. Aldhelm's Church is situated in St. Aldhelm's Road, Branksome, Poole, Dorset. BH13 6BT. It is part of the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England. Correspondence should be addressed to The Parish Office, 401 Poole Road, Branksome, Poole, Dorset. BH12 1AD.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a Charity registered with the Charity Commission. Charity Number: 1130874.

PCC Members who have served from April 2021 until the date of this report was approved are:

### **Licensed Ministry Team:**

**Incumbent:** Rev. Philip Martin, Chairman  
**Hon. Assistant Priest:** Rev. Stephen Flatt  
**Licensed Lay Reader:** Rona Orme

**Pastoral Ministry Team:** Joy Warne, Jackie Ree,  
Tim Mitchell

**Churchwardens:** Peter Sharp, Ian Gray

**Deanery Synod Reps:** Andrew Dray, Gary Waldron

**Elected Members of PCC:**

Jackie Ree	Peggy Elliott
Samantha Waldron	Diane Eaton
Clair Eaton	Tim Mitchell
Philip Sandom	Ian Clothier
Denzil Sheppard	

### **Officers of the PCC:**

**Hon. Treasurer:** Peter Sharp  
**Hon. Secretary:** *vacant position*  
**Electoral Roll Officer:** Diane Eaton  
**Health & Safety Officer:** Tim Mitchell  
**Safeguarding Officer:** Heidi Moxam/Rona Orme

**Elected Sides Person:** Donna Noonan, Ted Hadley, Ian Gray,  
Diane Eaton, Dave Marsh,  
Barbara Marsh, Lisa Stroud,  
Christine Shaw, Linda Beverley,  
Ray Beverley, Isobel Woodbury, Rona Orme

# **ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31ST DECEMBER 2021**

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

Branksome St. Aldhelm's PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure 1956.

The method of appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC.

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

St. Aldhelm's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent, Rev. Philip Martin, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical.

It has maintenance responsibilities for the Church, the Branksome St. Aldhelm's Centre and its surrounding grounds.

The major risks to which the PCC is exposed, as identified by the PCC members, have been reviewed and systems or procedures have been established to manage those risks.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **CHURCH ATTENDANCE**

There are 142 Parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, 54 of who reside within the parish and 88 from outside. There was 1 deletion from the last report, as 1 member passed away.

### **REVIEW OF THE YEAR**

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting Mr Peter Sharp and Mr Ian Gray were elected as Churchwardens for a further term of office. Mr Peter Sharp was elected as Treasurer.

The P.C.C. meetings were held on-line via zoom and then in person held in church. The Standing Committee which is now known as the Crisis Committee (Crisis Committee formed during COVID pandemic) met in between these meetings and the minutes from these meetings were taken to the full Council for discussion where necessary.

There were no safeguarding issues during the year.

Ecumenical links continue within the Deanery (Poole East Churches Together) as do our links with Busy Bodies Pre-School and Bishop Aldhelm's C.E. Primary School and our international links with Lutheran Church in Stockholm, Sweden and Anglican Church in Ecuador.

The Parish actively supports the work of Poole Food Bank and regularly donates food which is then passed onto those in need within Poole.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR 2021**

It goes without saying that the pandemic continued to adversely affect our finances, though not as greatly as in 2020. Our Unrestricted Funds income showed a recovery of £9,000, spread across all categories. The Generous Giving campaign in the autumn resulted in a small number of unstinted increases but did not realise an appreciable difference to the overall total of contributions. These are not widely spread; it should be pointed out that, including Gift Aid, just three donors are responsible for giving £13,000 per annum.

Income from hiring the Parish Centre is recovering slowly but is still over £10,000 less than in 2019. We may reasonably hope for a growth in 2022 as restrictions are raised.

Unrestricted expenditure was similar to 2020. This was helped by there not being an appreciable increase in our Diocesan Share though it has continued upwards by £3,000 in 2022. Personnel costs have started to rise again, due both to the Administrator's return to normal working after the pandemic and the end of the Government's furlough scheme which paid the church over £10,000 in two years. Most of the rest of expenditure is in line with previous years though £2,700 was spent on renewing lighting in the Centre.

In last year's review it was noted that there was a deficit of £8,000 on Unrestricted Funds in the first quarter of 2021. After that, the situation stabilised to the extent that the deficit for the full year is a little over £6,000. However, new challenges will be faced in 2022 – with both the increase in personnel costs and the Diocesan Share as well as a backlog in maintenance.

Apart from another good year in the Friends' concerts, there is little to report in Restricted Funds. Early in 2022 the Maroy Fund has become exhausted and has been wound up by the PCC.

Peter Sharp - Treasurer

Signed ..... Rev Philip Martin

**BRANKSOME ST. ALDHELM  
CONSOLIDATED FUNDS YEAR TO 31/12/2021**

Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds		Actual to 31/12/2021	Actual to 31/12/2020	Change 2020>>2021
<b>18,069</b>	<b>43,824</b>	<b>Reserves at 1<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<b>61,893</b>	<b>66,807</b>	
32,994	2,166	Planned Giving	35,160	32,939	2,221
8,178		Collections	8,178	5,355	2,823
11,867		Gift Aid Received	11,867	12,912	-1,045
9,373	1,189	Bequests & Donations	10,562	16,574	-6,012
2,531	9,315	Fundraising Income	11,846	5,567	6,279
2,889		Fees Received	2,889	1,007	1,882
480		Orchestra & Players	480	509	-29
17,297		Hire/Rent of Rooms	17,297	14,566	2,730
218	50	Sundries	268	387	-119
<b>85,826</b>	<b>12,719</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>98,546</b>	<b>89,816</b>	<b>8,730</b>
58,878		Diocesan Share	58,878	58,583	-295
	55	Fundraising Costs	55	82	27
	1,705	Grants Given	1,705	379	-1,326
9,565		Personnel Costs	9,565	7,933	-1,632
	727	Travel & Expenses	727	1,306	579
1,007		Postage & Telephone	1,007	776	-231
1,877		Printing & Stationery Computer Bureau	1,877	1,330	-547
6,566		Gas, Electricity & Water	6,566	8,332	1,766
4,452		Insurances	4,452	4,373	-79
1,674		Services & Refreshments	1,674	1,465	-210
1,124		Cleaning & Bins	1,124	912	-212
5,875		Repairs & Maintenance	5,875	4,027	-1,848
354	528	Equipment Purchases	882	4,575	3,694
302		Licences	302	339	37
320	42	Sundries	362	319	-43
<b>91,994</b>	<b>3,057</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>95,051</b>	<b>94,730</b>	<b>-320</b>
		<b>Transfers</b>			
<b>11,901</b>	<b>53,487</b>	<b>Reserves, 31<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>65,388</b>	<b>61,893</b>	
		HSBC Current Account	30,236		
		CofE Deposit Account	35,051		
		Petty Cash	100		
			<b>65,388</b>		

**BRANKSOME ST. ALDHELM**  
**Unrestricted Funds, Year to 31/12/2021**

	General Fund	Parish Centre	Vicar's Fund	TOTAL
<b>Reserves at 1<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<b>-357</b>	<b>18,211</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>18,069</b>
Planned Giving	32,994			32,994
Collections	8,178			8,178
Gift Aid Received	11,867			11,867
Bequests & Donations	9,273		100	9,373
Fundraising Income	2,531			2,531
Fees Received	2,889			2,889
Orchestra & Players	480			480
Hire/Rent of Rooms	1,485	15,812		17,297
Sundries	218			218
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>69,915</b>	<b>15,812</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>85,826</b>
Diocesan Share	58,878			58,878
Fundraising Costs				
Grants Given				
Personnel Costs	6,010	3,555		9,565
Travel & Expenses				
Postage & Telephone	1,007			1,007
Printing & Stationery	1,877			1,877
Computer Bureau				
Gas, Electricity & Water	4,185	2,381		6,566
Insurances	3,561	890		4,452
Services & Refreshments	1,674			1,674
Cleaning & Bins		1,124		1,124
Repairs & Maintenance	2,185	3,691		5,875
Equipment Purchases	354			354
Licences	282	20		302
Sundries	238		82	320
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>80,250</b>	<b>11,661</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>91,994</b>
<b>Reserves, 31<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>-10,692</b>	<b>22,361</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>11,901</b>

**BRANKSOME ST. ALDHELM**  
**Restricted Funds, Year to 31/12/2021**

	<b>Church Energy</b>	<b>Maroy Fund</b>	<b>Organ Fund</b>	<b>Ecuador Fund</b>	<b>Friends</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Reserves at 1<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<b>16,213</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>14,664</b>	<b>2,193</b>	<b>10,001</b>	<b>43,824</b>
Planned Giving	1,395		481		290	2,166
Collections						
Gift Aid Received						
Bequests & Donations					1,189	1,189
Fundraising Income			2,415	1,139	5,760	9,315
Fees Received						
Orchestra & Players						
Hire/Rent of Rooms						
Sundries			50			50
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,395</b>		<b>2,946</b>	<b>1,139</b>	<b>7,239</b>	<b>12,719</b>
Diocesan Share						
Fundraising Costs					55	55
Grants Given				1,705		1,705
Personnel Costs						
Travel & Expenses		727				727
Postage & Telephone						
Printing & Stationery						
Computer Bureau						
Gas, Electricity & Water						
Insurances						
Services & Refreshments						
Cleaning & Bins						
Repairs & Maintenance						
Equipment Purchases					528	528
Licences						
Sundries			42			42
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>727</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>1,705</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>3,057</b>
<b>Reserves, 31<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>17,608</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>17,568</b>	<b>1,627</b>	<b>16,657</b>	<b>53,487</b>

Pine Garth, 23 Lindsay Road, Poole BH13 6AN  
Tel : 01202 751553

To: The Vicar, Church Wardens, Parochial Church Council and members of Branksome St.  
Aldhelms Church, Branksome.

I have examined the bank statements, receipts and payments for the year to 31 December 2021  
and the records are well maintained by the Church Treasurer. .

I can confirm that, in my view, the accounts correctly present the status of the parish finances for  
the year ended 31 December 2021.



John Sprackling  
13 February 2022

## Vicar's Report for the Annual Church Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022

Here I seek to record just **some of the positive** as well as a few of the problematic **aspects of the past year.**

- Our regular Sunday and midweek worship has been uninterrupted by the pandemic. Morning Prayer is said each day and the Angelus rung; the church building has been open for prayer daily and a diverse and surprisingly large number of visitors avails itself of it.
- The Church Hall garden has been transformed thanks to the efforts of Carey, Heather, Colin, Andy and several others. The guiding plan is now apparent on the ground, which is to enhance the third of the area close to the hall with flower beds and paths while maintaining the other, larger part as an area for games and other activities, the two areas demarcated by a hedge with broad archway between.
- Our church community is diverse and multi-national. Pronouncing the names in requests for prayer is sometimes a challenge for some of us. The Spanish-speaking ministry has extended to a bi-monthly Mass and there were two services arranged – for New Year's Eve and Ash Wednesday – that incorporated both languages. A new partnership has been forged with St Thomas' Indian Orthodox Church which currently celebrates the Liturgy once (soon to be twice) each month. In addition, our church and building seems to offer safe haven for some with particular needs. Internationally, we have fostered the link with the Anglican church in Ecuador by supporting their rebuilding project in Salanguillo and there are currently plans to host two of their clergy later this summer when they accompany the Bishop who is attending the Lambeth Conference, postponed from 2020. We have also welcomed Padre Camilo from Colombia while he learns English and supports the Spanish-speaking ministry here. Our Swedish link has been dormant since the pandemic but will, I am hopeful, be reactivated in time.
- We seek to include those who cannot easily attend, by regularly conducting services at Melton Court and taking communion to some who are confined to their homes. We have recently re-established a presence at Lindsay Care following the difficulties of the pandemic. Our main services in church are usually live-streamed and any comments usually receive acknowledgment or a reply.
- Stepping Stones has become a regular part of our life, providing simple catechism (Christian teaching) for youngsters and adults. Bishop Nicholas arranged to come and celebrate Mass and confirm last summer very shortly before his retirement (and Bishop Karen is due to visit us on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June.) There was a flurry of baptisms during autumn of 2021.
- I meet regularly with a cluster of local clergy within the Poole Deanery. Two colleagues have retired early due to mental ill health and another has had to take time off due to stress-related illness. The priestly calling is not always an easy one and the fellowship we enjoy has been therefore all the more important and precious. We are privileged that one of our church members, Gary, is seeking to begin training for ordination later this year and we have provided support both for a recently ordained curate who has gained experience of ministry within a school setting and for another potential ordinand needing to experience a church within a different tradition to his own. Most important of all, we are to be entrusted with the training and nurture of a curate from July: this is a big responsibility but it can and I am sure will also entail a lot of fun and help us to learn a lot, while Robyn herself will I am equally confident benefit enormously from her experience here.
- The Church Wardens and I have benefitted hugely from the regular, monthly, meetings of the 'Crisis Committee' (so called as it was formed to help guide us through the pandemic but its

continuing usefulness is evident.) Thank you to them and to all the members of the Church Council.

- The choir has withstood some challenging times and some members were naturally anxious about its future following Philip Sandom's resignation. With Jeff Williams' appointment as organist and choir director we begin a new and very hopeful chapter for our church music. Meanwhile, the past year saw the return of our Tuesday lunchtime recitals. They quickly regained a loyal and enthusiastic following, and our thanks are here expressed to the Friends' team that arranges them.
- Our church finances will be reported separately but I wish to express our thanks to Peter for his ministry as treasurer. Likewise our heartfelt thanks to Ian whose wardenship has focussed more on 'back of house', project management and fabric. Regarding the latter, we will I hope during the coming year clarify our priorities for a significant refurbishment of our building which will in turn require a major campaign of fund raising.

That is a sprinkling of the positives. We should also acknowledge **some areas of the church's life where we face challenges**, such as:

- Finding volunteers for essential ministries within the church was a challenge before the pandemic and remains one now: for example, church cleaning, leading intercessions, flower arrangements, cleaning linen, school governors, preparations for and assistance during services, choir membership. Membership of the Church Council – and potential church wardens – are also hard to recruit! These are all ministries and as such are hugely valuable and can be very enjoyable, but I strongly believe they should not become a drudge. For that reason I do not try to pressurise anyone. Your thoughts and suggestions are welcome!
- Although home groups and other kinds of meeting for prayer, Bible reading and discussion are not for everyone, nonetheless our church membership seems less inclined than some others to support such things. For example this year's excellent series of Lent meetings, though greatly appreciated by those who came, was so poorly attended that, sad to say, any kind of repeat must be in some doubt. The previous Lent's in-person group struggled similarly, although the online course was good and well supported.

**In conclusion**, I think one of our greatest strengths is that we provide an open, inclusive, intelligent but still robust and challenging interpretation of the Christian faith. Sermons, though kept relatively brief, seek to of a high calibre. The church has open doors both literally and metaphorically. Despite that intellectual rigour, our worship appeals to all the senses and combines a strong sense of the sacred while avoiding an overly fussy or too sombre atmosphere. Some people may choose to describe us – whether approvingly or critically – as 'High Church' but for most people such terms mean nothing. What I think is important is that anyone encountering our church, its community and its worship will instinctively sense that we respect and value them for who they are *because* God is real for us.

## **CHURCHWARDENS REPORT**

The gradual easing of Covid restrictions has led to a welcome increase in the accessibility of all activities we are pleased to report.

The choir sang an anthem for most of the year with communal hymn singing resumed in September with an emotionally charged, "Guide me O thou great redeemer". The curved arrangement of rows, allowed to the moving of the altar further down the nave had been retained to enhance inclusivity.

The return of the Tuesday concerts under the leadership of Ray and Lin Beverley has been welcomed by all those participating and provided a welcome income stream which has greatly assisted the work undertaken to the fabric of the buildings and estate. The season ran throughout the summer until November making up in part for the time lost during the height of the restrictions.

An outing was undertaken in December to experience the Wintershall Nativity Play which takes place outside in a large barn/stable with basic seating. The announcement of the Omicron variant threatened to stop the trip taking place but the small number of participants had a rewarding and memorable day.

There have been a number of maintenance projects undertaken during the year. Quotations and permission was sought to assist in the maintenance of trees around the property, particularly in relation to the garden. Rubbish was removed and an additional tap provided to assist in giving a direct water supply. Much useful work has been undertaken by volunteers to provide a more welcoming environment.

A number of visits have been made by contractors to clear the drains around the church and hall. They have provided detailed surveys and films showing the state of the work required. Urgent blockages have been rectified.

The bulk of the public areas in the hall have been converted to LED lighting which hopefully will assist in offsetting energy price increases. Repairs also undertaken to the outside lights.

The heating in the hall and church has received maintenance.

The urinals in the hall have received attention.

A quote has been received to investigate the subsidence in the car park.

Details of those listed on the war memorial have been updated and enhanced.

Ian Gray

Peter Sharp

Memorial to the Departed

Those known to us who have departed since the last APCM held in April 2021

Zilla Mair Jones

Maria Zenaida Rodriguez Calderon

Helena Magdelene Wilkins

Alan Michael Marsh

Vincenta Violeta Diaz Otero

Jennifer Ann Crawford

Merrick John Wilkinson

Dave Marsh

Philip Watson Ainslow

Phyll Mitchell

*May they rest in peace, and rise in glory.*

**THE PARISH CHURCH OF  
BRANKSOME, ST. ALDHELM**

**THE FOLLOWING REPORTS ARE  
FROM CHURCH ORGANISATIONS FOR THE  
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

**CHARITY NUMBER: 1130874**

## **THE FRIENDS OF ST.ALDHELM'S**

The mission of the Friends of St Aldhelms Church is to pay for or assist in paying for many items in church. This is some of the items the Friends have been able to assist in paying for in the past couple of years: new PA system; new tables,; entrance notice board and other boards around the church; outside display boards, refreshment area upgrade; water boiler; and in the near future staging to be replaced.

The Friends of St Aldhelms Church have been active before, in between and post lockdown in presenting the Tuesday Lunchtime Recitals which for the second half of the year is running from July to November 2021.

The format for the recitals has widened to include other genres of music than just classical to enable a variety of musical tastes and with hopefully, a wider audience. The popularity of these events is increasing and with it a greater income in a time when the church's finances really need a boost.

To assist in facilitating this, we are now able to accept contactless and other cards to pay for refreshments and to accept donations. We should also remember that this lunchtime period is a wonderful time for fellowship amongst congregation, visitors, musicians and everyone else who come along to enjoy this time.

So thanks to all the volunteers who have helped during the recitals so far including those who have made cakes, paninis, rolls, etc. without whom we would have not been able to achieve so much.

We have organised other concerts and functions to enable us to raise further funds for the church.

To help us continue with this mission, if you are not already a Friend then please join us. For just £10 per year you can become a member. Every three months or so we hold a coffee morning. This is an opportunity to get together for a chat and maybe decide on what we can do to further improve the church fabric and contents.

Chair – Jackie Ree

Secretary – Ray Beverley

## GUIDING REPORT

We continue to have busy units in all 4 sections; Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers, catering for girls aged 5-18.

We are very lucky that we came out of the lockdowns with good numbers and lots of enthusiasm to get back to 'normal'

When we could go back to face-to-face meetings, we were very lucky to have access to the church garden as we were only allowed outside, we were very impressed at how resilient the girls were and how they just adapted to whatever we threw at them. As always you can never rely on the British weather and we had several meetings in the rain but determined not to go back on Zoom out came the waterproofs and wellies and we carried on dancing in the rain or sheltering under tables to complete art activities. We also enjoyed muddy walks in the woods hunting dinosaurs as part of the county's dino plod challenge badge.

Despite all odds In July 2021 the Guides and Rangers headed off on Summer camp, it was all very last minute as the regulations changed on the 19<sup>th</sup> July and we went on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. The girls were just so happy to spend some quality time with their friends, they were happiest sat round a campfire toasting marshmallows, or sitting in a field in the sunshine playing uno. They enjoyed taking part in various adventurous activities including Go Karting, Archery and rifle shooting. The Rangers even made it up to see the sunrise which has become a camp tradition. Even with covid testing on mass every other day it was so nice to be back doing what we do best.

In September we were allowed back indoors which made a huge difference and meant we could plan our weekly meetings without worrying about the weather!

October saw the return of our annual sponsored bike ride, and what an amazing time we all had such a great atmosphere and what a fantastic memory that will be of our dear friend and biggest supporter Dave Marsh, his legacy Will live on and we WILL get the new floor he worked so hard to help us fundraise for.

The Brownies were lucky to spend 3 nights away at Dudsbury during half term, they had lots of fun with their friends doing lots of activities based around a Disney theme.

In December we had our first Brownie Gold award presented to Sophie who had worked so hard gained all her badges and completing her Gold challenges, she is the highest award a Brownie can achieve so well-done Sophie.

The spring term has involved lots of badge work with various skill builders and theme awards being given out as well as some bronze and silver awards, keep up the good work Girls.

In February we were lucky to have the Royal Navy attract team run a session with the Guides and Rangers, lots of team building games and ending with a competition to build a wheelbarrow out of giant Meccano.

I would like to say a huge thank you to my amazing team of leaders here at St Aldhelms that make all this possible. We would be lost without you!

Also a big shout out to Fr Pip for allowing us to use the side garden when the den was out of bounds, very much appreciated! - Clair Eaton

## **MOTHERS' UNION REPORT**

During 2021 Covid Pandemic rules were still in place but in June we were able to start our Wednesday morning Service and in September we started out afternoon meetings again.

It was really lovely to meet again and chat about how we had coped since March 2020.

We enjoyed decorating our tree for the Christmas Tree Festival and were able to hold our Christmas party.

We also welcomed All Saints members last year.

We continue to be a small group and I thank everyone for their support especially Faye as Secretary and Jane as Treasurer.

Thank you to Father Pip for our Monthly Wednesday morning Mass.

I look forward to 2022 with a planned programme and hope more people will join us.

Diane



**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR BRANKSOME ST ALDHELM POOLE DORSET**

England & Wales - Charity number 1130874

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# Accounts

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**BRANKSOME, ST. ALDHELM'S CHURCH**

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

[www.st-aldhelm.com](http://www.st-aldhelm.com)

**Registered Charity Number: 1130874**

**PARISH REPORT &  
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

together with reports from church organisations  
for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

**Vicar**

Rev. Philip Martin

**Churchwarden**

Peter Sharp & Ian Gray

**Honorary Treasurer**

Peter Sharp

**Honorary Secretary**

(position vacant)



**BRANKSOME ST. ALDHELM'S CHURCH**  
**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS**  
**AND**  
**THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**  
**SUNDAY 25TH APRIL 2021 AFTER THE 10AM SERVICE**

## **AGENDA**

### **MEETING OF PARISHIONERS**

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. To elect 2 people to the Office of Churchwarden

### **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

3. To receive the updated Electoral Roll and Report
4. To receive the Annual Report and accept the examined Accounts for 2020.
5. To receive the Treasurers Report.
6. To receive the Churchwardens Report.
7. Vicar's Report & Memorial to the Departed.
8. To receive the Deanery Synod Report.
9. To elect members of the laity to the PCC & Sides persons.
10. To accept the minutes of the APCM for the 18th Oct 2020.
11. Matters arising from the 2020 minutes.
12. Closing Prayer.

**MINUTES FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS**  
**AND THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**  
**HELD ON 18TH OCTOBER 2020**

**Meeting of Parishioners**

Thanks were given to Jane Rosewarn following her extended term of office due to COVID precautions delaying the meeting until today.

Nomination of Churchwardens - Peter Sharp and Ian Gray voted as Churchwardens with Ray Beverley, Clair Eaton and Diane Eaton continuing as part of the churchwarden team.

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

Electoral Roll - as of 31st December 2019 there were 47 members from within the parish and 48 from outside the parish.

Accounts - Peter Sharp - Treasurer - summarised the accounts included within the annual report. Thanks were given for his efficiency. Accounts were voted unanimously. Proposed by Gary Waldron and seconded by Ian Clothier.

Peter had written the treasurers report in March ready for the original meeting which was delayed until today by the COVID-19 pandemic. Peter forecast a loss of £10,000 for every quarter when going into lockdown. £10,000 down for the whole period since March. Collections have dropped. The parish centre managed to break even. Busy Bodies have helped with their continued Government funding and have continue to pay hall rent. £4,000 has been received from Government for the Furlough scheme. Unrestricted funds £23,000 down by £10,000. Church is still solvent! More donations have been given on-line and in person. Our main income is from the regular planned giving.

Churchwarden Report - was received. The feeling is that spiritually

St. Aldhelm's has held up well during the difficult time. Visiting priest and DDO, Nigel Done remarked that he thought there was a wonderful atmosphere here. There have been three adults confirmed here and this reflects the spirit of the church.

Vicar's Report - a number of people have died since our last annual meeting, they were remembered. Pip finished with asking everyone to continue to encourage and pray for one another.

Deanery Synod Reps - are Pip Martin, Gary Waldron and Andrew Dray. Pip attended Diocesan Synod via zoom on 17.10.20.

Sides Persons - all presently on the list are happy to continue with the addition of Rona Orme. The church is looking for two volunteers to clean the church on Saturday in readiness for the Sunday service.

P.C.C. Members - three new members were elected - Ian Clothier, Philip Sandom and Denzil Sheppard. The following P.C.C. members confirmed that they would service on the PCC and were duly nominated.

Ray Beverley, Jackie Ree, Samantha Waldron, Peggy Elliott, Diane Eaton, Clair Eaton, Tim Mitchell, Andy Pidgley.

P.C.C. shares responsibility with the Vicar for strategic decision.

Apologies - were received from Dave and Barbara Marsh and Andrew Pidgley for not being able to attend the meeting.

Pip was thanked for his wonderful ministry during this difficult time especially with the online services enabling people to remain connected.

*These minutes were taken by Jennifer Hamblin*

# **BRANKSOME ST. ALDHELM'S CHURCH**

Annual Report and Accounts of the Parochial Church Council  
for the Year ended 31st December 2020.

## **Administrative Information**

Brankosme St. Aldhelm's Church is situated in St. Aldhelm's Road, Branksome, Poole, Dorset. BH13 6BT. It is part of the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England. Correspondence should be addressed to The Parish Office, 401 Poole Road, Branksome, Poole, Dorset. BH12 1AD.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a Charity registered with the Charity Commission. Charity Number: 1130874.

PCC Members who have served from October 2020 until the date of this report was approved are:

### **Licensed Ministry Team:**

<b>Incumbent:</b>	Rev. Philip Martin, Chairman
<b>Hon. Assistant Priest:</b>	Rev. Stephen Flatt
<b>Licensed Lay Reade:</b>	Rona Orme

<b>Pastoral Ministry Team:</b>	Joy Warne, Jackie Ree, Tim Mitchell, John Tubbs
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<b>Churchwardens:</b>	Peter Sharp, Ian Gray
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<b>Deanery Synod Reps:</b>	Andrew Dray, Gary Waldron
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**Elected Members of PCC:** Ray Beverley Jackie Ree  
Samantha Waldron Peggy Elliott  
Diane Eaton Clair Eaton  
Tim Mitchell Andy Pidgley  
Philip Sandom Ian Clothier  
Denzil Sheppard

**Officers of the PCC:**

**Hon. Treasurer:** Peter Sharp  
**Hon. Secretary:** *vacant position*  
**Electoral Roll Officer:** Diane Eaton  
**Health & Safety Officer:** Tim Mitchell  
**Safeguarding Officer:** Heidi Moxam

**Elected Sides Person:** Donna Noonan, Ted Hadley, Ian Gray,  
Diane Eaton, Dave Marsh,  
Barbara Marsh, Lisa Stroud,  
Christine Shaw, Linda Beverley,  
Ray Beverley, Isobel Woodbury,  
Rona Orme

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS OF THE PAROCHIAL  
CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31ST DECEMBER 2020**

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

Branksome St. Aldhelm's PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure 1956.

The method of appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC.

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

St. Aldhelm's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent, Rev. Philip Martin, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical.

It has maintenance responsibilities for the Church, the Branksome St. Aldhelm's Centre and its surrounding grounds.

The major risks to which the PCC is exposed, as identified by the PCC members, have been reviewed and systems or procedures have been established to manage those risks.

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**  
**CHURCH ATTENDANCE**

There are 105 Parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, 49 of whom reside within the parish and 56 from outside. There was 1 deletion from the last report, as 1 member moved out of the area.

**REVIEW OF THE YEAR**

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting Mr Peter Sharp and Mr Ian Gray were elected as Churchwardens for a further term of office. Mr Peter Sharp was elected as Treasurer.

The P.C.C. meetings were mainly held on-line via zoom. The Standing Committee and Crisis Committee (Crisis Committee formed during COVID pandemic) met in between these meetings and the minutes from those meetings were taken to the full Council for discussion where necessary.

There were no safeguarding issues during the year.

Ecumenical links continue within the Deanery (Poole East Churches Together) as do our links with Busy Bodies Pre-School and Bishop Aldhelm's C.E. Primary School and our international links with Lutheran Church in Stockholm, Sweden and Anglican Church in Ecuador.

The Parish actively supports the work of Poole Food Bank and regularly donates food which is then passed onto those in need within Poole.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The coronavirus pandemic has had a serious effect on the financial position of our free or "Unrestricted" funds. It is hard to compare with the optimism of our anniversary year. Planned Giving declined by 10% while collections, along with the drop in attendances, more than halved. On the other hand, many generous donations were made. Fundraising income dropped by over 75% partly through the reduction of the scope of the Christmas Tree Festival and the curtailment of the Tuesday lunchtime recitals, but also as a result of not repeating the income from the 2019 celebrations. Hall rental collapsed by 50%, though this was in part due to Busy Bodies taking responsibility for its cleaning and having a corresponding reduction in its charge.

With the reduced activities, some savings were made. Fundraising costs, naturally, almost disappeared while personnel costs were

considerably reduced thanks to the government's furlough scheme. No long-term repairs or maintenance were carried out. The wifi improvements have been more than covered by donations.

At the APCM in October I was fairly upbeat about our position. However, I had not foreseen that there would be two more lockdowns and we would continue to lose money. While Restricted Funds have shown a healthy surplus, our Unrestricted Funds are, if not disappearing, considerably reduced. We express Reserves for the church and hall separately and those for the church have now sunk to zero. Overall, our reserves have diminished by less than £5,000 in the year but the proportion that is locked in Restricted Funds has moved from 27% to 71% in just two years.

Since the end of 2020, I think our finances can be said to have reached the crisis stage. The least gloomy part is that our expenses this year are in line with last year's, though (with one exception) there is little scope for further reduction. However, income goes from bad to worse entirely due to the absence of rentals from the centre and church - though they have just started trickling in in the last few days. In 2020 these amounted to almost £15,000.

Our unrestricted funds in the first three months of 2020 will be down by at least £8,000, reducing the reserves to £10,000. Should the present circumstances continue, they will be virtually nil by mid-year. We would then have to take the only available and exceptional step to reduce expenses which is to suspend (or reduce) our diocesan share. - Peter Sharp - Treasurer

Signed ..... Rev Philip Martin

**BRANKSOME ST. ALDHELM**  
**CONSOLIDATED FUNDS YEAR TO 31/12/2020**

Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds		Actual to 31/12/2020	Actual to 31/12/2019	Change 2019>>2020
<b>32,882</b>	<b>33,925</b>	<b>Reserves at 1<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<b>66,807</b>	<b>78,948</b>	
30,610	2,329	Planned Giving	32,939	35,859	-2,920
5,355		Collections	5,355	13,801	-8,446
12,912		Gift Aid Received	12,912	9,857	3,055
9,074	7,500	Bequests & Donations	16,574	3,431	13,142
1,869	3,698	Fundraising Income	5,587	23,668	-18,101
1,007		Fees Received	1,007	2,199	-1,192
509		Orchestra & Players	509	3,421	-2,912
14,566		Hire/Rent of Rooms	14,566	27,209	-12,642
386	1	Sundries	387	850	-463
<b>76,288</b>	<b>13,528</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>89,816</b>	<b>120,294</b>	<b>-30,479</b>
58,583		Diocesan Share	58,583	59,009	426
82		Fundraising Costs	82	2,927	2,845
379		Grants Given	379	443	64
7,933		Personnel Costs	7,933	15,964	8,031
839	467	Travel & Expenses	1,306	2,284	978
776		Postage & Telephone	776	780	4
1,330		Printing & Stationery	1,330	2,341	1,011
		Computer Bureau		324	324
8,332		Gas, Electricity & Water	8,332	8,769	437
4,373		Insurances	4,373	3,970	-403
1,465		Services & Refreshments	1,465	2,455	991
912		Cleaning & Bins	912	5,480	4,568
4,027		Repairs & Maintenance	4,027	21,457	17,430
1,455	3,120	Equipment Purchases	4,575	4,803	227
339		Licences	339	555	216
277	42	Sundries	319	873	554
<b>91,101</b>	<b>3,629</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>94,730</b>	<b>132,435</b>	<b>37,705</b>
		<b>Transfers</b>			
<b>18,069</b>	<b>43,824</b>	<b>Reserves, 31<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>61,893</b>	<b>66,807</b>	
		HSBC Current Account	26,760		
		CofE Deposit Account	35,033		
		Petty Cash	100		
			<b>61,893</b>		

**BRANKSOME ST. ALDHELM**  
**Unrestricted Funds, Year to 31/12/2020**

	General Fund	Parish Centre	Vicar's Fund	TOTAL
<b>Reserves at 1<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<b>17,873</b>	<b>14,639</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>32,882</b>
Planned Giving	30,835			30,835
Collections	5,355			5,355
Gift Aid Received	12,912			12,912
Bequests & Donations	9,049			9,049
Fundraising Income	1,869			1,869
Fees Received	1,007			1,007
Orchestra & Players	509			509
Hire/Rent of Rooms	1,300	13,266		14,566
Sundries	386			386
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>63,021</b>	<b>13,266</b>		<b>76,287</b>
Diocesan Share	58,583			58,583
Fundraising Costs	82			82
Grants Given	379			379
Personnel Costs	4,937	2,997		7,933
Travel & Expenses	684		155	839
Postage & Telephone	776			776
Printing & Stationery	1,330			1,330
Computer Bureau				
Gas, Electricity & Water	4,491	3,840		8,332
Insurances	3,498	875		4,373
Services & Refreshments	1,465			1,465
Cleaning & Bins		912		912
Repairs & Maintenance	3,031	996		4,027
Equipment Purchases	1,400	56		1,455
Licences	319	20		339
Sundries	277			277
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>81,251</b>	<b>9,695</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>91,101</b>
<b>Reserves, 31<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>-357</b>	<b>18,211</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>18,069</b>

**BRANKSOME ST. ALDHELM**  
**Restricted Funds, Year to 31/12/2020**

	Church Energy	Maroy Fund	Organ Fund	Ecuador Fund	Friends	TOTAL
<b>Reserves at 1<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<b>8,953</b>	<b>1,221</b>	<b>11,696</b>	<b>1,943</b>	<b>10,113</b>	<b>33,925</b>
Planned Giving	1,260		1,069			2,329
Collections						
Gift Aid Received						
Bequests & Donations	6,000				1,500	7,500
Fundraising Income			1,940	250	1,508	3,698
Fees Received						
Orchestra & Players						
Hire/Rent of Rooms						
Sundries			1			1
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>7,260</b>		<b>3,010</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>3,008</b>	<b>13,528</b>
Diocesan Share						
Fundraising Costs						
Grants Given						
Personnel Costs						
Travel & Expenses		467				467
Postage & Telephone						
Printing & Stationery						
Computer Bureau						
Gas, Electricity & Water						
Insurances						
Services & Refreshments						
Cleaning & Bins						
Repairs & Maintenance						
Equipment Purchases					3,120	3,120
Licences						
Sundries			42			42
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>467</b>	<b>42</b>		<b>3,120</b>	<b>3,629</b>
<b>Reserves, 31<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>16,213</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>14,664</b>	<b>2,193</b>	<b>10,001</b>	<b>43,824</b>

Pine Garth, 23 Lindsay Road, Poole BH13 6AN  
Tel : 01202 751553

To: The Vicar, Church Wardens, Parochial Church Council and members of Branksome St  
Aldhelms Church.

I have examined the bank statements, receipts and payments related to the 2020 accounts  
maintained by the Church Treasurer and can confirm that, in my view, everything is well organised  
and accurately accounted. The prepared accounts correctly present the status of the parish  
finances for the year ended 31 December 2020.



John Sprackling  
27 April 2021

## VICAR'S REPORT

*At our last Annual Meeting, delayed by the pandemic restrictions until late October, I reflected on our experience through lockdown. Here though I want instead to look more to the future by sharing with you a revised version of a document discussed by our Parochial Church Council. In this paper, **After the Pandemic**, I attempt to look forward with realism and with confident hope.*

It is difficult to raise one's eyes from all the immediate challenges and priorities that the Coronavirus pandemic presents. But it is certain that the world – and the church – will be changed by this crisis and **it is important therefore, that alongside a necessary 'survival mode' we seek to renew – and, I would argue, enlarge - our thinking and our vision for the changed circumstances that lie ahead.**

We will all be affected by global and national changes that we cannot control or even influence very much, such as an increasingly partisan and divided politics and economic difficulty for many. We are, however, as the Christian Church, endowed with a past, and a future, that give us a bigger perspective and an unshakeable hope. These are gifts that many in this bewilderingly changed world will increasingly yearn for and seek.

### **In what ways is St Aldhelm's more vulnerable in these new circumstances?**

- Our active membership, in common with many churches, is at the older end of the spectrum and likely to be cautious about commitments outside the home for a considerable time. We may have lost permanently from our services a considerable number of our older members.
- Our membership is not among the 'most able to pay' and our regular income, from giving and from other sources, has been and will continue to be for some time depleted seriously.

- ‘Social fellowship’ has been traditionally one of our strengths and this is unlikely to be possible to recover in the short or medium term.
- We have only a small Ministry Team of one stipendiary priest, one non-stipendiary priest whose main ministry is his employment as a senior nurse, and a non-stipendiary Licensed Lay Minister.

**In what ways is St Aldhelm’s well-placed in these new circumstances?**

- We have maintained an active praying and worshipping presence in the community throughout lockdowns and changing circumstances.
- Our online presence, though not among the most technologically advanced, has been persistent and well received by a diverse following. Our ‘style’ and our way of conveying the Christian message are seen as welcoming and accessible.
- Our open building has been a well-used refuge for prayer and solace by many, both members and others who do not regularly attend services. The building itself is one of our best proclamations of the Gospel: beautiful, open, imposing and yet welcoming, awesome and yet inclusive, dedicated to prayer and yet well-suited for concerts and other public gatherings. With the new world likely to be more local our building’s witness within the community is timely and fortuitous.
- Some new and younger members have joined us, both online and in public worship.
- We have many members who are willing to help and several younger members keen to explore some kind of vocation to ministry.
- If, as I suspect, an increasing number of people will hunger for spiritual wisdom, support and rituals that comfort and touch the

heart, but are put off by dogmatic certainties, then our tradition of inclusive theology and Anglo-Catholic worship may well be able to address many people's hunger.

- Our tradition of encouraging a questioning and reflective faith, although it may not suit some, will I think be increasingly attractive to many who have not previously either had time or opportunity to explore their 'spiritual dimension.'
- Our Hispanic ministry attracts a younger congregation for whom the sacraments of the Mass – and of Christian fellowship – provide a home from (in many cases exiled) home. There is rich potential for mutual benefit of our English-and Spanish-speaking communities. Our Busy Bodies pre-school is also an extraordinarily diverse and rich mixture of nationalities. Amid an increasingly partisan and fearful world, St Aldhelm's has the potential to model a diverse and enriching spiritual community.
- A Church Hall that has benefitted from recent investment and is available to diverse groups in the community.
- The church grounds (including the 'side garden') offer huge potential as a green space amid a busy urban environment. There has been a remarkable recent revival of interest in and commitment to enhancing this resource, the fruits of which are very evident – and welcome. A vision diagram for re-developing the side garden/Vicarage garden is included on the final page of this report.
- A parish magazine (both printed and online) that seeks to be a resource both for the church and for the wider community.
- We have people gifted in 'thinking outside the box.' As an example I would cite our (not the) Christmas Tree Festival. With all the usual care and attention to detail, our usual event was replaced by a smaller-scale, quieter and more spiritually-focussed event, 'Keeping the Lamp Alight', conveying a message of hope and encouragement amid a dark period.

I think in response to such considerations **we must be both realistic and ambitious**. What should be our aims? **Here are some of my suggestions:**

- A clearer focus on basic Christian formation: simple and short sermons, Bible reflections, first communion and confirmation courses, etc.
- Stewardship renewal by which to ensure the largest portion of our annual income comes from committed voluntary giving. In addition, inviting a one-off contribution by those who feel able, to help us offset our deficit (mainly caused by the enforced shutdown of the church hall for over a year.)
- We should seek to emphasise our inclusive Anglo-Catholic tradition. Our future will not be secured by seeking to be like most other churches in our area but will be better served by our providing what we can do best: combining a generous, thoughtful Anglican theology with an unapologetically Catholic emphasis on prayer, the sacraments and transformational worship.
- A once-in-a-generation investment in our building: improved facilities for online transmission and security; new heating system; new lighting; re-decorated interior; renewed notice-boards and entrances around the church 'campus'; church grounds (including: improved visibility of the building, a more sustainable arrangement for the Garden of Remembrance and a more strategic use of the side garden.) This together will entail significant expense (and may even justify employing a part-time project manager whose role would include accessing grant aid and finding other means of income as well as overseeing the work itself.) Some specific items could of course be financed as memorials given in memory of loved ones.
- We should do all we can to encourage the diocese to place a curate here (application was sent following the PCC meeting in January).

- There was much talk internationally of rich and poor nations having equal access to the available vaccines, while the reality has (inevitably?) been different. As a church we have a link with a Latin American country among the hardest hit and with the Anglican Church there that is very close to the poor and marginalised. I hope we can find ways to use that link to support them and so make a little more real the undoubted truth that this pandemic has made clear: we are all in this together.

**This document is intended as a ‘scene-setting prompt to our thinking’ and NOT as a fixed proposal.** It is vital that we find ways to engage the wider membership of the church in a process of forming a vision for our future and I very much welcome your thoughts about how this might be done most effectively. Perhaps two or three sermons could help prompt thoughts, two or three open discussions in person or by Zoom help to discuss ideas, and a carefully prepared questionnaire elicit other ideas and suggestions as well as helpful or cautionary questions.

Rev. Pip Martin

## **CHURCHWARDENS REPORT**

After last year's lively commentary, 2020's is very flat. The coronavirus pandemic and the resultant lockdowns curtailed our activities outside worship almost completely. The only social/fundraising event of note was the fish-and-chip supper held in March, just before lockdown.

The Friends' recitals, naturally, took place early in the year. But only a brief season was possible in the autumn and these were not so well attended as previously for understandable reasons.

By far the most important aspect of life at St. Aldhelm's this year has been the continuation of worship whenever possible. While some neighbouring churches have remained closed almost continuously, we have continued to come together nearly every Sunday. This has been helped by being able to re-arrange the seating into pods and the willingness of all to make it work.

Services were also live-streamed. Although we already had some primitive equipment, a fund-raising drive enabled us to improve it. Through the internet, we are now able to reach anyone who wishes to join us and it could become a regular feature even after restrictions have ended.

And to show that St. Aldhelm's is thriving, we were delighted to welcome Bishop Karen to conduct a confirmation service in September.

Finally, our thanks to Jane Rosewarn who, having indicated that she wished to give up the role of churchwarden, served almost the entire calendar year until the delayed annual meeting.

**Peter Sharp**

**Ian Gray**

**THE PARISH CHURCH OF  
BRANKSOME, ST. ALDHELM**

**THE FOLLOWING REPORTS ARE  
FROM CHURCH ORGANISATIONS FOR THE  
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

**CHARITY NUMBER: 1130874**

## **FRIENDS OF ST. ALDHELM'S CHURCH**

Both the Spring and Autumn Recitals began on optimistic notes but were curtailed when they both succumbed to covid 19 regulations and the 1st and 2nd lockdowns.

The Spring series hosted 5 performances out of 15 while the Autumn series hosted 5 performances out of a total of nine. The Summer Music Festival that plays monthly from June to September was cancelled altogether. The performances that did take place raised over £800 for the Friends.

During the year the Friends were able to upgrade the tea station with new cabinets and counter top. Also new church tables were bought and new signage outside of the church.

Although activities were cut back somewhat, it still produced a positive situation.

Jackie Ree, Chair

## **MOTHER'S UNION REPORT 2020**

Actually this will be a very short report as due to Covid restriction we have not met since February 2020 but we have all kept in touch with each other.

We are hoping to commence Monthly Mass on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June and maybe an afternoon meeting in July but it all depends on any restrictions that are in place.

Thank you for your continued, even if distanced support and we look forward to suggestions for future meetings. Take care and stay safe.

Diane Eaton

## **MUSIC REPORT FOR 2020**

For most of this difficult year music has been able to continue at our 10a.m. Sunday service. Our choir continues to have weekly practices, though during recent lockdowns these have been short and take place on Sunday rather than Friday, and we continue to sing during the communion.

Perhaps two highlights of 2020 were firstly to welcome a new soprano and a new tenor to our choir, they are both beginning to learn the music and both are doing really well. Secondly on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October we were able to put on a 40-minute music concert when we sang three of our favourite anthems and I played three organ pieces. Several members of the Bournemouth and District Organists' Association attended and were impressed with the high standard of singing and playing. I enjoyed playing to a fairly large group of people who all sat and listened carefully, which is very different to what I find every Sunday. It is always disappointing for me to practise for many hours in order to play quality organ music, only to find almost nobody sitting and listening to it at the end of the service.

Finally I must thank our choir. We are a small group but very friendly and supportive, and with a good sense of humour. I expect a lot from them, they always work hard and the results are very creditable. It is good that we are able to just "tick over" during difficult conditions so that when things improve we will be able to welcome more new singers and resume singing anthems old and new which so many have said they enjoy listening to.

**Philip Sandom**  
**Organist & Choirmaster**

## **GUIDING AT ST. ALDHELM'S DURING A PANDEMIC**

Wow what a year it's been! On March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 we received the email we had all been dreading that all face-to-face meetings had to stop with immediate affect (this landed in my inbox when I got home from Brownies)

We decided there was 2 ways to tackle this situation, to sit back, have some time off and admit defeat which would have been the easy option or 2, embark on online meeting using something called "zoom" that we had never heard of before. Well, we went for option 2 and by April 2020 we were meeting weekly with all sections from the comfort of our own homes.

We have had a great year meeting online with all sections. Would be lying if I said it didn't come with its challenges, but in true Guiding spirit we faced them all head on! We have managed to adapt the Guiding programme for online meetings so the Girls can still gain skill builders and earn minutes toward their theme awards, this has enabled girls to achieve their Bronze awards and start working on their silver award.

The Girls have been very busy completing interest badges, making the most of their time spent at home.

We completed the county May lockdown challenge badge and the summer Challenge badge.

We have tried baking, craft, games nights, toasting marshmallows over tealights, scavenger hunts have been very popular which got the girls more active and away from the screens.

We all clapped for carers in our uniforms and joined in the 2 minute silence on our doorsteps for Remembrance Day.

For those of you familiar with Zoom the mute button has been very handy as you can imagine, especially with 29 Brownies all online trying to ask questions or just general excitement to see their Brownie friends.

We were lucky to fit a few outdoor meetings in over the summer Holidays using the church side garden. It was so lovely to see all their smiley faces in person. The Autumn term brought its own challenges of the wet weather and the darker evenings, but we had meetings by torchlight in the garden and sat under tables to shelter from the rain (all socially distanced of course). The rangers enjoyed walks down through the woods to the beach, they were just happy being out and having people to talk to. We are so lucky to live where we do and have the outdoor facilities as I know not all groups have been so lucky.

Then once again we found ourselves back on zoom! But at least we were more prepared this time round.

The Girls had the opportunity to join an online county space day in November where they made space outfits for their teddies, tried science experiments and had a session with a planetarium, joined by hundreds of girls across the county.

Sadly, the pandemic has meant no camping or residential this year but will be hopefully be back on track with these next year.

Like lots of other groups our fundraising was all been put on hold so we have been unable to replace the floor in the den but hopefully 2021 will put us back on track and we will be able to complete our much-needed refurb project. We have managed to keep ourselves afloat and will come back fighting!

I am very lucky to have an amazing team of leaders that have

enabled us to carry on Guiding during the Pandemic I couldn't have done it on my own!

The Girls parents have also been very supportive of our weekly sessions and have helped us with some of our crazy online ideas, that may not have always gone to plan.

As always, the Girls themselves have done us proud, they have been very resilient with all the changes and gave 100% to all the new challenges we threw at them.

A BIG Thank you to everyone that has joined us on our online journey, never did I expect to be zooming a year later but there is light at the end of the tunnel, and we are very grateful to be coming out the other side.

Clair Eaton  
Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers.

## **BUSY BODIES PRE-SCHOOL**

Due to Covid-19 Busybodies Pre-school made the extremely hard decision to remain closed and place the 2 children that could access childcare into alternative provision from March 23<sup>rd</sup> until September 2020, however we continued to work and support all our families with a virtual package, this included a weekly catch up with the child's keyperson offering learning and development ideas and sometimes a socially distanced visit at the park to support with learning to ride a bike etc.

During this time, we helped many of our families with emotional support a shopping trip or a simple a little bit of adult conversation.

Prior to temporarily closing in March 2020, We continued to work with the residential care homes for our intergenerational work, with Zetland court coming into pre-school every fortnight and us retuning the visit once a month, this was additional to us visiting both Park manner and The Lindsey. Due to Covid these visits had to come to an abrupt end, but I am happy to report that we have eventually resumed these visit via Zoom with Zetland court, this new way of working all be it very strange has been very welcomed as we have missed our friends so much over the period of time.

The numbers of children attending Early years provision has dropped nationally with parents choosing to keep their children at home instead of accessing provision, this did mean that we have had a drop in numbers of children in Busy bodies however I am pleased to announce that these numbers are raising now and we are feeling very confident about the future.

Sue Fallon  
Pre-School Manager

