

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BUXTED AND HADLOW DOWN

England & Wales · Charity number 1130925

Details

Other names PARISH OF BUXTED AND HADLOW DOWN

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2009-08-03

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

Contact

Address The Rectory
Church Road
Buxted
Uckfield
East Sussex
TN22 4LP

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Website www.pbhd.co.uk

Activities

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

Activities: Religious activities

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£122,031	£121,508	-	-
2023-12-31	£138,608	£157,289	-	-
2022-12-31	£146,003	£152,769	-	-
2021-12-31	£169,853	£154,372	-	-
2020-12-31	£95,608	£97,204	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANTHONY JOHN ARRATOON		
Alison Ledward		2023-04-25
JANET TOURELL		2019-04-10
JOHN IVOR WINSTON THORPE		2017-04-12
John Martin Thorndike Shaw BA Law		2023-06-19
Justin Garner Roberts		2023-11-21
Lesley Watson		2026-04-21
Lorna Dobson		2025-04-29
Margaret Rhoda Scott		2022-05-12
Paul Mark Dillon-Robinson		2018-04-11
Rev Peter Liam Molloy		2020-10-20
Susan Deborah Vivienne Willmott		2019-09-01

Accounts



PARISH OF BUXTED AND HADLOW DOWN

CHARITY REG NO. 1130925

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

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Incumbent: The Rev'd C. Peter Molloy, The Rectory, Church Road, Buxted, Uckfield, TN22 4LP

Churchwardens: Mrs Margaret Scott, 5 Totease Mews, Church Road, Buxted, TN22 4AF

Mr. Martin Shaw, Coopers Green House, Coopers Green, Uckfield, TN22 4AT

Bankers: HSBC Bank plc, 63 High St., Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1XQ

Indep. Examiner: Mr Peter Haining FCA, Horns Lodge, Meres Lane, Cross-in-Hand, TN21 0TY

Churches: St. Margaret the Queen, Buxted Park
St. Mary the Virgin Buxted
St. Mark the Evangelist Hadlow Down

Website: www.pbhd.co.uk

Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down

Trustees' Annual Report

for the year ended 31 December 2024

2024 has been a year of re-building. Some of that physical, with substantial projects taking place at St. Margaret the Queen, and St. Mark the Evangelist; some of that relating to leadership and worship as we welcomed a new church council, Chalice Bearers and a Sacristan at St. Mary's; and some of it musical as our long term director of music at St. Mark's has made room for a new pianist to take on the role of leading worship. We also were sad to see Fr. David Milnes conclude his ministry in the parish after nearly 15 years at the beginning of 2024, and at the end of the year John Marsh stepped down from his longstanding role as the principal organist at St. Margaret's. Lastly, John Thorpe after nearly 50 years of serving in the parish has retired as a Reader and has been made Reader Emeritus by the Diocese of Chichester. We give thanks for those who have served, and we live in hope that others will continue to step forward to serve future generations. We are grateful that Fr. George Pitcher has joined us and assists at our parish services, and Becky Leeves and Dominic Fields have increased their roles in music.

Change is a constant in the church. But our calling is still the same to carry on with the work which has been our task here since 1250- proclaiming the good news that Jesus Christ has died and rose again. That through him we have been set free to live and love according to his pattern, and we also have the assurance of eternal life after death again following our Lord. We give thanks for the heritage of faith that has been passed on by those who have gone before us, and we pray that through the grace of the Holy Spirit, we will be faithful in our day as they were in theirs. The following aims and objectives guided our activities in 2024.

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in:

- The promotion of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England;
- Promoting the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social, evangelistic and ecumenical within the parish.
- Working to know Jesus better and making Him better known;
- Giving practical support and care for people in the parish, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of level of need or ability to pay;
- Providing financial support to those in need and to other organisations with similar objectives.

What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives

When planning our activities for the year, the PCC continued to consider the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'.

The council has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, fully recognising its duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

In 2024, we endeavoured to continue with the following objectives to fulfil our aims:

- Enabling as many people as possible both to worship at our churches and to become part of the parish community in Buxted and Hadlow Down.
- Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers
- Maintaining an overview of worship throughout the parish, whilst considering how services can involve the many groups that live within the parish
- Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament
- Offering worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel
- Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish, including the sick, elderly and bereaved
- Helping the poor and needy of the parish
- Giving grants / collections to missionary organisations and other charities

- Reaching out to the unchurched through involvement in village activities and events, by social events organised by the PCC and by use of parish/village magazines, Facebook and our new webpage.
- Maintaining the fabric of the church buildings as historic centres, focuses of life in the parish and sacred spaces for personal prayer and contemplation

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives

Attendance at worship

We have been grateful to see new families and people join us in 2024, and mourn the loss of some who have gone to their eternal reward. The church family welcomes visitors from within as well as outside the parish boundary. Visitors attend by personal choice and we are pleased to welcome people from all walks of life to take part in the life of the church. We contend that voluntary attendance to worship the Lord Jesus Christ is a major demonstration of the public benefit of our activities.

At 31 December 2024, there were 169 parishioners on the electoral roll, of whom 50 were not resident within the parish. 7 were added, 5 died, 8 moved away and 2 removed themselves.

Our longstanding electoral roll officer Mrs Sally Jackson has stood down and Mrs Katherine Arratoon has taken on the role. In 2025 the list has to be renewed as of the date of publication our total is 147 Parishioners of whom 94 are resident and 50 are non-resident.

The average regular weekly attendance across the parish, over the year, was 70 adults and 12 children (excluding school services).

We continued a full complement of Services at Christmas and Easter. Happily, these numbers continue to increase.

Mrs. Dominic Fields, our Director of Music has led the choir at St. Margaret's in providing a high-quality music program and engaged with Buxted Primary School, providing music for school assemblies. She has also stepped into the role of our principal organist.

Our Sunday School Programme at St. Margaret's continues to bless the congregation with a growing number of young families. 2024 also saw 1 additional server join our Youth Server's Guild, while others have moved away taking our total number to 4.

Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers

In 2024, we had 8 Baptisms, 8 weddings, 12 funerals, 8 Crematorium service and 3 Burials of Ashes. We eliminated the 8am service at St. Margaret's with the exception of the 2nd Sunday of the month, and so we now have a service each Sunday at all churches (with the exception of 5th Sundays and Patronal feasts where we gathered for united worship). In addition, special services were arranged including; The Cross in Words and Music on Good Friday, Royal British Legion Remembrance Services and Nine Lessons and Carols.

Outreach

We were pleased to see an increase in Outreach activities in 2024. St. Mary's hosted a well-attended pre-loved sale. Hendall Manor hosted the parish for a lovely garden party and concert. We also enjoyed a Harvest Supper and Lunch. The Social Committee has already set an ambitious calendar for 2025 and we hope to grow in this area.

The parish has strong links with both Buxted School and St. Mark's School Hadlow Down. Both schools usually hold services in our churches, at least twice a term in St. Margaret's, or once a week at St. Mark's. While St. Mark's has always enjoyed a good relationship with the school, St. Margaret's has seen a real boost since the arrival of the new Head of Buxted School. St. Mark's is in a period of discerning it's governance model and is considering joining a federation. The Rector is an ex-officio Governor of both schools and we are appointing a new Foundation Governor at Buxted School. The PCC Foundation Governors at St. Mark's, for all or part of the year, are Sue Willmott, Tom Spencer, Peter Smyth and Katharine Davies.

The Buxted Messenger continued to provide monthly details of parish and community news and events. The monthly print run is 440 copies and the magazine is available on subscription or to purchase in various places in Buxted and Five Ash Down. Great thanks to Linda Mason and her merry band of proofreaders and our distributors. The Hadlow Down magazine (not run by the PCC), is delivered to all households in the village, also includes details of parish and church matters.

Provision of the church buildings and churchyards for people to enjoy

We are proud of the fact that all three of our churches are usually open each day, for all to enjoy; whether as a visitor or seeking a quiet place for prayer and contemplation. The comments from visitors are universally appreciative of the

fact that they are open, show that they are cared for and provide a tranquil space. Whilst their central role is as a place of worship, we have also used them as facilities for the benefit of the wider community.

The fact that our churches and their churchyards remain open, and in a good state of repair, is thanks to the ongoing support and hard-work of so many people; but having the benefit of historic buildings brings with it responsibilities. This year we underwent a new round of quinquennial inspections, while there are no major issues, all of our churches require upkeep and we will need to move forward with those recommendations as soon as reasonably practicable, and have already made good progress. Our churchyards also benefit from the attendance of a number of volunteers, both regular and those at ad hoc working parties. Issues of Health & Safety are taken seriously, with matters resolved as they arise. No significant issues were reported in the year.

We are grateful to the Friends of St. Margaret's for grants to enable the works to be undertaken without undue pressure on the parish's funds. This year the FOSM have been hard at work overseeing clearing the bushes by the southern stone wall which borders the Hotel. We also were grateful for their providing the funds to clean the windows in the church as well as a number of other tasks.

We were pleased to welcome a group of students and faculty from Hurstpierpoint College on a volunteer day to give St. Margaret's a good clean and assist with a number of other tasks.

St Mark's has a number of maintenance issues that are being addressed. We are grateful that the drainage issue that had caused flooding in the St. Mark's Churchyard and created damp in the church has now been resolved. We will now look at remedying some of the damage caused.

St. Mary's had minor repairs to the lightening rod and we are looking to repair one of the windows.

St Mary's Church Hall has been steadily increasing its use and is becoming a source of income for the parish as well as a great resource for the community.

Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish

The pastoral work in the parish remained an ongoing focus during the past year.

The Lunch Club has continued to operate. This has been aimed at the elderly and those living alone and regularly provided a hot Sunday lunch to approximately 30 people.

Financial review - General Fund

The classification of receipts and payments continues to follow the latest Charity Commission and Church of England directives. The financial results of "The Friends of St Margaret the Queen Buxted" are not included, as this is a separately registered charity. The following are the items for the fiscal year to 31st December 2024:

- Before extra-ordinary items, total receipts
 - 2024 £ 94,945 (2023: £106,345)
- Before extra-ordinary items, total payment
 - 2024 £95,806 (2023: £110,004)
- Discussion of Key Payments in 2024:
 - Water, Gas Electricity & Oil: As anticipated our utility costs dropped by nearly £3000
 - Trustee payments and expenses: The PCC supported the incumbent by paying £2,161.00 (2023-£1992). No payments were made to other PCC members.
 - Sharing the ministry costs of the Diocese of Chichester: The PCC committed to a parish share for 2024 of £54,600 (2023: £52,000), this being circa 69.3% of the amount budgeted by the diocese. The largest expenditure of the PCC, the parish share is paid to the diocese for our share of all churches' Parish Ministry Costs. This amount covers the stipend, pension, and housing costs of the incumbent and also a standard sum for diocesan central costs, clergy training and a contribution to national church funds. We have not been able to afford to meet 100% of our parish share since 2020. Having only just met our budget this year, we have agreed to keep this commitment the same.
 -
- Net Surplus / (Shortfall): We did not have a December appeal for funds as we were on course to meet our budget. After extra-ordinary items and transfers we ended the year with a slight surplus. (2023: £458)
- Bank/deposit Accounts: The General Fund showed a slight increase in cash balance to £29,711 at the end of 2024 from £28,972 at the end of 2023.

Financial review - Designated Funds

The designated projects funds for each church holds legacies and other donations that were felt by the PCC to have been given for that church or were general reserves of that church when the single parish was created. In 2024 we withdrew £10,313 from Q projects with the majority being spent on our new sound system.. Wherever possible, the PCC respects donors' wishes and uses the funds for one-off projects at the specified church.

Financial review - Restricted Funds

We withdrew a total of £6,808 from various restricted funds, for the maintenance of St. Mark's, Hadlow Down. The sum of £736 was paid out of the Q Organ/Music Fund for the tuning of the organ.

Why we hold some money in reserve

The PCC's policy is to ensure that sufficient reserves are held to cover three months of revenue expenditure and known commitments in the medium term, including:

- Expected capital expenditure for maintaining the physical state of the three listed church buildings over the next five years.
- Other commitments of expenditure linked to mission.

The PCC believes that, whilst our reserves currently exceed our minimum requirements, uncertainty over future revenue streams suggest that this is an appropriate and prudent policy to maintain.

Funds over and above day-to-day working requirements are deposited in CBF Church of England deposit accounts. This Policy is reviewed on an annual basis.

Structure, governance and management

The Parish of Buxted & Hadlow Down is a single parish with three parish churches. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission as required by the Charities Act 2011. (Reg. No. 1130925) Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

A separate registered charity, *The Friends of St. Margaret the Queen, Buxted* (Reg. No. 282334) raises funds for the repair and maintenance of the fabric and churchyard at St Margaret's Church.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The PCC membership consists of the incumbent, the churchwardens, the licensed reader, members of the Deanery Synod and church members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the Parish. Regular worshippers are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC, or to join one of the three church committees / parish groups, where we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience.

PCC members are responsible for making decisions on a wide range of matters affecting the parish, including compliance with health and safety and disability legislation and safeguarding of children and adults. In their capacity as trustees, members of the PCC are responsible for the stewardship of funds and for the appropriate accounting and reporting of parish finances.

The PCC met six times during the year with an average level of attendance of 75.6%. The individual Church Committees met as needed and the appropriate Deputy Warden subsequently drew the attention of the PCC to matters discussed and decisions made at local level, or to be agreed by the full PCC.

PCC members who have served at any time from 1 January 2024 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members:

Incumbent	The Rev'd C. Peter Molloy* Chairman
Licensed Lay Reader	Mr John Thorpe
Churchwarden	Mrs Margaret Scott*
Churchwarden	Mr Martin Shaw*
Treasurer	Mr. Justin Roberts
Deanery Synod Representative	Mrs Patricia Weeks
Deanery Synod Representative	Ms Lesley Watson

Elected laity members:

Mr Anthony Arratoon
Mrs Valerie Banks
Mrs Samantha Butler
Mrs Diana Midson
Mr John Palmer*
Mrs Janet Tourell*
Mr. Paul Dillon-Robinson
Mrs Sue Willmott
Mrs Alison Ledward

Note: Maximum of 12 permitted

* Standing Committee Members. This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to directions given by the PCC.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC on 9th April 2025 signed on its behalf by:

The Rev'd C. Peter Molloy - Chair and Incumbent


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Date: 9th April 2025

PARISH OF BUXTED AND HADLOW DOWN

CHARITY REG NO. 1130925

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

Summary of Receipts and Payments

	Note	Unrestricted		Restricted Funds	Total All Funds 2024	Total All Funds 2023
		General Fund	Designated Funds			
		£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Donations and legacies		62,432	5,046	915	68,393	74,608
Government grants		4,638	-	1,934	6,572	10,345
Charitable activities		7,533	-	-	7,533	8,082
Other trading activities		18,759	1,100	-	19,859	22,975
Investments		1,133	3,138	6,215	10,486	12,782
Total before extra-ordinary receipts	4	94,495	9,284	9,064	112,843	128,792
Extra-ordinary receipts		9,188	-	-	9,188	9,816
Total Receipts		103,683	9,284	9,064	122,031	138,608
Payments						
Cost of raising funds		530	-	-	530	1,575
Charitable costs		87,576	1,411	4,103	93,090	112,351
Trading costs		7,700	-	-	7,700	8,367
Total before extra-ordinary payments	6	95,806	1,411	4,103	101,320	122,293
Extra Ordinary Payments		9,188	8,902	2,098	20,188	34,996
Total Payments		104,994	10,313	6,201	121,508	157,289
Net surplus/(shortfall) before transfers		(1,311)	(1,029)	2,863	523	(18,681)
Transfers between funds	7	2,050	-	(2,050)	-	-
Net surplus/(shortfall) after transfers		739	(1,029)	813	523	(18,681)
Sale of Investments - Q Organ Fund		-	-	-	-	9,949
Sale of Investments - Edentree	5	-	-	-	-	52,472
Bank/deposit accounts at 1 January		28,972	42,962	28,314	100,248	56,508
Bank/deposit accounts at 31 December		29,711	41,933	29,127	100,771	100,248

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Assets	Note	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total All Funds 2024	Total All Funds 2023
		General Fund	Designated Funds				
Bank Current account		5,330	-	-	-	5,330	13,738
CBF C of E Deposit Funds		24,381	41,933	29,127	-	95,441	86,510
Total Bank/Deposit Accounts		29,711	41,933	29,127	-	100,771	100,248
E - 2024 Heating costs (Costello Trust)		1,197	-	(1,197)	-	-	-
CCLA Q4 Interest		290	484	356	-	1,130	881
Gift Aid recoverable		1,606	-	-	-	1,606	3,974
VAT recoverable (by grant)		-	-	-	-	-	580
Total Debtors		3,093	484	(841)	-	2,736	5,435
Investments at Market Value		-	36,573	55,151	126,797	218,521	212,840
Total Assets		32,804	78,990	83,437	126,797	322,028	318,523
Liabilities							
2025 & 2026 -Wedding & Blessing Deposits		500	-	-	-	500	400
December 2024 - Utilities		550	-	-	-	550	687
V - Churchyard Maintenance		-	-	-	-	-	620
E - Stonework Repairs		-	-	-	-	-	2,518
E - Electrical Condition Report		-	-	-	-	-	828
Archdeacon's Loan	8	10,000	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Q - Audio System		-	-	-	-	-	7,141
Total Liabilities		11,050	-	-	-	11,050	22,194

Statement of Funds

Designated Funds	Deposit Accounts					Investments @ mkt. val.
	Jan 1	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Dec 31	
Q - Projects Fund	31,969	7,292	(10,313)	-	28,948	36,573
V - Projects Fund	2	1,123	-	-	1,125	-
E - Projects Fund	10,991	869	-	-	11,860	-
Total Designated Funds	42,962	9,284	(10,313)	-	41,933	36,573
Restricted Funds						
Q - Organ/Music Fund	5,045	2,128	(736)	-	6,437	29,693
V - Fabric Fund	1,423	233	-	-	1,656	-
E - Churchyard Fund	4,072	2,893	(2,661)	-	4,304	25,458
V - Churchyard Fund	832	44	-	-	876	-
E - Costello Trust	16,942	3,059	(4,147)	-	15,854	-
Charity collections	-	706	(706)	-	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	28,314	9,063	(8,250)	-	29,127	55,151
Endowment Funds						
Abdelnoor Trust (E)						11,301
Costello Trust (E)						115,496
Total Endowment Funds						126,797

This Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2024, including the notes following, was approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf by

Signed:

Date: 9th April 2025

Notes to the Annual Financial Report

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and current Church Accounting Regulations, using the Receipts and Payments basis.
- The financial statements do not include the results of The Friends of St. Margaret the Queen Buxted, a separately registered charity, which raises funds and makes grants to the PCC against specific fabric and churchyard expenditure at St Margaret's Church.
- The PCC maintains a designated fund for each church, primarily to earmark funds specifically donated to that church from legacies, etc.

4. Analysis of total receipts					
	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total All Funds 2024	Total All Funds 2023
	General Fund	Designated Funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
Planned giving (excl tax refunds)	24,453	-	-	24,453	24,909
Planned giving (no tax refunds)	1,102	-	-	1,102	1,954
Loose cash collections	15,941	-	-	15,941	15,911
Gift Aid recovered	12,253	22	159	12,434	10,270
Legacies	-	5,024	-	5,024	1,000
Grants - non-Government	720	-	-	720	720
Other donations	7,963	-	50	8,013	17,274
Charitable donations	-	-	706	706	2,570
Total donations and legacies	62,432	5,046	915	68,393	74,608
Grants - Central Government	1,459	-	-	1,459	6,137
Grants - District Government	-	-	1,934	1,934	1,878
Grants - Local Government	3,179	-	-	3,179	2,330
Total Government Grants	4,638	-	1,934	6,572	10,345
Fees for weddings and funerals	7,533	-	-	7,533	8,082
Total charitable activities	7,533	-	-	7,533	8,082
Fund-raising events	972	1,100	-	2,072	5,235
Buxted Messenger receipts	5,063	-	-	5,063	4,462
St. Mary's Hall receipts	8,871	-	-	8,871	9,694
Other Church events	3,853	-	-	3,853	3,584
Total trading activities	18,759	1,100	-	19,859	22,975
Dividends on investments	-	1,192	4,160	5,352	11,263
Deposit Interest	1,133	1,946	2,055	5,134	1,519
Total Investment income	1,133	3,138	6,215	10,486	12,782
Total receipts (before extra-ordinary)	94,495	9,284	9,064	112,843	128,792
<i>Extra-ordinary receipts</i>					
Grants from The Friends of St. Margaret's	9,188	-	-	9,188	8,716
Insurance Claim - Q	-	-	-	-	1,100
Sale of Investments - Wyvern Organ	-	-	-	-	-
Total Extra-ordinary receipts	9,188	-	-	9,188	9,816
Total Receipts	103,683	9,284	9,064	122,031	138,608

- Edentree Investment Management company closed the Amity Balanced Fund in September 2023, in which we invested General and Q Projects Funds. The liquidated proceeds are currently held in interest bearing CCLA deposit accounts.

Notes to the Annual Financial Report

6 Analysis of total payments					
	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total All Funds 2024	Total All Funds 2023
	General Fund	Designated Funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
Fundraising expenses	530	-	-	530	1,575
Total cost of raising funds	530	-	-	530	1,575
Charitable grants and donations	-	-	706	706	3,570
Parish share to Chichester Diocese	54,600	-	-	54,600	52,000
Insurance of churches	7,228	-	-	7,228	7,164
Clergy expenses	7,559	-	-	7,559	7,466
Sunday school/Children's work	421	-	-	421	475
Water, Gas, Electricity, and Oil	6,713	-	-	6,713	9,368
Printing & photocopying	853	-	-	853	2,020
Other regular church running costs	3,311	96	736	4,143	10,061
Church events	1,319	-	-	1,319	1,349
Church maintenance & redecoration	3,993	659	2,661	7,313	16,921
Miscellaneous costs	1,579	656	-	2,235	1,957
Total charitable costs	87,576	1,411	4,103	93,090	112,351
Church hall expenses	4,509	-	-	4,509	5,293
Magazine printing and other costs	3,191	-	-	3,191	3,074
Total trading costs	7,700			7,700	8,367
Total payments (before extra-ordinary)	95,806	1,411	4,103	101,320	122,293
Extra-ordinary payments					
Fabric & ch'yard costs Q - "Friends"	9,188	-	-	9,188	8,716
Q - Audio System	-	7,141	-	7,141	7,093
Q - South Aisle Redevelopment	-	-	-	-	3,773
Q - Electrical Lighting upgrades	-	-	-	-	3,946
Q - Emergency Lighting	-	1,761	-	1,761	-
Q - Pipe Organ Repairs & Cleaning	-	-	-	-	6,468
E - Stone Repairs	-	-	2,098	2,098	-
E - Archdeacon's Loan repayment	-	-	-	-	5,000
Total Extra-ordinary payments	9,188	8,902	2,098	20,188	34,996
Total Payments	104,994	10,313	6,201	121,508	157,289

7 Transfers between funds				
E Heating Costs 2023				
- Costello Trust Deposit Account			(1,250)	(1,250)
- CBF Deposit 1D	1,250			1,250
E Lightning Conductor				
- Costello Trust Deposit Account			(800)	(800)
- General Funds	800			800
Total transfers between funds	2,050	0	(2,050)	0

8 An Archdeacon's loan of £20,000 was received in 2016 to help fund the roof repairs and vestry conversion at St Mark's, which has now been paid in full. An additional loan of £10,000 was received in 2019, to help fund the gutter repairs at St Mary's - the interest free loan is repayable by April 2026.

KEY: Q = St. Margaret the Queen V = St. Mary the Virgin E = St. Mark the Evangelist

**Independent Examiner's Report
to the members/trustees of the Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

As trustees of the charity, the members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention

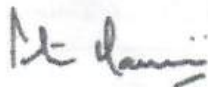
Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - To prepare accounts which accord with these accounting recordshave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attentions should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Peter Haining FCA

The Kings Mill Practice
Horns Lodge
Meres Lane
Cross-in-Hand
Heathfield
East Sussex
TN21 0TY

Date: 28th March 2025

Accounts



PARISH OF BUXTED AND HADLOW DOWN

CHARITY REG NO. 1130925

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Report for the year ended 31st December 2023

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Incumbent: The Rev'd C. Peter Molloy, The Rectory, Church Road, Buxted, Uckfield, TN22 4LP

Churchwardens: Mrs Margaret Scott, 5 Totease Mews, Church Road, Buxted, TN22 4AF

Mr. Martin Shaw, Coopers Green House, Coopers Green, Uckfield, TN22 4AT

Bankers: HSBC Bank plc, 63 High St., Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1XQ

Indep. Examiner: Mr Peter Haining FCA, Horns Lodge, Meres Lane, Cross-in-Hand, TN21 0TY

Churches: St. Margaret's Church, Buxted Park, Buxted
St. Mary's Church, Church Road, Buxted
St. Mark's Church, Main Road, Hadlow Down

Website: www.bhdchurches.co.uk

Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down

Trustees' Annual Report

for the year ended 31 December 2023

In some ways 2023 has been a season of considerable change and uncertainty: we gathered to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles and the ushering in of a new era; we witnessed the beginning of yet another tragic war; we, with most of the Western world faced unprecedented cost of living increases with the rising cost of energy and borrowing rates.

Through it all, we carried on in the parish with the work which has been our task here since 1250- proclaiming the good news that Jesus Christ has died and rose again. That through him we have been set free to live and love according to his pattern, and we also have the assurance of eternal life after death again following our Lord. We give thanks for the heritage of faith that has been passed on by those who have gone before us, and we pray that through the grace of the Holy Spirit, we will be faithful in our day as they were in theirs. The following aims and objectives guided our activities in 2023.

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in:

- The promotion of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England;
- Promoting the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social, evangelistic and ecumenical within the parish.
- Working to know Jesus better and making Him better known;
- Giving practical support and care for people in the parish, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of level of need or ability to pay;
- Providing financial support to those in need and to other organisations with similar objectives.

What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives

When planning our activities for the year, the PCC continued to consider the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'.

The council has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, fully recognising its duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

In 2023, we endeavoured to continue with the following objectives to fulfil our aims:

- Enabling as many people as possible both to worship at our churches and to become part of the parish community in Buxted and Hadlow Down.
- Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers
- Maintaining an overview of worship throughout the parish, whilst considering how services can involve the many groups that live within the parish
- Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament
- Offering worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel
- Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish, including the sick, elderly and bereaved
- Helping the poor and needy of the parish
- Giving grants / collections to missionary organisations and other charities
- Reaching out to the unchurched through involvement in village activities and events, by social events organised by the PCC and by use of parish/village magazines, emails and Facebook
- Maintaining the fabric of the church buildings as historic centres, focuses of life in the parish and sacred spaces for personal prayer and contemplation

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives

Attendance at worship

We have been grateful to see new families and people join us in 2023, and mourn the loss of some who have gone to their eternal reward. The church family welcomes visitors from within as well as outside the parish boundary. Visitors attend by personal choice and we are pleased to welcome people from all walks of life to take part in the life of the church. We contend that voluntary attendance to worship the Lord Jesus Christ is a major demonstration of the public benefit of our activities.

At 31 December 2022, there were 182 parishioners on the electoral roll, of whom 62 were not resident within the parish. During 2023, 6 names were added and 11 removed, due to death or leaving the parish.

The average regular weekly attendance across the parish, over the year, was 86 adults and 12 children (excluding school services).

We continued a full complement of Services at Christmas and Easter. Happily, these numbers continue to increase.

Our Director of Music has led the choir at St. Margaret's in providing a high-quality music program and engaged with Buxted Primary School, providing music for school assemblies.

Our Sunday School Program at St. Margaret's continues to bless the congregation with a growing number of young families. 2023 also saw 2 additional servers join our Youth Server's Guild, taking our total number to 5.

Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers

In 2023, we had 8 Baptisms, 8 weddings, 1 blessing, 14 funerals, 4 Memorial Services, 1 Crematorium service and 3 Burials of Ashes. We maintained the existing pattern of 4 services on a Sunday in the parish (with the exception of 5th Sundays and Patronal feasts where we gathered for united worship). In addition, special services were arranged including; The Cross in Words and Music on Good Friday, A Service Commemorating the Coronation of King Charles III, Royal British Legion Remembrance Services and Lessons and Carols.

Outreach

We were pleased to see an increase in Outreach activities in 2023. St. Mary's hosted a Lenten Quiet Day with the Bishop of Lewes speaking. We had a well-attended Open Day and Craft Fair at St Mary's. St. Margaret's hosted a new initiative with a very successful Open Day in October. We had a lovely garden party in Coopers Green and a Harvest Supper and Lunch. We were pleased to welcome Nicola Stock back for a concert also in October. The Social Committee has already set an ambitious calendar for 2024 and we hope to grow in this area.

The parish has strong links with both Buxted School and St. Mark's School Hadlow Down. Both schools usually hold services, at least twice a term in St. Margaret's, or once a week at St. Mark's. While St. Mark's has always enjoyed a good relationship with the school, St. Margaret's has seen a real boost since the arrival of the new Head of Buxted School. The Rector is ex-officio a Governor of both schools and Lara Roberts is a Foundation Governor at Buxted School. The PCC Foundation Governors at St. Mark's, for all or part of the year, were, Andy Cook, Sue Willmott, Dick Brown, and Diana Midson.

The Buxted Messenger continued to provide monthly details of parish and community news and events. The monthly print run is 440 copies and the magazine is available on subscription or to purchase in various places in Buxted and Five Ash Down. The Hadlow Down magazine, which is delivered to all households in the village, also includes details of parish and church matters.

Provision of the church buildings and churchyards for people to enjoy

We are proud of the fact that all three of our churches are usually open each day, for all to enjoy; whether as a visitor or seeking a quiet place for prayer and contemplation. The comments from visitors are universally appreciative of the fact that they are open, show that they are cared for and provide a tranquil space. Whilst their central role is as a place of worship, we have also used them as facilities for the benefit of the wider community.

The fact that our churches and their churchyards remain open, and in a good state of repair, is thanks to the ongoing support and hard-work of so many people; but having the benefit of historic buildings brings with it responsibilities. This year we underwent a new round of quinquennial inspections, while there are no major issues, all of our churches require upkeep and we will need to move forward with those recommendations as soon as reasonably practicable, and have already made good progress. Our churchyards also benefit from the attendance of a number of volunteers, both regular and those at ad hoc working parties.

Issues of Health & Safety are taken seriously, with matters resolved as they arise. No significant issues were reported in the year.

We are grateful to the Friends of St. Margaret's for grants to enable the works to be undertaken without undue pressure on the parish's funds. This year St. Margaret's saw repairs to the boiler house roof, and repairs to the two south doors.

St Mark's has a number of maintenance issues that need to be addressed. Some critical repair to stonework took place this year. We have also been grateful for the interim Head at St. Mark's CEP School, who has been addressing the drainage issue which had caused flooding in the St. Mark's Churchyard and created damp in the church. The bulk of that work will be completed in the summer of 2024, and we can then look at remedying some of the damage to the church after that.

St. Mary's underwent some tile replacement work on the spire and vestry roofs, and a re-securing of the lightening rod. Funds were raised for the restoration of the mural. These did not reach the point of initiating a fundraising campaign for a substantial restoration, but they are being held with the hope that the existing murals can be preserved.

St Mary's Church Hall has been steadily increasing its use and is becoming a source of income for the parish as well as a great resource for the community. We were pleased to offer the Hall free of charge as a gathering place for the Ukrainians living in Buxted and broader area.

Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish

The pastoral work in the parish remained an ongoing focus during the past year. We are grateful to Fr. David Milnes for working with the Rector. We were also joined by Fr. Simon Hobbs, this year as both priest and organist. He is currently assisting with some vacancies in the Heathfield area, but we hope to see him return soon.

The Lunch Club has continued to operate. This has been aimed at the elderly and those living alone and regularly provided a hot Sunday lunch to approximately 30 people.

We were also able to make a substantial gift to support a family facing considerable health issues in the parish. Through the raising of private funds and through the gift from the PCC.

Financial review - General Fund

The classification of receipts and payments continues to follow the latest Charity Commission and Church of England directives. The financial results of "The Friends of St Margaret the Queen Buxted" are not included, as this is a separately registered charity. The following are the items for the fiscal year to 31st December 2023:

- Before extra-ordinary items, total receipts
 - 2023: £106,345 (2022: £101,192)
- Before extra-ordinary items, total payment
 - 2023: £110,004 (2022: £105,193)
- Discussion of Key Payments in 2023:
 - Water, Gas Electricity & Oil: Utility costs rose by circa 57% to £9,368 compared with £5,970 in 2022. Fortunately, in October 2023 our annual fixed energy tariffs, purchased through the Parish Buying Scheme, dropped significantly, so it is anticipated that utility costs will decrease for 2024 as a whole.
 - Trustee payments and expenses: The PCC supported the incumbent by paying £1,992.00 (2022 £1,794). No payments were made to other PCC members.
 - Sharing the ministry costs of the Diocese of Chichester: The PCC committed to a parish share for 2023 of £52,000 (2022: £57,861), this being circa 67.6% of the amount budgeted by the diocese. The largest expenditure of the PCC, the parish share is paid to the diocese for our share of all churches' Parish Ministry Costs. This amount covers the stipend, pension, and housing costs of the incumbent and also a standard sum for diocesan central costs, clergy training and a contribution to national church funds. We have not been able to afford to meet 100% of our parish share since 2020, but the PCC has increased its pledge to £54,600 for 2024 (circa 69.3% of the amount budgeted by the diocese).
- Net Surplus / (Shortfall): After extra-ordinary items, transfers between funds and a December appeal for funds (which raised circa £8,000), the General Fund showed a net shortfall of £458 (2022: £6,029 shortfall).
- Bank/deposit Accounts: The General Fund showed an increase in cash balance to £28,972 at the end of 2023 from £11,783 at the end of 2022 due to the sale of investments from the Edentree account.

Financial review - Designated Funds

The designated projects funds for each church holds legacies and other donations that were felt by the PCC to have been given for that church or were general reserves of that church when the single parish was created. In 2023 funds were spent at St Margaret's on the installation of a new audio system, a new rectors board, improvements to lighting, architect's fees towards re-ordering plans and further assessment of the reuse of the burial ground. Wherever possible, the PCC respects donors' wishes and uses the funds for one-off projects at the specified church.

Financial review - Restricted Funds

At St Margaret's, the final phase of extensive cleaning and general overhaul of the Bevington Pipe Organ was carried out in February 2023. At St Mark's, there was expenditure on maintenance of the churchyard and repayment of the balance of an archdeacon's loan, which was taken out in 2016 to pay for the vestry conversion and roof repairs. Other restricted funds are used, wherever possible, for the purposes intended, particularly where the endowments provide income.

Why we hold some money in reserve

The PCC's policy is to ensure that sufficient reserves are held to cover three months of revenue expenditure and known commitments in the medium term, including:

- Expected capital expenditure for maintaining the physical state of the three listed church buildings over the next five years.
- Other commitments of expenditure linked to mission.

The PCC believes that, whilst our reserves currently exceed our minimum requirements, uncertainty over future revenue streams suggest that this is an appropriate and prudent policy to maintain.

Funds over and above day-to-day working requirements are deposited in CBF Church of England deposit accounts. This Policy is reviewed on an annual basis.

Structure, governance and management

The Parish of Buxted & Hadlow Down is a single parish with three parish churches. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission as required by the Charities Act 2011. (Reg. No. XT7790) Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

A separate registered charity, *The Friends of St. Margaret the Queen, Buxted* (Reg. No. 282334) raises funds for the repair and maintenance of the fabric and churchyard at St Margaret's Church.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The PCC membership consists of the incumbent, the churchwardens, the licensed reader, members of the Deanery Synod and church members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the Parish. Regular worshippers are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC, or to join one of the three church committees / parish groups, where we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience.

PCC members are responsible for making decisions on a wide range of matters affecting the parish, including compliance with health and safety and disability legislation and safeguarding of children and adults. In their capacity as trustees, members of the PCC are responsible for the stewardship of funds and for the appropriate accounting and reporting of parish finances.

The PCC met seven times during the year with an average level of attendance of 65.2%. One of these meetings were inquorate. The individual Church Committees met as needed and the appropriate Deputy Warden subsequently drew the attention of the PCC to matters discussed and decisions made at local level, or to be agreed by the full PCC.

PCC members who have served at any time from 1 January 2023 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members:


Incumbent	Rev. Peter Molloy*	Chairman
Licensed Lay Reader	Mr John Thorpe	
Churchwarden	Mrs Margaret Scott*	
Churchwarden	Mr Martin Shaw*	
Treasurer	Mr. Justin Roberts	
Deanery Synod Representative	Mrs Patricia Weeks	
Deanery Synod Representative	Ms Lesley Watson	
Elected laity members:	Mr Anthony Arratoon	
	Mrs Valerie Banks	
	Mrs Samantha Butler	
	Mrs Diana Midson	
	Mr John Palmer*	
	Mrs Janet Tourell*	
	Paul Dillon-Robinson	
	Mrs Sue Willmott	
	Mrs Allison Ledward	

Note: Maximum of 12 permitted

* Standing Committee Members. This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to directions given by the PCC.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC on 16th April 2024 signed on its behalf by:

Rev. C. Peter Molloy - Chair and Incumbent


.....
Date: 16th April 2024

Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

Summary of Receipts and Payments

	Note	Unrestricted		Restricted Funds	Total All Funds 2023	Total All Funds 2022
		General Funds	Designated Funds			
		£	£			
Receipts						
Donations and legacies		67,437	1,000	6,171	74,608	68,652
Government grants		6,716	457	3,172	10,345	10,416
Charitable activities		8,082	-	-	8,082	6,498
Other trading activities		22,975	-	-	22,975	18,241
Investments		1,135	3,679	7,968	12,782	12,222
Total before extra-ordinary receipts	4	106,345	5,136	17,311	128,792	116,029
Extra-ordinary receipts		9,816	-	-	9,816	29,974
Total Receipts		116,161	5,136	17,311	138,608	146,003
Payments						-
Cost of raising funds		1,575	-	-	1,575	925
Charitable costs		100,062	4,054	8,235	112,351	103,253
Trading costs		8,367	-	-	8,367	6,529
Total before extra-ordinary payments	6	110,004	4,054	8,235	122,293	110,707
<i>Extra Ordinary Payments</i>		8,716	14,712	11,568	34,996	42,062
Total Payments		118,720	18,766	19,803	157,289	152,769
Net surplus/(shortfall) before transfers		(2,559)	(13,630)	(2,492)	(18,681)	(6,766)
Transfers between Funds	7	2,101	-	(2,101)	-	-
Net surplus/(shortfall) after transfers		(458)	(13,630)	(4,593)	(18,681)	(6,766)
Sale of Investments - Q Organ Fund		172	-	9,777	9,949	-
Sale of Investments - Edentree	5	17,475	34,997	-	52,472	-
Bank/deposit accounts at 1 January		11,783	21,595	23,130	56,508	63,274
Bank/deposit accounts at 31 December		28,972	42,962	28,314	100,248	56,508

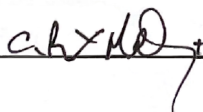
Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Assets	Note	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total All Funds 2023	Total All Funds 2022
		General Fund	Designated Funds				
Bank Current Account		13,738	-	-	-	13,738	9,973
CBF C of E Deposit Funds		15,234	42,962	28,314	-	86,510	46,535
Total Bank & Deposit Accounts		28,972	42,962	28,314	-	100,248	56,508
E - 2023 Heating costs (Costello Trust)		1,250	-	(1,250)	-	-	-
CCLA Q4 2023 Interest		201	320	360	-	881	-
Gift Aid recoverable		3,815	159	-	-	3,974	2,032
VAT recoverable (by grant)		580	-	-	-	580	446
Total Debtors		5,846	479	(890)	-	5,435	2,478
Investments at Market Value		-	35,501	53,826	123,513	212,840	271,836
Total Assets		34,818	78,942	81,250	123,513	318,523	330,822
Liabilities							
2024 & 2025 -Wedding & Blessing Deposits		400	-	-	-	400	800
December 2023 - Utilities		687	-	-	-	687	2,307
V - Churchyard Maintenance		620	-	-	-	620	-
E - Stonework Repairs		420	-	2,098	-	2,518	-
E - Electrical Condition Report		828	-	-	-	828	-
Archdeacon's Loan 8		10,000	-	-	-	10,000	15,000
Q - Audio System		-	7,141	-	-	7,141	-
Parish Share 2022		-	-	-	-	-	13,954
Q - Architects Fees re Reordering		-	-	-	-	-	2,773
Total Liabilities		12,955	7,141	2,098	-	22,194	34,834

Statement of Funds

Designated Funds	Deposit Accounts					Investments @ mkt. val.
	Jan 1	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Dec 31	
Q - Projects Fund	12,166	38,570	(18,767)	-	31,969	35,501
V - Projects Fund	2	-	-	-	2	-
E - Projects Fund	9,427	1,564	-	-	10,991	-
Total Designated Funds	21,595	40,134	(18,767)	-	42,962	35,501
Restricted Funds						
Q - Organ/Music Fund	797	13,045	(8,797)	-	5,045	28,938
V - Fabric Fund	1	2,575	-	(1,153)	1,423	-
E - Churchyard Fund	3,855	2,705	(2,488)	-	4,072	24,888
V - Churchyard Fund	806	26	-	-	832	-
E - Costello Trust	17,671	5,219	(5,000)	(948)	16,942	-
Charity Collections	-	2,570	(2,570)	-	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	23,130	26,140	(18,855)	(2,101)	28,314	53,826
Endowment Funds						
Abdelnoor Trust (E)						10,970
Costello Trust (E)						112,543
Total Endowment Funds						123,513

This Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2023, including the notes following, was approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf by

Signed: 

Notes to the Annual Financial Report

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and current Church Accounting Regulations, using the Receipts and Payments basis.
- The financial statements do not include the results of *The Friends of St. Margaret the Queen Buxted*, a separately registered charity, which raises funds and makes grants to the PCC against specific fabric and churchyard expenditure at St Margaret's Church.
- The PCC maintains a designated fund for each church, primarily to earmark funds specifically donated to that church from legacies, etc.

4. Analysis of total receipts	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total All Funds 2023	Total All Funds 2022
	General Fund	Designated Funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
Planned giving (excl tax refunds)	24,909	-	-	24,909	24,796
Planned giving (no tax refunds)	1,954	-	-	1,954	2,106
Loose cash collections	15,911	-	-	15,911	17,084
Gift Aid recovered	10,270	-	-	10,270	10,397
Legacies	-	1,000	-	1,000	-
Grants - non-Government	720	-	-	720	5,207
Other donations	13,673	-	3,601	17,274	7,957
Charitable donations	-	-	2,570	2,570	1,105
Total donations and legacies	67,437	1,000	6,171	74,608	68,652
Grants - Central Government	4,386	457	1,294	6,137	7,492
Grants - District Government	-	-	1,878	1,878	1,674
Grants - Local Government	2,330	-	-	2,330	1,250
Total Government Grants	6,716	457	3,172	10,345	10,416
Fees for weddings and funerals	8,082	-	-	8,082	6,498
Total charitable activities	8,082	-	-	8,082	6,498
Fund-raising events	5,235	-	-	5,235	3,819
Buxted Messenger receipts	4,462	-	-	4,462	4,233
St. Mary's Hall receipts	9,694	-	-	9,694	7,679
Other Church events	3,584	-	-	3,584	2,510
Total trading activities	22,975	-	-	22,975	18,241
Dividends on investments	1,049	3,102	7,112	11,263	11,610
Deposit Interest	86	577	856	1,519	612
Total Investment income	1,135	3,679	7,968	12,782	12,222
Total receipts (before extra-ordinary)	106,345	5,136	17,311	128,792	116,029
<i>Extra-ordinary receipts</i>					
Grants from The Friends of St. Margaret's	8,716	-	-	8,716	29,974
Insurance Claim - Q	1,100	-	-	1,100	-
Sale of Investments - Wyvern Organ	-	-	-	-	-
Total Extra-ordinary receipts	9,816	-	-	9,816	29,974
Total Receipts	116,161	5,136	17,311	138,608	146,003

- Edentree Investment Management closed the Amity Balanced Fund in September 2023, in which we had invested General and Q Projects Funds. The liquidated proceeds were transferred to interest bearing CCLA deposit accounts.

Notes to the Annual Financial Report (continued)

6 Analysis of total payments					
	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total All Funds 2023	Total All Funds 2022
	General Fund	Designated Funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
Fundraising expenses	1,575	-	-	1,575	925
Total cost of raising funds	1,575	-	-	1,575	925
Charitable grants and donations	1,000	-	2,570	3,570	1,105
Parish share to Chichester Diocese	52,000	-	-	52,000	57,861
Insurance of churches	7,164	-	-	7,164	6,513
Clergy expenses	7,466	-	-	7,466	7,456
Sunday school/Children's work	475	-	-	475	486
Water, Gas, Electricity, and Oil	9,368	-	-	9,368	5,970
Printing & photocopying	2,020	-	-	2,020	1,676
Other regular church running costs	8,178	-	1,883	10,061	6,791
Church events	1,349	-	-	1,349	1,351
Church maintenance & redecoration	10,045	3,094	3,782	16,921	11,630
Miscellaneous costs	997	960	-	1,957	2,414
Total charitable costs	100,062	4,054	8,235	112,351	103,253
Church hall expenses	5,293	-	-	5,293	3,409
Magazine printing and other costs	3,074	-	-	3,074	3,120
Total trading costs	8,367			8,367	6,529
Total payments (before extra-ordinary)	110,004	4,054	8,235	122,293	110,707
Extra-ordinary payments					
Fabric & ch'yard costs Q - "Friends"	8,716	-	-	8,716	29,974
Q - Audio System	-	7,093	-	7,093	-
Q - South Aisle Redevelopment	-	3,773	-	3,773	5,344
Q - Electrical Lighting upgrades	-	3,846	100	3,946	-
Q - Wyvern Organ	-	-	-	-	568
Q - Pipe Organ Repairs & Cleaning	-	-	6,468	6,468	3,326
V - Mural Repairs	-	-	-	-	2,850
E - Archdeacon's Loan repayment	-	-	5,000	5,000	-
Total Extra-ordinary payments	8,716	14,712	11,568	34,996	42,062
Total Payments	118,720	18,766	19,803	157,289	152,769

7 Transfers between funds				
E Heating Costs 2022				
- Costello Trust Deposit Account			(948)	(948)
- CBF Deposit 1D	948			948
V Mural Repairs 2022				
- V Fabric Fund			(1,153)	(1,153)
- General Funds	1,153			1,153
Total transfers between funds	2,101	0	(2,101)	0

8 An Archdeacon's loan of £20,000 was received in 2016 to help fund the roof repairs and vestry conversion at St Mark's. The remaining balance of £5,000 was repaid in 2023. An additional loan of £10,000 was received in 2019, to help fund the gutter repairs at St Mary's - the interest free loan is repayable by April 2026.

KEY: Q = St. Margaret the Queen V = St. Mary the Virgin E = St. Mark the Evangelist

Independent Examiner's Report

to the members/trustees of the Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

As trustees of the charity, the members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention

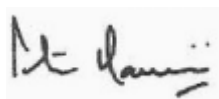
Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - To prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attentions should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Peter Haining FCA

The Kings Mill Practice

Horns Lodge

Meres Lane

Cross-in-Hand

Heathfield

East Sussex

TN21 0TY

Date: 5th April 2024

Accounts



Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down

CHARITY REG NO. 1130925

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Report for the year ended 31st December 2022

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Incumbent: The Rev'd C. Peter Molloy, The Rectory, Church Road, Buxted
Uckfield, TN22 4LP

Churchwardens: Mr Duncan Irvine, 25 Mead Lane, Buxted, TN22 4AS
Mrs Margaret Scott, 5 Totease Mews, Church Road, Buxted, TN22
4AF

Bankers: HSBC Bank plc, 63 High St., Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1XQ

Indep. Examiner: Mr Peter Haining FCA, Horns Lodge, Meres Lane, Cross-in-Hand,
TN21 0TY

Churches: St. Margaret the Queen, Buxted Park, Buxted
St. Mary the Virgin, Church Road, Buxted
St. Mark the Evangelist, Main Road, Hadlow Down

Website: www.bhdchurches.co.uk

Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down

Trustees' Annual Report

for the year ended 31 December 2022

The direct impact of the Coronavirus pandemic continues to wane with most of the remaining Covid Protocols being lifted over the year. We still saw that some parishioners were disinclined to return to worship, or receive in both kinds. This will probably continue for some time. We were pleased to see a significant return at special services, particularly around Easter and Christmas. However, the lingering effect of the pandemic, has reduced congregations, and in particular people stepping forward to volunteer in critical areas. We struggle to fill key leadership positions and our Social Committee has really struggled to find members. But we are grateful that our services are largely returned and we continue to rebuild slowly.

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in:

- The promotion of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England;
- Promoting the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social, evangelistic and ecumenical within the parish.
- Working to know Jesus better and making Him better known;
- Giving practical support and care for people in the parish, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of level of need or ability to pay;
- Providing financial support to those in need and to other organisations with similar objectives.

What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives

When planning our activities for the year, the PCC continued to consider the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'.

The council has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, fully recognising its duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Notwithstanding the pandemic referred to above, we endeavoured to continue with the following objectives to fulfil our aims:

- Enabling as many people as possible both to worship at our churches and to become part of the parish community in Buxted and Hadlow Down.
- Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers
- Maintaining an overview of worship throughout the parish, whilst considering how services can involve the many groups that live within the parish
- Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament
- Offering worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel
- Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish, including the sick, elderly and bereaved
- Helping the poor and needy of the parish
- Giving grants / collections to missionary organisations and other charities
- Reaching out to the unchurched through involvement in village activities and events, by social events organised by the PCC and by use of parish/village magazines, emails and Facebook
- Maintaining the fabric of the church buildings as historic centres, focuses of life in the parish and sacred spaces for personal prayer and contemplation

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives

Attendance at worship

The church family welcomes visitors from within as well as outside the parish boundary. Visitors attend by personal choice and we are pleased to welcome people from all walks of life to take part in the life of the church. We contend that voluntary attendance to worship the Lord Jesus Christ is a major demonstration of the public benefit of our activities.

At 31 December 2022, there were 185 parishioners on the electoral roll, of whom 62 were not resident within the parish. During 2022, 3 names were added and 3 removed, due to death or leaving the parish.

The average regular weekly attendance across the parish, over the year, was 86 adults and 12 children (excluding school services). These numbers continue to be reduced, both through closure of services and the impact of the pandemic.

We were able to restore a full complement of Services at Christmas and Easter. Happily, these numbers were consistent with or greater than pre-covid attendance.

During the year the leadership of a new Director of Music, has brought a high level of quality to the St. Margaret's music programme and engaged with Buxted Primary School, providing music for school assemblies.

Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers

In 2022, we had 5 Baptisms, 10 weddings, 3 blessings, and 6 funerals. Usual services (with some restrictions) were restored since the pandemic. In addition, special services were arranged including; The Cross in Words and Music on Good Friday, Prayers were offered for the Queen's Jubilee and a United Parish Service to mark the Death of Queen Elizabeth II, Royal British Legion Remembrance Services and Nine Lessons and Carols. The Sunday School programme at St. Margaret's attracts a wide range of children, typically seeing between 5-12 children each Sunday. There are also quite a few younger ones who make good use of the children's table and supplies during the services. Additionally, we have been blessed with 5 servers who assist with worship on Sundays and at special services.

Outreach

Parish events were severely curtailed during the pandemic, and we have struggled to restore them. However, the Open Day and Craft Fair at St Mary's did manage to go ahead. We had a lovely garden party in Maresfield and a Harvest Supper. We are slowly building up our calendar of concerts and we hope to grow in this area.

The parish has strong links with both Buxted School and St. Mark's School Hadlow Down. Both schools usually hold services, at least twice a term in St. Margaret's, and once a week at St. Mark's. While St. Mark's has always enjoyed a good relationship with the school, St. Margaret's has seen a real boost since the arrival of the new Head of Buxted School. The Rector is ex-officio a Governor of both schools and Lara Roberts is a Foundation Governor at Buxted School. The PCC Foundation Governors at St. Mark's, for all or part of the year, were, Andy Cook, Angela Wilkes (Co-vice chair), Sue Willmott and Diana Midson.

The Buxted Messenger continued to provide monthly details of parish and community news and events. The monthly print run is 440 copies and the magazine is available on subscription or to purchase in various places in Buxted and Five Ash Down. The Hadlow Down magazine, which is delivered to all households in the village, also includes details of parish and church matters.

Provision of the church buildings and churchyards for people to enjoy

We are proud of the fact that all three of our churches are usually open each day, for all to enjoy; whether as a visitor or seeking a quiet place for prayer and contemplation. The comments from visitors are universally appreciative of the fact that they are open, show that they are cared for and provide a tranquil space. Whilst their central role is as a place of worship, we have also used them as facilities for the benefit of the wider community.

The fact that our churches and their churchyards remain open, and in a good state of repair, is thanks to the ongoing support and hard-work of so many people; but having the benefit of historic buildings brings with it responsibilities. In the last year each of our churches have continued to work on addressing the remaining recommendations from their quinquennial inspections. We are resolved to implement the recommendations as soon as reasonably practicable, and have already made good progress. Our churchyards also benefit from the attendance of a number of volunteers, both regular and those at ad hoc working parties.

Issues of Health & Safety are taken seriously, with matters resolved as they arise. No significant issues were reported in the year.

During the year a number of repairs required by the Quinquennial Report were carried out. For much of the year the north side of St. Margaret's was skirted with scaffolding. The initial scope of work expanded once contractors were able to take a close work. This included roofing tiles, window repairs and the restoration of the chimney above the clergy vestry. Happily, the work on that part of the church is now completed and we are in good shape moving forward. Repairs were also made to the churchyard wall.

We are grateful to the Friends of St Margaret's for grants to enable the works to be undertaken without undue pressure on the parish's funds.

St Mark's has a number of maintenance issues that need to be addressed. We need to resolve the issue of run-off coming from the St. Mark's School playground. Until we address this, we will not be able to remedy many issues that have been the result of the run-off.

St. Mary's is pursuing the restoration of the murals on the east wall of the sanctuary. There has been some consultation about this and we are looking at the viability of raising funds for this with the help of a professional fund-raiser.

Looking ahead, we have developed detailed plans for the re-ordering of St Margaret's to provide a kitchen facility, adequate toilet facilities, and the creation of a mezzanine floor in the tower, the upper section of which would be used as a bell-ringing chamber and the lower part as a choir vestry. Access to the mezzanine floor in the tower and a new 'upper room' above the kitchen would be provided from a new gallery to be constructed across the rear of the church. This follows the strong advice from the DAC that we should look to provide these facilities within the church rather than by means of an extension, as had been planned previously. We are now in the consultation phase of this project. Approval has been received for the re-use of part of the southern area of the churchyard, in order to address the steadily diminishing number of available grave spaces.

St Mary's Church Hall has been steadily increasing its use and is becoming a source of income for the parish as well as a great resource for the community. We were pleased to offer the Hall free of charge as a gathering place for the Ukrainians living in Buxted and broader area.

Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish

The pastoral work in the parish remained an ongoing focus during the past year. We are grateful to Fr David Milnes for working with the Rector.

A Pastoral Visitation Team has been developed which has been very effectively providing spiritual and emotional support for the housebound throughout the parish.

Where possible visits were made to parishioners in need of pastoral support, particularly for those facing family problems, loneliness or illness and those in hospital or bereaved.

The Lunch Club has recently managed to resume in operation. This has been aimed at the elderly and those living alone and regularly provided a hot Sunday lunch to approximately 30 people.

Financial review - General Fund

The classification of receipts and payments continues to follow the latest Charity Commission and Church of England directives. The financial results of "The Friends of St Margaret the Queen Buxted" are not included, as this is a separately registered charity.

Total receipts, before extra-ordinary items, were £101,192 (2021: £84,501). Although the increase of £16,691 (20%), compared with 2021, is positive and all areas of income (except for Investments) showed an increase, receipts still remain below pre-Covid levels by some £4,000.

Sharing the ministry costs of the Diocese of Chichester

The largest expenditure of the PCC was the sum of £57,861 (2021: £54,000) paid to the diocese for our share of all churches' Parish Ministry Costs. This amount covers the stipend, pension, and housing costs of the incumbent and also a standard sum for diocesan central costs, clergy training and a contribution to national church funds. Having had to reduce our 2021 contributions by 33%, our intention was to meet 100% of our contribution in 2022. However, we fell short of our target by 19.5% and carry forward a liability of £13,954. In addition, the PCC has committed to a parish share of £52,000 in 2023. Our utility costs, although insulated against market volatility for the first nine months of 2022 by our membership of the Parish Buying Scheme, still increased by 25%.

After transfers between funds, the General Fund showed a net shortfall of £6,029 for the year (2021: £7,507 surplus, although this surplus was only attained by the sale of investments). Had we met 100% of our parish share, our deficit for 2022 would have been in the region of £20,000.

Trustee payments and expenses

The PCC supported the incumbent by paying £1,794.00 (2021 £1,072.49). No payments were made to other PCC members.

Financial review - Designated Funds

The designated projects funds for each church holds legacies and other donations that were felt by the PCC to have been given for that church or were general reserves of that church when the single parish was created. In 2022 funds were spent at St Margaret's on architect's fees towards re-ordering plans and for the assessment of the reuse of the burial ground. Wherever possible, the PCC respects donors' wishes and uses the funds for one-off projects at the specified church.

Financial review - Restricted Funds

At St Margaret's, the first phase of extensive cleaning and general overhaul of the Bevington Pipe Organ was carried out in October 2022, with the final phase planned for early 2023. At St Mary's the expenditure was on the architect's fees relating to the 2021 stone and flint repairs, and the mural repair preliminary investigations. At St Mark's the expenditure was towards churchyard maintenance and architect's fees relating to the assessment of stone repairs. Other restricted funds are used, wherever possible, for the purposes intended, particularly where the endowments provide income.

Why we hold some money in reserve

The PCC's policy is to ensure that sufficient reserves are held to cover three months of revenue expenditure and known commitments in the medium term, including:

- Expected capital expenditure for maintaining the physical state of the three listed church buildings over the next five years.
- Other commitments of expenditure linked to mission.

The PCC believes that, whilst our reserves currently exceed our minimum requirements, uncertainty over future revenue streams suggest that this is an appropriate and prudent policy to maintain.

Funds over and above day-to-day working requirements are deposited in CBF Church of England deposit accounts. This Policy is reviewed on an annual basis.

Structure, governance and management

The Parish of Buxted & Hadlow Down is a single parish with three parish churches. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission as required by the Charities Act 2011. (Reg. No. XT7790) Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

A separate registered charity, *The Friends of St. Margaret the Queen, Buxted* (Reg. No. 282334) raises funds for the repair and maintenance of the fabric and churchyard at St Margaret's Church.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The PCC membership consists of the incumbent, the churchwardens, the licensed reader, members of the Deanery Synod and church members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the Parish. Regular worshippers are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC, or to join one of the three church committees / parish groups, where we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience.

PCC members are responsible for making decisions on a wide range of matters affecting the parish, including compliance with health and safety and disability legislation and safeguarding of children and adults. In their capacity as trustees, members of the PCC are responsible for the stewardship of funds and for the appropriate accounting and reporting of parish finances.

The PCC met six times during the year with an average level of attendance of 66.5%. All meetings were quorate. The individual Church Committees met as needed and the appropriate Deputy Warden subsequently drawing the attention of the PCC to matters discussed and decisions made at local level, or to be agreed by the full PCC.

PCC members who have served at any time from 1 January 2022 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members:

Incumbent	Rev. Peter Molloy*	Chairman
Licensed Lay Reader	Mr John Thorpe	
Churchwarden	Mrs Margaret Scott*	
Churchwarden and DSR	Mr Duncan Irvine*	
Mrs Patricia Weeks	Deanery Synod Representative	
Ms Lesley Watson	Deanery Synod Representative	

Elected laity members:

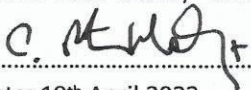
Mr Anthony Arratoon
Mrs Valerie Banks
Mrs Samantha Butler
Mrs Diana Midson
Mr John Palmer*
Mrs Janet Tourell*
Paul Dillon-Robinson
Mrs Sue Willmott

Note: Maximum of 12 permitted

* Standing Committee Members. This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to directions given by the PCC.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC on 19th April 2023 signed on its behalf by:

Rev. C. Peter Molloy - Chair and Incumbent



Date: 19th April 2023

Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

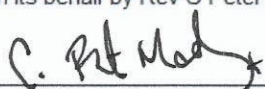
Assets	Note	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total All Funds 2022	Total All Funds 2021
		General Fund	Designated Funds				
Bank Current account		9,973				9,973	5,300
Less Wedding Fees 2022 (held as agent)						0	(648)
		9,973	0	0	0	9,973	4,652
CBF C of E Deposit Funds		1,810	21,595	23,130		46,535	58,622
Total Bank/Deposit Accounts		11,783	21,595	23,130	0	56,508	63,274
E - Heating Costs (Costello Trust)		948		(948)		0	0
Gift Aid recoverable		2,032				2,032	1,620
VAT recoverable (by grant)		446				446	2,587
Total Debtors		3,426	0	(948)	0	2,478	4,207
Investments at Market Value		18,357	70,388	62,136	120,955	271,836	309,899
Total Assets		33,566	91,983	84,318	120,955	330,822	377,380
Liabilities							
Parish Share 2022		13,954				13,954	0
Archdeacon's loan	7			15,000		15,000	15,000
Wedding deposits - future years		800				800	600
Utility Costs - November & December 2022		2,307				2,307	816
Architects fees re Q Reordering			2,773			2,773	0
V Hall PPL/PRS Music Licence						0	262
Total Liabilities		17,061	2,773	15,000	0	34,834	16,678

Statement of Funds

Designated Funds	Deposit Accounts					Investments @ mkt. val.
	Jan 1	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Dec 31	
Q - Projects Fund	16,255	3,167	(7,256)		12,166	70,388
V - Projects Fund	139	488	(625)		2	
E - Projects Fund	9,332	421	(326)		9,427	
Total Designated Funds	25,726	4,076	(8,207)	0	21,595	70,388
Restricted Funds						
Q - Organ/Music Fund	2,678	2,113	(3,994)		797	39,387
V - Fabric Fund	6	267	(272)		1	
E - Churchyard Fund	2,795	2,405	(1,345)		3,855	22,749
V - Churchyard Fund	795	11	0		806	
E - Costello Trust	13,462	4,860	0	(651)	17,671	
Charity collections	0	1,105	(1,105)		0	
Total Restricted Funds	19,736	10,761	(6,716)	(651)	23,130	62,136
Endowment Funds						
Abdelnoor Trust (E)						10,390
Costello Trust (E)						110,565
Total Endowment Funds						120,955

This Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2022, including the notes following, was approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf by Rev C Peter Molloy.

Signed:



Date:

19 Apr. 23

Summary of Receipts and Payments

	Note	Unrestricted		Restricted Funds	Total All Funds 2022	Total All Funds 2021
		General Fund	Designated Funds			
		£	£			
Receipts						
Donations and Legacies		67,402	0	1,250	68,652	69,909
Government Grants		7,989	486	1,941	10,416	4,248
Charitable Activities		6,498	0	0	6,498	5,649
Other Trading Activities		18,241	0	0	18,241	11,409
Investments		1,062	3,590	7,570	12,222	12,442
Total before Extra-ordinary Receipts	4	101,192	4,076	10,761	116,029	103,657
<i>Extra-ordinary Receipts</i>		29,974	0	0	29,974	66,196
Total Receipts		131,166	4,076	10,761	146,003	169,853
Payments						
Cost of Raising Funds		925	0	0	925	743
Charitable Costs		97,739	2,238	3,276	103,253	94,070
Trading Costs		6,529	0	0	6,529	9,559
Total before Extra-ordinary Payments	6	105,193	2,238	3,276	110,707	104,372
<i>Extra Ordinary Payments</i>		32,653	5,969	3,440	42,062	50,000
Total Payments		137,846	8,207	6,716	152,769	154,372
Net Surplus/(Shortfall) before Transfers		(6,680)	(4,131)	4,045	(6,766)	15,481
Transfers between funds	7	651	0	(651)	0	0
Net Surplus/(Shortfall) after Transfers		(6,029)	(4,131)	3,394	(6,766)	15,481
Bank/Deposit Accounts as at 1 January		17,812	25,726	19,736	63,274	47,793
Bank/Deposit Accounts as at 31 December		11,783	21,595	23,130	56,508	63,274

Notes to the Annual Financial Report

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and current Church Accounting Regulations, using the Receipts and Payments basis.
2. The financial statements do not include the results of *The Friends of St. Margaret the Queen Buxted*, a separately registered charity, which raises funds and makes grants to the PCC against specific fabric and churchyard expenditure at St Margaret's Church.
3. The PCC maintains a designated fund for each church, primarily to earmark funds specifically donated to that church from legacies, etc.

4. Analysis of Total Receipts	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total All Funds 2021	Total All Funds 2021
	General Fund	Designated Funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
Planned giving (excl tax refunds)	24,796			24,796	29,808
Planned giving (no tax refunds)	2,106			2,106	1,848
Loose cash collections	17,084			17,084	10,460
Gift Aid recovered	10,397			10,397	9,557
Legacies				0	6,500
Grants - non-Government	5,207			5,207	720
Other donations	7,812		145	7,957	10,885
Charitable donations			1,105	1,105	131
Total Donations and Legacies	67,402	0	1,250	68,652	69,909
Grants - Central Government	6,739	486	267	7,492	1,684
Grants - District Government			1,674	1,674	1,464
Grants - Local Government	1,250			1,250	1,100
Total Government Grants	7,989	486	1,941	10,416	4,248
Fees for weddings and funerals	6,498			6,498	5,649
Total Charitable Activities	6,498	0	0	6,498	5,649
Fund-raising events	3,819			3,819	3,072
Buxted Messenger receipts	4,233			4,233	4,634
St. Mary's Hall receipts	7,679			7,679	3,204
Other Church events	2,510			2,510	499
Total Trading Activities	18,241	0	0	18,241	11,409
Dividends on investments	1,017	3,302	7,291	11,610	12,419
Deposit Interest	45	288	279	612	23
Total Investment Income	1,062	3,590	7,570	12,222	12,442
Total Receipts (before Extra-ordinary)	101,192	4,076	10,761	116,029	103,657
<i>Extra-ordinary Receipts</i>					
Grants from <i>The Friends of St. Margaret's</i>	29,974			29,974	9,168
Sale of Investments				0	17,621
Insurance Claim - St Mark's				0	1,633
Sale of Investments - Wyvern Organ				0	37,774
Total Extra-ordinary Receipts	29,974	0	0	29,974	66,196
Total Receipts	131,166	4,076	10,761	146,003	169,853

Notes to the Annual Financial Report (continued)

5. Analysis of Total Payments					
	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total All Funds 2022	Total All Funds 2021
	General Fund	Designated Funds			
	£	£			
Fundraising expenses	925			925	743
Total Cost of Raising Funds	925	0	0	925	743
Charitable grants and donations			1,105	1,105	131
Parish share to Chichester Diocese	57,861			57,861	54,000
Insurance of churches	6,513			6,513	6,332
Clergy expenses	7,456			7,456	6,557
Sunday school/Children's work	486			486	526
Water, Gas, Electricity, and Oil	5,970			5,970	4,761
Printing & photocopying	1,676			1,676	1,512
Other regular church running costs	5,431	910	450	6,791	7,213
Church events	1,351			1,351	45
Church maintenance & redecoration	8,957	1,328	1,345	11,630	11,212
Miscellaneous costs	2,038		376	2,414	1,781
Total Charitable Costs	97,739	2,238	3,276	103,253	94,070
Church hall expenses	3,409			3,409	6,275
Magazine printing and other costs	3,120			3,120	3,284
Total Trading Costs	6,529			6,529	9,559
Total Payments (before Extra-ordinary)	105,193	2,238	3,276	110,707	104,372
Extra-ordinary Payments					
Fabric & ch'yard costs Q - "Friends"	29,974			29,974	5,417
Q - Stone repairs				0	3,751
Q - South Aisle development		5,344		5,344	2,202
Q - Wyvern Organ			568	568	38,630
Q - Pipe Organ Repairs & Cleaning	726		2,600	3,326	0
V - Mural Repairs	1,953	625	272	2,850	0
Total Extra-ordinary Payments	32,653	5,969	3,440	42,062	50,000
Total Payments	137,846	8,207	6,716	152,769	154,372

6. Transfers between funds					
Costello Trust Deposit Account			(651)	(651)	
CBF Deposit 1D	651			651	
Total Transfers	651	0	(651)	0	

7. An Archdeacon's loan of £20,000 was received in 2016 to help fund the roof repairs and vestry conversion at St Mark's, of which £15,000 has been repaid to date. An additional loan of £10,000 was received in 2019, to help fund the gutter repairs at St Mary's. The loans are repayable over seven years without interest.

KEY: Q = St. Margaret the Queen V = St. Mary the Virgin E = St. Mark the Evangelist

**Independent Examiner's Report
to the members/trustees of the Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

As trustees of the charity, the members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - To prepare accounts which accord with these accounting recordshave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attentions should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Peter Haining FCA

The Kings Mill Practice
Horns Lodge
Meres Lane
Cross-in-Hand
Heathfield
East Sussex
TN21 0TY

Date: 6th April 2023

Accounts



PARISH OF BUXTED AND HADLOW DOWN
CHARITY REG NO. 1130925

**Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Report
for the year ended 31st December 2021**

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Incumbent: Revd Pete Molloy, The Rectory, Church Road, Buxted
Uckfield, TN22 4LP

Churchwardens: Mr Duncan Irvine, 25 Mead Lane, Buxted
Mr Paul Dillon-Robinson, The Beeches, Pound Green, Buxted

Bankers: HSBC Bank plc, 120 High Street, Uckfield, TN22 1PX

Indep. Examiner: Mr Peter Haining FCA, Horns Lodge, Meres Lane, Cross-in-Hand,
TN21 0TY

Churches: St. Margaret the Queen, Buxted Park, Buxted
St. Mary the Virgin, Church Road, Buxted
St. Mark the Evangelist, Main Road, Hadlow Down

Website: www.bhdchurches.co.uk

Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down

Trustees' Annual Report

for the year ended 31 December 2021

The year continued to be impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic, which limited the extent of public worship, particularly around Easter and Christmas, and resulted in much reduced congregations. However, a presence was maintained at all times, through keeping our church buildings open for private prayer and a range of on-line offerings and informal contacts.

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in:

- The promotion of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England;
- Promoting the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social, evangelistic and ecumenical within the parish.
- Working to know Jesus better and making Him better known;
- Giving practical support and care for people in the parish, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of level of need or ability to pay;
- Providing financial support to those in need and to other organisations with similar objectives.

What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives

When planning our activities for the year, the PCC continued to consider the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'. It took a pragmatic view, given that the year was dominated by the Coronavirus pandemic, to seek to maintain its presence in the parish.

The council has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, fully recognising its duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Notwithstanding the pandemic referred to above, we endeavoured to continue with the following objectives to fulfil our aims:

- Enabling as many people as possible both to worship (safely) at our churches and to become part of the parish community in Buxted and Hadlow Down.
- Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers
- Maintaining an overview of worship throughout the parish, whilst considering how services can involve the many groups that live within the parish
- Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament
- Offering worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel
- Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish, including the sick, elderly and bereaved
- Helping the poor and needy of the parish
- Giving grants / collections to missionary organisations and other charities
- Reaching out to the unchurched through involvement in village activities and events, by social events organised by the PCC and by use of parish/village magazines, emails and Facebook
- Maintaining the fabric of the church buildings as historic centres, focuses of life in the parish and sacred spaces for personal prayer and contemplation

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives

Attendance at worship

The church family welcomes visitors from within as well as outside the parish boundary. Visitors attend by personal choice and we are pleased to welcome people from all walks of life to take part in the life of the church. We contend that voluntary attendance to worship the Lord Jesus Christ is a major demonstration of the public benefit of our activities.

At 31 December 2021, there were 185 parishioners on the electoral roll, of whom 62 were not resident within the parish. During 2021, 1 name was added and 5 removed, due to death or leaving the parish.

The average regular weekly attendance across the parish, over the year, was 79 adults and 9 children (excluding school services). These numbers continue to be reduced, both through closure of services and the

impact of the pandemic. Emails, with recordings and readings, were sent to around 140 people each week in the first part of the year.

Services at Christmas and Easter, traditionally the most popular, were curtailed due to the suspension of services. Those at Easter due to national restrictions, those at Christmas due to a decision of the PCC that it would have been unsafe to continue. This was particularly disappointing for the crib services.

During the year the presence of the organist / choir master at St Margaret's led to an increase in choir numbers and involvement in worship. An electronic organ has now been introduced, after a temporary trial. Plans to develop music, both at St Margaret's and across the parish continue to develop.

Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers

In 2021, St Margaret's held 8 weddings, 6 funerals and 5 baptisms, whilst St Mary's held 2 funerals. Usual services having been suspended in late December 2020, they commenced again as from Palm Sunday 2021 (28th March). In addition, special services were arranged including; The Cross in Words and Music 2nd April, on 11th April as part of Mattins prayers for Prince Philip were said, the Rector's first Royal British Legion Remembrance service was held in November and 9 Lessons and Carols in December when we bade farewell to Jeff Lloyd-Roberts as this was his last service before returning to live in Wales.

Whether possible, regular services were held across the parish.

During the various restrictions, the parish produced a periodic newsletter, circulated by email and updates on the parish website. Awareness of parish activities is increased by the parish Facebook page and other social media interactions, as well as the website.

Outreach

Parish events were severely curtailed by the pandemic, despite a detailed list of events having been prepared early in the year. However the Open Day and Craft Fair at St Mary's did manage to go ahead. Our churches host a number of events, such as concerts, and these were all victims of the pandemic, but are a key element to our being part of the community

The parish has strong links with both Buxted School and St. Mark's School Hadlow Down. Both schools usually hold services, at least twice a term in St. Margaret's, or once a week at St. Mark's, but these were again limited. The Rector is, ex officio a Governor of both schools and Lara Roberts is a Foundation Governor at Buxted School. The PCC Foundation Governors at St. Mark's, for all or part of the year, were, Andy Cook, Angela Wilkes (Co-vice chair), Richard Brown, Sue Willmott and Diana Midson.

The Signs, Rhymes and Chimes group, in which babies, toddlers and their carers learn sign language and musical activities, continued to suspend its weekly meetings in St. Margaret's, but we hope it will resume at some point in the future. This very supportive group provides a regular meeting place for mothers and carers, with their children. The Buxted Messenger continued to provide monthly details of parish and community news and events, although the latter were again very limited due to the ongoing pandemic. The monthly print run is 440 copies and the magazine is available on subscription or to purchase in various places in Buxted and Five Ash Down. The Hadlow Down magazine, which is delivered to all households in the village, also includes details of parish and church matters.

Provision of the church buildings and churchyards for people to enjoy

We are proud of the fact that all three of our churches are usually open each day, for all to enjoy; whether as a visitor or seeking a quiet place for prayer and contemplation. The comments from visitors are universally appreciative of the fact that they are open, show that they are cared for and provide a tranquil space. Whilst their central role is as a place of worship, we have also used them as facilities for the benefit of the wider community.

The fact that our churches and their churchyards remain open, and in a good state of repair, is thanks to the ongoing support and hard-work of so many people; but having the benefit of historic buildings brings with it responsibilities. In the last year each of our churches have continued to work on addressing the remaining recommendations from their quinquennial inspections. We are resolved to implement the recommendations as soon as reasonably practicable, and have already made good progress. Our churchyards also benefit from the attendance of a number of volunteers, both regular and those at ad hoc working parties.

Issues of Health & Safety are taken seriously, with matters resolved as they arise. No significant issues were reported in the year.

During the year, at St Margaret's, a number of repairs required by the Quinquennial Report were carried out to the stonework of the church in various locations, and to the two main windows on the front north elevation and two of the windows on the south elevation. The Clergy Vestry roof was repaired and the whole of the stonework on the front north elevation wall was completely repointed.

We are grateful to the Friends of St Margaret's for grants to enable the works to be undertaken without undue pressure on the parish's funds.

Looking ahead, we are getting closer to developing detailed plans for the re-ordering of St Margaret's to provide a kitchen facility, adequate toilet facilities, and the creation of a mezzanine floor in the tower, the upper section of which would be used as a bell-ringing chamber and the lower part as a choir vestry. Access to the mezzanine floor in the tower and a new 'upper room' above the kitchen would be provided from a new gallery to be constructed across the rear of the church. This follows the strong advice from the DAC that we should look to provide these facilities within the church rather than by means of an extension, as had been planned previously. Other projects under consideration during the year included the re-use of part of the southern area of the churchyard, in order to address the steadily diminishing number of available grave spaces, and the works of maintenance and preservation of our historic 2000 year old Yew Tree in the churchyard in accordance with advice received from the Ancient Yew Group

Work at St Mark's has been focussed around maintenance of the churchyard, acknowledging that internal works will be easier to address when restrictions are lifted. In part this has been prompted by flooding from the road and the school playground.

Work on repairs to the bell tower roof at St Mary's were finally completed in September 2021, although the tongue and groove ceiling has yet to be treated and two of the louvres in the tower were not returned to their correct position. In 2020 some of the murals on the east wall of the sanctuary were revealed. In October 2021 a comprehensive and thorough report was carried out by 'Peter Martindale Conservation.' With interesting results, a decision now has to be made as to the best course of action for conservation and the costs that will involve.

St Mary's Church Hall was again very underutilised, but started to show signs of emerging from the restrictions. The main users were a dementia group and a pilates group, but a number of new hirers started towards the end of the year, following closure of the Buxted Reading Room.

Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish

The pastoral work in the parish remained an ongoing focus during the past year. We are grateful to Fr David Milnes for working with the Rector.

Going forward, post-pandemic, we hope to rebuild the previous ties with Hurstwood View Care Home and Saxon Court.

Where possible visits were made to parishioners in need of pastoral support, particularly for those facing family problems, loneliness or illness and those in hospital or bereaved.

The Lunch Club has recently managed to resume in operation. This has been aimed at the elderly and those living alone and regularly provided a hot Sunday lunch to approximately 30 people.

Provision of tangible support to the poor and needy and other charitable giving

Harvest gifts of food were donated to the Uckfield Food Bank, but other activities were curtailed by the pandemic.

Over the year, donations were much reduced due to the reduction in services with dedicated collections. In total, £131 (2020 : £371) was donated over the year.

Financial review - General Fund

The classification of receipts and payments continues to follow the latest Charity Commission and Church of England directives. The financial results of "The Friends of St Margaret the Queen Buxted" are not included, as this is a separately registered charity.

Total receipts, before extra-ordinary items, were £84,501 (2020 : £75,614), an increase of £8,887 (11%) compared with 2020, but still some £20,000 below pre-Covid levels. Whilst all areas of income showed some increase the absence of any significant fund-raising and other events, given the pandemic restrictions, has been a problem.

Sharing the ministry costs of the Diocese of Chichester

The largest expenditure of the PCC was the sum of £54,000 (2020 : £44,889) paid to the diocese for our share of all churches' Parish Ministry Costs. This amount covers the stipend, pension and housing costs of the incumbent and also a standard sum for diocesan central costs, clergy training and a contribution to national church funds. In the previous year our contribution had decreased by 33% having, for many years, we met 100% of our parish ministry costs, following Diocesan calculations. The PCC has committed to increase to 100% of the share on 2022. Clergy costs showed an increase to reflect the full year impact of a Rector in post.

After transfers between funds and the realisation of investments, the General Fund showed a net surplus of £7,507

(2020 : £3,037) for the year, primarily achieved by the ongoing reduction in parish share and the realisation of investments to the value of £17,621, without which a deficit of around £10,000 would have been generated. Plans are in place for 2022 to continue to control expenditure and seek to increase income, without impacting on the delivery of our public benefit.

Trustee payments and expenses

The PCC supported the incumbent by paying £1,072.49 (2020 L. £328.51). No payments were made to other PCC members.

Financial review - Designated Funds

The designated Projects Fund for each church holds legacies and other donations that were felt by the PCC to have been given for that church, or were general reserves of that church when the single parish was created. In 2021 funds were spent at St Margaret's on architect's fees towards re-ordering plans. At St Mary's the expenditure related to bell tower roof repairs. Wherever possible, the PCC respects donors' wishes and uses the funds for one-off projects at the specified church.

Financial review - Restricted Funds

During the year and following the successful completion of the trial period for the Wyvern Electronic Organ at St Margaret's, we progressed the necessary application for the grant of a Faculty for its retention within the church on a permanent basis. This was ultimately granted by the Chancellor on 1st October 2021. Plans for the extensive cleaning and general overhaul of the Bevington Pipe Organ were also finalised and the necessary approvals were obtained, in readiness for the works to commence in the early part of next year. At St Mary's the expenditure was on stone and flint repairs, as well as a report on the conservation of the frieze. At St Mark's the expenditure was towards churchyard maintenance. Other restricted funds are used, wherever possible, for the purposes intended, particularly where the endowments provide income.

Why we hold some money in reserve

The PCC's policy is to ensure that sufficient reserves are held to cover three months of revenue expenditure and known commitments in the medium term, including:

- Expected capital expenditure for maintaining the physical state of the three listed church buildings over the next five years.
- Other commitments of expenditure linked to mission.

The PCC believes that, whilst our reserves currently exceed our minimum requirements, uncertainty over future revenue streams suggest that this is an appropriate and prudent policy to maintain.

Funds over and above day-to-day working requirements are deposited in CBF Church of England deposit accounts. This Policy is reviewed on an annual basis.

Structure, governance and management

The Parish of Buxted & Hadlow Down is a single parish with three parish churches. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission as required by the Charities Act 2011. (Reg. No. XT7790) Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

A separate registered charity, *The Friends of St. Margaret the Queen, Buxted* (Reg. No. 282334) raises funds for the repair and maintenance of the fabric and churchyard at St Margaret's Church.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The PCC membership consists of the incumbent, the churchwardens, the licensed reader, members of the Deanery Synod and church members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the Parish. Regular worshippers are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC, or to join one of the three church committees / parish groups, where we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience.

PCC members are responsible for making decisions on a wide range of matters affecting the parish, including compliance with health and safety and disability legislation and safeguarding of children and adults. In their capacity as trustees, members of the PCC are responsible for the stewardship of funds and for the appropriate accounting and reporting of parish finances.

The PCC met three times during the year with an average level of attendance of 57%. One of the meetings was inquorate, however decisions were ratified at the following meeting. The individual Church Committees met as needed and the appropriate Deputy Warden subsequently drawing the attention of the PCC to matters discussed and decisions made at local level, or to be agreed by the full PCC.

PCC members who have served at any time from 1 January 2020 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members:

Incumbent	Rev. Peter Molloy*	Chairman
Licensed Lay Reader	Mr John Thorpe	
Churchwarden	Mr Paul Dillon-Robinson*	Vice Chairman
Churchwarden and DSR	Mr Duncan Irvine*	
Mrs Patricia Weeks	Deanery Synod Representative	
Mr Colin Woolgrove	Deanery Synod Representative (until 25th May)	
Mr Toby Illingworth	Deanery Synod Representative (until 25th May)	
Ms Lesley Watson	Deanery Synod Representative (from 25th May)	

Elected laity members:

Mr Anthony Arratoon
Mrs Valerie Banks
Mrs Samantha Butler
Mr Iain Lindsay*
Mrs Diana Midson
Dr David Munday* (Treasurer)
Mr John Palmer*
Dr Lara Roberts
Mrs Janet Tourell*

Note : Maximum of 12 permitted

* Standing Committee Members. This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to directions given by the PCC.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC on 27 April 2022 signed on its behalf by:

Paul Dillon-Robinson

PCC Vice-Chairman.



.....
Date: 27 April 2022

Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

Summary of Receipts and Payments

	Note	Unrestricted		Restricted Funds	Total All Funds 2021	Total All Funds 2020
		General Fund	Designated Funds			
		£	£	£	£	£
Receipts	4					
Donations and legacies		63,778	6,000	131	69,909	58,716
Government grants		1,859	298	2,091	4,248	3,164
Charitable activities		5,649	0	0	5,649	5,018
Other trading activities		11,409	0	0	11,409	9,968
Investments		1,806	3,336	7,300	12,442	11,676
Total before Extra-ordinary receipts		84,501	9,634	9,522	103,657	88,542
<i>Extra-ordinary receipts</i>	5	28,422	0	37,774	66,196	7,064
Total Receipts		112,923	9,634	47,296	169,853	95,606
Payments	6					
Cost of raising funds		743	0	0	743	0
Charitable costs		86,621	2,918	4,531	94,070	76,196
Trading costs		9,559	0	0	9,559	5,006
Total before Extra-ordinary payments		96,923	2,918	4,531	104,372	81,202
<i>Extra-ordinary payments</i>	7	9,168	2,202	38,630	50,000	16,002
Total Payments		106,091	5,120	43,161	154,372	97,204
Net Surplus/(Shortfall) before transfers		6,832	4,514	4,135	15,481	(1,598)
Transfers between funds	8	675	0	(675)	0	0
Net Surplus/(Shortfall) after transfers		7,507	4,514	3,460	15,481	(1,598)
Bank/Deposit Accounts at 1 January		10,305	21,212	16,276	47,793	49,391
Bank/Deposit Accounts at 31 December		17,812	25,726	19,736	63,274	47,793

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Assets	Note	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total All Funds 2021	Total All Funds 2020
		General Fund	Designated Funds				
Bank Current Account		5,300				5,300	7,819
Less Wedding Fees 2022 (held as agent)		(648)				(648)	0
		4,652	0	0	0	4,652	7,819
CBF C of E Deposit Fund		13,160	25,726	19,736	0	58,622	39,974
Total Bank/Deposit Accounts		17,812	25,726	19,736	0	63,274	47,793
E - Heating Costs (Costello Trust)		651		(651)		0	0
Gift Aid Recoverable		1,620				1,620	556
VAT Recoverable (by grant)		1,834	486	267		2,587	2,425
Total Debtors		4,105	486	(384)	0	4,207	2,981
Investments at Market Value		21,215	81,324	68,429	138,931	309,899	346,943
Total Assets		43,132	107,536	87,781	138,931	377,380	397,717
Liabilities							
Archdeacon's Loan	9			15,000		15,000	15,000
Wedding Deposits - future years		600				600	300
Utility Costs - December 2021		816				816	440
V Hall PPL/PRS Music Licence		262				262	0
Total Liabilities		1,678	0	15,000	0	16,678	15,740

Statement of Funds

Designated Funds	Deposit Accounts					Investments @ mkt. val.
	Jan 1	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Dec 31	
Q - Projects Fund	10,335	8,122	(2,202)		16,255	81,324
V - Projects Fund	2,887	170	(2,918)		139	
E - Projects Fund	7,990	1,342			9,332	
Total Designated Funds	21,212	9,634	(5,120)	0	25,726	81,324
Restricted Funds						
Q - Organ/Music Fund	2,650	39,927	(39,899)		2,678	42,646
V - Fabric Fund	978	628	(1,600)		6	
E - Churchyard Fund	2,206	2,120	(1,531)		2,795	25,783
V - Churchyard Fund	795	0			795	
E - Costello Trust	9,647	4,490		(675)	13,462	
Charity Collections	0	131	(131)		0	
Total Restricted Funds	16,276	47,296	(43,161)	(675)	19,736	68,429
Endowment Funds						
Abdelnoor Trust (E)						12,001
Costello Trust (E)						126,930
Total Endowment Funds						138,931

2020	
Dec 31	@ mkt. val.
10,335	81,468
2,887	
7,990	
21,212	81,468
2,650	74,965
978	
2,206	22,556
795	
9,647	
0	
16,276	97,521
	12,855
	119,293
	132,148

This Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2021, including the notes following, was approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf by

Signed:

Date:

27th April 2022

Notes to the Annual Financial Report

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and current Church Accounting Regulations, using the Receipts and Payments basis.

- The financial statements do not include the results of *The Friends of St. Margaret the Queen Buxted*, a separately registered charity, which raises funds and makes grants to the PCC against specific fabric and churchyard expenditure at St Margaret's Church.
- The PCC maintains a designated fund for each church, primarily to earmark funds specifically donated to that church from legacies, etc.

4. Analysis of Total Receipts	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total All Funds 2021	Total All Funds 2020
	General Fund	Designated Funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
Planned giving (excl tax refunds)	29,808			29,808	28,746
Planned giving (no tax refunds)	1,848			1,848	1,800
Loose cash collections	10,460			10,460	6,322
Gift Aid recovered	9,557			9,557	13,290
Legacies	500	6,000		6,500	1,000
Grants - non-Government	720			720	720
Other donations	10,885			10,885	6,467
Charitable donations			131	131	371
Total donations and legacies	63,778	6,000	131	69,909	58,716
Grants - Central Government	759	298	627	1,684	0
Grants - District Government			1,464	1,464	1,464
Grants - Local Government	1,100			1,100	1,700
Total government grants	1,859	298	2,091	4,248	3,164
Fees for weddings and funerals	5,649			5,649	5,018
Total charitable activities	5,649	0	0	5,649	5,018
Fund-raising events	3,072			3,072	456
Buxted Messenger receipts	4,634			4,634	4,611
St. Mary's Hall receipts	3,204			3,204	4,440
Other Church events	499			499	461
Total trading activities	11,409	0	0	11,409	9,968
Dividends on investments	1,804	3,324	7,291	12,419	11,493
Deposit Interest	2	12	9	23	183
Total investment income	1,806	3,336	7,300	12,442	11,676
Total Receipts (before Extra-ordinary)	84,501	9,634	9,522	103,657	88,542
5. Extra-ordinary receipts					
Grants from <i>The Friends of St. Margaret's</i>	9,168			9,168	7,064
Sale of Investments	17,621			17,621	0
Insurance Claim - St Mark's	1,633			1,633	0
Sale of Investments - Wyvern Organ purchase			37,774	37,774	0
Total Extra-ordinary receipts	28,422	0	37,774	66,196	7,064
Total Receipts	112,923	9,634	47,296	169,853	95,606

Notes to the Annual Financial Report (continued)

6. Analysis of Total Payments					
	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total All Funds 2021	Total All Funds 2020
	General Fund	Designated Funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
Fundraising expenses	743			743	0
Total cost of raising funds	743	0	0	743	0
Charitable grants and donations			131	131	371
Parish share to Chichester Diocese	54,000			54,000	44,889
Insurance of churches	6,332			6,332	6,289
Clergy expenses	6,557			6,557	2,086
Sunday school/Children's work	526			526	386
Water, Gas, Electricity, and Oil	4,761			4,761	3,036
Printing & photocopying	1,512			1,512	1,149
Other regular church running costs	5,944		1,269	7,213	6,240
Church events	45			45	255
Church maintenance & redecoration	5,163	2,918	3,131	11,212	9,733
Miscellaneous costs	1,781			1,781	1,762
Total charitable costs	86,621	2,918	4,531	94,070	76,196
Church hall expenses	6,275			6,275	1,780
Magazine printing and other costs	3,284			3,284	3,226
Total trading costs	9,559	0	0	9,559	5,006
Total Payments (before Extra-ordinary)	96,923	2,918	4,531	104,372	81,202
7. Extra-ordinary payments					
Fabric & ch'yard costs Q - "Friends"	5,417			5,417	7,064
Q - Stone repairs - "Friends"	3,751			3,751	-
Q - Re-ordering project		2,202		2,202	4,301
V - Stone & flint repairs				0	3,137
Q - Wyvern Organ purchase			38,630	38,630	1,500
Total Extra-ordinary payments	9,168	2,202	38,630	50,000	16,002
Total Payments	106,091	5,120	43,161	154,372	97,204

8. Transfers between funds					
Costello Trust Deposit Account			(675)	(675)	
CBF Deposit 1D	675			675	
Total transfers between funds	675	0	(675)	0	

9. An Archdeacon's loan of £20,000 was received in 2016 to help fund the roof repairs and vestry conversion at St Mark's, of which £15,000 has been repaid to date. An additional loan of £10,000 was received in 2019, to help fund the gutter repairs at St Mary's. The loans are repayable over seven years without interest.

KEY: Q = St. Margaret the Queen V = St. Mary the Virgin E = St. Mark the Evangelist

Independent Examiner's Report to the members/trustees of the Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

As trustees of the charity, the members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- To keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
- To prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attentions should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Peter Haining FCA
The Kings Mill Practice
Horns Lodge
Meres Lane
Cross-in-Hand
Heathfield
East Sussex
TN21 0TY

Date

Accounts



PARISH OF BUXTED AND HADLOW DOWN
CHARITY REG NO. 1130925

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Report
for the year ended 31st December 2020

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Incumbent: Revd Pete Molloy, The Rectory, Church Road, Buxted
Uckfield, TN22 4LP

Churchwardens: Mr Duncan Irvine, 25 Mead Lane, Buxted
Mr Paul Dillon-Robinson, The Beeches, Pound Green, Buxted

Bankers: HSBC Bank plc, 120 High Street, Uckfield, TN22 1PX

Indep. Examiner: Mr Peter Haining FCA, Horns Lodge, Meres Lane, Cross-in-Hand,
TN21 0TY

Churches: St. Margaret's Church, Buxted Park, Buxted
St. Mary's Church, Church Road, Buxted
St. Mark's Church, Main Road, Hadlow Down

Website: www.bhdchurches.co.uk

Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down

Trustees' Annual Report

for the year ended 31 December 2020

During the year we welcomed our new incumbent, Reverend Peter Molloy, whose institution (by the Bishop of Chichester) and induction (by the Archdeacon of Hastings) was held on Tuesday 20th October 2020 at St Margaret the Queen, Buxted Park. The parish therefore spent the majority of the year in an interregnum, with the two churchwardens taking on the role of sequestrators, since 18th July 2019.

The year was impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic, which led to a period of closure of the churches, suspension of public worship and much reduced congregations. However, a presence was later maintained at all times, through keeping our church buildings open for private prayer and a range of on-line offerings and informal contacts.

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, and during a vacancy the churchwardens as sequestrators, in:

- The promotion of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England;
- Promoting the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social, evangelistic and ecumenical within the parish.
- Working to know Jesus better and making Him better known;
- Giving practical support and care for people in the parish, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of level of need or ability to pay;
- Providing financial support to those in need and to other organisations with similar objectives.

What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives

When planning our activities for the year, the PCC considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'. It took a pragmatic view, given that the year started with an interregnum and swiftly was overtaken by the Coronavirus pandemic, to seek to maintain its presence in the parish.

The council has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, fully recognising its duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Notwithstanding the pandemic referred to above, we endeavoured to continue with the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims:

- Enabling as many people as possible both to worship (safely) at our churches and to become part of the parish community in Buxted and Hadlow Down.
- Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers
- Maintaining an overview of worship throughout the parish, whilst considering how services can involve the many groups that live within the parish
- Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament
- Offering worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel
- Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish, including the sick, elderly and bereaved
- Helping the poor and needy of the parish
- Giving grants / collections to missionary organisations and other charities
- Reaching out to the unchurched through involvement in village activities and events, by social events organised by the PCC and by use of parish/village magazines, emails and Facebook
- Maintaining the fabric of the church buildings as historic centres, focuses of life in the parish and sacred spaces for personal prayer and contemplation

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives

Attendance at worship

The church family welcomes visitors from within as well as outside the parish boundary. Visitors attend by personal choice and we are pleased to welcome people from all walks of life to take part in the life of the church. We contend that voluntary attendance to worship the Lord Jesus Christ is a major demonstration of the public benefit of our activities.

At 31 December 2020, there were 190 parishioners on the electoral roll, of whom 63 were not resident within the parish. During 2020, eleven names were added and seven removed, due to death or leaving the parish.

The average regular weekly attendance across the parish, over the year, was 88 adults and 8 children (excluding school services). These numbers were reduced, both through closure of services and the impact of the pandemic. Emails, with recordings and readings, were sent to around 150 people each week.

Services at Christmas and Easter, traditionally the most popular, were curtailed due to the suspension of services. Those at Easter due to national restrictions, those at Christmas due to a decision of the PCC that it would have been unsafe to continue.

During the year the presence of the organist / choir master at St Margaret's led to an increase in choir numbers and involvement in worship. An electronic organ has been introduced on a temporary trial basis to review an extended range of musical options, whilst plans to develop music, both at St Margaret's and across the parish continue to develop.

Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers

In 2020 there were 2 weddings, 12 funerals, as well as 3 burials of ashes. Due to the restrictions, there were no baptisms. The level of weddings was drastically reduced, due to the pandemic, but will be reflected in the increase expected in 2021, as will be expected of baptisms.

Whether possible, regular services were held across the parish. We were able to continue with the full range of services during the interregnum, cancelling only a couple, where we were unable to find priests to cover.

During the various lockdowns and restrictions, the parish produced a weekly newsletter, circulated by email and reproduced on the parish website, which included readings from across the congregation, as well as thoughts for reflection and prayer. Awareness of parish activities is increased by the parish Facebook page and other social media interactions, as well as the updated website.

Outreach

Parish events were severely curtailed by the pandemic, despite a detailed list of events having been prepared early in the year. Particular disappointment was the cancellation of the Open Day and Craft Fair at St Mary's, as well as regular favourites, such as the Harvest Supper. Our churches host a number of events, such as concerts, and these were all victims of the pandemic, but are a key element to our being part of the community.

The parish has strong links with both Buxted School and St. Mark's School Hadlow Down. Both schools usually hold services, at least twice a term in St. Margaret's, or once a week at St. Mark's. The Rector is, *ex officio* a Governor of both schools and Lara Roberts is a Foundation Governor at Buxted School. The PCC Foundation Governors at St. Mark's, for all or part of the year, were Vicky Richards, Andy Cook, Angela Wilkes (Co-vice chair), Sue Willmott and John Lawson.

The Signs, Rhymes and Chimes group, in which babies, toddlers and their carers learn sign language and musical activities, suspended its weekly meetings in St. Margaret's, but we hope it will resume. This very supportive group provides a regular meeting place for mothers and carers, with their children.

The Buxted Messenger has, however, continued as the village magazine for Buxted and provides updates on parish and community news. The monthly print run is 440 copies and they are delivered to subscribers or available to purchase in various places. Space is provided in Hadlow Down's magazine for parish and church matters, and this magazine is delivered to all households in the village.

Provision of the church buildings and churchyards for people to enjoy

We are proud of the fact that all three of our churches are usually open each day, for all to enjoy; whether as a visitor or seeking a quiet place for prayer and contemplation. The comments from visitors are universally appreciative of the fact that they are open, show that they are cared for and provide a tranquil space. Whilst their central role is as a place of worship, we have also used them as facilities for the benefit of the wider community.

The fact that our churches and their churchyards remain open, and in a good state of repair, is thanks to the ongoing support and hard-work of so many people; but having the benefit of historic buildings brings with it responsibilities. In the last year each of our churches have continued to work on addressing the remaining recommendations from their quinquennial inspections. We are resolved to implement the recommendations as soon as reasonably practicable, and have already made good progress. Our churchyards also benefit from the attendance of a number of volunteers, both regular and those at ad hoc working parties.

Issues of Health & Safety are taken seriously, with matters resolved as they arise. No significant issues were reported in the year.

During the year works were undertaken in the belfry of St Margaret's to address damp problems, and the exposed medieval stonework will now become a permanent feature on two of the four walls. Because of problems with damp within the clergy vestry the church architect has advised that remedial repairs be carried out to both the roof and the exterior stone wall. These issues have been investigated and arrangements made for the necessary repairs to be undertaken.

We are grateful to the Friends of St Margaret's for grants to enable the works to be undertaken without undue pressure on the parish's funds.

Work at St Mark's has been focussed around maintenance of the churchyard, acknowledging that internal works will be easier to address when restrictions are lifted. In part this has been prompted by flooding from the road.

The work at St Mary's has focused on stone and flintwork repairs to the staircase up to the front door. Peeling paint on the east wall was stripped to reveal a frieze behind and options for whether or how this is conserved are being explored. Works on repairs to the bell tower roof were delayed and are being addressed in 2021.

Looking ahead, we are continuing to examine plans for the re-ordering of St Margaret's to provide a kitchen facility, adequate toilet facilities, and the creation of a mezzanine floor in the tower, the upper section of which would be used as a bell-ringing chamber and the lower part as a choir vestry. Access to the mezzanine floor in the tower and a new 'upper room' above the kitchen would be provided from a new gallery to be constructed across the rear of the church. This follows the strong advice from the DAC that we should look to provide these facilities within the church rather than by means of an extension, as had been planned previously.

St Mary's Church Hall has had little use in the year, due to the restrictions, but – when possible – it is used by a variety of organisations from the monthly Sunday Lunch Club, via Scottish Country Dancing and the Buxted Symphony Orchestra. New sources of use are being explored (Know Dementia have already started using the facility).

Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish

The pastoral work in the parish remained a focus during the past year. We are grateful to Fr David Milnes for being available to support people during the interregnum, and working with the Rector after he joined us.

Going forward, post-pandemic, we hope to rebuild the previous ties with Hurstwood View Care Home, through the administration of regular Eucharist services. Additionally, a small group of parishioners, together with the Rector, will go to Saxon Court once a month to share in a simple service and talk to the residents.

Where possible visits were made to parishioners in need of pastoral support, particularly for those facing family problems, loneliness or illness and those in hospital or bereaved. A group of volunteers has quietly gone about maintaining this during the interregnum, including telephone contact.

The Lunch Club has been unable to meet on its monthly basis, but hopes to resume when it can. This has been aimed at the elderly and those living alone and regularly provided a hot Sunday lunch to approximately 30 people.

Provision of tangible support to the poor and needy and other charitable giving

Harvest gifts of food were donated to the Uckfield Food Bank, but other activities were curtailed by the pandemic

Over the year, donations were much reduced due to the reduction in services with dedicated collections. In total, £371 was donated over the year.

Financial review - General Fund

The classification of receipts and payments continues to follow the latest Charity Commission and Church of England directives. The financial results of "The Friends of St Margaret the Queen Buxted" are not included, as this is a separately registered charity.

Total receipts, before extra-ordinary items, were £75,614, a decrease of £29,670 (28%) compared with 2019. Whilst most areas of income were down (other than gift aid recovered), there were two significant areas that covered this; donations and legacies (down £7,854 – 12%) from lack of collections at services, and other trading activities (down £18,776 – 65%) due to an absence of fund-raising and other events with the pandemic restrictions.

Sharing the ministry costs of the Diocese of Chichester

The largest expenditure of the PCC was the sum of £44,889 (2019 £66,829) paid to the diocese for our share of all churches' Parish Ministry Costs. This amount covers the stipend, pension and housing costs of the incumbent and also a standard sum for diocesan central costs, clergy training and a contribution to national church funds. This year our contribution decreased by 33% on the previous year, a decision made by the PCC and in the light of

financial projections that we would be reducing our general reserves too far, and in line with advice from the Deanery not to do so. For many years we have met 100% of our parish ministry costs, following Diocesan calculations, and will seek to return to do so, when we can. Clergy costs showed a continued decrease to reflect the time spent in interregnum this year.

After transfers between funds, the General Fund showed a net surplus of £3,037 for the year, primarily achieved by the reduction in parish share. Plans are in place for 2021 to continue to control expenditure and seek to increase income, without impacting on the delivery of our public benefit.

Trustee payments and expenses

The PCC supported the incumbent by paying £328.51. No payments were made to other PCC members.

Financial review - Designated Funds

The designated Projects Fund for each church holds legacies and other donations that were felt by the PCC to have been given for that church, or were general reserves of that church when the single parish was created. In 2020 funds were spent at St Margaret's on repairs to a bell headstock, electrical items and architect's fees towards re-ordering plans. At St Mary's the expenditure related to stone and flint repairs, as well as organ tuning. Wherever possible, the PCC respects donors' wishes and uses the funds for one-off projects at the specified church.

Financial review - Restricted Funds

In 2020 funds were spent from the St Margaret's Organ Fund on the retuning of the Bevington organ and towards the trial of an electronic organ. At St Mary's the expenditure was on stone and flint repairs, as well as a report on the conservation of the frieze. At St Mark's the expenditure was towards churchyard maintenance. Other restricted funds are used, wherever possible, for the purposes intended, particularly where the endowments provide income.

Why we hold some money in reserve

The PCC's policy is to ensure that sufficient reserves are held to cover three months of revenue expenditure and known commitments in the medium term, including:

- Expected capital expenditure for maintaining the physical state of the three listed church buildings over the next five years.
- Other commitments of expenditure linked to mission.

The PCC believes that, whilst our reserves currently exceed our minimum requirements, uncertainty over future revenue streams suggest that this is an appropriate and prudent policy to maintain.

Funds over and above day-to-day working requirements are deposited in CBF Church of England deposit accounts. This Policy is reviewed on an annual basis.

Structure, governance and management

The Parish of Buxted & Hadlow Down is a single parish with three parish churches. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission as required by the Charities Act 2011. (Reg. No. XT7790) Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

A separate registered charity, *The Friends of St. Margaret the Queen, Buxted* (Reg. No. 282334) raises funds for the repair and maintenance of the fabric and churchyard at St Margaret's Church.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The PCC membership consists of the incumbent, the churchwardens, the licensed reader, members of the Deanery Synod and church members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the Parish. Regular worshippers are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC, or to join one of the three church committees / parish groups, where we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience.

PCC members are responsible for making decisions on a wide range of matters affecting the parish, including compliance with health and safety and disability legislation and safeguarding of children and adults. In their capacity as trustees, members of the PCC are responsible for the stewardship of funds and for the appropriate accounting and reporting of parish finances.

The PCC met four times during the year with an average level of attendance of 65%, all meetings being quorate. Three matters were agreed by email correspondence by PCC members, when there were restrictions on meeting in person, which were subsequently ratified at full meetings. The Standing Committee met twice in the first half of the year, with issues discussed through emails between PCC meetings. The individual Church Committees met as needed and the appropriate Deputy Warden subsequently drawing the attention of the PCC to matters discussed and decisions made at local level, or to be agreed by the full PCC.

PCC members who have served at any time from 1 January 2020 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members:

Incumbent (from 20 th October)	Rev. Peter Molloy*	Chairman
Licensed Lay Reader	Mr John Thorpe	
Churchwarden	Mr Paul Dillon-Robinson*	Vice Chairman
Churchwarden and DSR	Mr Duncan Irvine*	
Mrs Patricia Weeks	Deanery Synod Representative	
Mr Colin Woolgrove	Deanery Synod Representative	
Mr Toby Illingworth	Deanery Synod Representative	

Elected laity members:

Mr Anthony Arratoon
Mrs Katharine Arratoon (until 14th October)
Mrs Valerie Banks (elected 14th October)
Mrs Samantha Butler
Mr Iain Lindsay*
Mrs Diana Midson
Dr David Munday* (Treasurer)
Mr John Palmer*
Mr Keith Revoir (until 14th October)
Dr Lara Roberts
Mrs Janet Tourell (* from 14th October)
Mrs Anne Yarrow* (until 14th October)

Note : Maximum of 12 permitted

* Standing Committee Members. This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to directions given by the PCC.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC on 11 May 2021 signed on its behalf by:

Paul Dillon-Robinson

PCC Vice-Chairman.



.....
Date: 11 May 21

Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

Summary of Receipts and Payments

	Notes	Unrestricted		Restricted Funds	Total All Funds 2020	Total All Funds 2019
		General Fund	Designated Funds			
		£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Donations and legacies		57,346	1,000	371	58,717	75,841
Government grants		1,700	0	1,464	3,164	8,217
Charitable activities		5,018	0	0	5,018	7,142
Other trading activities		9,968	0	0	9,968	28,744
Investments		1,582	3,478	6,617	11,677	14,892
Total before extra-ordinary receipts	4	75,614	4,478	8,452	88,544	134,836
<i>Extra-ordinary receipts</i>						
Archdeacon's Loan					0	10,000
Grants from <i>The Friends of St. Margaret's</i>		7,064			7,064	5,289
Total Receipts		82,678	4,478	8,452	95,608	150,125
Payments						
Cost of raising funds		0	0	0	0	2,152
Charitable costs		67,571	3,423	5,202	76,196	118,572
Trading costs		5,006	0	0	5,006	9,507
Total before extra-ordinary payments	6	72,577	3,423	5,202	81,202	130,231
<i>Extra Ordinary Payments</i>		7,064	4,301	4,637	16,002	31,948
Total Payments		79,641	7,724	9,839	97,204	162,179
Net surplus/(shortfall) before transfers		3,037	(3,246)	(1,387)	(1,596)	(12,054)
Transfers between funds	7	0	0	0	0	0
Net surplus/(shortfall) after transfers		3,037	(3,246)	(1,387)	(1,596)	(12,054)
Bank/deposit accounts at 1 January		7,269	24,458	17,664	49,391	61,445
Bank/deposit accounts at 31 December		10,306	21,212	16,277	47,795	49,391

Statement of Assets and Liabilities


Assets	Note	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total All Funds 2020	Total All Funds 2019
		General Fund	Designated Funds				
Bank Current account		7,819				7,819	4,783
		7,819	0	0	0	7,819	4,783
CBF C of E Deposit Funds		2,486	21,212	16,276		38,974	44,668
Total Bank/Deposit Accounts		10,305	21,212	16,276	0	47,793	49,391
E - Heating Costs (Costello Trust)		675		(675)		0	0
Gift Aid recoverable		556				556	4,953
VAT recoverable (by grant)		759	1,015	651		2,425	0
Total debtors		1,990	1,015	(24)	0	2,981	4,953
Investments at Market Value		35,606	81,468	97,521	132,148	346,943	359,033
Total Assets		48,101	103,695	113,773	132,148	387,717	413,377
Liabilities							
Archdeacon's loan 5&6				15,000		15,000	15,000
Wedding deposits - future years		300				300	700
Utility Costs - December 2020		440				440	577
E - Churchyard maintenance 2019						0	2,275
Total Liabilities		740	0	15,000	0	15,740	18,552

Statement of Funds

Designated Funds		Deposit Accounts				Dec 31	Investments @ mkt. val.
		Jan 1	Receipts	Payments	Transfers		
Q - Projects Fund		13,645	3,011	(8,521)		10,335	81,468
V - Projects Fund		3,076	1,014	(1,203)		2,887	
E - Projects Fund		7,537	453			7,990	
Total Designated Funds		24,458	4,478	(7,724)	0	21,212	81,468
Restricted Funds							
Q - Organ/Music Fund		2,905	1,760	(2,015)		2,650	74,965
V - Fabric Fund		4,867	20	(3,909)		878	
E - Churchyard Fund		3,645	2,106	(3,545)		2,206	22,566
V - Churchyard Fund		792	3			795	
E - Costello Trust		5,455	4,192			9,647	
Charity collections		0	371	(371)		0	
Total Restricted Funds		17,664	8,452	(9,840)	0	16,276	97,521
Endowment Funds							
Abdehoor Trust (E)							12,855
Costello Trust (E)							119,293
Total Endowment Funds							132,148

This Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2020, including the notes following, was approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf by

Signed:



Date:



Notes to the Annual Financial Report

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and current Church Accounting Regulations, using the Receipts and Payments basis.
- The financial statements do not include the results of *The Friends of St. Margaret the Queen Buxted*, a separately registered charity, which raises funds and makes grants to the PCC against specific fabric and churchyard expenditure at St Margaret's Church.
- The PCC maintains a designated fund for each church, primarily to earmark funds specifically donated to that church from legacies, etc.

4. Analysis of total receipts	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total All Funds 2020	Total All Funds 2019
	General Fund	Designated Funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
Planned giving (excl tax refunds)	28,746			28,746	30,012
Planned giving (no tax refunds)	1,800			1,800	1,800
Loose cash collections	6,322			6,322	15,937
Gift Aid recovered	13,291			13,291	8,645
Legacies		1,000		1,000	0
Grants - non-Government	720			720	5,732
Other donations	6,467			6,467	9,321
Charitable donations			371	371	4,394
Total donations and legacies	57,346	1,000	371	58,717	75,841
Grants - Central Government				0	5,775
Grants - District Government			1,464	1,464	1,442
Grants - Local Government	1,700			1,700	1,000
Total Government Grants	1,700	0	1,464	3,164	8,217
Fees for weddings and funerals	5,018			5,018	7,142
Total charitable activities	5,018	0	0	5,018	7,142
Fund-raising events	456			456	13,469
Buxted Messenger receipts	4,611			4,611	4,526
St. Mary's Hall receipts	4,440			4,440	7,989
Other Church events	461			461	2,760
Total trading activities	9,968	0	0	9,968	28,744
Dividends on investments	1,574	3,380	6,539	11,493	14,564
Deposit interest	8	98	78	184	328
Total investment income	1,582	3,478	6,617	11,677	14,892
Total receipts (before extra-ordinary)	75,614	4,478	8,452	88,544	134,836

- During 2018, the Greaves Legacy investments were sold in entirety to assist in the funding of guttering repairs to St Mary's, with the work being completed in January 2019. An Archdeacon's Loan of £10,000 was received in 2019 to also help fund the repairs, together with an agreed grant for £10,000 from Sussex Historic Churches Trust, £5,000 of which was received in April 2019.

Notes to the Annual Financial Report (continued)

6 Analysis of total payments					
	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total All Funds 2020	Total All Funds 2019
	General Fund	Designated Funds			
	£	£			
Fundraising expenses	0.00			0	2,152
Total cost of raising funds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	2,152
Charitable grants and donations			371	371	4,882
Parish share to Chichester Diocese	44,889			44,889	66,829
Insurance of churches	6,289			6,289	6,249
Clergy expenses	2,086			2,086	4,235
Sunday school/Children's work	386			386	609
Water, Gas, Electricity, and Oil	3,036			3,036	6,464
Printing & photocopying	1,149			1,149	1,857
Other regular church running costs	3,790	1,935	515	6,240	10,627
Church events	255			255	1,591
Church maintenance & redecoration	4,402	1,015	4,316	9,733	8,358
Miscellaneous costs	1,289	473		1,762	6,871
Total charitable costs	67,571	3,423	5,202	76,196	118,572
Church hall expenses	1,780			1,780	6,154
Magazine printing and other costs	3,226			3,226	3,353
Total trading costs	5,006			5,006	9,507
Total payments (before extra-ordinary)	72,577	3,423	5,202	81,202	130,231
Extra-ordinary payments					
Fabric & ch'yard costs Q - "Friends"	7,064			7,064	5,051
Q - Boiler replacement				0	-
Q - South Aisle development		4,301		4,301	1,231
V - Stone & flint repairs			3,137	3,137	-
Q - Organ repairs			1,500	1,500	-
V - Roof Valley repairs				0	403
V - Gutter Repairs				0	18,629
E - Remembering Our Heroes				0	6,634
Total Extra-ordinary payments	7,064	4,301	4,637	16,002	31,948
Total Payments	79,641	7,724	9,839	97,204	162,179

7 Transfers between funds				
Total transfers between funds	0	0	0	-

An Archdeacon's loan of £20,000 was received in 2016 to help fund the roof repairs and vestry conversion at St Mark's. The loan is repayable over seven years without interest. Having already repaid £10,000, a further repayment of £5,000 was made in December 2018 from the Costello Deposit Account. The loan is repayable over seven years without interest.

KEY: Q = St. Margaret the Queen V = St. Mary the Virgin E = St. Mark the Evangelist

Independent Examiner's Report to the members/trustees of the Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

As trustees of the charity, the members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's statement

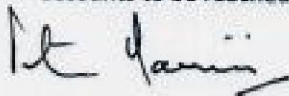
In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- To keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
- To prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attentions should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Peter Haining FCA
The Kings Mill Practice
Horns Lodge
Meres Lane
Cross-in-Hand
Heathfield
East Sussex
TN21 0TY

Date 12/5/21