

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BOCKING

England & Wales · Charity number 1131205

Details

Other names ST MARY'S CHURCH, BOCKING

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2009-08-19

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

Contact

Address 59 Bridle Crescent
Braintree
Essex
CM7 5XY

Phone 01376322892

Email bockingchurch@gmail.com

Website www.stmarys-bocking.co.uk

Activities

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

Activities: The Parish Church of St Mary's Bocking, Essex, offers Sunday & weekday C of E services, weddings, funerals and baptisms. Additional areas of involvement incl, home communion, visiting, fellowship group, bible study, book club, parent & toddler group, choir, bellringing, plus outreach events incl coffee mornings, Messy Church & concerts. The Church Hall is also used for events & for hire to public.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£120,224	£111,133	-	-
2023-12-31	£104,101	£136,839	-	-
2022-12-31	£153,153	£118,946	-	-
2021-12-31	£115,021	£118,472	-	-
2020-12-31	£74,786	£81,445	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
The Revd Rod Reid	Chair	2014-09-08
Alysson Elena Nolan		2020-10-20
Amy Barrett		2025-05-18
Ann Florence Muriel Shaw		2016-04-24
Dr CELIA ANNE COULSON PHD, MSC		2011-06-09
GRAHAM HOWARD SHAW		2011-06-09
Irene Margaret Brewer		2012-05-10
Jacqueline Ann Hogger		2023-05-21
MRS JO MALLOWS		
Monica May Cook		
Mrs Gill Hunt		2015-04-26
Nicola Louise Jaynes		2019-04-14
Paul James Nolan		2020-10-20
STEPHEN IAN JOHNSON		
Sheila Barbara Johnson		2020-10-20

Accounts

THE DEANERY CHURCH
OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN,
BOCKING

Parish Office: St Mary's Church Office,
Church Street,
Bocking,
Braintree
CM7 5JY

Incumbent: The Very Reverend Canon Rod Reid,
The Deanery,
59 Bridle Crescent,
Bocking,
Essex
CM7 5XY

Bank: Barclays Bank PLC,
Bank Street,
Braintree,
Essex.

Independent Examiner: Jan Stobart

The Parochial Church Council (P.C.C.) of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary the Virgin, Bocking is registered with the Charity Commission. Registered No. 1131205

ANNUAL REPORT
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
For the year ending 31st December 2024

**THE DEANERY CHURCH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BOCKING
THE ANNUAL VESTRY
and ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS
May 18th 2025
11:15am**

AGENDA

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING

- 1. Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting 2024**
- 2. Election of Churchwardens (2) for one year**

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

- 1. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2024**
- 2. Matters arising**
- 3. Elections:**
 - a) Parochial Church Council members (3)**
 - b) Deanery Synod**
 - c) Sides people**
 - d) Appointment of Independent Examiner**
 - e) Appointment of Responsible Officer – Safeguarding**
- 4. Reports:**
 - a) Churchwardens' Fabric report**
 - b) Church organisations' reports PCC report**
 - c) Electoral Roll Officer's report**
 - d) Deanery Synod Report**
 - e) PCC Report & The Dean's Reflections**
 - f) Annual Accounts for year ending 31st December 2024**

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin, Bocking
Minutes of the Annual Vestry meeting – May 19th 2024

Item	Notes
Welcome	Fr. Rod opened the meeting at 11:38 am and welcomed everyone Present: 31 Apologies: 2
1.Minutes 21.05.2023	The proposal to accept the minutes was made by Steve Johnson and seconded by Alysson Nolan. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.
2.Appointment of Churchwardens	Fr. Rod expressed his appreciation of the support given by both Wardens over the past year and thanked them on behalf of all at St. Mary's. The appointment of Churchwardens for 2024-25: Gill Hunt and Stephen Johnson, both having been duly proposed and seconded in accordance with required procedures, were voted in by all present for the year.

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Council meeting – May 19th 2024

Item	Notes
Welcome	Fr. Rod (RR) opened the meeting at 11:45 am. Present: 31 Apologies: 2
1.Minutes 21.05.2023	It was noted that PN had remarked on the state of the Hall windowsills and not of the Church. The proposal to accept the minutes was made by Dave Francis and seconded by Pat Thomas. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.
2.Matters arising	None.
3. Elections	<p>a) 3 members elected last year to sit on the Deanery Synod for the term 2023-2026</p> <p>b) The election of 2 members to sit on the PCC for the term 2024-2027:- Irene Brewer and Jo Mallows having been duly proposed and seconded in accordance with required procedures, were voted in by all present.</p> <p>c) The election of Sidespersons: RR thanked everyone who volunteers for this vital role. All of those who had agreed to remain on or volunteered to join the rota, were nominated by RR and seconded by Nicola Jaynes. All in favour.</p> <p>d) The appointment of an Independent Examiner: The PCC is very grateful for the support of Jan Stobart FCCA, who has agreed to continue in the role of Independent Examiner at St. Mary's, having been nominated by Sheila Johnson and seconded by Monica Cook. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.</p> <p>e) The election of the Safeguarding – Responsible Officer and Assistant RO: Nicola Jaynes and Alysson Nolan were nominated by Fr. Rod and seconded by Tony Everard. The PCC is very grateful to them both for ensuring we are up to date in fulfilling our legal responsibilities as legislation changes over time. They also oversee all GDPR requirements. All in favour.</p> <p>f) C. Barker, Architect, carried out the Quinquennial Inspection of the fabric of the Church.</p>
4.Reports	<p>a) Electoral Roll: As reported on p7 of the Annual Report by Monica Cook, Electoral Roll Officer, the Electoral Roll currently stands at 134, 52% of whom are resident in the Parish. The Roll will be renewed in 2025.</p> <p>b) Churchwardens' Fabric Report: can be found on p.5 of the Annual Report document. It was also reported that an application for a Faculty seeking permission to extend the area for the burial of ashes across the full width of the south wall and to plant a new hedge, is in progress.</p>

Item	Notes
	<p>c) Reports from Church organisations and Deanery Synod: can be found on pages 5-9 of the Annual Report. Additional information was given at the meeting regarding:- p6 a new heating system for the Hall could cost £15,000. Jacqui Hogger suggested that some funding could be available from the Diocese Eco project; p7 RR explained the differences between the roles of the National, Diocesan and Area synods. He then expounded on the coverage and work of the Braintree Area Deanery Synod; p7 RR expressed his gratitude for the hard work and commitment that has gone into making the Friendly Friday Café such a success.</p> <p>Questions raised: i) Is there any news regarding the provision of toilets on site? A feasibility study (a grant is available for this) has to be carried out by an architect, into whether they could be sited within the Church before any application for a new building at the rear.</p> <p>ii) Is there anything to be done about the state of the drainage on the North side of the building? The French drain needs to be cleared and re-instated and the proper provision of downpipes made from the roof. Costs?</p> <p>iii) Could the contact details for those involved in leading the Eco Church initiative be posted on the board in the Hall? Yes. Jacqui will do this.</p> <p>iv) Has the drain from the toilets be cleared? Yes, by a volunteer using locally owned rods.</p>
5)Dean's Report & Review of 2023	<p>Fr. Rod's report and review can be found on pages 9&10 of the Annual Report. He expressed his sincerest thanks to members of the PCC and everyone who has worked to keep the church life at St. Mary's such a strong part of the community. Unfortunately, our link with the parish of St. Mary in Newala has fallen through since the death of Dr. Lawi Issa who was the instigator of the connection.</p> <p>Average attendance by members at the six meetings of the PCC held in 2023 was 60%.</p> <p>He reported that St. Mary's had again met its financial obligations to the Diocese. Also, that the making of prompt and efficient Gift Aid claims has benefited our work considerably. The Dean concluded by thanking everyone for their continued support and commitment to the life and service of St.Mary's.</p>
6)Annual Accounts for the year ending Dec 31 st 2023	<p>Fr. Rod expressed his thanks to Sheila Johnson for her management of the Church's finances in her role of Treasurer and for devoting such a lot of time to keeping things running smoothly. He pointed out that not having a full-time Director of Music during 2023 saved St. Mary's £2,000.</p> <p>He went on to present the Annual Accounts produced by Sheila, to be found on p12-16 of the Annual Report, preceded by the Independent Examiner's statement on p11. He pointed out the £8,000 annual increase in the Parish Share has had to be found from within our resources. Also, that the previous practice of crediting 50% of the fees paid to the Diocese back to the Parish, no longer happens.</p> <p>Total Income and Investments for 2023 equalled £104,101.12 (£153,152.59 in 2022) and total expenditure was £136,839.41 (£118,945.46 in 2022).</p> <p>Carry forward = £385,783.55 (£401,948.31 in 2022)</p> <p>The Adoption of the Accounts was proposed by Nicola Jaynes and seconded by Sheila Johnson. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.</p> <p>Graham Shaw proposed a vote of thanks to Sheila on behalf of St. Mary's congregation.</p>

Item	Notes
A.O.B.	<p>a) Bridie asked whether an organ recital might be organised to raise funds? It was agreed that this would require quite a lot of organisation with potentially only small return. It could be an idea for the future.</p> <p>b) Julie asked whether the new hymn books were available yet? The 'Revised English Hymnal' is being appraised but the full set of options for the contents and size of the books hasn't yet been published. The PCC will be appraised of them before any decision is made.</p> <p>c) Pat remarked that the sound system is poor and that people at the back find it very hard to hear what is being read/said. An engineer is going to be invited to quote for an up-grade to the system.</p> <p>d) Monica raised the issue of the cost of flowers having gone up by at least a third. It was reported that ways of supporting the cost of maintaining at least two arrangements would be discussed with the Flower Team, as well as with the PCC.</p>
Closure of the meeting	There being no further questions, Fr. Rod thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 12:45 pm.

CHURCHWARDENS' FABRIC REPORT 2024

The church is a Grade 1 listed building. As noted in our 2024 Fabric Report the Quinquennial Report (QR) advised that the church is "generally in very good condition apart from some minor maintenance work." The Annual Register of Services and Overhauls records that all of our responsibilities are either up to date or actively in hand. This applies to both the Church building and the Hall. This record is available on request.

Church Maintenance -We have followed the (QR) recommendations to ensure the clearing of hopper heads down pipes and gullies, however this is an iterative seasonal task. The church doors have received a weatherproofing treatment of Tung Oil on their external faces and frames. The Bees continue to be a presence in the fabric of the building.

New Church Asset - We have a new church asset which is a Digital Giving Device. As part of the Chelmsford Diocese digital roll-out we applied for and won, one of only 6 of this type of device available in the diocese. We received the device at no cost to us though there are running costs. In an increasingly cashless society the device is more than covering these costs

Church Faculties - A faculty for extending the Garden of Remembrance was applied for on 18/01/2023 and was 'duly authenticated by the Diocesan Court' on 06/08/2024. The area is to be extended to align with the east wall of the Sanctuary and the old hedging renewed. For specific details refer to document : Bocking: St Mary the Virgin (608421): Notification of DAC Advice ref 2023-081442].

Attention is drawn to the detail of the requirements in the faculty which states, The Diocesan Advisory Committee recommendation for acceptance included the proviso, that the Churchyard Policy is to be revised to ensure that the use of artificial flowers, temporary markers, vases etc. is to be disallowed whilst recognizing the need to lay floral tributes which are to be removed after an appropriate time. In addition : The works must be completed within 12 months and the certificate of practical completion is to be sent to the Registry within the period allowed.

We are presently seeking appropriate options for the satisfactory implementation of the DAC Recommendations for acceptance, whilst having all due regard to this sensitive matter, ahead of drafting revisions to the Churchyard Policy which will be referred to the PCC ahead of implementation.

Church Hall Fabric Report - The hall stair smoke alarm has been replaced. The new unit issues a verbal alarm in English and has a 10 year asset life though the batteries will need periodic replacement. The Hall windows have become a priority. Many of the windows are original and single glazed. Many have ceased to open and some are decayed. We invited two local window replacement companies to provide quotations for the replacement of all the windows with double glazed UPVC replicas. Alongside this we were required to apply to Braintree District Council Planning Department. Following our application we were advised by BDC Planning Officers that replacement on a 'like for like' basis is specifically required for this building; UPVC is not acceptable. Following detailed discussions we sought quotations for the restoration and repair of the windows and their subsequent re-decoration. We will seek to spend on the most prestigious windows that fall within our budget. The Samuel Courtauld & Co stained glass window glass is in need of restoration and the frame supporting it is in poor condition. We will seek to find a local specialist firm to advise us regarding the restoration of this window. Hall Electrical works continue to be upgraded in preparation for an all-electric facility. The principle here is to be powered by renewable electricity and continue our sustainable green journey. We anticipate requesting the gas supply is terminated by June 2025.?

The Churchwardens on behalf of St. Mary's PCC

ST MARY'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP 2024

The Fellowship group has had another wonderful year welcoming church members, friends and many from the village to our monthly meetings. We had 10 meetings with a wide range of talks. In June, we had a wonderful coach trip to Bury St Edmunds, everyone had a fantastic time. Our sessions are open to everyone and we would love to see you, every third Thursday in the month, meeting at the Church Hall and this year's outing taking place in September.

Ann Lanham

ST MARY'S BELL RINGERS 2024

St Mary's Guild is part of the Northern District, one of five districts of The Essex Association of Church Bell-ringers which in turn is part of the Central Council of Church Bell-ringers.

We are fortunate enough to have a ring of 10 bells (the majority of village churches has 8, 6 or fewer), the heaviest of which is 18 cwt. or 914kg. They were augmented from 8 in 1973 after many years of fund-raising by the then band of ringers. Sadly, now we rarely ring the 10, usually managing 8 ringers for Sunday service and frequently insufficient attendees for our Thursday practice night. However, we gather bands for weddings and other special occasions but sometimes have to rely on help from other local towers.

While our Steeple-keeper and other ringers undertake ongoing maintenance of our bells regularly we have discovered that work by skilled bell hangers needs to be done to prevent damage, repair existing damage and to improve the "bell-handling" to help make them easier to ring. Some of the urgent work has already been done and some is planned but if we are to contract experts then the costs are prohibitive and we would need to do some serious fund-raising and may need your help. If you would like further information or want to "have-a-go" please contact our Ringing Master, Alan May, on 01376 345290, or 07935344038, or just come up and see us in the ringing room when you next hear the bells ringing. We would love to see you soon.

This last year we rang at several weddings, had welcomed visiting bands. Ringing practise has now become once a month on a Thursday but this has helped increase numbers.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S REPORT 2024

In the last year the Friends of St Mary's have continued to develop the fellowship and friendship within our community and raise funds to support the fabric of St Mary's Church. We started the year with the AGM, a free afternoon tea for all catered by our fantastic committee. That was followed by the usual array of events which included a proposed Barn Dance which unfortunately due to timing we had to cancel, however we plan to bring that back for 2025. The usual array of events followed, many of which will also be returning for 2025, all of which were well supported and all raised money to help look after and improve our buildings.

We were really happy to collaborate with Bocking Theatre Club in their production of Manifesto for Murder and are really grateful for the contribution received from that collaboration. The Friends committee has also been really helpful in assisting with a number of events that weren't necessarily badged as Friends Events. All in all, a great year of fundraising and entertainment.

We've been quite frugal with our spending this year though we do have some significant commitments ahead. As previously mentioned we are to contribute to the re-ordering of the Garden of Remembrance, we also have committed to assisting with the costs of external repairs and redecoration of the hall and the costs of moving away from the continually failing Gas heating to more sustainable electric heating. As usual we have another great year of entertainment planned with concerts, a quiz, the harvest supper and other fantastic social events for your entertainment. I am continually grateful for the help and support of the Friends committee without whom none of this would be possible.

Graham Shaw
for the Executive Committee Friends of St Mary's

CHURCH HALL REPORT 2024

St Mary's Church Hall is thriving with the Hall lettings continue to be strong. We have a number of long-standing regular lessees to which, in recent years, we have added the uniformed organisations of Scouting and Guiding. Both groups are happy to commit to twelve months hire in advance which gives continuity and some security to the ongoing longevity of the Church Hall.

The Hall also provides a venue for the weekly meetings of St Mary's parent and toddler group and the monthly meetings of the Fellowship group. Add in the various occasional hire for Weddings, Baptisms, Birthday Parties etc. we manage to keep the hall occupied and a financial asset to the Church. We are fortunate to be the custodians of a valuable community asset.

The recent works completed, and to continued in the coming year, to maintain the hall will help to strengthen our position as a desirable local venue. Thanks go to the Hall Management for their hard work in ensuring that the hall is kept clean, well maintained and regularly let throughout the year.

Ann Shaw
Church Hall Secretary

FRIENDLY FRIDAY CAFE

The Café continues to be a success and meeting the needs of the local community and further afield. The number of attendees has been increasing this year and towards December the core number reached 35 each week and occasionally more. This is mostly due to word of mouth and advertising through Facebook and Church notices.

The Café runs, every Friday from 12noon until 2.30/3pm and is free. There is a short break for Easter and Christmas periods. A slightly longer break is had in the summer months. A variety of hot drinks can be made as well as squash with plenty of biscuits available throughout the session. Lunch is

served from 12.30pm to 1.30pm with the addition of fresh fruit, yogurts and other desserts offered. From 1.30pm onwards a variety of cakes are available including Hot Cross Buns at Easter and Mince Pies for Christmas as well as occasional donated homemade cakes. We are very conscious of dietary needs; we try to never have foods that contain nuts but always keep the packaging to show anyone who asks.

When we break for the Easter, Summer and Christmas we offer a free raffle which is always popular. This Christmas we decided to do a Lucky Dip Raffle it was great fun. Poor Father Rod was the MC, it went on for quite a while! Various lunch options have been offered over the time as well as soup and rolls, jacket potatoes, toasted sandwiches, beans/spaghetti on toast and pasties.

The Café is not funded, those attending decide to make donations each week, which are used to buy provisions for future weeks. Due to the generosity of those attending a chest freezer was purchased, so not only are we able to buy foods in bulk, saving funds, we are also able to provide ice creams when the weather is warmer.

We had another successful visit from the 6th Form students from Tabor Academy. The students eagerly assisted in getting hot drinks and serving lunch, as well as talking with those who attended. The Café continues to be popular, which shows in the increasing numbers. There is always a 'friendly buzz' in the room with much laughter and arrangements to meet the following week. This is great to hear knowing that this service meets a need in the community. If you want to find out know more come and join us on a Friday 12noon onwards.

ST MARY'S CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER REPORT 2024/25

The Electoral Roll has been renewed in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. The Roll at April 2025 consists of a total of 127 persons.

57% (72) of these are resident in the Parish 43% (55) are non-resident

Monica Cook on behalf of St Mary's P.C.C.

BRAINTREE DEANERY

Braintree Deanery Synod is a council of church members drawn mainly from the clergy and congregations in each of the Deanery's parishes. It provides the communication link between congregations, the Diocese of Chelmsford and the Church of England nationally. During 2024, St Mary's Bocking was represented in the House of Clergy by The Very Rev'd Canon Rod Reid and in the House of Laity by Dr Celia Coulson, Jacqui Hogger, and Isabel Adcock. The Synod met three times, chaired jointly by the Area Dean, The Very Rev'd Canon Rod Reid, Assistant Area Dean, The Rev'd Alex Shannon, and the Joint Lay Chair, Canon John Turton. Meetings held in March and October in St Michael's Church Braintree, and in July at Black Notley Church.

Diocesan Elections took place in Summer 2024, following those, Braintree Deanery's representatives for the next triennium are The Rev'd Tayrina Ferguson, The Rev'd Nigel Adams (House of Clergy), and Jacqui Hogger, Isabel Adcock (House of Laity).

Issues considered in 2024

- In March, we welcomed our recently appointed Archdeacon, The Venerable Kate Peacock. Kate gave a little insight into her own journey and roles in ministry before joining the Diocese. She spoke about the power of 'story' and also led some breakout sessions which developed our thinking on church attendance.
- Many will remember that a Motion from this Deanery has previously been shared at Diocesan Synod with a view to it being presented to General Synod. This took place in February 2024, led by The Rev'd Dr Sara Batts-Neale and supported by others from the Diocese. Wonderfully the motion was received incredibly well and went on to pass in all

three houses. Work will now begin on how to bring a PCC Code of Conduct into reality. Members would like to thank The Rev'd Dr Sara Batts-Neale advocating so effectively on our behalf.

- Also in March we began seeking to fulfil a Chaplaincy presence at Wethersfield Reception Centre based at the former RAF base. Following securing Mission Opportunities Funds, we were able to put a role together. We successfully appointed, The Rev'd Melanie Shillito to the role who has an incredible impact in post. Despite facing many challenges, not least from the lead contractors on site, the role has supported many, bringing a number to baptism and a deeper connection with their faith. Further updates have followed through the year including a fuller presentation at our meeting in October.
- Finally, through the meetings last year Synod tasked the Standing Committee with making progress to fulfilling a Deanery Strategic Co-Ordinator. Following sub meetings, and hard work led by the Assistant Area Dean on this, job and person specifications were outlined and we hope to bring this role to fruition in 2025.
- A presentation on the Diocesan Youth Synod in July.
- Updates to each meeting on environmental matters, with many Deanery Churches either working towards an Eco Church award or having already obtained one.
- Regular reports of proceedings at Diocesan Synod and General Synod, and updates on news and events from parishes across the Deanery.

The Very Revd Rod Reid, May 2025

Membership of the Parochial Church Council

Members of the PCC are either *ex officio*, are elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (ACPM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules or co-opted for a set term.

Ex Officio Members

The Very Revd. Canon Roderick Reid	Dean of Bocking
Revd. Dr. Ian Mitchell	Associate Priest
Gillian Hunt	} Churchwardens May 2024-25
Stephen Johnson	
Isabel Adcock	} Deanery Synod & Diocesan Synod Rep } Deanery Synod Reps 2024-2026
Celia Coulson	
Jacqui Hogger	
Sheila Johnson	Treasurer
Nicola Jaynes	Safeguarding Officer
Alysson Nolan	Assistant Safeguarding Officer
Joanna Mallows	PCC Secretary

Elected Members

Irene Brewer	}	until May 2027
Joanna Mallows		
Alysson Nolan	}	until May 2026
Paul Nolan		
Graham Shaw		
Monica Cook	}	until May 2025
Ann Shaw		

The PCC operates through meetings of all its members and through Standing Committee meetings occasionally between PCC meetings. This committee consists of the Incumbent, the Wardens, the Treasurer and PCC Secretary. It has power to transact business of the Council between meetings.

PCC Meetings

The Church Council met 6 times for business meetings during 2024, with a 60% average attendance. All PCC members are required to complete Church of England Safeguarding courses. Financial matters, Safeguarding matters, maintenance of the Church building, special events and outreach activities are among regular agenda items for discussion.

The Church

We continue to be dedicated to using St Mary's Church in the most creative ways we can to worship God and draw others to him through the ministries of stewardship, prayer, teaching and welcome, whilst continuing to develop our overseas link with the Parish of St Mary's Newala and other aspects of the wider Church.

General Finance

In the year 2024, we again met our obligations to the Diocese and parish in full and as usual, the Gift Aid Scheme has continued to benefit our work considerably. We are grateful to those who have completed a Gift Aid Declaration for their giving and to all who contribute regularly and generously through Standing Orders and Weekly Envelopes. If you are a Tax Payer we cannot afford for you not to be in the Gift Aid Scheme!

Dean Rogers Million Penny Fund

St Mary's Church continues to be grateful to the Dean Rogers Million Penny Fund for the payment of the Insurance Premium, details of which are included in the accounts. In what has been a very difficult year, not least financially, these funds were even more important.

Grateful Thanks

The P.C.C. wishes to thank the many, too numerous to mention by name, whose hard work and dedication has meant another successful year for St Mary's Church. We continue to thrive and flourish only because so much is done by so many people in a huge variety of ways and we truly value the contributions made by each and every one. Without so much being done to clean and decorate the Church, provide flowers, music, singing, bells, pastoral care, ministry to the sick and bereaved, take minutes, make coffee, soup and many other meals our parish and its fellowship would be the poorer.

The Dean's Reflections

In September last year, I marked ten years as Dean of Bocking. It struck me that so much has happened to us all in this last decade. Throughout, it has been, and continues to be a privilege to serve you, and the wider parish as Dean.

Each year, we never rest on our laurels, tempting as that might be, but continue to push on by seeking to live out our mission to build up one another in faith, to encourage others into faith, and to be at the centre of this wonderful community. This is a mission led by God, and in partnership with so many. At the very heart though is our rhythm of prayers and services, which are integral to the sacramental nature of our church. It has been particularly encouraging then to continue to see numbers grow, and new people regularly attending. Those special services in the year marked by Easter and Christmas as well as Mothering Sunday, Harvest and Remembrance Sunday all being very well attended.

Alongside our worship, deepening our faith and connecting with our faith has been a real theme of the last year. Building on the Steppings Stone course that led to Confirmations in late 2023, Stepping Stones sessions have continued to grow and seen a range of folk coming along from regular attenders of similar style Lent groups, to those who have never engaged with topics in that way before but been regular congregation members. This has been really exciting and encouraging and I look forward to developing that further in 2025.

Being good stewards of our finances continues to be a priority. I am delighted then, not least as Area Dean, that the parish has continued to pay parish share in full. At nearly £60,000 this is clearly a significant part of our expenditure in

a year, and so I am grateful for all the hard work behind the scenes. We have been blessed in this last year to have received a legacy of £15,000 from Angela and Brian Comfort's estate, we have also worked hard to apply for grant funding where possible, receiving £2000 from our local Braintree District councillors, and £1600 from the owners of Braintree Village, previously Braintree Freeport. This has helped considerably, alongside being able to appoint a Gift Aid Officer, to which I am thankful to Paul Nolan for stepping into this role. The quarterly returns that he prepares from HMRC are also helping our finances.

Last year, we also bid for a digital contactless card reader through the Diocese and were successful. The cost of the device would have been over £1000, but it came to us free other than installing Wi-Fi in the church. Since it has been in operation last June we have seen a positive uptick in donations. All that said, we continue to live under financial pressures, costs have continued to rise, and though congregation numbers are increasing, many newcomers are not yet giving at the levels that longer standing congregation members were giving, so we will continue to keep a close eye on our figures.

In the early Spring, our Director of Music, Gareth Bennett moved away to Wiltshire. It was sad to see him go, but we were delighted that he would be nearer loved ones. Since then, we have had a rolling programme of regular organists which has worked well. As yet, we haven't had anyone step forward to take the role on permanently, but for this in between time I am pleased with how it is going.

Our big annual events continued to be successful with another wonderful total from the May Day weekend, we also raised one our highest totals for the Children's Society with the Christingle Service, and other events like the Heritage Open Day were also well supported.

Of course, in the last year we have also had a number of people from the parish, or those deeply connected to the parish, that have passed away. We remember with thanks; Agnes McCallin, Edna Hurford, Sue Lord and Noreen Watkinson. May they continue to rest in peace and rise in glory.

You will have read about the works to the fabric of the church building in an earlier report from the churchwardens which shows just how well kept our building is. Unfortunately, this has not been the case at The Deanery. In 10 years, there have been three significant periods of work on the house to stabilise it, none have been successful. The most recent works in the Summer 2023 were abandoned part way through leaving bare breeze block walls, cracks in those walls and around doors, some of which large enough for a whole range of wildlife to get through! With partial ceiling damage, damp and very cold, it hasn't been the easiest place to live. All this is in the hands of the Diocese and their Insurers. After much arm twisting a little work was done early in 2024 to reduce the effect of the gaps and try to keep us warmer. We were then promised that the Diocese would not allow us to stay another winter in such conditions. As the insurers continued to slow things down, by early Autumn the Diocese felt they had no choice but to look at alternatives. As a result, in early December we moved to a new property just half a mile away, which has become the new permanent home for the Deans going forward.

This aside, it has been another wonderful year. Seeing Friendly Friday Café continue to grow, expanding the number of care homes we visit with Home Communion services, to the madness that was not only meeting Rick Wakeman but hosting his charity concert late last year. In amongst all of that has been so many of you, but not least the Standing Committee and PCC members who have once again been an incredible support, and offered so much of their own time too, for which I am incredibly thankful.

2025 will be a chance to continue to build on all the success of the last year and I am looking forward to every moment.

The Very Revd Rod Reid, Dean of Bocking, April 2025

NOTES ON THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER FOR THE ACCOUNTS WHICH FOLLOW

We are grateful to Jan Stobart who is our Independent Examiner.

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Parochial Church Council
of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Mary the Virgin, Bocking
(Charity number 1131205)**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Mary the Virgin, Bocking for the year ended 31st December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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



J Stobart FCCA
19 Westfield Drive, Coggeshall, Essex CO6 1PU
14th March 2025

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking
Fund movement summary
Selected period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

Fund	Fund Balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Journal Entries	Fund balances Carried forward
Buildings - Buildings Capital	1,600.24	—	—	—	—	—	1,600.24
Choir - Choir Fund	280.00	—	—	—	—	—	280.00
Hall - Church hall	(8,304.16)	14,920.00	9,254.97	200.00	—	—	(2,439.13)
DeanRoger - Dean Rogers Million Pennies Fund	112,050.88	281.68	281.68	(15.00)	100.89	—	112,136.77
Fabric - Fabric Fund	251,467.01	—	—	—	5,755.69	—	257,222.70
Fellowship - Fellowship Fund	1,765.22	1,723.38	585.00	(200.00)	—	—	2,703.60
Flowers - Flower Fund	419.94	1,100.83	982.12	—	—	—	538.65
Mission - Funds collected on behalf of other charities	253.53	—	—	—	—	—	253.53
Grants - Grants and Donations	17,757.69	—	—	—	—	—	17,757.69
Retreats - Parish Retreats * Outings	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
General - General fund	8,493.20	102,198.14	102,493.25	15.00	—	—	8,213.09
Totals	385,783.55	120,224.03	113,597.02	—	5,856.58	—	398,267.14

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking
Statement of Financial Activities - summary
For the period from 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Total income	102,198.14	14,920.00	3,105.89	—	120,224.03	104,101.12
Total expenditure	102,493.25	9,254.97	1,848.80	—	113,597.02	136,839.41
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	5,755.69	100.89	—	5,856.58	16,573.53
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	(295.11)	11,420.72	1,357.98	—	12,483.59	(16,164.76)
Gross transfers between funds - in	384.94	200.00	369.94	—	954.88	10,435.00
Gross transfers between funds - out	(369.94)	—	(584.94)	—	(954.88)	(10,435.00)
Net movement in funds	(280.11)	11,620.72	1,142.98	—	12,483.59	(16,164.76)
Total funds brought forward	8,493.20	244,763.09	132,527.26	—	385,783.55	401,948.31
Total funds carried forward	8,213.09	256,383.81	133,670.24	—	398,267.14	385,783.55
Unrestricted						
General fund	8,213.09	—	—	—	8,213.09	8,493.20
Designated						
Buildings Capital	—	1,600.24	—	—	1,600.24	1,600.24
Church hall	—	(2,439.13)	—	—	(2,439.13)	(8,304.16)
Fabric Fund	—	257,222.70	—	—	257,222.70	251,467.01
Restricted						
Choir Fund	—	—	280.00	—	280.00	280.00
Dean Rogers Million Pennies Fund	—	—	112,136.77	—	112,136.77	112,050.88
Fellowship Fund	—	—	2,703.60	—	2,703.60	1,765.22
Flower Fund	—	—	538.65	—	538.65	419.94
Funds collected on behalf of other charities	—	—	253.53	—	253.53	253.53
Grants and Donations	—	—	17,757.69	—	17,757.69	17,757.69

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking

Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by fund)

As at: 31 December 2024

	Balance	Previous balance
Investments		
6420: Dean Rogers Million Penny - Asset		
Dean Rogers Million Pennies Fund	112,136.77	112,035.88
	<u>112,136.77</u>	<u>112,035.88</u>
6450: CBIFS 11362.08 Units 608264001S - Asset		
Fabric Fund	257,222.70	251,467.01
	<u>257,222.70</u>	<u>251,467.01</u>
Investments	369,359.47	363,502.89
Cash at bank and in hand		
6501: Bank current account - Asset		
Buildings Capital	1,600.24	1,600.24
Choir Fund	280.00	280.00
Church hall	(2,439.13)	(8,304.16)
Dean Rogers Million Pennies Fund	—	15.00
Fellowship Fund	2,703.60	1,765.22
Flower Fund	538.65	419.94
Funds collected on behalf of other charities	253.53	253.53
Grants and Donations	17,757.69	17,757.69
General fund	8,213.09	8,493.20
	<u>28,907.67</u>	<u>22,280.66</u>
Cash at bank and in hand	28,907.67	22,280.66
Grand Total	398,267.14	385,783.55

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking

Analysis of income and expenditure
Selected period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Income and endowments						
Donations and legacies						
0101 - Gift Aid - Bank	19,212.14	—	—	—	19,212.14	16,289.68
0110 - Gift Aid - Envelopes	6,527.71	—	—	—	6,527.71	10,128.22
0301 - Loose plate collections	7,774.20	—	—	—	7,774.20	4,891.55
0410 - Giving through church boxes	768.81	—	—	—	768.81	983.42
0550 - Donations appeals etc	820.79	—	231.68	—	1,052.47	5,650.03
0601 - Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	17,041.32	—	50.00	—	17,091.32	—
0701 - Legacies	2,000.00	—	—	—	2,000.00	—
08A1 - Non-recurring one-off grants	2,500.00	—	—	—	2,500.00	1,140.00
0901 - Other funds generated	2,130.53	—	1,723.38	—	3,853.91	8,985.87
Donations and legacies Totals	58,775.50	—	2,005.06	—	60,780.56	48,068.77
Income from charitable activities						
1101 - Fees for weddings and funerals	19,731.00	—	—	—	19,731.00	18,367.67
1110 - Activities to generate funds	450.00	—	712.83	—	1,162.83	1,861.82
1230 - Church hall lettings - objectives	—	14,920.00	—	—	14,920.00	14,334.00
Income from charitable activities Totals	20,181.00	14,920.00	712.83	—	35,813.83	34,563.49
Other trading activities						
0910 - General Fundraising	10,261.17	—	388.00	—	10,649.17	8,430.47
1220 - Bookstall sales - fund raising	—	—	—	—	—	6.75
Other trading activities Totals	10,261.17	—	388.00	—	10,649.17	8,437.22
Investments						
1001 - Dividends	6,980.47	—	—	—	6,980.47	7,020.64
1002 - DRMPF Contribution to Insurance Costs	6,000.00	—	—	—	6,000.00	6,000.00
Investments Totals	12,980.47	—	—	—	12,980.47	13,020.64
Other income						
1201 - Church shop	—	—	—	—	—	11.00
Other income Totals	—	—	—	—	—	11.00
Income and endowments Grand totals	102,198.14	14,920.00	3,105.89	—	120,224.03	104,101.12
Expenditure						
Raising funds						
1730 - Costs of fetes & other events	1,158.27	—	982.12	—	2,140.39	2,776.03
Raising funds Totals	1,158.27	—	982.12	—	2,140.39	2,776.03

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Expenditure on charitable activities						
1830 - Giving - relief and development agencies	25.00	—	—	—	25.00	25.00
1850 - Home mission	510.32	—	866.68	—	1,377.00	2,483.37
1910 - Ministry parish share etc	57,662.52	—	—	—	57,662.52	56,234.04
2001 - Assistant staff costs	170.00	—	—	—	170.00	280.00
2130 - Parsonage house expenses	—	—	—	—	—	800.40
2301 - Church running - insurance	7,640.77	—	—	—	7,640.77	7,307.63
2310 - Church office - Phone & internet	1,932.80	—	—	—	1,932.80	1,619.80
2311 - Church office Photocopier	4,438.92	—	—	—	4,438.92	4,240.20
2312 - Church office maintenance	75.00	—	—	—	75.00	—
2320 - Organ / piano tuning	478.00	—	—	—	478.00	956.00
2330 - Church maintenance	1,483.32	—	—	—	1,483.32	1,685.42
2331 - Cleaning	879.08	—	—	—	879.08	844.80
2340 - Upkeep of services	3,220.07	—	—	—	3,220.07	3,496.58
2341 - Director of Music & organists	6,370.00	—	—	—	6,370.00	5,680.00
2345 - Bellringers	—	—	—	—	—	100.00
2360 - Administration	923.05	—	—	—	923.05	982.60
2362 - Fees paid to Diocese	9,683.00	—	—	—	9,683.00	24,167.00
2370 - Visiting speakers / locums	108.80	—	—	—	108.80	253.00
2401 - Church running - electric	4,364.33	—	—	—	4,364.33	8,946.24
2410 - Church running - gas	—	—	—	—	—	295.00
2501 - Magazine expenses	—	—	—	—	—	585.00
2521 - Hall Running - Cleaning	—	2,583.40	—	—	2,583.40	2,091.75
2530 - Hall running - electricity	—	2,542.49	—	—	2,542.49	1,950.00
2540 - Hall running - gas	—	3,585.14	—	—	3,585.14	2,322.44
2560 - Hall running - maintenance	—	76.20	—	—	76.20	4,578.86
2580 - Hall running - water	—	267.34	—	—	267.34	453.11
2590 - Hall running - heating and lighting	—	200.40	—	—	200.40	763.70
2601 - Governance costs examination/audit fee	200.00	—	—	—	200.00	190.00
2830 - Hall + interior and exterior decorating	846.00	—	—	—	846.00	731.44
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	101,010.98	9,254.97	866.68	—	111,132.63	134,063.38
Other expenditure						
2402 - Church running - Internet	324.00	—	—	—	324.00	—
Other expenditure Totals	324.00	—	—	—	324.00	—
Expenditure Grand totals	102,493.25	9,254.97	1,848.80	—	113,597.02	136,839.41

Accounts

THE DEANERY CHURCH
OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN,
BOCKING

Parish Office: St Mary's Church Office,
Church Street,
Bocking,
Braintree
CM7 5JY

Incumbent: The Very Reverend Rod Reid,
The Deanery,
Bocking,
Braintree,
Essex
CM7 5SR

Bank: Barclays Bank PLC,
Bank Street,
Braintree,
Essex.

Independent Examiner: Jan Stobart

The Parochial Church Council (P.C.C.) of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary the Virgin, Bocking is registered with the Charity Commission. Registered No. 1131205

ANNUAL REPORT
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
For the year ending 31st December 2023

THE DEANERY CHURCH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BOCKING

**THE ANNUAL VESTRY
and ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

May 19th 2024

11:15am

AGENDA

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING

- 1. Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting 2023**
- 2. Election of Churchwardens (2) for one year**

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

- 1. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2023**
- 2. Matters arising**
- 3. Elections:**
 - a) Parochial Church Council members (3)**
 - b) Sides people**
 - c) Appointment of Independent Examiner**
 - d) Appointment of Responsible Officer – Safeguarding**
- 4. Reports:**
 - a) Electoral Roll Officer's report**
 - b) PCC report**
 - c) Churchwardens' Fabric report**
 - d) Church organisations' reports**
 - e) The Dean's Parish & Deanery Synod Reports**
 - f) Annual Accounts for year ending 31st December 2023**

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Bocking
Minutes of the Annual Vestry meeting – May 21st 2023

Item	Notes
Welcome	Fr. Rod opened the meeting at 11:25 am and welcomed everyone Present: 28 Apologies: 3
1.Minutes 22.05.2022	The proposal to accept the minutes was made by Alysson Nolan and seconded by Caron Francis. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.
2.Appointment of Churchwardens	Fr. Rod expressed grateful thanks for Graham’s tremendous support and commitment as his permitted 6 years in Office has come to an end. He also added his appreciation of the support given by both Wardens over the past year. The appointment of Churchwardens for 2023-24: Gill Hunt and Stephen Johnson, both having been duly proposed and seconded in accordance with required procedures, were voted in by all present for the year.

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Council meeting – May 21st 2023

Item	Notes
Welcome	Fr. Rod (RR) opened the meeting at 11:34 am. Present: 28 Apologies: 3
1.Minutes 22.05.2022	The proposal to accept the minutes was made by Steve Johnson and seconded by Paul Nolan. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.
2.Matters arising	Curate: Tony Everard asked whether/when a new Curate would be allocated to St.Mary’s? RR said that it was unlikely to be in the near future. Helen Sherfield, will be on placement for 6 weeks later in the summer, as part of her discernment for Lay Ministry.
3. Elections	<p>a) The election of 3 members to sit on the Deanery Synod for the term 2023-2026:- Isabel Adcock, Celia Coulson and Jacqui Hogger, having been duly proposed and seconded in accordance with required procedures, were voted in by all present.</p> <p>b) The election of 3 members to sit on the PCC for the term 2023-2026:- Alysson Nolan, Paul Nolan and Graham Shaw, having been duly proposed and seconded in accordance with required procedures, were voted in by all present.</p> <p>c) The election of Sidespersons: RR thanked everyone who volunteers for this vital role. All of those who had agreed to remain on or volunteered to join the rota, were nominated by RR and seconded by Pamela Gibson and voted in by all present.</p> <p>d) The appointment of an Independent Examiner: The PCC is very grateful for the support of Jan Stobart FCCA, who has agreed to continue in the role of Independent Examiner at St. Mary’s, having been nominated by RR and seconded by Sheila Johnson. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.</p> <p>e) The election of the Safeguarding – Responsible Officer: Nicola Jaynes nominated by Fr. Rod and seconded by Pat Thomas. The PCC is very grateful to her for ensuring we are up to date in fulfilling our legal responsibilities as legislations changes over time. Nicola also oversees all GDPR requirements. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.</p> <p>f) Following the retirement of D. Ferguson, the PCC is pleased to have secured the services of C. Barker as the architect who will carry out the forthcoming Quinquennial Inspection of the fabric of the Church.</p>
4.Reports	<p>a) Electoral Roll: As reported on p7 of the Annual Report by Monica Cook, Electoral Roll Officer, the Electoral Roll currently stands at 130, 48% of whom are resident in the Parish.</p> <p>b) Churchwardens’ Fabric Report: can be found on p.5 of the Annual Report document.</p>

Item	Notes
	c) Reports from Church organisations and Deanery Synod: can be found on pages 5-9 of the Annual Report.
5)Dean's Report & Review of 2022	Fr. Rod's report and review can be found on pages 9&10 of the Annual Report. He expressed his sincerest thanks to members of the PCC and everyone who has worked to keep the church life at St. Mary's such a strong part of the community. He particularly wished to draw attention to the donations made in support of the people of Ukraine; to the development of the Warm Space initiative in our Hall; to the response from the local community to the Gift Day and Heritage Open Day; to the production and distribution of a Church Newsletter. Average attendance by members at the four meetings of the PCC held in 2022 was 60%. The Dean concluded by thanking everyone for their continued support and commitment to the life and service of St.Mary's. Question raised by TE: will you be continuing the important outreach opportunity by holding Messy Church events in partnership with St. Peter's at the Glebe Hall? RR replied that there has not been interest from anyone at St. Peter's in continuing, although he hopes to develop new links with people living on the Glebe. However, he really needs to focus on events at St. Mary's where possible but may be holding one or two events at the Glebe if interest is shown.
6)Annual Accounts for the year ending Dec 31 st 2022	Fr. Rod expressed his thanks to Sheila Johnson for her management of the Church's finances in her role of Treasurer and for devoting such a lot of time to complying with the requirements of the Diocesan Finance system. He went on to present the Annual Accounts produced by Sheila with the support of Sara Barnes, of the Diocesan Finance team, giving details of the various accounts provided at the end of the Annual Report, preceded by Independent Examiner's statement on p11. Total Income equalled £153,152.59 (£115,021.65 in 2021) and total expenditure was £118,945.46 (£118,472.56 in 2021). The Parish Share was paid in full at over £50,000 for the year. Investments suffered a £40,000 loss. Carry forward = £401,948.31 (£408,341.35 in 2021) The Adoption of the Accounts was proposed by Paul Nolan and seconded by Tony Everard.
A.O.B.	a) Paul Nolan raised the matter of the state of the windows and sills in both the church and the Hall. GS replied that he is trying to get a contractor to do the work on those in the Hall. He added that the floor will have annual maintenance work done by Peverel Flooring soon. b) Trish D-S asked whether a new Director of Music is being sought. RR replied that he has put out 'feelers' among organists and contacts across the Diocese for the time being as formal advertising is extremely expensive.
Closure of the meeting	There being no further questions, Fr. Rod thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 12:20 pm.

CHURCHWARDENS' FABRIC REPORT 2023

The church is a Grade 1 listed building. Every 5 years the church is inspected by the Diocesan appointed Architect who submits a Quinquennial Inspection Report (QI) to advise the Church Wardens of measures required for the maintenance of the church fabric. This is in accordance with the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018 and subsequent amendments.

The QI dated 20/12/2023 describes the condition of the fabric of the church as "generally in very good condition apart from some minor maintenance work." The works are detailed in the report together with an estimate of cost and priority order. The estimated total cost of the recommended works is £6250 to be spent over the next 4 years. There are no urgent works required.

All items listed on the Annual Service Register e.g. inspection of lightening conductors, fire extinguishers etc. are up to date or in hand. Minor maintenance noted in the QI includes gutter cleaning, pointing, leadwork, timber treatment amongst others and some of these works have already been addressed specifically, oiling of external facing doors – ongoing, rainwater hopper cleaning, provision of water butt, Faculty Approval of the extension to the internment of Ashes plot.

The Churchwardens on behalf of St. Mary's PCC

ST MARY'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP 2023

The Fellowship group has had another wonderful year welcoming church members, friends and many from the village to our monthly meetings. We had 10 meetings with a wide range of talks. In September we had a wonderful coach trip to the Norfolk coast, everyone had a fantastic time. Our sessions are open to everyone and we would love to see you, every third Thursday in the month, meeting at the Church Hall and this year's outing taking place in September.

Ann Lanham

ST MARY'S BELL RINGERS 2023

St Mary's Guild is part of the Northern District, one of five districts of The Essex Association of Church Bell-ringers which in turn is part of the Central Council of Church Bell-ringers.

We are fortunate enough to have a ring of 10 bells (the majority of village churches has 8, 6 or fewer), the heaviest of which is 18 cwt. or 914kg. They were augmented from 8 in 1973 after many years of fund-raising by the then band of ringers. Sadly, now we rarely ring the 10, usually managing 8 ringers for Sunday service and frequently insufficient attendees for our Thursday practice night. However, we gather bands for weddings and other special occasions but sometimes have to rely on help from other local towers.

While our Steeple-keeper and other ringers undertake ongoing maintenance of our bells regularly we have discovered that work by skilled bell hangers needs to be done to prevent damage, repair existing damage and to improve the "bell-handling" to help make them easier to ring. Some of the urgent work has already been done and some is planned but if we are to contract experts then the costs are prohibitive and we would need to do some serious fund-raising and may need your help. If you would like further information or want to "have-a-go" please contact our Ringing Master, Alan May, on 01376 345290, or 07935344038, or just come up and see us in the ringing room when you next hear the bells ringing. We would love to see you soon.

This last year we rang at several weddings, had welcomed visiting bands and also rang following the death of HM The Queen. Ringing practise has now become once a month on a Thursday but this has helped increase numbers, and we plan to Ring for the King, later in the year.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S REPORT 2023

It's been another successful year for the Friends of St Mary's and we continue our efforts to develop the friendship and fellowship within our community.

Friends of St Mary's activity started to return to normality and we manage to run many successful events throughout the year, including an afternoon tea accompanying the AGM, a great concert by the Rock Choir in the Church yard (on one of the hottest days of the year), an ever popular Quiz Night (special thanks to Any and Adam Galley) and a Bingo accompanied Harvest supper, where the whole evening was catered by the Friends committee.

We've been careful with the money raised, and have a fairly healthy bank balance but do have plans to spend some of it following consultation with the Dean to identify where that money would be best employed and we have made some commitments to support projects that are awaiting Faculty approval.

My vision remains for more outreach into our local community for support and involvement in our planning and activities.

I am continually grateful for the help and support of the Friends committee without whom none of this would be possible and we thank all who continue to support our fellowship and fundraising events throughout the year.

Graham Shaw
for the Executive Committee Friends of St Mary's

CHURCH HALL REPORT 2023

On the whole the Hall has been supportive of Church finances. All of our regular groups have continued throughout the year. We are grateful to the uniformed services organisations, who use our hall, who thankfully pay us for the year in advance which provides us with income in advance which helps us to manage the utility and maintenance needs of the hall. The Hall Floor was resurfaced, paid for by The Friends and we have agreed an annual maintenance contract.

We started to use recyclable consumables towards the end of the year which helped St Mary's to gain our Silver Eco Church certificate. Purchased from Kempco although they may not be the cheapest they are very efficient in delivery. We have continued to book the hall for Birthday and Baptism Parties which again is a boost to our incoming funds.

Emma Few continues to run our well attended Toddler Group, Bocking Creates meet on Sunday evening and the Friendly Friday cafe continues run by Alysson and Irene. Although these are free lets it is something we should continue which involves the whole community. Fellowship meets once a month ensuring that the hall continues with our outreach into the community.

The Heating continues to be of concern. It's continued failures are an ongoing problem. The hall management are looking for a viable alternative to the warm air system presently installed but the options are expensive and limited. We are grateful for the ongoing support of our hall customers which allows us to maintain a community space to support St Mary's.

Ann Shaw
Church Hall Secretary

FRIENDLY FRIDAY CAFE

The first year of the Café has been a great success with numbers steadily increasing. The Café started under the banner of a 'Warm Space' and due to its popularity, the decision was made to continue as 'The Friendly Friday Café'. On average there are core group of 30 attendees each week but through word of mouth, Facebook and notices, new people have been coming along increasing the numbers.

The Café runs, every Friday from 12noon until 2.30/3pm and is free. There is a short break for Easter and a slightly longer break in the summer months. Tea/Coffee and biscuits are available throughout the session. Lunch is served from 12.30pm to 1.30pm and from 1.30 onwards fresh fruit, yogurts and a variety of cakes are available including Hot Cross Buns at Easter and Mince Pies for Christmas as well as occasionally homemade cakes. Various lunch options have been offered over the time as well as soup and rolls jacket potatoes, toasted sandwiches, beans on toast have been on the menu. Ice creams were even offered in the summer, this was a challenge due to the hot weather and not having a freezer, but were enjoyed by all.

The Café does not receive any funding but the donations given each Friday are used to buy provisions for future weeks. At the start of the year some 6th Form students from Tabor Academy visited to see what the Café offered to the community. The students eagerly assisted in getting hot drinks and serving lunch, as well as talking with those who attended. The Café continues to be popular, there is always a friendly 'buzz' in the room with much laughter and arrangements to meet the following week. This is great to hear knowing that this service is meeting a need in the community.

ST MARY'S CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER REPORT 2023/24

The Electoral Roll has been renewed in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. The Roll at April 2024 consists of a total of 134 persons.

52% (70) of these are resident in the Parish
48% (64) are non-resident

Monica Cook on behalf of St Mary's P.C.C.

BRAINTREE DEANERY

Braintree Deanery Synod is a council of church members drawn mainly from the clergy and congregations in each of the Deanery's parishes. It provides the communication link between congregations, the Diocese of Chelmsford and the Church of England nationally.

During 2023, St Mary's was represented in the House of Clergy by The Very Revd Rod Reid and in the House of Laity by Celia Coulson, Jacqui Hogger and Isabel Adcock. The Synod met three times, chaired jointly by the Area Dean, Rev'd Rod Reid, and the Joint Lay Chair, Canon John Turton.

In July, the Synod welcomed a new Lay membership (with some familiar faces) following the triennial elections of representatives in May. Rev'd Tayrina Ferguson and Rev'd Nikki Horsley joined the House of Clergy in October following their ordinations. Members congratulated them both, together with Rev'd Melanie Shillito on her ordination as priest.

Issues considered in 2023

In October, the Synod was delighted to welcome Michaela Southworth, Chief Executive and Secretary of Chelmsford Diocese, who gave a helpful and interesting presentation on giving and Diocesan finances. Synod members were encouraged to engage with the budgetary process and to feel able to propose alternative approaches. The Synod appreciated the insight into the Church's

finances provided by Ms Southworth, as well as her detailed and open assessment of the ongoing challenges facing the Diocese.

The Synod has received updates throughout the year on progress regarding the motion it passed in 2020 concerning the management of issues around lay officer conduct. By the end of 2023 it was being considered by the (General) Synod office as a potential item for referral to General Synod. It is heartening to note that even a small Synod like ours can make a difference by bringing issues of concern to the attention of the national Church. Members would like to thank Rev'd Dr Sara Batts Neale (General Synod link person for the Deanery) for advocating so effectively on our behalf.

Other issues considered by the Synod included:

- A presentation by the Friends of Essex Churches Trust.
- Safeguarding: face-to-face training sessions were arranged for those without online access. The sessions were very well received.
- Updates to each meeting on environmental matters, with many Deanery Churches either working towards an Eco Church award or having already obtained one.
- Regular reports of proceedings at Diocesan Synod and General Synod, and updates on news and events from parishes across the Deanery.

The Very Revd Rod Reid, May 2024

Membership of the Parochial Church Council

Members of the PCC are either *ex officio*, are elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (ACPM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules or co-opted for a set term.

Ex Officio Members

Rev. Roderick Reid	Dean of Bocking
Rev. Dr. Ian Mitchell	Associate Priest
Gillian Hunt	} Churchwardens May 2023-24
Stephen Johnson	
Isabel Adcock	} Deanery Synod & Diocesan Synod Rep
Celia Coulson	
Jacqui Hogger	
Sheila Johnson	Treasurer
Nicola Jaynes	Safeguarding Officer
Alysson Nolan	Assistant Safeguarding Officer
Joanna Mallows	PCC Secretary

Elected Members

Alysson Nolan	} until May 2026
Paul Nolan	
Graham Shaw	
Monica Cook	} until May 2025
Ann Shaw	

Irene Brewer
Joanna Mallows

} until May 2024
}

The PCC operates through meetings of all its members and through Standing Committee meetings occasionally between PCC meetings. This committee consists of the Priest in Charge, the Wardens, the Treasurer and PCC Secretary. It has power to transact business of the Council between meetings.

PCC Meetings

The Church Council met 6 times for business meetings during 2023, with a 60% average attendance. All PCC members are required to complete Church of England Safeguarding courses. Financial matters, Safeguarding matters, maintenance of the Church building, special events and outreach activities are among regular agenda items for discussion.

The Church

We continue to be dedicated to using St Mary's Church in the most creative ways we can to worship God and draw others to him through the ministries of stewardship, prayer, teaching and welcome, whilst continuing to develop our overseas link with the Parish of St Mary's Newala and other aspects of the wider Church.

General Finance

In the year 2023, we again met our obligations to the Diocese and parish in full and as usual, the Gift Aid Scheme has continued to benefit our work considerably. We are grateful to those who have completed a Gift Aid Declaration for their giving and to all who contribute regularly and generously through Standing Orders and Weekly Envelopes. If you are a Tax Payer we cannot afford for you not to be in the Gift Aid Scheme!

Dean Rogers Million Penny Fund

St Mary's Church continues to be grateful to the Dean Rogers Million Penny Fund for the payment of the Insurance Premium, details of which are included in the accounts. In what has been a very difficult year, not least financially, these funds were even more important.

Grateful Thanks

The P.C.C. wishes to thank the many, too numerous to mention by name, whose hard work and dedication has meant another successful year for St Mary's Church. We continue to thrive and flourish only because so much is done by so many people in a huge variety of ways and we truly value the contributions made by each and every one. Without so much being done to clean and decorate the Church, provide flowers, music, singing, bells, pastoral care, ministry to the sick and bereaved, take minutes, make coffee, soup and many other meals our parish and its fellowship would be the poorer.

The Dean's Reflections

What a joy it has been to look back over 2023 at St Mary's. As I will go on to share, there have been so many highlights from the last year to celebrate but none of them would have happened without you. Behind every good Vicar is a team of people who give so much of their time and energy to make these events and special occasion what they are. I want to start by saying thank you from the bottom of my heart for all that people have offered to support the life, worship and outreach at St Mary's. It is a real testament to you that so many people step up and take part, and that our reputation within the area and beyond is so high.

Part of our role as a church is to encourage one another in faith, and to support others in discovering and deepening theirs. How wonderful then last year to launch Stepping Stones. A series of weekly evening sessions where we had the chance to talk about all sorts of things from church to our faith. It culminated in hosting a joyful, if rather wet, Confirmation Service led by Bishop Roger. It was truly unforgettable! These stepping stones sessions will continue into 2024.

Another key focus for last year was building on our Eco Church success. After celebrating our Bronze Award from A Rocha in late Summer, by year's end we had also achieved a Silver Award too. So much hard work has gone into being more environmentally aware, and friendly, from bug houses and work with Junior Church to also running a number of Wildlife Walks through the local area to name just a few areas. There will be more on this through 2024 as well.

For me, part of being at St Mary's is of course the joy of Mass and worshipping together but also living that faith out day by day. At times, that prompts us to be even more of a presence within the parish and wider community. We have our regular monthly Fellowship meetings, in the Summer we had a Mindfulness Trail that was used by all ages, and we have also seen our Friendly Friday Café continue to go from strength to strength. Often welcoming 30-40 people each time. While it is completely free, the donations given have consistently met the costs and I am delighted at its success. A particular thanks to those who give up nearly every Friday to plan for, then cook and run those sessions. The impact of the café is being widely felt, and will only grow, I am sure.

Last year we also continued to play an active role in the national Heritage Weekends with events in church being well supported. We had an 'Out of this World' weekend in March with a host of space themed events that saw us reach out into the community and welcome many who had never been to St Mary's before. It was an opportunity to offer something that often you would need to go to London for, instead it was in our own community, and wonderfully I am still getting questions about when the next event will be.

Alongside our regular pattern of weekday and Sunday services we have shared in wonderful events often hosted by the Friends of St Mary's from the Quiz to a Rock Choir performance, as well as the Harvest Supper to a special Christmas Concert with Bocking Concert Brass. May Day and the Flower Festival were once again hugely successful and perfectly timed for the Coronation of King Charles III which we also marked with a celebratory service and Cream Tea/Picnic. Sadly, the weather was rather British about it all and instead of being outside we gathered in the Hall, but it was great fun no less.

St Mary's for me is about the people and the welcome we offer not least to those new to the church and the area. It is also a blessing to welcome those on placement with us. Through the long Summer months, it was a real joy to have Helen Sherfield with us as part of her training for Licensed Lay Ministry. Leading and preaching at services as well as getting to really know many of you. I know from Helen it was very impactful for her too and she loved her time with us. I am sure we can welcome her back very soon.

Of course, in the last year we have also had a significant number of people from the parish or those deeply connected to the parish, that have passed away. We remember with thanks; Gwen Nicholls, Rob Few, Bernard Meech, Bob Ferdinando, Fr Charles Danes, Christopher Surrey, June Blackwood, Eddie Burton, Peter Smith, Fred Bowler and Peter Hopkins. May they continue to rest in peace and rise in glory.

To conclude, I could not be happier to be your Incumbent, your Dean, and was therefore delighted that after some nine years it was made official in November when the new Archdeacon, The Revd Kate Peacock joined us to lead Mass, as well as collate and induct me into post. Serving this church, this community and you is a daily joy. As we take another step to celebrating 10 years since I became your Dean, I look forward to the adventures that lie ahead, a journey we take together.

The Very Revd Rod Reid, Dean of Bocking, May 2024

NOTES ON THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER FOR THE ACCOUNTS WHICH FOLLOW

We are grateful to Jan Stobart who is our Independent Examiner.

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Parochial Church Council
of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Mary the Virgin, Bocking
(Charity number 1131205)**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Mary the Virgin, Bocking for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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



J Stobart FCCA
19 Westfield Drive, Coggeshall, Essex CO6 1PU
27th March 2024

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking
Fund movement summary
Selected period: 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

Fund	Fund Balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Journal Entries	Fund balances Carried forward
Buildings - Buildings Capital	1,600.24	—	—	—	—	—	1,600.24
Choir - Choir Fund	240.00	40.00	—	—	—	—	280.00
Hall - Church hall	(10,258.30)	14,334.00	12,579.86	200.00	—	—	(8,304.16)
DeanRoger - Dean Rogers Million Pennies Fund	112,268.55	15.00	95.67	—	(137.00)	—	112,050.88
Fabric - Fabric Fund	244,756.48	—	—	(10,000.00)	16,710.53	—	251,467.01
Fellowship - Fellowship Fund	155.00	4,060.22	2,250.00	(200.00)	—	—	1,765.22
Flowers - Flower Fund	819.71	1,126.78	1,526.55	—	—	—	419.94
Mission - Funds collected on behalf of other charities	253.53	—	—	—	—	—	253.53
Grants - Grants and Donations	17,992.69	—	—	(235.00)	—	—	17,757.69
Retreats - Parish Retreats * Outings	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
General - General fund	34,120.41	84,525.12	120,387.33	10,235.00	—	—	8,493.20
Totals	401,948.31	104,101.12	136,839.41	—	16,573.53	—	385,783.55

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking
Statement of Financial Activities - summary
For the period from 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Total income	84,525.12	14,334.00	5,242.00	—	104,101.12	153,152.59
Total expenditure	120,387.33	12,579.86	3,872.22	—	136,839.41	118,945.46
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	16,710.53	(137.00)	—	16,573.53	(40,600.17)
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	(35,862.21)	18,464.67	1,232.78	—	(16,164.76)	(6,393.04)
Gross transfers between funds - in	10,235.00	200.00	—	—	10,435.00	5,315.80
Gross transfers between funds - out	—	(10,000.00)	(435.00)	—	(10,435.00)	(5,315.80)
Net movement in funds	(25,627.21)	8,664.67	797.78	—	(16,164.76)	(6,393.04)
Total funds brought forward	34,120.41	236,098.42	131,729.48	—	401,948.31	408,341.35
Total funds carried forward	8,493.20	244,763.09	132,527.26	—	385,783.55	401,948.31
Unrestricted						
General fund	8,493.20	—	—	—	8,493.20	34,120.41
Designated						
Buildings Capital	—	1,600.24	—	—	1,600.24	1,600.24
Church hall	—	(8,304.16)	—	—	(8,304.16)	(10,258.30)
Fabric Fund	—	251,467.01	—	—	251,467.01	244,756.48
Restricted						
Choir Fund	—	—	280.00	—	280.00	240.00
Dean Rogers Million Pennies Fund	—	—	112,050.88	—	112,050.88	112,268.55
Fellowship Fund	—	—	1,765.22	—	1,765.22	155.00
Flower Fund	—	—	419.94	—	419.94	819.71
Funds collected on behalf of other charities	—	—	253.53	—	253.53	253.53
Grants and Donations	—	—	17,757.69	—	17,757.69	17,992.69

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking

Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by fund)

As at: 31 December 2023

	Balance	Previous balance
Investments		
6420: Dean Rogers Million Penny - Asset		
Dean Rogers Million Pennies Fund	112,035.88	112,172.88
	<u>112,035.88</u>	<u>112,172.88</u>
6450: CBIFS 11362.08 Units 608264001S - Asset		
Fabric Fund	251,467.01	234,756.48
	<u>251,467.01</u>	<u>234,756.48</u>
Investments	363,502.89	346,929.36
Cash at bank and in hand		
6501: Bank current account - Asset		
Buildings Capital	1,600.24	1,600.24
Choir Fund	280.00	240.00
Church hall	(8,304.16)	(10,258.30)
Dean Rogers Million Pennies Fund	15.00	95.67
Fabric Fund	—	10,000.00
Fellowship Fund	1,765.22	155.00
Flower Fund	419.94	819.71
Funds collected on behalf of other charities	253.53	253.53
Grants and Donations	17,757.69	17,992.69
General fund	8,493.20	34,120.41
	<u>22,280.66</u>	<u>55,018.95</u>
Cash at bank and in hand	22,280.66	55,018.95
Grand Total	385,783.55	401,948.31

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking

Analysis of income and expenditure
Selected period: 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
Income and endowments						
<i>Donations and legacies</i>						
0101 - Gift Aid - Bank	16,289.68	—	—	—	16,289.68	14,509.90
0110 - Gift Aid - Envelopes	9,728.22	—	400.00	—	10,128.22	9,603.35
0301 - Loose plate collections	4,891.55	—	—	—	4,891.55	4,070.38
0410 - Giving through church boxes	983.42	—	—	—	983.42	845.44
0550 - Donations appeals etc	5,409.17	—	240.86	—	5,650.03	13,365.73
0601 - Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	—	—	—	—	—	22,883.52
0701 - Legacies	—	—	—	—	—	25,000.00
08A1 - Non-recurring one-off grants	1,140.00	—	—	—	1,140.00	2,675.00
0901 - Other funds generated	5,783.85	—	3,202.02	—	8,985.87	2,125.00
Donations and legacies Totals	44,225.89	—	3,842.88	—	48,068.77	95,078.32
<i>Income from charitable activities</i>						
1101 - Fees for weddings and funerals	18,367.67	—	—	—	18,367.67	18,111.00
1110 - Activities to generate funds	697.45	—	1,164.37	—	1,861.82	9,092.72
1210 - Bookstall sales to promote objectives	—	—	—	—	—	6.50
1230 - Church hall lettings - objectives	—	14,334.00	—	—	14,334.00	14,959.25
Income from charitable activities Totals	19,065.12	14,334.00	1,164.37	—	34,563.49	42,169.47
<i>Other trading activities</i>						
0910 - General Fundraising	8,195.72	—	234.75	—	8,430.47	1,736.22
1220 - Bookstall sales - fund raising	6.75	—	—	—	6.75	7.10
Other trading activities Totals	8,202.47	—	234.75	—	8,437.22	1,743.32
<i>Investments</i>						
1001 - Dividends	7,020.64	—	—	—	7,020.64	6,982.01
1002 - DRMPF Contribution to Insurance Costs	6,000.00	—	—	—	6,000.00	7,133.00
Investments Totals	13,020.64	—	—	—	13,020.64	14,115.01
<i>Other income</i>						
1201 - Church shop	11.00	—	—	—	11.00	46.47
Other income Totals	11.00	—	—	—	11.00	46.47
Income and endowments Grand totals	84,525.12	14,334.00	5,242.00	—	104,101.12	153,152.59
Expenditure						
<i>Raising funds</i>						
1730 - Costs of fetes & other events	1,691.48	—	1,084.55	—	2,776.03	745.75
Raising funds Totals	1,691.48	—	1,084.55	—	2,776.03	745.75

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Expenditure on charitable activities						
1830 - Giving - relief and development agencies	25.00	—	—	—	25.00	25.00
1850 - Home mission	137.70	—	2,345.67	—	2,483.37	3,630.16
1910 - Ministry parish share etc	56,234.04	—	—	—	56,234.04	47,959.56
2001 - Assistant staff costs	280.00	—	—	—	280.00	40.00
2002 - Playgroup leader costs	—	—	—	—	—	900.00
2130 - Parsonage house expenses	800.40	—	—	—	800.40	288.00
2301 - Church running - insurance	7,307.63	—	—	—	7,307.63	6,726.86
2310 - Church office - Phone & internet	1,619.80	—	—	—	1,619.80	1,142.01
2311 - Church office Photocopier	4,240.20	—	—	—	4,240.20	4,467.86
2320 - Organ / piano tuning	956.00	—	—	—	956.00	408.00
2330 - Church maintenance	1,685.42	—	—	—	1,685.42	618.40
2331 - Cleaning	844.80	—	—	—	844.80	682.20
2340 - Upkeep of services	3,054.58	—	442.00	—	3,496.58	4,161.11
2341 - Director of Music & organists	5,680.00	—	—	—	5,680.00	7,700.00
2345 - Bellringers	100.00	—	—	—	100.00	100.00
2360 - Administration	982.60	—	—	—	982.60	1,121.17
2362 - Fees paid to Diocese	24,167.00	—	—	—	24,167.00	13,465.00
2370 - Visiting speakers / locums	253.00	—	—	—	253.00	212.80
2401 - Church running - electric	8,946.24	—	—	—	8,946.24	2,802.32
2410 - Church running - gas	295.00	—	—	—	295.00	—
2501 - Magazine expenses	585.00	—	—	—	585.00	385.00
2521 - Hall Running - Cleaning	—	2,091.75	—	—	2,091.75	1,918.68
2530 - Hall running - electricity	—	1,950.00	—	—	1,950.00	1,723.00
2540 - Hall running - gas	—	2,322.44	—	—	2,322.44	5,875.71
2560 - Hall running - maintenance	—	4,578.86	—	—	4,578.86	2,138.75
2580 - Hall running - water	—	453.11	—	—	453.11	(2,527.45)
2590 - Hall running - heating and lighting	—	763.70	—	—	763.70	1,351.54
2601 - Governance costs examination/audit fee	190.00	—	—	—	190.00	—
2830 - Hall + interior and exterior decorating	311.44	420.00	—	—	731.44	10,518.76
2840 - Other PCC property upkeep	—	—	—	—	—	365.27
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	118,695.85	12,579.86	2,787.67	—	134,063.38	118,199.71
Expenditure Grand totals	120,387.33	12,579.86	3,872.22	—	136,839.41	118,945.46

Accounts

THE DEANERY CHURCH
OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN,
BOCKING

Parish Office: St Mary's Church Office,
Church Street,
Bocking,
Braintree
CM7 5JY

Priest in Charge: The Very Reverend Rod Reid,
The Deanery,
Bocking,
Braintree,
Essex
CM7 5SR

Bank: Barclays Bank PLC,
Bank Street,
Braintree,
Essex.

Independent Examiner: Jan Stobart

The Parochial Church Council (P.C.C.) of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary the Virgin, Bocking is registered with the Charity Commission. Registered No. 1131205

ANNUAL REPORT
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
For the year ending 31st December 2022

THE DEANERY CHURCH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BOCKING

**THE ANNUAL VESTRY AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH
MEETINGS**

May 21st 2023

11:15am

AGENDA

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING

- 1. Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting 2022**
- 2. Election of Churchwardens (2) for one year**

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

- 1. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2022**
- 2. Matters arising**
- 3. Elections:**
 - a) Deanery Synod representatives (3)**
 - b) Parochial Church Council members (3)**
 - c) Sides people**
 - d) Appointment of Independent Examiner**
 - e) Appointment of Responsible Officer – Safeguarding**
- 4. Reports:**
 - a) Electoral Roll Officer's report**
 - b) Churchwardens' Fabric report**
 - c) Church organisations' reports**
 - d) The Dean's Parish Report**
 - e) Annual Accounts for year ending 31st December 2022**

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Bocking
Minutes of the Annual Vestry meeting – May 22nd 2022

Item	Notes
Welcome	Fr. Rod opened the meeting at 11.30 am and welcomed everyone Present: 34 Apologies: 7
1.Minutes 23.05.2021	The proposal to accept the minutes was made by Alysson Nolan and seconded by Angela Comfort. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.
2.Appointment of Churchwardens	The appointment of Churchwardens for 2022-23 (until the next APCM): Gill Hunt, proposed by Graham Shaw and seconded by Mark Osmond; Graham Shaw, proposed by Joanna Mallows and seconded by Sheila Johnson. There were 0 abstentions, 0 votes against. All in favour. The Visitation Service for swearing in of wardens in the Deanery will be at All Saints, Rayne on in the evening of June 9th 2022. Fr. Rod thanked both wardens for their work this year as well as their friendship and support to himself. He was looking forward to continuing to work with them.

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Council meeting – May 22nd 2022

Item	Notes									
Welcome	Fr. Rod (RR) opened the meeting at 11.35 am. Present: 34 Apologies: 7									
1.Minutes 23.05.2021	The proposal to accept the minutes was made by Julie Wilkinson and seconded by Isabel Adcock. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.									
2.Matters arising	Eco Church – as this had been due to be led by Rev Catherine, it was asked what would now be happening with this project. RR advised that Jacqui Hogger and Steve Johnson will be involved with taking this forward. The electric heating has been completed and other areas have been identified to take forward and we will work towards the Bronze / Silver Award.									
3. Elections	<p>a) The election of 3 members to sit on the Deanery Synod for the term 2020-2023 stand until next year.</p> <p>b) The election of 2 members to sit on the PCC for the term 2022-2025</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Nominee</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Proposed by</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Seconded by</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Monica Cook</td> <td>N. Watkinson</td> <td>Chris Weston</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ann Shaw</td> <td>Graham Shaw</td> <td>Joanna Mallows</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Chris Weston and Angela Adams are both reluctantly stepping down from their PCC roles. Fr. Rod thanked them for their commitment of work to the life of the church and the PCC. Fr. Rod explained that we had 2 vacancies on the PCC which could be filled throughout the year. Should anyone be interested in the role to speak to him.</p> <p>It was raised that by holding PCC meetings in the church office, it is not accessible for disabled people and were there any plans in place to overcome this. Fr. Rod advised there was nothing in place currently, but this does need to be kept in mind. It was noted that for the last 2 years due to Covid the PCC has met in the church, PCC to discuss if it would be of benefit to continue with this or possibly to look at using the church hall depending on lettings. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.</p> <p>c) The election of Sidespersons: RR thanked all the volunteers for this vital role of welcoming and guiding worshippers. All who have agreed to remain on or volunteered to join the rota, were nominated by RR and seconded by Janice Warren. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.</p> <p>d) The appointment of Independent Examiner: The appointment of Jan Stobart was nominated by Sheila Johnson and seconded by Paul Nolan. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.</p>	Nominee	Proposed by	Seconded by	Monica Cook	N. Watkinson	Chris Weston	Ann Shaw	Graham Shaw	Joanna Mallows
Nominee	Proposed by	Seconded by								
Monica Cook	N. Watkinson	Chris Weston								
Ann Shaw	Graham Shaw	Joanna Mallows								

Item	Notes
	<p>e) The election of the Safeguarding – Responsible Officer: Nicola Jaynes nominated by Fr. Rod and seconded by Steve Johnson. The PCC is very grateful to her for ensuring we are up to date in fulfilling our legal responsibilities as legislations changes over time. Nicola also oversees all GDPR requirements.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour</p>
4.Reports	<p>a) Electoral Roll: As reported on p6 of the Annual Report by Monica Cook, Electoral Roll Officer. On the Electoral Roll there are currently 137, 47% of whom are resident in the Parish. Whilst some have come off the list this year we have several new people, including wedding couples, who have now become regular worshippers.</p> <p>b) Churchwardens’ Fabric Report: this report can be found on p.5/6 of the Annual Report document. The wardens were thanked for the work they had done to maintain the fabric of the church. The matter of poor heating in the bell ringing chamber was raised and Graham Shaw explained that the heaters had been changed, to more adequate units to ensure adequate heating for the bell ringers. It was confirmed that the electricity supply to the church has been upgraded to 3 phase. As we have no gas in the church now, the boiler room is not used and will allow for potential other use in the future.</p> <p>c) Newala Link: Chris Weston’s report can be found on p.6 of the Annual Report. We are grateful to Chris for his work. Chris feels that now is the time for him to step back from this role. At this moment we are having to look at our link with St Mary’s in Newala, as the Dr. Lawi Issa who has been our main link has stepped aside from his role due to ill health and we no longer have a consistent, confident link with them. Whilst we would love to continue with our Newala links, the time may have come that we can no longer do this. It was suggested that we might speak with other parishes that have had links with Newala to see if they still have communication.</p> <p>Reports from Church organisations: as Covid restrictions have continued to impact on so much of 2021 it was decided not to include any reports as very little has been has actually happened.</p> <p>The Braintree Deanery: Fr. Rod’s report on the Deanery Synod and its purpose in providing the communication link between congregations, the Diocese of Chelmsford and the Church of England nationally can be found on p6/7 of the Report.</p>
	<p>d) Dean’s Report & Review of 2021 can be found on page 9 of the Annual Report. He expressed his sincere thanks to the PCC and everyone for their work this year. Whilst it had been another very difficult year but was thankful that at least the church had been able to be open. I recall how it used to feel strange, arriving on a Sunday morning to open the church and leave the newsletters on the table but then having to walk away. Despite the challenges there had been some very positive events and it had been wonderful to be able to have a Carol Service. I am hopeful looking forward we will have an even better year this year, already receiving great support with our Gift Day and The Flower Festival. It was with sadness that we had lost our curate during the last year.</p> <p>Average attendance by members at the five meetings of the PCC held in 2021 was 14.</p> <p>He drew attention to St. Mary’s response to the Diocese of Chelmsford’s strategic priorities outlined in the document ‘Transforming Presence’. The section on ‘Serving with Accountability’ on p8 describes everything that has been accomplished within the priority area of ‘Spirituality and Nurture’ even in times of restrictions.</p> <p>The Dean concluded by thanking the congregation for all they had done and their support in the year. Julie Wilkinson thanked Fr. Rod on behalf to the congregation and Angela Comfort added that the success of the Gift Day was a tremendous personal tribute of respect and appreciation to Fr. Rod’s leadership.</p>

Item	Notes
6)	<p>e) Annual Accounts for the year ending Dec 31st 2021 Fr. Rod expressed his thanks to Sheila Johnson for all her work in the role of treasurer. He went on to present the accounts put together by Sheila Johnson. There had been no surprises with the accounts. In line with the current financial climate our investments were down, and we had needed to draw down £10,000 to meet our financial commitments. The parish share was paid in full. This year has started more positively with our income up and a return to full lettings of the church hall as well as the Gift Day and May Day incomes.</p>
A.O.B.	<p>a) Agnes McCallin asked if we could have new hymn books as the current ones are looking in very poor condition and some are falling apart. Fr. Rod agreed the poor condition of the existing hymn books is not representative of our church and that we are looking to replace them as soon as possible. As this will be quite a costly project we need to get the choice of books right and Fr. Rod feel the new revised version of the English Hymnal would be best for St Mary's. There is currently a publishing delay with this due to Covid. Julie Wilkinson requested that we purchase some large print copies. Gareth Bennett advised that currently whilst the congregation books will be available shortly, there is still an issue over copyright with music books.</p> <p>b) Monica Cook asked when we can start taking collection during the service like we used to. Fr. Rod said this is something that will be discussed at PCC as we need to get the balance right.</p> <p>c) Julie Wilkinson asked if it was possible for a candle donation box at both candle stations.</p> <p>d) Tony Everard raised that there had been a safeguarding issue on a Friday evening with regards to the letting to the Scouts and the need for the choir to sometimes access the church hall. Fr. Rod expressed he could understand the difficulties for both sides and he was going to be having a conversation to find a way forward with the matter.</p>
Closure of the meeting	Fr. Rod thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 12.24pm.

CHURCHWARDENS' FABRIC REPORT 2022

The main fabric of the Church continues to be in a satisfactory condition as remarked upon by the Architect during the quinquennial inspection under the Inspection of Churches Measure 1955. The report contains recommendations for works to be carried out in order of priority. The remaining repairs required under the quinquennial inspection were put on hold during 2019 as expenditure was directed to replacing stolen lead from the roof the Church Hall. Securing the availability of our appointed Stonemason has been frustrating, but we hope to complete these works in 2023, before the next QI. The most significant alteration to the church in the last year has been the addition of under pew heaters which have significantly improved heating and allowed us to come off gas entirely. Routine checks and maintenance have continued as usual. Annual services were carried out to check the boiler, lightning conductors, fire hydrants and blankets plus the alarm system.

The Churchwardens on behalf of St. Mary's PCC

ST MARY'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP 2022

The Fellowship group has had another wonderful year welcoming church members, friends and many from the village to our monthly meetings. We had 10 meetings with a wide range of talks. In September we had a wonderful coach trip to the Suffolk coast, everyone had a fantastic time. Our sessions are open to everyone and we would love to see you, every third Thursday in the month, meeting at the Church Hall and this year's outing taking place in September.

Ann Lanham

ST MARY'S BELL RINGERS 2022

St Mary's Guild is part of the Northern District, one of five districts of The Essex Association of Church Bell-ringers which in turn is part of the Central Council of Church Bell-ringers.

We are fortunate enough to have a ring of 10 bells (the majority of village churches has 8, 6 or fewer), the heaviest of which is 18 cwt. or 914kg. They were augmented from 8 in 1973 after many years of fund-raising by the then band of ringers. Sadly, now we rarely ring the 10, usually managing 8 ringers for Sunday service and frequently insufficient attendees for our Thursday practice night. However, we gather bands for weddings and other special occasions but sometimes have to rely on help from other local towers.

While our Steeple-keeper and other ringers undertake ongoing maintenance of our bells regularly we have discovered that work by skilled bell hangers needs to be done to prevent damage, repair existing damage and to improve the "bell-handling" to help make them easier to ring. Some of the urgent work has already been done and some is planned but if we are to contract experts then the costs are prohibitive and we would need to do some serious fund-raising and may need your help. If you would like further information or want to "have-a-go" please contact our Ringing Master, Alan May, on 01376 345290, or 07935344038, or just come up and see us in the ringing room when you next hear the bells ringing. We would love to see you soon.

This last year we rang at several weddings, had welcomed visiting bands and also rang following the death of HM The Queen. Ringing practise has now become once a month on a Thursday but this has helped increase numbers, and we plan to Ring for the King, later in the year.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S AND CHURCH HALL REPORT 2022

It's been another quieter year for the Friends of St Mary's, though we continue our efforts to develop the fellowship and friendship within our community and raise funds to support the fabric of St Mary's Church. Unfortunately we've not been as busy as we would like due to the continued influence of the Covid Pandemic through the early part of the year.

As I said we've not been able to be as active as we would have wished but did manage to run our quiz night which, with the help of Andy and Adam Galley, as usual proved very popular. We also organised our Harvest Supper, attended by many - most of whom told us how much they had enjoyed the evening either despite of or because of the Bingo. The evening was catered by our committee well led by Gill with contributions from a number of committee and Congregation members. We've just about managed to spend some money this past year. You'll have noticed the nicely cleaned and re-finished floor paid for by the Friends. As usual we have another great year of entertainment planned with a quiz, the harvest supper and other fantastic social events for your entertainment.

I'm not sure how many people are aware that the management of the Church Hall fabric now sits with Friends committee as the Church Hall committee disbanded. You will no doubt be aware of the refurbishments that have taken place over the last few years, funded largely by donations from benefactors but project managed by the Friends, including the most recent improvements to the Disabled WC.

Moving forward, as most of you will be aware I've been Chair of the Friends for ten years and am starting to think it may be time for me to step down and allow somebody else the privilege of leading what is a great team of volunteers. Whilst I am happy to continue in the interim I think we need to look to the future. My vision would be for more outreach into our local community for support and involvement in our planning and activities and I believe we need to clarify the position of the Friends. That is to say we are tasked with raising funds to support the fabric of St Mary's Church and Hall buildings; it is not our function to support the cost of Ministry or pay the Parish Share. It's about maintaining the magnificent buildings that sit at the centre of our community alongside developing community friendship and fellowship. I thank you for your continued support, without which all our efforts would be wasted.

Graham Shaw
for the Executive Committee Friends of St Mary's

WARM SPACE – FRIENDLY FRIDAY CAFE

In November 2022 Fr Rod wanted to start a Warm Space for the Community due to the impact of the rising costs in fuel and food that was affecting day to day living. It was decided to run from December until the end of March 2023 as this was a Government and local Council incentive, this was later extended till 7th April which was Good Friday. On Friday 2nd December the first Warm Space ran from 11:30 am until 14:00. Endless tea, coffee and biscuits were available and from 12:30 hot soup and fresh baked rolls were offered. In the following weeks, a selection of cakes were added, and proved very popular. Fr Rod applied for a grant from Essex County Council to support these sessions and was successful in being awarded the grant.

After a slow start, attendance soon increased ending with a core attendance of 20 plus people. After a short break and a change of name to The Friendly Friday Cafe the regular Fridays started once more on Friday 12th May with the timings changed to 12noon until 3pm. These sessions continue to be free of charge but due to the generosity of those attending the Warm Space/Friendly Friday Cafe with donations it has been possible for these sessions to continue, we are now offering a change of menu, starting off with beans /spaghetti on toast, sausage in a roll, toasted sandwiches as well as fresh fruit in addition to cakes. Tea and coffee will continue to be available throughout the session.

These sessions will run every Friday until July 21st when again there will be a break for the summertime starting again at the beginning of October. Through word of mouth, it has been made known that these Fridays have been invaluable to those attending, not only providing a 'warm space' but friendship and companionship. A 'safe place' to share thoughts and worries. We thank everyone for their continued support.

ST MARY'S CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER REPORT 2022/23

The Electoral Roll has been renewed in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. The Roll at April 2023 consists of a total of 130 persons.

48% (63) of these are resident in the Parish
52% (67) are non-resident

Monica Cook on behalf of St Mary's P.C.C.

BRAINTREE DEANERY

Braintree Deanery Synod is a council of church members drawn mainly from the clergy and congregations in each of the Deanery's parishes. It provides the communication link between congregations, the Diocese of Chelmsford and the Church of England nationally. During 2022, St Mary's was represented in the House of Clergy by The Dean and in the House of Laity by Dr Celia Coulson, Isabel Adcock and until Summer 2022, Mrs Angela Comfort. The Synod met three times, chaired jointly by the Area Dean, Rev'd Rod Reid, and the Joint Lay Chair, Canon John Turton. Regarding membership, proposals for a pastoral reorganisation between Deaneries lead the Synod to welcome new lay members from the parishes of Great and Little Bardfield. On a sad note, the Synod was very sorry to learn of the death of Mrs Angela Comfort, a loyal and committed member for many years.

Issues considered in 2022:

In October, the Synod was delighted to welcome Bishop Guli, who gave an inspirational talk on her background in Iran, her positive outlook for the future of the Church of England and her thoughts on being prepared for and willing to accept change. She then responded to questions. The Synod greatly appreciated Bishop Guli taking the time to attend and meet members in person.

Development of the Mission and Ministry Partnership (MMP) has continued and efforts are ongoing to recruit a Strategic Coordinator to oversee and encourage further progress. Advantage has been taken of opportunities for joint working, including joint treasurers’ meetings and an online Living in Love and Faith course for all MMP churches who wished to participate. The Motion adopted by the Synod in 2020, calling for a review of arrangements for managing issues around the conduct of lay officers, was considered by the Diocesan Synod in June and carried by a large majority. It now stands referred to the General Synod, with discussions taking place to determine future progress.

Other issues considered by the Synod included:

- A presentation on Ministerial wellbeing.
- Updates to each meeting on environmental matters, with many Deanery Churches either working towards an Eco Church award or having already obtained one.
- Regular reports of proceedings at Diocesan Synod and General Synod, and updates on news and events from parishes across the Deanery.
- As we approach the triennial election of lay representatives in 2023, the Synod expresses thanks to all who have served as members during the past three years.

The Very Revd Rod Reid, May 2023

Membership of the Parochial Church Council

Members of the PCC are either *ex officio*, are elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (ACPM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules or co-opted for a set term.

Ex Officio Members

Revd. Roderick Reid	Dean of Bocking
Revd. Dr. Ian Mitchell	Associate Priest
Mr. Graham Shaw	Churchwarden from May 2022
Mrs. Gillian Hunt	Churchwarden from May 2022
Mrs. Joanna Mallows	PCC Secretary
Mrs. Isabel Adcock	General Synod & Deanery Synod Rep
Mrs. Angela Comfort [RIP]	Deanery Synod Reps
Dr. Celia Coulson	2020-2023
Mrs. Sheila Johnson	Treasurer
Mrs. Nicola Jaynes	Safeguarding Officer

Elected Members

Mrs. Monica Cook	}	until May 2025
Mrs. Ann Shaw		
Mrs. Irene Brewer	}	until May 2024
Mrs. Joanna Mallows		
Mr. Stephen Johnson		
Mrs. Alysson Nolan	}	Oct 2020 until 2023
Mr. Paul Nolan		

The PCC operates through full meetings of all its members and through Standing Committee meeting occasionally between PCC meetings. This committee consists of The Dean, the Wardens, the Treasurer and PCC Secretary. It has power to transact business of the Council between meetings. The Church Council met 7 times, including one extra meeting in May, for business meetings during 2022, with an average of 10 of its membership in attendance. Diocesan pro forma were completed and recommendations carried out.

The Church

We continue to be dedicated to using St Mary's Church in the most creative ways we can to worship God and draw others to him through the ministries of stewardship, prayer, teaching and welcome, whilst continuing to develop our overseas link with the Parish of St Mary's Newala and other aspects of the wider Church.

General Finance

In the year 2022, we again met our obligations to the Diocese and parish in full and as usual, the Gift Aid Scheme has continued to benefit our work considerably. We are grateful to those who have completed a Gift Aid Declaration for their giving and to all who contribute regularly and generously through Standing Orders and Weekly Envelopes. If you are a Tax Payer we cannot afford for you not to be in the Gift Aid Scheme!

Dean Rogers Million Penny Fund

St Mary's Church continues to be grateful to the Dean Rogers Million Penny Fund for the payment of the Insurance Premium, details of which are included in the accounts. In what has been a very difficult year, not least financially, these funds were even more important.

Grateful Thanks

The P.C.C. wishes to thank the many, too numerous to mention by name, whose hard work and dedication has meant another successful year for St Mary's Church. We continue to thrive and flourish only because so much is done by so many people in a huge variety of ways and we truly value the contributions made by each and every one. Without so much being done to clean and decorate the Church, provide flowers, music, singing, bells, pastoral care, ministry to the sick and bereaved, take minutes, make coffee, soup and many other meals our parish and its fellowship would be the poorer.

The Dean's Reflections

Actions speak louder than words. Not a bad motto to live your life by, I'm sure you would agree.

It is also a great way to live out what it means to be a Christian, and to be part of a church community. For me, it is these same words that sum up so much of the last year here at St Mary's. I couldn't be prouder to be part of a church that builds up and supports one another, but also looks where necessary to take action, and offer that support in practical ways that go beyond and reach out to the wider community.

We saw that most clearly at the beginning of 2022, when we all wondered how we could respond to the developing crisis in Ukraine. Millions of people fleeing to neighbouring countries as war claimed lives and led so many to leave everything behind. From here in Bocking, we felt helpless, but then when the opportunity arose to support UK-AID and their lorries of items going out to Moldova, so many people stepped up. From our small village, 8 car loads full of the aid items requested went off, it was an incredible response. Then later in the year, we launched our Warm Space that would run every week throughout the winter. We were awarded some grant funding to get us going, but again it was the kindness of individuals who made it a success, along with the ever-growing numbers in attendance. The space was absolutely about somewhere to be warm and to have some food, but above all that, it was somewhere to make friends, to be with others, stranger or not. I am excited that this initiative will continue through 2023 and beyond.

In these challenging times, fundraising has been even more vital than ever, especially in 2022. Our own church finances have become tighter than we would like, and it was this that led me to suggest a parish wide 'Gift Day'. Rather nervously, 1500 letters went out across Bocking, and we waited to see the response. We were collectively overwhelmed at the generosity of both congregation and non-congregation members as we raised over £7000 with Gift Aid to be claimed in addition. Alongside the gifts, we had messages from people saying they were so pleased to be asked to contribute, and all those who came along on the actual Gift Day enjoyed a warm welcome. We were able to build on this later in the year too, when we took part in the Heritage Open Weekend with a special day of events including history talks, all of which were wonderfully received and something we will look to build on in the year to come.

Our biggest fundraiser of the year is the Flower Festival and May Day which after a hiatus for Covid returned fully in 2022. It was a bumper year for attendance and in monies raised. A huge success all round, this alongside the Friends events meant we raised more money in 2022 than we have for a long time which will stabilise our finances going forward.

There is so much more to highlight, and I can't cover it all here, but I am thrilled at the growing achievements of Eco Church giving us all plenty of food for thought. Whether it is in small ways like bug boxes, seed bombs and the like, or in larger ways like replacing our gas boiler with electric under-pew heaters, we continue to make great strides. It was also wonderful to see those leading Eco-Church link in with our growing Junior Church too, a really positive partnership and one that is inspiring young minds.

We have continued to utilise social media and our website but a new initiative last year also saw the introduction of a Quarterly Newsletter that goes out across the village and is another really good way for us to let people know all of the things we are up to, and I am really pleased with the response to it.

Alongside all of this we have had regular worship which has seen new people and families join us, bumper attendance at Christmas and Easter, as well as weddings, baptisms and funerals too. Of course, we have also had to adapt with some people moving away and more profoundly loved members of the congregation passing away. Their contribution to the life of this church over many years cannot be under-estimated and so we will long continue to give thanks for Jane Griffiths, Angela Comfort and Grace Cotton.

As we look back, I do so with thanks and gratitude for each and every person who is part of the life of this church. The challenges will continue, but so will the opportunities to serve God, by serving and loving one another. I look forward to sharing in that with you and trust that our hopes and desires will continue to be lived out through our words, and especially our actions.

The Very Revd Rod Reid, Dean of Bocking, May 2023

NOTES ON THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER FOR THE ACCOUNTS WHICH FOLLOW

We are grateful to Jan Stobart who is our Independent Examiner.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Deanery Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Bocking (Excepted Charity)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Deanery Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Bocking for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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



J Stobart FCCA
19 Westfield Drive, Coggeshall, Essex CO6 1PU
11th April 2023

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking
Fund movement summary
Selected period: 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

Fund	Fund Balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Journal Entries	Fund balances Carried forward
Buildings - Buildings Capital	1,600.24	—	—	—	—	—	1,600.24
Choir - Choir Fund	240.00	—	—	—	—	—	240.00
Hall - Church hall	(12,304.55)	21,613.25	19,842.00	275.00	—	—	(10,258.30)
DeanRoger - Dean Rogers Million Pennies Fund	121,454.05	105.67	12.85	—	(9,278.32)	—	112,268.55
Fabric - Fabric Fund	276,078.33	—	—	—	(31,321.85)	—	244,756.48
Fellowship - Fellowship Fund	—	1,540.00	1,110.00	(275.00)	—	—	155.00
Flowers - Flower Fund	707.65	1,341.74	1,270.48	40.80	—	—	819.71
Mission - Funds collected on behalf of other charities	253.53	—	—	—	—	—	253.53
Grants - Grants and Donations	—	25,000.00	2,007.31	(5,000.00)	—	—	17,992.69
Retreats - Parish Retreats * Outings	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
General - General fund	20,312.10	103,551.93	94,702.82	4,959.20	—	—	34,120.41
Totals	408,341.35	153,152.59	118,945.46	—	(40,600.17)	—	401,948.31

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking
Statement of Financial Activities - summary
For the period from 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Total income	103,551.93	21,613.25	27,987.41	—	153,152.59	115,021.65
Total expenditure	94,702.82	19,842.00	4,400.64	—	118,945.46	118,472.56
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	(31,321.85)	(9,278.32)	—	(40,600.17)	41,747.35
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	8,849.11	(29,550.60)	14,308.45	—	(6,393.04)	38,296.44
Gross transfers between funds - in	5,000.00	275.00	40.80	—	5,315.80	1,279.76
Gross transfers between funds - out	(40.80)	—	(5,275.00)	—	(5,315.80)	(1,279.76)
Net movement in funds	13,808.31	(29,275.60)	9,074.25	—	(6,393.04)	38,296.44
Total funds brought forward	20,312.10	265,374.02	122,655.23	—	408,341.35	370,044.91
Total funds carried forward	34,120.41	236,098.42	131,729.48	—	401,948.31	408,341.35
Unrestricted						
General fund	34,120.41	—	—	—	34,120.41	20,312.10
Designated						
Buildings Capital	—	1,600.24	—	—	1,600.24	1,600.24
Church hall	—	(10,258.30)	—	—	(10,258.30)	(12,304.55)
Fabric Fund	—	244,756.48	—	—	244,756.48	276,078.33
Restricted						
Choir Fund	—	—	240.00	—	240.00	240.00
Dean Rogers Million Pennies Fund	—	—	112,268.55	—	112,268.55	121,454.05
Fellowship Fund	—	—	155.00	—	155.00	—
Flower Fund	—	—	819.71	—	819.71	707.65
Funds collected on behalf of other charities	—	—	253.53	—	253.53	253.53
Grants and Donations	—	—	17,992.69	—	17,992.69	—

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking

Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by fund)

As at: 31 December 2022

	Balance	Previous balance
Investments		
6420: Dean Rogers Million Penny - Asset		
Dean Rogers Million Restricted Pennies Fund	112,172.88	121,451.20
	<u>112,172.88</u>	<u>121,451.20</u>
6450: CBIFS 11362.08 Units 608264001S - Asset		
Fabric Fund Designated	234,756.48	266,078.33
	<u>234,756.48</u>	<u>266,078.33</u>
Investments	<u>346,929.36</u>	<u>387,529.53</u>
Cash at bank and in hand		
6501: Bank current account - Asset		
Buildings Capital Designated	1,600.24	1,600.24
Choir Fund Restricted	240.00	240.00
Church hall Designated	(10,258.30)	(12,304.55)
Dean Rogers Million Pennies Fund Restricted	95.67	2.85
Fabric Fund Designated	10,000.00	10,000.00
Fellowship Fund Restricted	155.00	—
Flower Fund Restricted	819.71	707.65
Funds collected on behalf of other charities Restricted	253.53	253.53
Grants and Donations Restricted	17,992.69	—
General fund Unrestricted	34,120.41	20,312.10
	<u>55,018.95</u>	<u>20,811.82</u>
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>55,018.95</u>	<u>20,811.82</u>
Grand Total	<u><u>401,948.31</u></u>	<u><u>408,341.35</u></u>

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking
Analysis of income and expenditure
Selected period: 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Income and endowments						
Donations and legacies						
0101 - Gift Aid - Bank	13,855.90	654.00	—	—	14,509.90	36,126.41
0110 - Gift Aid - Envelopes	8,743.35	—	860.00	—	9,603.35	11,239.83
0301 - Loose plate collections	4,070.38	—	—	—	4,070.38	4,040.92
0410 - Giving through church boxes	845.44	—	—	—	845.44	723.47
0501 - One-off Gift Aid gifts	—	—	—	—	—	10,013.00
0550 - Donations appeals etc	9,318.74	4,000.00	46.99	—	13,365.73	4,142.85
0601 - Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	22,883.52	—	—	—	22,883.52	—
0701 - Legacies	—	—	25,000.00	—	25,000.00	—
08A1 - Non-recurring one-off grants	675.00	2,000.00	—	—	2,675.00	—
0901 - Other funds generated	585.00	—	1,540.00	—	2,125.00	418.16
Donations and legacies Totals	60,977.33	6,654.00	27,446.99	—	95,078.32	66,704.64
Income from charitable activities						
1101 - Fees for weddings and funerals	18,111.00	—	—	—	18,111.00	24,531.00
1110 - Activities to generate funds	8,552.30	—	540.42	—	9,092.72	1,093.50
1210 - Bookstall sales to promote objectives	6.50	—	—	—	6.50	11.30
1230 - Church hall lettings - objectives	—	14,959.25	—	—	14,959.25	7,055.38
Income from charitable activities Totals	26,669.80	14,959.25	540.42	—	42,169.47	32,691.18
Other trading activities						
0910 - General Fundraising	1,736.22	—	—	—	1,736.22	2,162.32
1220 - Bookstall sales - fund raising	7.10	—	—	—	7.10	21.90
Other trading activities Totals	1,743.32	—	—	—	1,743.32	2,184.22
Investments						
1001 - Dividends	6,982.01	—	—	—	6,982.01	7,005.11
1002 - DRMPF Contribution to Insurance Costs	7,133.00	—	—	—	7,133.00	6,436.50
Investments Totals	14,115.01	—	—	—	14,115.01	13,441.61
Other income						
1201 - Church shop	46.47	—	—	—	46.47	—
Other income Totals	46.47	—	—	—	46.47	—
Income and endowments Grand totals	103,551.93	21,613.25	27,987.41	—	153,152.59	115,021.65

Expenditure

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
Raising funds						
1730 - Costs of fetes & other events	745.75	—	—	—	745.75	—
Raising funds Totals	745.75	—	—	—	745.75	—
Expenditure on charitable activities						
1801 - Giving to missionary societies	—	—	—	—	—	100.00
1830 - Giving - relief and development agencies	25.00	—	—	—	25.00	25.00
1850 - Home mission	500.00	—	3,130.16	—	3,630.16	—
1910 - Ministry parish share etc	47,959.56	—	—	—	47,959.56	52,145.76
2001 - Assistant staff costs	40.00	—	—	—	40.00	160.00
2002 - Playgroup leader costs	900.00	—	—	—	900.00	640.00
2130 - Parsonage house expenses	288.00	—	—	—	288.00	—
2301 - Church running - insurance	6,726.86	—	—	—	6,726.86	6,394.43
2310 - Church office - Phone & internet	1,142.01	—	—	—	1,142.01	1,015.89
2311 - Church office Photocopier	4,467.86	—	—	—	4,467.86	3,145.83
2320 - Organ / piano tuning	408.00	—	—	—	408.00	269.00
2330 - Church maintenance	618.40	—	—	—	618.40	7,281.77
2331 - Cleaning	682.20	—	—	—	682.20	795.60
2340 - Upkeep of services	2,890.63	—	1,270.48	—	4,161.11	2,071.68
2341 - Director of Music & organists	7,700.00	—	—	—	7,700.00	5,210.00
2345 - Bellringers	100.00	—	—	—	100.00	—
2360 - Administration	1,121.17	—	—	—	1,121.17	1,051.46
2362 - Fees paid to Diocese	13,465.00	—	—	—	13,465.00	8,511.00
2370 - Visiting speakers / locums	212.80	—	—	—	212.80	35.00
2401 - Church running - electric	2,802.32	—	—	—	2,802.32	1,651.48
2410 - Church running - gas	—	—	—	—	—	42.83
2440 - Church running - heating and lighting	—	—	—	—	—	19,420.24
2501 - Magazine expenses	385.00	—	—	—	385.00	—
2521 - Hall Running - Cleaning	—	1,918.68	—	—	1,918.68	1,438.38
2530 - Hall running - electricity	—	1,723.00	—	—	1,723.00	1,112.00
2540 - Hall running - gas	—	5,875.71	—	—	5,875.71	2,027.04
2560 - Hall running - maintenance	—	2,138.75	—	—	2,138.75	748.92
2580 - Hall running - water	—	(2,527.45)	—	—	(2,527.45)	3,179.25
2590 - Hall running - heating and lighting	—	1,351.54	—	—	1,351.54	—
2830 - Hall + interior and exterior decorating	1,156.99	9,361.77	—	—	10,518.76	—
2840 - Other PCC property upkeep	365.27	—	—	—	365.27	—
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	93,957.07	19,842.00	4,400.64	—	118,199.71	118,472.56
Expenditure Grand totals	94,702.82	19,842.00	4,400.64	—	118,945.46	118,472.56

Accounts

THE DEANERY CHURCH
OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN,
BOCKING

Parish Office: St Mary's Church Office,
Church Street,
Bocking,
Braintree
CM7 5JY

Priest in Charge: The Very Reverend Rod Reid,
The Deanery,
Bocking,
Braintree,
Essex
CM7 5SR

Bank: Barclays Bank PLC,
Bank Street,
Braintree,
Essex.

Independent Examiner: Jan Stobart

The Parochial Church Council (P.C.C.) of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary the Virgin,
Bocking
is registered with the Charity Commission. Registered No. 1131205

ANNUAL REPORT
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

For the year ending 31st December 2021

**THE DEANERY CHURCH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN,
BOCKING**

**THE ANNUAL VESTRY AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL
CHURCH MEETINGS**

**May 22nd 2022
11:15am**

AGENDA

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING

- 1. Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting 2021**
- 2. Election of Churchwardens**

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

- 1. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
2021**
- 2. Matters arising**
- 3. Elections:**
 - a) Parochial Church Council
members**
 - b) Sides people**
 - c) Appointment of Independent Examiner**
 - d) Appointment of Responsible Officer -
Safeguarding**
- 4. Reports:**
 - a) Electoral Roll Officer's report**
 - b) Churchwardens' Fabric report**
 - c) Church organisations' reports**
 - d) The Dean's Parish Report**
 - e) Annual Accounts for year
ending 31st December 2021**

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Bocking
Minutes of the Annual Vestry meeting - May 23rd 2021

Item	Notes
Welcome	Fr. Rod opened the meeting at 11:18 am and welcomed everyone Present: 29 Apologies: 3
1.Minutes 20.10.2020	The proposal to accept the minutes was made by Gill Hunt and seconded by Isabel Adcock. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.
2.Appointment of Churchwarden s	Fr. Rod expressed grateful thanks for Jo's energy, passion and efficiency as her permitted 6 years in Office come to an end. He also added his appreciation of the support given by the Wardens over the past seven months (APCM Oct.20-May21) The appointment of Churchwardens for 2021-22 (until the next APCM): Gill Hunt, proposed by Graham Shaw and seconded by Jo Mallows; Graham Shaw, proposed by Monica Cook and seconded by Mike Fuller. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour. The Visitation Service for swearing in of wardens in the Deanery will be at St. Mary's on Saturday, July 3 rd 2021

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Council meeting - May 23rd 2021

Item	Notes																					
Welcome	Fr. Rod (RR) opened the meeting at 11:25 am. Present: 29 Apologies: 3																					
1.Minutes 20.10.2020	The proposal to accept the minutes was made by Angela Adams and seconded by Graham Shaw. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.																					
2.Matters arising	A.O.B. Heating: A faculty has been applied for. The cost of electric under-pew heating is quoted at £20-25K. The PCC has received a personal donation of £20K by a parishioner towards the cost of disconnecting the gas to the old boiler. Eco Church Environmental project – Bronze Award for use of carbon neutral electricity by 2030. A Rocha is the contact for this project being led by Revd Catherine for St. Mary's. Also mentioned were: the Bells – no immediate issues following a condition inspection but costs to do any work on them will be significant. The Clock face – A faculty has been applied for the work to be carried out during August.																					
3. Elections	a) The election of 3 members to sit on the Deanery Synod for the term 2020-2023 took place last year. b) The election of 3 members to sit on the PCC for the term 2021-2024 took place. <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Nominee</th> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Proposed by</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Seconded by</th> <th></th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Irene Brewer</td> <td>Joanna Mallows</td> <td>Ann Shaw</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Steve Johnson</td> <td>Paul Cotton</td> <td>David</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Francis</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Joanna Mallows</td> <td>Pat Thomas</td> <td>Janice</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Warren</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>One vacancy remains unfilled. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.</p>	Nominee	Proposed by		Seconded by			Irene Brewer	Joanna Mallows	Ann Shaw	Steve Johnson	Paul Cotton	David	Francis			Joanna Mallows	Pat Thomas	Janice	Warren		
Nominee	Proposed by																					
Seconded by																						
Irene Brewer	Joanna Mallows	Ann Shaw																				
Steve Johnson	Paul Cotton	David																				
Francis																						
Joanna Mallows	Pat Thomas	Janice																				
Warren																						

Item	Notes
	<p>c) The election of Sidespersons: RR thanked everyone who volunteers for this vital role which continues to involve the implementation of Covid restrictions. All of those who had agreed to remain on or volunteered to join the rota, were nominated by RR and seconded by Steve Johnson. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.</p> <p>d) The appointment of Independent Examiner: The PCC is very sorry to have to report the deaths of both Elizabeth Burden FCA, and her husband, in past six months. Our condolences were sent to their family. It was agreed that the PCC should pay for the services of a new Independent Examiner for St. Mary's for the year 2020-2021. The appointment of Charlotte King was nominated by Fr. Rod and seconded by Ann Shaw.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">There were no abstentions or votes against.</p> <p>All in favour.</p> <p>e) The election of the Safeguarding - Responsible Officer: Nicola Jaynes nominated by Fr. Rod and seconded by Graham Shaw. The PCC is very grateful to her for ensuring we are up to date in fulfilling our legal responsibilities as legislations changes over time. Nicola also oversees all GDPR requirements.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">There were no abstentions or votes against.</p> <p>All in favour.</p>
4.Reports	<p>a) Electoral Roll: As reported on p7 of the Annual Report by Monica Cook, Electoral Roll Officer. On the Electoral Roll there are currently 140, 46% of whom are resident in the Parish, exactly the same as in 2020, although there are some new members.</p> <p>b) Churchwardens' Fabric Report: this report can be found on p.7 of the Annual Report document. The Wardens were thanked for everything that has been done to ensure that the maintenance of the fabric of the building is in satisfactory order.</p> <p>c) Newala Link: Chris Weston's report can be found on p.7 of the Annual Report. We are grateful to Chris for his work in maintaining and developing our links with St. Mary's parish, Newala. The visit to Newala, which was arranged for 4 members of St. Mary's congregation, had to be cancelled due to Covid 19 travel restrictions in this country and the spread of the virus in Tanzania. Since writing his report Chris has had news that our Newala contact Dr. Lawi Issa is very ill. St. Mary's has sent some funds towards the cost of his medical care. Chris is looking to hand over the link role as soon as someone can be found to carry it on.</p> <p>Reports from Church organisations: as Covid restrictions have impacted on so much of 2020 it was decided not to include any reports as nothing has actually happened.</p> <p>The Braintree Deanery: Fr. Rod's report on the Deanery Synod and its purpose in providing the communication link between congregations, the Diocese of Chelmsford and the Church of England nationally can be found on p7&8 of the Report. During 2020 St. Mary's was represented in the House of Clergy by himself and Revd Catherine, and in the House of Laity by Isabel Adcock, Angela Comfort and Celia Coulson. In February, the Synod passed a motion to</p>

Item	Notes
	<p>review the current arrangements for managing serious cases of misconduct by lay officers. This was duly referred to the Diocesan Synod for consideration.</p> <p>Fr. Rod was commissioned as Area Dean in September.</p>
5)Dean's Report & Review of 2020	<p>Fr. Rod's report and review can be found on pages 10&11 of the Annual Report. He expressed his sincerest thanks to members of the PCC and everyone who has worked to keep the church life at St. Mary's going so strongly in the face all the necessary changes and initiatives during a very trying year. It has been important to many that the Church has been open for private contemplation and prayer throughout the week.</p> <p>Our finances have been badly curtailed by lockdowns and restrictions on gathering together for events although people have maintained their monetary contributions through direct debits. We did manage to hold a Christmas Tree Festival with on-line stalls and trees in the Church and the community tree in the Churchyard. The viewership of the on-line services has been around 150 most weeks and higher for special services.</p> <p>Average attendance by members at the four meetings of the PCC held in 2021 was 65%.</p> <p>He drew attention to St. Mary's response to the Diocese of Chelmsford's strategic priorities outlined in the document 'Transforming Presence'. The section on 'Serving with Accountability' on p9 describes everything that has been accomplished within the priority area of 'Spirituality and Nurture' even in times of restrictions.</p> <p>The Dean concluded by thanking everyone for their continued support and commitment to the life and service of St.Mary's. He expressed the hope that 'we can be even more effective, not taking anything for granted and striving to best serve God and this community together.'</p> <p>Steve Johnson thanked The Dean for the incredible work he has put into keeping us all connected through the on-line services, quizzes and weekly newsletters.</p>
6)Annual Accounts for the year ending Dec 31 st 2020	<p>Fr. Rod expressed his thanks to Sheila Johnson for taking over the role of Treasurer and for devoting such a lot of time to entering the accounts onto the Diocesan Format.</p> <p>He went on to present the draft Annual Accounts put together by Sheila and Sara Barnes, of the Diocesan Finance team, giving details of the various accounts provided at the end of the Annual Report.</p> <p>Total Assets less liabilities are £370,045 (£338,252 in 2019). Income in 2020 was £74,786 (£109,538 in 2019) and expenditure was £81,445 (£117,554 in 2019) resulting in a deficit on the year of £8,015. The Parish Share was paid in full.</p> <p>It was proposed by Fr. Rod and seconded by Sheila Johnson that the Adoption of the Accounts would be by Fr. Rod and the Standing Committee, providing that the Independent Examiner accepted them as they are without significant changes. If there are then they would be re-presented to the PCC. This was agreed by those present.</p>
A.O.B.	<p>a) Isabel Adcock advised the meeting that she will be standing down from the General Synod. She suggested that she would be willing to have a chat about the role with anyone interested in taking her place.</p> <p>b) Julie Wilkinson asked for the hand held microphone to be used by any one wishing to speak at future meetings.</p>
Closure of the meeting	<p>There being no further questions, Fr. Rod thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 12:25 pm.</p>

NEWALA LINK REPORT 2021

It has been a difficult year in our relationship with Newala. Following the cancellation of our proposed visit due to the pandemic we heard that our contact in Newala, Dr Issa Lawi, had a serious health problem which has resulted in the loss of a leg. This demonstrated how much the link relied on myself and Lawi and that neither of us are invincible and that no support or backup plans are in place. This was raised with Lawi who found a deputy in George Miwanga. I have written to George on several occasions but have had no response from him. I did exchange Christmas greetings with Lawi and mentioned that I had not heard from George but still no response. There has been no interest expressed in taking over from myself and it would be beneficial to have new blood to revitalise the link as there is a danger of it withering on the stem. The display in the church was removed for the Christmas activities and was not replaced as yet and needs revitalising. The presence and profile of the link is at present muted and needs a reboot.

Chris Weston, Co-Ordinator on behalf of St
Mary's PCC

CHURCHWARDENS' FABRIC REPORT 2021

The main fabric of the Church continues to be in a satisfactory condition as remarked upon by the Architect during the quinquennial inspection under the Inspection of Churches Measure 1955.

The report contains recommendations for works to be carried out in order of priority. Most of the recommendations contained in that report have now been completed. The wardens are in contact with our builder to ensure that the small amount of works outstanding will be completed in advance of the next inspection.

Routine checks and maintenance have continued as usual with annual services to the clock mechanism, fire fighting equipment, roof alarm and lightening conductors.

During the year the Gas heating to the Church failed. Attempts were made to repair the system which required, as an ancillary, the installation of a fire alarm system in the boiler room (which can be extended to the main building). A repair proved impossible. The boiler was therefore de-commissioned and the gas supply to the building terminated.

A new heating system involving under-pew heaters has been installed alongside the upgrading of the incoming Electrical supply to accommodate the increased load created by the electrical heaters.

The Porch roof leaked, this has been repaired along with the resultant damage to the internal plasterwork and decorations.

The Clock face has also been re-finished through the summer, helping St Mary's to present a bright well maintained face to the village.

The Churchwardens on behalf
of St. Mary's PCC

ST MARY'S CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER REPORT 2021/22

The Electoral Roll has been renewed in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

The Roll at April 2022 consists of a total of 137 persons.

47% (64) of these are resident in the Parish

53% (73) are non-resident

Monica Cook on behalf of St Mary's
P.C.C.

***** Following the Covid 19 restrictions that impacted on so much of 2021 as well as the previous year, it didn't feel appropriate to include further reports from the usual organisations, that in the main had to cease for a large part of the year. We look forward to updating members on each of these groups next year. However, if you have any questions or comments regarding one of these groups then please speak to Fr Rod.*****

BRAINTREE DEANERY

Braintree Deanery Synod is a council of church members drawn mainly from the clergy and congregations in each of the Deanery's parishes. It provides the communication link between congregations, the Diocese of Chelmsford and the Church of England nationally.

During 2021/22 St Mary's was represented in the House of Clergy by The Very Revd Rod Reid and in the House of Laity by Angela Comfort, Celia Coulson and Isabel Adcock. The Synod met three times, chaired jointly by the Area Dean, Rev'd Rod Reid, and the Joint Lay Chair, Canon John Turton. One meeting of each took place of the Mission and Pastoral Committee and the Standing Committee.

This year saw the Election of representatives to serve on the General Synod from 2021-2026. Isabel Adcock, a member of the Deanery Synod who had served on the General Synod for many years, decided not to stand for re-election and sincere thanks were expressed to her for her service and for providing regular and interesting updates on Synod business. Rev'd Dr Sara Batts-Neale has now taken on the role of link representative.

There has been progress regarding development of the Mission and Ministry Partnership (MMP) and significant decisions have been taken about how it is likely to operate in future. The Partnership is beginning to take greater advantage of opportunities to share skills and resources, with joint activities including meetings of Deanery Parish Treasurers and a successful Deanery Living in Love and Faith course, run via Zoom. The hope for the coming year is for the MMP to continue to develop into a valuable shared resource.

Other matters considered by the Synod included:

- Agreement to appoint a volunteer buildings adviser as a central resource for parishes undertaking building work
- A presentation on environmental issues, leading to the inclusion of a standing item on agendas allowing members to share good practice regarding eco-friendly initiatives and projects.
- Responses to consultations received from the Diocese.

The Synod was also pleased to learn that its 2020 motion calling for a review of the arrangements in place for managing serious cases of misconduct by lay officers has been accepted for consideration by the Diocesan Synod.

The Synod expresses grateful thanks to its members for their commitment and for all who support the life of the Church in this Deanery.

The Very Revd Rod Reid,
May 2022

Membership of the Parochial Church Council

Members of the PCC are either *ex officio*, are elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (ACPM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules or co-opted for a set term.

Ex Officio Members

2021	Revd. Roderick Reid Revd. Catherine Towner	Dean of Bocking Associate Curate until Oct
	Revd. Dr. Ian Mitchell	Associate Priest
	Mr. Graham Shaw 2021	Churchwarden from May
May 2021	Mrs. Gillian Hunt	Churchwarden from
2021	Mrs. Joanna Mallows	Churchwarden until May & PCC Secretary
Deanery Synod Rep	Mrs. Isabel Adcock	General Synod &
	Mrs. Angela Comfort Dr. Celia Coulson	Deanery Synod Reps 2020-2023
	Mrs. Sheila Johnson	Treasurer
	Mrs. Nicola Jaynes	Safeguarding Officer

Elected Members

	Mrs. Irene Brewer Mrs. Joanna Mallows Mr. Stephen Johnson	until May 2024
	Mrs. Alysson Nolan Mr. Paul Nolan	Oct 2020 until 2023
	Mrs. Angela Adams Mrs. Monica Cook Mrs. Ann Shaw Mr. Chris Weston	until May 2022

The PCC operates through full meetings of all its members and through Standing Committee meeting occasionally between PCC meetings. This committee consists of the Priest in Charge, the Wardens, the Treasurer and PCC Secretary. It has power to transact business of the Council between meetings.

PCC Meetings

The Church Council met 5 times for business meetings during 2021, with an average of 14 of its membership in attendance. The Covid 19 pandemic and the safety of our congregation were paramount to the decisions on arrangements for worship and access to the Church. Health and Safety Risk Assessment diocesan pro forma were completed and recommendations carried out.

Matters regarding the financial position, resulting from the suspension of public worship for part of the year and of nearly all fund-raising events, have been constantly under review.

Serving with Accountability

Given the restrictions placed upon us for meeting in person, there has been no requirement to review the outcomes of our chosen focus 'Spirituality and Nurture' from the Strategic Priorities, outlined in the diocese of Chelmsford's 'Transforming Presence'.

At St. Mary's we were committed to seeking out the answers to the questions:

- What are we doing to teach people to pray?
- What are we doing to teach people about their faith and help them in their discipleship?

We planned to work to ensure an inclusive offering that reached those without on-line technology where possible.

These aims remain in our minds and all members of our community of faith are encouraged to consider how they might be involved or respond to the call to be part of the following:

- Developing a prayer course/group that will consider structured daily prayer
- Recruiting leaders to support participants in their learning about faith and biblical meditation
- Encouraging people to explore their experience of prayer and what supports them – place, atmosphere, privacy etc
- Discussing outward signs of our faith, discipleship and 'ways of being'
- Revising the order of service used at Sunday Mass to make it more explanatory and clearer for younger worshippers
- Ensuring that our communication systems – fliers/posters/website/Facebook etc – are up to date and fully accessible to everyone with whom we look to connect
- Listening to feedback and responding respectfully and with sensitivity

Please speak to Fr. Rod or one of the Wardens if would like to be involved in developing any of these themes.

The Church

We continue to be dedicated to using St Mary's Church in the most creative ways we can to worship God and draw others to him through the ministries of stewardship, prayer, teaching and welcome, whilst continuing to develop our overseas link with the Parish of St Mary's Newala and other aspects of the wider Church.

General Finance

In the year 2021, we again met our obligations to the Diocese and parish in full and as usual, the Gift Aid Scheme has continued to benefit our work considerably. We are grateful to those who have completed a Gift Aid Declaration for their giving and to all who contribute regularly and generously through Standing Orders and Weekly Envelopes. If you are a Tax Payer we cannot afford for you not to be in the Gift Aid Scheme!

Dean Rogers Million Penny Fund

St Mary's Church continues to be grateful to the Dean Rogers Million Penny Fund for the payment of the Insurance Premium, details of which are included in the accounts. In what has been a very difficult year, not least financially, these funds were even more important.

Grateful Thanks

The P.C.C. wishes to thank the many, too numerous to mention by name, whose hard work and dedication has meant another successful year for St Mary's Church. We continue to thrive and flourish only because so much is done by so many people in a huge variety of ways and we truly value the contributions made by each and every one. Without so much being done to clean and decorate the Church, provide flowers, music, singing, bells, pastoral care, ministry to the sick and bereaved, take minutes, make coffee, soup and many other meals our parish and its fellowship would be the poorer.

The Dean's Reflections

2021 began in the midst of another lockdown. Thankfully, this time, the church remained open but we could only have online services. For those first 3 months, I vividly remember getting up on a Sunday at the usual time, but instead of going to lead the services, I opened the building and delivered the notice sheet to those who were receiving a paper copy. All this time on, I remember those days well, and I imagine for us all Covid will have left us all with similar strange memories. Thankfully, with the heralding of Spring came release from lockdown and services began again, however it took many months for people to feel increasingly confident to return. Indeed the services themselves were still simplified and not what we are used to, but this also started to change through the year. Unfortunately, by the year's end, anxieties were raised again with a new variant. This impacted on our Christmas and Carol Services, but it was wonderful to be having them once again and they were extremely appreciated. Throughout the year, we managed to continue with weekly online services which I know have been a lifeline for many.

So all in all, another very challenging year but once again St Mary's rose to it. We had a number of successful events from the Cream Tea in June to the Art Auction in late Summer. Our Harvest weekend was a joyful occasion too with the Harvest Supper and a well-attended service. As you will have read earlier in the report we have made progress regarding some of our longer term projects, from replacing the heating, to conversations about an extension on the north of the church.

Throughout this time I am grateful to clerical colleagues The Revd Dr Ian Mitchell, and of course our Curate too, The Revd Catherine Towner for their contributions. What a privilege for St Mary's to host the Ordination to the Priesthood service for three deacons including Revd Catherine. Sadly, plans for Catherine's curacy changed towards the end of the year, and both Catherine and the Diocese felt that completing her curacy in a different setting would be best. We certainly send her every good wish for her future ministry.

I am also so incredibly grateful for the support and guidance of the churchwardens, PCC and many of you as well. Thank you for your encouragement in these last 12 months. It has been a difficult time, but we have been shaped and changed by it, but no less diminished, indeed our standing in the local community has only grown. In this last year, while we have been blessed to be joined by a number of new folk, we have also lost some, each of whom has given so much to St Mary's over the years, and so we remember Chris Brown, Jane Griffiths, David Felstead, Betty Cotton, Jean Burton, and Elisabeth Wright.

Ahead, things are looking very positive with new ideas for fundraising, the return of May Day, and much more. I am really excited by all that 2022 can bring us. For today, let me close by reminding you of the words shared at my induction. Bishop Roger said that my ministry here should be about loving each of you. Please be assured of my continued love and prayers. It is a joy to be with you, I pray that together, we can go on serving and loving God, serving and loving this community and serving and loving one another as we journey on.

The Very Revd Rod Reid, Dean of
Bocking, May 2022

***NOTE ON THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER FOR THE ACCOUNTS WHICH
FOLLOW***

We are grateful to Jan Stobart who is our Independent Examiner.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Deanery Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Bocking (Excepted Charity)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Deanery Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Bocking for the year ended 31st December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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



J Stobart FCCA
19 Westfield Drive, Coggeshall, Essex CO6 1PU
21st March 2022

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking

Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by fund)

As at: 31 December 2021

		Balance	Previous balance
Investments			
6420: Dean Rogers Million Penny - Asset			
Dean Rogers Million Pennies Fund	Restricted	121,451.20	114,773.86
		<u>121,451.20</u>	<u>114,773.86</u>
6450: CBIFS 11362.08 Units 608264001S - Asset			
Fabric Fund	Designated	266,078.33	241,008.32
		<u>266,078.33</u>	<u>241,008.32</u>
	Investments	387,529.53	355,782.18
Cash at bank and in hand			
6501: Bank current account - Asset			
Buildings Capital	Designated	1,600.24	1,600.24
Choir Fund	Restricted	240.00	170.00
Church hall	Designated	(12,304.55)	(10,854.34)
Dean Rogers Million Pennies Fund	Restricted	2.85	—
Fabric Fund	Designated	10,000.00	—
Flower Fund	Restricted	707.65	328.06
Funds collected on behalf of other charities	Restricted	253.53	253.53
General fund	Unrestricted	20,312.10	22,765.24
		<u>20,811.82</u>	<u>14,262.73</u>
	Cash at bank and in hand	20,811.82	14,262.73
	Grand Total	408,341.35	370,044.91

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking
Statement of Financial Activities
For the period from 01 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
<i>Income and endowments from:</i>						
Donations and legacies	46,618	—	20,085	—	66,704	31,702
Income from charitable activities	25,312	7,055	323	—	32,691	23,361
Other trading activities	2,184	—	—	—	2,184	297
Investments	13,441	—	—	—	13,441	19,424
Total income	87,556	7,055	20,409	—	115,021	74,786
<i>Expenditure on:</i>						
Raising funds	—	—	—	—	—	100
Expenditure on charitable activities	89,889	8,505	20,077	—	118,472	81,344
Total expenditure	89,889	8,505	20,077	—	118,472	81,445
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	35,070	6,677	—	41,747	38,451
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	(2,332)	33,619	7,009	—	38,296	31,792
<i>Transfers</i>						
Gross transfers between funds - in	579	—	700	—	1,279	127,481
Gross transfers between funds - out	(700)	—	(579)	—	(1,279)	(127,481)
<i>Other recognised gains / losses</i>						
Net movement in funds	(2,453)	33,619	7,129	—	38,296	31,792
<i>Reconciliation of funds</i>						
Total funds brought forward	22,765	231,754	115,525	—	370,044	338,252
Total funds carried forward	20,312	265,374	122,655	—	408,341	370,044
<i>Represented by</i>						
Unrestricted						
General fund	20,312	—	—	—	20,312	22,765
Designated						
Buildings Capital	—	1,600	—	—	1,600	1,600
Church hall	—	(12,304)	—	—	(12,304)	(10,854)
Fabric Fund	—	276,078	—	—	276,078	241,008
Restricted						
Choir Fund	—	—	240	—	240	170
Dean Rogers Million Pennies Fund	—	—	121,454	—	121,454	114,773
Flower Fund	—	—	707	—	707	328
Funds collected on behalf of other charities	—	—	253	—	253	253

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking
The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking
Fund movement summary
Selected period 01 January 2021 to 31 December 2021
Selected period: 01 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

Fund	Fund Balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Journal Entries	Fund balances Carried forward
Buildings - Buildings Capital	1,600	—	—	—	—	—	1,600
Choir - Choir Fund	170	70	—	—	—	—	240
Hall - Church hall	(10,854)	7,055	8,505	—	—	—	(12,304)
DeanRoger - Dean Rogers Million Pennies Fund	114,773	2	—	—	6,677	—	121,454
Fabric - Fabric Fund	241,008	—	—	—	35,070	—	276,078
Flowers - Flower Fund	328	336	656	700	—	—	707
Mission - Funds collected on behalf of other charities	253	—	—	—	—	—	253
Grants - Grants and Donations	—	20,000	19,420	(579)	—	—	—
Retreats - Parish Retreats	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
* Outings	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
General - General fund	22,765	87,556	89,889	(120)	—	—	20,312
Totals	370,044	115,021	118,472	—	41,747	—	408,341

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Income and endowments						
<i>Donations and legacies</i>						
0101 - Gift Aid - Bank	26,126	—	10,000	—	36,126	17,675
0110 - Gift Aid - Envelopes	11,239	—	—	—	11,239	6,930
0301 - Loose plate collections	4,040	—	—	—	4,040	2,496
0410 - Giving through church boxes	723	—	—	—	723	672
0501 - One-off Gift Aid gifts	—	—	10,013	—	10,013	180
0550 - Donations appeals etc	4,120	—	22	—	4,142	1,184
0601 - Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	—	—	—	—	—	1,015
0701 - Legacies	—	—	—	—	—	1,300
0901 - Other funds generated	368	—	50	—	418	249
<i>Donations and legacies Totals</i>	46,618	—	20,085	—	66,704	31,702
<i>Income from charitable activities</i>						
1101 - Fees for weddings and funerals	24,531	—	—	—	24,531	12,609
1110 - Activities to generate funds	770	—	323	—	1,093	1,530
1210 - Bookstall sales to promote objectives	11	—	—	—	11	—
1230 - Church hall lettings - objectives	—	7,055	—	—	7,055	9,222
<i>Income from charitable activities Totals</i>	25,312	7,055	323	—	32,691	23,361
<i>Other trading activities</i>						
0910 - General Fundraising	2,162	—	—	—	2,162	197
1220 - Bookstall sales - fund raising	21	—	—	—	21	100
<i>Other trading activities Totals</i>	2,184	—	—	—	2,184	297
<i>Investments</i>						
1001 - Dividends	7,005	—	—	—	7,005	6,764
1002 - DRMPF Contribution to Insurance Costs	6,436	—	—	—	6,436	12,659
<i>Investments Totals</i>	13,441	—	—	—	13,441	19,424
Income and endowments Grand totals	87,556	7,055	20,409	—	115,021	74,786

Expenditure

Raising funds

1730 - Costs of fetes & other events	—	—	—	—	—	100
--------------------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	-----

<i>Raising funds Totals</i>	—	—	—	—	—	100
-----------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	-----

Expenditure on charitable activities

1801 - Giving to missionary societies	100	—	—	—	100	—
---------------------------------------	-----	---	---	---	-----	---

1830 - Giving - relief and development agencies	25	—	—	—	25	25
---	----	---	---	---	----	----

1850 - Home mission	—	—	—	—	—	25
---------------------	---	---	---	---	---	----

1910 - Ministry parish share etc	52,145	—	—	—	52,145	47,520
----------------------------------	--------	---	---	---	--------	--------

2001 - Assistant staff costs	160	—	—	—	160	—
------------------------------	-----	---	---	---	-----	---

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
2002 - Playgroup leader costs	640	—	—	—	640	—
2301 - Church running - insurance	6,394	—	—	—	6,394	6,323
2310 - Church office - Phone & internet	1,015	—	—	—	1,015	950
2311 - Church office Photocopier	3,145	—	—	—	3,145	1,915
2312 - Church office maintenance	—	—	—	—	—	2,015
2320 - Organ / piano tuning	269	—	—	—	269	648
2330 - Church maintenance	7,281	—	—	—	7,281	829
2331 - Cleaning	795	—	—	—	795	468
2340 - Upkeep of services	1,414	—	656	—	2,071	1,652
2341 - Director of Music & organists	5,210	—	—	—	5,210	4,467
2360 - Administration	1,051	—	—	—	1,051	1,040
2362 - Fees paid to Diocese	8,511	—	—	—	8,511	—
2370 - Visiting speakers / locums	35	—	—	—	35	32
2401 - Church running - electric	1,651	—	—	—	1,651	2,240
2410 - Church running - gas	42	—	—	—	42	1,700
2440 - Church running - heating and lighting	—	—	19,420	—	19,420	1,146
2520 - Hall running - Hall Manager	—	—	—	—	—	480
2521 - Hall Running - Cleaning	—	1,438	—	—	1,438	1,332
2530 - Hall running - electricity	—	1,112	—	—	1,112	930
2540 - Hall running - gas	—	2,027	—	—	2,027	1,847
2560 - Hall running - maintenance	—	748	—	—	748	372
2580 - Hall running - water	—	3,179	—	—	3,179	3,379
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities Totals</i>	89,889	8,505	20,077	—	118,472	81,344
Expenditure Grand totals	89,889	8,505	20,077	—	118,472	81,445

Accounts

THE DEANERY CHURCH
OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN,
BOCKING

Parish Office: St Mary's Church Office,
Church Street,
Bocking,
Braintree
CM7 5JY

Priest in Charge: The Very Reverend Rod Reid,
The Deanery,
Bocking,
Braintree,
Essex
CM7 5SR

Bank: Barclays Bank PLC,
Bank Street,
Braintree,
Essex.

Independent Examiner: Jan Stobbart

The Parochial Church Council (P.C.C.) of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary the Virgin,
Bocking
is registered with the Charity Commission. Registered No. 1131205

ANNUAL REPORT
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

For the year ending 31st December 2020

**THE DEANERY CHURCH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN,
BOCKING**

**THE ANNUAL VESTRY AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH
MEETINGS
May 23rd 2021**

AGENDA

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING

- 1. Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting 2020**
- 2. Election of Churchwardens**

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

- 1. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2020**
- 2. Matters arising**
- 3. Elections:**
 - a) Deanery Synod Representatives**
 - b) Parochial Church Council members**

 - c) Sides people**
 - d) Appointment of Independent Examiner**
 - e) Appointment of Responsible Officer -
Safeguarding**

- 4. Reports:**
 - a) Electoral Roll Officer's report**
 - b) Churchwardens' Fabric report**
 - c) Church organisations' reports**
 - d) The Dean's Parish Report**
 - e) Annual Accounts for year ending 31st
December 2020**

- 5. Any further questions**

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Bocking
Due to the Covid 19 pandemic lockdown these meetings were
postponed from April as permitted under a Bishop's Instrument (2020
No2) to modify the Section A of Part 9 of the Church Representation
Rules.

Minutes of the Annual Vestry meeting - October 20th 2020

Item	Notes
Welcome	Fr. Rod opened the meeting at 7:05 pm and welcomed everyone, particularly as there was no heating in the building. (those present were seated at the required 'social distance' and many were wearing a face covering or shield) Present: 20 Apologies: 6
1.Minutes 14.04.19	The proposal to accept the minutes was made by Angela Comfort and seconded by Steve Johnson. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.
2.Appointmen t of Churchwarden s	Fr. Rod expressed grateful thanks and appreciation of the support given by the Wardens over the past twelve months. The appointment of Churchwardens for 2020-21 (until the next APCM): Jo Mallows, proposed by Monica Cook and seconded by Nicola Jaynes; Graham Shaw, proposed by Steve Johnson and seconded by Monica Cook. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour. The Bishop and the Registrar have allowed for Archdeacons to advise each deanery how Church Wardens should be admitted locally. Fr. Rod therefore called upon those to be admitted to office who have legal duties and responsibilities prescribed by Statute and Canon Law, to stand and respond and solemnly declare that they will faithfully and diligently discharge their duties. Those present witnessed Graham and Jo making their declarations.

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Council meeting - October 20th 2020

Item	Notes																					
Welcome	Fr. Rod (RR) opened the meeting at 7:15 pm. Present: 20 Apologies: 6																					
1.Minutes 14.04.19	The proposal to accept the minutes was made by Graham Shaw and seconded by Terry Brewer. There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.																					
2.Matters arising	There were no matters arising																					
3. Elections	<p>a) The election of 3 members to sit on the Deanery Synod for the term 2020-2023 took place.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Nominee</th> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Proposed by</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Angela Comfort Dixon-Smith</td> <td>Trish Dixon-Smith</td> <td>Jonathan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Celia Coulson Mallows</td> <td>Graham Shaw</td> <td>Joanna</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Isabel Adcock Comfort</td> <td>Monica Cook</td> <td>Angela</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>b) The election of 3 members to sit on the PCC for the term 2020-2023 took place.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Nominee</th> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Proposed by</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Caron Francis Shaw</td> <td>Ann Shaw</td> <td>Graham</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alysson Nolan Mallows</td> <td>Steve Johnson</td> <td>Joanna</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Nominee	Proposed by		Angela Comfort Dixon-Smith	Trish Dixon-Smith	Jonathan	Celia Coulson Mallows	Graham Shaw	Joanna	Isabel Adcock Comfort	Monica Cook	Angela	Nominee	Proposed by		Caron Francis Shaw	Ann Shaw	Graham	Alysson Nolan Mallows	Steve Johnson	Joanna
Nominee	Proposed by																					
Angela Comfort Dixon-Smith	Trish Dixon-Smith	Jonathan																				
Celia Coulson Mallows	Graham Shaw	Joanna																				
Isabel Adcock Comfort	Monica Cook	Angela																				
Nominee	Proposed by																					
Caron Francis Shaw	Ann Shaw	Graham																				
Alysson Nolan Mallows	Steve Johnson	Joanna																				

Item	Notes
	<p>Paul Nolan Johnson One vacancy remains unfilled.</p> <p>Graham Shaw Sheila</p> <p>There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.</p> <p>c) The election of Sidespersons: Fr.Rod thanked everyone engaged in this vital role as the first line of contact and welcome for those coming to our church. All of those who had agreed to remain on or volunteered to join the rota, were nominated en bloc by Sheila Johnson and seconded by Ann Shaw.</p> <p>There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.</p> <p>d) The appointment of Independent Examiner: The PCC is very grateful to Elizabeth Burden FCA for agreeing to continue to act as the Independent Examiner for St. Mary's for the year 2020-2021. The appointment was nominated by Fr. Rod and seconded by Celia Coulson.</p> <p>There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.</p> <p>e) The election of the Safeguarding - Responsible Officer: Nicola Jaynes nominated by Fr. Rod and seconded by Revd Catherine. The PCC is very grateful to her for ensuring we are up to date in fulfilling our legal responsibilities as legislations changes over time.</p> <p>Nicola also oversees all GDPR requirements.</p> <p>There were no abstentions or votes against. All in favour.</p>
4.Reports	<p>a) Electoral Roll: As reported on p7 of the Annual Report by Monica Cook, Electoral Roll Officer. On the Electoral Roll there are currently 140, 46% of whom are resident in the Parish, exactly the same as in 2019, although there are some new members.</p> <p>b) Churchwardens' Fabric Report: this report can be found on p.6&7 of the Annual Report document. The Wardens were thanked for everything that has been done to ensure that the maintenance of the fabric of the building is in good order.</p> <p>c) Newala Link: Chris Weston's report can be found on p.6 of the Annual Report. We are grateful to Chris for his work in maintaining and developing our links St. Mary's parish, Newala, enabling us to support the purchase of an operating table for the Lulundi Health Centre. A visit to Newala in 2020 was arranged for 4 members of St. Mary's congregation but it had to be cancelled due to Covid 19 travel restrictions.</p> <p>d) The Friends of St. Mary's and Church Hall: this report can be found on p7 of the Annual Report. Fr. Rod thanked the Friends' Committee, and everyone who supported the events put on in 2019, for their commitment to promoting the Church in the community and putting the fun into fundraising. The Friends have generously donated considerable funds towards meeting the costs of the provision of an improved sound system in the Church, new windows and redecoration in the Office.</p> <p>A very generous private donation enabled the provision of sound baffles in the Hall, offering a greatly improved environment for hearing speakers and conversations.</p>

Item	Notes
	<p>St. Mary's Fellowship donated funds for the installation of blinds in the kitchen.</p> <p>e) St. Mary's Choir: Jeremy Nicholas, Director of Music at St. Mary's, reported that the average number of members who regularly sing for Sunday services is 14. Many of the couples who book the choir to sing at their wedding have written to praise the high standard of singing. Jeremy offered a warm welcome to anyone wishing to commit to joining the choir.</p> <p>f) St. Mary's Fellowship Group: Ann Lanham's report on the success and growth of the Fellowship can be found on p8 of the Annual Report. Fr. Rod thanked Ann and the catering team for working so hard and maintaining this link with St. Mary's local community through arranging 10 lunches and very interesting speakers, as well as an enjoyable annual outing to Cromer and the 'End of the Pier' show.</p> <p>g) St. Mary's Bell Ringers: this report can be found on p8 of the Annual Report. The maintenance of the bells is on-going but the need for more urgent work has been identified. Whilst some smaller matters have been addressed, total costs for all the works necessary may be prohibitive.</p> <p>h) The Braintree Deanery: Fr. Rod's report on the Deanery Synod and its purpose in providing the communication link between congregations, the Diocese of Chelmsford and the Church of England nationally can be found on p9 of the Report. During 2019 St. Mary's was represented in the House of Clergy by himself, and in the House of Laity by Isabel Adcock, Angela Comfort and Celia Coulson. The main focus of Synod's work was responding to a Diocesan consultation on ways to encourage people to stand for Diocesan Synod.</p>
5) Parish Report & Review of the year	<p>Fr. Rod's report and review can be found on pages 10-13 of the Annual Report. He began with the operation of the PCC. He expressed his sincerest thanks to members of the PCC and everyone who has worked to keep the church life at St. Mary's going so strongly. Average attendance by members at the six meetings of the PCC held in 2019 was 66%.</p> <p>He drew attention to St. Mary's response to the Diocese of Chelmsford's strategic priorities outlined in the document 'Transforming Presence'. The section on 'Serving with Accountability' on p10 & 11 describes everything that has been accomplished within the priority area of 'Interdependence'. Figures for church attendance show that the average for Sunday morning services is regularly over 100 and that over 450 people attended the Christingle service on Christmas Eve. Attendance at the monthly 'Sunday Club' for our younger members continues to be well supported.</p> <p>The section on General Finance explains that St. Mary's has again met all of its obligations to the Diocese in full. Fr. Rod reported continued growth in charitable giving through the Sunday coffee monies, home collecting boxes and special appeals. Details of the amounts raised for the nominated charities during 2019 are to be found on p12 of the Report.</p> <p>Fr. Rod also explained the arrangements for the use the capital and interest accrued from the Dean Roger's Million Penny Fund and the affects of lower interest rates on this and other investments held by the PCC for the Church. He felt that the highlights of 2019 in profile on p12-13 were: another successful Flower Festival and May Fayre; the continuing growth in Fellowship, hospitality and involvement with the wider community eg St. Mary's Toddler Group, Messy Church, Christmas Tree Festival, Carols around the Community Tree and in The Retreat; the number of baptisms and weddings; school visits to the church and the encouraging signs of growth for the future. The celebration of Fr. Mark's last Sunday at St. Mary's prior to his licensing to The Colnes within the Halstead Ministry Team.</p> <p>He recorded the sad loss of a number of people associated with the life of the</p>

Item	Notes
	<p>Church over the years, amongst whom we remember with thanksgiving Roy Dove, Dorothy Shaw, Greg Spurgeon and Jack Blackwood.</p> <p>Fr. Rod recorded his grateful thanks for all of the hard work and dedication by the many who contribute in so many ways to the continued success of the worship, pastoral care and fellowship of life at St. Mary's.</p> <p>The Dean's Reflections on 2019 on p13-14 detail the highlights and significant events of the year. Fr. Rod ended his report - written in March 2020 - with a look towards the anxieties and challenges that uncertainty about the impact of the lockdown. Along with embracing opportunities to reach out and to take risks together, we must recognise that we are not alone as God is by our side. It is Fr. Rod's hope and prayer that we hold fast to God and to each other in facing the challenges to come.</p>
<p>6)Annual Accounts for the year ending Dec 31st 2019</p>	<p>Fr. Rod expressed his thanks to Julie Wilkinson for taking over the role of Treasurer when Bryan Gullick moved to Kent at the start of 2019 and for devoting such a lot of time to entering the accounts onto the Diocesan Format.</p> <p>He went on to present the draft Annual Accounts put together by Julie and Sara Barnes, of the Diocesan Finance team, giving details of the various accounts provided on p.15 onwards of the Annual Report. The Independent Examiner has had the accounts for some weeks but has asked for further documentation. Total Assets less liabilities are £338,252.35 including a re-evaluation of investments. Income in 2019 was £109,538 and expenditure was £117,554 resulting in a deficit on the year of £8,015. Income continues to lag behind operational costs and we are very reliant on funds generated by events such as the May Fayre and other fundraising events. Thought must be given to the future wellbeing of the financial position at St. Mary's by seeking the most beneficial ways to generate funds as well as invest our savings.</p> <p>Some questions were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q. What is the difference between restricted and designated funds? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. The distinction between designated funds and restricted funds is that the charity can simply re-allocate the proposed use of the assets in a designated fund (provided that such action is in the best interests of the charity) whereas departing from the special arrangements that apply to restricted funds is a more complicated process. Q. Is it advisable to split the bank account with another in order to avoid holding more than the insured amount in the one we hold, should there be another financial crash in the future? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. The FCSC protects cash amounts up to £85,000 for per bank or financial institution, not per account. This is something we could look into further. <p>It was agreed that Adoption of the Accounts would be by Fr. Rod and the Standing Committee, providing that the Independent Examiner accepted them as they are without significant changes. If there are then they would be re-presented to the PCC.</p>

Item	Notes
A.O.B.	<p>Heating and lighting up-grades - David Felsted asked for an update about when these would be addressed and exchanged for more environmentally modern options.</p> <p>Fr. Rod explained that ideas for improving the heating in the Church have been investigated and discussed frequently. It has now become a matter for immediate action due to the age of the boiler, the non-availability of spare parts and - most recently - a blockage in the flue. Providing a new valve can be sourced and the flue repaired and unblocked, it may be possible to use the boiler for services but a new metre to enable gas at an increased pressure is also necessary. Increasing the efficiency of the boiler will make it more environmentally acceptable.</p> <p>The installation of solar panels on the church roof has also long been suggested although English Heritage has vetoed this. Pressure to change the ruling - particularly on churches whose roofs cannot be seen from the ground - may occur in the near future. However, a recent environmental project researching ways for churches to become carbon neutral proposes better insulation as well as solar generation but it would actually be cheaper and speedier to ensure that we only use electricity from carbon neutral suppliers. Revd Catherine is involved in this project and will keep the PCC apprised of developments.</p> <p>The lights in the Church have LED bulbs fitted when the old ones stop working. Plans to increase the number of lights are on hold due to lack of funds at present.</p>
Closure of the meeting	There being no further questions, Fr. Rod thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8:16 pm.

NEWALA LINK REPORT 2020

We were planning for a small party to visit Newala in July but as with everything else our plans became a casualty of Covid. We have been in continuous correspondence with Newala but they have not given any indication of how the pandemic is affecting them. It would appear that the virus was first reported in Tanzania in mid-March 2020, but after recording 509 cases and 21 deaths in late April the nation announced it's status as coronavirus free in June.

The Tanzanian Government has since been silent on covid in the country with a strong politic of denial and no data released on infections or deaths. The Tanzanian Government's silence has raised grave concerns among public health experts and human rights activists who are forbidden from speaking or talking about covid in digital spaces. It appears that Schools, Colleges, Offices and other social activities are back to normal even though the virus continues to spread in the region. It would appear that the denial has been so convincing that it is now widely accepted by Tanzanians including medical "experts" who are disregarding basic safety measures like wearing a mask and social distancing. With the full throttled covid 19 denial and laws in place to prevent open exchange of information and opinions on the disease on and off line, Tanzanians are left with severely limited access to information and many are afraid to speak out. We must wait patiently till the situation clarifies and we can again plan the much-postponed visit.

Chris Weston, Co-Ordinator
on behalf of St Mary's PCC

CHURCHWARDENS' FABRIC REPORT 2020

The main fabric of the Church continues to be in a satisfactory condition as remarked upon by the Architect during the quinquennial inspection under the Inspection of Churches Measure 1955. The report contains recommendations for works to be carried out in order of priority: Routine checks and maintenance have continued as usual. A repair was made to the exterior of the boiler flue. Annual services were carried out to check the boiler, lightning conductors, fire hydrants and blankets plus the alarm system.

The Churchwardens on behalf
of St. Mary's PCC

ST MARY'S CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER REPORT 2020/21

The Electoral Roll has been renewed in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

The Roll at April 2020 consists of a total of 140 persons. Numbers for April 2021 remain the same:-

46% (64) of these are resident in the Parish

54% (76) are non-resident

Monica Cook on behalf of St Mary's
P.C.C.

***** Following the Covid 19 restrictions that impacted on so much of 2020, it didn't feel appropriate to include further reports from the usual organisations, that in the main had to cease for a large part of the year. We look forward to updating members on each of these groups next year. However, if you have any questions or comments regarding one of these groups then please speak to Fr Rod.*****

BRAINTREE DEANERY

Braintree Deanery Synod is a council of church members drawn mainly from the clergy and congregations in each of the Deanery's parishes. It provides the communication link between congregations, the Diocese of Chelmsford and the Church of England nationally.

During 2020/21 St Mary's Bocking was represented in the House of Clergy by The Very Revd Rod Reid and The Revd Catherine Towner. The election of lay representatives to serve on the Synod for the three-year period from 2020 - 2023 took place at Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCM) across the Deanery, held according to an extended deadline of 31 October. Taking into account the outcome of these elections, St Mary's Bocking was represented in the House of Laity by Dr Celia Coulson, Angela Comfort and Isabel Adcock prior to the APCM and who all agreed to stay on.

Due to restrictions in place during Covid-19, the Synod met on only two occasions during the year, in February and November (latterly via Zoom). In February, the Synod passed a motion calling for a review of the arrangements currently in place for managing serious cases of misconduct by lay officers, and this was duly referred to the Diocesan Synod for consideration.

Following the departure of Rev'd Canon Chris Davey to a post outside the Diocese, September saw the commissioning of Rev'd Rod Reid as Area Dean

Following this unique year, with its many challenges, we look forward to renewing our efforts to develop the Braintree Mission and Ministry Partnership as it becomes ever more important to work together across the Deanery, sharing our many gifts, talents and resources.

The Very Revd Rod Reid, May 2021

Membership of the Parochial Church Council

Members of the PCC are either *ex officio*, are elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (ACPM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules or co-opted for a set term.

Ex Officio Members

Bocking	Rev. Roderick Reid	The Dean of
2020	Rev. Catherine Towner	Associate Curate from Sept
2020	Rev. Dr. Ian Mitchell	Associate Priest
Oct 2020	Mr. Graham Shaw	Churchwarden from Oct
	Mrs. Joanna Mallows	Churchwarden from
		& PCC Secretary
Synod Rep	Mrs. Isabel Adcock	General Synod & Deanery
	Mrs. Angela Comfort	Deanery Synod Reps
	Dr. Celia Coulson	2020-2023
	Mrs. Sheila Johnson	Treasurer
	Mrs. Nicola Jaynes	Safeguarding Officer

Elected Members

Mrs. Caron Francis	}	Oct 2020 until 2023
Mrs. Alysson Nolan		
Mr. Paul Nolan		
Mrs. Angela Adams	}	until May 2022
Mrs. Monica Cook		
Mrs. Ann Shaw		
Mr. Chris Weston		
Mrs. Irene Brewer	}	until May 2021
Mrs. Gill Hunt		
Mr. Stephen Johnson		

The PCC operates through full meetings of all its members and through Standing Committee meeting occasionally between PCC meetings. This committee consists of the Priest in Charge, the Wardens and the Treasurer and has power to transact business of the Council between meeting

PCC Meetings

The Church Council met 4 times for business meetings during 2020, with an average of 65% of its membership in attendance.

The Covid 19 pandemic and the safety of our congregation were paramount to the decisions on arrangements for worship and access to the Church. Health and Safety Risk Assessment diocesan pro forma were completed and cleaning products purchased.

Matters regarding the financial position, resulting from the suspension of public worship for over half of the year, have been constantly under review. The implications arising from the condemnation of the gas heating boiler in October present the PCC with additional concerns.

Serving with Accountability

The PCC discussed its response to the Strategic Priorities outlined in the diocese of Chelmsford's 'Transforming Presence' document and it was agreed by that the focus for the coming year should be Key Priorities Spirituality and Nurture - What are we doing to teach people to pray? What are we doing to teach people about their faith and help them in their discipleship?

Summary of proposed actions: We are aware that the restrictions in place during the Corona virus pandemic may continue to impact on small gatherings for study. We will work to ensure an inclusive offering that reaches those without on-line technology.

- Develop a prayer course that will consider structured daily prayer
- Recruit leaders to support participants in their learning about faith and biblical meditation
- Encourage people to explore their experience of prayer and what supports them - place, atmosphere, privacy etc
- Discuss outward signs of our faith, discipleship and 'ways of being'
- Organise a prayer group
- Revise the order of service used at Sunday Mass to make it more explanatory and clearer for younger worshippers
- Ensure that our communication systems - fliers/posters/website/Facebook etc - are up to date and fully accessible to everyone with whom we look to connect
- Listen to feedback and respond respectfully and with sensitivity

The Church

We continue to be dedicated to using St Mary's Church in the most creative ways we can to worship God and draw others to him through the ministries of stewardship, prayer, teaching and welcome, whilst continuing to develop our overseas link with the Parish of St Mary's Newala and other aspects of the wider Church.

General Finance

In the year 2020, we again met our obligations to the Diocese and parish in full and as usual, the Gift Aid Scheme has continued to benefit our work considerably. We are grateful to those who have completed a Gift Aid Declaration for their giving and to all who contribute regularly and generously through Standing Orders and Weekly Envelopes. If you are a Tax Payer we cannot afford for you not to be in the Gift Aid Scheme!

Charitable Giving 2020	
Recipient	Value
January - RSPCA Danaher	£116.33 (£120)
February - Braintree Mencap	£81.76 (£85)
March - Rainbow Rural Centre	£74.40 (£75)

Dean Rogers Million Penny Fund

St Mary's Church continues to be grateful to the Dean Rogers Million Penny Fund for the payment of the Insurance Premium, details of which are included in the accounts. In what has been a very difficult year, not least financially, these funds were even more important.

Grateful Thanks

The P.C.C. wishes to thank the many, too numerous to mention by name, whose hard work and dedication has meant another successful year for St Mary's Church. We continue to thrive and flourish only because so much is done by so many people in a huge variety of ways and we truly value the contributions made by each and every one. Without so much being done to clean and decorate the Church, provide flowers, music, singing, bells, pastoral care, ministry to the sick and bereaved, take minutes, make coffee, soup and many other meals our parish and its fellowship would be the poorer.

The Dean's Reflections on 2020

"the anxieties about Covid and the impact of lockdown leave us unsure of what will happen next."

Those are the words I closed my last reflection with back in March 2020. Little did we know just what an impact Covid would have on our lives, our freedoms, our community and our church. Early last year it would have been unimaginable that we would close our lives down and stay at home. It would have been unimaginable to suspend worship for over 30 weeks of the year, and for 16 of those, for the building to be closed entirely to everyone.

Even when we returned, there was no singing, no communion in both kinds, keeping our distance, wearing masks etc, etc. It has been a very hard year, with much loss, sadness and disappointment, and now, as we feel on the cusp of something more positive, we are almost reluctant to believe it. Just maybe, our time of lament will come to an end, and a time of praise and thanksgiving will follow.

Aside from the impact spiritually as a church family, we have also seen the impact on our finances. We have had little fundraising for the large part of the year, a few weddings and a handful of baptisms. May Day, and other social events all had to be cancelled. Throughout it all though, we never lost hope. Our faith, deeply tested and often doubted, teaches us to hold on to hope. When so many others would have given up, lost faith, we hold fast to God and hold fast to hope through his son, Jesus Christ.

Even in the hardest of times, there have been some fantastic positives too. We have an online presence as never before with weekly recorded services that began on March 22 and haven't stopped. Viewership of those is often well over 150 views and higher for special services. Holy Week and Easter were all online too, but people really engaged in a new way with services from my home and garden. It has been a steep learning curve, but we have a YouTube Channel, regular email mailing list of over 150 people, a brand-new Notice Sheet, amongst so much more. For over 30 weeks we had weekly quizzes, regular emails, phone calls and much more. As a church family we very much looked out for one another, not least with the sadness's of life and the sadness's that came from Covid with time away from family, missed celebrations and much more.

The end of the year brought news of a vaccine and a possible sign of light at the end of the tunnel. Sadly, it also meant that Christmas services had to be further curtailed with a new lockdown. However, once again with the support of the community we had a brilliant Christmas Tree in the churchyard, and a successful Christmas Tree Festival raising over £1000. Bocking Advent Stars brought the whole village together in a unique way and even Christmas Eve and Christmas Day we had small 'in person' services to go alongside popular YouTube services, like the Carol Service which was viewed nearly 300 times. From VE Day to Remembrance Sunday, and other important occasions too, we managed to honour them and mark them together.

Of course, 2020 also brought a new addition to the team. We were thrilled to welcome Catherine Towner as our new Assistant Curate. She moved in June and was later ordained Deacon in Chelmsford Cathedral at the end of September. Certainly by the end of the year, she was managing to meet a good number of people and increasingly became more involved with our services.

Thank you to each and every one of you for your continued support and commitment to the life and service of this church. I am incredibly grateful to all those who have played a part in coming through this last year, I could not have done it without you.

As we look ahead, we do so with uncertainty in what might happen next, but we keep our faith and certainty in God to bring us through it all. The church, and our church family may look slightly different post Covid 19 but I hope we can be even more effective, not taking anything for granted and striving to best serve God and this community together.

The Very Revd Rod Reid, Dean of
Bocking, May 2021

NOTE ON THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER FOR THE ACCOUNTS WHICH FOLLOW

We are grateful to Jan Stobbart who is our new Independent Examiner.

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking
Statement of Financial Activities - summary
For the period from 01 January 2020 to 31 December 2020

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Total income	51,225	10,223	13,338	—	74,786	109,539
Total expenditure	71,316	9,896	233	—	81,445	117,554
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	(20,091)	327	13,105	—	(6,659)	(8,016)
Gross transfers between funds - in	—	—	—	—	—	1,446
Gross transfers between funds - out	—	—	—	—	—	(1,446)
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	51,122	(12,670)	—	38,452	11,680
Net movement in funds	(20,091)	51,449	435	—	31,793	3,664
Total funds brought forward	30,159	307,750	344	—	338,252	334,588
Total funds carried forward	10,068	359,198	779	—	370,045	338,252
Unrestricted						
General fund	10,068	—	—	—	10,068	30,159
Designated						
Buildings Capital	—	129,044	—	—	129,044	128,044
Church hall	—	(10,854)	—	—	(10,854)	(10,181)
Fabric Fund	—	241,008	—	—	241,008	189,886
Restricted						
Choir Fund	—	—	170	—	170	170
Dean Rogers Million Pennies Fund	—	—	27	—	27	37
Flower Fund	—	—	328	—	328	—
Funds collected on behalf of other charities	—	—	254	—	254	137

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

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking

Analysis of income and expenditure

Selected period: 01 January 2020 to 31 December 2020

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Income and endowments						
<i>Donations and legacies</i>						
0101 - Gift Aid - Bank	17,675	—	—	—	17,675	11,618
0110 - Gift Aid - Envelopes	6,930	—	—	—	6,930	14,233
0201 - Other planned giving	—	—	—	—	—	158
0301 - Loose plate collections	2,496	—	—	—	2,496	5,090
0410 - Giving through church boxes	673	—	—	—	673	537
0501 - One-off Gift Aid gifts	—	—	180	—	180	3,171
0550 - Donations appeals etc	1,047	—	138	—	1,184	9,459
0601 - Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	1,015	—	—	—	1,015	7,552
0701 - Legacies	300	1,000	—	—	1,300	600
08A1 - Non-recurring one-off grants	—	—	—	—	—	854
0901 - Other funds generated	249	—	—	—	249	1,940
Donations and legacies Totals	30,385	1,000	318	—	31,703	55,212
<i>Income from charitable activities</i>						
1101 - Fees for weddings and funerals	12,609	—	—	—	12,609	22,220
1110 - Activities to generate funds	1,269	—	261	—	1,530	7,339
1210 - Bookstall sales to promote objectives	—	—	—	—	—	74
1230 - Church hall lettings - objectives	—	9,223	—	—	9,223	5,180
Income from charitable activities Totals	13,878	9,223	261	—	23,362	34,812
<i>Other trading activities</i>						
0910 - General Fundraising	198	—	—	—	198	3,643
1220 - Bookstall sales - fund raising	—	—	100	—	100	84
1240 - Church hall lettings - fund raising	—	—	—	—	—	9,086
Other trading activities Totals	198	—	100	—	298	12,813
<i>Investments</i>						
1001 - Dividends	6,765	—	—	—	6,765	6,568
1002 - DRMPF Contribution to Insurance Costs	—	—	12,659	—	12,659	—
1020 - Bank and building society interest	—	—	—	—	—	133
Investments Totals	6,765	—	12,659	—	19,424	6,701
Income and endowments Grand totals	51,225	10,223	13,338	—	74,786	109,539

Expenditure

Raising funds

1701 - Fees paid to fund raisers	—	—	—	—	—	982
1730 - Costs of fetes & other events	101	—	—	—	101	4,841
Raising funds Totals	101	—	—	—	101	5,822

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

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>						
1830 - Giving - relief and development agencies	25	—	—	—	25	—
1850 - Home mission	25	—	—	—	25	143
1870 - Secular charities	—	—	—	—	—	490
1910 - Ministry parish share etc	47,521	—	—	—	47,521	48,633
2001 - Assistant staff costs	—	—	—	—	—	1,610
2002 - Playgroup leader costs	—	—	—	—	—	400
2101 - Working expenses of incumbent	—	—	—	—	—	649
2170 - Education	—	—	—	—	—	448
2201 - Parish training and mission	—	—	—	—	—	40
2301 - Church running - insurance	6,324	—	—	—	6,324	6,715
2310 - Church office - Phone & internet	951	—	—	—	951	1,150
2311 - Church office Photocopier	1,712	—	—	—	1,712	828
2312 - Church office maintenance	2,016	—	—	—	2,016	—
2320 - Organ / piano tuning	648	—	—	—	648	612
2330 - Church maintenance	829	—	—	—	829	84
2331 - Cleaning	468	—	—	—	468	1,566
2340 - Upkeep of services	1,420	—	233	—	1,653	4,184
2341 - Director of Music & organists	4,467	—	—	—	4,467	5,384
2345 - Bellingers	—	—	—	—	—	100
2350 - Upkeep of churchyard	—	—	—	—	—	80
2360 - Administration	1,040	—	—	—	1,040	2,259
2361 - Photocopier costs	204	—	—	—	204	—
2370 - Visiting speakers / locums	33	—	—	—	33	—
2401 - Church running - electric	2,241	—	—	—	2,241	276
2410 - Church running - gas	146	—	—	—	146	4,496
2420 - Church running - water	—	—	—	—	—	178
2440 - Church running - heating and lighting	1,146	—	—	—	1,146	—
2520 - Hall running - Hall Manager	—	480	—	—	480	1,035
2521 - Hall Running - Cleaning	—	1,332	—	—	1,332	1,780
2530 - Hall running - electricity	—	930	—	—	930	2,321
2540 - Hall running - gas	—	3,402	—	—	3,402	3,568
2560 - Hall running - maintenance	—	372	—	—	372	1,265
2570 - Hall running - telephone	—	—	—	—	—	76
2580 - Hall running - water	—	3,380	—	—	3,380	219
2701 - Church major repairs - structure	—	—	—	—	—	1,740
2801 - Hall + major repairs - structure	—	—	—	—	—	11,604
2820 - Hall + major repairs - installation	—	—	—	—	—	7,800
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities Totals</i>	71,216	9,896	233	—	81,345	111,732
Expenditure Grand totals	71,316	9,896	233	—	81,445	117,554

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

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking

Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by fund)

As at: 31 December 2020

		Balance	Previous balance
Investments			
6420: Dean Rogers Million Penny - Asset			
Buildings Capital	Designated	—	127,444.06
Dean Rogers Million Pennies Fund	Restricted	114,773.86	—
		<u>114,773.86</u>	<u>127,444.06</u>
6450: CBIFS 11787.15 Units 608264001S - Asset			
Fabric Fund	Designated	241,008.32	189,886.27
		<u>241,008.32</u>	<u>189,886.27</u>
	Investments	355,782.18	317,330.33
Cash at bank and in hand			
6501: Bank current account - Asset			
Buildings Capital	Designated	1,600.24	600.24
Choir Fund	Restricted	170.00	170.00
Church hall	Designated	(10,854.34)	(10,180.97)
Dean Rogers Million Pennies Fund	Restricted	(0.42)	36.58
Flower Fund	Restricted	328.06	—
Funds collected on behalf of other charities	Restricted	253.53	137.20
General fund	Unrestricted	22,765.66	30,158.97
		<u>14,262.73</u>	<u>20,922.02</u>
	Cash at bank and in hand	14,262.73	20,922.02
	Grand Total	370,044.91	338,252.35

The Deanery Church of St Mary the Virgin Bocking
Fund movement summary
Selected period: 01 January 2020 to 31 December 2020

Fund	Fund Balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Journal Entries	Fund balances Carried forward
Buildings - Buildings Capital	128,044.30	1,000.00	—	(127,444.06)	—	—	1,600.24
Choir - Choir Fund	170.00	—	—	—	—	—	170.00
Hall - Church hall	(10,180.97)	9,222.50	9,895.87	—	—	—	(10,854.34)
DeanRoger - Dean Rogers Million Pennies Fund	36.58	—	—	127,407.06	(12,670.20)	—	114,773.44
Fabric - Fabric Fund	189,886.27	—	—	—	51,122.05	—	241,008.32
Flowers - Flower Fund	—	561.43	233.37	—	—	—	328.06
Mission - Funds collected on behalf of other charities	137.20	116.33	—	—	—	—	253.53
Retreats - Parish Retreats * Outings	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
General - General fund	30,158.97	63,885.76	71,316.07	37.00	—	—	22,765.66
Totals	338,252.35	74,786.02	81,445.31	—	38,451.85	—	370,044.91

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Deanery Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Bocking (Excepted Charity)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Deanery Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Bocking for the year ended 31st December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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



J Stobart FCCA
19 Westfield Drive, Coggeshall, Essex CO6 1PU
10th August 2021