

# **East Dean and Friston Churches**

**Registered Charity Number 1131638**

**Annual Report and Financial Statements**

**For the Year Ended 31 December 2021**



East Dean and Friston Churches  
For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

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**CHURCH INFORMATION**

**Address**

The Rectory  
Gilbert's Drive  
East Dean  
BN20 0DL

**Members of the PCC**

Rev. David Baker  
Rev. Andrew Spear  
Mr Peter Hewitt  
Mr Phillip Hill  
Miss Flora Richards  
Mr Charles Collins  
Mrs Anthea Pienaar  
Mr David George  
Mrs Stephanie Carter  
Mrs Lou Beirhiti  
Ms Gill Carstens  
Mr Harry Parke  
Mr Carl Fillery  
Mr Andrew Pelczarski  
Mrs Dawn Baker (Appointed 1 August 2021)  
Miss Carol Hyatt (Appointed 1 August 2021)

**Bankers**

Barclays Bank Plc  
63/67 Terminus Road  
Eastbourne  
BN21 3NE

**Independent Examiner**

C J Dadswell FCA ACCA DChA  
Caladine Limited  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
Chantry House  
22 Upperton Road  
Eastbourne  
BN21 1BF

The Trustees present their annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021.

## **1 Objectives and activities**

The primary objective of the Churches is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. To this end the PCC have the responsibility of co-operating with the Rector in promoting the ecclesiastical parish in order to advance the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical.

At the heart of all we do is the gospel: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners," (1 Timothy 1:15).

There is nothing more important than the gospel. All that we do as churches must relate to this and reflect it. Our main challenge as churches is to see the urgency and imperative of the gospel and to be outward-looking in making it known clearly.

To this end we want people to hear the invitation of Jesus – "Come and see" (John 1v39), finding out who he is and what it means to repent and believe; to "Come and grow" – to grow into maturity as believers rather than remaining as infant Christians; and to "Come and care" – both for those inside and outside the church.

## **2 Public Benefit**

We have considered the Charity Commission's advice on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on "charities for the advancement of religion". We aim to engage with the local community through a number of initiatives, examples of which are spelt out in the spiritual and nurture and social and mission sections of this report.

## **3 Structure, Governance and Management**

The Church is a registered charity, number 1131638, registered on 15 September 2009 and governed by the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) and Church Representation Rules.

The Trustees (Members of the PCC) who served during the year were:

Ms Flora Richards  
Mrs Anthea Pienaar  
Mrs Lynn Sculpher [resigned 1 May 2021]  
Mrs Sandy Snelgrove [resigned 1 May 2021]  
Mr Andrew Pelczarski  
Ms Gill Carstens  
Rev David Baker  
Mrs Stephanie Carter  
Rev Andrew Spear  
Mr Phillip Hill  
Mr Freddie Strong [resigned 1 August 2021]  
Mr David George  
Mr Harry Parke  
Mrs Lou Beirhiti  
Mr Peter Hewitt  
Mr Carl Fillery  
Mr Charles Collins  
Mrs Pauline Porthouse [resigned 1 January 2021]  
Mrs Dawn Baker [appointed 1 August 2021]  
Miss Carol Hyatt [appointed 1 August 2021]

#### **4 Review of Activities**

##### **Review of the Year January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2021**

###### **(a) Introduction**

This was the second year of the Covid-19 pandemic, with the concomitant serious effects on the worship and ministry of our churches. Again, as in 2020, physical worship was suspended at times, but we continued to meet online via Zoom.

During this time, we all appreciated the strong ministry team that we have, including Canon Brian Lea, Tony Rogers our Reader, Andrew Spear the Associate Vicar, David Jackman and Freddie Strong who continued his placement until the summer. We were all very sorry to say goodbye to Freddie and Carol and the family in the summer, but delighted that this was for the reason that he was going to Trinity College, Bristol, to train for ordination.

We were also indebted to Peter Hewitt as Treasurer, and Steph Carter and Phill Hill as East Dean wardens. At Friston, David George and Carl Fillery as the new Friston churchwardens stepped ably into the breach at the difficult time of the ongoing pandemic. Administrative support was provided by Freddie Strong, Carol Hyatt, Christine Jeffery and Lou Belhriti.

Due to the pandemic, PCC meetings were very disrupted, but we did hold several via Zoom.

At the time of writing the pandemic, at least in its current Omicron variant, seems to be on the wane. However, the long-term impact emotionally on many people has been serious. We are indebted to all who have served so faithfully despite personal tiredness and challenge, as we have endeavoured to keep "the main thing as the main thing" – ie the gospel, and making and growing disciples of Jesus Christ.

"His grace has brought us safe thus far, and grace will lead us home."

D.A.B.

###### **(b) Spiritual & Nurture**

It was not always possible to meet weekly together for services due to the pandemic. At times, services were held via Zoom in order to retain the live element of interaction and fellowship. As permitted, services were also sometimes held with appropriate social distancing and the wearing of face masks, with congregational singing not permitted at some times. This was challenging but it was encouraging to see so many still willing to come and so many engage to make these services happen.

The Sunday evening Zoom prayer time continued to be well attended.

It was good to have a second weekly Prayer Time as well from 9.00-9.30am every Thursday co-ordinated by Phill and Jill Hill, which also switched to Zoom as required.

It was not possible for children's groups continued to meet on Sunday mornings. However, we continued to be hugely indebted to Gill Carstens for her superb weekly videos for children which quickly became an acclaimed and much-loved feature of our weekly services.

The new men's group for men of working age continued with Andrew Spear, Freddie Strong, and David Baker helping plan it together. When Freddie left for Bristol, Roger Wright was welcomed as a leader to replace him. A similar group for women was established by Carol Strong and Yvonne Spear.

#### **4 Review of Activities (Cont'd)**

The Parish Magazine continued to be ably edited by Christine and Peter Jeffery, assisted by a strong team of volunteers, to whom many thanks are owed. Due to the pandemic it was necessary for some issues to be online only as physical distribution was not possible.

It was not possible to hold the children's Holiday Club.

Flora Richards continued in her excellent role as Pastoral Care Co-ordinator during this time of increased pastoral need.

D.A.B.

##### **(c) Social and mission**

We ran various courses on Zoom, with encouraging attendance.

Home groups met as they were able, sometimes on Zoom.

We continued to support our former Assistant Minister Rev. Kip Chelashaw in his ministry in Nairobi, Kenya. He preached on Zoom for one of the online services.

We also supported the local Beachy Head Chaplaincy and the Spinnaker Trust.

Many church members were actively involved in the community, for example serving as members of the Parish Council, the Residents' Association and the Village Hall Trust.

D.A.B.

##### **(d) Wardens Reports**

###### **St Simon and St Jude, East Dean**

We have had another year of disrupted services, weekly and monthly activities in the church building due to the pandemic. It was wonderful to be back in the church building to celebrate Easter Day. While the church was closed, we met each week on Zoom and when back in church we have continued to video the services so that those who have been isolating can watch later in the day.

Throughout the pandemic our church has remained open for private prayer and reflection.

In respect of the Fabric, we have had another year of no major projects with just maintenance of the building and fabric.

We continue to be very grateful to Tony Deadman and the "Dad's Army" team who continue to work hard at maintaining both the church building and the churchyard and garden areas.

We are looking forward to all services and activities returning to normal in 2022.

SC

###### **St Mary the Virgin**

The pandemic continued to impact on our ability to hold services in person during the opening months of the year, but were up and running again in April and have held regular Sunday services throughout the remainder of the year. We were able to hold thirty nine services in person during the year. A Carol service was held on 17 December which was well attended although, as to be expected numbers were down on pre-pandemic years.

#### **4 Review of Activities (Cont'd)**

We were also able to hold a service in church on Christmas morning which brought joy to many. Throughout the year we received strong support from our congregation, although some were unable to attend at various times of the year due to need to isolate. During the opening months of the year we were able to join with other members of the benefice in the Zoom services hosted by East Dean and we are grateful to all those who made that possible. We also express our gratitude to the Ministry team for leading our services, the admin team, to those who assist with sides duties, our readers, the flower team who decorate the church so beautifully, the gardeners, known affectionately as "Dad's Army" and our organists who have given so freely and willingly of their time throughout the year. There are many who work behind the scenes providing support for the wardens in their duties.

##### **"Come and See"**

During the greater part of the year the Church has been open most days of the week, excluding Saturday, for private prayer and there have been many visitors during that period. Currently the Church remains closed on Saturdays to enable a thorough cleaning session to be undertaken in readiness for the Sunday service.

##### **"Come and Grow"**

Good attendance rates for our regular 11 am Sunday service have been maintained with social distancing throughout the year. Due to prevailing circumstances additional mid-week afternoon services during Lent and Advent were foregone but we may see their return before long. We have seen some new members joining the church; it remains evident that what we offer at Friston with services based on the Book of Common Prayer has appeal for others in the community and that word is spreading.

As ever we will look to find ways of increasing the Friston flock.

##### **"Come and Care"**

Communication has been maintained with those living alone, suffering ill health or bereavement. We are grateful to all those who have contributed to this essential work.

##### **Fabric report**

Our quinquennial report in 2019 contained a list of recommended works and improvements to carry out over the following five years. This year we replaced a soffit on the western side of the Belfry and have repaired and replaced louvres on the southern and northern sides. The roof of the church has been the subject to a complete overhaul and all missing, spalled or damaged tiles were replaced. The outside lights were checked and repairs were duly carried out to the switching in the porch and to the lamp hanging above the Tapsall Gate. The heating system was overhauled last year and all fire extinguishers have been checked and replaced as necessary. Gutters have been cleaned and painted by our dedicated gardening team.

We have an ongoing project for the installation of a Compost toilet facility in the eastern corner of the churchyard. Having obtained planning permission in 2020 an application for a Church of England faculty was subsequently filed. Following correspondence with the DAC their support for their project was formally confirmed in September 2021, thus authorising us to proceed with the presentation of a formal petition to the Chancellor following a period of public notice. At the time of writing this report we have been notified that the Chancellor has made a final decision on our petition and we await confirmation of it from the Registrar. We pray for good news enabling us to complete this project.

## **5 Financial review**

### **1. Unrestricted Funds**

At the APCM in 2021 we reported that our forecast deficit for 2021 would be £8,600.

As a result of a single act of great generosity we received a substantial donation, which together with Gift Aid Recovery amounted to £10,000.

The pandemic continued to affect our finances in particular our income from Cash Collections at services. However we have been sustained by the generosity of our regular givers in particular those members of the Parish Giving Scheme.

Once again the contribution from the Parish Magazine was significant. We are also hugely grateful for the generous donations made by the Parish Council towards the upkeep of the Churchyard and other local organisation that support the Magazine Fund.

As a result of the significant donation our Income was substantially greater than anticipated. The enforced reduction in the level of our activities meant that Expenditure was £2,000 below budget. Overall the result is a surplus on Unrestricted Funds for the years of £8,308.

### **2. Restricted Funds**

The PCC holds funds that can only be used for specific purposes, these funds emanate principally from legacies.

In 2021 there was a net outflow of £1,259 from Restricted Funds. The most significant being £3,000 in respect of repair works at Friston church.

Final costing of the toilet project at Friston is still awaited before any call will be made on the pledges received, which total £15,000.

### **3. Mission and Charitable Giving**

Overseas we continued to support the work of Phil & Sylvie Good our CMS partners, and the ministry of Kip Chelashaw in Kenya. At home we continued to support the Beachy Head Chaplaincy Team, Spinnaker Trust, Royal British Legion

### **4. Parish Contribution & Budget 2021**

The Parish Contribution, the annual amount we pay to the Diocese, represents our biggest expense.. The payment covers the cost of the Rector's Stipend, Pension Contribution & Housing together with a contribution to Diocese and Cof E central costs.

Historically we have paid the full amount of the Parish Contribution requested. However not all parishes have the resources to pay their requested contribution in full. In 2021 we one of only seven Parishes in the Deanery, out of a total of 20, who did so.

In 2022 the amount proposed by the Diocese for East Dean, Friston & Jevington is £76,957. Of this £28,679 [37%] relates to Diocesan and CofE central costs. Payment of the Parish Contribution in full would for East Dean & Friston PCC would result in a deficit of £6,000 that could only be met from increased giving or from reserves.

It is the view of the PCC and indeed many others nationally, that the Church of England's financial model and organisational structure is unsustainable. Their response to the current financial position which is to cut costs 'on the front line' will put ministry and the Parish structure as we know it at risk.



## **5 Financial review (Cont'd)**

There remains an underlying imbalance with our "normal/regular giving" being insufficient to pay our "normal" outgoings including the Parish Contribution. The PCC believe that we must achieve balanced budgets and that reserves should not be used to pay unfunded elements of the Parish Contribution. The PCC also believe that looking ahead we should look to establish a Trust Fund, which would enable us to employ and house additional staff to support and maintain our ministry in this community

The PCC has agreed that in 2022 we shall pay 90% of the requested Parish Contribution to avoid incurring a deficit on Unrestricted Funds

### **Future Projects**

As the pandemic eases and we are hopefully able to get back to normal we shall look to continue our "Building for the Future programme" to continue to make our churches more accessible and including enhancements to our audio visual equipment and internet presence.

We continue to rely heavily on our volunteers and the demands on our reduced ministry team are significant. As a consequence we may need to consider the appointment of a paid administrator.

## **5 Reserves Policy**

The Reserves Policy was reviewed in March 2020. It is the policy of the PCC to maintain a balance on general unrestricted funds equating to a minimum of two months' worth of unrestricted payments as a contingency.

The balance of reserves [unrestricted] held at 31st December 2021 amounted to £41,970 and we are therefore holding 4.5 months of reserves.

At the year-end the PCC was therefore holding 3.2 months of reserves based on current unrestricted payments.

The PCC invests Unrestricted funds that are temporarily surplus in either CBF Church of England Income shares or M&G Charifund Units. In 2021 the value of our investments increased by £12,581 recovering the losses of £5,200 incurred in 2020

## **6 Risk Management**

In conjunction with our Insurers the PCC has assessed the likely risks associated with running Church activities. A formal Health & Safety & Risk Management policy was approved in November 2016 together with a review of the strategic risk register.

A policy review was undertaken during 2019 and on-going reviews of the risks facing the PCC remain essential so that action can be taken in a timely manner to address them.

Peter Hewitt Treasurer

- 7** The PCC Accountant is Mr C J Dadswell of Caladine Limited, Chartered Certified Accountants of Chantry House, 22 Upperton Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 1BF who has carried out the Independent Examination.

On behalf of the members of the PCC of East Dean and Friston Churches,



Rev'd David Baker (Chairman)

Date: 1st March 2022

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of East Dean and Friston Churches**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of East Dean and Friston Churches ('the Charity') for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 4 to 6.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

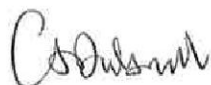
I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**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 Charity as required by section 130 of the Act;  
or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records.
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.



**C J Dadswell FCA ACCA DChA**  
Caladine Limited  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
Chantry House, 22 Upperton Road  
Eastbourne, BN21 1BF

Date: 25/03/2022

**Receipts and Payments Account**

	<b><u>Unrestricted</u></b> <b><u>Funds</u></b>	<b><u>Restricted</u></b> <b><u>Funds</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b> <b><u>2021</u></b> £	<b><u>Total</u></b> <b><u>2020</u></b> £
<b><u>Receipts</u></b>				
Offerings at services	4,889	160	5,049	3,514
Planned giving	50,766	-	50,766	49,582
Special collections	-	2,319	2,319	926
Gift aid recoveries	13,738	-	13,738	11,813
Donations and legacies	11,597	1,030	12,627	4,830
Parish fees	5,634	-	5,634	5,662
Parish magazine	6,075	-	6,075	7,263
Investment income	1,696	1,924	3,620	3,427
Other income	2,017	-	2,017	2,050
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>96,412</b>	<b>5,433</b>	<b>101,845</b>	<b>89,067</b>
<b><u>Payments</u></b>				
Mission and charitable giving	2,500	2,177	4,677	5,426
Diocesan parish contribution	60,564	-	60,564	54,494
Rector and Rector expenses	6,571	-	6,571	6,923
Trainee Minister Costs	247	-	247	2,310
Assistant clergy costs	-	-	-	165
Upkeep of services	1,555	200	1,755	1,207
Light and heat	2,621	-	2,621	2,656
Church running	5,262	438	5,700	6,932
Organist fees	150	-	150	244
Equipment	1,305	37	1,342	2,391
Repairs and maintenance	75	3,534	3,609	3,864
Professional fees	284	306	590	623
Books	263	-	263	312
Outreach, website and teaching	704	-	704	963
Youth work	83	-	83	243
Independent Examination	684	-	684	684
Parish magazine cost	4,782	-	4,782	5,221
Miscellaneous	454	-	454	86
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>88,104</b>	<b>6,692</b>	<b>94,796</b>	<b>94,744</b>
Net receipts/(payments)	8,308	(1,259)	7,049	(5,677)
Cash funds at 1 January 2021	2,326	35,532	37,858	43,535
<b>Cash funds at 31 December 2021</b>	<b>10,634</b>	<b>34,273</b>	<b>44,907</b>	<b>37,858</b>

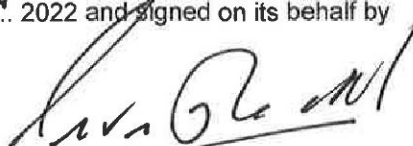
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities**

<b><u>Cash funds</u></b>	<b>31-Dec-21</b>	<b>31-Dec-20</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Cash at bank and in hand	44,907	37,858
	<u>44,907</u>	<u>37,858</u>
 <b><u>Other monetary assets</u></b>		
CCLA Income shares (General unrestricted)	36,717	32,153
M&G - Income shares (General unrestricted)	15,990	14,103
M&G - Income shares (Organ fund restricted)	3,284	2,896
Diocese - Income shares (Churchyard fund restricted)	23,190	20,280
Diocese - Fixed interest (Churchyard fund restricted)	3,454	3,723
M&G - Income shares (Churchyard fund restricted)	21,787	19,215
	<u>104,422</u>	<u>92,370</u>
 <b><u>Liabilities</u></b>		
Accountancy and Independent Examination fee	<u>684</u>	<u>684</u>

Approved by the Trustees on *1st MARCH* 2022 and signed on its behalf by



Rev'd David Baker  
Trustee



Mr Peter Hewitt  
Trustee

**Notes to the Financial Statements**

**1 Accounting Policies**

The Financial Statements have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011.

**2 Funds**

The Church operates a general fund for its regular activities. When monies are given for specific purposes, these are held in restricted funds. Designated funds are monies set aside from general funds for particular purposes set out by the trustees.

**3 Missionary and charitable giving**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
<b>Overseas</b>				
CMS		1,364	1,364	2,040
United for Mission	2,000	-	2,000	2,000
<b>Home</b>				
Diocesan Family Support	-	505	505	505
Beachy Head Chaplaincy	500	499	999	712
Royal British Legion		238	238	169
Spinnaker Trust	-	75	75	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>2,681</b>	<b>5,181</b>	<b>5,426</b>

**4 Trustees**

During the year the Rev. David Baker was reimbursed expenses of £1,697 (2020: £1,311) and Trainee Minister Freddie Strong was reimbursed expenses of £246 (2020: £1,310).

**5 Related Party Transactions**

There were no related party transactions during the year.

**6 Restricted Funds**

	Balance b/fwd	Income	Expenses	Transfers	Gains / (Losses)	Balance c/fwd
Churchyard Fund	41,279	2,768	(534)	-	5,213	48,726
Fabric Fund Friston	8,585	190	(3,517)	-	-	5,258
Fabric Fund East Dean	25,230	-	(168)	-	-	25,062
Organ Fund	970	156	(96)	-	388	1,418
Friston Flowers and Memorial Boards	653	-	(200)	-	-	453
Gospel Ministry Fund	4,929	-	-	-	-	4,929
General Fund		2,319	(2,177)	-	-	142
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>81,646</b>	<b>5,433</b>	<b>(6,692)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,601</b>	<b>85,988</b>

**Represented by:**

Cash and cash equivalents	35,532	5,433	(6,692)	-	-	34,273
Investments	46,114	-	-	-	5,601	51,715
	<b>81,646</b>	<b>5,433</b>	<b>(6,692)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,601</b>	<b>85,988</b>

Notes to the Financial Statements (Cont'd)

**7 Unrestricted and Designated Funds**

	<b>Balance b/fwd</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Gains / (Losses)</b>	<b>Balance c/fwd</b>
General Unrestricted Fund	24,185	90,337	(83,322)	4,000	6,451	41,651
Lois Hurter legacy	10,000	-	-	-	-	10,000
Parish Magazine	7,397	6,075	(4,782)	(4,000)	-	4,690
East Dean Fabric Fund	3,000	-	-	-	-	3,000
Friston Fabric Fund	4,000	-	-	-	-	4,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>48,582</b>	<b>96,412</b>	<b>(88,104)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,451</b>	<b>63,341</b>

Represented by:

Cash and cash equivalents	2,326	96,412	(88,104)	-	-	10,634
Investments	46,256	-	-	-	6,451	52,707
	<b>48,582</b>	<b>96,412</b>	<b>(88,104)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,451</b>	<b>63,341</b>