

East Dean and Friston Churches

Registered Charity Number 1131638

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

East Dean and Friston Churches
For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

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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
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
Miss Carol Hyatt
Mrs Dawn Baker
Mr David Linsell

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 2022.

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
Miss Carol Hyatt
Mrs Dawn Baker
Mr Andrew Pelczarski
Ms Gill Carstens
Rev David Baker
Mrs Stephanie Carter
Rev Andrew Spear
Mr Phillip Hill
Mr David George
Mr Harry Parke
Mrs Lou Beirhiti
Mr Peter Hewitt
Mr Carl Fillery
Mr Charles Collins
Mr David Linsell

4 Review of Activities

Review of the Year January 1st to December 31st 2022

(a) Introduction

After two long years of the Covid Pandemic it was wonderful to return to normal worship in our churches. The impact of the pandemic has, nevertheless, left its mark and the emotional impact on many people has been serious. Numbers at services are below pre-pandemic levels, an experience shared nationally, and we pray for the return of our "lost sheep". We are however hugely encouraged by the number of new worshippers and their attendance on various courses and involvement in day-to-day activities.

We continue to be blessed with an exceptional ministry team lead by David Baker with the support of Andrew Spear Associate Vicar, Canon Brian Lea, Tony Rogers our Reader and David Jackman. We are also grateful to those lay members Carol Hyatt, Phill Hill, Jacques Pienaar, Peter Hewitt & Matt Baker who assist in leading services at East Dean.

We are also indebted to the work and commitment of our churchwardens. At East Dean Steph Carter and David Linsell, who succeeded Phill Hill; and at Friston David George and Carl Fillery. We are also indebted to Peter Hewitt our Treasurer. During the year Becca Parke joined our team as a paid Administrator. She has made a huge and wholly beneficial impact on every area of our administration.

We are richly blessed by all those who serve in so many different ways. Sidesmen, the AV /Video team, our organists and music group, our pastoral team, home group leaders, tea and coffee makers etc.etc.and especially Gillian Carstens and her team who do such vital work with our children.

In all we do we try to keep "the main thing as the main thing" – that is the Gospel, and making and growing disciples of Jesus Christ.

(b) Spiritual & Nurture

The return to worship in our church buildings was not just a welcome return to "normality" but something that was vital to us as Christians. The Bible has much to say about the importance of meeting together not least

"Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – Hebrews 10 24-25

The return to worship in our buildings enabled old friendships to be renewed and new friendships develop. New members were welcomed and together we are enabled and encouraged to strengthen and grow our faith. If we have a strong "home base" it gives each of us the confidence to play our part in fulfilling our Mission Action Plan – "Come and see' Come and grow, Come and care."

The Sunday evening Zoom prayer time continued to be well attended, and our second weekly Prayer Time continued from 9.00-9.30am every Thursday co-ordinated by Phill and Jill Hill.

Children's groups have resumed at East Dean on Sunday mornings under the inspired leadership of Gillian Carstens. The "Snappy and the Bible People" videos continue to be a much-loved feature of our services.

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.

4 Review of Activities (Cont'd)

After many years of wonderful service Flora Richards stood down from her role Pastoral Care Co-ordinator. Flora has been a beacon of "servant heartedness". We are hugely grateful to Andrew Spear for taking over this important and demanding role.

(c) Social and mission

We ran a number of Christianity Explored courses primarily on Zoom but recently also face to face.

Home groups met throughout the year either on Zoom but increasingly "in person"

We continued to support our former Assistant Minister Rev. Kip Chelashaw in his ministry in Nairobi, Kenya. We were delighted that he Rachael and the family visited us during the year when Kip also preached at East Dean

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

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) Wardens Reports

St Simon and St Jude, East Dean

It was wonderful to be able return to a pattern of normal worship after the effects of the pandemic. Numbers at services are below pre-pandemic levels but there are very encouraging signs of growth.

We have been able to resume mid-week activities in church including Coffee & Company and our church remains open every day for private prayer and reflection.

In respect of Fabric there have been no major new projects just routine maintenance. We continue to be very grateful to Tony Deadman and the "Dad's Army" team who continue to help with routine maintenance of the buildings and churchyard. We were hugely indebted to Gail Huggett for her hard work in planting a new hedge around the Garden of Remembrance, this work will be concluded in 2023 with a new access area.

Looking ahead we need to turn our attention to redecoration in some areas of the church especially the chancel which may be a major and costly project

St Mary the Virgin

We were pleased to return to regular services this year. They have been held every Sunday at 11 am and have been very well attended. Holy Communion is celebrated at two services a month.

In addition to Sunday services we provided a service at our church on Ash Wednesday and a special service on Good Friday.

Our Carol Service in December might well have been cancelled due to unexpected snow and ice causing buses to be cancelled and many motorists to be stranded , but thanks to those members of the local community who made their way to the church on foot the service took place as scheduled subject to some last minute adjustments; notably our rector David turning his hand to the organ keyboard. Tony Rogers our lay Minister valiantly made his way from the far reaches of Polegate to assist from the front. Many of the attendees stayed on after the service to enjoy a warm cup of punch and mince pies.

We 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 gardening and maintenance team and our organists, all of whom who have continued to give so freely and willingly of their time throughout the year. In our thanks we do not overlook those who work behind the scenes providing support for the wardens in their duties.

4 Review of Activities (Cont'd)

Throughout the year the Church has been open Monday to Friday (and following Sunday services) for private prayer and there have been many visitors during that period. The Church generally remains closed on Saturdays to enable a thorough cleaning session to be undertaken in readiness for the Sunday service.

Good attendance rates for our regular 11 am Sunday service have been maintained and we have had attendance rates in the late thirties on a number of occasions.

On the third Sunday of every month tea, coffee and biscuits are now offered on conclusion of the service.

During the year 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.

St Mary's Fabric report

In last year's report it was noted that all the major works flagged up by the Church Architect's quinquennial report had been carried out, with some longer-term items to be reviewed during 2023 and 2024.

A major ongoing project, referred to last year, namely the installation of a compost toilet in the eastern corner of the church yard, was duly completed this year in accordance with full planning permission and with the terms of a faculty granted by Chichester Diocese. The building was erected on site in June 2022. The wardens extend their thanks to all those who so generously contributed to the funding of the project; thanks also to the local resident who kindly installed the roof tiles free of charge.

The 2023 annual fabric inspection was carried out by the wardens during January 2023, their findings being summarised as follows:

(1) Exterior:

- (a) Tiling of the church roof still in generally good condition following major overhaul in 2021, some tiles missing and spalled will be replaced during 2023.
- (b) Some flaking of the masonry to north facing decorative window of vestry was identified. Stone Mason will be instructed to inspect and report on overall condition of external and internal masonry in consultation with PCC Fabric Committee.
- (c) The boundary walls are in reasonable condition; a formal inspection and review will be put in hand during the year

(2) Interior:

- (a) As noted last year there has been some flaking of the paint to the ceiling of the nave; it is proposed to address this in the course of general redecoration and to put in hand a programme for redecoration of the entire interior of the church over the next 2 years, a stage at a time to avoid disruption of services.
- (b) Interior masonry will be professionally inspected this year with a view to identifying any necessary works.
- (c) Some loose floor tiles in the Selwyn chapel require attention.

(3) Church grounds

- (a) The PCC has approved plans for renovating the church memorial boards, also the notice board adjacent to the Tapsell gate. This work will be carried out in 2023.
- (b) It is proposed to obtain estimates for removal of soil and garden waste that has accumulated over the years on the northern side of the new section of churchyard with a view to improving the visual aspect of the area.
- (c) There will be some gentle landscaping of the ground surrounding the compost toilet building during the year.
- (d) The lamp hanging above the Tapsell gate has proved to be unreliable in operation. An electrician has advised that there may be a fault in the cable below ground and this will be further investigated.

5 Financial review

1. Unrestricted Funds

Although we have begun to recover, the effects of the pandemic continued to have an adverse impact on our finances during 2022. Numbers at services have not fully recovered and sadly we have lost a number of our regular givers. As a result, our income has fallen by some £350 per month compared to pre-pandemic levels.

As reported below this has meant that we were not able to pay our Parish Contribution to the Diocese in full.

The majority of our income continued to come from the regular and generous giving of members of the Parish Giving Scheme. This meant that, with the exception of the Parish Contribution, we were able to fully meet all our other obligations.

Once again, the contribution from the Parish Magazine was very significant with an encouraging increase in advertising revenue. We are also hugely grateful for the generous donations made by the Parish Council towards the upkeep of the Churchyard and other local organisations that support the Magazine Fund.

Expenditure at £85,254 was in line with our budget. Income at £90,052 included £3,235 Gift Aid Tax recovered on the Friston Toilet project. These monies have been placed into the Friston Fabric "Designated" Fund.

Overall, the result is a small deficit on Unrestricted Funds for the year of £295; and a surplus of £5,093 on Designated Funds.

2. Restricted Funds

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

The Friston Toilet project was completed at a cost of £12,900, this was fully covered from the Appeal Fund which raised a magnificent £12,990.

At East Dean major tree surgery work was undertaken and work started to enhance the Garden of Remembrance. These costs were met from the Churchyard Restricted Fund. The cost of our new Administrator is also met from a Restricted Fund generously given some years ago to support the work of the Ministry.

3. Mission and Charitable Giving

Overseas we continued to support the ministry of Kip Chelashaw in Kenya. At home we continued to support the Beachy Head Chaplaincy Team, Spinnaker Trust, People Matter & the Royal British Legion.

4. Parish Contribution & Budget 2023

The Parish Contribution [PC], 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 C of E central costs

Historically we have paid the full amount of the PC requested. Not all parishes have the resources to pay their requested contribution in full. In 2022 we one of only six Parishes in the Deanery, out of a total of 18 who paid more than 80% of the request contribution.

The amount of the requested PC has increased inexorably year on year and our income from giving has not been able to keep pace. In 2022 with the Diocese agreement, we paid £53,472; 85% of the requested contribution.

4. Parish Contribution & Budget 2023 (Continued)

In 2023 the amount proposed by the Diocese is £64,232. Of this £29,653 [38%] relates to Diocesan and CofE central costs. Payment of the PC in full would result in a budgeted deficit of £12,000 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.

There remains an underlying imbalance with our "normal/regular giving" being insufficient to pay our "normal" outgoings plus the PC. The PCC believe that we must achieve balanced budgets and that reserves should not be used to pay unfunded elements of the PC. 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 2023 we shall pay 82% of the requested PC to avoid incurring a deficit on Unrestricted Funds. If our financial position improves, we will look to increase our contribution.

5. Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy was reviewed in February 2021. 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 2022 amounted to £41,364 and we are therefore holding 4.5 months of reserves.

The PCC invests surplus funds in either CBF Church of England Income shares or M&G Charifund Units. In 2022 the value of our investments declined by £9,762 to a total of £94,660 [Unrestricted £47,537; Restricted £47,123] eradicating gains of £12,581 in 2021.

6 Risk Management

The PCC regularly assess 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 regular reviews of the risks facing the PCC remain essential so that action can be taken in a timely manner to address them.

- 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: 24th April 2023

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 2022, 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: 28/04/2023

Receipts and Payments Account

	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>2022</u> £	<u>Total</u> <u>2021</u> £
<u>Receipts</u>				
Offerings at services	8,506	140	8,646	5,049
Planned giving	48,477	-	48,477	50,766
Special collections	-	1,934	1,934	2,319
Gift aid recoveries	15,744	-	15,744	13,738
Donations and legacies	230	14,190	14,420	12,627
Parish fees	5,471	-	5,471	5,634
Parish magazine	7,704	-	7,704	6,075
Investment income	1,617	2,317	3,934	3,620
Other income	2,303	25	2,328	2,017
Total receipts	90,052	18,606	108,658	101,845
<u>Payments</u>				
Mission and charitable giving	2,500	2,125	4,625	4,677
Diocesan parish contribution	53,472	-	53,472	60,564
Rector and Rector expenses	7,276	-	7,276	6,571
Trainee Minister Costs	-	-	-	247
Assistant clergy costs	-	-	-	-
Upkeep of services	1,972	-	1,972	1,755
Light and heat	3,330	-	3,330	2,621
Church running	5,085	3,089	8,174	5,700
Organist fees	865	-	865	150
Equipment	84	12,148	12,232	1,342
Repairs and maintenance	1,059	245	1,304	3,609
Professional fees	542	2,774	3,316	590
Books	479	-	479	263
Outreach, website and teaching	1,400	-	1,400	704
Youth work	126	-	126	83
Independent Examination	684	-	684	684
Parish magazine cost	5,846	-	5,846	4,782
Miscellaneous	534	-	534	454
Total payments	85,254	20,381	105,635	94,796
Net receipts/(payments)	4,798	(1,775)	3,023	7,049
Cash funds at 1 January 2022	10,634	34,273	44,907	37,858
Cash funds at 31 December 2022	15,432	32,498	47,930	44,907

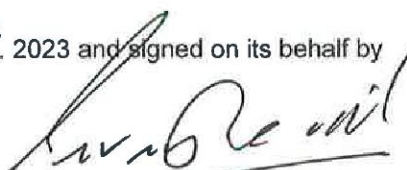
Statement of Assets and Liabilities

<u>Cash funds</u>	<u>31-Dec-22</u>	<u>31-Dec-21</u>
	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	47,930	44,907
	<u>47,930</u>	<u>44,907</u>
 <u>Other monetary assets</u>		
CCLA Income shares (General unrestricted)	32,438	36,717
M&G - Income shares (General unrestricted)	15,099	15,990
M&G - Income shares (Organ fund restricted)	3,100	3,284
Diocese - Income shares (Churchyard fund restricted)	20,460	23,190
Diocese - Fixed interest (Churchyard fund restricted)	2,990	3,454
M&G - Income shares (Churchyard fund restricted)	20,573	21,787
	<u>94,660</u>	<u>104,422</u>
 <u>Liabilities</u>		
Accountancy and Independent Examination fee	<u>714</u>	<u>684</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 24th April 2023 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 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<u>Overseas</u>				
CMS		142	142	1,364
United for Mission	2,000	1,261	3,261	2,000
<u>Home</u>				
People Matter		105	105	-
Diocesan Family Support	-	-	-	505
Beachy Head Chaplaincy	500	227	727	999
Royal British Legion		69	69	238
Spinnaker Trust	-	321	321	75
TOTAL	2,500	2,125	4,625	5,181

4 Trustees

During the year the Rev. David Baker was reimbursed expenses of £2,477 (2021: £1,697)

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	48,726	3,143	(3,089)	-	(4,408)	44,372
Fabric Fund Friston	5,258	13,130	(12,570)	-	-	5,818
Fabric Fund East Dean	25,062	-	-	-	-	25,062
Organ Fund	1,418	175	(180)	-	(184)	1,229
Friston Flowers and Memorial Boards	453	200	-	-	-	653
Gospel Ministry Fund	4,929	-	(2,418)	-	-	2,511
General Fund	142	1,958	(2,124)	-	-	(24)
TOTAL	85,988	18,606	(20,381)	-	(4,592)	79,621

Represented by:

Cash and cash equivalents	34,273	18,606	(20,381)	-	-	32,498
Investments	51,715	-	-	-	(4,592)	47,123
	85,988	18,606	(20,381)	-	(4,592)	79,621

Notes to the Financial Statements (Cont'd)

7 Unrestricted and Designated Funds

	Balance b/fwd	Income	Expenses	Transfers	Gains / (Losses)	Balance c/fwd
General Unrestricted Fund	41,651	79,113	(79,408)		(5,170)	36,186
Lois Hurter legacy	10,000	-	-	-	-	10,000
Parish Magazine	4,690	7,704	(5,846)		-	6,548
East Dean Fabric Fund	3,000	-	-	-	-	3,000
Friston Fabric Fund	4,000	3,235	-	-	-	7,235
TOTAL	63,341	90,052	(85,254)	-	(5,170)	62,969

Represented by:

Cash and cash equivalents	10,634	90,052	(85,254)	-		15,432
Investments	52,707	-	-	-	(5,170)	47,537
	63,341	90,052	(85,254)	-	(5,170)	62,969