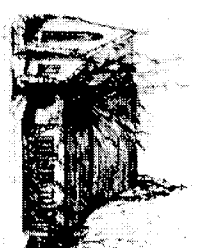


Armitage Bridge



Newsome

**THE PARISH OF NEWSOME and ARMITAGE BRIDGE**  
**THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, NEWSOME**  
**and ST PAUL'S, ARMITAGE BRIDGE**  
**(Part of the Emmanuel Team Benefice)**

**Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council**

For the period April 2021 to April 2022

**and**

**Financial Statements**

For the Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021

**Incumbent:**

Rector: The Revd. Julie Anderson

The Rectory, 42 Beaumont Park Road, Huddersfield

**Bank:**

Yorkshire Bank plc

40 New Street Huddersfield

HSBC

Cloth Hall Street  
Huddersfield

Central Board of Finance of the Church of England

80 Cheapside

London

Independent examiner

Julie Bray

# The Parish of St John, Newsome and St Paul, Armitage Bridge

(Part of the Emmanuel Team Benefice and the Local Ecumenical Partnership)

## ANNUAL MEETING FOR THE ELECTION OF CHURCH WARDENS

Monday 24 May 2021 at St Paul's, Armitage Bridge

1 **Revd Julie opened the meeting with a prayer**

2 **Present:** Revd Julie Anderson, Dennis Calvert, Tony Crawshaw, Catherine Day, Melanie Farrar, Bruce & Gillian Greenwood, Helen & Ian Hales, Rosalie Hampshire, David Hirst (Secretary), Melody Hirst, Revd David and Pam Kent, Naomi Pinkney, Revd Canon Debby and Jeremy Plummer, June Richardson, Pamela Thomas, Alan Trebble and Elizabeth Wakefield

**Apologies for absence** were received from Joyce Garside, Katherine Huggett, Angela Morton, Sarah Pope, Chris Storey and Margaret Sunderland

3 **The minutes of last year's meeting** held on 27 October 2020 were approved after a proposal from Tony Crawshaw, seconded by Rosalie Hampshire

4 **Election of Churchwardens**

<i>Church represented</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Proposer</i>	<i>Seconder</i>
Newsome	June Richardson	Melody Hirst	Joyce Garside
Armitage Bridge	Pamela Thomas	Catherine Day	Melody Hirst
Armitage Bridge	Antony Crawshaw	Pamela Thomas	Catherine Day

5 **Election of Deputy Churchwarden**

<i>Church represented</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Proposer</i>	<i>Seconder</i>
Armitage Bridge	Gillian Greenwood	Pamela Thomas	Melody Hirst

## ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1 **Present:** As above. The attendance of Revd David and Revd Canon Debby - who are not on the Electoral Roll - was approved by the meeting

**Apologies for absence:** As above

2 **Minutes of the last year's meeting** held on 27 October 2020 were approved after a proposal from Melanie Farrar, seconded by Ian Hales

3 **Electoral Roll Report 2021**

The report prepared by the Electoral Roll Officer (David Hirst) as shown in the Annual Report, was accepted by the meeting. The total number after the 2021 revision is 76

Newsome: 24 (Res) + 5 (Non Res) = 29

Armitage Bridge: 24 (Res) + 23 (Non Res) = 47

4 **The Annual Report** was accepted as printed

**5 Treasurer's Report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020**

In commenting upon the accounts Bruce made clear that the financial outcome for the year was achieved because of the monthly standing order contributions made by members of both churches. Many thanks are due to them and it would be greatly appreciated if other members undertook to contribute by standing order

Bruce and Joyce Garside were thanked for the work they had carried out in their Treasurer roles

**6 The Churchwarden & Fabric Reports shown in the Annual Report were accepted**

Revd Julie expressed thanks to June Richardson and Pamela Thomas for their good service, who in turn expressed appreciation for the help they had received from other members of their churches

June Richardson mentioned that the actual cost of boiler repairs at Newsome was £763.24 – rather than the approximate cost of £500 stated in her Churchwarden's Report

**7 Election of PCC members (to serve until 2024)**

<i>Church represented</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Proposer</i>	<i>Secunder</i>
Armitage Bridge	Ian Hales	Antony Crawshaw	David Hirst
Armitage Bridge	Melody Hirst	Catherine Day	Antony Crawshaw
Newsome	Pam Kent	Melody Hirst	Catherine Day
Armitage Bridge	Melanie Farrar	Helen Hales	Bruce Greenwood

**8 DCC membership**

Gillian Greenwood, Naomi Pinkney and Sarah Pope will retain their DCC status although joint DCC meetings with the PCC will continue for some months. No new DCC appointments are to be made

**9 Appointment of Independent Examiner - Julie M Carter was re-appointed**

**10 Deanery Synod Report**

No election was held as Bruce Greenwood and Katherine Huggett only commenced their three year term in 2020. Bruce has since become Deanery Treasurer and Helen Pearson (Holy Trinity, South Crosland) has taken on the role of Deanery Secretary. A Deanery Lay-Chairperson is still required

The Deanery Synod Report as contained in the Annual Report was accepted

**11 Safeguarding Report** was accepted as contained in the Annual Report

**12 Additional Reports:** Thanks were expressed to all those who had submitted the various reports including the comprehensive explanation of bell-ringing activities at St Paul's (which are a reminder of the presence of the church in the community)

In her role as Parish Environment Officer Revd Canon Debby read a short report about the progress made on environmental matters.

**13 Team Rector's Report**

Revd Julie said that as Area Dean she has joined the Diocesan Synod. She reported that a bid for children/youth work had failed; that Archdeacon Anne will be retiring in October and that the highly praised *Living in Love & Faith* initiative - promoting inclusive church - will cascade down

Rosalie Hampshire expressed her disappointment about the intended closure of St John's at Newsome, believing it should be possible to save the church. Revd Julie replied that too few people were attending the church and even fewer were available to contribute to the workload. Nor was there sufficient income to meet the costs of maintaining the building or paying the parish share

It is now considered unnecessary to hold a public meeting when the circumstances for St John's have clearly worsened and Kirklees Council has undertaken to make community use of the building

Revd Julie went on to explain the intention to bring together the congregations from Newsome and Berry Brow in the Methodists' building. Discussions have taken place and a draft *Memorandum of Understanding* produced for further debate - and clarification of outstanding issues - in conjunction with representatives from the Oakwood Church, Leeds where there has been the successful implementation of a similar initiative. NB: Tim Francis will replace Nancy Ndoho at BB in September

14

**Any matters of parochial or general church interest:**

A decision on the possible appointment of curate is awaited

Several members expressed appreciation for the operation of the *Agape* WhatsApp group, which provides a communication forum featuring prayers, photographs and personal comments. It has become a source of comfort and support for them

Our three churches will continue to meet on a three-weekly rota (at 10am) until September. But Revd Julie felt we need to reflect on future meeting arrangements as she thinks that holding traditional services every Sunday is not the way forward

15

**Conclusion**

Revd David thanked Revd Julie for her efforts to '*keep the show on the road through thick and thin*'

He was particularly impressed by her ability to understand and develop the use of new technology in order to introduce online communication methods for the benefit of our church members and beyond. He is confident this strength will be advantageous in the future. The meeting showed its appreciation to Julie, David and Debbie

Revd Julie closed the meeting at 8.15pm with a prayer followed by the Grace

## Annual report for October 2020-April 2021

### Electoral Roll Report

Since the 2021 APCM, Brenda Newby of St John's congregation has unfortunately passed away.

There are three additions at St Paul's: Wendy Wilkinson, Ann Williams and Graeme Williams.

The numbers after the 2022 revision are:

	Total	Res	Non-res
Newsome	28	23	5
Armitage Bridge	50	24	26
Parish of N and AB	78	47	31

With the closure of St John's, the Newsome figures are less than meaningful and therefore the total figures are somewhat overstated

David Hirst

Electoral Roll Officer

### Formal Report on the Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council

The Council present their report and accounts for 2021/22. They have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission, number 1131703.

The PCC works, in consultation with the clergy, on matters of general concern and importance to the parish. Among its aim in the parish, is the promotion of the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The Parochial Church Council met 5 times together with the DCC for both churches as combined meetings during the period plus a short meeting following the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

### Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

*During the period, the following served as members of the PCC:*

Rev'd Julie Anderson

### Churchwardens

June Richardson Newsome

Pamela Thomas Armitage Bridge

Antony Crawshaw Armitage Bridge

Deputy at AB – Gillian Greenwood

Deanery Synod

Bruce Greenwood PCC Treasurer

Katherine Huggett

Armitage Bridge elected members

Catherine Day (elected 7<sup>th</sup> April 2019)

Helen Hales (elected 7<sup>th</sup> April 2019)

David Hirst (elected 27<sup>th</sup> October 2020)

Chris Storey (elected 27<sup>th</sup> October 2020)

Melanie Farrar (elected 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021)

Ian Hales (elected 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021)

Melody Hirst (elected 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021)

Newsome elected members

Pamela Kent (elected 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018)

### Church Attendance

Since reopening the churches Sunday attendance has been good and there is still a has had a good attendance on YouTube too.

### Worship

As the pandemic continued throughout the year we have been able to hold in person services with restrictions in place to keep everyone safe. We have continued to hold services alternate weeks at Armitage Bridge and South Crosland at 9.15 and Newsome have now moved in with Berry Brow Methodists and there service it at 11.15am each week. Numbers have been good at most services. Julie has continued to record services every week, as there are those who cannot get out now and it keeps them connected with church. It is available to church members and friends via email and to anyone with access to our website. Those without technology are provided with a service sheet, sermon and readings to use at home. Additional services were recorded in Advent, including another schools Nativity which was shown online and was watched by families – another good outreach!

### Risk management

The PCC is aware of risks to which the church is exposed and steps have been taken to mitigate such risks, for example by having insurance cover. With Newsome getting ready to close it has appointed Roy Broadbent to continue as Health and Safety Officer until we have a date for the closure. Armitage Bridge appointed David Hirst as Health and Safety Officer for the beginning of

this period and now Sarah Pope has taken on the role. Ian Hales is the Fire Officer Safeguarding Officer for the Parish is Pamela Thomas.

### **The Safeguarding Officer for this PCC is Pamela Thomas.**

Pamela works with Helen Pearson (Safeguarding Officer for South Crosland PCC and lead recruiter for the Benefice) to ensure our volunteers working with vulnerable groups have a current DBS check. Hopefully a training programme will recommence in 2022

Issues raised by the Diocese are followed up by our Benefice Safeguarding Officers.

In 2019 The Church of England issued a new Parish Safeguarding Handbook. Our churches were assessed against it and it was agreed that we have in place all that we should have for the current activities in them. Posters with safeguarding names and contact details are up in our churches.

*Pamela Thomas*

### **TREASURERS REPORT**

**Please see *separate document for the accounts.***

This was the second year badly affected by the restrictions due to the pandemic.

We hired out St Paul's for the first time in June and returned to the normal pattern in September.

A couple of people hired the church to record performances for their CV, a possible new source of income.

Our new pattern of services did not begin until 2022 so in 2021 our collections have fluctuated considerably. Generally we receive a high percentage given by card. We are looking into having a 'giving' button and QR Code on the website and Church Near You site, but we would need to create a good narrative for a reason to give rather than just 'Pay Here'.

The PCC figures are badly affected by the decline at St John's.

As expected Plate Collections are down a lot but Planned Giving has held up very well. There is a decline at St John's but at St Paul's several contributors by standing order have increased their giving which is very welcome in this time of high inflation.

We are very grateful for the support from Planned Givers by Standing Order through the pandemic as their continued giving whether we were open

or closed has seen us through this difficult period financially.

Now that the Together Shop has re-opened the churches received a donation of £1,000 each. Lettings have started to rise again and exceeded 2020.

The fees increased as we had a couple of weddings, the remainder being from Funerals.

The Church Hall made a modest surplus against a large loss in 2020.

Repair and maintenance increased by £2,000 due to 2 items. The electricity circuits had persistent problems which our contractors have now eliminated but this took a good deal of time, hence the payments. In addition, now that the church is being used frequently, we have returned the cleaning schedule to normal from September 2021. This costs £2132 per annum in a full year.

St Paul's was able to pay its Parish Share in full but St John's, understandably, paid nothing.

Our other expenses have been as expected.

Moving into 2022 we begin with adequate resources. St John's still has to continue paying maintenance expenses (Insurance, fuel, maintenance contracts) until the property is taken over so their funds will dwindle.

In 2022 St Paul's begins with £19,000 in the Fabric Fund and a further £14,000 in the general accounts. This year we will spend £5,000 on the Quinquennial, tree inspection, electrical inspection and bridge inspection. The Fabric Fund which will cover the costs. We hope for a healthy, active 2022 and a return to normality – we have the funds to see us through until 2023.

*Bruce Greenwood  
Treasurer*

### **CHURCHWARDENS REPORT ON THE FABRIC, GOOD & ORNAMENTS**

#### **St John's Newsome**

When lockdown restrictions eased our services resumed within the covid guidelines. The three-week rota continued with a 10am start, along with the online service. The ACPM was held in May and the Archdeacons Visitation for Church wardens was via zoom.

The decision to close St John's had already been decided, the PCC gave approval.

In August a representative from the diocese inspected the organ with a view to it being placed in another Church.

The last regular service at St John's was on August 15<sup>th</sup>. The three-week rota now includes Berry Brow Methodist church as the congregation of St John's shares services with our Methodist friends. The time remained at 10am but changed in the New Year to alternate services at 9.15am in Armitage Bridge and South Crosland and 11.15am each week at Berry Brow. Some of the small Newsome congregation now attend the Methodist Church.

The plan for St John's church building is for the local councillors to buy it from the Diocese and to turn it into a community centre. In October the Green party Councillors held an open day to show the plans to the public. The councillors are keen to keep many of the historical features of the building and commemorate the church over the years it has been there. The Churchyard is already closed but the cremated remains area will remain open for interment of ashes.

The Remembrance Day service at Berry Brow was well attended by the Scout group and members of all three Churches.

In December a lady from the Church of England Church Buildings Board visited St John's to do another survey and prepare a report. This report was then tabled at the January meeting and we are still awaiting the outcome.

Baptisms and funerals continue to be held at St John's. All maintenance and utility bills are ongoing and will continue until the building is handed over to new owners, or we run out of funds.

Julie has organised a clearance project in St John's with people from each church helping.

Up to now there is no official closing date. Once this is known we will organise a final service, inviting the community to come and celebrate the life of the church.

*June Richardson.  
Warden.*

## **St Paul's Armitage Bridge**

As well as the usual routine maintenance i.e. Servicing Fire Alarms and equipment, P.A. Testings, Boiler Maintenance and cleaning gutters, a lot of additional planned maintenance was completed in

2021 to ensure that the church is kept in good repair.  
And after lockdown a lot of electrical work needed to be done.

Christmas services were well attended, Julie still doing an on line service each Sunday.

After Christmas we started a 9.15 service alternating weeks with South Crosland this seems to be going very well.

We are awaiting a survey report on the trees, there were very strong winds at the start of 2022 , We also had severe flooding in February, the river burst its banks the car park flooded and top dressing is gone, but fortunately did not get to the Church its self.

We had the Quinquennial inspection in February and have yet to look at it in detail.

Churchwardens checked the inventory and log book, all found to be in order.

The Church yard has been cleared of brambles, some saplings and low branches, and the ivy and moss on the surrounding walls.

Thank you to everybody who has helped in any way to keep the Church and Church yard safe clean and well maintained.

*Tony Crawshaw and Pamela Thomas  
Wardens*

## **Deanery Synod Report 2021/22**

Since the last APCM we have met three times. These have been a combination for Zoom, hybrid and in person with a live YouTube broadcast! The first meeting was an introduction. A chance to meet people for around the diocese as we were split up into groups of people that we didn't know. As this was my first meeting this was not difficult! From this the need for a central list of people with talents and skills within our churches as well as trades people that have been used before was raised. There was also a discussion around people's knowledge of grant funding.

The second meeting was held at Armitage Bridge. This was a hybrid affair, with the focus being on coming out of COVID. This was harder for all to follow, and the decision was made that next time we would do one or the other.

Finally, our third meeting. This was centered on our impact on the planet and the steps that we

need to take to net zero carbon emissions. The aim is to do this by 2030 for the whole of the Church of England. A presentation was given with an introduction to our impact on the global temperature as well as the impact on people's lives. The scope for having net zero carbon emissions is scope 1 and 2 emissions. This includes our direct burning of fossil fuels (eg using gas central heating, the petrol for the lawn mower, Julie's mileage for church business). This also includes our VA school.

We can also complete the carbon bit on the online parish returns as well as the carbon 360 to look at the carbon of everything that we do!

The last section was on the 6 steps to net zero.

1. Measure and monitor
2. Plan and prepare – Debby has done a lot of this!
3. Essential energy actions – Maintain the building well, think about our electricity source.
4. Essential travel action
5. Carbon offsetting
6. Stepping up and out

Some possible good news on actioning some of this is that we were told that Faculty jurisdiction rules have been adjusted to take into account the environmental guidelines. Comes in on 1<sup>st</sup> July.

*Katherine Huggett  
Deputy Rep*

### **Maintenance of the churchyard at Armitage Bridge**

The gardening team have managed to keep going over autumn and winter 2021/22

Our mistake last year was letting the two large plots at the rear of the church building get too overgrown, we did manage to rectify this and concentrated our efforts in cutting it all back with the mowers and strimmers, its paid dividends already, we have managed a trim in 2022 before the bulbs etc came through and we will continue to both keep this area under control and improve its appearance.

A few bushes have been planted down by the rear wall, we are hoping that along with the bulbs planted last spring this area will start to look more attractive. There was signs of knotweed reappearing, this was treated last year and as yet there are no fresh signs of it.

We had the flooding in March 2022. A job this year will be to wall up the gap that's between the fence and wall near the footbridge, hopefully this will help in keeping flash flooding into the carpark at bay.

The front areas have not as yet had a full cut, in part its too wet and the grass hasn't grown as

quickly. Moss is becoming a problem in some of these areas, we intend to reduce the cutting a bit coupled with raking some areas of moss out. See how it pans out.

We have already mentioned about the problems with the Garden of Remembrance regarding the trinkets, bottles etc. Its probably worth mentioning at this point the increase of dog muck around the plot.

The equipment that was at the bottom of the tower stairs has now been cleared into the basement as the architect asked us to do. At present we are using a temporary light but if the storage down there becomes permanent then we ought to think of installing a fixed light.

As things stand the equipment appears to be in good working order, hopefully no major purchases will be required this year.

*Alan Trebble*

### **REPORTS OF OTHER ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE CHURCHES.**

#### **Children's activities:**

##### **Junior Church at St. Paul's**

We have not been able to hold a Junior Church for some time due to Covid. However since the restrictions have eased and services have resumed, it has been uplifting to see young faces among our congregation.

Several children have made use of our activity bags which are available to them during the service. We are hoping to re-start Junior Church after Easter.

*Melody Hirst and Sam McGregor*

#### **The schools and community**

Julie has started back at the schools doing assembly and these have been well received.

#### **Prayer, Study, Youth and Worship Groups**

Julie provides daily Bible readings every month to encourage folk to read their bibles.

During Lent a Bible Study based on Ruth Valerio's book *Saying Yes to life* was held via zoom.

#### **Pastoral care**

There is no formal pastoral care provision at either St Paul's or St John's but it operates on an informal "word of mouth" basis. A small team distribute the Focus magazine, send cards and letters where and when appropriate and visit people at home, in hospital or care homes usually with some home baking for those they visit.

Most of the people visited are church members who can no longer attend services for various



reasons and they really appreciate a visit and all the news from church. Other local folk are visited too if they request it and we try to support and care for all those who need us.

During lockdown a weekly delivery of the sermon and hymns for that week has given chance for people to support those who are unable to get out due to Covid19.

### **LEP (Churches together in South Huddersfield)/Ecumenical work**

This has been a bit of a stop, start year for community events.

#### **Pop up sale for the Together Shop**

It was delightful to see all the people who came together to make this event prosper. Elizabeth Wakefield was able to co-ordinate with the Scouts, who on the day were so very helpful.

There were many volunteers who did a fantastic job sorting and preparing the goods beforehand, including some amazing ironing done by Pam and Angela, as well as on the day the people who were on hand to display the goods to look attractive and to enable shoppers to find what they were looking for. It was a great success, financially and socially and the event made more than £400. It was such a success it was decided to have a second in the spring.

We had the first (and last) Café church of the year in November. About 20 people attended to listen to Rev Tim Francis entertaining and lively story of determination and resilience on his way to the ministry.

The Christmas Craft Fair in aid of the Carnival was very successful and very well supported. Following the rise of the Omicron variant the relaunch of activities slightly stumbled.

Unfortunately, the Café church in December was cancelled due to illness of some members of the choir and their families.

Assembly at Berry Brow INS, with Revs Julie and Tim has paused! I also continue to help deliver food to the flats on the first and third Saturday of each month. The Christmas dinner, hosted by the Sons of the North and Brookes Mill with the Ark Church went well, with up to 80 dinners served and a dozen dinners sent out. Luke and the team managed to raise enough funds, thanks to the generosity of the customers for 200 meals so the surplus went to other food banks.

Café Church returned on the 19<sup>th</sup> of March with a Carbon Conversation with Rev. Debby. It was very successful and we had to add to the tables. Next one Easter Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup> for the Ukraine.

I am also chair of Governors at the Federation of Berry Brow and Newsome Schools

Regular events. I support Crafty Chatterers every other week on a Tuesday morning from 9.30 at Berry Brow (next date 5<sup>th</sup> April) and Newsome Tenants and residents association.

I network via the Wednesday morning coffee morning at Newsome, and Newsome Forum. I am publicity officer for Berry Brow Carnival Committee.

I have supported Growing Newsome events as well as the following:

- Coffee and homemade cake at Hall Bower the first Wednesday each month (with a chance to pick up the impossible quiz).
- Soup at Hall Bower the second Monday Each month
- Hall Bower Ramblers meet on the Third Monday each month (9.30)
- Coffee mornings every Wednesday in the Scout Hut
- Aspire Thursday Afternoons 1.30-3.30
- Community Gospel Choir 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday each month 5.30. The Gospel Choir began rehearsals again in January with a view to expanding its repertoire. As always, we welcome everyone who enjoys singing whatever their level of virtuosity. We have had several interesting projects, recording as backing singers for a University project and performing at the Lawrence Badley Theatre. Hopefully more to come! Choir meets the first and third Sunday each month at 5.30 at Berry Brow MC.

#### **Future possible Events:**

##### **Berry Brow Carnival**

Hopefully, the next Berry Brow Carnival will be held on 18<sup>th</sup> June.

I have been a member of the Carnival Committee since its inception, 15 years ago. I am passionate about it as it brings the community together. For the last 2 years we have tried to keep the community spirit alive on our Facebook page with virtual quizzes and competitions. This year we are hosting an Easter Bunny Trail on the 9<sup>th</sup> April. (Coffee Morning with Bacon Butties Available.)

need to take to net zero carbon emissions. The aim is to do this by 2030 for the whole of the Church of England. A presentation was given with an introduction to our impact on the global temperature as well as the impact on people's lives. The scope for having net zero carbon emissions is scope 1 and 2 emissions. This includes our direct burning of fossil fuels (eg using gas central heating, the petrol for the lawn mower, Julie's mileage for church business). This also includes our VA school.

We can also complete the carbon bit on the online parish return s well as the carbon 360 to look at the carbon of everything that we do!

The last section was on the 6 steps to net zero.

1. Measure and monitor
2. Plan and prepare – Debby has done a lot of this!
3. Essential energy actions – Maintain the building well, think about our electricity source.
4. Essential travel action
5. Carbon offsetting
6. Stepping up and out

Some possible good news on actioning some of this is that we were told that Faculty jurisdiction rules have been adjusted to take into account the environmental guidelines. Comes in on 1<sup>st</sup> July.

*Katherine Huggett  
Deanery Rep*

### **Maintenance of the churchyard at Armitage Bridge**

The gardening team have managed to keep going over autumn and winter 2021/22

Our mistake last year was letting the two large plots at the rear of the church building get too overgrown, we did manage to rectify this and concentrated our efforts in cutting it all back with the mowers and strimmers, its paid dividends already, we have managed a trim in 2022 before the bulbs etc came through and we will continue to both keep this area under control and improve its appearance.

A few bushes have been planted down by the rear wall, we are hoping that along with the bulbs planted last spring this area will start to look more attractive. There was signs of knotweed reappearing, this was treated last year and as yet there are no fresh signs of it.

We had the flooding in March 2022. A job this year will be to wall up the gap that's between the fence and wall near the footbridge, hopefully this will help in keeping flash flooding into the carpark at bay.

The front areas have not as yet had a full cut, in part its too wet and the grass hasn't grown as

quickly. Moss is becoming a problem in some of these areas, we intend to reduce the cutting a bit coupled with raking some areas of moss out. See how it pans out.

We have already mentioned about the problems with the Garden of Remembrance regarding the trinkets, bottles etc. Its probably worth mentioning at this point the increase of dog muck around the plot.

The equipment that was at the bottom of the tower stairs has now been cleared into the basement as the architect asked us to do. At present we are using a temporary light but if the storage down there becomes permanent then we ought to think of installing a fixed light.

As things stand the equipment appears to be in good working order, hopefully no major purchases will be required this year.

*Alan Trebble*

### **REPORTS OF OTHER ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE CHURCHES.**

#### **Children's activities:**

##### **Junior Church at St. Paul's**

We have not been able to hold a Junior Church for some time due to Covid. However since the restrictions have eased and services have resumed, it has been uplifting to see young faces among our congregation.

Several children have made use of our activity bags which are available to them during the service. We are hoping to re-start Junior Church after Easter.

*Melody Hirst and Sam McGregor*

##### **The schools and community**

Julie has started back at the schools doing assembly and these have been well received.

##### **Prayer, Study, Youth and Worship Groups**

Julie provides daily Bible readings every month to encourage folk to read their bibles.

During Lent a Bible Study based on Ruth Valerio's book *Saying yes to life* was held via zoom.

##### **Pastoral care**

There is no formal pastoral care provision at either St Paul's or St John's but it operates on an informal "word of mouth" basis. A small team distribute the Focus magazine, send cards and letters where and when appropriate and visit people at home, in hospital or care homes usually with some home baking for those they visit.

Most of the people visited are church members who can no longer attend services for various

Future possible projects:

I am aware that things are slowly building back and it would be lovely if we could perhaps organise something for the Queen's jubilee and if anyone would like to suggest other joint projects that may go well, please get in touch.

With reference to funds, I am going to research grants so that we can be a more active presence in the community when that becomes possible.

Carol Waters March 2022

### **Choir and music report**

Singing has restarted and it is wonderful to worship in song as well as words!

### **Bellingring at St Paul's**

Our ringing activities continue gather pace as we pull away from the Covid problem. Sunday morning services have all been covered and rung for returning back to 8.45 ringing.

Wednesday practice has proved to be a little more difficult to manage, we get a number of visitors from various towers, trying to accommodate everyone's health and ringing needs is a juggling act.

Dennis Chaffer has regretfully decided he can no longer continue being a member of our band due to health reasons. His contribution over the last 20 years has been immense not only to the ringers but to St. Pauls as a whole. This does mean that various amendments need to be made and the ringers will be having a meeting on March 16<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm to ratify the matters arising.

To date this year we have hosted and assisted a training day run by The YACR (Western Branch) continuing in February at Meltham and New Mill in February and at Todmorden in March. We have a visiting band from Lancaster booked in for their outing in the area on March 19<sup>th</sup> and a peal attempt on March 26<sup>th</sup>.

The Halifax Archdeaconry have not held their monthly Monday evening practice so far this year, not sure if and when his will resume.

Along with the rest of the building the architect inspected the tower on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> of February, it is all in order. His only recommendations being that the top chamber be swept of dust, twigs etc, the fluorescent tubes in the ringing room be exchanged at some point for LED tubes. He was also pleased to see we have cleared the bottom of the tower steps of the sundry gardening items ( which are now stored in the old boiler room ).

Looking forward we are wanting this year to arrange and join in with some ringing for both the Art Exhibition and the Queens Platinum celebrations, apparently on the same weekend.

*Alan Trebble*

### **Rectors report 2020 - 2021**

At the time of writing this report all restrictions in England have been lifted and life is slowly returning to normal. It has been a very difficult 2 years and we need to reflect on what it means for us as a worshipping community to have experienced all the highs and lows that came with Covid19. I don't want to spend time listing them because my highs and lows may be different to yours but I would encourage you to take a moment and just sit quietly and reflect and give thanks for all that God has done.

I am also sure we all have those we would like to thank for their giving generously of their time and talents. And again I encourage you to do that. I would like to thank all those who have given their time to ensure that we are all able to connect with church and worship God. I want to give thanks...

- For the folk who have delivered the sermon each week to those who are still housebound.
- For those who clean the churches and those who do the flowers. For those who welcome people at the door and those who serve the coffee. You all help to make our churches warm and welcoming.
- For those on the worship teams who work so hard to ensure everyone can have an uplifting service once a month.
- For the gardeners who keep the grounds so tidy.
- For the bellringers who let the community know that we are gathering for worship or celebrating a wedding.
- For all those who have helped with the music this year. For those who have stepped as George has been unable to play at Armitage Bridge and for Tony and all those in the music group at South Crosland
- For the churchwardens who have all been brilliant and who make my job easy as I don't have to worry about all the jobs that need doing – they just get on and get them done.

- For David and Debby as they share in the ministry of our parishes – I couldn't do my job without them.
- For everyone who comes to church and encourages me week on week. I always feel very blessed to be here and thank God everyday for each one of you

Before I look to the future I want to update you on St John's church building at Newsome. The proposal to close the church has now gone through all the committees of the Church of England and to my knowledge it has passed through them all and we are now just awaiting a closure date from the Church Commissioners. The local councillors have been working hard to make sure they are ready to start work once we move out.

I have been very busy over the last 12 months with all the local schools and am now back doing collective worship at Newsome Juniors, South Crosland Juniors and now Hillside Primary. I have also taken on the role of Chair of Governors at Hillside which is proving to be a challenging but very rewarding role.

My role as Area Dean for the Almondbury and Kirkburton Deanery has continued to be busy but very interesting as we look to the future and what we can do together to share resources. It has been good to share the load with Helen Pearson and Bruce Greenwood and having joint Deanery Synod meetings makes life a lot easier too.

But what about the future? Where are we going and how are we going to get there?

The advice from the Diocese is to start one new thing and do it well. Once you have established that then move on to one more thing. They have recognised that we are all tired. It has been a tough 2 years and everyone is feeling the strain so if we try to do too much all at the same time we will reach burn out!!

So for us, as a Benefice, the one thing we are going to do is to start and after school activity at South Crosland Junior School. This will be for children and their parent/carer to come and learn about Jesus! We will have bible stories, drama, games, a craft, singing and prayer so it will be church in a different guise. But and it is a big but... I will need volunteers to help me with it. It will be

once a month – on a Thursday – straight after school – starting on 28<sup>th</sup> April.

If you can help then let me know but if you feel you can't be there then you can help by praying. We all know that prayer works so we need some real prayer warriors who will spend time praying about our work with children and families – and we can all do that!!

For us as churches together we are looking to start a drop in for those who are finding life difficult, especially as the cost of living rises and they don't know what to do. We may be able to offer them a hot meal but we can certainly offer them a warm welcome and a cuppa and a safe space to talk about their woes!! We are just in the planning stages at this time but we will keep you informed!!

So the future is looking good and hopefully we will be out there in the mission field telling people about Jesus and after all that is all God asks us to do. So let's do by our actions and our words and let's pray for "Thy kingdom come"!

May God bless us richly in all that we do!

Rev Julie Anderson

**THE PARISH OF NEWSOME  
and  
ARMITAGE BRIDGE**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**2021**

# PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF NEWSOME & ARMITAGE BRIDGE

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2021

	As at 31/12/2021	As at 31/12/2020
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Armitage Bridge	4078.00	4947.00
Newsome	<u>9038.00</u>	<u>10317.00</u>
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>13116.00</b>	<b>15264.00</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Newsome CBF A/c Fabric Fund	5499.79	5496.92
Newsome Virgin Money	4792.17	5627.86
AB Leeds DBF CBF Trust Capital A/c	10196.60	8914.76
AB Leeds DBF CBF Trust Income A/c	2851.43	2590.92
AB CBF A/c Fabric Fund	16272.77	15304.72
AB CBF A/c General Fund	3043.79	3042.20
AB HSBC Bank A/c	5852.58	5552.87
AB HSBC BMM A/c	5564.82	7564.10
AB Virgin Money A/c	0.46	300.46
Traidcraft Stock	40.00	40.00
Jam Stock	231.00	231.00
Sundry Debtors & Accrued Income	4706.50	5996.00
Prepaid Expenses	<u>65.00</u>	<u>120.00</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>59116.91</b>	<b>60781.81</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Agency Collections	116.68	82.90
Accruals	1063.80	1039.00
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b><u>1180.48</u></b>	<b><u>1121.90</u></b>
<b>Net Asset surplus</b>	<b><u>71052.43</u></b>	<b><u>74923.91</u></b>
<b>Reserves</b>		
Excess /(Deficit) to date	-3871.48	-2011.54
	74923.91	76935.45
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>71052.43</b>	<b>74923.91</b>
<b>Represented by Funds</b>		
General	34273.78	38912.94
Restricted	<u>36778.65</u>	<u>36010.97</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>71052.43</u></b>	<b><u>74923.91</u></b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 7 March 2022 and signed on its

behalf by

Reverend J Anderson - Rector

Chairman

B.N.Greenwood

Treasurer

**PARISH OF NEWSOME & ARMITAGE BRIDGE**

**Analysis of Income & Expenditure 2021**

<b>Incoming Resources</b>	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>Total 2020</b>
Bequest	-	-	-	11000.00
Collections	1471.50	-	1471.50	2628.04
Planned Giving Gift Aided	14817.00	960.00	15777.00	17601.00
Planned Giving Other	3415.22	-	3415.22	3802.23
Gift Aid Tax Refund	4393.15	-	4393.15	4991.72
Donations	2862.70	250.00	3112.70	1446.30
Fundraising	114.82	-	114.82	239.11
Lettings	4580.00	-	4580.00	3420.00
Dividends	-	268.56	268.56	260.47
Interest on Deposits	2.31	2.87	5.18	109.54
Profit on valuation of Investments	-	1281.84	1281.84	575.82
Church Hall Sales	3854.00	-	3854.00	4598.00
<b>Incoming Resources from Generated Funds</b>	<b>35510.70</b>	<b>2763.27</b>	<b>38273.97</b>	<b>50672.23</b>
Fees	2227.00	-	2227.00	1407.00
Rent	200.00	-	200.00	175.00
Refund of VAT	-	-	-	-
Donation Art & Crafts	-	-	-	366.10
<b>Other Incoming Resources</b>	<b>2427.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2427.00</b>	<b>1948.10</b>
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>37937.70</b>	<b>2763.27</b>	<b>40700.97</b>	<b>52620.33</b>

<b>Resources Used</b>	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>Total 2020</b>
<b>Charitable Activities</b>				
Charitable Payments	2000.00		2000.00	1750.00
<b>Cost of Generating Funds</b>				
Church Hall Expenses	3827.17		3827.17	5170.29
<b>Other Resources Used</b>				
Clergy Expenses	107.60		107.60	279.67
Administration Expenses	741.54		741.54	641.58
Fees for Musicians	450.00		450.00	470.00
Insurance	6354.04		6354.04	6529.64
Magazine Costs	79.14		79.14	65.84
Repairs & Maintenance	6640.21	-	6640.21	4596.82
Telephone	862.50		862.50	981.28
Upkeep of Services	712.15		712.15	468.24
Light & Heat	3199.47		3199.47	4801.64
Churchyard Upkeep	358.11	128.59	486.70	547.00
Refreshments	15.64		15.64	45.80
Water - Church	489.10		489.10	443.73
Bank Charges	152.31		152.31	193.49
Depreciation	121.00	1862.00	1983.00	2048.20
<b>Resources used Outside the Parish</b>				
Parish Share	15580.00		15580.00	26330.00
<b>Total Resources Used</b>	<b>41689.98</b>	<b>1990.59</b>	<b>43680.57</b>	<b>55363.22</b>



**Newsome & Armitage Bridge PCC**  
**Fixed Assets**

**2021**

**Armitage Bridge      Unrestricted**

Kitchen	Cost		4790.00
	Depreciation to 31/12/2020	3353.00	
	Depreciation for 2021	479.00	3832.00
	Net Value 31/12/2021		958.00

Sound System	Cost		3884.20
	Depreciation to 31/12/2020.	374.20	
	Depreciation for 2021	390.00	764.20
	Net Value 31/12/2021		3120.00

**Newsome      Unrestricted**

	Cost		6938.91
	Depreciation to 31/12/2020	5129.91	
	Depreciation for 2021		
Sound System		110.00	
Other Equipment		11.00	
Church Hall Boiler		165.00	5415.91
Net Book Value 31/12/2021			1582.00

**Restricted**

Church Equipment	Cost		7960.69
	Depreciation to 31/12/2020	4990.69	
	Depreciation for 2021	445.00	5435.69
	Net Value 31/12/2021		2525.00

Organ	Cost		32800.38
	Depreciation to 31/12/2020	27321.38	
	Depreciation for 2021	548.00	27869.38
	Net Value 31/12/2021		4931.00

**Total Fixed Assets**      **13116.00**

**Depreciation Policy**

Armitage Bridge Straight Line	10% pa
Newsome Depreciation on the reducing balance:	
Church Organ, Church Equipment, Church Hall Boiler	10% pa
Remainder	15% pa

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF  
NEWSOME AND ARMITAGE BRIDGE**

I report on the accounts for 2021

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

**Basis of Independent Examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**


- 1 In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

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

 24/2/22

.....