

St Lawrence Church Bovingdon

Annual Meetings

**to be held on Thursday 20th May 2021
at 7.30pm via zoom.**

Agendas and background papers

You are warmly invited to attend via zoom and take a full part in this important event in our Church life. If you would like to stand for election as a Church warden or member of the PCC, please pick up a nomination form from the back of church. If you would like to know more about what any of these roles entails, speak to Charles, one of the Wardens or a member of the PCC.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Thursday 20th May 2021

7:30pm via zoom video meeting

1. Prayer
2. Apologies for absence

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

Agenda

1. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8th October 2020
2. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of Thursday 8th October 2020
3. Election of Churchwardens

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Agenda

1. Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 8th October 2020
2. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of Thursday 8th October 2020
3. Annual reports:
 - Electoral Roll (verbal report to the meeting)
 - Accounts for the year ended December 31st 2021
 - Mission and Outreach – Charitable Giving
 - Fabric, Goods and Ornaments and Church Hall
 - Safeguarding
 - Parochial Church Council Report
 - Rickmansworth Deanery Synod
 - Churchyard
 - Activities & Events report
4. Appointment of Independent Accounts Examiner
5. Election of Electoral Roll Officer
6. Election of Parochial Church Council
7. Closing remarks
 - Churchwarden's remarks
 - Chairman's remarks

St Lawrence Church, Bovingdon

Minutes of the

Annual Meeting of Parishioners

Thursday 8th October 2020, 7:30pm

(via Zoom virtual meeting platform due to Covid-19 government meeting restrictions)

Revd Charles Burch (CEB) opened the meeting with prayer

35 parishioners were present.

Apologies: Carolyn Taylor, Frances Freebrey

1. Minutes of the AMP meeting Thursday 25th April 2019.

These were approved unanimously by the meeting.

2. Matters arising from the minutes of the AMP meeting held Thursday 25th April 2019.

No matters arising.

3. Election of Churchwardens.

One nomination for Churchwarden has been received, that of Dena Tyler. Duly re-elected.

CEB thanked Penny Havercroft (retiring Warden) very much for all she's done to support the Church. He also thanked Dena for her continued service and support of the Church.

The meeting closed at 7:42pm

St Lawrence Church, Bovingdon

Minutes of the

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Thursday 8th October 2020, 7:30pm

(via Zoom virtual meeting platform due to Covid-19 government meeting restrictions)

1. Minutes of the meeting held Thursday 25th April 2019.

These were presented by Revd Burch (CEB) and unanimously accepted as a true record of the meeting.

2. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held Thursday 25th April 2019.

No matters arising

3. Annual Reports.

I) Electoral Roll.

Carol West reported that, there have been 8 additions and 5 deletions from the electoral roll, which now stands at 103.

II) Accounts for year ending 31st December 2019.

GC presented the treasurers report (pages 10-20 of the report pack) He highlighted (page 12) that during 2019 the church had receipts of £110,386.26 and expenditure of £119,385.53 creating a deficit of £8,972.27.

Page 13 shows:

- Gift Aid tax recovery income of £15,683.22, of which £9,997.33 was received in January 2020 from HMRC relating to Gift Aid contributions, outside the Parish Giving Scheme, made in 2019.
- Sundry Expenses of £5,212.51 which includes IT costs of £2077.32 which initiated a review of ongoing IT contracts by Matt Williams, resulting in substantial savings for 2020 and subsequent years. He also did all the work to enable our Contactless Card Reader to be introduced.
- St Lawrence Hall maintenance costs of £10,198.69 which includes costs relating to the new flooring and new back (kitchen) door. A single gift aided contribution of £3,000 was made to the flooring costs.

Page 16 shows:

- £6,414.40 received from The Friends of St. Lawrence meeting the costs of Electrical Work, Tower and Boiler Room works and Roof repairs identified in the Architect's Quinquennial Inspection report and other costs relating to the Clock and Churchyard

Lighting. It should be noted that to date in 2020, a further £2,052 has been received in respect of tree surgery and the church kitchen floor.

- £9,609.71 transferred from the Muriel Swan Legacy Fund to the Building Projects Fund

Page 17 shows:

- £891.00 paid to Missionary and Charity Societies from the Outreach fund down from £4,022.70 in 2018. Following the retirement of Gwen Carlisle and Mags Southern from SAMS, and in response to the deficit accruing for 2019, it was decided that the giving in support of SAMS (£3,000 in 2018) would not be made in 2019, and this “saving” is reflected in the accounts

Page 19 shows:

- £9,609.71 payments from the Building Projects Fund meeting the costs of Ground Survey (Geotec), Transport Planning Report (EAS), New Hall Cost Plan (Press & Starkey) and Architects Fees (Weal Architects). These fees were met by the Muriel Swan Fund.
- A new Clock repair fund was established. An appeal was made during the year for repairs to the clock. The resulting receipts, totalling £1,330 in 2019, are held in a new Clock Fund awaiting the repairs. It should be noted that the initial quote for this repair (over £9,000) was mitigated through the work of Chris West, the Diocesan Clock advisor and others to an actual spend of about £1,600 in 2020.

General Update

GC reported that in response to the deficit identified midway through the year “Generous Giving” was promoted to the church membership and the positive response to this has resulted in a 2020 budget being drafted reinstating an, as yet unallocated, Mission and Outreach spend of £3,000.

He thanked everyone who contributes to the work and financial wellbeing of the church.

GC took the opportunity to give particular thanks to Helen Campbell for being the point of contact of many ongoing suppliers to the church as well as customers of St. Lawrence Hall, Richard Owens for handling all cash, Mike Leon for recording receipts and preparing Gift Aid claims, Matt Williams for negotiating with IT suppliers, The Generous Giving Team, The Friends of St Lawrence for their financial support and to David Barr FCBI, for examining the accounts.

Sean Bolton (SB) asked if the Church had incurred any additional costs due to Covid19 restrictions and if so, are we able to reclaim these. CEB stated that the impact was more a case of lost revenue than additional costs, although we have purchased 2 foot operated sanitising stations. These have enabled the Church to open for private prayer and resumption of services.

SB also asked if all Church of England buildings are owned by the Archbishop of Canterbury. CEB replied that the buildings and land are the responsibility of a variety of organisation (e.g Church Commissioners). We don’t pay any rent for the buildings but are responsible for their up-keep.

SB asked if there was sufficient space in the graveyard for the needs of the parish. CEB replied that it's not currently a problem but will eventually need reviewing.

Ian Wilford proposed, and Mike Leon seconded that the financial report be accepted; this was unanimously agreed.

CEB thanked GC for his continuing hard work as treasurer – an unenviable job.

III) Mission & Outreach report (non-statutory)

The report had been prepared by GC.

CEB mentioned that we are collecting for the Bishop's Harvest Appeal throughout October. The sum currently stands at about £250; he encouraged those who had not yet supported this fund, to do so via the giving option on the Church website.

IV) Fabric, Goods & Ornaments report

Chris West (CW) presented the report.

CEB thanked all those involved in the maintenance of the Church and St Lawrence Hall, particularly Paul & Helen Campbell, Jane Cayley (JC) and the Friends of St Lawrence - their support is invaluable.

Steve Watkins (SW) enquired regarding the redecoration of the Church. He was aware that quotes had been sought for this work but had not received any update since then. CEB replied that we are currently awaiting an update from our Church architect (Francesca Weal) regarding the exact materials that we permitted to use. We will then need to apply for a faculty to conduct the work. He thanked SW and JC for their help in sourcing the quotes.

Matt Williams proposed, and Gary Cartlidge seconded that the report be accepted; this was unanimously agreed.

V) Safeguarding Report

The report had been prepared by Paul Campbell.

SB asked if the following were in place:

- a) Do we have an audit of Safeguarding?
- b) Is all training up to date, and when does it expire?
- c) Do we have a Safeguarding register of incidents of concern?
- d) How is the Church doing nationally on this issue?
- e) Is there a safeguarding action plan for the Diocese?

CEB responded as follows:

- a) This needs to be reviewed
- b) This is held by the Safeguarding Officer (Paul Campbell)
- c) This is held by the Safeguarding Officer

- d) The Church has a shameful record on this as reported in the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) report published this week.
- e) This is available on the Diocesan website

Steve Watkins proposed, and Penny Havercroft seconded that the report be accepted; this was unanimously agreed.

VI) Parochial Church Council Report
CW presented the report.

SB asked if risk assessments are in place for the various Children's activities. Alison Cartlidge (AC) responded that they are in place and have been updated to take into account delivery of sessions via video platform.

Penny Havercroft proposed, and Allan Brown seconded that the report be accepted; this was unanimously agreed.

VII) Rickmansworth Deanery Synod Report
Pauline Brown presented the report.

CEB mentioned that the new Rural Dean is Simon Cutmore of Mill End, Herons Gate, and West Hyde. He also thanked Pauline Brown (retiring) for her many years of service to the Deanery Synod.

Flick Crockett proposed, and Steve Watkins seconded that the report be accepted; this was unanimously agreed.

VIII) Churchyard Report. (non-statutory)
This was prepared by Gary Cullum and presented by CEB.

CEB thanked Gary, and his team of helpers, very much for all of the hard work done in maintaining the Churchyard to such a high standard. Jane West commented how well loved and cared for the churchyard looks – a sentiment echoed by the meeting.

IX) Events & Activities report. (non-statutory)
Ian Wilford (IW) presented the report.

CEB expressed his thanks to the team led by Ian, mentioning particularly Helen Campbell and Nicki O'Hara – the report highlights an extensive list of events.

SB enquired regarding the current planning, given the Covid19 situation, and if a planning meeting was proposed to discuss future events. CEB replied that there is very little likelihood of any events taking place before Easter 2021 at the earliest. IW said that the situation will be reviewed in the new year.

CEB mentioned that March 2021 will be the 175th anniversary of the rebuilding of the Church, it would be nice to mark this event in some way if possible.

X) Children, Families and Youth work.

CEB mentioned this as an additional item; all relevant papers had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Chris O'Hara (CO) reported that Covid19 had impacted heavily on youth meetings, and none had taken place due to the restrictions. The Light Part is still planned for 31st October, although in a very different format than previous years.

AC thanked Flick Crockett and Philippa Burch for their help with Messy Church, and all those families who have contributed videos to the 'virtual' meetings. CEB thanked AC and her team for the great work that they do.

4. Appointment of Independent Accounts Examiner.

GC mentioned that David Barr is happy to continue in the role of Independent Examiner.

Gary Cartlidge proposed and Matt Williams seconded the appointment; this was unanimously agreed.

CEB asked GC to convey our thanks to David for his continuing support.

5. Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer.

Carol West said that she was willing to continue.

Gary Cartlidge proposed and Tim Taylor seconded the appointment; this was unanimously agreed.

CEB thanked Carol for her continuing work in this role.

6. Election of Parochial Church Council.

CW informed the meeting that the following members of the PCC have completed their 6 year period, and would be stepping down for the time being:

- Wiebke Carr
- Grahame Wright

The following have indicated they wish to step down from the PCC from the APCM:

- Allan Brown
- Samantha Sayers
- Jane Cayley
- Penny Havercroft (Church Warden)

Nominations for election to the PCC have been received from the following:

- Alison Woodhams (Deanery Synod rep)
- Gill Fisher (Deanery Synod rep)
- Kully Dhadda (Deanery Synod rep)
- Rob Sheppard
- Pauline Brown
- Flick Crockett
- Gary Cartlidge

- Pauline Wright

This would leave 1 vacancy for Church Warden and 2 vacancies for PCC elected members

SB said that he was willing to stand for election to the PCC. This was proposed by Steve Watkins and seconded by Wiebke Carr – it was agreed unanimously by the meeting.

All the above were duly appointed to serve on the PCC until 2023.

CEB thanked Penny Havercroft, Jane Cayley, Samantha Sayers, Grahame Wright and Wiebke Carr for their service to the PCC. He made special mention of Allan Brown, who records show was on St Lawrence PCC in 1977, just 8 weeks after moving to Bovingdon. Save for a short break, he has served on the PCC since that time as Church Warden, PCC member and Deanery Synod representative. A truly outstanding achievement and level of service. It was also noted that Pauline Brown was on the PCC by 1979.

Allan in turn thanked CEB for his kind comments.

7. Appointment of Sidespeople.

CEB thanked all those who serve as part of the different sides-teams at the various services. We are no longer required to make these appointments at the APCM, they are now to be confirmed by the PCC. This will take place at the next PCC meeting.

8. Closing Remarks

Chairman's Remarks: CEB again thanked the Churchwardens and the PCC for their help and support. He also expressed his thanks to the late Revd Simon Woodmore, and to Gill Barrett for her role as Reader and Musical Director.

Church Warden's remarks: Dena Tyler thanked CEB and HC for their help and support. She also thanked Penny Havercroft for her friendship and support as Church Warden. She described the role of Church Warden as one that had been deeply enriching, and encouraged anyone considering this role, to take the next step.

CEB once again thanked DT and PH for their efforts, particularly in helping to get the Church 'going again' during Covid.

9. Any other Business

CEB gave a very brief update regarding the Building Project group. The application was due to be submitted in the spring, but Covid lockdown has caused significant delays in the process. However, subject to final documents from Francesca Weal, the application will hopefully be submitted shortly.

He also mentioned that the proposal is that e will sell St Lawrence Hall (subject to diocesan approval) to fund the development.

The meeting closed with prayer at 9:06pm

SW thanked CEB for all that he has done, especially since Covid restriction brought so much disruption – a sentiment fully endorsed by the meeting!!

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Chairman

Treasurers Report for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

The Financial Statements of the St Lawrence Church, Bovingdon PCC for the year ended 31st December 2020 are shown in the eleven pages beginning on page XX of the APCM pack.

The accounts have been independently examined by Mr. David Barr FCBI, who has signed the required documentation as shown on Page 2.

The year 2020 has posed challenges unique in the experience of most of us. We entered the year in a position of strength following the Generous Giving Campaign towards the end of 2019, which had received fantastic support from the congregation. However, as we went into the first lockdown of the year it was apparent that sources of income dependant on having buildings open to the public (including Sunday service collections, baptisms, weddings, funerals and events such as the Summer and Christmas Fayres and special collection services) were not likely to happen. At that stage we anticipated a monthly shortfall (expenditure greater than income) of £1,000 per month. Again we appealed to the congregation and again we had a fantastic response.

Page 3 - In summary in 2020, our income exceeded our expenditure by £15,027.97.

Income was just over £113k, an increase of about 2.5% over 2019. It should be noted that the income includes £4,000 given in memory of Jill Leon.

Expenditure was just over £98k, a decrease of nearly 18% on 2019, mainly accounted for by significantly reduced building costs; both repairs and maintenance and service costs (as our buildings were not used) but also reduced IT costs.

Pages 5 & 6 – At 31st December 2020 the total of church funds not invested through the diocese was £197,842.44 – held in accounts as shown on Page 5 and distributed to specified funds as shown on Page 6.

Page 4 shows further detail of sources of income and expenditure within the General Fund. The changes in income reflect the 2020 conditions (reduced collections, fees and lettings; and increases in Bank Giving, Website Receipts, Parish Giving Scheme). The Expenditure decreases related to buildings can also be seen.

Pages 7 to 10 show the movements in each of the specified funds.

Transfers were made between funds as follows:

1. The transfer of £50.00 from the Kathleen Goff Fund to the Churchyard Fund – this is an annual transfer agreed as a contribution from that fund for the upkeep of graves.
2. The transfer of £9,609.71 from the General Fund to the Muriel Swan Fund as a reversal of the transfer in 2019.
3. The transfer of £4,494.00 from the General Fund to the New Hall fund to meet Weal Architects fees for work on that project in 2020.
4. The transfer of £240.80 from the General Fund to the Clock Fund to meet the balance of the clock repair costs and leaving the balance of this fund at £0.00 at year end.

Page 8 shows the Other Creditors fund which generally accounts for money that has been received on another's behalf and so is owed. The balance of £1,214.00 at year end is made up of a £1,000.00 donation that was mistakenly made to the church and £214.00 that was unexpectedly received as fees. In 2021 it has been confirmed that the £1,000.00 can be retained by the church as a donation.

A total of £7,300.20 (6.45% of total receipts) was paid to external Mission and Charity organisations in 2020 as shown below. It should be noted that this shows £3,000.00 donated to Mercy Ships.

Mission and Charity giving

	Outreach Fund	General Fund	Pass Thru Fund	Total
1332 Church Societies				
Chesworth - George	540.00	0.00	0.00	540.00
SAMS - Gwen Carlisle	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<u>540.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>540.00</u>
1333 Charities				
Christian Aid			20.00	20.00
Dacorum Community Trust		40.00	0.00	40.00
Tear Fund		40.00	0.00	40.00
DEC Cornoavirus Appeal		168.95	793.55	962.50
Bibles for Children	368.90			368.90
Simon Woodmore			650.00	650.00
Mercy Ships		3,000.00		3,000.00
Bishops Harvest Appeal		52.95	382.05	435.00
T4U Shoe Boxes		20.00	80.00	100.00
Royal British Legion		100.00		100.00
Crisis		63.31	605.58	668.89
	<u>368.90</u>	<u>3,485.21</u>	<u>2,531.18</u>	<u>6,385.29</u>
1321 Miscellaneous Expenses				
Live Nativity Contribution (2019)	285.26			285.26
Christingle Contribution	89.65			89.65
	<u>374.91</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>374.91</u>
Total	1,283.81	3,485.21	2,531.18	7,300.20

Page 8 shows £1,283.81 from the Outreach fund and £2,531.18 from Other Creditors (Pass Thru)

Page 4 shows £3,485.21 from the General Fund

I take this opportunity to thank you all again for financially making the work of our church possible.

In this context I particularly need to thank:

Charles and Helen for being the point of contact with all our suppliers, that is organising and doing the work, for which my role is often only arranging for the bill to be paid.

Richard Owens for handling cash (remember that!) and other payments made in church and banking them.

Mike Leon for recording Gift Aid and presenting the data to enable our claim from HMRC.

Matt Williams for arranging our IT collection of donations.

The PCC for putting up with my presentations throughout the year.

St. Lawrence Church, Bovingdon

Financial Statements
of the
Parochial Church Council

for the year ended 31st December 2020



Incumbent :

Rev. Charles Burch
10 Church Street
Bovingdon
Herts
HP3 0LU

Treasurer:

Mr. Gary Cartlidge
4 The Hollies, Long Lane
Bovingdon
Herts
HP3 0ND

Independent Examiner:

Mr. David Barr FCBI
Finchley House
Bovingdon Green
Bovingdon
Herts
HP3 0LB

Independent Examiner's report to the Parochial Church Council of St. Lawrence,
Bovingdon

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2020, which are set out on pages 3 to 10 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations ('the Regulations') and s.145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act')

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and s.144(2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.


Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charities Commission under s.145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of those accounts with those records, it also includes considering 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. Which gives reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - a. To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act and;
 - b. To prepare accounts which accord with accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed  Independent Examiner
David Barr, Chartered Banker, FCBI

Date 28th February 2021

Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31st December

Summary – Combined Funds

	2020 £.pp	2019 £.pp
Receipts		
Incoming Resources from Donors	105,919.22	94,268.11
Income from Investments	4,606.26	5,017.57
Activities for Generating Funds	1,377.25	8,756.06
Other Incoming Resources	1,228.16	2,344.53
TOTAL RECEIPTS	113,130.89	110,386.26
Expenditure		
Grants	6,925.29	4,012.09
Activities Directly Relating to the Work of the Church	75,314.30	91,343.56
Church Management & Administration	12,866.76	13,804.19
Other Parish Expenses	2,996.57	10,198.69
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	98,102.92	119,358.53
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	15,027.97	(8,972.27)
Funded by Increase / (Decrease) in		
General Fund	(20.46)	(1,566.92)
Church Repairs & Maintenance Fund	432.00	(432.00)
Outreach & Mission Fund	(1,283.81)	(891.00)
Owed to Diocese and Other Creditors	1,214.00	(372.99)
Children's & Youth Workers Fund	2,386.00	2,150.83
Muriel Swan Legacy	11,221.54	(7,501.89)
Churchyard Fund	2,258.70	(1,638.30)
Building Projects Fund	200.00	0.00
Kathleen Goff Legacy	(50.00)	(50.00)
Clock Repair Fund	(1,330.00)	1,330.00
TOTAL MOVEMENT	15,027.97	(8,972.27)

Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31st December
General Fund Receipts and Payments Account

	2020		2019	
	£.pp	£.pp	£.pp	£.pp
Receipts				
Incoming Resources from Donors				
Bank Giving & Envelopes	25,453.46		16,021.91	
Collections	925.86		5,019.25	
Gift Aid / CAF Donations	4,770.99		8,670.56	
Card Reader & Website Receipts	3,548.97		239.95	
Parish Giving Scheme	29,119.06		22,732.38	
Sundry Donations	6,979.84		3,283.44	
Restricted Donations	0.00		0.00	
Income Tax Recovered	16,427.91		15,683.22	
		87,226.09		71,650.71
Income from Investments				
Verger Plot Income	1,792.87		1,740.70	
		1,792.87		1,740.70
Income from Charitable and Ancillary Trading				
Fees	4,990.00		5,769.00	
Cost Recharges associated with Fees	1,143.00		2,200.00	
St Lawrence Hall Lettings	1,001.25		4,114.50	
Events Income	376.00		4,554.14	
Miscellaneous Income	85.16		144.53	
		7,595.41		16,782.17
TOTAL RECEIPTS		96,614.37		90,173.58
Expenditure				
Grants				
Outreach, Missionary and Charitable Giving	3,485.21		3,121.09	
		3,485.21		3,121.09
Activities Directly Relating to the Work of the Church				
Diocesan Common Fund	49,473.00		48,509.00	
Ministry – Expenses	86.40		500.01	
Church – Heat, Light, Water & Cleaning	2,531.46		5,233.81	
Church – Insurance	3,996.16		3,807.05	
Church – General Repairs & Maintenance	1,251.00		500.40	
Services – Books, Preachers. Sunday School	2,172.11		2,026.74	
Cost Recharges associated with Fees	1,143.00		2,200.00	
		60,653.13		62,777.01
Church Management & Administration				
Administrators Costs	11,090.30		11,085.52	
Postage, Telephone, Printing & Stationery	1,776.46		2,718.67	
		12,866.76		13,804.19
Other Parish Expenses				
Sundry Expenses	2,288.65		5,212.51	
St Lawrence Hall Costs	2,996.57		10,198.69	
		5,285.22		15,411.20
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		82,290.32		95,113.49
Surplus / (Deficit)		14,324.05		(4,939.91)
Funded by General Fund		(20.46)		(1,566.92)
Transfer to Other Funds		14,344.51		(3,372.99)

Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31st December

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	2020		2019	
	£.pp	£.pp	£.pp	£.pp
Fixed Assets				
Computers				
Opening Value	0.00		0.00	
Depreciation (33.3% of Original Cost pa)	0.00		0.00	
	0.00		0.00	
Current Assets				
CAF Cash Current Account	5,051.55		7,207.68	
CAF Cash Gold Deposit Account	22,505.24		6,918.22	
Virgin Deposit Account	86,102.79		85,681.46	
Cambridge & Counties Building Society	84,182.86		83,007.11	
	197,842.44		182,814.47	
Total Assets		197,842.44		182,814.47

Represented By

General Fund		
At 1 st January	2,348.31	3,915.23
Surplus / (Deficit) in Year	14,324.05	(4,939.91)
Transfer to Muriel Swan Legacy Fund	(9,609.71)	0
Transfer to Clock Fund	(240.80)	0
Transfer to New Hall Fund	(4,494.00)	0
Transfer from Other Creditors	0	3,372.99
At 31 st December	2,327.85	2,348.31
Specific Funds	195,514.59	180,466.16
	197,842.44	182,814.47

St Lawrence Church, Bovingdon
Statement of Funds as at 31st December

		2020	2019
		£.pp	£.pp
General Fund	Designated	2,327.85	2,348.31
Church Repairs & Maintenance	Designated	10,000.00	9,568.00
Outreach	Designated	1,803.37	3,087.18
Other Creditors	Restricted	1,214.00	0.00
Children's & Youth Worker	Restricted	24,949.02	22,563.02
Muriel Swan Legacy	Restricted	149,011.51	137,789.97
Churchyard	Restricted	3,736.69	1,477.99
Building Project Fund	Designated	200.00	0.00
Kathleen Goff Legacy Fund	Restricted	4,600.00	4,650.00
Clock Repair Fund	Restricted	0.00	1,330.00
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		197,842.44	182,814.47
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		Designated	14,331.22
		Restricted	15,003.49
		183,511.22	167,810.98
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		TOTAL	197,842.44
			182,814.47
			<hr/>

St Lawrence Church, Bovingdon
Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31st December

Church Repairs & Maintenance – Designated	2020 £.pp	2019 £.pp
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 1st January	9,568.00	10,000.00
Receipts		
From Friends of St. Lawrence Trust	2,922.00	6,414.40
Payments		
Maintenance	2,490.00	6,846.40
Excess of Receipts over Payments	432.00	(432.00)
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 31st December	10,000.00	9,568.00

Muriel Swan Legacy – Restricted Fund	2020 £.pp	2019 £.pp
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 1st January	137,789.97	145,291.86
Receipts		
Interest	1,611.83	2,107.82
Transfer from General Fund	9,609.71	0.00
	11,221.54	2,107.82
Payments		
Transfer to General Fund		
Transfer to Building Projects Fund		9,609.71
Transfer to Church Repairs and Maintenance Fund		
		9,609.71
Excess of Receipts over Payments	11,221.54	(7,501.89)
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 31st December	149,011.51	137,789.97

St Lawrence Church, Bovingdon
Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31st December

Other Creditors incl. Diocese – Restricted Fund	2020 £.pp	2019 £.pp
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 1st January	0.00	372.99
Receipts		
Fees – Diocese	2,456.00	3,314.00
Gift Aid / CAF / Donation / Collections	3,745.18	3,000.00
	6,201.18	6,314.00
Payments		
Sundry Payments	2,456.00	3,314.00
Transfer to General Fund	0.00	3,372.99
Charities	2,531.18	0.00
	4,987.18	6,686.99
Excess of Receipts over Payments	1,214.00	(372.99)
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 31st December	1,214.00	0.00

Outreach – Designated Fund	2020 £.pp	2019 £.pp
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 1st January	3,087.18	3,087.18
Receipts		
Transfer from General Fund	0.00	0.00
Payments		
Missionary & Charity Societies	1,283.81	891.00
Excess of Receipts over Payments	(1,283.81)	(891.00)
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 31st December	1,803.37	3,087.18

St Lawrence Church, Bovingdon
Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31st December

Churchyard – Restricted Fund	2020 £.pp	2019 £.pp
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 1st January	1,477.99	3,116.29
Receipts		
Friends of St. Lawrence and Parish Council	1,620.00	0.00
Endowment Interest	1,201.56	1,169.05
Restricted Donations	269.95	0.00
Transfer from General Fund		
Transfer from Kathleen Goff Legacy Fund	50.00	50.00
	3,141.51	1,219.05
Payments		
Maintenance	882.81	2,857.35
Excess of Receipts over Payments	2,258.70	(1,638.30)
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 31st December	3,736.69	1,477.99

Children's & Youth Worker	2020 £.pp	2019 £.pp
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 1st January	22,563.02	20,412.19
Receipts		
Donations and Collections	2,490.00	2,877.41
Payments		
Sundry Payments	104.00	726.58
Excess of Receipts over Payments	2,386.00	2,150.83
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 31st December	24,949.02	22,563.02

St Lawrence Church, Bovingdon
Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31st December

Building Projects Fund	2020 £.pp	2019 £.pp
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 1st January	0.00	0.00
Receipts		
Donations	200.00	
Transfer from General Fund	4,494.00	
Transfer from Muriel Swan Fund		9,609.71
Payments		
Sundry Payments	4,494.00	9,609.71
Excess of Receipts over Payments	200.00	0.00
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 31st December	200.00	0.00

Kathleen Goff Legacy Fund	2020 £.pp	2019 £.pp
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 1st January	4,650.00	4,700.00
Receipts		
Transfer from Other Creditors	0	0.00
Payments		
Transfer to Churchyard Fund	50.00	50.00
Excess of Receipts over Payments	(50.00)	(50.00)
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 31st December	4,600.00	4,650.00

Clock Repair Fund	2020 £.pp	2019 £.pp
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 1st January	1,330.00	0.00
Receipts		
Donations		1,330.00
Transfer from General Fund	240.80	
Payments		
Clock Repair	1570.80	0.00
Excess of Receipts over Payments	(1,330.00)	1,330.00
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 31st December	0.00	1,330.00

St Lawrence Church, Bovingdon
Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

Funds held by St Albans Diocesan Board of Finance for Graveyard and Graves

	Shares	Book Value	Value £.pp		
Investment Fund					
Cowley	306	200.00	6,256.69	Grave	Restricted
Dance	73	60.00	1,492.61	Churchyard	Restricted
Elwes	236	200.00	4,825.42	Church & Churchyard	Restricted
Loydall	154	150.00	3,148.79	Church & Churchyard	Restricted
Hill	54	50.50	1,104.12	Church & Churchyard	Restricted
Reeks	106	100.00	2,167.35	Church & Churchyard	Restricted
Menheneott	146	200.00	2,985.22	Church & Churchyard	Restricted
Stewart Evans	339	848.44	6,931.43	Church & Churchyard	Restricted
Travers	187	350.00	3,823.53	Grave	Restricted
Groves	107	200.00	2,187.80	Church & Churchyard	Restricted
Reeve	250	500.00	5,111.68	Church & Churchyard	Restricted
Nash	55	300.00	1,124.57	Churchyard	Restricted
Riches	68	300.00	1,390.38	Churchyard	Restricted

Total Investment Fund		3,458.94	42,549.59		
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Deposit Fund

Druce		306.00	Churchyard	Restricted
Stewart Evans		822.76	Church & Churchyard	Restricted
Reeve		1,000.00	Churchyard	Restricted

Total Deposit Fund		2,128.76		
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Other Funds held by St Albans Diocesan Board

Investment Fund	3124	2,500.59	63,875.49	Vergers Plot	Designated
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GRAND TOTAL at 31st December 2020		108,553.84		
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Value at 31st December 2019		101,676.11		
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Fabric Report

I took over as the Fabric Officer in October of 2020.

We had a Fabric Zoom meeting with the architect Francesca Weal in November about the kitchen floor, the Painting of the Church and a new problem with the South East corner which had turned black and was damp.

Francesca did a site visit on 7th January and it was decided to get quotes for the roof and two new soakaways. Two Quotes have been obtained one from Peter Hope For £3,405.60p for just the soakaways and one from Chay Hedger £3,144.00, plus the Roof for £660, plus VAT.

The PCC decided to go with Chay Hedger who is a local builder. We are now waiting for a letter from the dioceses before work can commence.

Francesca felt that the kitchen floor could wait a little longer because her preferred engineer was waiting for his Covid vaccination. Hopefully we can get this sorted in the summer.

We did consider draft proofing the West and South doors with curtains but decided against this and opted for a metal strip with a brush to be attached to the doors.

Jane Cayley has kindly agreed to oversee the redecorating of the church which she started before I became the Fabric Officer.

Re-decoration of the Church Interior and South Porch

Church Interior

For a number of years there has been a project to re-decorate the interior of the Church. The Friends of St Lawrence have raised money for this work. In 2020, quotes were obtained from specialists in historic buildings/Church redecoration. The paint proposed for the redecoration was either a traditional lime paint or the more expensive Kiem. The estimated cost would be about £40K inclusive of VAT which includes repainting the arches. A further £10K would be required to strip the arches back to the stone if this is deemed to enhance the architecture of the Church.

In September 2020 our resident architect was consulted and it was discovered that the interior had previously been painted with Classidur Traditional. It will be necessary to get updated quotes from the 3 decorators based on the new specification to be provided by the architect. After this it will be necessary to obtain PCC approval and a faculty from the Diocesan Advisory Committee.

South Porch

There is a plan to display notices for the Church in the South porch and also information about the Churchyard and its interesting and diverse wildlife. The interior of the South Porch which is exposed to the elements is in need of redecoration prior to the fixing of the notice boards. The PCC has agreed to both of these works,

- 3 quotes have been obtained for the internal re-decoration of the porch (to rub down and limewash). The cheapest is £984 inclusive of VAT.
- Notice boards Quotes have been obtained and Daniel Lambert will be making them.

A huge thank you to Jane Cayley for her help and support over the last six months.

Pauline Wright
April 2021

Safeguarding Report for APCM 2021

Since 2011 the PCC has approved a safeguarding policy and policy statement based upon the those published by the CCPAS. It has an extremely detailed set of guidelines. In 2019 the policy and policy statement were updated in line with the guidance published and updated by the House of Bishops. The PCC has retained the guidelines provided by CCPAS (Now called Thirty:one eight) because they are so comprehensive covering many events that the church is involved in or could adopt.

Roles within the Safeguarding Team have changed, as follows, during 2020:

Safeguarding Officer - Sean Bolton

Lead Recruiter (DBS Checks) - Paul Campbell

Assistants for both roles above - Carol West and Matt Williams

Separating the roles of safeguarding officer and lead recruiter is seen as a step forward for safeguarding at St Lawrence. The safeguarding officer can focus on policy and procedure including compliance. Church leaders remain responsible for safer recruitment. The 'lead recruiter' completes DBS checks as the final stage of the recruitment process.

Both of the main safeguarding roles monitor and review the training programme on behalf of the PCC.

With the experience of lockdown limiting activity the PCC has been reminded of the recommendation made in last years report to use the procedures adopted in relation to recruitment and the objective is to develop a culture in which following the policy and procedures in relation to safer recruitment becomes second nature.

The church continues to undertake DBS checks in line with policy for all activities within the church for children's and youth work and activities involving regulated activity involving vulnerable adults. Over 25 people now have current DBS checks. A database is used to ensure checks are kept up to date and should an individual role change new checks in the form of a fresh DBS application and/or an update check is completed.

Training remains a focus for the church to ensure all involved in events involving children's and youth work, and vulnerable adults, including the PCC, are aware of the issues involved. This work continues albeit it has been restricted by the 2020 lockdowns.

During 2019 and 2020 the safeguarding team has flagged the issue of written risk assessments with leaders and the PCC. Reviews of generic risk assessment are required before activities resume (2021) following Government restrictions dealing with the pandemic. The PCC should continue to develop the culture in which it requires written risk assessments are completed as part of the planning for the event and reviewed by the PCC before the event is held.

A healthy dialogue continues to exist, and is encouraged, between the safeguarding team and the church leadership as reported in the 2020 APCM report.

Through the actions described in this report the PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults)

Safeguarding Team

Report on the work of the PCC: 2020-21

A total of nine PCC meetings were held covering the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021. All meetings were held via Zoom video platform due to Covid19 restrictions.

This report outlines the decisions and appointments made at each meeting.

21.04.2020:

- Following advice from the Diocese, the APCM meeting had been postponed from April to October, due to Covid19 restrictions.
- Under Govt Covid19 regulations, we are not currently able to open the Church for public worship (since 23rd March 2020). Revd. Burch presented plans for on-going services delivered via zoom video meetings.
- Due to anticipated financial shortfall due to the closure of the Church and worship services, it was agreed unanimously that the Generous Giving Group should explore ways to address the issue, and the option of an online donation facility be explored with CAF bank.

19.05.2020

- Unanimous approval was given to the purchase of two pedal operated bollard hand sanitising stations, to a cost of £900, for use when the Church reopens.

25.06.2020

- The Church building was now able to reopen for private prayer, with appropriate social distancing and sanitising measures in place. It was agreed that the Church would open 2-4pm Sunday afternoon, and 10-12 Wednesday morning.
- Public worship will resume on 5th July, but it was also agreed that services would continue to be delivered via zoom video as well.
- The expenditure of £400 was agreed unanimously for the purchase and installation of Wi-Fi within the Church building.

23.07.2020

- The Church had reopened for formal worship on Sunday 5th July, with a restricted number of attendees and reduced service pattern.
- A proposal had been submitted to the DAC for installation of Wi-Fi in Church to facilitate live streaming of services.

08.09.2020

- The Wi-Fi set up had been installed in August, and live services were now being streamed weekly.
- Unanimous approval was given for the spending of up to £400 to purchase a small digital camera, software and zoom streaming licences, to allow our live streaming to reach a wider audience.
- It was agreed that Mercy Ships would be our main charity partner, in lieu of the support previously given to South American Mission Society.

The delayed APCM was held on 08.10.2020

15.10.2020

This being the first meeting of the new PCC, the following appointments were made.

The following appointments were made:

Vice Chair	Alison Woodhams
Treasurer	Gary Cartlidge
Secretary	Chris West
Churchyard Officer	Gary Cullum (not an elected member of PCC)
Safeguarding Officer	Sean Bolton
Health & Safety	Vacant
Fabric Officer	Pauline Wright

The following are ex-officio or co-opted members of PCC

<u>Chair</u>	Charles Burch	
<u>Church Wardens</u>	Dena Tyler	
<u>Deanery Synod Reps</u>	Alison Woodhams	Kully Dhadda
	Gill Fisher	
<u>Reader</u>	Gill Barrett	
<u>Standing Committee:</u>		
Charles Burch (Chair)	Alison Woodhams (vice-chair)	
Dena Tyler (Warden)	Flick Crockett	
Gary Cartlidge (Treasurer)	Chris West (Secretary)	

- The expenditure of £2,000 for new heaters in St Lawrence Hall was unanimously approved.
- The expenditure of £550 (+VAT) was unanimously approved for base installation of the Revd Simon Woodmore Memorial bench.
- The purchase of 6 notice boards (at a cost of £440 each) and redecoration of the South Porch (where they would be situated) was unanimously approved. The total cost being £3,624, much of which The Friends of St Lawrence would fund.

01.12.2020

- Adoption of the 'Safeguarding & Privacy Policy for livestreaming of worship and other activities from Church' was unanimously approved.
- It was agreed that PCC would explore the requirements of becoming an Eco-Church, in line with the Church of England plan to become carbon neutral by 2030.
- Mercy Ships had delivered an excellent online presentation of their work to Church members.
- The purchase of 4 laptops for use by Church officials (£500 each) was unanimously approved. They are for the Vicar, Treasurer, Secretary and Administrator.

14.01.2021

- An Eco-Church sub-group was agreed (Gill Fisher, Rob Sheppard, Pauline Brown) to consider the Eco-Church survey and to see who else in the Church membership may be interested in assisting with this.
- Following recent Covid19 reclassification to Tier 5, Bishop Alan has given approval for the suspension of public worship again. It was unanimously agreed that we would suspend public worship until the end of March 2021, subject to review every two weeks by Standing Committee. Video streaming of services would continue.

09.03.2021

- Following recent government guidance regarding Covid19, the re-opening of the Church for public worship was approved. (13 for; 1 against; 1 abstention)
- The decoration and notice boards in the South Porch are still waiting to be completed. There has been some delay due to Covid19 and availability of the Church architect to confirm the appropriate materials. This is the same situation

with regards to damp in the South East corner of the Church. Once we have the relevant information, we will submit the faculty application to DAC.

- Delays have also been experienced with regards to replacing the heating at St Lawrence Hall. PCC decided that it would pursue a more eco-friendly option than those currently installed, and a budget of £3,000 was agreed. It is anticipated that these heaters could be used in any new building on the Church site in due course.
- The purchase of a new router for the vicarage was unanimously approved, at a cost of £300.

Chris West
PCC Secretary
April 2021

Deanery Synod 2020 Report

St Lawrence Church is part of the Rickmansworth Deanery. The other member churches are St Paul's - Chipperfield, Holy Cross - Sarratt, Christ Church - Chorleywood, St Andrew's - Chorleywood, All Saint's - Croxley Green, St Oswald's - Croxley Green, St John's - Heronsgate, St Peter's - Mill End, St Mary's - Rickmansworth, St Thomas's - West Hyde

The new rural Dean is Simon Cutmore, who is Vicar of Mill End with Heronsgate and West Hyde

Like much else, the work of the Deanery Synod has been disrupted during the year by the Covid pandemic and only two meetings were held.

In January the Deanery Mission Action Plan (DMAP) was discussed.

In November the main item on the agenda was a presentation by Rachel Johnston, the Diocesan Environment Officer, on 'Becoming an Eco Church/Parish'. In February 2020, General Synod voted to set new targets for all parts of the church to work to become carbon 'net zero' by 2030. Every parish is being encouraged to take action and ramp-up efforts to reduce emissions, calling for urgent steps to examine requirements to reach the new target, and draw up an action plan. The presentation was full of useful information and links to resources to help parishes assess where they are now and how they can move towards being an Eco Church/Parish. This presentation was subsequently taken to the PCC and discussed there.

Deanery Synod Representatives - Alison Woodhams, Gill Fisher & Kully Dhadha

Little Fish

As with other church groups lockdown has prevented us from carrying out our usual Little Fish Activities.

However, many of our families have engaged actively with the 9:30am Zoom Little Fish service and our summer door services. Many thanks to Alison and team for providing craft activities for all of these services.

Some families were unable to or felt uncomfortable joining Zoom. We endeavoured to keep in touch with those who were not attending by phoning/messaging and carrying out 'doorstep ministry' to ensure they knew what was happening within the church. Messy Church, Christmas, Mothering Sunday craft packs were delivered in the hopes these families could still take part even if unable to join in the services. On these occasions we also endeavoured to include baptism families and those on our lapsed list where possible.

Two social events were able to go ahead with thanks to the hard work of Nicki and Chris O'Hara. We held a Socially Distance outside Light Party which was advertised widely not only at church but also in the community through social media. This was a very popular event with over 150 people attending. We encouraged families to sign GDPR forms so that we could let them know regarding future events – a large number of people were willing to do this and have been added to our date base. Both these events were a great opportunity to reach out to the wider community.

We also had a Christmas Advent Window walkabout challenge which again proved very popular with many families taking part from church and from the village which concluded with children and families coming to collect chocolates in exchange for their quiz answers and being able to join in an outdoor Carol service.

Both these events were a great opportunity to reach out to the wider community and we had very positive feedback regarding the church enabling these events to be carried out in a covid safe way.

Philippa Burch and Flick Crockett
April 2021

Report from The Children and Families Worker

Explorers at Church

Attendance at explorers via zoom has increased during lockdown and we typically have 10 or more children attending. Initially we held two or more sessions a month. We have cut down to one session a month term-time (usually 4th Sunday) to make this more manageable. We are covering Old Testament stories this academic year. The age range has been slightly larger than usual (some siblings attending). We deliver a resource pack to each home prior to each session.

Explorers at School - There have been no school explorer sessions permitted since lockdown one.

Outdoor Church - There is a tentative plan to hold an outdoor church service in July (weather and covid rules permitting).

Messy Church

Messy Church has continued each month via zoom (usually 2nd Sunday each month). Numbers have been lower than when we met in the hall (sessions tend to be less suitable for pre-school children). Attendance has remained consistent across the year. Families have provided fabulous videos on the Bible stories covered. A big thank you to all families who have supported these services. We are always looking for volunteers to make videos, so please let us know if you would like to give this a try. We have had Messy Church Sessions on;

May 20 – Houses and Rooms

June 20– Disciples and Lost Sheep

July 20– Parable of The Sower

September 20– The Creation

October 20 – Noah's Boat

November 20 – Messy Stir-Up

January 21 – Joseph and his Multi-coloured Coat

February – Samson and Delilah

March – Jonah and the Big Fish

May – Tower of Babel

Coming soon.....

June – Baby Moses

Craft in Church - Craft activities have continued in church when appropriate.

Training - I have attended online workshops for Messy Church and safeguarding training as part of my work

Alison Cartlidge

March 2021

2020 EVENTS REVIEW

In March, Rev Simon Woodmore hosted a Prayer Breakfast for the congregation, centred around the Lord's Prayer. There were around 10 people in attendance and during this breakfast, a cross was decorated by attendees, which Flick Crockett intends to complete in tribute to him - details to follow.

Simon and Chris O'Hara were in discussion regarding holding a Prayer Supper in the summer of 2020, centred around using music in worship. That has been put on hold during lockdown but Chris is keen to continue with this plan, in tribute to Simon. The feeling among regular attendees is that the Prayer Breakfasts - and the Supper - should continue in Simon's memory when it is safe to do so.

Unfortunately, the majority of key events in the church events calendar were cancelled due to the Covid-19 Lockdown. These included the June Summer Fete, both the Christmas Market & Christmas Tree Festival, and most Christmas services.

We did however, manage to hold socially distanced events for the community. These included:

- **Mothering Sunday.** Sprigs of daffodils and greenery were hand delivered to families within the congregation by representatives of the Little Fish community. This was a welcomed effort in the early days of lockdown.
- **The Light Party.**
In contrast to previous years, we hosted the Light Party outside, with the help of local business New Vision Effects, who provided a marquee and lighting free of charge so that we could continue our efforts. We also had Teresinas, a local food truck, offer to provide refreshments in the car park. Even now we have people remarking on how wonderful it was for the church to provide something for the children of the village at a time when morale was so low, and how refreshing it was for the church to be a part of Halloween (as the light in the dark).

Members of the 3:16s Youth Group volunteered to hand out the 'Treat Boxes', and in total we estimate 235 children attended the event, and donations from the entrance and the food truck were extremely generous, which meant the church was not in deficit for the outlay. (approx £200 was invested in the 'Treat Boxes' trophies and lights, and to the best of my memory donations were around £260. We also gained a large list of email addresses to be added to an events mailing list (which needs to be completed asap as events will be restarting soon).

We also hosted an online children's pumpkin carving competition, which Wez Clark kindly allowed us to hold on the Bovingdon FB group, which proved popular. We organised trophies and prizes for the winners, and the engraving of these trophies was kindly donated by Andy Shoemiths in The Maltings, St Albans.

We managed to work alongside another event taking place in the village - a carved pumpkin trail - encouraging those who carved a pumpkin for the trail to enter it into the comp and vice versa, and to finish the trail at the Light Party.

- **Walkabout Advent Calendar.** 46 houses from around Bovingdon volunteered to decorate their windows for the children to find in an interactive game that coincided with daily exercise and culminated with the completed sheets being brought to the church on Christmas Eve so the children could claim a Christmas treat. Each window

was decorated with light and the silhouette of a character or symbol from the nativity scene, of which a complete display was installed in the South Porch for Christmas Eve.

This event was not as popular as the Light Party, but had around 50 participants, and again presented the church as a welcoming presence and source of joy in the community. A particular highlight was the impromptu singing of carols that took place around the outdoor Christmas Tree - which doubled up as a Prayer Tree, a gesture that held particular significance for many in 2020 and was even mentioned in a recent Google review of the church.

We fully intend to make the Walkabout Advent Calendar an annual tradition, with a few tweaks to make the hunt a little easier. As with all things, this is a learning process and we are very pleased with how the community has got behind these new and altered events.

For 2021, we intend to continue with events in-keeping with covid restrictions, including old favourites like the Summer Fete and Christmas Market, as well as the new and anticipated events such as the Bovingdon Easter Egg Hunt and the Walkabout Advent Calendar. We also hope to be able to hold our first Christmas Tree Festival, that should have taken place in 2020, and are actively working on a new calendar of events for 2022, which will include incorporating Saints Feast Days and expanding existing events to include the Bovingdon community. We have found a consistent and clearly identifiable online advertising campaign has significantly improved the reach of our events news, and the Comms Team will be aiding in ensuring this continues.

Nicki O'Hara
April 2021