



Christ Church Flackwell Heath Annual Report 2020

Overview: 2020, Covid-19 and interregnum

The Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic took effect with a national lockdown in March which closed church buildings, but online services and our very active congregation ensured the Church was very much alive. We returned to the building for socially-distanced services in church when restrictions were lifted between July and December, showing the live-streamed Facebook service followed by communion. Having been part-time Assistant Archdeacon, Revd Canon Christopher Bull was appointed full-time Associate Archdeacon of Buckingham with effect from 1st September.

The 2020 APCM was delayed from Easter until Sunday 25th October.

Our Churchwardens, Paul Churchouse and Phil Simpson, took on responsibility for the parish, in collaboration with the Leadership Team, during the interregnum.

Background

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of Christ Church Flackwell Heath has the responsibility, as stated in the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956, of co-operating with the Vicar, the Revd Canon Christopher Bull (until 31st August 2020), in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church and Church Centre of Christ Church, Flackwell Heath. Christ Church is a Registered Charity, as required under Charity Law, with a Charity Registration number of 1132634.

Parochial Church Council Membership: Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. In addition members may be co-opted as necessary. During 2020 the following served as PCC members:

Ex Officio Members: *Chairman:* Revd Canon Christopher Bull (to August 2020); *Curate:* Revd Isaac Knight; *Associate Minister:* Revd Martin Courtney; *Licensed Lay Ministers:* Sue Simpson (*Vice-Chair*) & Debbie Fox; *Churchwardens:* Paul Churchouse & Phil Simpson; *Deanery Synod Representative:* Neil Bourhill.

Elected Members: It was agreed at the APCM in April 2004 that the PCC should consist of seven elected members in addition to ex officio and co-

opted members and be elected on a three-year rolling retirement. During 2020 elected members were Phil Bellamy (from APCM 2020), Sylvia Bourhill, Amy Carr (to APCM 2020), Tim Franklin, Denise Herschel, Reg Jaycock, Sammy Simpson (from APCM 2020), Bob Tibbles and Lynda Tibbles (to APCM 2020).

The PCC has three committees:

1. The Standing Committee is required by law and has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.
2. The Missions Committee co-ordinates links with the five mission partners that the Church supports. It advises the PCC on mission-giving.
3. The Fabric Committee oversees the maintenance of the Church, Church Centre and grounds.

The PCC met 7 times during 2020 – twice in person, 5 times online via Zoom, and after the APCM in person. Apart from the normal business life of the Church, there was a regular focus on Mission, and agenda items on Data Protection, Safeguarding and GDPR compliance. The Section 11 meeting was held in November to appoint our lay representatives for the vacancy process.

Our Administrator, Debbie Woods, continued to ably support the Leadership Team, Churchwardens and congregation, working from home when not able to work in the Church Centre.

Church Attendance in 2020: Due to the Coronavirus, Church buildings were closed by the Government with effect from Tuesday 17th March. Christ Church started to stream online services on Facebook from Sunday 29th March, with music, liturgy, readings, prayers, sermons and interviews recorded in members' homes. Although the service is broadcast at 10.30am, members from 9am, 10.30am and 6.30pm congregations have all participated. Following the lifting of national restrictions, services resumed in the Church building on Sunday 26th July, in line with Government guidelines, and this was Revd Canon Chris Bull's final Sunday. The second lockdown closed Church buildings from Thursday 5th November to Tuesday 1st December. Although Churches were not forced to shut during the third lockdown, the decision was taken to suspend services after the Christmas Day service. The Statistics for Mission Return for 2020 takes account of Covid-19. Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Communicants numbered 19 (37 attending). In 2020 there were:

- No Baptisms, Confirmations or Weddings
- 27 Funeral Services, including services at Christ Church and GreenAcres cemetery; Chilterns and West Wiltshire Crematoriums; and burials at Little Marlow Cemetery and Four Ashes Garden of Rest.

Electoral Roll: The Electoral Roll declared at the Annual Meeting in 2020 was 204 people, an increase of 2 compared with that declared at the APCM in 2019 (202). The Roll is made up of 142 resident in the parish and 62 non-resident. (Debbie Woods - Electoral Roll Officer)

Review of the Year

Our Vision is of Christ Church as *“a welcoming community where everyone flourishes in life and grows in faith, equipped to show and share the goodness of God to all.”*

The five key areas of ministry are: Welcoming - Flourishing – Growing - Showing - Sharing
Our three priorities are

- (1) Growing deeper – making and growing disciples, with everyone able to find their place and use their time, talent and gifts
- (2) Growing bigger - showing the goodness of God, with a confidence and willingness to invite
- (3) Growing up – ministry to children, families, parents and carers and young people

Sunday and midweek services and activities were very ably led by the Leadership Team and visiting Ministers while the Vicar was on sick leave, and at the end of January he eased back to work part-time.

- Revd Steve Whitmore returned to assist with communion following Chris's departure in the summer.
- Revd Isaac Knight was ordained as Priest in a small, socially-distanced service at St Mary's Church, Wendover on Saturday 19th September. He presided at his first communion on Sunday 27th September.
- Sue Simpson (LLM) serves as Archdeaconsry Advisor for Licensed Lay Ministry.
- Philip Lancelotte decided to stand down from his training for Licensed Lay Ministry (LLM).
- Phil Bellamy and Sylvia Bourhill (Authorised Preachers) preached regularly as part of the preaching team.

The Church Safeguarding Policy was kept up-to-date, despite various legislative changes. Enhanced Disclosures from the Disclosure and Barring Service were obtained for all who need them for work with children and vulnerable adults. Confidential records are held securely. The Church Safeguarding Team consists of the Vicar, Denise Herschel and Jane Franklin.

The Fabric Committee: The Church and Centre benefited from a small but dedicated team of volunteers, particularly the Grounds Working Party which, despite the pandemic, continued to meet socially-distanced each month to carry out general garden and building maintenance. Main fabric items for 2020: professional tree surgeon work to 2 trees in the car-park; updating some electric breakers; re-

pointing following quinquennial report; Church office redecoration and new carpet fitted; a new centre cleaner was appointed; risk assessments and ensuring we were Covid-19 secure.

The Church and Church Centre continued to be cleaned to a high standard, the Centre professionally and the Church by volunteers. The PCC discussed Health and Safety regularly. A regularly updated Church Website is maintained as part of the Church's commitment to provide information on its life, activities and services.

Worship: Debbie Fox continued as Director of Worship, supported by Ruth Dobson who provided the administration for a talented team of musicians, singers and AV technical support, organised into five worship teams for the 10.30am services, with additional pianists for the 9am and 6.30pm services. Our sung worship is complemented by Bible Readers and Pray-ers and the Flower Team. A team of trained Servers and Chalice Assistants helped each Sunday.

In January a 'Burn' worship event was held in conjunction with the Community Church.

We are grateful to Revd Isaac Knight who quickly responded to the Churches being closed in March and launched an online service on Facebook on Sunday 29th March, which continued weekly with pre-recorded services of a very high quality.

In September, 'Dwell' was launched, a new monthly evening service with modern worship and space to dwell and connect with God.

Discipleship: Sue Simpson co-ordinated the small group work at Christ Church, with termly meetings for the small group leaders. Some 15 small groups meet, in homes and the Church Centre, and include a monthly pub-based discussion group (CU@ThePub) to discuss Christian perspectives on contemporary issues and a teenage Bible study group for girls. Many groups were able to connect online through the lockdowns, others kept in contact via phone calls. In the summer, smaller groups were able to meet in person in the Quiet Garden.

- Sunday teaching concluded the series 'A Story to Tell', followed Lent themes and then followed the Lectionary when services went online. Teaching was led by Revds Chris Bull, Isaac Knight and Martin Courtney; Sue Simpson and Debbie Fox (LLMs); Phil Bellamy and Sylvia Bourhill (Authorised Preachers); with additional ministry from Revd Jane Chaffey and Ven Ray Pentland.
- Sharon Howard oversaw the Junior Church, leading a great team of volunteers when meeting in person and producing material which was emailed to families in lockdown. A small crèche was run in the Rotunda during 10.30am services. The online Nativity Play was a particular highlight of Christmas.

- Schools work was able to go ahead online in the autumn.
- In November the PCC affirmed Leonie Cowlard as our Family Support Worker.
- Christ Church holds a 'Family Friendly' Award from Oxford Diocese.
- Revd Isaac Knight co-ordinated the youth work and leaders, who delivered a great programme of teaching in person and continued to meet online. Young people were involved in the 'No Strings Attached' puppet theatre, and regularly served in Worship Groups and AV teams, in Junior Church and on the post-service refreshments rota. One young adult member used her gap year to work with Rock UK, a Christian outdoor activity charity.
- New Wine and Lighthouse children's event provided opportunities to worship and learn online.

Prayer: Christ Church continued to hold prayer as a core value, with Jane Franklin as Key Leader. Church members are involved in prayer partnerships and prayer takes place in homegroups and other groups that make up the life of the Church.

- A 24/7 Prayer Room ran in Lent (theme: 'Deep Water Fishing') with a Quiet Morning before the Church had to close.
- Daily Prayer (Mon-Fri) was held in the Rotunda with a community Prayer Diary until lockdown, when pray-ers communicated with each other and prayed at home. There were also monthly Prayer for Everyone, an emergency email prayer chain and a team of confidential intercessors.
- Christ Church took part in the 20:20 Prayer initiative from Hope Together and the Thy Kingdom Come calls to prayer. There were opportunities to pray with Flackwell Heath Methodist Church and with other local churches online, particularly during Thy Kingdom Come and on 1st December for an Advent Day of Prayer.
- Prayer was also focused on High Wycombe, with Christ Church committing to prayer on the 4th of each month with 35 churches in a 24/7 365 prayer-net for our town and district. From September this moved to the first Sunday of each month at 6.30pm.

Fellowship: We were able to host a comedy evening and one round of Dinner Parties in February before the pandemic restricted our meeting together. Occasional Zoom coffee mornings were held after the Sunday live-streamed services.

The Men's Group (Fellaship) ran regular events and breakfasts with speakers, in person and then continuing monthly online. The Women's Group (Sister Act) enjoyed occasional breakfasts with speakers online.

Ministry: The Pastoral Network, under the Key Leadership of Sue Hill, continued to oversee and develop pastoral care at Christ Church, particularly through the ministries of Welcoming, Pastoral and Bereavement support, Meals on Wheels, Baptism Welcomers and Pastoral Prayer Ministry.

- At the beginning of the year a group participated in a pastoral training course at St Mary's Church, Beaconsfield.
- Once lockdown was enforced, members of the Pastoral Team identified lonely and vulnerable members of the congregation and continued regular contact by phone throughout the year, with help such as shopping given to those who were isolating. Each Friday the Link email was printed and delivered to all those not on email and tablets pre-programmed with the Sunday service delivered to some.
- Follow-up to funerals and bereavement was provided by the Bereavement Visiting Team and Oasis self-help bereavement groups. The Oasis teams also ensured that their members were contacted on a regular basis throughout the year. Oasis affiliated to the Good Grief Trust and participated in the National Grief Awareness Week (2nd – 8th December).
- Prayer Ministry sadly had to cease in March due to restrictions.
- A number of Church family members have moved away or died during the year and we have not been able to say proper farewells.

Outreach and Evangelism: Online services have enabled us to connect with many people in the local area who have never been into the Church, as well as reconnect with people who have moved away. We continued to work with local Churches including Flackwell Heath Methodist Church, enjoying termly joint services (on Zoom), and sharing with the Community Church in Wooburn Green for CAP Money courses.

- The spring term Alpha course was only able to run for a few weeks before lockdown.
- Coffee Stop remains a key part of our community involvement and outreach but sadly had to close in March due to the restrictions.
- Trained facilitators Leonie Cowlard and Liz Gordon ran 'Care for the Family: Time Out for Parents' courses and were able to continue the monthly support group for parents of children with additional needs, You-Nique, in person and then online.
- Christ Church members were also involved with High Wycombe centred activities: One Can Trust, Wycombe 24/7 Prayer, Wycombe Youth for Christ and Wycombe Homeless Connection. We supported the work of One Can Trust, the High Wycombe based

emergency food bank, with regular collections throughout the year at the home of a church couple, and supported Christian Aid with 2 socially-distanced plant sales.

- Christ Church is a Fairtrade Church, using and promoting fairly traded products.
- Sue Simpson represented Christ Church on the Flackwell Heath Coronavirus Co-ordination group organised by Councillor Dave Johncock in March.
- Other community involvement included school assemblies, first in person and then online in the autumn; supporting the Royal British Legion, including services to commemorate the 75th anniversaries of VE Day and VJ Day, participating in a Peace Walk on the anniversary of VJ Day with local churches, ringing the Church bell on the centenary of those named on the village War Memorial and leading the village Remembrance Sunday Service at the War Memorial.
- The Charity Fayre, raising funds for many local and national charities, went online this year.
- In December we assisted St Peter's Church, Loudwater, to help deliver 'Boxes of Hope' to needy families during the Christmas holidays.
- Church members are encouraged to serve in many village groups and activities.

During 2020 Christ Church was committed to five Mission Partners: Jubilee Society (Mongolia), the Albanian Christian Centre (with New Beginnings Children's Home), London City Mission (LCM), Wycombe Youth for Christ (WYFC), and a work in East Africa. Each received a monthly sum as agreed by the PCC. Meg Scullion chaired the Mission Committee. Emmanuel Gill (LCM) visited in February and Erica Holt from Wycombe Youth for Christ came to speak in March. Four of the Mission Partners recorded Christmas messages for our online services. A monthly prayer bulletin was sent out and the Mission Noticeboard maintained.

Financial Review: The excess of incoming resources (£253,660) over expenditure (£156,085) was attributed to a large bequest (over £120,000) which offset the effects of reduced income during the pandemic. The major outgoings were the Diocesan Parish Share and the salary of the part-time Administrator. All general income was tithed and supported the work of our five mission partners. Reserves Policy: In November the PCC reviewed the current level of reserves and were happy with the level of reserves currently held at around £66,000, which is designed to cover the equivalent of two months' general running costs and an additional one month's salary costs, plus other anticipated expenditure.



Parochial Church Council of Christ Church, Flackwell Heath
Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ending 31 December 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated/ Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS	
				2020 £	2019 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
<i>Incoming resources from donors</i>	2(a)	109,027	22	109,049	120,272
<i>Other voluntary incoming resources</i>	2(b)	126,687		126,687	7,197
<i>Incoming resources from operating activities:</i>					
to further the Council's objects	2(c)	4,338	2,948	7,286	25,394
to generate funds	2(d)	22		22	68
<i>Income from investment</i>	2(e)	147		147	193
<i>Other ordinary incoming resources</i>	2(f)	4,974	5,495	10,469	14,879
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		245,195	8,465	253,660	168,003
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
<i>Grants</i>	3(a)	27,445	5,585	33,030	21,603
<i>Activities relating to the work of the Church</i>	3(b)	98,446	8,558	107,004	128,526
<i>Church Management and Administration</i>	3(c)	16,051		16,051	17,054
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		141,942	14,143	156,085	167,183
NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS		103,253	-5,678	97,575	820
Balances brought forward at January 1		87,031	10,204	97,235	96,415
Balances carried forward at December 31		190,284	4,526	194,810	97,235

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
Monetary Assets		
HSBC Current Account	2,894	-494
Barclays Account	142	587
HSBC Deposit Account	165,769	70,993
CAF 90 day account	85,000	85,000
Cash (Floats)	148	160
	<u>253,953</u>	<u>156,246</u>

Debtors

There are no debtors.

Creditors

There are no creditors

Liabilities

The PCC holds £59,143 on behalf of the Jubilee Society of Mongolia

Moveable Church Furnishings

Moveable church furnishings are valued at £0.00 for accounting purposes.

Non-Monetary Assets

Assorted gardening implements and shed – valued at £0.00 for accounting purposes.

The PCC owns assorted dvds, books and office equipment – valued at £0.00 for accounting purposes

<u>Funds Statement</u>	<u>Balance at 31/12/20</u>
<u>Restricted Funds</u>	
Relief	2
<u>Designated Funds</u>	
Jubilee Society of Mongolia	59,144
Oasis	3,894
General Fund	61,788
Development Fund	129,125
<u>Total</u>	<u>253,953</u>
<u>Represented by :-</u>	
HSBC Current Account	2,894
Barclays Account	142
CAF 90 day account	85,000
HSBC Deposit Account	165,769
Cash (Floats)	148
<u>Total</u>	<u>253,953</u>

Parochial Church Council of Christ Church, Flackwell Heath
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020

The funds for the Liz Hart bequest are no longer shown in these accounts, instead they are represented in the accounts of the Jubilee Society of Mongolia (UK charity 1144926)

2 INCOMING RESOURCES	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated/ Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS	
			2020	2019
2(a) <i>Incoming resources from donors</i>				
Planned giving:				
Gift Aid donations	75,003		75,003	77,384
Other planned giving	7,828		7,828	10,057
Income tax recoverable	20,959		20,959	21,490
Loose plate collections	2,389	22	2,411	9,729
Other Gift Aid donations	575		575	805
Other donations	2,273		2,273	807
	<u>109,027</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>109,049</u>	<u>120,272</u>
2(b) <i>Other voluntary incoming resources</i>				
Donations to expenses	2,816		2,816	2,197
One off Grants	-		-	-
Legacies	123,871	-	123,871	5,000
	<u>126,687</u>		<u>126,687</u>	<u>7,197</u>
2(c) <i>Incoming resources from operating activities: to further the Council's objects</i>				
Bible Notes & Events	2,035	2,948	4,983	15,555
Church Centre lettings	1,927		1,927	7,845
Fees for weddings etc	376		376	1,968
Other	-	-	-	26
	<u>4,338</u>	<u>2,948</u>	<u>7,286</u>	<u>25,394</u>
2(d) <i>Incoming resources from operating activities: to generate funds</i>				
Other funds generated	22	-	22	68
	<u>22</u>		<u>22</u>	<u>68</u>
2(e) <i>Income from investment</i>				
Bank and deposit account interest	147	-	147	193
	<u>147</u>		<u>147</u>	<u>193</u>
2(f) <i>Other ordinary incoming resources</i>				
Special collections	-	5,495	5,495	5,754
Use of photocopier	95		95	261
Assigned Fees	2,808		2,808	2,909
Cash Floats (eg. Coffee Stop)	2,071	-	2,071	5,955
	<u>4,974</u>	<u>5,495</u>	<u>10,469</u>	<u>14,879</u>
Total Incoming Resources	<u>245,195</u>	<u>8,465</u>	<u>253,660</u>	<u>168,003</u>
			253,792	

3 RESOURCES EXPENDED	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated/ Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS	
			2020	2019
3(a) <i>Grants</i>				
Missionary societies	26,780	-	26,780	13,800
Relief and development	-	90	90	600
Home mission	600		600	900
Special collections	-	5,495	5,495	5,759
Other	65		65	544
	<u>27,445</u>	<u>5,585</u>	<u>33,030</u>	<u>21,603</u>
3(b) <i>Activities relating to the work of the Church</i>				
Ministry: Diocesan Parish Share	76,835		76,835	69,894
Clergy expenses	1,601		1,601	2,797
Sanctuary	49		49	207
Music	907		907	799
Junior Church/Youth	738		738	492
Materials/books/services	143		143	634
Church running expenses	5,149		5,149	8,111
Church repairs/maintenance	1,696		1,696	2,369
Church Centre costs	2,352		2,352	5,982
Bible Notes & Events	1,397	8,558	9,955	15,566
Cash Floats (eg. Coffee Stop)	2,700	-	2,700	8,871
Assigned Fees	2,808		2,808	2,909
Training	245		245	697
Improvements	1,826	-	1,826	9,198
	<u>98,446</u>	<u>8,558</u>	<u>107,004</u>	<u>128,526</u>
3(c) <i>Church Management and Administration</i>				
Printing and stationery	2,385		2,385	3,662
Administrator salary & related costs	12,041		12,041	11,513
Office/administration	1,625		1,625	1,879
	<u>16,051</u>		<u>16,051</u>	<u>17,054</u>
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>141,942</u>	<u>14,143</u>	<u>156,085</u>	<u>167,183</u>

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of Christ Church, Flackwell Heath

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2020 which are set out on pages 1 to 4 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Account Regulations 2006 ("the regulations") and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 ("the act").

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the Independent Examiner

The PCC is responsible for the preparation of the accounts and considers that an audit is not required for this year and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the regulations

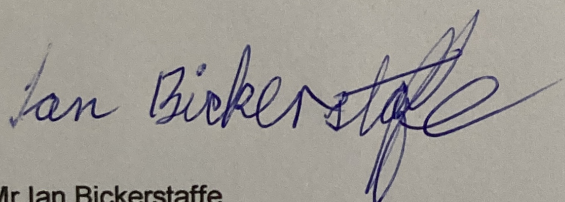
Basis of this Independent Examiner's Statement

This examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. It 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 the PCC concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting recordshave not been met;
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



13/3/2021

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