



## Annual Report 2022

### **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, Revd James Dwyer, 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 2022 the following served as PCC members:

**Ex officio members:** *Chair:* Revd James Dwyer; *Curate:* Revd Isaac Knight (until July 2022); *Associate Minister:* Revd Martin Courtney; *Licensed Lay Ministers:* Sue Simpson (*Vice Chair*) and Debbie Fox-Webb; *Churchwardens:* Paul Churchouse and Phil Simpson; *Deanery Synod Representatives:* Neil Bourhill (from APCM 2019 and on PCC from 2017), Neil Favager, Lesley Favager, Richard Chalmers (from APCM 2021).

**Elected members:** It was agreed in the APCM in 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 2022 elected

members were Reg Jaycock (from April 2022), Meg Scullion (from 2021 APCM), Tim Franklin (from April 2022), Denise Herschel (from 2021 APCM), Sammy Simpson (from 2020 APCM), Sylvia Bourhill (from 2021 APCM), and Phil Bellamy (from APCM 2020). Tom Sullivan was co-opted at the 2021 APCM and finished his term in September 2022. James Wiseman was co-opted by PCC in November 2022.

### **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 coordinates 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 6 times during 2022. PCC Members were commissioned on 24<sup>th</sup> April and, apart from the normal business life of the Church, there was a regular focus on 'Mission', and agendas items on Safeguarding, Data Protection and GDPR compliance.

### **Church Attendance in 2022**

Church services during the early months of 2022 were still impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. A resurgence of covid in early 2022 meant numbers still fluctuated considerably. Public worship continued throughout, with the 10.30am service livestreamed for those

unable/uncomfortable to attend in person. As the year progressed and the impact of covid lessened, numbers began to stabilise and gradually increase. By the autumn of 2022, usual Sunday attendance was around 130. Over the summer holidays the 9am and 10.30am services were combined to one 10am service, to ease pressure on those involved. The weekly service of Holy Communion was moved from 10am to 11am in September 2022, with a regular soup lunch offered afterwards. This saw an increase in attendance at this service, with around 15 regularly coming by the end of 2022.

Numbers of Occasional Offices remained low – a combination of both the pandemic at the beginning of the year, and a wider trend at a national level. In 2022 we held:

- 1 baptism
- 2 weddings
- 20 funerals in which Christ Church clergy and LLMs were involved, either at Christ Church or local crematoriums

### **Electoral Roll**

The Electoral Roll declared at the Annual Meeting in 2022 was 192 people, a decrease of two compared with that declared in 2021 (194). The current Roll is made up of 134 resident in the parish and 61 non-resident. During 2022 1 addition was made and 2 people removed (deceased).

(Jackie Chalmers, Electoral Roll Officer)

### **Review of the Year**

In 2022, Christ Church began a journey of exploring what it looks like to 'grow deeper.' With new leadership in place, the reduced impact of covid as the year went on, and a renewed sense of God's call on us as a church, the church family began a journey this year of seeking to grow deeper with God - to grow deeper ourselves, to grow deeper as a church

community, and to grow deeper with our wider village community.

Our vision continues to be "a welcoming community where everyone flourishes in life and grows in faith, equipped to show and share the goodness of God to all," but the emphasis throughout 2022 was on 'growing deeper' that we might live out that vision.

The early weeks of 2022 were dominated by covid, which had come back with a surge over the winter. Pastoral support continued throughout, as did public worship, with appropriate safety measures in place.

In January and February, Revd Isaac Knight (then Curate) ran a four-week course called *Becoming a Race Aware Church*. This course challenged us to look at the diversity within Christ Church, and whether we need to be actively thinking through whether we reflect the community around us.

In February Debbie Woods, Office Administrator, retired after almost 20 years working for Christ Church. She was thanked and bid a fond farewell, and the process of recruiting a new administrator began.

During Lent, Christ Church ran a Lent Course themed around prayer, welcoming a range of speakers to help us grow deeper in prayer. Food was provided by the inimitable Richard Chalmers and his team, and there was a real sense of coming together again after covid, which many appreciated. A Prayer Room in the Upper Room gave people space to pray and be with God, and was hugely appreciated by many within the church and elsewhere.

Two new members of the staff team were welcomed in April: Jackie Chalmers as Church Administrator, and Leonie

Cowlard as Family Support Worker. Both appointments were celebrated in the church and prayed for as they began their new roles.

As we prepared to celebrate Easter, we held our first Messy Church gathering on a Tuesday afternoon, with a good level of interest from the village. Holy Week and Easter services provided an opportunity for the church to gather to celebrate the passion and resurrection of Jesus, and a village Easter Trail organised in partnership with the Methodist church and Residents Association saw over 100 people join in.

PCC spent a morning together towards the end of April looking at our vision and developing our sense of growing deeper, which was a very valuable time.

In May, it was announced that Revd Isaac Knight had been appointed Associate Minister at St Mungo's Church, Balerno & Livingston (Scotland), and would be leaving Christ Church in the summer following the completion of his curacy. The Christian Aid Plant Sale took place towards the end of May and was a huge success, thanks to the hard work of those organising it.

Along with other churches, Christ Church took a lead in the village in coordinating the arrival of refugees from Ukraine, with the Vicar acting as a local 'lead.' Gatherings for refugees were organised, as were collections of goods and money.

In June, the nation celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Christ Church had a stand at HeathFest, organised by the Residents Association, which was well received. We also helped support other events in the village, and hosted a Service of Thanksgiving attended by many from the community.

Christ Church was part of Love Wycombe, in the middle of June, seeing hundreds of Christians from local churches gather in High Wycombe for worship and prayer. The *Living in Love and Faith* course was run, giving participants a chance to engage with questions about sexuality and marriage in light of the Church of England's wider debate.

In July we said goodbye to Revd Isaac Knight and his wife Ruth as they moved to Scotland. A group of around 30 attended New Wine in the summer holidays, and morning services at Christ Church were combined to give regular teams a break. Regular picnic lunches in the Vicarage garden gave people a chance to catch up over the summer.

Towards the end of the summer, Christ Church members served at Lighthouse Loudwater, and helped organise Flackwell Festival, a series of free events for the community.

In September, we had a sermon series called *Growing Deeper*, building on our journey over the last few months. September was then dominated by the death of the Queen, as the nation entered a period of mourning. Christ Church acted as a place of reflection for the village, hosting the condolences book and a Service of Thanksgiving for the community.

An Alpha Supper at the end of September launched our Autumn Alpha Course, and the new school year saw Messy Church become a monthly event, in response numbers growing rapidly. In partnership with St Peter's Loudwater, Christ Church provided school starter packs to 30 children starting at local schools.

In October we received a grant from the Flackwell Heath Residents' Association to buy slow cookers to give to the community, and we launched the

Community Pantry in response to the rising cost of living crisis. Christ Church was registered as a recognised warm space, providing comfort to those struggling.

In November we held our annual Memorial Service and led the village Remembrance Service, as well as leading the lighting of the Christmas lights at Christmas on the Heath. It was announced that Gill Taylor would be joining Christ Church as curate in Summer 2023, along with her family.

December saw the first normal Christmas for a number of years, with good attendance at our Christmas services. New for 2022 was a service for those with Dementia, which was positively received.

Throughout the year, the church Safeguarding Policy was kept up to date and overseen by the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

**The Fabric Committee:** The Church and Centre continued to benefit from a small but dedicated team of volunteers, led by the churchwardens, particularly the monthly Grounds Working Party. During 2022, new lighting was installed in the church to offer more flexibility and better control.

A new boiler was installed in the Church Centre to improve performance and costs. Rising energy bills in 2022 led to careful monitoring of usage in the Church and Centre.

The Church and Centre continued to be cleaned to a high standard, professionally and by volunteers.

**Worship:** Debbie Fox-Webb continued as Director of Worship, supported administratively by Ruth Dobson. Towards the end of 2022, Debbie felt it

right to step back from her role overseeing worship to focus on Mission and Outreach. Christ Church is blessed by a talented team of musicians, singers, and technical support teams, complemented by Bible Readers, intercessors, and the flower team. In person services were complemented by a livestream, managed by some superb volunteers. A decision was made by PCC to continue to offer livestreaming even though the risk of covid had become minimal. The livestream quality was reduced, but maintained to offer a missional and pastoral opportunity. Services at Christ Church continue to offer a variety of styles, both traditional and modern. Communion continued to be offered by intinction.

**Discipleship:** Growing deeper as disciples of Jesus continued to be a key part of Christ Church's mission.

- Sue Simpson continued to coordinate the small groups at Christ Church, with home groups encouraged to follow a church-wide teaching pattern from September 2022. This was in response to our reflection on what it means to grow deeper as a church.
- Preaching continued to be a rich source of discipleship, led by Revd James Dwyer, Revd Isaac Knight (until July 2022), Revd Martin Courtney, Sue Simpson, Debbie Fox-Webb, as well as Sylvia Bourhill and Phil Bellamy (Authorised Preachers), and Cheryl Dwyer. Series included A Church that Shares, Colossians, Samuel, On the Road with Jesus, and the O Antiphons
- Sharon Howard and Bridget Wiseman oversaw Junior Church supported by a fantastic team of volunteers. Engagement within schools was maintained throughout the year, with

assemblies in school and visits to church from children. Junior Church used the Urban Saints 'Energize' material as well as following sermon series

- Revd Isaac Knight oversaw the youth work (Thrive) until his departure in July 2022; it was then taken over by Cheryl Dwyer. Members of Thrive are involved across church life, including PCC, the coffee rota, All Age Worship, and more

**Prayer:** Overseen by Jane Franklin, prayer continued to be a core value of Christ Church.

- Creative ways of praying were continued, including outdoor prayer stations
- A Prayer Room was hugely appreciated during Holy Week
- Daily Prayer (Mon-Fri) was held in the Rotunda, along with monthly parish prayers online and an emergency prayer chain and team of confidential intercessors
- Community Prayer regularly gathered leaders from nine local churches to pray for one another and our area
- Prayer takes place formally and informally during the week, in services, within prayer groups, and pastorally

**Ministry:**

- The Pastoral Team, under the leadership of Sue Hill, continued to provide excellent pastoral support and develop pastoral care at Christ Church. The Bereavement Visiting Team continued to minister to those in the days after loss, and the Oasis self-help group kept in touch with many members when meeting together was not possible
- Prayer for Healing continued to be offered at the 9am service on third

Sundays, and prayer ministry at the end of the 10.30am service remained a key point of prayer and support

- Fellowship (men's ministry) and Sister Act (women's ministry) met regularly throughout the year, welcoming a range of speakers from both within and outside the church

**Outreach and Evangelism:**

- Flackwell Heath Community Pantry was launched in October 2022 in response to the rising cost of living crisis. The Pantry is a non-referral source of food and other domestic products, and is open to anyone in the village. The Pantry is resourced by donations from the church family and wider village, and during its first few weeks began to meet a need from those in the village struggling to obtain food
- We worked in partnership with St Peter's Loudwater to provide 30 School Starter Packs to families with children starting at Carrington Schools in September
- We received a grant from the Flackwell Heath Residents Association to enable us to buy 25 slow cookers and recipe books to give to those in need; some were invited to a cooking class run by Richard Chalmers
- Coffee Stop became a registered Warm Space, providing a place of comfort for those struggling with the cost of living
- We worked with the local council and the Diocese to offer support to refugees arriving in the village from Ukraine, and helped coordinate the initial response to those moving here
- Play Café and You-Nique provided regular contact points for families

in the wider community, and offered a safe space

- An Alpha course was run in partnership with Flackwell Heath Methodist Church
- Coffee Stop remained a key part of Christ Church's outreach in the community, running weekly during term time and on Wednesdays during school holidays. For the first time, Coffee Stop opened on Wednesdays over the Christmas holidays
- Christ Church members were involved with local ministries, including One Can Trust, Wycombe 24/7 Prayer, Wycombe Youth for Christ and Wycombe Homeless Connection. Christ Church continued to support Christian Aid through collection and the plant sale
- During 2022 Christ Church remained committed to five Mission Partners: Jubilee Society (Mongolia), the Albanian Christian Centre (with New Beginnings Children's Home), London City Mission, Wycombe Youth for Christ, and a ministry in East Africa. A collection was held in December for London City Mission, and regular updates were sent out to the church family. Christ Church is a Fairtrade Church, using and promoting fairly traded products. A Mission noticeboard was maintained

#### **Other community involvement:**

Christ Church continued to be an active presence in the life of the community, including:

- Welcoming the parish in for occasional offices
- Opening in response to the death of Her Majesty the Queen in September, hosting the village book of condolences, and offering

a service of thanksgiving for the life of the Queen

- Holding the annual Memorial Service in November
- Holding a variety of Christmas services
- Leading the village Remembrance Service and turning on the lights at the Village Christmas Festival
- Being an active presence in village schools
- Welcoming the Girl Guides, Brownies, and Rainbows for their Christmas service, and hosting Girls Brigade events

**Financial Review:** With total incoming resources of £160,198 and expenditure of £202,132, the net financial result for the year was an excess of payments compared to receipts. The state of finances is a major area of focus for the Vicar, PCC, and church family, and towards the end for 2022 steps were being taken to address this in 2023. 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 2022 the PCC reviewed the current level of reserves and were happy with the reserves held at around £48,000, which is designed to cover the equivalent of two months' general running costs and other anticipated expenses.

Revd James Dwyer  
Chair of the Parochial Church Council  
1<sup>st</sup> March 2023



**Parochial Church Council of Christ Church, Flackwell Heath**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
for the year ending 31 December **2022**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS	
				2022 £	2021 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
<i>Incoming resources from donors</i>	2(a)	115,695	23	115,718	107,212
<i>Other voluntary incoming resources</i>	2(b)	3,628		3,628	3,598
<i>Incoming resources from operating activities:</i>					
to further the Council's objects	2(c)	9,378		9,378	17,571
to generate funds	2(d)	283		283	89
<i>Income from investment</i>	2(e)	320		320	29
<i>Other ordinary incoming resources</i>	2(f)	25,837	5,754	31,591	6,101
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>155,141</b>	<b>5,777</b>	<b>160,918</b>	<b>134,600</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
<i>Grants</i>	3(a)	15,901	4,512	20,413	16,026
<i>Activities relating to the work of the Church</i>	3(b)	167,025	93	167,118	119,875
<i>Church Management and Administration</i>	3(c)	14,601		14,601	16,380
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<b>197,527</b>	<b>4,605</b>	<b>202,132</b>	<b>152,281</b>
<b>NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS</b>		<b>-42,386</b>	<b>1,172</b>	<b>-41,214</b>	<b>-17,681</b>
Balances brought forward at January 1		177,085	44	177,129	194,810
Balances carried forward at December 31		134,699	1,216	135,915	177,129

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
<i>Monetary Assets</i>		
HSBC Current Account	4,056	2,402
Barclays Account	33	0
HSBC Deposit Account	46,660	148,785
CAF 90 day account	85,000	85,000
Cash (Floats)	166	115
	<u>135,915</u>	<u>236,302</u>

## Debtors

There are no debtors.

## Creditors

There are no creditors

## Liabilities

There are no liabilities (2021 funds included £59,173 held 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</u>
<u>Restricted Funds</u>	
Relief	490
Community Pantry	726
<u>Designated Funds</u>	
Hardship Fund	540
Oasis	2,916
General Fund	49,284
Development Fund	81,959
<u>Total</u>	<u>135,915</u>
<u>Represented by :-</u>	
HSBC Current Account	4,056
Barclays Account	33
CAF 90 day account	85,000
HSBC Deposit Account	46,660
Cash (Floats)	166
<u>Total</u>	<u>135,915</u>



**Parochial Church Council of Christ Church, Flackwell Heath**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2022**

In previous years Designated and Restricted Funds were shown in a combined column.  
As Designated Funds are unrestricted they are now shown in the Unrestricted column

2 INCOMING RESOURCES	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL FUNDS	
	Funds	Funds	2022	2021
	£	£		
2(a) <i>Incoming resources from donors</i>				
Planned giving:				
Gift Aid donations	72,425		72,425	73,918
Other planned giving	4,132		4,132	4,390
Income tax recoverable	20,677		20,677	19,966
Loose plate collections	3,083	23	3,106	1,548
Other Gift Aid donations	10,238		10,238	5,610
Other donations	5,140		5,140	1,780
	<u>115,695</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>115,718</u>	<u>107,212</u>
2(b) <i>Other voluntary incoming resources</i>				
Donations to costs/expenses	1,628		1,628	3,598
One off Grants	2,000		2,000	-
Legacies	-		-	-
	<u>3,628</u>	<u></u>	<u>3,628</u>	<u>3,598</u>
2(c) <i>Incoming resources from operating activities: to further the Council's objects</i>				
Bible Notes & Events	2,064		2,064	10,896
Church Centre lettings	6,894		6,894	5,581
Fees for weddings etc	420		420	1,094
Other	-		-	-
	<u>9,378</u>	<u></u>	<u>9,378</u>	<u>17,571</u>
2(d) <i>Incoming resources from operating activities: to generate funds</i>				
Other funds generated	283		283	89
	<u>283</u>	<u></u>	<u>283</u>	<u>89</u>
2(e) <i>Income from investment</i>				
Bank and deposit account interest	320	-	320	29
	<u>320</u>	<u></u>	<u>320</u>	<u>29</u>
2(f) <i>Other ordinary incoming resources</i>				
Special collections	-	4,935	4,935	759
Community Pantry		819	819	
Use of photocopier	175		175	197
Oasis	20,589		20,589	3,112
Cash Floats (eg. Coffee Stop)	5,073	-	5,073	2,033
	<u>25,837</u>	<u>5,754</u>	<u>30,772</u>	<u>6,101</u>
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<u><u>155,141</u></u>	<u><u>5,777</u></u>	<u><u>160,099</u></u>	<u><u>134,600</u></u>

3 RESOURCES EXPENDED	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL FUNDS	
	Funds	Funds	2022	2021
3(a) <i>Grants</i>	£	£		
Missionary societies	14,400	-	14,400	14,400
Relief and development	-	-	-	-
Home mission	600		600	600
Special collections	-	4,512	4,512	759
Other	901		901	267
	<u>15,901</u>	<u>4,512</u>	<u>20,413</u>	<u>16,026</u>
3(b) <i>Activities relating to the work of the Church</i>				
Ministry: Diocesan Parish Share	87,207		87,207	79,524
Clergy expenses	1,047		1,047	798
Sanctuary	102		102	63
Music	873		873	899
Junior Church/Youth	1,211		1,211	781
Materials/books/services	181		181	308
Church running expenses	3,365		3,365	4,132
Church repairs/maintenance	2,864		2,864	1,684
Church Centre costs	5,903		5,903	3,090
Bible Notes & Events	1,625		1,625	11,373
Cash Floats (eg. Coffee Stop)	2,972		2,972	2,807
Oasis	20,447		20,447	3,112
Community Pantry		93	93	-
Training	136		136	471
Families/Parenting	7,828		7,828	-
Improvements	31,264		31,264	10,833
	<u>167,025</u>	<u>93</u>	<u>167,025</u>	<u>119,875</u>
3(c) <i>Church Management and Administration</i>				
Printing and stationery	2,557		2,557	2,811
Administrator salary & related costs	10,676		10,676	12,105
Office/administration	1,368		1,368	1,464
	<u>14,601</u>		<u>14,601</u>	<u>16,380</u>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<u><u>197,527</u></u>	<u><u>4,605</u></u>	<u><u>202,039</u></u>	<u><u>152,281</u></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 2022 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

Mr Ian Bickerstaffe  
17 Ash Close  
Walters Ash  
High Wycombe  
HP14 4TR