

The Parish of Louth



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF LOUTH FOR 2020

**To be presented to the Annual Parochial
Church Meeting on 22nd July 2021**

Note: As well as the statutory information for the report of the Parochial Church Council to the APCM, this report contains the various Ministry Reports that would have been presented at the Annual District Meetings within the parish.

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH IN THE PARISH OF LOUTH

Objectives and activities

The primary object of the PCC is 'the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England'. In doing so it 'co-operates with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical'.¹ In the case of Louth, where a Team Ministry is in place, this co-operation is both with the Team Ministry (Rector, Team Vicar and Community Worker) and the Parish Ministry Team that they oversee, and those working in the Districts that make up the wider parish. The PCC held one ordinary meeting during the year and a short meeting to approve the Accounts prior to the APCM. Much of its business is transacted through the District Church Councils or Churchwardens and Sub-committees working to support the ministry of the Church that is exercised by the Ministry Team. In 2020 the parish faced the unprecedented challenge of the pandemic and the response to this is threaded through the Ministry Reports across the parish.

Mission Communities – a vision for the local church

We continue to seek to discern God's will for the various gathered communities that make up the Parish of Louth. Within the Mission Communities Strategy that was introduced to the Diocese in 2014 the six locations (spread across five districts) comprise the Parish of Louth Mission Community. Within this St James' and Trinity Centre fulfil the function of being a Key Mission Church, with a contribution to make to the wider work of the Diocese as well as serving their respective local needs. Each of the other churches in the Parish are seeking to be Local Mission Churches – serving the needs of the gathered community that meets to worship in them and to connect with the needs of their local area (in most cases identified as their District). In the initial exercise of reflecting on our work South Elkington discerned that it had many of the features of a Celebration/Festival Church and it is seeking to build on these strengths in its future work, whilst retaining its role as spiritual home for a regular Sunday congregation. During 2017 this work was developed further, using the image of the monastery or 'minster community'. This was incorporated into the outline Mission Plan in 2018.

Mission planning

At the beginning of 2013, building on the 2012 Parish Profile, it was agreed that work in the Parish of Louth would focus on building up the whole Church, seen in three different expressions of its life as:

- a group of worshipping communities;
- those in the wider community engaging with the love of God; and
- a group of people engaged in these aspects of its mission and ministry.

At the core of this was the aspiration that we would make real our commitment that:

¹ PCC (Powers) Measure 1956.

“In all we do, we will seek to live out Jesus’ command to draw close to the love of God in worship, and to share this by loving our neighbour”

These aspirations sit within the framework of the wider vision of the Diocese of Lincoln that the Church of England be ‘a transforming presence in Greater Lincolnshire’, embodied in a life that is ‘faithful in worship, confident in discipleship and joyful in service to others’.

To help focus our work we identified the following vision for each of the churches within the Parish:

The Ministry Team, supported by the PCC, will seek to encourage the Church to fulfil this calling by:

- Maintaining a rhythm of prayer and resourcing worship;
- Encouraging people to grow closer to God in faith;
- Reaching out beyond the boundaries of the gathered Church to all those touched by Christ;
- Serving the wider community and making visible God’s love for all; and
- Enabling each of us, as the body of Christ, to fulfil our vocation by resourcing our work. [APCM 2013]

In the town of Louth...

The Parish Church of Louth St James, Westgate seeks to become...

- A place of prayer and worship;
- A place for visitors to encounter the wonder of God; and
- A varied community travelling together and growing in faith.

The Parish Church of St. Michael, Church Street seeks to become...

- A gathered community celebrating Christ among them, seeking to take that presence into his world; and
- A place that is ready to serve the needs of the local neighbourhood.

Trinity Centre, Eastgate seeks to become...

- A resource for the wider Church and community;
- A place where people can experience the love of God; and
- A place where people can encounter God on their own terms.

In the villages...

...our churches exist to create an environment where we can worship, listen and grow to become better and more responsive disciples of Christ, so that we can witness to God's presence, and minister the things of God to all people.

From 2018 onwards, as we have been building on these foundations, developing our life and work, and it is our aim to continue:

- Engaging with people from across the community;
- Encouraging them to encounter Christ in their lives; and
- Equipping people to do these tasks.

The pages that follow outline the scope of our work, and how we hope to grow a community of faith where all can grow so as to be ‘fully alive’ to God’s presence among us and our communities.

Gloria Dei est vivens homo, vita hominis visio Dei.

The glory of God is a man fully alive, the life of a human is the vision of God.

WHOLE-LIFE LIVING: becoming fully alive

THE MINSTER COMMUNITY: A Church engaged in prayer & worship, fellowship, study, and service...

As we seek to build on our existing work, and discover where we are called to grow in the future, we have reflected on the resources we have and the needs of our community. Alongside this we have explored how we can use the riches of our past to help us shape the Church for the future. We are exploring how we can use the language of the 'minster community' to describe our life as a Church engaged in mission within the whole local community. This draws on the early origins of our churches as home to a community that proclaimed the Christian message in the earliest years of the English Church in this area. Rather than focusing on a single 'minster church' we understand this to call us to look at the different ways our resources (people, places and activities) contribute to the fullness of the life of the local Church.

The Minster Community is made up of...

People (WHO?)

- Parish Ministry Team
- Extended Ministry Teams
- Individuals
- The wider community within which the Church is a worshipping presence

Activities (WHAT?)

- An Oratory, as a place of prayer for the whole community
- Local chapels, to mark life's events in Baptism, Marriage and Burial and as places to gathering for worship
- Shrines, special places hallowed by prayer where passers-by or those in need can find a place to pause in the presence of God
- Community spaces, to welcome the wider community
- Civic church, as a point of focus for the spiritual life of those in secular power
- Almonry, for those in immediate physical need
- Hospital, care and hospitality
- Schools, where we can be alongside young people as they unlock creation
- Study, to deepen faith in ways appropriate to each individual
- Granges, as places for retreat from daily work

Locations (WHERE?)

- Parish Church of Louth St James
- Parish Church of St Michael
- Trinity Centre
- All Saints, South Elkington
- St Andrew, Stewton
- St Martin, Welton le Wold
- Church House, Ugate
- Church House, Mt. Pleasant
- Church Institute, S. Elkington
- Keddington Churchyard
- Everywhere else in our community!

As an institution, the Parish of Louth consists of the Ministry Team and the Parochial Church Council; the legal custodian of the local resources of the Church. Together, they serve the spiritual needs of those who worship within the parish's churches, and the wider community who are all God's people in the Parish. The elements of minster community, *familia* ('people') and *parochia* ('place'), come together as component parts of a whole around its activities of Prayer & Worship, Fellowship, Study and Service.

WHO: The People at the heart of the Minster Community

- **The wider community living in, working in and visiting the Parish** who are all people of God
- **Individuals** who worship within the local church and live out a life of faith in daily life
- **Parish Ministry Team**, overseen by Team Chapter (Rector, Team Vicar and Outreach Manager), working with each of our gathered communities and the wider community.

- **Extended Ministry Teams**, led by members of the Parish Ministry Team and serving each of our gathered communities:

St James' (Rector, and assistant clergy)

- Music and Liturgy
- Pastoral Visitors
- Visitors
- Fellowship

St Michael's (Robert Mansfield, with Rector)

South Elkington (Assistant Curate)

Stewton (Robert Mansfield and Alan Hayday)

Welton le Wold (Sylvia Pounds)

Messy Church (Trinity) (Assistant Curate)

Community Outreach Team (Community Outreach Manager)

WHERE: The locations where the Minster Community focuses its life

At its broadest the Church is present wherever its members are. However, there are a number of focal points for the life of the Church, and the table below identifies them and the areas of life they tend to be a focus for within the Parish of Louth:

		St James	St Michael	Trinity Centre	Sth Elkington	Stewton	Welton	Church House, Upgate	Church House, Mt Pleasant	Church Institute	Kedlington
Oratory		●									
Civic church		●									
Local chapels	Gathered worship	3	●	● Messy	●	●	●				
	Baptistry	●	●	○	●	○	○				
	Marriage	●	●	○	●	●	○				
	Burial	●	●	○	●	●	●				●
Almonry				●							
Hospital		○	○	●	○	●					
Study/ Education	Schools	KEVIGS Kidgate LGS	SMS	LGS StB	GHS						
	Discipleship	●		●		●		○			
Retreat/grange						●	+				
Shrine		● Chapels		○	+	●	+				+
Community space		○	○	●+ youth	●	●	●	●	○	●	

Code: ● – Significant activity for development ○ – Subsidiary part of activity + – possible area for development

HOW: Becoming fully alive

In order to live life fully, we will seek to structure our life as a community and the activities which are a part of it to encourage everyone to consider four elements of Christian living appropriately expressed in people's lives and suited to their context:

WHOLE-LIFE LIVING: becoming fully alive

Four elements + PRAYER & WORSHIP in the presence of God + STUDY to deepen our experience
 + FELLOWSHIP with those who travel alongside us + SERVICE to others in our communities

Each of which is lived as a part of each stage of life

PARISH CHURCH OF LOUTH ST JAMES

The Parish Church of Louth St James, Westgate seeks to be:

- A place of prayer and worship
- A place for visitors to encounter the wonder of God
- A varied community travelling together and growing in faith.

Things to celebrate at St James:

- Continued growth in the number of people worshipping. We were especially pleased to welcome people from other Louth Churches once worship resumed at St. James' after the first lockdown.
- Increased number of young people involved in our musical activities – both girls and boys have continued to join the choir under the able leadership of Allan Smith and Philip Hotham.
- On-going development of Diddy Disciples, it became a weekly event under the inspirational leadership of Revd. Arabella Robinson.
- The Guild of St. James has grown from four to thirty under the leadership of Jeannie Gurnham and Jane Fletcher, drawing in both members of the church and the wider community.
- The launch of a Confraternity of St Herefrith during Lent 2020, led by Revd. Chris Wedge has created yet another path for spiritual fellowship.
- The Pastoral programme at St. James has developed admirably under the leadership of Revd. Arabella Robinson, and this became a shining beacon during the national lockdowns, offering care, support and practical assistance to people from all churches but also people who asked to be on our list.
- Community services like the cafe and the gift shop, the work of the guides and other volunteers, exhibitions and civic events are all things of which St. James can be rightly be very proud.

Things for prayer and reflection:

- Growing in fellowship and building a deeper sense of community; and
- Encouraging ways for people to deepen in their faith.

The Pandemic months

On 23 March 2020, all churches were required to close under the rules of a national lockdown, and St. James' therefore had to do the same. However, a great deal of work happened behind closed doors. Worship moved to the Rectory and arrangements were made for live-streaming. This included a variety of services including the Diddy Disciples, Homilies, the Tuesday Reflections and musical reflections. The Pastoral Team, under the very able leadership of Arabella, made ready to make weekly calls to all on our list and beyond to include the wider Parish. In conjunction with the Holy Trinity team, arrangements were made to deliver groceries and prescriptions and the food bank went into top gear. Various other services were also delivered on line like weekly homilies, meditations and Parish Notes were sent by post to those unable to access them on line.

At the end of June, when restrictions were relaxed, plans were made to re-open the church with all the Covid-safe measures in place and this took a great deal of planning and care, and involved a great deal of expense.

At the beginning of November, the Rector, Revd. Nick Brown left suddenly to take up a position at Lincoln Cathedral and the assistant Curate, Revd. Arabella Robinson had to take over the day-to-day management of all aspects of the work of St. James', which she did wonderfully well.

Fabric Work

All repairs had obviously been placed on hold because of the Covid restrictions. However, the high level stonework survey based on the 2018 Quinquennial Report finally went ahead on 17th September 2020 made possible with the relaxing of restrictions. The report of the survey showed evidence of considerable loose masonry caused by the movement of the building, traffic vibrations and weather erosion. The faculty

application and work is planned for 2021 and the Friends of St. James have kindly agreed to pay the costs estimated at £25,000.

Accounts 2020

There has been little positive impact on finances during 2020. The pandemic has had a significant impact on the income of St James' which is reflected in the figures reported in the accounts (copy of accounts to follow), the most notable reduction being the drop by £13,000 on the coffee shop income - owing to the closure of the coffee shop, in comparison to 2019. There has been a notable reduction in giving as a whole. The Carols for All alone - held normally in December - has reduced the income significantly. Of the requested £32,114 parish share, only £20,000 was paid during 2020, which has helped to reduce our usual deficit.

Jeannie Gurnham

Music Report 2020

2020 started, like a regular year for the church choir. The choir rehearsed music for the epiphany season and prepared for Lent. Music highlights included the singing of Allegri's *Miserere* at the Ash Wednesday Service and preparing music to be sung for the St Herefrith Festival weekend. We were not able to plan as many social activities the previous year, so we decided to organise some outings for the Adult Choir, Girls' Choir and Boys' Choir. The Girls' Choir visited a 10 Pin Bowling Alley and the Boys' Choir voted for Laserquest. Luckily these took place in the first part of March, before Coronavirus took hold. Great fun was had eating, drinking and playing these activities. Thank you to Sarah from the choir, who offered her services driving the minibus on these trips.

In April, although said services could take place from clergy homes, it was clear that many people were missing the musical offerings from our choir. I began to create and record video Music Reflections based on musical items that the choir would have normally have sung, giving a spiritual, musical and informative commentary. These were delivered weekly and uploaded to the parish website and Facebook page, with written transcripts included in the weekly pewsheets. Eighteen of these were created in total. Also, the choir would meet occasionally over the Zoom conference platform. The choristers took on video recording projects for Easter and Ascension, where they prepared their vocal parts at home and then video recorded them singing. I then edited and montaged the videos together to make an engaging video performance. There were many choristers who found this project valuable as it kept them engaged and connected with our group.

In June, we returned to live services in the church, albeit with only one singer acting as a Cantor. Myself and a few strong singers provided music at the services on a rota basis. Many thanks to those who confidently led the music in this way.

In September, we were sad to say farewell to Charlotte, our Deputy-Head Chorister and one of our teenage tenors, George, who went off to continue their education at college and university. They had contributed greatly to the musical worship at St. James and we wished them well for the future. The choir met for rehearsals on Wednesday evenings and conclude with streaming the Office of Compline live from the church.

We were thrilled to be able to return on Sundays from October, with small groups of singers, with appropriate mitigations in place. However, in November some further restrictions were issued, which meant some of the musical worship had to be streamlined again. Musical focus was given to making a video performance of 'Sunset and Evening Star', as an offering at Remembrance. We also began preparations for Advent and Christmas.

To allow as many people as possible to attend our carol service, we prepared three carol services. Due to social distancing, we were restricted to the number of singers we could have perform together, so the services were sung by three different groupings from amongst the choir: One for Upper Voices, One for Tenors & Basses and

one for the Adult Choir (with Seniors). This allowed a great variety of music to be sung, whilst being able to include participation from all our choir members

I would like to state my gratitude to all the clergy, choir and chorister parents and my colleague, Phil, who supported the choir, during which has been a very difficult year. We look forward to developing the music provision further and reaching out further into the wider community.

Allan Smith (Master of the Choristers)

KEDDINGTON CHURCHYARD

Keddington Churchyard sits within the District of St James and the section of the burial ground that remains 'open' is under the care of the PCC of Louth.

PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, SOUTH ELKINGTON

Services were suspended in March and only a couple of services were possible later in the year. The main issue at All Saints relates to the condition of the lead roof. We have rain water ingress in various places across the aisle roof, location and severity dependant on wind direction and amount of rain. This has been an issue for some time and does now require a professional investigation and recommendations for the most suitable action with potential costs. The roof has been patched and sealed on many occasions in recent years but now requires a more significant and long-term solution to prevent structural damage.

Tony Doherty

PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARTIN, WELTON LE WOLD

Only five services were held in 2020 before Covid-19 lockdown in March. The church was then kept locked, but visited regularly, and cleaned and sanitised by Mrs Sylvia White when required for socially-distanced activities. A single service was held in September, attended by five people. There was also an outdoor ceremony attended by the relatives of J Robin Seymour, a deceased ex-churchwarden, for the burial of his ashes. A scale model of the church, partially constructed by Robin Seymour, was completed and painted by Jeff Brandall and is displayed in the church.

When the church was allowed to open for private prayer, a 2-hour weekly time slot was publicised. One person attended on the first occasion, and none after that, so the facility was discontinued after three weeks. Peter Taylor, Treasurer and Secretary, completed Parish Risk Assessments using the template provided by the Diocese, updating them as required. He also prepared Track and Trace cards for completion by visitors, cordoning off parts of the building where visitors should not enter, and printing notices for display at the door.

On 8th November a short outdoor remembrance commemoration was held in the churchyard to mark the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II. It was attended by 12 people, mostly village residents. A church bell was tolled 11 times. An ex-serviceman laid a poppy wreath on the war memorial.

With support from East Lindsey District Council and Welton le Wold Parish Meeting Mr Andrew West organised a group of volunteers to help vulnerable residents with shopping and collection of medicines during lockdown and self-isolation. Mr West also manages a village website.

Mrs Sylvia White became Churchwarden, joining Mr Alistair W J Kerr who expected to be leaving the village, but his departure was delayed until 2021.

The civil Parish Meeting also met in the church in August for a mandatory, socially-distanced, short formal meeting to approve its accounts.

Peter Taylor

PARISH CHURCH OF ST ANDREW, STEWTON

It has been inevitable that the ministry and outreach from St Andrew's Community has been required to change over the last year because of the Covid 19 Pandemic. All activities stopped after the morning Communion service on March 15th 2020 with current plans put on hold. This resulted in the cancellation of services, monthly coffee mornings or our larger gatherings normally held throughout this period.

Potentially this could have been a complete disaster but following discussions between Canon Alan Hayday and myself, it was agreed to trial a weekly e-mail newsletter called St Andrew's Stewton Church Community Post (SASCC). This has proved to be a tremendous success with Alan using his skills to put it together on a weekly basis, and he and I alternating to write the homily weekly. This newsletter has been expanded by including farming notes from Jane Rushby and more recently gardening notes from members of the congregation. The Post has proved to be so popular that it is sent out way beyond St Andrew's Community and even as far as South Africa. I have received so many reports from our community of how supported people have felt by it through this challenging time.

In addition, to support those who may well have felt isolated though lack of social contact from fellow worshippers, at Harvest, Christmas and Easter, special cards were produced with seasonal images of St Andrew's. In addition, at Christmas, small Nativity lambs were knitted and distributed. These in particular were very well received as I discovered several times when visiting people.

However, I am conscious that not everybody enjoys the "benefits" of technology, so the churchwardens have made literally hundreds of phone calls to sustain the congregation. Although I am aware that some churches feel they will have difficulty in re-opening because of falling numbers, I am totally clear that once we are allowed, we shall return to be the active community we formerly were.

Rev Robert Mansfield

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS, LOUTH

It has been a challenging time for St. Michael's over the past year, as it has for the other churches within the Team Parish. The congregation here has sadly been reducing either by death or by relocation and it was decided to cease the usual Sunday morning service and replace it with a said Communion Service held in the Lady Chapel on a Thursday morning. This sees us welcome a small but regular group of communicants who appreciate not only the opportunity to worship, but also offers them a chance so socialise in a Covid safe way. Alongside this, our brothers and sisters in the Greek Orthodox Church, based in a chapel at Louth Cemetery, were also looking for an alternative place of worship as their existing chapel did not allow them to have the appropriate Covid separation. They therefore have taken over the main body of the church bringing with them numerous Icons. This system started in April and appears to be working well, although they too had to stop using St. Michael's for a couple of months, through the worst of the lock down but have now returned.

Financially, this has proved to be a very difficult time as it has for all of us. Income from Funerals and Weddings has reduced by 90% from the previous year. Fortunately, a small restricted legacy allows for ongoing maintenance of the building and there would not appear to be any major issues in that area going forward.
Rev. Robert Mansfield

TRINITY CENTRE

The Trinity Centre closed in line with government restrictions on the 23rd March 2020. It has been a difficult year for activities at the centre with all the regular projects and activities suspended therefore the focus at the Trinity Centre was providing food from the Community Larder. Over 35,000 meals were provided to those in most need during 2020 (an average of 10,000 are usually provided in a normal year). We increased the amount of emergency gas and electricity payments from £10 for gas and electricity to £20 for gas and electricity we also removed the referral process and the 3 food parcels annual limit, which have been restored in 2021. Additionally 55 Christmas hampers were made available to those in most need (previous years we average 30 hampers).

Most of the staff were furloughed taking advantage of the government scheme apart from the Community Outreach Manager who with a group of volunteers managed the community larder activities until September. Sadly due to the lack of activity and to save money the Project Coordinator Post was made redundant in July 2020 with no prospects of any of the usual activities starting in 2020.

We received a Covid Relief grant from the National Lottery in September 2020, £44,000, which enabled the staff to return and make some upgrades to the fire doors, improve the external security lights and internal lights. Additionally we received a large number of grants and donations for both the community larder and the Trinity Centre.

Many activities were planned for when restrictions ended but unfortunately these didn't happen. Whilst all of our income disappeared in March 2020 the grants we received enabled the centre to prepare for when restrictions were lifted. Sadly restrictions remained in place for the remainder of 2020.

Greg Gilbert

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCELSIASTICAL PARISH OF LOUTH

Reference and administrative information

This is the annual report for the activities of The Parochial Church Council for the Parish of Louth (the 'PCC') for the year from 1st January to 31st December 2020.

The churches and chapels in the parish are:

- The Parish Church of All Saints, South Elkington
- The Parish Church of St. Andrew, Stewton
- The Parish Church of Louth St. James, Westgate, Louth
- The Parish Church of St. Martin, Welton-le-Wold
- The Parish Church of St. Michael, Church Street, Louth
- Trinity Centre, Eastgate, Louth (incorporating the Chapel of Holy Trinity, Louth)

The address for official correspondence for the PCC is: c/o The Deanery Office, 6 Upgate, Louth LN11 9ET.

The bankers to the PCC are: Lloyds Bank, Mercer Row, Louth.

The following people have been members of the PCC during the period being reported:

Licensed clergy: The Reverend Nick Brown **(Chair)**
 The Reverend Robert Mansfield
 The Reverend Arabella Milbank Robinson

Readers: Dr Paul Hill

Churchwardens: Mr Charles Dobson
 Mr Tony Doherty
 Mrs Harjinder Gurnham
 Mr Alistair Kerr
 Mr Brian Luckwell
 Mrs Sylvia Luckwell
 Mrs Dorothy Mansfield
 Mrs Jane Rushby
 Mrs Sylvia White

Deanery Synod: Mr Mike Crosby **(Treasurer and Lay Vice-chair)**
 Mr Tony Doherty
 Mr Greg Gilbert
 Dr Paul Hill
 Mr Malcolm Locking

Elected Members: Mrs Barbara Dales
 Mrs Jill Day
 Mr Peter Moore
 Mr Peter Taylor
 Mrs Lesley Lewis
 Mr Malcolm Locking

Co-opted: Mrs Jennifer Goodwin **(Secretary)**

In the normal course of events the day-to-day activities of the PCC are delegated to the appropriate Churchwardens, DCCs or PCC officers who work alongside the various members of the Ministry Team serving the parish.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of Louth is a corporate body established in law as part of the Church of England. The PCC operates under the legal powers and provisions of the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure² and the Church Representation Rules.³ The PCC exceeds the limits for exception from registering with the Charity Commission, and is therefore registered under the name of 'The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Louth' (Charity No. 1132658). The geographical parish which the PCC of the Parish of Louth serves is coterminous with that which is served by the Parish of Louth Team Ministry, which was established by a Scheme made under the Pastoral Measure 1968 in 1974.

The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules, under which a scheme has been drawn up for the representation of five districts within the parish. In line with these provisions, membership of the PCC is provided for as follows:

Ex officio members of the PCC:

- All ordained and lay ministers licensed within the parish
- 2 Churchwardens for each of the 5 districts within the Parish
- Representatives to Deanery Synod (the maximum number is decided by Diocesan Synod)
- Any member of Diocesan Synod or the General Synod entitled to be a member

Elected members of the PCC:

- One member per hundred electors (or part thereof) within each district

Co-opted members of the PCC:

- The PCC is entitled to co-opt additional members up to one fifth of the number of elected members.

On appointment/election, members of the PCC are informed of their status as charity trustees and the broad remit of their responsibilities both under church and charity law. PCC members are informed, via the PCC Secretary, of training opportunities provided by the diocese.

As is legally required, the PCC has a Standing Committee that comprises the Rector, two Church Wardens (elected by, and from among, the churchwardens), the lay vice-chair of the PCC, the secretary of the PCC, the treasurer of the PCC, and three ordinary members of the PCC (elected by the PCC). The Standing Committee has the power to transact business on behalf of the PCC between its meetings. In addition to the Standing Committee the following groups have powers delegated to them as described:

District Church Councils for each of the five parish churches have powers delegated under a scheme established in 1995 and are responsible, through their Churchwardens and PCC representatives, to the PCC for the life of the church in the districts for which they are responsible. Their activities are outlined in the individual reports for each District that are attached as annexes to this report.

Trinity Centre Sub-committee, established by resolution of the PCC in 2011, which is responsible for the maintenance of the building and provision of ecclesiastical services in Trinity Centre that were formerly the responsibility of the Holy Trinity District Church Council. It also manages the separate funds of the various community outreach programmes.

Safeguarding

The Team Parish of Louth has adopted the safeguarding policies and procedures of the Church of England and is committed to it. Safeguarding documentation was reviewed by the Rector and Safeguarding Officers during the year. During this annual review our processes were found to be in line with recommended practice. The PCC commits to reviewing our safeguarding practice at least once each year.

The current Safeguarding Officer is Greg Gilbert (Community Outreach Manager), who reviews safeguarding practice and provision alongside the Rector and reports at least annually to the PCC as well as the APCM. He is also available, via a dedicated 'phone line, for the reporting of safeguarding concerns.

² <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukcm/Eliz2/4-5/3/contents>

³ <https://www.churchofengland.org/about-us/structure/churchlawlegis/church-representation-rules/church-representation-rulesonline.aspx>

Financial review

The PCC is responsible for the direct management of accounts relating to those expenses that are parish-wide in nature, and also holds reserves (both restricted and unrestricted). In addition to these directly managed funds, the PCC is responsible for those funds that are managed at a local level by the five DCCs and the Trinity Centre Committee. Again, most of these funds include a mixture of revenue and reserve accounts; some having significant sums invested in reserves.

Accounts are prepared in line with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Charities Act 2011. The accounts of each District are presented and adopted at the Annual District Meeting and consolidated with the accounts relating solely to the PCC and presented to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

In 2020 the PCC reported a substantial reduction in both income and expenditure. Many of the regular sources of income were significantly affected by closure and restrictions. The receipt of grants and donations helped support the increased levels of activity in response to the pandemic e.g. the Community Larder referenced in the Trinity Centre section of this report. Work and expenditure on repairs and maintenance were delayed into 2021. The PCC paid the requested share to the diocese in 2020.

During the year the PCC monitored reserves closely to meet the unprecedented challenge of the pandemic and provide mutual support across the parish. The reserves and investment policies are kept under regular review:

Reserves Policy: The PCC holds reserves to cover peaks and troughs in income and expenditure, to protect against uncertainties in future income and to deliver future charitable activities. The Parish Treasurer will review reserves with DCC Treasurers on an annual basis to ensure adequate cover for planned activities and to identify future risks for the PCC.

Investment Policy: The PCC holds investments mainly through The Central Board of Finance (CBF) Church of England Funds managed by CCLA Investment Management Limited, deposit accounts including The CBF Church of England Deposit Fund and UK banks, and current accounts with UK banks. The investment funds provide a vital source of dividend income to support the work of the parish. The Parish Treasurer will review the detail of the investments with DCC Treasurers on an annual basis and confirm the institutions and investments acceptable to the PCC for any investments.

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Trinity Centre undertakes a number of activities that serve the wider mission of the Church to the local community. The assets of these various projects are held in trust by the PCC, and managed on their behalf by the Trinity Centre Sub-Committee of the PCC. Each project held in trust is accounted for as a separate designated/restricted fund within the Trinity Centre accounts. Currently these projects include:

- The Louth and District Community Larder (run on behalf of Churches Together in Louth and District)

THE DEANERY SYNOD OF THE DEANERY OF LOUTHESK

Report on 2020

The Deanery Synod held a formal meeting on Zoom in November 2020. The meeting included an update from the Rural Dean on diocesan restructuring, clergy staffing and an opportunity for discussion. The meeting followed the first stage of a process of diocesan consultation on restructuring, under the working title of “Resourcing Sustainable Church”, that had been well attended by representatives from the deanery. These ongoing discussions on the shape of ministry in the diocese and deanery – especially given the lengthy vacancies and changing national situation regarding the number of ministers available for stipendiary ministry – will gather pace in 2021. The diocese plans further consultation to refine the approach prior to implementation. At the heart of this is seeking to resource local churches in their ministry, with collegial oversight from the incumbent ministers working alongside the Rural Dean.

LOUTH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2020

LOUTH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Contents of the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Page
Statement of Financial Activities	1
Balance Sheet	2
Notes to the Financial Statements	3 to 7
Independent Examiner's Report	8

LOUTH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

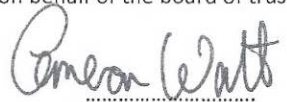
	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Voluntary Income	2a	135,008	121,752	-	256,760	278,543
Activities for generating Funds	2b	3,078	60	-	3,138	20,448
Income from Investments	2c	30,142	5,394	-	35,536	17,772
Income from church activities	2d	39,756	2,725	-	42,481	117,823
Other Incoming resources	2e	17,009	4,530	-	21,539	35,410
Sale of fixed assets	2f	5,870	5,870	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		230,863	128,591	-	359,454	469,996
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Church Activities	3a	199,503	71,703	-	271,206	444,627
Fund Raising Costs	3b	3,084	1,687	-	4,771	18,312
Governance	3c	1,924	-	-	1,924	1,856
Other Resources expended	3d	7,034	2,293	-	9,327	9,818
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		211,545	75,683	-	287,228	474,613
NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		19,318	52,908	-	72,226	-4,617
NET (LOSS)/GAIN ON INVESTMENTS		14,626	-8,253	1,879	8,252	71,913
NET INCOMING RESOURCES		33,944	44,655	1,879	80,478	67,296
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS	-	12,725	12,725	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		21,219	57,380	1,879	80,478	67,296
BALANCES B/FWD 1 JANUARY 2019	8, 9, 10	567,790	212,261	28,206	808,257	740,961
BALANCES C/F 31 DECEMBER 2019	8, 9, 10	589,009	269,641	30,085	888,735	808,257

LOUTH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

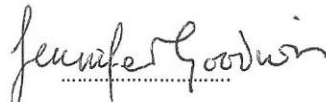
BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible	5a	4,283	4,306
Investments	5b	529,191	526,701
		<u>533,474</u>	<u>531,007</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	6	535	7,044
Short Term Deposits		69,116	74,693
Cash at bank and in hand		290,957	197,425
		<u>360,608</u>	<u>279,162</u>
LIABILITIES			
Creditors - due in one year	7	5,347	1,912
		<u>355,261</u>	<u>277,250</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS/LIABILITIES			
Total Assets less current Liabilities		<u>888,735</u>	<u>808,257</u>
Creditors - due after one year		-	-
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>888,735</u>	<u>808,257</u>
PARISH FUNDS			
Unrestricted	8, 9 & 10	589,009	567,790
Restricted	8, 9 & 10	269,641	212,261
Endowment	8, 9 & 10	30,085	28,206
		<u>888,735</u>	<u>808,257</u>

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:


 REV. CAMERON WATT

22/7/21
 Date



22/7/21
 Date

LOUTH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPERATION

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

Louth Parochial Church Council meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 any restatement of the comparative items was required.

INCOMING RESOURCES

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

RESOURCES EXPENDED

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, if it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

Cost of fundraising - Comprises the costs associated with the fund raising activities held by the charity

Expenditure on charitable activities - includes the costs of church activities undertaken to further the purpose of the charity and associated support and running costs.

Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other category.

ASSETS

Consecrated and benefice property

In so far as consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of 'charity' by Section 10(2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011 such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements.

Investments

Investments quoted on a recognised stock exchange or whose value derives from them are valued at market value at the year end. Other investment assets are included at the PCC's best estimate of market value.

Movement in value of investments measured at fair or market value is taken through the statement of financial activities.

Short term deposits

These are the cash held on deposit either with the CCLA or at the bank.

LOUTH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020
FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds

These represent the remaining income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are therefore not included in its 'free reserves' as disclosed in the trustees' report.

Restricted Funds

These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds and restrictions provided are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Endowment Funds

These are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend capital as income, and where the use of any income or benefit derived from the capital may be restricted or unrestricted. Full details of all their restrictions are shown in the notes to the accounts.

2 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
2(a) Voluntary Income					
Planned Giving:					
Gift Aid Donations	43,438	-	-	43,438	43,225
Tax Recoverable	48	-	-	48	12,289
Other	5,356	-	-	5,356	2,901
Collections (open plate)	7,124	-	-	7,124	18,841
Grants	49,496	34,311	-	83,807	151,202
Donations, appeals, etc.	27,530	72,441	-	99,971	28,153
Legacies	2,016	15,000	-	17,016	21,932
	135,008	121,752	-	256,760	278,543
2(b) Activities for generating Funds					
Fund raising	3,078	60	-	3,138	20,448
	3,078	60	-	3,138	20,448
2 (c) Income from Investments					
Dividends and Interest including tax recoverable	11,524	5,394	-	16,918	17,772
Rent from land & buildings	18,618	-	-	18,618	-
	30,142	5,394	-	35,536	17,772
2(d) Income from church activities					
Church and Church Hall Lettings	31,895	-	-	31,895	88,283
Fees for weddings and funerals	7,145	-	-	7,145	13,920
Parish Magazine sales and advertising	196	-	-	196	767
Trinity Activities	520	2,725	-	3,245	14,853
	39,756	2,725	-	42,481	117,823
2(e) Other Incoming resources	17,009	4,530	-	21,539	35,410
2(f) Sale of fixed assets	5,870	-	5,870	-	-
	230,863	128,591	-	359,454	469,996

LOUTH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

3 RESOURCES EXPENDED	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
3(a) Church Activities					
Missionary and Charitable Giving	1,372	100	-	1,472	4,556
Ministry: Diocesan Parish Share	29,402	25,257	-	54,659	55,211
	1,758	-	-	1,758	5,456
Church Running expenses	40,940	7,316	-	48,256	50,864
Church Maintenance	4,682	5,467	-	10,149	16,773
Upkeep of services	1,530	627	-	2,157	3,842
Wedding and Funeral fees	47	-	-	47	1,233
Depreciation/equipment	23	-	-	23	61
Parish Magazine Costs	-	-	-	-	300
Church Yard Up keep	241	-	-	241	7,036
Church Hall Running Costs	32,031	-	-	32,031	40,000
Major Repairs Church	2,545	9,259	-	11,804	118,133
Major Repairs Hall	3,020	-	-	3,020	-
Printing & Stationery	-	-	-	-	2,470
Bank Charges	186	-	-	186	183
Staff Costs	80,517	6,392	-	86,909	94,073
Community and Parish Project	1,209	17,285	-	18,494	44,436
	199,503	71,703	-	271,206	444,627
3(b) Fund Raising Costs					
Coffee Morning Costs/refreshments	1,422	540	-	1,962	18,312
Other fund raising costs	1,662	1,147	-	2,809	-
	3,084	1,687	-	4,771	18,312
3(c) Governance	1,924	-	-	1,924	1,856
3(d) Other Resources expended	7,034	2,293	-	9,327	9,818
	211,545	75,683	-	287,228	474,613

4 STAFF COSTS	2020	2019
	£	£
4(a) Wages and salaries	86,909	94,073

During the year the PCC made payments or provided a contribution towards the wages of vergers, a community centre administrator, a project administrator, Community Outreach Manager, Choir Director, organists, caretakers and cleaners.

4(b) RELATED PARTIES

£30,534 was paid to the diocese in 2020 (2019 £30,553) as the PCC's contribution to the post of Community Outreach Manager. The post is held by Mr G Gilbert, who is a member of the PCC. No payments or expenses were paid to PCC members in their capacity as trustees.

LOUTH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

5 FIXED ASSETS

5(a) Tangible		Church Equipment £	Church Halls	Total
Actual Cost	At 1 January 2020	151	4,155	4,306
	Net Disposals/ Additions	-	-	-
	less depreciation	(23)	-	(23)
	At 31 December 2020	128	4,155	4,283

5(b) Investments

The majority of Investments are held in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund. During the year investments of £5,870 were liquidated (last year an additional £55,322 was paid into this fund). The market value at 31 December 2020 was £529,191 (2019 £526,701) which represents investments

	£
Unrestricted Funds	399,824
Restricted Funds	99,282
Endowment Funds	30,085
	<u>529,191</u>

6 CURRENT ASSETS

Debtors (Unrestricted funds)	535
Other Debtors and prepayments	-
	<u>535</u>

7 LIABILITIES

Liabilities	5,347
	<u>5,347</u>

8 FUNDS

The restricted funds are funds gifted to specific churches / Trinity Centre, or grants received for restricted purposes.

The summary records the closing balances for each church, Trinity Centre, and balances held centrally as parish funds:

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Endowment £	Total 2020 £
St James'	56,552	39,559	27,754	123,865
St Michael's	10,455	17,695	-	28,150
South Elkington	38,399	5	-	38,404
Holy Trinity	9,771	83,509	-	93,280
Trinity Centre	64,868	92,381	-	157,249
St Andrew's, Stewton	15,136	28,538	-	43,674
St Martin's, Welton le Wold	6,296	6,775	-	13,071
Parish	387,532	1,179	2,331	391,042
Balance 31 December 2020	<u>589,009</u>	<u>269,641</u>	<u>30,085</u>	<u>888,735</u>

LOUTH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

9 SUMMARY OF FUND MOVEMENTS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Balance 1 January 2020	567,790	212,261	28,206	808,257
Incoming resources	230,863	128,591	-	359,454
Resources expended	211,545	75,683	-	287,228
Investment gains	14,626	8,253	1,879	8,252
Transfers between funds	- 12,725	12,725	-	-
Balance 31 December 2020	589,009	269,641	30,085	888,735

10 ANALYSIS OF ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	128	4,155	-	4,283
Investment Fixed Assets	399,824	99,282	30,085	529,191
Current Assets	194,151	166,457	-	360,608
Liabilities:				-
due in one year	5,094	253	-	5,347
due after one year	-	-	-	-
	589,009	269,641	30,085	888,735

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS REPORT TO LOUTH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

We report on the accounts of the council for the year ended 31st December 2020 which are set out on pages 1 to 7.

Respective responsibilities of the council and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

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

It is our responsibility to:

- i. examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- ii. to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the Charities Act; and
- iii to state whether particular matters have come to our attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

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

have not been met or

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



D Johnson
Independent Examiner
Dexter & Sharpe (Louth)
Chartered Certified Accountants and Registered Auditors
1 Eastgate
LOUTH
Lincolnshire
LN11 9NB

Dated:



INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS REPORT TO LOUTH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

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D Johnson
Independent Examiner
Dexter & Sharpe (Louth)
Chartered Certified Accountants and Registered Auditors
1 Eastgate
LOUTH
Lincolnshire
LN11 9NB

Dated:

5/8/21