

St Peter's Church, Oundle

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

Year Ending 31st December 2021

Annual Report Contents

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Section 1:

Vicar's Report for 2021

When the Jewish people found themselves a thousand miles from home, in captivity and yearning for their old life they received a message from God – in the form of a letter from Him penned by Jeremiah the prophet. No doubt the question on the mind of many was, "When will this exile end? How soon? Will God rescue us quickly?" They must have yearned and hoped for their old life back as soon as possible. God's message was at once challenging, expectation-dashing and encouraging. "This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says," in Jeremiah 29, "to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: 'Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper... This is what the Lord says: "When seventy years are completed I will come to you and fulfil my good promise to bring you back to this place. For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

In March 2020 Bishop Donald warned that we should not expect to be back in Church in any significant way by Christmas 2020. In fact, he suggested, Easter 2021 might still be affected. Really? We wondered. Really? A whole year? Well of course his words have proved prescient. Not only Christmas 2020, not only Easter 2021 but Christmas 2021 remained significantly affected by Covid.

For the Jewish people of the 6th century BC Jerusalem and temple worship were central to their faith. How on earth could they be faithful Jewish people when Jerusalem and the temple lay in ruins a thousand miles away? But God did have a promise. There would be flourishing and a hope and a bright future again. They would be forever changed by the experience. Their understanding of God and worship would be forever changed. They would never quite be as they had been. But God would do something new and good.

We entered 2021 still unable to gather in any large numbers for worship. However, our short service of said morning prayer on a Sunday morning became a fixture for 20 or so people. We continued Sunday by Sunday and through the week to meet online – on Facebook, Youtube and Zoom. Joining in symbolically with the breaking of bread and wine and sharing them in our homes; sharing coffee Zoom and Zoom Hour of Power was started so we could meet to pray together. Whilst singing in the building was not possible we enjoyed singing worship songs and hymns together as we sent in our contributions and they were stitched together. It was encouraging to see a sea of faces singing – and the number contributing steadily grew. During this time there was a sense from many of appreciating the fact that we have different preferences in styles of worship. The situation encouraged us to embrace this and lots of people contributed to a wide range of music.

How on earth do we worship and express community when gathering together in significant numbers is not possible? Well it wasn't without its struggles and we by no means found perfectly fitting answers, yet there was for many of us a renewed sense of Church as not a building, but a community.

In February the PCC gathered virtually to think and pray about next steps for St Peter's as Covid (we prayed) very slowly began to release its grip. Out of our time praying together some common themes very quickly emerged: *Together, Deeper, Giving*. There was a sense in the PCC gathering, as well as from the wider Church community, that we wanted to do more *together*; that Covid had taught us that we valued one another and could enjoy our different approaches and styles and should seek more opportunities to do so together across ages and backgrounds. We had a sense of God calling us to more vulnerable, honest, *deeper* relationships with each other as together we sought a deeper relationship with God. We had a sense that God was calling us to be a Church that was characterised by generosity in many different ways; a Church that loved and served its community including those most in need; a Church that 'wept with those who weep.' These ideas would resurface in various ways through the year.

During Lent we embarked on The Prayer Course using material created by the 24/7 Prayer movement led by Pete Greig. Various small groups took this up online and a new online group was established for those not yet linked to a small group. There was a lot of positive feedback from this and it was encouraging to see a new small group emerge out of it. There was a sense indeed of deeper relationships as people encountered some they had known for a long time in new ways and others they had not known before.

Each evening during Holy Week we gathered in small numbers in the Nave for nightly reflections based on objects used at the Cross. Our Maundy Thursday communion was held in person as well as being livestreamed to those taking part from home. Good Friday provided an opportunity to take part in a series of reflections each hour from 12 until 3pm. Some gathered in person – others tuned in from home.

On Easter morning we were able to gather in larger numbers. We did this outside at 6am for our traditional gathering around a brazier in the Churchyard in front of the South Porch. Seventy or more of us met on a very frosty morning. We shared Communion together outside and for the first time since March 2020 sang – taking the advantage of being outside to do this. *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* echoed off the stones and *Thine Be the Glory*. It was a very special moment.

For Pentecost we again gathered in the Churchyard, together with other Churches of Oundle, and worshipped together. As the weather warmed this became a regular Sunday fixture. Inside still required masks and singing was prohibited, but outside we could sing without restriction. People brought chairs and rugs and spread themselves on the grass. Sound was hooked up from inside to give amplification and backing for our singing. We celebrated communion in the open air and a baptism. People wandering through the Churchyard joined us on several occasions. We noted that even when indoor worship had long since returned we might want to choose to worship like this again from time to time. Outside our doors, easy for people to join in, singing our praises out into the town.

On June 27th we were delighted to welcome a new member to the team. Rev Josh Jackson was ordained in the Cathedral that Sunday and joined us as our new curate. He and Sally moved from Durham during June.

During the first week of July we set up creative prayer stations in the building and invited people to come and reflect on what Covid had meant for them. There was opportunity to lament losses: of people we have loved who had died as well as the many other losses brought about by Covid. There was space too to pray for others and to look forward in hope. It was a small way in which we sought to 'weep with those who weep' and meet with the needs of our community.

With the Autumn came a partial return to gathered worship inside. We continued to advise wearing masks when that became permissible, singing from behind them when singing returned. We learned that *together* was good as we sought to meet for a single main Sunday service at 10:30 with a mix of singing styles through the month and people of all ages. Our early 08:30 Communion Service with hymns accompanied by the organ and familiar liturgy also became a regular fixture. Monthly Sunday Night Worship also made a welcome return as did monthly Choral Evensong.

Numbers on Sunday mornings continued to be modest and to grow slowly. Some were still fearful of gathering. Others found the challenges of returning to their Sunday pattern from before Covid difficult. We missed some regular faces. We were delighted to welcome some new people. A number coming to us in person having first encountered us online. The challenge of slowly rebuilding in numbers: numbers of worshippers; numbers committing to volunteering to serve in various ways remains a challenge as we recognise the toll that Covid has taken in many ways on many different people.

A gathering on the Oundle Primary School field in early November was well attended and received. There were sparklers and games and braziers and toffee apples and laughter and community. It was a good way of reconnecting.

Advent began with a welcome return of Christingle. To prevent a sense of overcrowding we had two services: 4pm and 6pm. Both were well attended and it was very special to gather in the candlelight and pray for our town, our community and our world. Advent also saw us embarking on a "Faith on the Frontline" course. Again many small groups took up this course and a bespoke group was created for those not already in small groups. Again a new Small Group emerged out of this and there was a real sense of both 'together' and 'deeper' as people got to know others in new ways. The Christian life is one we walk together. The idea is that as we grow in trust with our brothers and sisters in Christ we are increasingly willing to share life with them: to be vulnerable with each other and grow in depth of relationship as we seek to grow in depth of faith. The idea is that we accompany each other and support and help each other be followers of Jesus as we carry one another's burdens. That's the idea. And it has been encouraging to see those relationships forming and growing among many during Covid.

As 2021 neared its end so our knowledge of the Greek alphabet improved. By December the word 'omicron' was on everyone's lips. This Covid variant threatened to undo all the amazing work of vaccines. That was the possibility and therefore caution was advised. Plans for Christmas had to be altered in the light of it. It was wonderful to have Carols in the Market Place again on Christmas Eve. Liaising with the Council this outdoor service was allowed. It was packed and we sang carols and proclaimed the wonder of God coming amongst us into the mess of our human lives.

It was wonderful too to be able to have a Crib Service in Church again. Our donkey of former years is sadly no longer with us, but a Shetland pony provided an equally scripturally-compliant presence at the service. Sadly illness prevented our Baby Jesus actor being present in person. Omicron meant we limited numbers and required booking. We were quickly fully booked as we were for our Christmas celebration the next morning.

Never did I imagine in March 2020 that two years later Covid would still be affecting our lives. The truth is that it has changed us. We don't return to what we had before; we return to something new. To Jewish exiles 26 centuries ago God promised a future and a hope. They had been changed forever, but God had good things for them in that new future. In 2022 we need to learn to be a different kind of Church. And if we are a Church that is more *together*, enjoys *deeper* relationships with one another and with God and which generously loves and gives to others then we will be a Church with hope and a flourishing future.

By Stephen Webster

Section 2:

2.1 Churchwarden Report

There is one word that has featured in all aspects of church life during 2021- Change. It's hard to think back to January 2021 when we were still in lockdown and meeting together largely meant seeing each other on a screen. Things changed significantly as the year progressed and by Christmas 2021, we were able to welcome significant numbers of our community into St Peter's building.

The constant changes in response to lifting restrictions presented us all with different challenges and our staff team in particular had to continually adapt to a different way of doing things- for Sarah, Joe and Mark who joined us during lockdown there was the additional challenge of not knowing how things were done previously- my thanks to all of them for their willingness to simply get on with it. Martha also has had the additional challenge of moving from the many online formats that she developed for our young people in lockdown to in-person activities, at the same time as keeping them all engaged and safe together.

Into the ever-changing dynamics of church life in 2021 we were pleased to welcome Josh and Sally Jackson in June – Josh joining the clergy team as our curate.

The changes in 2021 also saw us re-establishing many of the volunteer roles that prior to Covid had been so ably filled by members of the St Peter's church family – a huge thank you to everyone who has stepped into a role serving others in our church.

Through all the changes of the last year we were indeed blessed to have the spiritual leadership and God-given wisdom of Stephen and Annabel to guide and encourage us.

When I stepped into the role as churchwarden in May of last year, I was very pleased to be partnering Steve Cunningham although sadly as it transpired only briefly. I am grateful to Steve for his support and patience during that time and indeed for all the years of faithful service he gave to St Peter's.

Siân Fytche
Churchwarden

2.2 PCC Report

During most of 2021, the PCC was made up of eight elected members, up to five Deanery Synod Representatives, two Churchwardens and up to three Clergy Team members. It was chaired by the incumbent (Rev Canon Stephen Webster) and met seven times in 2021 (20 January via Zoom, 25 March via Zoom, 20 April via Zoom, 16 June via Zoom, 14 September via Zoom, 23 November in person and 14 December via Zoom).

During these meetings, the PCC discussed a wide range of issues reflecting the life, mission and ministry of St Peter's. These have included Online Worship during the pandemic, Finance, Giving, Mission, Repairs to Building, acquisition of the Holdich organ, Development of NE side of Church Building, Green issues and Safeguarding.

As well as discussing practical matters of Church Life, each PCC meeting starts and ends with prayer. The PCC has established committees and project teams to help it with its work and receives regular reports from these groups. The established committees which helped PCC discharge its various duties and responsibilities during 2021 were: -

Standing Committee which is required by law, sets the agenda for PCC meetings and has delegated power to transact certain PCC business in between meetings. Membership in 2021 was made up of the Clergy team, the Churchwardens, the Vice Chair of the PCC, and an elected PCC Member. The Treasurer is entitled to attend.

Treasury Committee exists to support the work of the Treasurer in some of their key tasks: VAT recovery, Gift Aid and Giving, Insurance, Grant applications being amongst them. It also exists to provide scrutiny of the Church's finances and to assist with budget preparation and monitoring. In 2021 it met quarterly in advance of PCC meetings as part of a regular cycle of financial reporting and monitoring. It was chaired in 2021 by the Treasurer.

Lindsey Wallis is thanked for all her hard work on the accounts. Lindsey is a volunteer who is currently acting as St Peter's Finance Administrator.

Membership of PCC

(A) 01/01/21 – 12/05/21 (APCM)

Rev Stephen Webster (Chair), Steve Cunningham (Churchwarden), Emily Taylor (Churchwarden), Rev Annabel Copeland (Associate Vicar)

Deanery Synod: Peter Coatham, Cynthia Dimmock, Gill Morrison, Justine Turton

Elected Members: Mark Elkington, Siân Fytche, Ian Goldsmith, David Gooda, Suzy Higgins, Alan McMurdo, Janet McMurdo (Lay Chair), Sally Saunders, Kim Treverton

(B) 12/05/2021 – 31/12/2021

Rev Stephen Webster (Chair), Siân Fytche (Churchwarden), Steve Cunningham (Churchwarden until November), Rev Annabel Copeland (Associate Vicar), Rev Joshua Jackson (Assistant Curate from June)

Deanery Synod: Louise Foote, Angela Newell, Emily Taylor, Bobbie Turton (until June when she sadly passed away), Pam Weatherington

Elected Members: Mark Elkington, Ian Goldsmith, David Gooda, Alan McMurdo (until November), Janet McMurdo (Lay Vice Chair until November), Sally Saunders, Peter Taylor (co-opted from November), Kim Treverton,

PCC Secretary (until APCM): Justine Turton
Honorary PCC Secretary from June: Paulina Hunt

2.3 Electoral Roll Report

Year	TOTAL	Died	Moved Away	Addition
2019 (Full review)	261	n/a	n/a	n/a
2020 (Covid)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2021	236	11	21	7
2022	242	5	9	20

Peter Taylor

Section 3

3.1 Safeguarding Report

Policies and practice

Janet McMurdo was our Parish Safeguarding Officer for most of last year taking over from Tracey Cunningham who stepped down. Thank you to both these people for the work they have done to ensure we make our benefice a safe place for children and vulnerable adults. In November Janet McMurdo indicated her need to resign from the role due to a house move and the PCC elected Liz Mace as our new Safeguarding Officer pending DBS clearance.

Martha Barnes continues as the deputy Safeguarding Officer

In November Revd Annabel Copeland, in her role as Overseer of children, young people and families, took over from Revd Stephen Webster as the clergy lead on Safeguarding in the Benefice.

The clergy and PCCs of the benefice continue to meet the requirement to have due regard to guidance issued by the House of Bishops on matters relating to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding continues to be a standing item on every agenda of the PCC meetings.

All safeguarding policies are all in line with the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance and meet statutory requirements whilst remaining relevant to our particular context. Policies have been reviewed when needed to be.

The Diocesan Safeguarding Team has introduced a new Parish Safeguarding Dashboard. This is an online tool which allows PSOs to complete an audit of safeguarding policy and practice in the parish. Following the audit, an action plan is automatically generated to assist them in maintaining and improving their safeguarding practices. The benefice has signed up to this and the audits are currently being completed by the PSO. The subsequent action plans will be shared with the PCCs in due course.

Safer recruitment

The online system for DBS clearance is now well established. Our DBS verifiers are Martha Barnes and Sarah Vogt and they have worked hard over this year to update all DBS checks, some of which had lapsed due to us not meeting during COVID

As of December 2021, all those working with children or vulnerable adults either have an up to date DBS certificate or are in the process of their DBS being updated

Safeguarding Training

In April 2021, the Church of England published a new Safeguarding Learning and Development Framework. The focus of this framework is on developing a positive culture of safeguarding within the church, rather than simply focusing on process. It does mean that additional training modules may need to be completed.

All church members who need to have completed the required national C0, C1 and those in leadership are up to date with their C2 Safeguarding training

Safeguarding concerns and incidents

No safeguarding concerns have been raised during the year through completion of a pink form. However the Safeguarding Officer and others communicated at times about queries and informal issues to continue to keep children and vulnerable adults safe.

**By Revd Annabel Copeland
Clergy Safeguarding Lead**

3.2 Reference and Administrative Details

Reference and Administrative Details

Parochial Name	St Peter's, Oundle in the Rural Deanery of Oundle, Diocese of Peterborough
Postal Address	North Street, Oundle, PE8 4AL
Telephone Number	01832 275675
Email	administrator@stpetersoundle.co.uk
Website	www.oundlestpeters.org.uk
Bank	NatWest Bank, 25 Corporation Street, Corby NN17 1NR
Investment Bank	CCLA Investment Management Ltd, The CBF Church of England Funds, 80 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6DZ
Independent Examiners Staff Receiving Remuneration	Graham Darbourne at Bulley Davey, 6 North Street, Oundle, PE8 4AL
Through Parish Share	
Vicar	Rev Canon Stephen Webster
Associate Vicar	Rev Annabel Copeland
Assistant Curate	Rev Joshua Jackson
Through Salary	
Youth Minister	Martha Barnes
Administrator	Sarah Vogt
Facilities Coordinator	Mark Pearcey
Intern/ Online Specialist	Joe Gray

3.3 Structure, Governance and Management

Legal Status

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. Its governing documents are the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 (as amended) and the Church Representation Rules contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 (as amended). It became a registered charity on 12 November 2009 (No. 1132677).

Appointment

Appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules.

Risks which concern this busy and active church include:-

- a) **Safe Usage of the Church Site by all.** Legislative requirements are closely followed, e.g. the Health & Safety Act and Food Hygiene Regulations. There is regular inspection by a specialist fire protection agency, and displays of notices relating to fire, health and safety and first aid. Defects to plant are reported to the Chair of Resources Group, Adrian Christmas and remedied quickly according to the level of risk. Training is given, e.g. in first aid and food hygiene. One-off events are assessed for risk before being run.
- b) **Financial:** Prudent policies for the handling of money are in place. Major expenditure has to be approved by the PCC, which also approves an annual budget and receives quarterly monitoring reports. Cash flow is carefully managed, bills are paid promptly, and investment of any short-term funds carefully placed to ensure maximum return compatible with ready access.
- c) **Reputation:** Equal opportunities legislation is followed in relation to staff appointments, use of voluntary workers, and site lettings. We actively encourage people to come to join our activities and make use of our facilities.

3.4 Objectives and Activities

The primary object of the PCC and the St Peter's Church as a whole, is to worship God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit and to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. Our purpose as a Church is that when it comes to God's love all might *know* it, *live* transformed lives in response, and become a people who *give*. God's Love: Know it. Live it. Give it. We seek to proclaim this by our words and through our actions, to the people of our community and to the world beyond. We seek to grow in numbers as a fellowship of believers as more people respond to the good news of Jesus. We seek to grow in faith as together we explore what it is to be Jesus' disciples. This involves: Bible teaching, nurturing, developing new Christians, and equipping all Christians, studying, praying together, enjoying fellowship together and supporting one other. None of these initiatives or activities could happen without the commitment of dedicated volunteers.

It is also PCC policy for the church building to be made available for wider community use.

Section 4

4.1 Mission Support

In 2021, the Mission Support Group have been implementing the Mission policy adopted by the PCC in 2020. The main implications from this were that we tried to concentrate prayer and finance on fewer missions. Our main missions now are John and Gillian Robinson in Thailand (Crosslinks), Christian Healthcare in Bangladesh (USPG), Discipleship and Evangelism in the Middle East & North African countries through satellite broadcasting (Sat-7). These three receive the largest proportions of the budget and are featured every six months as a focus for prayer in the Sunday services in "Mission of the Month". The weekly church newsletter contains details about the mission and points for prayer. We also give significant portions of the budget to disaster relief & development projects in the Third World (TearFund) and help for the homeless in the UK (Hope into Action). These appear as the "Mission of the Month" every twelve months.

The remaining missions are: Christian Aid, Mothers Union, Chatabox, and The Children's Society. These also appear as "Mission of the Month" once every twelve months but do not receive financial support from our budget. Money is given from collections and individuals.

During 2021 we arranged two Sunday services with a mission focus. The Robinsons visited in July and Ed Walker from Hope into Action in November. Opportunities were also arranged outside of the church service to meet with the Robinsons. Now that Covid restrictions have been relaxed we intend to make more of such opportunities when a speaker from an outside organisation comes to St Peter's.

During 2021, we have recruited more Link people onto the Mission Support Group so we can get closer ties built up. We have updated the mission information on the church website.

Plans for 2022:

Refresh the Mission noticeboards in church.

USPG Speaker at Sunday Service 3rd July

Tear Fund speaker at Sunday Service 20th November.

Plan ahead for an opportunity to take a group abroad to encourage mission awareness - to visit the Robinsons perhaps?

By Peter Taylor
Mission Support Group

4.2 Building and Resources

St Peter's is a Grade 1 listed building most of which dates back to the 13th century, although some sections are slightly older. Because of its historic nature all work must be sensitively carried out, mostly with like-for-like materials and using traditional methods. Work on the church building therefore tends to be both costly and time consuming. Limited direct income means that we are severely constrained in what we can do and are heavily reliant on grants to achieve much of what we do. We would like to thank Historic England, The Friends of Oundle Parish Church and The Worshipful Company of Grocers for their grants during 2021. Without their support much of the essential work to retain the appearance of our beautiful church would not have been possible.

During the last year the following work has been undertaken:

Grant Funded

Repair work to:

- Damaged stonework in the east window of the south transept.
- Tie the church wall on the east and south sides into support buttresses and retain structural stability.
- Replace damaged glass.
- Refurbish the ferramenta (they are the external metal supports that hold the windows in place) of two windows.
- The stonework of the crypt door surround and the installation of a new oak door.

PCC Funded

- Annual inspection of the church roof, cleaning of all gutters and rainwater hoppers.
- Repairs to various areas of roof.
- Repairs to bird guard inside steeple.
- Minor day to day building and equipment maintenance

During the coming year the following work is planned:

Grant Funded

Funded by grants from The Friends of Oundle Parish Church:

- Repointing of areas of defective stonework and replacing two cracked rainwater downpipes.
- Improvements to the underfloor ventilation of the North Aisle (to match the South Aisle) and refurbishing the flooring in that area.

PCC Funded

- Alterations to sections of the church electrical system to ensure they comply with the latest electrical regulations.
- Annual inspection of the church roof, cleaning of all gutters and rainwater hoppers.
- Cleaning of moss from stonework, particularly on the north side of the church.
- Minor day to day building and equipment maintenance
- Refurbishing and repainting the blue painted south door which is starting to need attention.
- Repairs to the heating system to remedy the cold radiators at the west end of the church. There has been a problem with these radiators for some time and the cause is proving to be very difficult to track down. We hope to have them working for next winter.

By David Gooda and John Grubb

4.3 Senior Adults

2021 was another year of Covid challenges, stops and starts, and creative planning.

Tuesday Club met in small groups for tea parties in volunteers' gardens once the weather was warm enough for people to sit outside. From September we were able to meet again in church as before Covid on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday afternoons in the month and full activities resumed. We spread out into the church from the Lady Chapel to give people more space. We have had some new volunteer helpers join us and some new Tuesday Club members. The afternoon is an opportunity gather to play scrabble or similar games, jigsaws or just enjoy the company of others, followed by a 'thought for the day' from a member of the clergy team, a hot drink and tasty home-made cake. Tuesday Club finishes around the time that West Porch café begins, and it has been good to have the gentle buzz of the overlap of the generations in the building.

Explorations Outings Committee decided unanimously that, having run with great success for 12 years prior to the pandemic, this activity would not be resuming as restrictions lift. I would like to thank all involved in Explorations Outings for their thoughtfulness, commitment, careful organisation and all of the opportunities and experiences they have offered many senior adults in our community whilst running the service.

Plans are well underway for a Holiday at Home in June this year. It will run on slightly reduced numbers from previous years, but we are very much looking forward to welcoming people back into church for this lovely day of activities, lunch, and enjoying gathering together. Flyers and details of how to book a place will appear once activities available are finalised.

Monday Munch Club at Oundle Primary School met in December for Christmas Dinner over two sittings to accommodate Covid restrictions. Due to the requirement for the school hall to be well ventilated during sessions, the Munch Club Committee took the decision to pause until the warmer spring weather and the next meal is planned for April after which lunches will return to their usual pattern with slightly restricted numbers. Thank you to the Munch Club Committee and to Oundle Primary School for all the work that has gone into making this happen and providing such a great opportunity for the senior adults to come and enjoy a meal together.

Although not strictly a "seniors' activity" the Thursday @10.30 Holy Communion service followed by refreshments has been a weekly opportunity to meet for worship, fellowship and to enjoy time together. This congregation has grown steadily over the year and being able to stay in church for refreshments afterwards now restrictions have lifted has created an opportunity for people to enjoy being together and chatting after the isolation of the lockdowns.

Pastoral Visiting and Home Communion both in people's homes and supported living facilities is gradually resuming as access to communal areas opens and when people feel comfortable having visitors. We have a wonderful group of pastoral visitors who support our senior adults' ministry, who have supported people via telephone calls and visits as restrictions have allowed.

For the majority of 2021, a weekly printed newsletter (an offline edited version of the email newsletter), was delivered to people who were unable to access online church news and information. Now the Covid restrictions have lifted, church service patterns have settled, and people are out and about more, a monthly printed newsletter is now being produced which is a summary of news and upcoming events from the e-newsletter and Church Suite. This is available at the back of church for people who are able to attend church and continues to be delivered to those who are housebound.

**By Louise Foote
Lay Chaplain**

4.4 Youth Work

Young people's needs and their desire to explore faith have been kept right at the centre of the youth ministry in 2021. The youth work has supported the church's mission of 'know it, live it, give it', and we have seen the young people start to develop relationships with Jesus. There is a large, highly skilled team involved with all areas of the youth ministry who have built relationships with the young people and are a vital part of the organisation and engagement with our young people. We started the year in a lockdown and were continuing our youth work in small groups online. We found that we were able to engage with more young people online in small groups, and this meant we kept in contact with the majority of our young people from church. We had four small groups with an average of four young people per group, between the ages of 11-18. West Porch Café was also online once a week, which kept a core of around six to eight young people. There was little provision for young people when it came to Sunday services. As the restrictions started to lift, this work continued, but we started to meet in person, which saw the young people attend more consistently than before. From September 2021, we started the original discipleship groups again (The Way and Rooted). The Way had very regular attendance from seven young people, some of whom attended church most Sundays too, where 'Breathe' is seeing three to four young people each session. There is a real sense of family and discipleship at The Way and it continues to be successful. The Rooted group (ages 14-18) struggled to start up again, with only three young people making a commitment, as opposed to a potential 10+ young people. This eventually got put on pause, with the small group of regular attendees meeting before Christmas to discuss the possibility of a new small group. West Porch Café started again in the church, this time filling the whole of the nave, and numbers soon boosted back to between 20-30 a week, the majority from Prince William School with a few from other schools too. The partnership with Souster Youth continues, as Martha continues to lead lunch clubs, wellbeing sessions and lessons in school. This was disrupted for the first half of 2021, but has picked up since the summer, and in the Autumn we saw a crossover between West Porch Café and lunch clubs/ groups at school which is really encouraging to see. Our hope for the youth ministry is that it will continue to flourish, and to maintain these strong relationships with our young people.

By Martha Barnes
Youth Minister

Kids Church

The beginning of the year found us in lockdown and restricted on face-to-face ministry amongst children and families. I too was new to the role, so focused initially on contacting each family either by phone or a Zoom call. From conversation I had it was clear that our families were doing an amazing job supporting their children in a very challenging situation. To enable our families to continue to help develop faith in their children we gave out Lent activity bags to those families with children who were of Kids church age, these bags contained a variety of activities, a Bible reading and some prayers for each week of Lent and from those who received them I believe this helped them have some discussions about faith.

At Easter many families came along to the Wander through Easter event held in church where through interactive stations families could explore the meaning of the Easter story.

Come the Summer term life began to open up and we were able to gather again for worship outside. Each week activity sheets were provided for children to explore the theme of the service. Also a wonderful team of volunteers helped me prepare and lead a monthly Outdoor Family Worship time on Oundle Primary School field, for those who attended these were encouraging times of worshipping together and meeting up again after many months being unable to see other families.

Come September we were able to be back in the church building and restart Kids Church groups. I am very grateful to a fantastic team of volunteers who so willingly serve our children in leading sessions to enable them to grow in faith. As we regathered it was evident that some volunteers from the past felt it was now time to step down from serving and also some families were feeling it was not time to return to church. This meant we reorganised into four Sunday groups- Breathe for young people in years 7-9, Launchpad (a new name) for children in years 3-6, Powerpack for children in Years reception to Year 2 and God Tots for pre-school children. Also due to a limited number of leaders and helpers we felt it better to meet twice a month and so on the other two Sundays there is an All-In service and a new session developed on the other Sunday of the month called Praise Party- this is an opportunity for the children to worship together, to explore more creative ways to prayer and explore the Bible as well as giving an opportunity for some of our older children to be involved in planning and leading sessions. As always I am so grateful to the many volunteers who make our Kids Church sessions a great place for our children to be and a place where they can discover more about how to know Jesus, live in his love and give God's love away to others.

Tiny Tots

Tiny Tots is a weekly session run on a Wednesday afternoon for pre-school children and their parents and carers. At the start of the year Tiny Tots was unable to meet in person so I am very grateful to the Oundle School young people guided by Becca and Tabitha who created craft bags each week and to Nadine who made a craft video to help families engage with the story of the week which was recorded by either myself or Stephen and put out on the Messy Church Facebook page. 20-30 bags were regularly collected from the church porch and families showed great appreciation for what was provided.

During the summer term, due to the generosity of Oundle Primary School we were finally able to start meeting in person outside on a marked off area of the school playing field. It was fantastic to meet up again and for some children was the first time they had met other children in a group as they had been born during lockdown. For parents too the group was a vital support to help process many of the challenges of the past year and find new friendships. From September we were able to move back to the Community Room at Oundle Primary School and over the Autumn term saw a steady growth in numbers and depth of friendship. Each week there is a chance for the children to play and parents to chat followed by a snack and Bible story, prayer and singing time. I want to give a huge thank you to the team of volunteers from St Peters who faithfully serve each week and have offered pastoral support to many parents through timely conversations. I have also been encouraged to begin to see families from Tiny Tots come along to church and discover more about faith in Jesus. We are also blessed each week to be joined by young people from Oundle School who play a vital role helping run Tiny Tots.

Chattabox

It was a delight this summer to be able to run Chattabox in person and a huge thank you to all those volunteers, adults and young people, who made this possible and especially to Sian who led it all so well. We have a limited number of children than in previous years so as to remain COVID safe but for all the children who came, the sessions were thoroughly enjoyed with lots of fun and discovery about Jesus happening. Our theme was Wonderzone which provided an opportunity to Discover more about God's Wonderful World through stories, singing, prayers, craft, games and discussion.

Schools Ministry

For the first 6 months of the year Stephen or I were recording a Collective Worship each week which was sent to Oundle Primary school and Glapthorn school. At the end of the summer term we were able to host a Year 6 leavers service at St Peter's and at Glapthorn in person, it felt very special to finally be able to welcome children back into church. In the autumn term each week we delivered in person a Collective Worship assembly in both schools and also hosted a Carol Service for each school. Our pastoral support at both schools has continued throughout the year and Stephen was a Governor at Oundle Primary school along with Trevor Frewin and Lesley Gooda. Annabel is part of the Church Group at Glapthorn looking at church school ethos.

Other Events

It was a joy in the autumn to gather families together in person for a Bonfire Party-a great time had by all and lovely to renew friendships between families in person.

At Christmas we were able through generous donations to our Friends in Need fund to give a Christmas Meal hamper to 5 families in Oundle who otherwise may not have had a Christmas dinner this year.

We had also planned to run a one-day Chattabox Christmas Holiday Club but sadly this was cancelled at the last minute due to COVID but activity bags were put together that families came and collected from the church instead. In summary can I thank everyone who is involved in serving and blessing our children and families, without your commitment none of what has been achieved this year would have been possible.

If reading what has been going on has excited you and you'd like to join the team then please do contact me and we can have a chat about possibly getting involved.

**By Revd Annabel Copeland
Associate Vicar**

Section 5

Report on PCC Financial Activities (Treasurer's Report)

This report is on the 2021 financial year and is based on the examined accounts as issued at the APCM.

It was a year when we can again thank God for His faithfulness to us. Ultimately everything we have comes from God (and when we give it comes from what He has given us). He is the one who has more than provided for all our needs. This has remained especially true during a year where the global pandemic continued to impact all of us.

During a normal week when the Church is open it costs circa £5,106 per week to cover the on-going expenses that enable us to be St Peter's Church. This number continues to rise every year as a result of inflation and other cost pressures. This cost was lower during 2021 at circa £4,774 per week as a result of the Church building being closed during 3 months of the year due to the pandemic.

We rely solely on generous giving to allow us to continue as we receive no funding from the Church of England or the state. We encourage everyone who feels part of the St Peter's community to give, as they feel able, to enable us to continue as a Church.

Giving

St Peter's relies on the generosity of our Church community to fund all its activities. Total income for the Church during 2021 was £242,330. This is £79,192 less than income for 2020 (£321,522), largely as a result of the 2020 income having been bolstered by a large donation for Youth Minister funding and the wonderful response we had to our appeal for funds in response to the pandemic.

Of the 2021 total income of £242,330, £159,877 was planned giving, £10,127 were one-off donations and £17,319 were grants. We recovered tax under the Government's Gift Aid scheme of £37,109.

2021 giving was at similar levels to 2020 during the year with a small uptick in November and December. Planned giving does not cover all of St Peter's expenses, even with the reduced level of spending resulting from the Church being closed for part of the year.

We continue to be grateful for the generosity of the members of the St Peter's Church community. We ask, where possible, that those giving do so through the Parish Giving Scheme that has now been in operation successfully for the last two years. This planned giving enables St Peter's to be more confident in its decisions about using funds to grow the Church and serve God and the community.

During any year there will be members of our Church Family who move away, are unable to give as much or in some cases, sadly, pass-on. The underlying decline is on average £7,000 per annum.

There are two further funding challenges. First, our Youth Minister role relies on circa £14,000 per year of seed-funding to make up the difference between on-going pledged giving and the cost of the role's salary. We would love for this role to be fully funded from on-going pledged giving and need to recognise that the seed-fund is limited. Second, a review of our spending on the Church building has highlighted that too often we react to problems, rather than having a programme of planned maintenance and taking action quickly when problems are discovered. A planned maintenance programme has been costed at £16,400 per year, of which we currently spend £9,600; a gap of £6,800. We expect that carrying out more planned maintenance will, over time, both reduce the number of problems and reduce the intensity of problems when discovered. We need to find means of funding this increased cost.

We are very grateful for one off donations and grants that supplement our income; and are also very fortunate to be supported by the Friends of St Peter's Church Charitable Trust for help in maintaining our beautiful church building. In addition to anonymous donations from individuals we received grants of £6,500 from the Worshipful Company of Grocers that will be used to pay for heating and stonework repairs (delayed until 2022 due to the pandemic) and £1,900 from FEOFFEES. We also received the final £2,125 from the Historic England Covid-19 Emergency Heritage at Risk Fund.

During 2022 it is likely that a Holdich pipe organ will be donated to the church. The organ currently requires refurbishment and the cost of the organ, refurbishment and installation would be donated to the church in full at a figure of £120,000 including VAT. There will be some charges relating to the fitting of this organ which might be in the region of £6,000. These charges will be funded by the church from the existing organ fund.

Spend

2021 spend of £260,916 was £10,985 more than 2020 spend of £249,931. In 2021 we carried out £17,538 of capital projects compared to £12,660 in 2020. Excluding capital projects, 2021 spend was £6,107 more than 2020 spend largely as a result of the Church being opened for 6 months more than 2020.

The largest item of spend is the Diocesan Parish Share (£128,728 in 2021) being our contribution to the Stipends, Housing and Training both of the current clergy, and of future clergy (ordinands in training) in the Diocese and their Pension and National Insurance costs. Oundle is a 'two-clergy' benefice with the role of Associate Vicar being filled during 2020 and full time during 2021.

During 2021, in addition to £17,538 of capital projects, we spent a further £12,470 on the care, maintenance and development of our church building. This expenditure covers everything from fixing the windows to keeping the heating working.

Other major spend areas for the Church include non-Clergy salaries at £49,676, mission giving at £23,354 and utility payments at £7,692.

Reserves and Funds

The current reserves stand at £20,463 for buildings and £56,383 for general reserves. The level of buildings reserve is set based on a historical view of replacement costs. The general reserves level is set at three months of running costs. The PCC had planned to review our reserves policy during 2021, however this was delayed due to the pandemic. The PCC plan to review our reserves policy during 2022 based on guidance from the Charities Commission.

The General Fund has reduced from £163,302 in 2020 to £146,599 in 2021. This reduction in the general fund was largely a result of the ability to spend funds that we had planned to spend in 2020 but could not because pandemic lockdowns. Of 2020's general fund surplus of £58,713, £16,737 has been spent in 2021, of which £9,707 was funds received in 2020 for the Youth Minister. We have also spent £5,000 from the Designated Organ Fund on legal costs associated with the Holdich Organ project.

Of the £146,599 it should be noted that 49,042 is our tangible fixed assets such as organ, AV equipment, boiler, etc., £36,167 is our working capital and £9,707 is seed funding for our Youth Minister. The remaining £51,683 is in surplus and the PCC is currently prayerfully considering its potential uses.

Governance

The PCC sets financial policies for the Church. The Treasury team operates within the financial policies set by the PCC. The Treasury team consists of the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer/Giving Officer and the Finance Co-

ordinator. This team reports to the Treasury Committee which consists of one member of the Clergy and two lay members. It is this committee's responsibility to scrutinise the detail of the Treasury team's work. The Treasurer updates every PCC meeting with a summary accounts position. Annual accounts are independently examined.

I continue to thank God for the support of all who have helped me in my role as Treasurer and to trust God that through the generosity of all who give He will provide all that we need to do the things He has called us to as St Peter's continues to seek to be a community of worship, mission, outreach and service to our town and the world beyond.

**By Mark Elkington
Treasurer**

Section 6

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Oundle St Peter's Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts of Oundle St Peter's Parochial Church Council, charity number 1132677, for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Respective responsibilities of trustees 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 my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, subject to not having seen the Trustees Report, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
 - proper accounting records are kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act; or
- 2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Graham Darbourne FCA
TC Group
6 North Street
Oundle
Peterborough
PE8 4AL

Date: 22/5/22

Section 7

Financial Report (Yearly Accounts)

PLEASE SEE SEPARATE FINANCIAL REPORT

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	FUNDS 2020 £
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Voluntary income	Vol	215,749	14,837	-	230,586	315,995
Fund generating activities	Fin	3,426	-	-	3,426	1,829
Income from investments	Inv	100	-	372	472	855
Church activities	Ch	7,786	60	-	7,846	2,843
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		227,061	14,897	372	242,330	321,522
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Church activities: Grants/Donations	Ch	23,204	150	-	23,354	18,232
Church activities: Relating directly to Church work	Ch	225,030	12,532	-	237,562	231,592
Costs of generating voluntary income	Fin	-	-	-	-	107
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		248,234	12,682	-	260,916	249,931
NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		(21,173)	2,215	372	(18,586)	71,591
Revaluation reserve						
Fixed assets	Fin	(840)	-	-	(840)	-
Gains / (Losses) on fair value revaluation						
Investments	Inv	263	-	1,807	2,070	549
		(577)	-	1,807	1,230	549
Fund Transfers		80	(80)	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(21,670)	2,135	2,179	(17,356)	72,140
BALANCES B/FWD 1ST JANUARY		256,668	34,948	15,732	307,348	235,208
BALANCES C/FWD 31 DECEMBER		234,998	37,083	17,911	289,992	307,348

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	FUNDS 2020 £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible	bal	49,042	-	-	49,042	55,109
Investment	bal	1,017	-	14,574	15,591	13,521
		<u>50,059</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,574</u>	<u>64,633</u>	<u>68,630</u>
CURRENT ASSETS						
Stock	bal	130	-	-	130	418
Debtors	bal	7,335	3	-	7,337	7,896
Short term deposits		123,543	16,056	2,893	142,492	142,164
Cash at bank and in hand		71,666	24,657	444	96,767	101,777
		<u>202,674</u>	<u>40,716</u>	<u>3,337</u>	<u>246,726</u>	<u>252,195</u>
LIABILITIES						
Creditors falling due in one year	T	(17,735)	(3,633)	-	(21,368)	(13,477)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>184,939</u>	<u>37,083</u>	<u>3,337</u>	<u>225,358</u>	<u>238,718</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>234,998</u>	<u>37,083</u>	<u>17,911</u>	<u>289,992</u>	<u>307,348</u>
PARISH FUNDS						
Unrestricted	ff	234,998	-	-	234,998	256,668
Restricted		-	37,083	-	37,083	34,948
Endowment		-	-	17,911	17,911	15,732
TOTAL		<u>234,998</u>	<u>37,083</u>	<u>17,911</u>	<u>289,992</u>	<u>307,348</u>

We hereby approve the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

M Elkington (Treasurer)

Date:

22nd May 2022

Rev'd Canon S Webster

Date:

22nd May 2022

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2008 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

FUNDS AND RESERVES

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

Restricted funds represent (a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest, and (b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separated investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

The unrestricted funds are general funds which are used for purposes defined by the PCC :-

GENERAL FUND

The Fund's aim is to contain at least three months running costs of the church, with the PCC allocating any surplus.

BUILDING FUND

This contains monies reserved by the PCC to cover specific future projects related to the upkeep of infrastructure, including monies allocated for Quinquennial repair costs.

PARVIS ROOF

This contains monies designated for the Parvis Roof repairs.

ORGAN FUND

This contains monies being donated specifically to be spent on the organ.

INCOMING RESOURCES

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitled to the use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable. Dividends are accounted for when declared receivable, interest as and when accrued by the payer. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross. The PCC is not registered for VAT, however the equivalent to the cost of VAT is reclaimable as a grant under the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme for qualifying costs related to the fabric of the building.

RESOURCES EXPENDED

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over. The parish share is accounted for when due. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

FIXED ASSETS

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated as follows:

Audio/CCTV	Straight line over 5 years
Projector	Straight line over 5 years
Lighting	Straight line over 10 years
Boiler	Straight line over 10 years
Church Assets	Straight line over 50 years

Investments are valued at market value at 31st December 2021.

2 ASSOCIATED CHARITIES

- (i) The Oundle Church Clock Fund: Chairman of Trustees, Revd Canon Stephen Webster
- (ii) The Friends of Oundle Parish Church: Chairman of Trustees, Ian Goldsmith
- (iii) William Walcott's Foundation: Chairman of Trustees, Revd Canon Stephen Webster

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021

3 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	FUNDS 2020 £
(a) Voluntary Income					
Planned giving:					
Gift Aid donations	135,425	60	-	135,485	134,415
Other	24,392	-	-	24,392	30,088
Sundry donations:					
Grants	5,920	11,399	-	17,319	13,536
Gift Aid donations	1,422	870	-	2,292	3,208
Cash collections	1,054	-	-	1,054	752
Thanksgiving Campaign	1,200	-	-	1,200	45,150
Legacies	-	-	-	-	5,000
Youth Minister Seed Funding	5,100	-	-	5,100	30,000
Other giving	4,235	2,400	-	6,635	7,796
Tax recoverable	37,001	108	-	37,109	46,090
	215,749	14,837	-	230,586	315,995
(b) Fund generating activities					
Feed in Tariff income	3,426	-	-	3,426	1,629
	3,426	-	-	3,426	1,629
(c) Income from investments	100	-	372	472	855
	100	-	372	472	855
(d) From operating activities					
Bookstall	86	-	-	86	117
Lettings	1,738	-	-	1,738	270
Munch Club meals	-	60	-	60	648
Fees for weddings/funerals	5,962	-	-	5,962	1,808
	7,786	60	-	7,846	2,843
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	227,961	14,897	372	242,330	321,522

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021

4	RESOURCES EXPENDED	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	TOTAL 2020 £
(a)	Grants/Donations(see note 9)					
	Missionary and charitable giving					
	Church overseas - missionary societies	17,320	-	-	17,320	13,820
	Other	5,884	150	-	6,034	4,412
		<u>23,204</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,354</u>	<u>18,232</u>
(b)	Relating directly to church work					
	Ministry Expenditure					
	Diocesan parish share	128,728	-	-	128,728	128,728
	Clergy expenses	1,072	-	-	1,072	1,537
	Training	498	-	-	498	1,426
	Church Expenditure					
	Maintenance and minor repairs	6,390	3,460	-	9,850	4,868
	Quinquennial	2,620	-	-	2,620	4,077
	Building ministry projects	6,967	8,402	-	15,369	8,583
	Utilities	7,692	-	-	7,692	6,500
	Worship	4,631	-	-	4,631	2,849
	Outreach	1,460	538	-	1,998	2,385
	Pastoral	31	35	-	66	361
	Youth (including salaries)	29,720	97	-	29,817	30,170
	Depreciation	5,227	-	-	5,227	5,227
	Management & Administration					
	Insurance	5,287	-	-	5,287	5,278
	Parish Office	3,156	-	-	3,156	4,323
	Other admin costs	371	-	-	371	348
	Staff costs: Salaries and pensions	21,180	-	-	21,180	24,932
		<u>225,030</u>	<u>12,532</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>237,562</u>	<u>231,592</u>
(c)	Fund-raising costs					
	Costs of fundraising campaigns and events	-	-	-	-	107
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>107</u>
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	248,234	12,682	-	260,916	249,931

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021

5

(a) FIXED ASSETS

Tangible

	CHURCH ASSETS £	AUDIO £	IT £	LIGHTING £	BOILER £	TOTAL £
Cost/Valuation						
At cost/valuation at 1 January 2021	45,000	46,821	1,124	48,750	35,767	177,462
Revaluation in year	(840)	-	-	-	-	(840)
At 1 January and 31 December 2021	44,160	46,821	1,124	48,750	35,767	176,622
Depreciation						
Opening balance	800	43,595	594	48,750	28,614	122,353
Charge for the year	200	1,075	375	-	3,577	5,227
At 31 December 2021	1,000	44,670	969	48,750	32,191	127,580
Net Book Value						
At Jan 1st 2021	44,200	3,226	530	-	7,153	55,109
At Dec 31st 2021	43,160	2,151	155	-	3,576	49,042

The church assets were revalued during 2017 in accordance with transition to SORP FRS 102 (note 13).

The last full revaluation of church assets took place on the 4 February 2022 by Ian Goldsmith of Goldsmiths Auctioneers. The valuables were valued at £34,160.

The valuation was based upon the fair value which could be reasonably expected to be received under normal market conditions. The valuation required research of items sold at auction and insurance values.

The revaluation in 2017 resulted in a fair value adjustment to the revaluation reserve of £40,087.

The revaluation in 2018 resulted in a reduction of £2,587.

The revaluation in 2019 resulted in an increase of £7,500. There was no change to values at 31 December 2020.

The revaluation in 2021 resulted in a decrease of £840.

(b)

Investments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL £
Market value 1 January 2021	754	-	12,767	13,521
Revaluation gain/(loss)	263	-	1,807	2,070
Market value at 31 December 2021	1,017	-	14,574	15,591
Holdings at 31 December 2021				
	Fund	Opening value	Movement	Value at 31/12/21
450 Shares in NatWest Group (formerly Royal Bank of Scotland)	General	754	263	1,017
Chancel: 428 Income units in CBF Investment Fund	Chancel	8,769	1,241	10,010
Jesus Church: 195.15 Income units in CBF Investment Fund	Jesus Church	3,998	506	4,504
		13,521	2,070	15,591

6

CURRENT ASSETS

(a)

Stocks

Communion supplies, cups

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Communion supplies, cups	130	-	-	130	418
	130	-	-	130	418

(b)

Debtors

Income tax recoverable

Agency Collections

Other debtors and prepayments

Income tax recoverable	3,996	3	-	3,999	1,664
Agency Collections	-	-	-	-	90
Other debtors and prepayments	3,329	-	-	3,329	6,082
	7,335	3	-	7,337	7,836

7

LIABILITIES

Creditors falling due within one year

Accruals and Deferred Income

Other creditors and accruals

Creditors falling due within one year	7,065	-	-	7,065	2,515
Accruals and Deferred Income	10,660	3,633	-	14,293	10,962
Other creditors and accruals	17,735	3,633	-	21,368	13,477

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021

8	GRANTS RECEIVABLE	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
	Listed Places of Worship Grant Claims	3,420	-	-	3,420	2,586
	Worshipful Company of Grocers	-	1,500	-	1,500	1,500
	Worshipful Company of Grocers - Dame Margaret Stanley Fund	-	5,000	-	5,000	-
	Feedoffs	-	1,900	-	1,900	1,850
	Feedoffs for Munch Club	-	750	-	750	500
	Waitrose Community Matters for Munch Club	-	124	-	124	325
	Western Power Distribution 'In This Together' - Community Matters	-	-	-	-	400
	Historic England COVID-19 Emergency Heritage at Risk Response Ff	-	2,125	-	2,125	6,375
	Diocese of Peterborough	2,500	-	-	2,500	-
		5,920	11,399	-	17,319	13,536

9 MISSIONARY AND CHARITABLE GIVING

UK and overseas. This is reviewed by the Missions Group who recommend any changes to the PCC.

	Unrestricted 2021 £	Restricted 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
CHURCH OVERSEAS				
Missionary Societies				
CMS	812	-	812	2,032
BCMT (formerly Crosslinks)	5,280	-	5,280	4,878
SAT7	4,415	-	4,415	1,626
Tearfund	1,760	-	1,760	1,626
South America Mission Society - FEISA	648	-	648	1,626
US	4,405	-	4,405	2,032
	17,320	-	17,320	13,820
Other				
Historic Churches Preservation Trust	50	-	50	50
Langley House Trust	648	-	648	1,620
Hope into Action	1,760	-	1,760	813
Coffee surplus to be allocated	-	-	-	100
FIT to friends of St Peter's Church	3,426	-	3,426	1,629
Robinsons Bangkok	-	150	150	-
	5,884	150	6,034	4,412
TOTAL	23,204	150	23,354	18,232

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021

10 CBF DEPOSIT FUNDS

	GENERAL £	BUILDINGS £	ORGAN £
OPENING BALANCE	93,394	29,548	16,584
Interest	49	15	9
From / (To) Current Account	-	-	-
CLOSING BALANCE	<u>93,443</u>	<u>29,563</u>	<u>16,593</u>

	Endowment CHANCEL £
OPENING BALANCE	2,638
Dividends	254
Interest	1
CLOSING BALANCE	<u>2,893</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021

11 ANALYSIS OF FUNDS

	Balance at 1 January 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Balance at 31 December 2021
	£	£	£		£	£
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds:						
Building Fund	20,448	15	-	-	-	20,463
General reserve	56,334	49	-	-	-	56,383
Organ Fund	16,584	9	(5,000)	-	-	11,593
General fund	163,302	226,968	(243,234)	80	(577)	146,559
	<u>256,668</u>	<u>227,051</u>	<u>(248,234)</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>(577)</u>	<u>234,998</u>
Restricted funds						
Feeoffees	3,200	1,900	(1,100)	-	-	4,000
Servary Project	13,000	-	(900)	-	-	12,100
Hardship Fund	278	-	(18)	-	-	262
Worshipful Company of Grocers	1,500	6,500	(1,500)	-	-	6,500
Holiday at Home	647	-	-	-	-	647
Cremated Remains Area	357	-	(80)	-	-	297
Western Power	80	-	-	(80)	-	-
Friends of Oundle Parish Church	3,956	-	(107)	-	-	3,849
Clock & Bells Fund	2,868	-	-	-	-	2,868
OCYA for Youth Minister	500	-	-	-	-	500
Munch Club	1,346	934	(166)	-	-	2,114
Explorations Outings	259	-	-	-	-	259
Historic England	5,270	2,125	(7,395)	-	-	-
Friends in Need	363	3,113	(541)	-	-	2,935
Bereavement Fund	-	50	-	-	-	50
Laptop Fund	800	-	(800)	-	-	-
West Porch Café	524	275	(97)	-	-	702
	<u>34,948</u>	<u>14,897</u>	<u>(12,682)</u>	<u>(80)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,083</u>
Endowment funds						
Chancel compounding fund	11,407	257	-	-	1,241	12,905
Jesus Church income fund	4,325	115	-	-	566	5,006
	<u>15,732</u>	<u>372</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,807</u>	<u>17,911</u>
Total funds	<u>307,348</u>	<u>242,330</u>	<u>(260,915)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,230</u>	<u>289,991</u>

The Feeoffees was grants received for expenditure on the fabric of the building and for youth minister costs. Spending of most of the funds has been delayed due to COVID-19 and contractor availability. The funds have been allocated to be spent on works due to commence in 2022.

The Servary Project Fund contains donations to be spent on the Servary Project.

The Hardship Fund was a donation received to provide a fund to spent on small grants for members of the congregation in financial difficulty.

Worshipful Company of Grocers - grants to be spent on the fabric of the building. COVID delayed these works and the funds will be spent in 2022.

Holiday at Home Fund is donations received specifically for the running of the Holiday at Home Event - this event has not been held since 2019.

The Cremated Remains Area fund was a legacy to be used on the cremated remains area.

Western Power is a grant received for provision of Christmas Hampers.

The Friends fund consists of donations from the Friends of Oundle Parish Church to be spent on projects as agreed between the PCC and the Friends.

The Clock & Bells Fund is funding for the Clock Tower and Bell works.

OCYA for Youth Minister is a donation received for the costs related to the Youth Minister.

The Munch Club came under St Peter's umbrella from December 2018. The funds are administered separately.

The Explorations Outings fund are funds raised to be expended on outreach.

Historic England fund is funding from Historic England for repair works.

Friends in Need Fund is donations received to be allocated at the Vicar's discretion for parishioners in need.

The Bereavement fund is a donation specifically for the use of the bereavement team.

Laptop fund is a donation received to fund the purchase of a laptop for the vicar.

The West Porch Café fund are funds raised to be expended on youth.

12 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year the Trustees made aggregate donations to St Peter's Church totaling £29,295 (2020: £71,043).

13 POST BALANCE SHEET EVENT

During 2022 it is likely that a pipe organ will be donated to the church. The organ currently requires refurbishment and the cost of the organ, refurbishment and installation would be donated to the church in full at a figure of £120,000 including VAT. There will be some charges relating to the fitting of this organ which might be in the region of £8,000. These charges will be funded by the church from the existing organ fund.

Section 8

Report on Deanery Matters: an annual review of business

Oundle Deanery Synod restarted meeting in June 2021, having had a pause in gathering since March 2020 due to the pandemic. In the June meeting there was a discussion on "Looking back-looking forward: sharing our experience" which gave all those present an opportunity to share their experiences of church life during the pandemic. The November meeting focused on current encouragements and challenges in church life. We also heard some very encouraging stories from around the Deanery about positive missional activities.

In the summer Peter Coatham stepped down after many years as Lay Chair of Oundle Deanery. As well as doing this role so well over many years – Dot (Peter's wife) and he were wonderful Deanery School supporters. They were known in every primary school and much valued for their wise advice and their regular leading of Collective Worship. The Synod expressed their great thanks to Peter (and Dot) for their service over the years through the giving of a gift.

By the end of 2021, two Benefices (Kings Cliffe Benefice and the Seven Churches Benefice) were both in vacancy due to clergy retirement. It is hoped that appointments for these Benefices will be made in early 2022.

Another notable retirement is that of the Venerable Gordon Steele as Archdeacon of Oakham. Again much thanks has been expressed for his contribution over the years to our Deanery. The Venerable Alison Booker will be collated as the new Archdeacon of Oakham in February 2022. Alison joins the Diocese from Leicester Diocese where she was Area Dean of the Launde Deanery. She comes with considerable experience of rural ministry and we look forward to welcoming her to Oundle Deanery in due course.

By Emily Taylor
Lay Chair, Oundle Deanery

Section 9

The Friends of Oundle Parish Church 2016

Registered Charity No.1168165

Report to the PCC for the calendar year 1st January 2021 — 31st December 2021

The charity

The Friends were formed in 1983 to help maintain the Church of St. Peter in Oundle and restore it where necessary. Donations, the sale of electricity produced by the solar panels on the Church roof and fund-raising are the principal income sources of the charity, supplemented by income from COIF investments and the annual Income Tax refund for donations qualifying for Gift Aid.

The objective of the charity as stated in the Constitution is as follows: To promote for the benefit the public, including the widest access and use especially for the inhabitants the parish of Oundle in the county of Northamptonshire, the permanent preservation and enhancement of Oundle Parish Church as a building of architectural and historical interest.

Bequest

Further to the passing of Ms. Sue Thomas, our previous Chair, Trustees a total bequest of **£327,352** from her Estate. This magnificent bequest will further enhance the ability of the Trustees in fulfilling the charity's objectives.

Activities and Achievements

The annual submission of our Accounts and Trustee Report for last year to the Charity Commission was accepted without query.

The year has been greatly affected by the COVID pandemic and the vast majority of Church planned works have been on hold. We are currently committed to make donations for works to the North Aisle flooring and for stonework repairs as part of the Churches Quinquennial repairs. These donations will be in the order of £20,000.

We were unable to hold our annual Jazz Concert with the Oundle Schools Jazz Orchestras last year (2021) due to COVID restrictions. However we were able to hold the event again this January (2022) although numbers were restricted and seating arrangements and refreshments had to change from their usual format. The event raised in excess of £2,000.

Trustee News

During the year Mr. David Webb agreed to take on the role of Secretary that was vacated following the retirement of Mr. John Flory. At his retirement John had been a Trustee for 27 years. He brought considerable expertise to the committee, seeing many changes over the years and he served from 2010 as our Secretary

We would be delighted to welcome new Trustees. We meet approximately 6 times a year. Please speak to any Trustee for further information

Officers:

Chairman: Ian Goldsmith

Secretary: David Webb.

Treasurer: Neil Underwood

Independent Reviewer: Bulley Davey

Trustees:

Mr. Ian Goldsmith, Mr Neil Underwood, Ms. Justine Turton, Mr. David Gooda, Mr Helmut Cartwright, Mr. David Webb, Mrs. Catherine Pathtak, Ms. Jan Pearson

The Friends wish to thank St Peters Church staff for the continued support of all fundraising events at the church. Thanks also to Inkwell Printing for their care and attention to our printing requests and to Bulley Davey for arranging the Independent Review of the annual accounts.

Ian Goldsmith
Chairman