

# **St Mary the Virgin, Higham Ferrers**

**2021 – 2022 Reports**

**For the Annual Parochial Church Meeting  
to be held in the Church on  
Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May at 12.00 noon.**

**£1 donation**



# **AGENDA**

## **Part 1**

### Annual Vestry Meeting

1. Prayers
2. Apologies
3. Election of Churchwardens

## **Part 2**

1. Minutes of the last Annual Parochial Church Meeting
2. Electoral Roll Report
3. Election of the Parochial Church Council
4. Presentation of the Accounts and the Treasurer's Report
5. The Appointment of the Auditor
6. The Sidespeople's Report
7. Election of Sidespeople
8. Presentation of other reports  
*(Please see the Reports in this booklet)*
9. Any other Business  
*(to be submitted to Dave Stuttle 48 hours before the meeting)*

**MINUTES** of the Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting for the Parish of Saint Mary the Virgin, Higham Ferrers, held in Church on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021, at 12.00.

**PRESENT:** The Revd. Michelle Dalliston, The Revd Linda Bond, The Revd. Paul Needle, David Batchelor, Brian Behagg, Diane Behagg, Susie Betts, Peter Bond, Ruth Bond, Pat Catlin, Sue Clarke, Sandy Coleman, Bob Dennis, Sue Dennis, Brenda Elldred, Linda Ellson, Chris Hales, Derek Harber, Mary Harber, Avril Harlow, Reginald Harlow, Karen Holmes, Celia Ingram, Jane Jackson, Barry Matson, Karin Matson, Cynthia Matthias, Lynda Needle, Alison Oberman, Richard Oberman, Julie Poole, David Richardson, Annette Robinson, Darren Robinson, David Stuttle, Sue Thompson, Jennifer Tuffnail, Stephen Tuffnail, Caroline Walker, Nicky Way, Raymond Wildsmith and Stewart Wiles

**APOLOGIES** were received from Joy Yorke, Jo Green, Keith Green, Chris Newell, Graham Newell, Jane Smeathers, Ann Pack, Ruth Pack, Susan Fincham, Margaret Tuffnail, Carol Allen, Leona Mantle and Marion Knott,

## **Introduction**

Revd. Michelle welcomed those attending reminding them that this was the first APCM since 2019, having regard to the Coronavirus pandemic and lockdown. She then prayed for God's blessing on the proceedings, pointing out the significance that the meeting was taking place on the Feast of Pentecost.

## **A MEETING OF PARISHIONERS**

### **1 Election of Churchwardens**

Revd Michelle explained that Caroline Walker, who had held the post of Churchwarden for a number of years, had decided not to

seek re-election. Michelle explained that we might see Caroline a little less in the future, in that she was prayerfully exploring joining the Roman Catholic Church. On behalf of the Parish, Michelle thanked Caroline for her hard work, devotion and support during her period of office and wished her well in the future. Members expressed their appreciation with a gift, and by applause.

Revd Michelle then advised that there were two nominations, properly proposed and seconded, for the post of Churchwarden, namely David Stuttle and Darren Robinson. An election was therefore unnecessary, and David and Darren were duly appointed as Churchwardens for the Parish for the ensuing year and would thus serve as ex-officio members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC). Revd Michelle explained that Darren had served as Assistant Churchwarden for part of the preceding year, and she expressed her personal thanks, and that of the Parish, to both candidates for all they had done during the preceding period.

## **2 Assistant Wardens**

Michelle went on to say that it was proposed to appoint Assistant Churchwardens in the future, but that would be dealt with by the PCC.

# **B ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

## **1 Minutes**

On a motion by Dave Stuttle, seconded by David Batchelor, **it was resolved** that (with minor typographical amendments) the minutes of the Meeting of Parishioners and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, held on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2019, be agreed and signed as a true record.

## **2 Electoral Roll Report**

The Electoral Roll Officer, Stewart Wiles, presented his report. There were now 120 members on the Roll, of which 48 lived outside the Parish. This roll had been advertised in the Church Porch as required.

## **3 Election of Lay Representatives to the Deanery Synod and PCC**

Revd Michelle reported that nominations for election as the lay representatives of the Parish on the Deanery Synod, all properly seconded, had been received from Lynne Ellson, Sue Clarke and Sandy Coleman. Although not present, Peter Swindley had indicated that he wished to continue to serve on that body and his nomination was proposed by Dave Stuttle and seconded by Sue Clarke. Lynne, Sue, Sandy and Peter were thereupon elected as the Parish's representatives on that body for the next two years. By virtue of that election, they become ex officio members of the PCC.

Michelle advised that Graham Newell had indicated that he no longer wished to serve in that capacity and would therefore cease to be an ex officio member of the PCC. He had served on the Deanery Synod for 22 years, including service as Treasurer, and had been a PCC member for the same period. Michelle further indicated that Nicky Way, another Deanery Synod representative had also indicated she no longer wishes to serve. Michelle expressed the Parish's thanks for all they had done for the Parish, thanks confirmed by gifts and applause.

Turning to the membership of the PCC, Michelle indicated that three members had indicated that they no longer wished to serve as such, Sue Thompson, Derek Harber and Raymond Wildsmith (the PCC Secretary). Michelle paid tribute to the contribution these

members had made to the PCC and the Parish during their tenure, and expressed the Parish's thanks for their works, thanks again supported by gifts and applause.

Raymond Wildsmith then reminded members of the decision made at the last APCM in 2019, that all PCC members be elected for three years, with their individual tenures (1, 2 or 3 years) being settled by the PCC. Unfortunately, attempts by the PCC to bring this into effect had been hampered by the Coronavirus lockdown, and the inability to hold an APCM in 2020. We were therefore left in the situation where the previous decision to elect all members for 3 years still stood. It therefore followed that all existing members (save those who had resigned) would remain in office until 2022, obviating the need for an election this year. The matter can then be reviewed next year.

#### **4 Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer, Brian Behagg, presented his report and the audited accounts for the years ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020. He emphasised the difficulties we had experienced during those two years, particularly as a result of the Coronavirus restrictions and lockdown. One of the results of these difficulties was a significant underpayment in the Parish Share 2020, greater than the underpayment in the preceding year. David Richardson queried the nature of the expenditure covered by item 2710. In the income and expenditure analysis. Having had no advance notice, Mr Behagg was unable to give an instant response, but indicated he would look into the matter.

Revd Michelle mentioned that the requirements of the Diocese for the format of the parochial accounts, and the information they would contain, were likely to change in the near future, facilitating their production, and making the information they gave more comprehensible.

On a motion by Barry Matson, seconded by Derek Harber, **it was resolved that the report and accounts be accepted, with thanks to the Treasurer.**

Mr Behagg further reported that, to deal with the problems arising from the need to replace the Church heating system, a separate team, with Sue Dennis as Appeal Leader and Avril Harlow as Treasurer, had been appointed to handle the raising of funds for that project. The team had extended their responsibilities to include the carrying out of other structural or maintenance repairs that presently existed, or might arise in the future. The fund-raising appeal was operated under the name “Higham 600”. Members received a report detailing the magnificent achievements of the team and were advised that we were now only £12,000 short of the monies required to put the work in motion.

## **5 Appointment of Auditor**

Brian Behagg recommended the appointment of a new Auditor, Paul Adams, the Diocesan Stewardship Adviser. Mr Adams had already been appointed as auditor to a number of parishes, and was highly respected in that role.

A motion was then presented by Dave Stuttle, seconded by David Batchelor, that Mr Adams be appointed as Auditor for the Parish during the ensuing year. Bob Dennis and Sue Dennis spoke in opposition to that motion. They questioned whether Mr Adams’ diocesan role, and his involvement in advising the PCC and its committees on the question of stewardship, cast doubt on whether he had the required degree of independence. Revd Michelle indicated that Mr Adams had not been involved in making any decision arising from the matters he advised on; these decisions were the sole responsibility of the relevant Committees and the PCC. Raymond Wildsmith pointed out that Mr Adams’ professional obligations would preclude him acting in any way

which was in conflict with the interests of his client. Revd Michelle expressed a similar view.

The motion was then put to the vote. 18 attendees voted in favour and 7 against, with one abstention. **The motion that Mr Adams be appointed auditor was therefore carried.**

## **6 Report and appointment of sidespersons**

The Secretary reported that the persons appointed at the last APCM as sidesmen and sideswomen were June Alder, Carole Allen, David Batchelor, Elizabeth Bradshaw, Margaret Britchford, Sue Dennis, Pat Ellis, Mary Harber, Karin Matson, Paul O'Dell, Ann Pack, Jennifer Tuffnail, Linda Vickers, Pam Whiting and Stewart Wiles. The meeting also received a report as to their activities from Diane Behagg, their organiser.

Revd Michelle pointed out that there were others fulfilling this role, as recorded by Diane. The meeting agreed that the existing persons acting as sidesmen or sideswomen should continue so to act.

Michelle pointed out the importance of the work carried out by this group. It was hoped that further volunteers would be forthcoming, so that an additional team could be made up.

## **7 Presentation of reports**

In addition to the reports already referred to, the meeting received, and where appropriate, accepted, the reports presented by or on behalf of the following persons and organisations.

- a) The Vicar's Report for 2020 – 21
- b) The Churchwarden's report for 2019 - 21
- c) The Higham Deanery Synod Report 2020



- d) Tine Tots 2019
- e) Bede House Report 2019
- f) The Benefice Magazine
- g) The Acting Director of Music
- h) St Mary's Bellringers 2019
- i) The Handymen
- j) The Mothers' Union
- k) The Social and Fundraising Committee
- l) Thursday Coffee mornings
- m) The Church Website
- n) Holy Dusters
- o) 1<sup>st</sup> Higham Ferrers Rainbows
- p) 2<sup>nd</sup> Higham Ferrers Rainbows

## **8 Safeguarding**

Brenda Elldred, the Benefice Safeguarding Officer, presented her report on the activities of the Benefice Safeguarding Group. She emphasised the need for all PCC members, as well as those in leadership roles, to be DPS checked and to undergo appropriate training. There had been no reports of any incidents involving safeguarding issues during the preceding two years,

## **9 Stewardship Campaign.**

Revd Michelle informed those present that, arising from the difficulties identified in the Treasurer's reports, It was proposed to hold a Stewardship Campaign, to begin from 23<sup>rd</sup> May. Stewart Wiles then explained the background to this campaign, and, very briefly, what it would involve. Apart from the capital income required for the heating project, some £250,000 per annum was required to run the Church and its activities properly. In fact, our income was very much less than that, in the region of £120.000. We could not rely on separate fundraising activities for that sum; and those activities were in any event designed for separate

projects. To meet the deficit, we needed to increase substantially our regular income. This was not as difficult as it might at first seem. An increased giving of £5 per week by each member of the Parish Family could produce some £40,000 per annum. If more wealthy members could increase this sum to £10 per week, the total would obviously be greater.

To that end, a letter will be circulated to all those with any connection with the Church, whether or not as worshippers, pointing out the financial difficulties, and the steps needed to address them. Any response should ideally be made through the Parish Giving Scheme, but other sources of income – cheques, card payments for example – would be welcomed.

## **10 Leading your Church into Growth (LYCIG)**

Revd Michelle introduced and explained the Diocesan project being operated under this heading. Its objects were to achieve growth in the Church in this Parish and beyond in three areas: growth in numbers; growth in spiritual commitment; and growth in service to the local community. The project involved a series of training sessions for representatives of each benefice/parish, to provide guidance on how these objects could be achieved in their localities. Four of the benefice's representatives; Dave Stuttle, Sue Clarke, Sandy Coleman and Brenda Elldred gave brief accounts of what the project had achieved so far, opening up a number of exciting possibilities.

Michelle drew attention to the LYCIG prayer, which would be used regularly during the ensuing weeks.

## **11 Any other business**

Under this heading Revd Michelle explained briefly the decisions the PC C had made in relation to the new heating system, what it

would involve on a practical level, and why this project was being approached as a whole, rather than piecemeal. It had now reached the stage of seeking the formal approval by the Diocesan Advisory Committee and, ultimately, the Diocesan Chancellor.

David Richardson commented that this information might have been given at an earlier stage, but was advised that the decisions had been made by the PCC after professional advice and detailed consideration and had been notified to parishioners, if only in basic form. It had always been open to parishioners to approach PCC members for more detailed information. Full details of the proposals would, of necessity, be available to parishioners in connection with any faculty petition.

## **12 Conclusion**

The Meeting ended with those present saying together the LYCIG prayer and the Grace.

Signed as a true record at the meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2022

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Chairman

## **Electoral Roll Report**

The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin, Higham Ferrers.

Electoral Roll Report for the APCM 29th May 2022

The Electoral Roll was renewed in March 2019 and is due for renewal in 2025.

After a review this year (2022) the membership now stands at 116. This figure is 4 less than last years figure of 120. This is due to the sad loss of Noreen and Peggy and Pat and Eddie Spencer leaving the parish. No new members joined during the year.

Of the 116 members, 49 live outside of the parish.

A copy of the Electoral Roll minus telephone numbers and email addresses for privacy reasons will be posted on the notice board in the Church porch for 2 weeks before the APCM.

Please check that these details are correct, and if not please contact myself or a Church Warden.

Stewart Wiles

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2022

## **Treasurer's Report 2022**

2021 was a year of consolidation following the stresses of Covid. Core Income from the various Parishioners Giving schemes had a small increase but there is a need for a considerable increase in income in 2022 to close the gap on our Parish share deficit.

The Peterborough Diocesan Standing Order scheme has finally been closed by the Diocesan Office (March 2022) with the remaining 5 contributors advised of the closure. The Scheme was a trail blazer for the Church as a whole but restricted to Peterborough Diocese. It has been replaced by the Parish Giving Direct Debit scheme. This new scheme is administered by Gloucester Diocesan Office and covers the Country as a whole. We currently have 53 subscribers which is an excellent achievement. Can I ask those of you who currently use the Envelopment system or the 'Plate' to consider joining the Parish Giving. Applications can be found in the Church or from your Church Wardens and Treasurer.

The Elizabeth Groome Music Charity has made a donation of £2,000 to fund Matthew Foster, our young Organ Scholar, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the EGMC for their generosity on behalf of the Parish and Matthew.

Turning to expenditure, we managed to pay £47,000 in 2021 towards our Parish share, approx. 2/3 rds of our target and a substantial increase on 2020. The most significant item of expenditure was, of course, the installation of the new Heating System. This has been funded through the excellent work of the 600 Appeal Committee, who have raised the necessary funds. There are still one or two small items of expenditure relating to the project, and we will in due course reclaim the VAT.

This is my 16<sup>th</sup> and final Treasurers Report. I would like to take the opportunity to thank those who have provided support over the 16 years, in particular Paul O'Dell and the late John Appleton. These two have helped me 'Count the Cash' every Thursday morning when we enjoyed the Bede House Coffee and biscuits whilst putting the Church and World as a whole to Rights.

Brian Behagg  
Treasurer

## **Sidespeople Report.**

We have only just returned to having sidespeople again and how lovely it is to be greeted with a smile and not a mask.

They contribute to the smooth running at our services and it is especially welcoming for newcomers and visitors.

A big thank you to Barry, Peter and Sandy for joining our merry band.



## **St Marys 600 Appeal**

Our Appeal group has been working hard over the last year to ensure the completion of Phase 1 of our fundraising. Hopefully everyone reading this will be aware that an important piece of work was completed in November when our new heating system was installed in time for the winter months. It has meant that services are warmer once more and that the church can be used for social events too.

We are all keen that the church can be accessed our community and be used for a variety of different events. As well as the heating we have raised funds towards the cost of repairs that needed to be completed, and the final piece of the jigsaw will be the installation of our long-awaited Servedy – due for completion in June.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our fundraising in many different ways, by making monetary donations or buying tickets for events, donating raffle prizes or buying the limited edition prints of our church buildings. Our fundraising efforts have been added to two generous donations by members of our church to ensure that we have the servedy that we have long desired. Being able to serve refreshments in church in a more professional way means that new fundraising opportunities will be open to us as well as making after church coffee considerably easier to serve.

So, Phase 1 of our fundraising draws swiftly to a close - thanks to the donations from our church family, the wider community and success that has been achieved from our bid applications, totally around £50,000 towards church repairs and enhancements.

Special thanks must go to Richard Oberman and Stewart Wiles for the many hours of work and sheer dedication that they have given to ensure the successful outcomes from the grant giving bodies. It



really is incredibly hard work to raise funds in this way, but so very worthwhile when we do.

Many of you know that we made a successful application to the Diocese for an interest free loan to cushion us while trying to raise funds for the heating system. Although we were granted the full £50,000, we actually never needed to draw the full amount down, instead we had £30,000. I am delighted to tell you that we have already paid back £20,000 and that it is our intention to pay back the final £10,000 on completion of the Servedy – once all the invoices have been finalised. Accessing the loan offered us contingency funds in a time when it was hard to predict the success of our fundraising. However, with the support of all of you, we have reached our target amounts much more quickly than we could have imagined when we set off on this five-year journey.

Now we are preparing for Phase 2 - the exterior initially and then the interior of the Bede House. We estimate the costs to be in the region of £200,000 and so the fundraising must continue. BUT it would be a huge amount of Coffee Mornings and Bake Sales to raise the money needed and so we are embarking upon a Heritage Lottery Fund application in the hope that this will help us with a large percentage of the funds we need. It will be a long, arduous task in which we will need to jump through many hoops, but with our top class bid writers we have high hopes of being successful.

Please continue to support us in our fundraising initiatives, we are trying to offer a wide array of social events. But do please also consider whether you are able to give a one-off personal donation, or maybe when celebrating a special birthday or anniversary asking friends and family to donate money instead of buying gifts and help to swell our coffers in that way too.

We are incredibly fortunate to have 3 stunning Grade 1 Listed buildings here in our churchyard and we all owe it to future

generations to leave them in good order so that our childrens children can worship here, be baptised and married here which means that we have to do all that we can as individuals, and groups, to work together to ensure that others may enjoy all that we currently do every day - and have done for most of our lives.

Thank you all,  
Sue Dennis and all members of the 600 Appeal Fundraising Group.



## Vicar's Report

Sadly, Revd Michelle left us on 27<sup>th</sup> February to take up the role of Vicar of Peterborough. This report is extracted from her Newsletter circulated in February.



The last three years have been for me an amazing time – an experience I would not have missed for the world. Yes, the challenges have been significant, and the commute and living apart from my family, not to mention Covid, have at times been seriously tough – but none of this have I faced alone because I have found in you all a team, in fact a family, who have helped carry the burdens and share the joys. In all of it, going right back to the early days, we have been asking God to lead us in a vision for our Benefice and in serving our community which has been exciting, exhilarating and full of the Spirit bringing growth and ever more possibilities.

We should all be proud of what has been achieved even in the incredibly difficult time of lockdown and closed churches. When the buildings had to be shut, the life of the church not only continued apace, but actually developed in more ways than ever before! This was an exhausting and worrying time for all of us, but helped us grow closer together and learn to trust God more.

Now a new phase has opened up for me and for you. I will now be working in partnership with Chris in Peterborough in a key time of opportunities and challenges there. And for Higham and Chelveston a new and exciting phase begins as you move along the path to seeking a new Vicar, one whom I'm sure will have a clear call to carry forward all the good initiatives you have all begun and continue to develop.

The Church of England is looking to develop its Vision and Strategy for the for the 2020's to be a **simpler, humbler, bolder Church that is Jesus Christ centred and Jesus Christ shaped**: a **simpler** Church, both in governance and structure and in the way we live and share the gospel; a **humbler** Church, recognising our failings and working with others to serve the common good; a **bolder** Church energised and enthused by the good news of what God has done in Jesus Christ and sharing with everyone.

So, may God bless you all richly as you journey on and I look forward to hearing of all the good things that will continue and begin, and I've no doubt that there will be times of being together again and how joyful that will be!

Much love and blessings to you all,

*Michelle*



## **Benefice Safeguarding Report**

### **APCM 2021 St. Mary's Higham Ferrers**

This past year has been another year of certain restrictions being relaxed during the pandemic where groups and activities have once again begun to meet and so keeping an eye on Safeguarding has been even more important.

The Benefice Safeguarding Group met 3 times in the year to update policies and pick up any issues.

We have had no reported issues this year, although we have had general enquiries about the vulnerability of people in the community and have supported those enquiries with direction from the Diocesan Office.

All our policies are up to date and displayed on noticeboards in the church. The information on help groups displayed in discreet places such as back of the toilet doors has also been updated this year.

As we are now in vacancy the Vicar's details have been removed from public notices and all safeguarding issues are reported by the Benefice Safeguarding Officer directly to the Diocese Safeguarding Office until our vacancy is filled.

Our current records for completed DBS and safeguarding training for all PCC members and leaders of groups is up to date for both churches, however the validity of the DBS and training has reduced to 3 years from 5 years and so many will need to be prompted to renew. This will happen after the APCM with the new PCC and reminder emails will be sent out.

To help with the amount of DBS renewals we now have a second recruiter in the Benefice, Annette Robinson. Thank you Annette.



This year also saw the launch of the 'Volunteer Recruitment Package' to all new volunteers. The role out of this package is vital for us to be compliant with the regulations. It contains a self-declaration form which everyone must do, a basic job description, instructions on applying for DBS and Safeguarding training, information on the Lone Working policy and how to report a suspected incident.

Finally, our Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, Bev Huff, resigned as of April 2022 and whilst we await a re-appointment all Safeguarding issues are being dealt with by the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory team.

Brenda Elldred 15.5.22



## **Leading your Church into Growth (LyCiG) -Report 2021**

This year has once again been blighted by some restrictions due to the pandemic but nevertheless the LyCiG team have continued to promote and work within the principles agreed the previous year, using initiatives both inside and outside the churches and where events were restricted such as Messy Church for Mothering Sunday 2021 and Christingle then these were replaced with DIY kits.

The 3 areas of work chosen were reviewed with Reverend Charlie Nobbs, Director of Mission, Peterborough Diocese and the results under these 3 areas identified are as follows;

### **Prayerful Culture of Growth (Mustard Seed Matthew 13:31)**

The LyCiG prayer has become a regular prayer within our services. Welcome postcards of the churches with the prayer are available for all to take home and use.

The availability and use of candles and tealights in prayer corners has increased over the year, possibly identifying with the grief felt during the pandemic. Also, the daily opening of St. Mary's church has made this more accessible.

During the Christmas season the Remembrance Trees in both churches were extremely well used.

Moving forward, we are looking into such ideas as reintroducing the Prayer Walks, a daily prayer time, and a Church Prayer WhatsApp group.

### **Becoming an Inviting and Welcoming Church (Luke 14:21)**

There have been initiatives such as cushions on pews, regular updating of noticeboards, encouraging personal invitations to friends and neighbours, busy bags for children (St. Mary's), and highchairs for babies and toddlers (St. Mary's). Also expanding

the WhatsApp groups to new people and once again welcoming the uniformed groups.

### **Helping all Ages along the Journey of Faith. Make a Pathway for Seekers to become Disciples. (Matthew 28:19)**

We have started by making contact with the local schools and, at the end of the summer term, we sent cards of thanks and some chocolates to the Heads and teachers for all their continued hard work especially during the pandemic. Within our Family Services we have introduced Breakfast Church once a month, which is an informal short service within a breakfast setting, and an All Age Service at the 10.30am service to encourage families and help them feel welcome and relaxed within our Eucharist service. Unfortunately, until now we have been limited by the pandemic for setting up any fellowship or study groups such as a START course or similar but it is hoped that this will now be a possibility as people are able to meet more in each other's houses.

The LyCiG team has welcomed a new member Ria Jeffries, we now have 7 members and would welcome many more as we plan to continue following the 7 Steps of LyCiG and the 4 P's, Prayer, Presence, Proclamation and Persuasion.

Brenda and the LyCiG team (APCM May 2022)





## **THE SOCIAL AND FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN HIGHAM FERRERS JANUARY 2021 TO DECEMBER 2021**

The first event for 2021 was Brass on the Grass on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> August which was held in the Churchyard and where we served Prosecco and Strawberries. This was a very enjoyable afternoon with everyone loving the music and at the same time raising £400.

The committee supplied refreshments on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August when Northampton Historic Churches Trust visited.

Our next event was our Patronal Festival on Sunday August 15<sup>th</sup> with a Family Mass followed by a Bring Your own Picnic in the church grounds and vicarage garden. A glass of sparkling wine was served to those who wanted it. Members of the parish family brought flowers to make the church look absolutely amazing.

The August Bank Holiday was a busy weekend with the Coffee Morning on the Saturday which continued until 4pm. On the Sunday we served cream teas and on Monday Ria did refreshments from the Naafi Van. Higham was busy with the Garage Sale on the Saturday, Open Gardens on the Sunday and the Art Exhibition in the church over the weekend. The weekend raised an amazing £1053.86.

Harvest Lunch was on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October where we had 57 people attend and we raised £484.91. It was a tasty lunch and good for the parish family to meet up together.

Our next event was Christmas Sparkle which was held on Saturday November 20<sup>th</sup> which took a lot of organizing and risk assessments due to Covid. We raised £4560.01 which was sadly down on previous years however that was due to Covid restrictions and us not being able to do refreshments in the Bede

House due to Covid regulations. We were able to offer refreshments from the Naafi Van courtesy of Ria.

The last event was on Saturday December 4<sup>th</sup> the Wreath Making Workshop which was attended by 40 people and raised £651.

KH MAY 2022



## **Bede House.**

Bookings were very slow after the covid outbreak. People were being very cautious about large gatherings. Things are now picking up and we have several weddings booked and many childrens parties.

The monthly Farmers Market coffee mornings are, once again, very popular and our weekly coffee mornings on a Thursday are increasing in numbers.

We do have space for a couple of daytime regular bookings and the odd evening but bookings are definitely on the up.

A BIG THANK YOU to our Holy Handymen for their hard work maintaining the fabric of the building thereby containing maintenance costs. Also a big welcome to Nick, Fred and Steven who have joined the team since covid.





## **REPORT FOR THE SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE**

Unfortunately we were not able to provide coffee for some time due to the pandemic so the profits this year have not been as good as we would have liked. Since the end of August when we started up again, a total of £220 has been raised. This was raised by asking for donations towards the cost, which each week gets more expensive for coffee and biscuits.

At the moment we are working with a team of four, which is not ideal, but it is only once a month. Despite no-one coming forward following the appeal by Rev. Michelle, we would be very pleased if anyone would like to join the rota. Hopefully when the Servedy is completed it will be a much nicer area to serve coffee than is available at the moment. During this time please bear with us as we shall have to work around the building work.

I would like to thank most sincerely, Ruth, Angela and Nikki for providing the coffee, and a special thank you to Dave Batchelor who every week fills and switches on the urn and gets everything out for us.

I would like to thank you all for your continued support.

Pam Whiting



## **St. Mary's Handymen's Report – April 2021 to April 2022**

Yet another year – and though we all felt that the maintenance programme must surely be reaching an end point – once again we were wrong and have been kept even busier and struggling to keep up with demand with our services severely stretched at times – this despite our numbers having increased by the welcome addition of Nick Lee, Fred Frost and Stephen Tuffnail. With this new influx of talent one would have felt that there shouldn't be too much of a problem; alas, Father Time marches on and what previously took 10 minutes to sort now takes 20.

Meanwhile time spent clearing debris and scraping away moss from the gullies on the North side of the Church plus churchyard rubbish collection began to add up and we are still struggling to clear the weeds from the stones on the South side of the Church.

As usual in the Bede House toilet roll holders, seats and mirrors needed attention not to mention door handles all requiring similar or new fittings. Outside, work continued checking the roof gutters and removing old bird nests that blocked the flow of water to the downpipes below. Within the Church itself we continued in the quest to replace as many of the existing lamps with low wattage bulbs of a similar luminosity. Accessing such lamps is now somewhat hazardous.

Other activities have continued unabated; – Wi-Fi has now been extended from the Bede House (B.H.) office to the main hall and it is hoped to eventually run a line into the Church itself. Candle holders have been drilled out, fires laid in the Bede House, the Xmas tree and crib erected and removed, the Sacristy lock removed and restored to a working condition, shelving fitted in the B. H. office and vestry and finally the drains between the Bede House toilets and the Vicar's manhole and thence to the top of the vicar's drive cleared.

It was thanks to Richard that we were able to track down an uncharted drain at the exit point to Wood Street so we could locate future blockages when they occurred.

Meanwhile all the usual maintenance continued with heating schedules set, the Bede House heaters 'hoovered' to remove unwanted debris, chairs and tables moved from B.H. to Church and back, coffee tables and chairs packed away, fires laid, the dishwasher and oven serviced and before I forget– many thanks to Dave Bachelor for setting out tables and chairs prior to the Thursday coffee mornings.

Finally my sincere thanks to all of our handymen for all their time and patience – a great deal has been achieved and significant money saved by their actions.

Chris Hales



# **Tiny Tots APCM report 2022**

## **Overview**

After ceasing for Covid, Tiny Tots restarted in December 2021 with a Christmas special which was well attended after heavy promotion. This coincided with a new Tiny Tots team taking over the running and organising of the group - Clare Headland, Kasey Cheetham, and Ria Jefferies. Since January 2022 Tiny Tots has resumed its weekly sessions in term time (Wednesdays 1.30-3pm) with growing success. Attendance varies between 10-21 children, with an average number of 12-15. This in part can be attributed to continued support from child minders and promotion via social media.

The management of the social media is under the new Tiny Tots team. This has seen an increase in followers and interactions, which in some part is believed to have fed into the increased attendance.

## **Strengths**

- Good relationships being built between church members and attendees
- Tiny Tots provides an access point for baptism enquiries, and other enquiries for church services
- Tiny Tots feeds into other areas of church life, and other church events have seen attendance from this group increase
- It is a gateway service to bringing new families and future users of the church into the congregation

## **Areas of Concern**

Tiny Tots is currently run by 3 church members, but with its continued success and growth will need more volunteers to add to the rota for either delivering the activities, preparing refreshments, or both. This is made more critical by two members whose commitment is dependent on young family needs, and potential

increase in paid employment demands which will impact their availability. Additionally the third member is still developing confidence and experience in all aspects of the group. This was highlighted in March with the cancellation of 2 sessions because of sickness and no cover.

Plan - to reach out to church community for in house volunteers to come on rota. Look within wider community at Jubilee event.

The increase in numbers means we are getting too big for the corner in church.

Plan - discuss minor rearrangement of corner to make bigger with extra carpeted area.

Ria Jefferies





## Report from the Friends of St. Mary's May 2022

Over the past year the **rewilding project** continued and the fruits of labour became evident as we witnessed the wildlife around us. A formal birdwatching survey fed back to RSPB yielded positive results and we were delighted to see the return of the peregrine falcons who produced four chicks which all safely fledged. We believe another brood has hatched and we await their sighting along with many other twitchers and cameras. The Make it Count survey in June 2021 inviting the public to record what they saw further added to evidence of the richness in biodiversity and we were happy to work with HFJS children who also planted sunflowers to the rear of the Bede House.

We have established a dedicated Facebook page, sent [regular Newsletters](#) and continue to expand the outdoor exhibition of information boards featuring wildlife in the churchyard

In May, the good news of a grant was received from Nenescape enabling the creation of the **Bedeswoman's Garden** to the rear of the Bede House. This set the precedent for the positioning of a bench and, whilst seeking permission, other sites were agreed upon for those who wished to donate memorial benches which the Friends arranged.

In August, the **Richard Hacon Memorial** was rededicated following cleaning and repainting by the Holy Handymen of the surrounding railings to mark 150 years since his death and acknowledging his selfless dedication and indeed, the dedication of all health workers, during the Covid pandemic.

In September, we received the prestigious Silver Award from the Wildlife Trust as part of the Churchyard Conservation initiative. Also, in September, we received a grant as part of the Nene Valley Festival in September which enabled us to pay for the **Bedesmen**

**and Bedewoman's exhibition** researched by the Prior, Stuart Wilby and put together by our Trustee, Pam Webbley.

This was launched at an Afternoon Tea with SERVE and Ron Manning Centre guests, also sponsored by the Nene Valley Festival ( part of the Heritage Lottery funded Nenescape). Following a tour of the exhibition and churchyard projects, our guests enjoyed a slap-up tea with trifle! This exhibition then was displayed at the Heritage Family Fun Day at Rushden Lakes accompanied by Bedesmen, Trustees and the Material Girls working on the Henry Chichele banner.

During autumn, many hundreds of bulbs were planted, mainly daffodils along the pathway to the Midland Road gate and careful management of the wildflower meadow area continued.

In October, another evening with the Revd. Richard Coles and our annual Coffee Morning helped towards this year's project of **opening up the arched gateway from Midland Road**. A further Nenescape grant allows for the imminent repair to the stone arch and the provision of a new gate using existing ironmongery. The intention is to extend the York stone pathway to the gate for ease of access for all to this amazing building which this year celebrates 600 years since its foundation.

In February at our farewell tribute to Revd, Michelle, she and Barry unveiled of the final banner of **the Life of Henry Chichele in fabric and thread**. At the March Spring Flower Coffee Morning further funds were raised towards our Gateway to the Bede House project as well as £220 for the Ukrainian Appeal from the sale of potted miniature daffodils.

In April, many wildflower seeds were scattered and shrubs planted to allow further cover for wildlife. By the month's end, the **new church notice board** will be in place.

Carol Fitzgerald 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Higham Ferrers Rainbows**

Rainbows enjoy games, crafts and sing songs with the help of Carole & Jennifer and Sarah.



Rainbows attended Remembrance Sunday on the Square.

They also worked towards their 'Skill-Builders' earning badges as part of their badge-work (pet-lover seemed to be their favourite Interest badge). If they don't have a pet, a soft toy is acceptable.

Lots of photos were taken which we are pleased to see.

This year we celebrated the Chinese New Year and 'Thinking Day'. We held services in our unit meeting.

We made crafts for 'Mothers Day' and also entered the town 'Sparkle' window display competition where one of our girls won a prize.

We took part in a Church display where we made hands for a wreath display.

Rainbows enjoy using the new equipment and games bought for us by the Mayors' charity fund in 2020.

We now can start girls at age 4½ and can stay until age 7 when they would move up to Brownies. If your daughter would like to join please register her on the Girlguiding web site or call Carole on 07 811 516 357.

Carole, Jennifer & Sarah

## **The benefice website.**

The Benefice website continues to be looked at regularly both locally, countrywide and even worldwide.

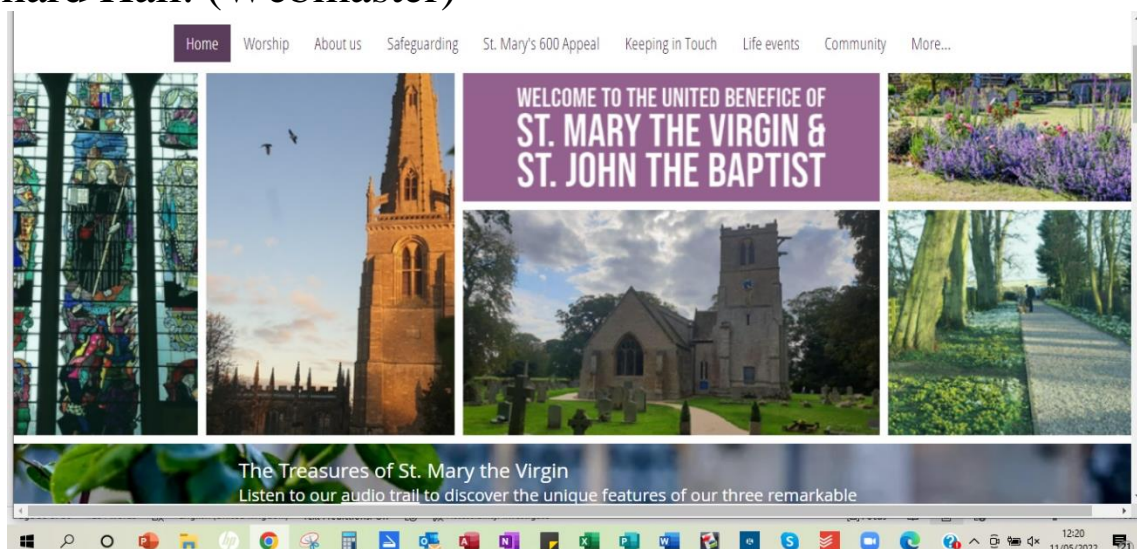
During the last year the site has been viewed over 11,000 times by over 4000 viewers.

It also receives donations for both churches and is a useful contact point.

Thanks to the efforts of Fr. Paul and Brenda we are able to provide two weekly services online, the midweek Celtic Liturgy and a Sunday morning service, Meeting Point. The latter has now been reduced in length to 15 minutes as with the lifting of Covid restrictions there is less reason for people not to attend church. It is recognised that there is always a group who are unable to do so and the shortened service is intended for them.

I am very grateful for the continuing assistance of Pam Webbley whose design skills have made a great improvement to the site and make the day to day running of the site less onerous.

Richard Hall. (Webmaster)



**St Mary's Church, Higham Ferrers**

**End of Year Financial Statements**

**Year ending 31/12/2021**

## Balance sheet

	Total funds	Prior year funds
<b>Current assets</b>		
Investments	£3,306.42	£2,894.09
Cash at bank and in hand	£174,694.07	£223,902.41
	<b>£178,000.49</b>	<b>£226,796.50</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	£30,625.70	£881.70
	<b>£30,625.70</b>	<b>£881.70</b>
<b>Net current assets less current liabilities</b>	<b>£147,374.79</b>	<b>£225,914.80</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>	<b>£147,374.79</b>	<b>£225,914.80</b>
<b>Total net assets less liabilities</b>	<b>£147,374.79</b>	<b>£225,914.80</b>
<b>Represented by</b>		
<b>Unrestricted</b>		
General fund	£1,365.44	£7,317.87
<b>Designated</b>		
Choir Vestry	£0.00	£0.00
Grace Milgate	£21,166.95	£23,158.55
Community Outreach	£0.00	£0.00
Choir Robes	£0.00	£0.00
Father Warnes	£0.00	£0.00
<b>Restricted</b>		
Bede House	£4,996.79	£5,896.79
Servery	£231.15	£1,971.15
St Marys 600 Appeal	£17,712.07	(£1,296.60)
Bell Appeal	£6,122.38	£3,920.22
Chantry Chapel	£0.00	£0.00
J Crew (Fabric)	£3,306.42	£2,894.09
Heating Fund	(£19,601.44)	£34,290.50
Childrens Corner	£0.00	£0.00
Lady Chapel	£0.00	£0.00

Elizabeth Groome Organ Scholarship	£1,820.00	£0.00
Restoration Fund	£110,255.03	£147,762.23
<b>Funds of the church</b>	<b>£147,374.79</b>	<b>£225,914.80</b>

## Analysis of receipts and payments

				Total	
<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>	<u>This year</u>	<u>Last year</u>

## INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS

### Donations and legacies

Gift Aid - Bank	£37,615.22	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£37,615.22	£37,708.44
Gift Aid - Envelopes	£2,217.49	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2,217.49	£2,904.00
Donations -Gift Aid	£1,020.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,020.00	£2,580.00
Loose plate collections	£2,617.57	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2,617.57	£2,359.60
Envelopes - Non Gift Aid	£1,436.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,436.00	£1,893.40
Bank - Non Gift Aid	£651.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£651.00	£27.00
SumUp Payments	£1,129.67	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,129.67	£0.00
Web Site donations	£916.91	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£916.91	£97.00
One-off Gift Aid gifts	£175.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£175.00	£0.00
Donations appeals etc	£2,894.12	£0.00	£600.00	£0.00	£3,494.12	£867.48
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	£10,800.56	£0.00	£4,271.32	£0.00	£15,071.88	£13,030.05
Elizabeth Groome Organ Scholarship	£0.00	£0.00	£2,000.00	£0.00	£2,000.00	£0.00
Children's Singing Workshops	£2,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2,000.00	£0.00
Recurring grants	£1,523.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,523.96	£1,527.50
Non-recurring one-off grants	£600.00	£0.00	£10,000.00	£0.00	£10,600.00	£0.00
Wall Safes-Candles	£372.39	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£372.39	£92.62
Wall Safe - Church Expences	£23.60	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£23.60	£10.40
Smarties	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£10.20
Grace Milgate	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£500.00
Church Flowers	£100.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£100.00	£0.00
Misc	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£998.58
Total	£66,093.49	£0.00	£16,871.32	£0.00	£82,964.81	£64,606.27

### Income from charitable activities

Fees for weddings and funerals	£6,689.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£6,689.00	£1,244.80
Bookstall sales to promote objectives	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£64.00
Total	£6,689.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£6,689.00	£1,308.80



## Other trading activities

Fund Raising	£8,194.33	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£8,194.33	£2,565.49
Fund Raising- Restoration	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£140.00
St Marys 600 Appeal	£0.00	£0.00	£58,373.11	£0.00	£58,373.11	£33,988.04
Heating & Lighting	£750.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£750.00	£375.00
Bookstall sales - fund raising	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£20.00
Bede House - Lettings	£6,130.80	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£6,130.80	£1,854.75
Magazine income - advertising	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£500.00
Parish magazine sales	£207.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£207.00	£1,110.90
Total	£15,282.13	£0.00	£58,373.11	£0.00	£73,655.24	£40,554.18

## Investments

Dividends	£85.14	£0.00	£85.14	£0.00	£170.28	£83.48
Increase in share value	£0.00	£0.00	£327.19	£0.00	£327.19	£1,537.09
Bank and building society interest	£0.97	£11.02	£72.39	£0.00	£84.38	£720.53
Total	£86.11	£11.02	£484.72	£0.00	£581.85	£2,341.10

## Other income

VAT Reclaimed	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£125.00
Chelveston Stationery Contribution	£339.23	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£339.23	£756.74
Special Collections	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£246.30
Total	£339.23	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£339.23	£1,128.04
<b>INCOME TOTAL</b>	<b>£88,489.96</b>	<b>£11.02</b>	<b>£75,729.15</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£164,230.13</b>	<b>£109,938.39</b>

## EXPENDITURE

### Raising funds

Costs of fetes & other events	£5,731.13	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£5,731.13	£900.00
St Marys 600	£0.00	£0.00	£2,598.00	£0.00	£2,598.00	£1,296.60
Total	£5,731.13	£0.00	£2,598.00	£0.00	£8,329.13	£2,196.60

## Expenditure on charitable activities

Giving to missionary societies	£500.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£500.00	£260.00
Giving - relief and development agencies	£1,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,000.00	£200.00
Home mission	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£310.53
Secular charities	£1,165.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,165.00	£0.00
Special Collections	£198.74	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£198.74	£0.00
Parish Share payments	£47,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£47,000.00	£24,000.00
Assistant staff costs	£100.13	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£100.13	£2,538.45
Working expenses of incumbent	£4.99	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4.99	£228.98
Vicar's telephone	£84.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£84.00	£0.00
Parish training and mission	£48.62	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£48.62	£55.16
Church running - insurance	£8,452.55	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£8,452.55	£8,444.96
Miscellaneous	£25.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£25.00	£510.00
Church office - telephone	£420.28	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£420.28	£410.93
Organ / Organist costs	£3,797.99	£0.00	£180.00	£0.00	£3,977.99	£1,782.66
Choir	£551.60	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£551.60	£950.00
Church maintenance	£5,059.63	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£5,059.63	£1,463.81
Cleaning	£688.40	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£688.40	£514.74
Upkeep of services	£1,603.72	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,603.72	£1,471.40
Upkeep of churchyard	£55.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£55.00	£138.88
Administration	£433.48	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£433.48	£641.38
Photo Copier/Printing	£2,059.71	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2,059.71	£2,453.09
Church running - electric	£1,230.39	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,230.39	£972.65
Chantry Chapel - Electricity	£1,047.87	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,047.87	£1,977.88
Church running - gas	£1,410.93	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,410.93	£1,649.59
Magazine expenses	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£336.00
Fees re Weddings/Funerals-Disbursements	£2,535.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2,535.00	£688.80
Bede House - electricity	£556.22	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£556.22	£718.78
Bede House - gas	£818.41	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£818.41	£1,374.83
Bede House - Water Rates	£185.66	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£185.66	(£948.84)
Bede House - General Expenditure	£302.32	£0.00	£900.00	£0.00	£1,202.32	£1,233.96
Bede House - Cleaning	£5,446.22	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£5,446.22	£3,944.23
Governance costs examination/audit fee	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£100.00
Church major repairs - structure	£0.00	£0.00	£2,700.00	£0.00	£2,700.00	£750.01
Church major repairs - installation	£590.26	£0.00	£141,977.49	£0.00	£142,567.75	£1,738.80
Total	£87,372.12	£0.00	£145,757.49	£0.00	£233,129.61	£60,911.66

**Other expenditure**

Childrens Singing Workshop	£1,311.40	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,311.40	£0.00
Total	£1,311.40	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,311.40	£0.00
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>	£94,414.65	£0.00	£148,355.49	£0.00	£242,770.14	£63,108.26
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	(£5,924.69)	£11.02	(£72,626.34)	£0.00	(£78,540.01)	£46,830.13

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Mary's Church, Higham Ferrers.**

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31/12/2021.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act);
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

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



Paul Adams  
19 Wymington Park  
Rushden  
Northants  
NN10 9JP

19/05/2022

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Mary's Church, Higham Ferrers.**

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31/12/2021.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act);
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My 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 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.

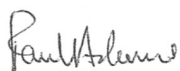
### **Independent examiner's statement**

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

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



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19/05/2022