

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST ANDREW ECCLES MANCHESTER

England & Wales · Charity number 1132836

Details

Other names	ST ANDREW'S PCC, ECCLES
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2009-11-20
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	4 Welbeck Road Eccles Manchester M30 9EH
Phone	01617076230
Email	Richardlewis@dsl.pipex.com
Website	www.standrewseccles.org

Activities

Objects: Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

Activities: Activities connected with Church of England aims and objectives

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Salford City

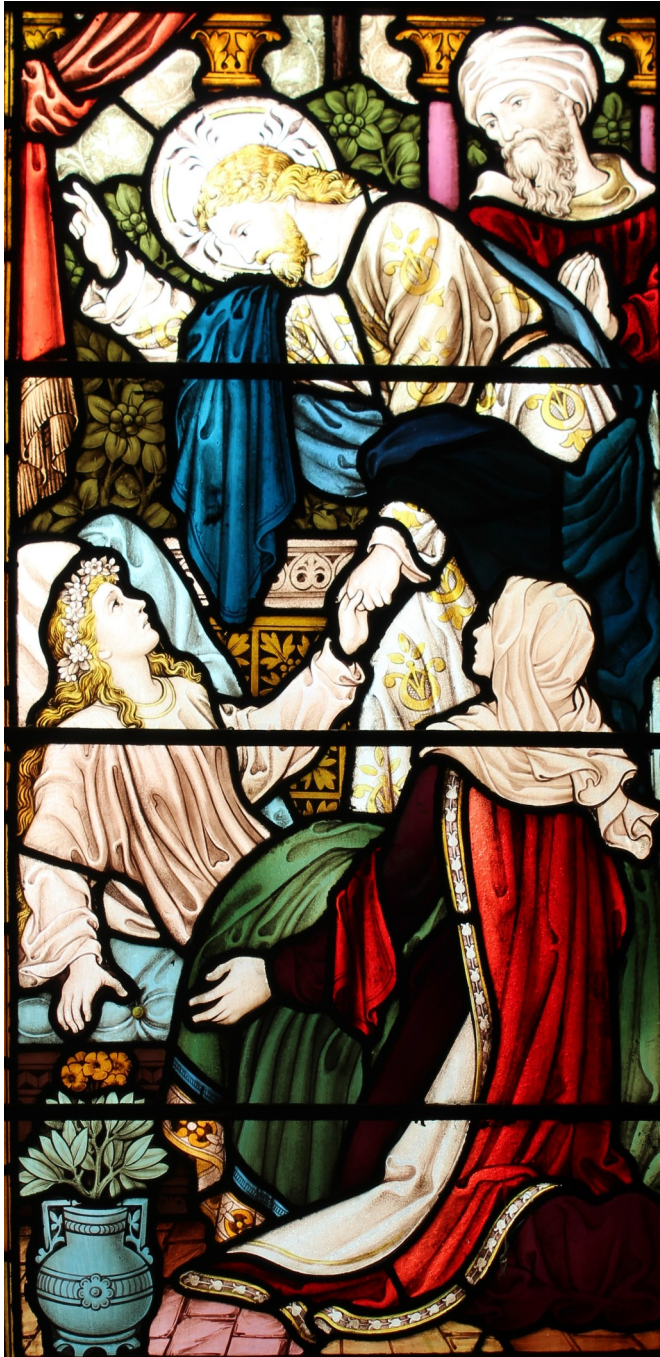
Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£67,685	£65,822	-	-
2023-12-31	£68,192	£55,411	-	-
2022-12-31	£103,263	£87,906	-	-
2021-12-31	£98,411	£99,601	-	-
2020-12-31	£80,905	£73,088	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Jeremy Paul Wisdom	Chair	2024-11-19
ELAINE WALTON		
JANE EDITH BERYL LOWE		
KEVIN BUCKLEY WALTON		
Karen Gibbison		2017-04-09
Rev JENNIFER JANE LEWIS		
Rev Susanna Mary Hewitt		2025-06-29
Richard Molyneux Lewis		
STEPHEN PETER GIBBISON		

Accounts



Annual Report

of the
Parochial Church Council
for the Year Ending
31st December 2024

Contents

Administrative Information	3
Structure, Governance and Management	3-4
Safeguarding Report	4
Safeguarding Policy	5
Team Rector's Report	6
Church Wardens' Report	6-7
St Andrew's School Report	8-9
Electoral Roll	9
Community Report	9-10
SALT (Sunday School) Report	10
Home Group Report	10-11
Churches Together in Eccles Report	11-12
Deanery Synod Report	12-13
Financial Review	14
Independent Examiner's Report	15
Statement of Financial Activities	16-19

The Parochial Church Council of the ecclesiastical parish of
St Andrew Eccles Manchester.
Registered charity number 1132836

Parochial Church Council of St. Andrew, Eccles

3. Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts (continued)

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Building fund Restricted	Memorial or Designated	Total 2024	Total 2023
Payments	£	£	£	£	£	£
f) Clergy and staffing costs						
Clergy working expenses	425				425	659
11 Abbey Grove expenditure during vacancy	1,301				1,301	-
Clergy housing costs	634				634	1,794
	<u>2,359</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,359</u>	<u>2,453</u>
g) Church running expenses						
Church building improvements	350		19,050		19,400	8,109
Church routine annual maintenance	1,145				1,145	1,390
Upkeep of grounds	-				-	12
Church utility bills	9,462	1,550			11,012	10,596
Church insurance	4,307				4,307	4,211
Upkeep of services	32				32	139
Mission support costs	62	2,856			2,918	3,363
Eccles Team - shared finances	1,010				1,010	2,041
Miscellaneous	1,376	145			1,521	1,371
Church administration	237				237	271
	<u>17,982</u>	<u>4,551</u>	<u>19,050</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>41,583</u>	<u>31,503</u>

4 STAFF COSTS

a) Wages and salaries

It is the custom of the PCC to charge for the services of organists and vergers at funerals & weddings, and to pass these fees on to the individuals providing the service. In 2024 the PCC paid £75 to musicians and £35 to vergers at these occasional services.

Fees for the clergy at such events belong to the Diocesan Board of Finance. These costs are netted off against fees received, because the PCC is acting merely as agent. Statutory fees income disclosed in note 3c) is net of all such costs. No amounts were sufficient to attract social security costs.

b) Payments to PCC members

No payments or expenses were paid to any PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties.

5 ECCLES TEAM

St Andrew's is responsible for administering the payments on behalf of Christ Church Patricroft PCC in relation to the Team Vicar's housing and working expenses. The pastoral plan for Eccles Benefice is not to recruit a Team vicar at present.

St Andrew's is responsible for administering the payments on behalf of other churches in the Eccles Team in relation to the Team Rector's housing and any joint team expenditure.

6 RESERVE POLICY

The PCC has a reserve policy to ensure adequate working capital. The policy specifies that reserves should be maintained equal to 3 months planned expenditure. This policy has been adhered to in 2024. For 2025 this requires the PCC to maintain at least £10,314 in immediately accessible accounts.

Parochial Church Council of St. Andrew, Eccles

3. Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Building fund Restricted	Memorial or Designated	Total 2024	Total 2023
Receipts	£	£	£	£	£	£
a) All other giving/voluntary receipts						
One-off tax efficient non recurring gifts	2,484	500	-	-	2,984	6,407
St Andrew's gift day	-	-	3,115	-	3,115	7,053
Grants / Loans	-	5,250	1,654	-	6,904	8,306
Refunds relating to vicarage costs	1,038	-	-	-	1,038	-
Legacies / in memorial gifts	3,294	-	-	-	3,294	-
Donations for charities	-	905	-	-	905	868
Sundry donations	570	145	-	-	715	457
	7,386	6,800	4,769	-	18,955	23,091
b) Activities for generating funds						
Funds raised via online shopping	159	-	-	-	159	215
Christmas Band Concert	259	-	-	-	259	327
	418	-	-	-	418	542
c) Income from church activities						
Statutory fees to PCC for weddings, funerals etc.	203	-	-	-	203	402
Café in the church	2,242	-	-	-	2,242	2,175
Toddler group & art group	740	-	-	-	740	776
Rental received for use of church	3,656	-	-	-	3,656	3,326
	6,841	-	-	-	6,841	6,678
d) Other income						
Eccles Team - shared finances	880	-	-	-	880	2,171
	880	-	-	-	880	2,171
Payments						
e) Mission giving and donations						

The PCC has adopted a policy of making grants to Christian charities equal to 10% of the money it receives from planned giving and open plate collections. The PCC also encourages the congregation to support charities by organising collections and special events to promote selected charities. The PCC is acting as an agent for the charities concerned, and has no control over the funds. The details of these donations during 2024 are as follows.

	From PCC	Events & appeals	Total 2024	Total 2023
			£	£
Children's Society	450	20	470	
ReVive International - Brazil	450		450	
Tear Fund	450	188	638	
C.M.S. (Sarah + Simon Cawdell - Uganda)	450	28	478	
Scripture Union	450		450	
Tear Fund (Middle East appeal)	175	192	367	
National Churches Trust	100		100	
Bamabus	50	37	87	
Royal British Legion	50	18	68	
Greater Manchester Churches Trust	25		25	
Christian Aid		143	143	
St Ann's Hospice		46	46	
Macmillan Cancer Support		44	44	
Salford Foodbank		186	186	
Francis House		25	25	
Salford Foodbank (donations at band concert)	100	-	100	
	2,750	925	3,675	3,421

Aims and Purposes

St Andrew's Eccles PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Team Clergy in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church building.

Administrative Information

St Andrew's Church is situated on Chadwick Rd, Eccles M30 0NZ. It is part of the Eccles Team Ministry in the Deanery of Salford and Leigh and in the Diocese of Manchester within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is The Vicarage, 11 Abbey Grove, Eccles M30 9QN.

Website: www.standrewseccles.org

Structure, Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council of the ecclesiastical parish of St Andrew, Eccles, Manchester is a registered charity (charity number 1132836). The method of appointment of PCC members and wardens is set out in the Church Representation Rules. Members of the PCC are either ex officio (being ordained clergy, members of the Deanery or Diocesan Synod or Church Wardens) or are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting as PCC members. (Wardens and Deanery Synod representatives are also elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting). All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

PCC members who served during 2024

Ex officio

Rev Andrew Harper	Team Vicar and Chair until end February
Rev Jeremy Wisdom	Curate in Charge February to November, Team Rector and Chair from November
Rev Jennifer Lewis	Ordained Local Minister and Curate
Kevin Walton*	Church Warden (Lay Chair)
Stephen Gibbison*	Church Warden and Safeguarding Coordinator
Richard Lewis*/**	PCC Treasurer

* Deanery Synod member ** Diocesan Synod member

Elected members

Elaine Walton	Reader & PCC Secretary from July
Karen Gibbison	Authorised Lay Minister (Children's work)
Jane Lowe	Authorised Lay Minister (Community)
Gaynor Bland	
Aimee Downey	PCC Secretary until end June
Ayoka Olibisi	from June

The PCC met 9 times in 2024. The average attendance was 78%.

Safeguarding Report

Statement of Intent: The parish will follow the Church of England guidance on safeguarding children and adults at risk, per the Parish Safeguarding Handbook, Updated August 2019.

The C of E Parish safeguarding handbook can be accessed via a link within the diocesan website, Navigate to it via Support for Parishes >> safeguarding >> Policies and Guidance

[Diocese of Manchester | Policies and Guidance \(anglican.org\)](https://www.anglican.org/policies-and-guidance)

If anyone would like a hard copy of the handbook, please ask the safeguarding co-ordinator.

The PCC reviewed and agreed to apply the Church of England model safeguarding policy on 11th March 2024. It was signed at the 2023 APCM on 21st April 2024.

A signed copy of the policy is on the notice board in church and it is also published in this annual report.

Where roles require it, we are continuing to get our volunteers DBS checked and to complete the required training courses.

Over the course of 2024 many leaders have undertaken a new training module on domestic violence. The PCC receives regular updates on DBS checks and the training of church officers.

Stephen Gibbison, Safeguarding Coordinator

Parochial Church Council of St. Andrew, Eccles

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Building Restricted £	Designated £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Cash funds						
Deposit funds	58,527	5,519	18,654	4,759	87,460	85,597
Bank current account	300	-	-	-	300	300
	58,827	5,519	18,654	4,759	87,760	85,897
Investment Assets						
Lloyds Banking Group 10,107 shares at 31/12/24	5,537				5,537	4,801
Other monetary assets						
Gift Aid recoverable	1,882	-	743	-	2,625	3,726
Refunds pending from VAT	-	351	-	-	351	-
Interest outstanding on CCLA accounts	-	-	-	-	-	702
Diocesan minor repair grant	-	7,900	-	-	7,900	-
Refunds owed by Diocese re. Vicarage costs	177	-	-	-	177	-
Monies owed by other Team Churches	279	-	-	-	279	-
	2,338	8,251	743	-	11,332	4,428
Liabilities						
Commitments to contracts awarded + clergy	-	9,100	-	-	9,100	170
Utility bills for usage in December	1,110	-	-	-	1,110	1,519
	1,110	9,100	-	-	10,210	1,689

Notes

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the receipts and payments basis.
- The movements in the designated and restricted funds during the year were:

	Bal b/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Bal c/fwd
Restricted				
Youth worker fund	1,382	-	-	1,382
Art & Craft workshops	2,668	5,875	4,406	4,137
Retirement gift for Rev A Harper	-	145	145	-
Charities collections	20	905	925	-
Building renovation	30,976	6,729	19,050	18,655
	35,046	13,654	24,526	24,174

The Youth Worker fund represents the remaining funds (£1,382) from grants received previously. They are retained pending recruitment of a youth worker.

A grant from the Community Lottery fund was received in 2023 in support of the Arts and Craft group, some of this grant was spent in 2023 the remaining funds were used to support the group until mid-Summer 2024. In May 2024 a further grant was received from the Manchester Diocesan Council for Social Aid which will enable the group to continue through to September 2025.

	Bal b/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Bal c/fwd
Designated				
Memorial fund	2,541	37	-	2,578
Community Outreach fund	1,638	543	-	2,181

The designated funds consist of monies allocated by the PCC towards building upkeep and future mission projects.

The PCC agreed to set aside 2% of the offerings received to build a fund for community outreach.

In 2024 no payments were made from this fund. The PCC continues to discuss how best to utilise this fund.

Parochial Church Council of St. Andrew, Eccles

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

Receipts and Payments Accounts

RECEIPTS	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Building fund Restricted £	Memorial or Designated £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Voluntary receipts							
Planned Giving							
Gift aid donations		23,868	-	-	-	23,868	21,748
Other (non gift aided)		2,162	-	-	-	2,162	2,105
Tax recovered + GASDS		7,560	125	1,768	-	9,452	7,845
Collections (open plate)		1,136	-	-	-	1,136	1,891
All other giving/voluntary receipts	3a)	7,386	6,800	4,769	-	18,955	23,091
Activities for generating funds	3b)	418	-	-	-	418	542
Income from bank and investments		3,743	-	192	37	3,972	2,121
Income from church activities	3c)	6,841	-	-	-	6,841	6,678
Other income	3d)	880	-	-	-	880	2,171
TOTAL RECEIPTS		53,994	6,925	6,729	37	67,685	68,192
PAYMENTS							
Church activities							
Mission giving and donations	3e)	2,750	925	-	-	3,675	3,421
Diocesan parish share		17,738	-	-	-	17,738	17,579
Clergy and staffing costs	3f)	2,359	-	-	-	2,359	2,453
Church running expenses	3g)	17,982	4,551	19,050	-	41,583	31,503
Costs of generating funds		466	-	-	-	466	455
TOTAL PAYMENTS		41,295	5,476	19,050	-	65,822	55,411
Revaluation gains on investments		736	-	-	-	736	212
Transfers between funds		(543)	-	-	543	-	-
Surplus / Deficit for the year		12,891	1,449	(12,321)	580	2,599	12,993
Balances brought forward at 1 January		51,473	4,070	30,976	4,179	90,698	77,705
Balances carried forward at 31 December		64,364	5,519	18,654	4,759	93,297	90,698

Accounts

page 1

The Parish of St Andrew's, Eccles. SAFEGUARDING POLICY PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 11th March 2024.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church is committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Parish will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

This church appoints Mr Stephen Gibbison as the Parish Safeguarding Officer

Incumbent: N/A (Interregnum)..... Date:
Churchwardens: Mr Kevin Walton..... Date: 21/4/24
Mr Stephen Gibbison..... Date: 21/4/24

Team Rector's Report

It's both exciting and strange to be writing my first report as Team Rector for the Eccles churches. Exciting because I am over the moon to be living and serving the Lord in Eccles. Strange because, technically, I'm only reporting on my time in post in 2024...which is about 6 weeks. But, in reality, I've been part of the Eccles family since January 2024 and have much to reflect on.

Firstly, I'd like to take the opportunity to say 'Thank You'.

Thank you to everyone for making me feel so welcome.

Thank you to the church officers for their continued support.

Thank you for all who volunteer and serve in our churches.

Thank you for your grace when I make mistakes.

And thank you for your support as I've come to terms with both a Cancer and Type 1 Diabetes diagnosis in my first year. The timing has not been ideal.

Thank you all.

Much of my time has been spent trying to understand the challenges we face as a group of churches. There are many. Congregation numbers are far lower than we like, buildings require constant maintenance, finances are challenging and our church officers, and volunteers, are stretched to their limit. On the face of it, not a very hopeful situation. However...

...I have great hope.

At St Andrew's, in particular, we have talented church officers, active volunteers and ministries/activities that bring many into the church each week. The relationship with St Andrew's school continues to deepen and I've always felt wonderfully welcome when I do assemblies there. Plus, we have a warm and welcoming building. Never take that for granted!

Over the coming year, we will need to think creatively about how our four churches do ministry and mission. We're going to have to do things differently. But, we have some great people, keen to see God's kingdom come in Eccles. I am confident that we will see revival and growth in the coming years.

God Bless,

Jez

Rev Jez Wisdom, Team Rector

Church Wardens' Report

This is Kevin's twelfth report and Stephen's third as Wardens and looking back over the reports we've written, quite a number of them have started with the words 'this has been a busy year for St Andrew's'. So what's different in 2024? Nothing actually, this has been a very busy year.

In January Rev Jeremy P Wisdom (Jez) arrived as Curate-in-Charge for the parishes of St Mary the Virgin Eccles and St Paul Monton. This was a very welcome

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Andrew Eccles

I report to the PCC on my examination of the accounts of St Andrew's Eccles PCC for the year ended 31st December 2024 which are set out on pages 1 to 4.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the charity trustees of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



John Price
23 Ellenhall Close,
Harpurhey,
Manchester M9 5XG

Date 29 January 2025

Financial Review 2024

The full details of receipts and payments for 2024 can be seen in the Accounts pages of this Annual Report.

Thanks to the generosity of the congregation, St Andrew's has again met all its commitments to support the ministry in our parish and in our Diocese. A special thank you to everyone who continued to set aside money each week in envelopes or each month by standing order. When the PCC agreed the income budget for 2024 we hoped for a small increase in giving and as usual our generous congregation responded. Our income from regular planned donations (including gift aid recovered from HMRC) increased by 8% from £30,997 in 2023 to £33,590 in 2024. Our budget for 2025 hopes to at least match the 2024 performance. We have also received other generous one-off gifts during the year and we were very grateful to receive a £3,300 legacy from the estate of Krysia Sloniecka.

Our community outreach projects (café, toddlers, art & crafts) operated for the whole of the year and income from these activities was just under £3,000. We were grateful to receive a grant from the Manchester Diocesan Council for Social Aid which will enable our Art & Craft workshops to continue fully funded through to September 2025.

The significant increase in utility prices in 2022 that trebled our utility bills caused a lot of concern and I am pleased to say that the prices have stabilised slightly such that we have been able to renegotiate these costs for 2025 and 2026, which will save us money. However, they will still be double what we paid in 2021 before the invasion of Ukraine by Russia.

The Wardens Report highlights a number of building projects that were completed during 2024. Maintenance work on our listed church is never inexpensive and these projects cost £19,050 and required a net withdrawal of £12,300 from our building funds.

The PCC continued to honour its commitment to donate 10% of collections and planned giving to charities. £3,675 was donated to our supported charities (see accounts page 3 for further details). Parish Share (our contribution to the costs of our Diocese, especially clergy stipends) was £17,738. Inflation affects our Diocese just as much as any other organisation and our Parish Share for 2025 will rise to £18,638.

2024 has therefore been a year of continued consolidation for the church finances. Our annual Gift Day was very well supported with over £3,000 being received and this has been allocated to our planned building projects in 2025. Therefore, the 2024 accounts show our overall funds had a surplus of £2,600.

Thank you.

Richard Lewis
Hon Treasurer

The accounts on pages 1 to 4 were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 10 March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Rev Jez Wisdom – Rector of the Eccles Benefice

additional staff resource to what was to become the Eccles Benefice, later in the year. At the end of February Rev Andrew Harper retired as Team Vicar of St Andrew's and Christ Church Patricroft. In November Rev Jez Wisdom was installed as Rector of the Benefice of Eccles with pastoral oversight for the four parishes in the Benefice. During the year Jez has re-established strong links with St Andrew's School and Branwood School, where he visits on a term basis to take assemblies. However, we wish to place on record, on behalf of the PCC and the congregation, our thanks to Rev Jenny Lewis for her service to St Andrew's during this transitional year and the work she continues in the residential homes in the parish.

It will come as no surprise to learn that the average weekly attendance at Sunday worship has declined in 2024. Whereas our Salt group maintained an attendance of 5 young people per week, our adult attendance declined to 25 per week. St Andrew's has an aging congregation which has inevitable effects and therefore we ask the question, are we the last generation to worship here?

On a more positive note our mid-week activities have been better supported than in previous years, as other reports will reflect, showing that there is a need for the outreach we are undertaking to provide for the community, especially our Carer and Toddler group, as well as the Art and Craft group, which has had referrals from other agencies.

Maintenance of the building is a never ending task for the wardens and we have seen the pigeon deterrence installed on the tower, the repair/replacement of tower windows, pointing of the west boundary wall (which had become unstable and posed a risk to Public Health and Safety, so urgent work was required) and the flag pole was painted. The Quinquennial Inspection was completed, which brought to the PCC's attention a number of expensive areas of work that needed to be completed within the next five years and beyond. The PCC commissioned our Inspecting Architect to prepare a plan of phased repairs to the south aisle and porch. It is important to note that, despite the repairs recommended, St Andrew's Church is in a good state of repair and planning repair and restoration in manageable packages is a prudent way of ensuring the fabric remains in good condition.

Finally, we would like to thank all those who have helped us maintain our worship during 2024 and those who, by various means, have been undertaking the pastoral care of our community throughout the year.

Kevin Walton & Stephen Gibbison, Church Wardens

St Andrew's School Report

2024 was another busy year for the school.

Our year 6 attainment figures (SATS) were below national average levels, especially in Mathematics. Our children have made good progress during their time with us, but many start at a disadvantage, particularly those who arrive in the junior years with little or no English or understanding of the way to behave in school in the UK. There were seven "arrivals" amongst the 30 children who took KS2 SATS in 2024. The school suffered with a lot of staff absence/illness at the end of 2024 which put strain on the remaining staff as they had to adapt to cover other classes and activities. Unfortunately, this meant it was not possible to do some of the Christmas assemblies and church visits.

As described in last years report the boiler fire in February 2023 left us needing new boilers. A temporary boiler supported the school over winter and a new boiler and full heating system was installed over the 2024 Summer Holidays and Autumn Half term. The original Victorian radiators and pipework have been replaced by more efficient replacements and the school has been much warmer with the new system running well towards the colder end of the year. There was some disruption, and no heating during the first half of the Autumn term, and the staff, especially the site manager, worked hard to get everything working and make sure everything remained safe.

The Boiler/heating replacement was funded directly by Salford City Council.

We were the subject of a SIAMS Inspection in April 2024. We received an excellent report from the inspectors who were able to see the great work our staff do to support every aspect of our children's development.

The Inspection confirmed we were living up to our foundation as a church school, with the inspector making the following comments:

St Andrew's is a truly transformational Church school, serving a richly diverse area. Leaders are dedicated to ensuring individuals develop their gifts and flourish. The Christian vision serves both the community and God. Staff recognise the uniqueness of pupils and work hard to empower them to use their gifts. This reflects the values of love, honesty, respect and forgiveness. These are not merely aspirational, they are actively integrated into the school's ethos. St Andrew's works effectively with families to dismantle barriers that might limit life chances. The impact of the vision can be seen in leaders' rapid, decisive and supportive actions after a fire and flood. This inclusive approach ensures the flourishing of pupils, staff and the community.

The full SIAMS inspection report is available on-line or I can provide a printed copy.

Synod then broke into Mission Community Groups and a wide ranging discussion around these four topics ensued.

At the November Synod meeting the main topic of discussion was Emerging Diocesan Strategy and Synod heard a presentation from Bishop Matthew and Helen Platts (the Diocesan Chief Operating Officer). The strategy comprised four themes. Growing Younger, Church Planting and Revitalisation, Developing Mission Leaders and Parish Renewal.

Following the presentation Synod broke into its Mission Communities to consider two questions:

- 1 God is calling us to go and make disciples. In the context of your parish, how do you see the emerging strategy supporting your growth plans?
- 2 In the light of the emerging strategy and the hope it offers you and the church, what bold and courageous prayer would you pray to God?

There then followed a plenary session which perhaps posed more questions.

Kevin Walton & Stephen Gibbison, Deanery Synod Representatives

Three Men's Breakfasts at the Rugby Club with interesting speakers and the World Day of Prayer held at Eccles Congregational Church and repeated at Monton Methodist Church, also come under the Churches Together banner, and these times of sharing faith were much enjoyed. Eccles Street Pastors continue to patrol at weekends and are looking for more pastors and trustees.

Jenny Lewis (CTE Chair)

Deanery Synod Report

Deanery Synod met three times during 2024, in March, July and November.

At the March Synod meeting the topics for discussion were: Diocesan Finance, Net Zero and Establishing and Growing New Expressions of Church.

Diocesan Finance. Deanery Synod was informed the Diocesan Draft account showed a deficit of £511K despite the amount of Parish share collected being £100k more than that collected in 2022. Of the 36 parishes in the Salford & Leigh Deanery 25 paid in full, achieving 87.8% of the amount asked for by the Diocesan Board of Finance. The Board of Finance reiterated its commitment to maintaining the level of Stipendiary Clergy at 175 until 2027.

Net Zero. Synod heard a presentation by Nick Hardman and noted the CofE aim to reach Net-Zero by 2030. Attention was drawn to the Eco-Church Awards which should energise churches to be practical and then to formalise their achievements.

Establishing and Growing New Expressions of Church. A presentation by Rev Jack Shepherd. Synod was advised Leigh Mission Community would be starting the CofE 'Greenhouse' initiative to help establish and grow new ('fresh') and existing expressions of church. Greenhouse is a CofE initiative to equip teams of people to design, grow and cultivate fresh expressions of church. In Wigan, it has also been used to 'refresh' existing expressions of church.

At the July Synod meeting the major topic for discussion was the Diocesan Transformation Programme. After 3 years of the programme, it is time to take stock. Colin Pearson (Area Dean) wanted to listen to the views from synod as to its effect and impact to date. Diocesan priorities for the journey ahead have been reframed around four key missional headings:

Growing Younger – includes children and young people, but we also want to grow in the younger adults age groups.

Growing Church, Church Revitalisation and Planting.

Developing Missional Leaders, Lay and Ordained.

Missional Renewal – supporting and helping parishes and continued development of the Deanery Mission Action Plan.

We are pleased that following his appointment as Rector of Eccles, Rev Jez Wisdom has agreed to take up the ex-officio foundation governor role. He has already visited the school and lead assemblies a number of times. The three foundation Governors are:

Ex-Officio	Jez Wisdom
Diocesan appointment	Stephen Gibbison
PCC appointment	Derek Smith (Pastor of Kings Church, Bolton)

As of November 2024, the school is almost full with 226 pupils: 122 boys and 104 girls.

122 children (54%) speak English as an additional language.

97 children (43%) are classed as disadvantaged, and 44 are vulnerable.

Stephen Gibbison, Foundation Governor & Vice Chair of Governors

Electoral Roll Report

On 31st December 2024 there were 34 names on the Electoral Roll. During the year we welcomed one new member in May, Ayoka Olabisi, and, sadly, lost two members who died, Emma Harper and Serita Williams.

Jenny Lewis (Acting Electoral Roll Officer)

Community Report

During the year St Andrew's continued to host a distribution centre for the **Salford Foodbank**, which is part of the Trussell network of foodbanks, on Monday afternoons and Thursday mornings. Foodbank volunteers (some from Eccles Team churches and others from the wider community) served refreshments and gave out bags of food to people who came with vouchers issued by professionals or voluntary organisations. Advice was provided by advisors from St Anthony's Centre and Salford Citizens' Advice.

Toddler Group for preschool children accompanied by an adult continued to take place on Tuesday mornings. Children had the opportunity to play with a variety of toys, listen to a Bible themed story and have a go at a craft activity based on the story.

The **Art and Craft workshop** continued to run on Tuesday afternoons led by a professional tutor providing an activity and a chance to socialise for mainly (but not exclusively) older members of the community. We were blessed in that when our grant from the National Lottery ran out in the summer we

were able to secure a further year's grant from the Manchester Diocesan Council for Social Aid.

The **Community Café** on Friday mornings also continued to attract members of the local community, as did the dementia friendly sessions for older sports fans run by the **Sporting Memories Foundation** while the cafe is open.

It is our hope that all these activities, as well as meeting local needs in a variety of ways, will help us increase our links with the local community and show people the love of Jesus. I would also like to express my gratitude to all those who give up their time to help run these activities.

Jane Lowe, ALM (Community)

SALT (Sunday School) Report

During the year the children have attended faithfully, bringing their enthusiasm and willingness to join in and try different activities as we continue to learn together.

We start with a game then a story. Sometimes they act out the story or we read it together then we pray together using different methods such as blowing bubble prayers, then we have a craft activity, all on the same theme.

During the year we have explored the story of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah and Jacob and Esau. We also looked at Joseph's story and made him a special coat. We also learned about Samuel and King David.

We spent time looking at the Easter story and the Christmas story and we joined in with the church Nativity with the part of the Wise star gazers, after which we had a party.

We display our work on the noticeboard then it goes into scrapbooks. Please continue to pray for us and ask us what we are learning about.

Kate and Karen, Salt Leaders

Home Group Report

The year began with four sessions from a study book called 'Promises, Promises', which focused on God's promises, linked to the first to fourth weeks after Christmas in the church calendar.

As the chair of Churches Together in Eccles, Jenny organised the first 'in person'

Lent group since the Covid pandemic, which she both led and hosted at her home. A good number of people from several churches in Eccles attended and appreciated the time spent together.

After Easter we spent five weeks looking at the letters 2 Peter and Jude, then one week with a study found online called, 'Renewing my Faith: Worship' to round off the half term. After the half term holiday 8 weeks were focused on discussing Sabbath. It was interesting to go into this subject in so much detail, learning how there's so much more to observing Sabbath than just not working on a specific day of the week.

Due to Rosemary Grovestock's move to Norfolk, we needed to find a new home for the group to meet after the summer break. Tony Wood from Christ Church kindly offered his home and made us very welcome.

Throughout the autumn term up to Christmas our studies were based on the book of Hosea, entitled 'God's Persistent Love'. Although this prophet's book is a hard read, ultimately its message speaks loudly that God's love is indeed persistent, and is the constant that we can rely on and which continues to give us hope.

Elaine Walton, Home Group Coordinator & Reader

Churches Together In Eccles Report

St Andrew's enjoys working collaboratively with the other Trinitarian churches in Eccles. In 2024, we started with the Service of Christian Unity held at St Paul's Church, Monton. Our own Home Group members joined in the joint Lent Group which studied Bible reflections from the Holy Land about living in hope with God. At Easter there was a Walk of Witness on Good Friday from Monton to St Andrew's carrying a cross and we hosted a short time of worship together. The summer event was a Creation Celebration for children held at Eccles Parish Church and St Andrew's contributed the interactive prayers, some of the crafts, and helpers. Children and adults alike appreciated meeting lots of animals from Curious Critters. (Well, perhaps not the snake and tarantula in some cases!)

Remembrance Services at the Cemetery with schoolchildren and at the Cenotaph led by Rev Jez Wisdom, were very well attended. Despite windy weather the Carols Round the Cross was very joyful, with Eccles Borough Band leading the carols.

Accounts

**St Andrew's Church Eccles
Annual Report of the
Parochial Church Council
for the Year
Ending 31st December 2023**



Contents

Administrative Information	3
Structure, Governance and Management	3-4
Safeguarding Report	4
Safeguarding Policy	5
Church Wardens’ Report	6
St Andrew’s School Report	7-8
Electoral Roll	8
Community Report	8-9
SALT (Sunday School) Report	9
Home Group Report	10-11
Churches Together in Eccles Report	11
Deanery Synod Report	11-12
Financial Review	13
Independent Examiner’s Report	14
Statement of Financial Activities	15-18

The Parochial Church Council of the ecclesiastical parish of
St Andrew Eccles Manchester.
Registered charity number 1132836

Aims and Purposes

St Andrew’s Eccles PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Team Clergy in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church building.

Administrative Information

St Andrew’s Church is situated on Chadwick Rd, Eccles M30 0NZ. It is part of the Eccles Team Ministry in the Deanery of Salford and Leigh and in the Diocese of Manchester within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, 11 Abbey Grove, Eccles M30 9QN. Website: www.standrewseccles.org

Structure, Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council of the ecclesiastical parish of St Andrew, Eccles, Manchester is a registered charity (charity number 1132836). The method of appointment of PCC members and wardens is set out in the Church Representation Rules. Members of the PCC are either ex officio (being ordained clergy, members of the Deanery or Diocesan Synod or Church Wardens) or are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting as PCC members. (Wardens and Deanery Synod representatives are also elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting). All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

PCC members who have served during 2023 and are ex officio

Rev Andrew Harper	Team Vicar and Chair
Rev Jennifer Lewis	Ordained Local Minister and Curate
Kevin Walton*	Church Warden (Lay chair)
Stephen Gibbison*	Church Warden and Safeguarding Coordinator
Richard Lewis*/**	PCC Treasurer

* Deanery Synod member ** Diocesan Synod member

Elected members

Elaine Walton	Reader
Karen Gibbison	Authorised Lay Minister (Children’s work)
Jane Lowe	PCC Secretary (until November 2023) and Authorised Lay Minister (Community)
Gaynor Bland	
Aimee Downey	First elected 23rd April 2023 and PCC Secretary (from November 2023)

The PCC met 7 times in 2023. The average attendance was 77%.

Safeguarding Report

Statement of Intent: The parish will follow the Church of England guidance on safeguarding children and adults at risk, per the Parish Safeguarding Handbook, Updated August 2019.

The C of E Parish safeguarding handbook can be accessed via a link within the diocese website, Navigate to it via Support for Parishes >> safeguarding >> Policies and Guidance Diocese of Manchester | Policies and Guidance (anglican.org)

If anyone would like a hard copy of the handbook, please ask the safeguarding co-ordinator.

The PCC reviewed and agreed to apply the Church of England model safeguarding policy on 13th March 2023. It was signed at the 2023 APCM on 23rd April 2023. A signed copy of the policy is on the notice board in church and it is also published in this annual report.

Where roles require it, we are continuing to get our volunteers DBS checked and to complete the required training courses.

Stephen Gibbison, Safeguarding Coordinator

The Parish of St Andrew’s, Eccles.
SAFEGUARDING POLICY
PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 13th March 2023.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church is committed to:

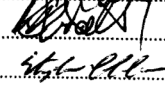
- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Parish will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

This church appoints Mr Stephen Gibbison as the Parish Safeguarding Officer

Incumbent: Rev. Andy Harper.....		Date: 21/5/23
Churchwardens: Mr Kevin Walton.....		Date: 23/4/23
Mr Stephen Gibbison.....		Date: 23/4/23

Church Wardens’ Report

We wish to place on record, on behalf of the PCC and the congregation our thanks to Rev Jenny Lewis for her generous devotion to St Andrew’s, its congregation and the wider community, during the past year. She has been the glue that has held the parish together during a difficult period in the life of St Andrew’s and we are blessed that she has been placed here. She has worked tirelessly not only in the parishes of the Eccles Benefice, but has also ministered to the bereaved and officiated at Sunday Services in adjacent parishes. They also are blessed that she has made herself available to meet their needs.

In our 2022 report we looked at the average weekly attendance and noted that we had not recovered from the 2020 Covid epidemic. In 2023 our average weekly attendance was 27 adults and 5 children which is a marginal increase on 2022, but we have not recovered our pre-Covid average weekly attendance of 29 adults and 7 children. We must not be discouraged by this, as our mid-week activities have been better supported than in previous years, as other reports will reflect, showing that there is a need for the outreach we are undertaking to provide for the community. Our continuing goal now must be to work to bring the message of Jesus to these groups and to welcome them into our worshipping community.

The major piece of work for all four churches in the benefice this year was the composition of a Benefice Profile, to be used to advertise the post of Rector of Eccles. It has been made clear to the benefice that eventually there would be only one stipendiary clergy moving forward and therefore the writing and collation of the contributions from the four parishes had to be handled sensitively. However, in late October, Archdeacon Rachel Mann suggested to the Benefice PCC’s that Rev Jeremy Wisdom might join the Team as a Curate-in-Charge to add support to the stipendiary clergy and to complete his training. After discussion this proposal was accepted and subsequently an arrival date of January 2024 was agreed.

Maintenance of the building is a never ending task for the wardens and we have seen the refurbishment of the main entrance doors completed, refurbishment of the organ pedal board, preparation of a faculty application for pigeon deterrence on the tower and repair/replacement of tower windows, as well as pointing of the west boundary wall and painting of the flagpole.

Finally, Stephen and I would like to thank all those who have helped us maintain our worship during 2023 and those who, by various means, have been undertaking the pastoral care of our community throughout the year.

Kevin Walton & Stephen Gibbison, Church Wardens

St Andrew’s School Report

2023 was another busy year for the school. Teaching was back to normal, but the shadow of Covid-19 is still affecting our children, especially the younger children joining us in nursery and reception who are often less developed as they were locked down so didn’t access as many experiences during their formative toddler years. Additional financial resources have been committed to provide extra trips and enrichment experiences to the children, especially as many of our families have been impacted by the cost-of-living challenges. The school was disrupted a little in February by a fire in the boiler room which started in the small hours of a Sunday morning. It could have been far worse. Fortunately, all the systems and protections that have been put in place worked well on the morning. The fire alarm summoned school staff and the fire service. The fire was contained within the boiler room and promptly extinguished. We are thankful for the prompt response of the school staff and fire service. The Local Authority emergency planning team were also excellent, they fitted and commissioned a temporary boiler within 2 days and the school was able to re-open on the Wednesday with working heating and the loss of only two days teaching.

We were the subject of an Ofsted Inspection in May 2023. It is fair to say that the school staff, particularly the Headteacher, were put under a great deal of pressure by the process and the intensity of some of the questioning that the inspectors applied. The timing was also terrible as it was during SATS testing week when staffing and pupils are already stretched in terms of their schedules and their nerves. The Headteacher and senior leaders had done a great job keeping the school prepared for this very overdue inspection and that preparation was effective during the inspection process. The Inspection result was very pleasing and reflected the hard work of all the St Andrews staff. The school was rated Good in all categories and Good overall, with the inspector making the following comments:

Pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), thrive at St Andrew’s School. They are happy at school. Typically, pupils behave well and they develop positive attitudes to learning. Pupils strive each day to meet leaders’ high expectations of their learning and behaviour. Pupils value their diverse community. Many pupils at the school are new to the country. Nevertheless, they settle quickly, make new friends and catch up where they have missing knowledge. Pupils told inspectors that it does not matter who you are because everyone is treated the same at St Andrew’s School.

St Andrew’s School Report continued....

The full Ofsted inspection report is available on-line or I can provide a printed copy. Last year’s report referred to the Government pushing schools to academize. Once again, the legislation on this matter did not materialise, so we are continuing as we are for the time being. Academisation is still likely to happen at some point so we need to keep considering and looking for viable options. Until then we will continue to work in clusters with other Salford Schools to support and share best practice with each other.

The school is missing an ex officio foundation governor as Rev Andy Harper chose not to take up the role and no replacement was appointed. We hope the role will be filled in 2024.

As November 2023, the school was rather full with 227 pupils, 132 boys and 95 girls.
113 children (49%) speak English as an additional language.
93 children (40%) are classed as disadvantaged, and 40 are vulnerable.

Stephen Gibbison, Foundation Governor & Vice Chair of Governors

Electoral Roll Report

On 31st December 2023 there were 35 names on the Electoral Roll. During the year we welcomed two new members, Emma Harper and Aimee Downey. Sadly just near the end of the year Rose Sharpe died unexpectedly.

Jane Lowe, Electoral Roll Officer

Community Report

During the year St Andrew’s has hosted a distribution centre for the Salford Foodbank which is part of the Trussell Trust network of foodbanks on Monday afternoons and Thursday mornings. Foodbank volunteers (some from Eccles Team churches and others from the wider community) served refreshments and gave out bags of food to people who came with vouchers issued by professionals or voluntary organisations. Advice was provided by advisors from St Anthony’s Centre and Salford Citizens’ Advice.
Toddler Group for preschool children accompanied by an adult continued to take place on Tuesday mornings.
Children had the opportunity to play with a variety of toys, listen to a Bible themed story and have a go at a craft activity based on the story.

Community Report continued

The Art and Craft workshop continued to run on Tuesday afternoons led by a professional tutor (financed by grants including one from the National Lottery Community Fund) providing an activity and a chance to socialise for mainly (but not exclusively) older members of the community.
The Community Café on Friday mornings also continued to attract members of the local community as did the dementia friendly sessions for older sports fans run by the Sporting Memories Foundation while the cafe is open.
All our activities saw an increase in the number of people using them during the year. It is our hope that all these activities as well as meeting local needs in a variety of ways will help us increase our links with the local community and show people the love of Jesus. I would also like to express my gratitude to all those who give up their time to help run these activities.

Jane Lowe, ALM (Community)

SALT (Sunday School) Report

Our families continue to regularly attend and we continue to learn together using games bible stories crafts and we are trying different ways to pray together.
This year we have explored the book of Acts especially looking at Stephen, Barnabus and Silas and we have learned how Saul became St Paul and we went with him on his missionary journey .
We have also looked at how God gives us different weather
The children decorated plant pots so we could give them to the housebound and sick at Harvest time.
We also held our Nativity play which was based on what the animals saw in the stable when Jesus was born. For this we made masks
Our work is displayed on the noticeboard before being put into scrapbooks.
Thank you to all our special children who bring us creativity and fun and to Marian for her help and patience and her creativity .
Thank you to the congregation of St Andrew who show support and interest in the children
Please continue to pray for the children, Kate and Karen.

Kate and Karen, Salt Leaders

Home Group Report

The group was still meeting via Zoom when we restarted after the 2022/2023 Christmas break.

For the beginning of the year, our sessions were based on studies from the bibleproject.com website, a resource which is new to us. We followed a set of studies about the Character of God, looking in detail at God's attributes according to Exodus 34:6-7:

6 And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, 'The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness,
7 maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.'

Over the course of six weeks, after a general overview of the verses, we considered each of the attributes mentioned in verse 6 in turn, as well as his justice which means that, while being able to forgive wickedness, rebellion and sin, God can't simply ignore it as if it doesn't matter. The background material went back to the various meanings of the Hebrew words used in the Bible in this description of God, which helped to enrich our understanding. Who knew that the Hebrew word for compassion is linked to the word for womb? Not me, for one! The Biblical images of God as a mother cherishing, protecting and nurturing her child, illustrating God's compassion, take on deeper significance with this understanding.

Jenny once more organised a Lent course on behalf of Churches Together in Eccles, using the study guide 'The Prayers of Jesus'. We met on Zoom and it was, as always, a joy to meet with Christians from other denominations during this time.

After Easter, we focused on the first 39 chapters of the book of Isaiah, under the heading 'Lessons in Trust'. During the turbulent time of the threat to Israel and Judah from the Assyrian Empire, the prophet Isaiah urged God's people to turn back to God and trust him, despite the circumstances they were living through.

From 23 May the group started meeting together in person again, at a new venue: the home of Rosemary Grovestock, from St Paul's Church. Meeting in person meant that three people were able to re-join the group, and we could enjoy refreshments together again afterwards!

Home Group Report continued....

We decided that after the summer break we would continue going through the book of Isaiah, to get a whole picture of what God said to his people through this major prophet. And so from September until December, we read and discussed Isaiah chapters 40 onwards, under the heading 'Finding Hope'.

We delighted in, and were greatly encouraged by, the wonderful prophecies about Jesus.

The group is currently made up of people who belong to St Andrew's, Christ Church and St Paul's. New members are always welcome. I would love it if we could start an additional group because the current group grows too large, or if someone could host an afternoon group.

Elaine Walton, Home Group Coordinator & Reader

Churches Together In Eccles Report

The Annual Unity service was well attended with a majority of our member churches present.

We were not able to hold the Easter Walk of Witness and our Lenten group was held on line again. Armistice Day and Remembrance Day services were well attended, in spite of the weather. Carols round the Cross were supported by local residents and the Borough Band in December.

Barbara Holmes and Emma Harper, CTE Representatives

Deanery Synod Report

Deanery Synod has met three times during 2023, in March, July and November.

At the March Synod meeting the main discussion was about Focal Leadership and a presentation was received from Beverley Angier, the Diocesan Focal Ministry Officer, about Focal Ministry. Following the presentation there was a wide ranging discussion and some confusion surrounding the role of the Focal Leader. Some questioned whether the proposed role was not already being undertaken by a variety of office holders already and there were a number of questions left unanswered.

At the July Synod meeting we were provided with a paper 'Church Attendance in October 2022 Post Covid Trends, Patterns and Possibilities'. The paper

Deanery Synod Report continued

highlighted that attendance at weekly Sunday services had not recovered to the pre Covid levels, but there was evidence that a significant number of people were accessing their weekly worship via online Church at home. The conclusions of the paper are:-

1. Invite and welcome – who has not returned post Covid and have they been invited back? Enquirers’ courses and invitations to Sunday services can bear fruit if the interested can be identified. The technical experience and expertise churches have had to develop for their online operations should have improved their ability to use social media as part of their invitation and welcome initiative.
2. Plant new services and congregations
3. Make church and services available every week
4. Focus on children and families
5. Don’t abandon on line - develop it

The main topic for discussion was a presentation from Mike McGurk entitled ‘What are our five loaves and two fishes?’ The main outcomes from the presentation are not dissimilar to those noted in the paper mentioned above. At the November meeting the main topic for discussion was entitled ‘The extraordinary Gift of ‘Giving’’. Carolyn McGloughlin, the Diocesan Parish Support Officer, gave a presentation on Diocesan finances and how the parish share is spent. The diocesan income for 2023 is estimated at £12.1 million, including £6.5 million from parish share contributions. However, the budgeted expenditure is £13.1 million. The deficit of £1.1 million will be covered from unrestricted reserves and the sale of redundant vicarages. Clearly balancing a budget from reserves and sale of vicarages cannot balance budgets ad infinitum. Parishes are being asked to make payment of the parish share a priority, although the point was made that payment of parish share is voluntary. Logically, reduced income will inevitably mean fewer clergy. St Andrew’s has paid the requested Parish Share in full for at least the past 30 years.

Kevin Walton & Stephen Gibbison, Deanery Synod Representatives

Financial Review 2023

The full details of the income and expenditure for 2023 can be seen in the Accounts pages of this Annual Report.

Everything mentioned in this whole report is only made possible by your generosity.

Thanks to that generosity, St Andrew’s has again met all its commitments to support the ministry in our parish and in our Diocese. A special thank you to everyone who continued to set aside money each week in envelopes or each month by standing order direct to the bank. We noted in our 2022 report the death of a number of faithful and generous donors. Their passing meant that we had budgeted for a fall in giving but a couple of new members and increases by others have resulted in only a small reduction from £24,318 in 2022 to £23,853 in 2023. Our budget for 2024 hopes to return to the levels of income received in 2021.

2023 has been a year of continued consolidation for the church finances. Our annual gift day was very well supported with over £7,000 being received and this will be allocated to our planned building projects in 2024. We have also received other generous one-off gifts during the year. Therefore, the accounts show our unrestricted funds had a surplus of £7,354, and our restricted funds a surplus of £4,988.

There has been a couple of expensive building projects which were paid by generous donations from individuals, therefore not requiring a withdrawal of reserves. The Wardens report highlights a few other projects that were completed during 2023. The new heating system is working well, we have a warmer building and are using the amount of gas that we anticipated. We were grateful for a grant from the Diocese to help with utility costs. However, the significant increase in utility prices has affected the church just as much as we have all faced in our homes, with our total utility costs having increased from £3,310 in 2021 to £10,596 in 2023.

Our community outreach projects were able to run for the whole of the year and income from these activities has returned to the levels received in 2019.

The PCC continued to honour its commitment to donate 10% of collections and planned giving to charities. £3,420 was donated to our supported charities (see accounts page 3 for further details). Parish Share (our contribution to the costs of our Diocese) was £17,579. Inflation affects our Diocese just as much as any other organisation and our Parish Share is going to rise in each of the next 3 years.

Thank you.

Richard Lewis
Hon Treasurer

The accounts on pages 1 to 4 were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 11 March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Kevin Walton (Church Warden and Chair of PCC at the meeting)

Independent examiner’s report to the PCC of St Andrew Eccles

I report to the PCC on my examination of the accounts of St Andrew's Eccles PCC for the year ended 31st December 2023 which are set out on pages 1 to 4.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the charity trustees of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

John Price

John Price
23 Ellenhall Close,
Harpurhey,
Manchester M9 5XG

Date 08 February 2024

Parochial Church Council of St. Andrew, Eccles

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

Receipts and Payments Accounts

RECEIPTS	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	Building fund	Memorial or	Total	Total
		Funds	Funds	Restricted	Designated	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Voluntary receipts							
Planned Giving							
Gift aid donations		21,748	-	-	-	21,748	21,848
Other (non gift aided)		2,105	-		-	2,105	2,470
Tax recovered + GASDS		7,144	-	701	-	7,845	8,246
Collections (open plate)		1,891	-	-	-	1,891	1,722
All other giving/voluntary receipts	3a)	6,987	5,668	10,435	-	23,091	60,570
Activities for generating funds	3b)	542	-	-	-	542	511
Income from bank and investments		1,785	-	306	30	2,121	873
Income from church activities	3c)	6,678	-	-	-	6,678	4,887
Other Income	3d)	2,171	-	-	-	2,171	2,137
TOTAL RECEIPTS		51,051	5,668	11,442	30	68,192	103,263
PAYMENTS							
Church activities							
Mission giving and donations	3e)	2,565	856	-	-	3,421	3,590
Diocesan parish share		17,579	-	-	-	17,579	19,584
Clergy and staffing costs	3f)	2,453	-	-	-	2,453	2,441
Church running expenses	3g)	20,343	4,707	6,454	-	31,503	61,835
Costs of generating funds		455	-	-	-	455	456
TOTAL PAYMENTS		43,395	5,563	6,454	-	55,411	87,906
Revaluation gains on investments		212	0	0	0	212	(162)
Transfers between funds		(515)		0	515	0	-
Surplus / Deficit for the year		7,354	106	4,988	545	12,993	15,195
Balances brought forward at 1 January		44,119	3,965	25,988	3,634	77,705	62,510
Balances carried forward at 31 December		51,473	4,070	30,976	4,179	90,698	77,705

Parochial Church Council of St. Andrew, Eccles

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Building Restricted	Designated	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cash funds						
Deposit funds	46,372	4,070	30,976	4,179	85,597	72,816
Bank current account	300	-	-	-	300	300
	<u>46,672</u>	<u>4,070</u>	<u>30,976</u>	<u>4,179</u>	<u>85,897</u>	<u>73,116</u>
Investment Assets						
Lloyds Banking Group 10,107 shares at 31/12/23	4,801	-	-	-	4,801	4,589
Other monetary assets						
Gift Aid recoverable	1,983	-	1,743	-	3,726	1,828
Refunds pending from VAT	-	-	-	-	-	516
Interest due on deposit account	702	-	-	-	702	-
Monies owed by other Team Churches	-	-	-	-	-	130
	<u>2,685</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,743</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,428</u>	<u>2,474</u>
Liabilities						
Commitments to contracts awarded + clergy	170	-	-	-	170	3,094
Utility bills for usage in December	1,519	-	-	-	1,519	1,185
	<u>1,689</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,689</u>	<u>4,279</u>

Notes

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the receipts and payments basis.
- The movements in the designated and restricted funds during the year were:

	Bal b/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Bal c/fwd
Restricted				
Youth worker fund	1,382	-	-	1,382
Art & Craft workshops	2,575	4,800	4,707	2,668
Charities collections	8	868	856	20
Building renovation	25,988	11,442	6,454	30,976
	<u>29,953</u>	<u>17,110</u>	<u>12,017</u>	<u>35,046</u>

The Youth Worker fund represents the remaining funds (£1,382) from grants received previously. They are retained pending recruitment of a youth worker.

Four grants in support of the Arts and Craft groups were received in Autumn 2022, some of these grants were spent in 2022 the remaining funds were used by Summer 2023 when we were grateful to receive a further grant of £4,800 from the Communities Lottery Fund to continue this work through to Summer 2024.

	Bal b/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Bal c/fwd
Designated				
Memorial fund	2,511	30	-	2,541
Community Outreach fund	1,123	515	-	1,638

The designated funds consist of monies allocated by the PCC towards building upkeep and future mission projects. The PCC agreed to set aside 2% of the offerings received to build a fund for community outreach. In 2023 no payments were made from this fund. The PCC continues to discuss how best to utilise this fund.

Parochial Church Council of St. Andrew, Eccles

3. Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Building fund Restricted	Memorial or Designated	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
a) All other giving/voluntary receipts						
One-off tax efficient non recurring gifts	3,600	-	2,807	-	6,407	7,930
St Andrew's gift day	-	-	7,053	-	7,053	665
Sundry donations	457	-	-	-	457	1,120
Donations for charities	-	868	-	-	868	772
Collection at confirmation service	-	-	-	-	-	115
Legacies / in memorial gifts	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants / Loans	2,930	4,800	576	-	8,306	49,968
	<u>6,987</u>	<u>5,668</u>	<u>10,435</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,091</u>	<u>60,570</u>
b) Activities for generating funds						
Funds raised via online shopping	215	-	-	-	215	259
Christmas Band Concert	327	-	-	-	327	252
	<u>542</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>542</u>	<u>511</u>
c) Income from church activities						
Statutory fees to PCC for weddings, funerals etc.	402	-	-	-	402	1,085
Cafe in the church	2,175	-	-	-	2,175	1,527
Toddler group & art group	776	-	-	-	776	270
Rental received for use of church	3,326	-	-	-	3,326	2,005
	<u>6,678</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,678</u>	<u>4,887</u>
d) Other income						
Eccles Team - shared finances	2,171	-	-	-	2,171	2,137
	<u>2,171</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,171</u>	<u>2,137</u>
Payments						
e) Mission giving and donations						

The PCC has adopted a policy of making grants to Christian charities equal to 10% of the money it receives from planned giving and open plate collections. The PCC also encourages the congregation to support charities by organising collections and special events to promote selected charities. The PCC is acting as an agent for the charities concerned, and has no control over the funds. The details of these donations during 2023 are as follows.

	From PCC	Events & appeals	Total 2023	Total 2022
			£	£
Children's Society	400	58	458	
ReVive International - Brazil	400	-	400	
Tear Fund	400	107	507	
C.M.S. (Andrew Young - Nepal)	400	35	435	
Scripture Union	400	-	400	
Christian Aid (Turkey/Syria earthquake appeal)	350	190	540	
National Churches Trust	100	-	100	
Barnabus	50	14	64	
Royal British Legion	40	82	122	
Greater Manchester Churches Trust	25	-	25	
Christian Aid	-	122	122	
St Ann's hospice	-	28	28	
Macmillan cancer support	-	48	48	
Salford foodbank	-	88	88	
Francis house	-	59	59	
Lifeshare (donations at band concert)	-	25	25	
	<u>2,565</u>	<u>856</u>	<u>3,421</u>	<u>3,436</u>

Parochial Church Council of St. Andrew, Eccles

3. Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts (continued)

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Building fund Restricted	Memorial or Designated	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Payments						
f) Clergy and staffing costs						
Clergy working expenses	659				659	343
Ordinand Support					-	398
Clergy housing costs	1,794				1,794	1,700
	2,453	-	-	-	2,453	2,441
g) Church running expenses						
Church building improvements	1,655		6,454		8,109	41,482
Church routine annual maintenance	1,390				1,390	1,577
Upkeep of grounds	12				12	-
Church utility bills	8,931	1,665			10,596	6,069
Church insurance	4,211				4,211	3,694
Upkeep of services	139				139	72
Mission support costs	321	3,042			3,363	5,344
Eccles Team - shared finances	2,041				2,041	1,834
Miscellaneous	1,371				1,371	1,555
Church administration	271				271	208
	20,343	4,707	6,454	-	31,503	61,835

4 STAFF COSTS

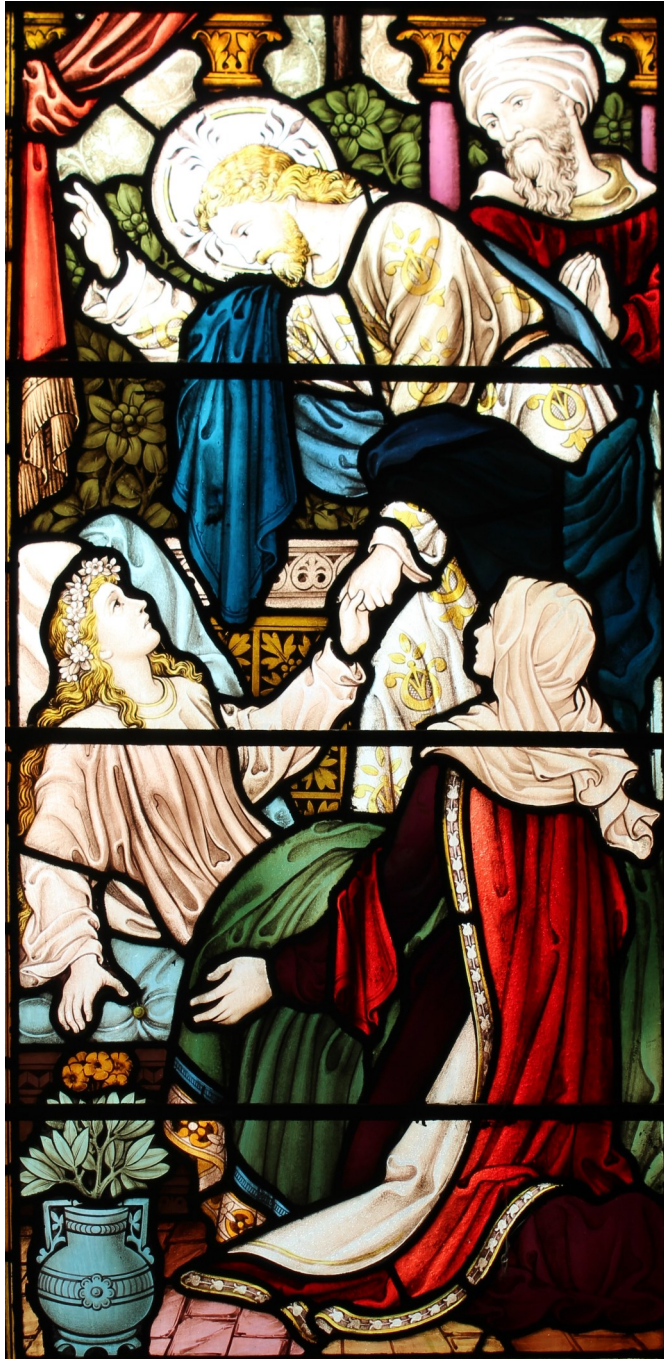
- a) Wages and salaries
It is the custom of the PCC to charge for the services of organists and vergers at funerals & weddings, and to pass these fees on to the individuals providing the service. In 2023 the PCC paid £95 to maids and £60 to vergers at these occasional services. Fees for the clergy at such events belong to the Diocesan Board of Finance. These costs are netted off against fees received, because the PCC is acting merely as agent. Statutory fees income disclosed in note 3c) is net of all such costs. No amounts were sufficient to attract social security costs.
- b) Payments to PCC members
No payments or expenses were paid to any PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties.

5 ECCLES TEAM

St Andrew's is responsible for administering the payments on behalf of Christ Church Patricroft PCC in relation to the team vicar's housing and working expenses.
St Andrew's is responsible for administering the payments on behalf of other churches in the Eccles Team for any joint team events.

6 RESERVE POLICY

The PCC has a reserve policy to ensure adequate working capital. The policy specifies that reserves should be maintained equal to 3 months planned expenditure. This policy has been adhered to in 2023. For 2024 this requires the PCC to maintain at least £11,000 in immediately accessible accounts.



Accounts

St Andrew's Church Eccles **Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council** **for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

Contents.....	1
Administrative Information.....	2
Structure, Governance and Management.....	2
Safeguarding Report.....	3
Churchwardens' Report.....	3
St Andrew's School Report.....	4
Electoral Roll.....	5
Community Report.....	5
SALT (Sunday School) Report.....	5
Home Group Report.....	6
Churches Together in Eccles Report.....	6
Deanery Synod Report.....	6
Finance Review.....	7
Independent Examiner's Report.....	8
Statement of Financial Activities Accounts.....	Accounts pages1-4
Parish Safeguarding policy.....	Appendix

The Parochial Church Council of the ecclesiastical parish of St Andrew Eccles
 Manchester.
 Registered charity number 1132836

St Andrew's Church Eccles

Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

Aims and Purposes

St Andrew's Eccles PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Team Clergy in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church building.

Administrative Information

St Andrew's Church is situated on Chadwick Rd, Eccles M30 0NZ. It is part of the Eccles Team Ministry in the Deanery of Salford and Leigh and in the Diocese of Manchester within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is The Vicarage, 11 Abbey Grove, Eccles M30 9QN.

Website: www.standrewseccles.org

Structure, Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council of the ecclesiastical parish of St Andrew, Eccles, Manchester is a registered charity (charity number 1132836). The method of appointment of PCC members and wardens is set out in the Church Representation Rules. Members of the PCC are either *ex officio* (being ordained clergy, members of the Deanery or Diocesan Synod or Church Wardens) or are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting as PCC members. (Wardens and Deanery Synod representatives are also elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting). All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

PCC members who have served during 2022 and are ex officio

Rev Andrew Harper	Team vicar and chair
Rev Jennifer Lewis	Ordained Local Minister and Curate
Kevin Walton*	Church Warden (Lay chair)
Valerie Slater	Church Warden (till 24 th April 2022)
Richard Lewis*/**	PCC Treasurer
Stephen Gibbison*	Safeguarding coordinator and Church Warden (from 24 th April 2022)
* Deanery Synod member** Diocesan Synod member	

Elected members

Elaine Walton	Reader
Karen Gibbison	Authorised Lay Minister (Children's work)
Jane Lowe (Community)	PCC Secretary and Authorised Lay Minister
Gaynor Bland	(from 24 th April 2022)

The PCC met 6 times during 2022. The average attendance was 83%. There were no Standing Committee meetings in 2022.

Safeguarding Report

Statement of Intent: The parish will follow the Church of England guidance on safeguarding children and adults at risk, per the Parish Safeguarding Handbook, Updated August 2019.

The Church of England Parish safeguarding handbook can be accessed via a link within the diocese website, Navigate to it via Support for Parishes >>

safeguarding >> Policies and Guidance

[Diocese of Manchester | Policies and Guidance \(anglican.org\)](#)

If anyone would like a hard copy of the handbook please ask the safeguarding co-ordinator.

The PCC reviewed and agreed to apply the Church of England model safeguarding policy on 14th March 2022. It was signed at the 2022 APCM on 24th April 2022.

A signed copy of the policy is on the notice board in church and it is also published in this annual report.

Where roles require it, we are continuing to get our volunteers DBS checked and to complete the required training courses.

The Church of England Safer Recruitment guidance was updated and re-issued in April. One change in the safer recruitment guidance is that DBS checks will now be renewed every 3 years rather than every 5 years as had been the requirement previously. There are also additional demands placed on parishes tucked away in this new “guidance” such as the requirement that all roles must have a written Role Description and Person Specification. We shall have to consider the scope of this new “guidance” and how we stay compliant to it.

Stephen Gibbison, Safeguarding coordinator.

Churchwardens' Report

For St Andrew's, and many churches in the Manchester Diocese and beyond, 2022 has been a year of recovery. For some churches, who were struggling prior to Covid, recovery has not happened and they will have to face the consequences of that. So we need to be thankful, that with God's grace, we are still firmly planted in Eccles.

If we compare the average weekly attendance in 2019 to that of 2022 we see that, including baptism families, in 2019 it was 8 children and 29 adults and in 2022 it was 7 children and 25 adults. This is good news as we continue to nurture our young people and we thank our SALT leaders for all their loving work in continuing to share the Gospel in a meaningful way with them. But there is also a sadness as we remember those people who have died during Covid and the last year, or who are no longer able to worship with us because of illness: Alan Cooper, Edward Traynor, Jean Drummond, Doug Loach, Valerie Slater, and mixed feelings for Dan & Georgina Stirling and their sons Ezra and Micah as they left us when Georgina took up her new ministry role in Rochdale.

But enough of that, where is our growth? It's in our community outreach. Carer & Toddlers started quietly, but continued to grow steadily, Arts & Crafts Workshop took off with a bang and the group continues to be well supported. Jane Lowe has made numerous applications for grant funding for this activity and it is her efforts that have enabled a professional tutor to continue to run these sessions. The need for a Foodbank distribution centre here in Eccles is evidenced by the number of food parcels we supplied to families: 292 households in 2022. The Friday café is also well attended and we thank those who give their baking skills and time to run the café. The dementia-friendly

group meets every Friday and is growing in numbers. St Andrew's and Branwood Schools both made educational visits during the year and we were pleased to welcome both schools for their annual Carol concerts. We were also pleased to welcome Salford City Academy to host their Transitional Concert for primary school children in Year 5 and 6, who would soon be moving to secondary education. The Ugandan Christian Fellowship International have continued to use St Andrew's monthly and are very appreciative of our hospitality. Clearly there is a need for St Andrew's and its worshipping community on this site and we must persevere with the work God has given us.

There is a wind of change whistling round what used to be the Eccles Deanery; we are now part of Salford and Leigh Deanery and specifically Mission Community 3, as reported last year, so what has happened since? A new Incumbent of Irlam and Cadishead has been appointed and he will become the Mission Community Leader, being installed in February 2023. Ross Garner, our Rector, took retirement in September and the process of appointing a new Rector has started. This will not be a quick process and we must wait patiently. Please pray that the right person will hear God's call and the people selected to be on the interview panel will be given wisdom and discernment to choose the right person. We have been advised that in the longer term there will only be one stipendiary minister for the Eccles Benefice of four churches and therefore we need to plan a step change for our styles of worship as we move forward.

Our new heating system was commissioned in January 2022 and what a difference that has made. I cannot remember the building being so warm all year round. We have used less gas in 2022 than we had in previous years, but due to the increase in gas prices the cost of heating has tripled.

The major maintenance work discussed during 2022 are the repairs to the windows in the tower and work needed to remove the pigeon detritus from the masonry. Apart from some other minor ongoing repairs, the building is in a sound condition and we should anticipate a Quinquennial Inspection in 2023 by our architect.

Stephen and I would like to thank all those who have helped us maintain our worship during 2022 and those who, by various means, have been undertaking the pastoral care of our community throughout the year.

Kevin Walton & Stephen Gibbison

St Andrew's C E Primary School Report for 2022

2022 was a year of getting back to normal as the disruption of Covid-19 subsided and the regulations around closures were removed. The school is still awaiting the now long overdue OFSTED visit. The lost time in education has had an impact on attainment of the children who left us in the summer (key stage 2). The results were lower than we hoped, particularly in Reading and Mathematics. Nationally all the results were still down on pre-Covid attainment, but our published figures were also lowered by a couple of children that we believed should have been excluded from our school statistics. (e.g., a child who left us in 2019 but returned to the school in March 2022, 2 months before the KS2 exams) The Government's white paper has revitalised the push for academisation of all schools.

St Andrew's is a Voluntary Controlled School, meaning the Local Authority is the controlling body and the "employer" of all the staff at the School. Funding comes via the Local Authority who retain a little of the money to cover some of their administration costs, but the bulk of the budget is delegated to the school and the Governing Board oversees its own budget.

In an academy, the academy trust is the employer and the Local Authority role is minimised to a liaison on admissions and some statutory oversight roles. As

more schools leave the Local Authority to become academies the Local Authority will receive less funding to support the remaining schools, so resisting academisation would not be in the school's interests as staying within the Local Authority support structure after it has been hollowed out would be either expensive to the school or harmful because the Local Authority won't have the resources to support us. (Likely both).

So, St Andrews School will have to join a Multi-Academy Trust soon. The Governing Board will have to select a trust to join and needs to get it right because once a school is subsumed into a Multi-Academy Trust it cannot chose to withdraw from that Multi-Academy Trust if it doesn't like it.

As part of an academy the school will have a Local Advisory Board, which will have limited powers and no foundation governors, so St Andrews Church will no longer have a statutory right to appoint any governors onto the school board. The school currently works well with several other local primary schools in "clusters".

We work particularly well with Christ Church and Lewis Street schools. The Diocese is causing frustration across the Salford primary schools as they are limiting our options for joining a Multi-Academy Trust. We have been told that we must join one of the established Multi-Academy Trusts that the Diocese of Manchester is already working with. We cannot set up a new MAT with the schools we currently work with or join a Multi-Academy Trust that the Diocese of Manchester is not already involved with. This dictation of terms is a poor starting point for our journey to academisation.

The "cost of living crisis" has certainly been seen and felt within the school family. Staff are having to make many more referrals for support through the official channels for our children and their families. Staff are also living the school values, going above and beyond by personally supporting children and families in need by sourcing food or clothes for them. Our breakfast club is an example of an existing arrangement that is flexing to support any child that arrives hungry. The School is issuing the food vouchers to cover holidays and has good as new uniforms available, though many families are still proud and reluctant to ask for help.

As October 2022, the school was rather full with 228 pupils, 125 boys and 103 girls

110 children (48%) speak English as an additional language.

80 children (35%) are classed as disadvantaged, and 40 are vulnerable.

Stephen Gibbison, Foundation Governor & Vice Chair of Governors.

Electoral Roll Report 2022

On 31st December 2022 there were 34 names on the Electoral Roll. During the year we welcomed one new member James Gibbison and were saddened by the deaths of 3 members Hazel Kimber, Eddie Traynor and Jean Drummond all of whom are very much missed.

Jane Lowe

Community Report

During the year St Andrew's continued to host a distribution centre for the **Salford Foodbank** which is part of the Trussell Trust network of foodbanks on Monday afternoons. Foodbank volunteers (some from Eccles Team churches and others from the wider community) served refreshments and gave out bags of food to people who came with vouchers issued by professionals or voluntary organisations. Advice was provided by an advisor from Salford Citizens' Advice.

Toddler Group for preschool children accompanied by an adult continued to take place on Tuesday mornings. Children had the opportunity to play with a

variety of toys, listen to a Bible themed story and have a go at a craft activity based on the story. The story and craft activity followed the scheme used by some churches in Bolton and devised by Steph Openshaw (Manchester Diocese Children Changing Places Project, Early Years Worker) for whose help and guidance I am very grateful.

The **Art and Craft workshop** continued to run on Tuesday afternoons led a professional tutor (financed by grants) providing an activity and a chance to socialise for mainly (but not exclusively) older numbers of the community. The **Community Café** on Friday mornings also continued to attract members of the local community as did the dementia friendly sessions for older sports fans run by the **Sporting Memories Foundation** while the cafe is open. It is our hope that all these activities as well as meeting local needs in a variety of ways will help us increase our links with the local community and show people the love of Jesus. I would also like to express my gratitude to all those who give up their time to help run these activities.

Jane Lowe

SALT (Sunday School) Report

We continue to have a small number of regular families who week by week join us as we learn about God and explore bible stories. This year we looked at exploring feelings such as being happy with Mary and being afraid with Gideon, then we looked at creation Pentecost and explored the theme of being salt and light.

We play games, read and act out the stories and have prayer and craft time. We continue to display our work on the notice board and then it goes in scrapbooks. Our nativity looked at the Wise men and their Journey following the star and then we enjoyed a Christmas party

Thank you to Kate for her loyalty fun and her creativity who turns my plans into reality.

Thank you to Marian for choosing to bring her children and for her invaluable help.

Thank you to all our very special children who share their fun and creativity with us.

Please continue to pray for us and ask us what we are learning about.

Karen Gibbison

Home Group Report

Throughout 2022 the group sessions were again conducted using Zoom, meeting on Tuesday evenings, more or less during school term times.

From the start of the year up to Lent, we carried on, by request, with studies on Genesis, following first of all Jacob's story and the beginning of Joseph's.

The story of Jacob, full of deceit, quarrels, getting to know God, letting God down, then ultimately reconciling to both God and his twin brother, reminded us, first of all, how God works with imperfect, often unreliable people, and yet ensures his plans come to fulfilment. Secondly, in Jacob's relationship with his brother, Esau, we were shown how even shattered relationships can be repaired through humility, acknowledgement and confession of wrongdoing, and forgiveness. Not only is this a good example for us in our human relationships, but it mirrors how we are reconciled to God.

In her role as chair of Churches Together in Eccles, Jenny again organised and led a Lent course via Zoom, for which we are grateful.

After Easter we continued through the book of Genesis and Joseph's dramatic story, featuring arrogance, jealousy, betrayal, injustice, reward, faith, compassion, forgiveness, reconciliation. It's a story that's familiar to many of us,

but rich with lessons to build up our faith and reassure us that, even in what seem to be the most desperate of situations, God keeps his purposes on track. After working through the whole of the book of Genesis, a very different set of studies followed, focusing on various types of prayer: Great Prayers of the Bible. These sessions encouraged us in ways to pray in all circumstances, and to be imaginative in how we pray.

For the autumn term we turned to 1 & 2 Thessalonians, with a series subtitled 'How Can I Be Sure'. Digging into these two books helped us to focus on the hope we have that everyone who believes and trusts in Jesus Christ is assured of salvation and will share eternal life with him. It's hope that helps us to keep steadfast in faith, even while going through difficult times.

Thank you to everyone who joined in our sessions throughout the year, despite the fact we were not yet able to meet in person.

Elaine Walton

Churches Together in Eccles Report

St Andrew's representatives: Mrs Barbara Holmes and Mrs Emma Harper.

We carried on with our usual programme of events, joined by two new member churches. We had an increased number attending Carols at the Cross & a good attendance at the A.G.M. in November. Rev. Jenny. Lewis agreed to continue as our chairperson pro tem. We have a good programme in place for this year.

Barbara Holmes

Deanery Synod Report

Deanery Synod has met three times during 2022, but the year started with a Formation day. The subject of all four meetings has been establishing and developing the Mission Communities.

At the Formation days in each of the Mission Communities we were asked to consider the topic "My Mission Passion is..." and then under each of the headings Growing, Nurturing, Serving, three subheadings of "What's already happening.... What's Ready to Go.... Where do we need a shared approach....". At the April Synod meeting the output from the Formation days was shared with the Synod and feedback, observations and questions were invited from those present.

At the July meeting the main topic was "Work with Young People in Schools". There was a video presentation by Karen Beal, Diocesan Children's Officer. Reference was made to Bolton Deanery's 'Children Changing Places' project and the learning from experiences there. Different ideas and strategies were offered for C of E schools, non-C of E schools, higher schools and some general overarching principles.

At the November meeting Synod received the Deanery Mission Action Plan, a formidable document, under the headings of Growing, Nurturing, Serving and Sustainability.

Key indicators to be achieved will be a return to pre-Covid attendances by 2026 ... development of initiatives in the most deprived communities ... and the growth of work with young people (under 16s). The Rev Robert Jackson has been appointed as Mission Community Leader for Eccles/Irlam, being installed as Incumbent of Irlam and Cadishead in February 2023.

Kevin Walton and Stephen Gibbison

Financial Review 2022

The full details of the income and expenditure for 2022 can be seen in the Accounts pages of this Annual Report.

Thanks to your generosity, St Andrew's has again met all its commitments to support the ministry in our parish and in our Diocese. 2022 has been a year of consolidation for the church finances. There has been no major unexpected

expenditure and we have received some very generous one-off gifts during the year and at our annual gift day. The Accounts therefore show that our unrestricted funds had a healthy surplus.

Planned giving for the year was £24,318 compared to £25,935 in 2021. A special thank you to everyone who continued to set aside money each week in envelopes or each month by standing order direct to the bank. We note with regret the death of a number of faithful and generous donors during 2022. Their passing means that the expected income from our planned giving scheme will be less than 2022 unless there are further increases in giving from existing members or new members joining.

Overall it is difficult to compare our total income and expenditure with previous year's income because both 2021 and 2022 included large grants. Final bills for the major expenditure on the heating replacement project were paid at the beginning of 2022. The good news is that the heating system is working well and we are using the amount of gas that we anticipated. We are grateful to a grant from the Diocese to help with our energy bills however due to the significant increases we are all face in energy bills, the church utility bills will increase in 2023 by more than £5,000.

Due to the removal of all restrictions imposed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, our community outreach projects were able to run for the whole of the year but income from these activities has not yet returned to the level received in 2019. The PCC continued to honour its commitment to donate 10% of collections and planned giving to charities. £3,590 was donated to our supported charities (see accounts page 3 for further details). Parish Share (our contribution to the costs of our Diocese) was £19,584. Due to our falling attendance numbers our Parish Share has been reduced in 2023.

All the things mentioned in this whole report are made possible by your generosity. Thank you.

Richard Lewis, Hon Treasurer

The accounts on pages 1 to 4 were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 13 March 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

 13/3/23

Kevin Walton (Church Warden and Chair of PCC at the meeting)

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Andrew Eccles

I report to the PCC on my examination of the accounts of St Andrew's Eccles PCC for the year ended 31st December 2022 which are set out on pages 1 to 4.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the charity trustees of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



John Price
23 Ellenhall Close,
Harpurhey,
Manchester M9 5XG

Date 30th January 2023

Parochial Church Council of St. Andrew, Eccles

Parochial Church Council of St. Andrew, Eccles

3. Further Analysis

3. Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts (continued)

Receipts		Unrestricted	Restricted	Building fund	Memorial or	Total	Total
		Funds	Funds	Restricted	Designated	2022	2021
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Ca	a) All other giv						
De	One-off tax						
Ba	St Andrew's						
Im	Ordinand s						
Li	Sundry do						
	Donations	343				343	731
	Collection		398			398	852
Ot	Legacies /						
Gi	Grants / Lc	1,700				1,700	1,647
Re		2,043	398	-	-	2,441	3,230
Mc	b) Activities fo						
	Funds rais						
Li	Christmas						
	g) Church running expenses						
	Church building improvements	-		41,482		41,482	59,464
Cc	c) Income from	1,577				1,577	1,538
Ut	Statutory f						
	Café in the	4,889	1,180			6,069	3,310
	Toddler gr	3,694				3,694	3,535
N	Rental rec	72				72	29
1.	d) Other incon	-				-	171
	Eccles Te	720	4,624			5,344	1,930
2.		1,834				1,834	2,163
	Payments	1,290	265			1,555	994
Re	e) Mission givi	208				208	176
Yc	The PCC t	14,284	6,069	41,482	-	61,835	73,311
Ar	and open i						
Ch	events to p						
He	The detail						

4 STAFF COSTS

a) Wages and salaries

It is the custom of the PCC to charge for the services of organists and vergers at funerals & weddings, and to pass these fees on to the individuals providing the service. In 2022 the PCC paid £415 to musicians and £180 to vergers at these occasional services.

Fees for the clergy at such events belong to the Diocesan Board of Finance. These costs are netted off against fees received, because the PCC is acting merely as agent. Statutory fees income disclosed in note 3c) is net of all such costs. No amounts were sufficient to attract social security costs.

b) Payments to PCC members

No payments or expenses were paid to any PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties.

5 ECCLES TEAM

St Andrew's is responsible for administering the payments on behalf of Christ Church Patricroft PCC in relation to the team vicar's housing and working expenses.

St Andrew's is responsible for administering the payments on behalf of other churches in the Eccles Team for any joint team events.

6 RESERVE POLICY

The PCC has a reserve policy to ensure adequate working capital. The policy specifies that reserves should be maintained equal to 3 months planned expenditure. This policy has been adhered to in 2022. For 2023 this requires the PCC to maintain at least £11,050 in immediately accessible accounts.

**The Parish of St Andrew's, Eccles.
SAFEGUARDING POLICY
PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH**

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 14th March 2022.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church is committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Parish will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

This church appoints Mr Stephen Gibbison as the Parish Safeguarding Officer

Incumbent: Rev. Andy Harper

Churchwardens: Mr Kevin Walton

Mr Stephen Gibbison



24/4

24/4/



24/4/22

Appendix - SAFEGUARDING POLICY PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

Accounts

St Andrew's Church Eccles **Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council** **for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

Contents.....	1
Administrative Information.....	2
Structure, Governance and Management.....	2
Safeguarding Report.....	2
Team Vicar's Report.....	3
Churchwardens' Report.....	3
Valarie Slater: an appreciation.....	4
St Andrew's School Report.....	4
Electoral Roll.....	5
Community Report.....	5
SALT (Sunday School) Report.....	6
Home Group Report.....	6
Churches Together in Eccles Report.....	6
Deanery Synod Report.....	7
Finance Review.....	8
Independent Examiner's Report.....	9
Statement of Financial Activities Accounts.....	Accounts pages 1-4
Parish Safeguarding policy.....	Appendix

The Parochial Church Council of the ecclesiastical parish of St Andrew Eccles
 Manchester.
 Registered charity number 1132836

St Andrew's Church Eccles Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Aims and Purposes

St Andrew's Eccles PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Team Clergy in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church building.

Administrative Information

St Andrew's Church is situated on Chadwick Rd, Eccles M30 0NZ. It is part of the Eccles Team Ministry in the Deanery of Eccles and in the Diocese of Manchester within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is The Vicarage, 11 Abbey Grove, Eccles M30 9QN.
Website: www.standrewseccles.org

Structure, Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council of the ecclesiastical parish of St Andrew, Eccles, Manchester is a registered charity (charity number 1132836). The method of appointment of PCC members and wardens is set out in the Church Representation Rules. Members of the PCC are either *ex officio* (being ordained clergy, members of the Deanery or Diocesan Synod or Church Wardens) or are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting as PCC members. (Wardens and Deanery Synod representatives are also elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting). All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

PCC members who have served during 2021 and are ex officio

Rev Andrew Harper	Team vicar and chair
Rev Jennifer Lewis	Ordained Local Minister and Curate
Kevin Walton*	Church Warden (Lay chair)
Valerie Slater	Church Warden
Richard Lewis*/**	PCC Treasurer
Stephen Gibbison*	Safeguarding coordinator
* Deanery Synod member** Diocesan Synod member	

Elected members

Elaine Walton	Reader
Karen Gibbison	ALM (Children's work)
Jane Lowe	PCC Secretary and ALM (Community)

The PCC met 9 times during 2021. The average attendance was 85%. The 5 meetings between January and June were held online, the remaining 4 meetings in church. There were no Standing Committee meetings in 2021.

Safeguarding Report.

Statement of Intent: The parish will follow the Church of England guidance on safeguarding children and adults at risk, per the Parish Safeguarding Handbook, Updated August 2019.

This has replaced the Diocesan handbook which is no longer available on its webpage

The C of E Parish safeguarding handbook can be accessed via a link within the diocese website, Navigate to it via Support for Parishes >> safeguarding >> Policies and Guidance

[Diocese of Manchester | Policies and Guidance \(anglican.org\)](https://www.anglican.org/dioceses/manchester/policies-and-guidance)

If anyone would like a hard copy of the handbook please ask the safeguarding co-ordinator.

The PCC reviewed and agreed to apply the Church of England model safeguarding policy in March 2021. It was signed at the 2021 APCM on 25th April 2021.

A signed copy of the policy is on the notice board in church and it is also published in this annual report.

Where roles require it, we are continuing to get our volunteers DBS checked and to complete the required training courses. This year due to Covid-19 all training has been delivered through on-line courses. In September 2021 the Diocese announced that it will no longer manage the DBS checks and safeguarding training for ALM's, this responsibility will now fall onto the parish and its safeguarding officer.

DBS checks have been renewed where required as individuals have started to resume their regular participation in activities that were suspended due to Covid 19. It is worth noting that where individuals do not regularly undertake some activities, they are often not eligible for a DBS check, this is why there may have been gaps in DBS coverage over this period.

Stephen Gibbison, Safeguarding coordinator.

Team Vicar's Report

I recently said to a friend "hang in there" and we have as a church done just that during another year of COVID. I have seen remarkable resilience demonstrated as we have started up activities again as rules allowed us. What of the future? Well the scriptures tells us, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9. This verse reminds us that it is God we partner with, He is in control of the 'proper time'. While we are waiting Ecclesiastes 9:10 encourages us to do the next thing that is at hand and to do it with all our might. I'm encouraged to see we have been doing that and fruit will come. One of the elements of our new Mission communities is to engage in some experiential (learning by doing) material. Often called Whole Life Discipleship, this teaches us to live out a missionary lifestyle everyday of the week. It will help us to speak to people about Jesus and grow into praying with people in the power of the Holy Spirit. Just becoming braver one step at a time in demonstrating the goodness of God to people. The key here is one step at a time and growing together, by sharing stories for example. Romans tells us that God's kindness leads people to repentance, and I'm encouraged by the many examples I've seen of loving kindness in our fellowship.

Rev Andy Harper

Church Wardens' Report

This year has seen St Andrew's spend large sums of money in order to provide a warm and welcoming environment, as well as continuing the never ending repairs to the building and its contents.

By far the largest expenditure provided a new heating system. Looking back through our records we first started to consider this project in 2015. Extensive

research was undertaken to determine what fuel we should use, thinking mainly about cost and the environment. We dismissed biomass, ground source heating, air source heating and solar panels and eventually came to the decision that gas fired boilers and water filled radiators were the best way forward for St Andrew's. We commissioned a heating consultant to design and develop a specification for the new system. In October 2020 we obtained a faculty to proceed with the project and this point we were in a position to apply for funding. The cost of the project was £67,135 plus VAT. Fortunately, the VAT is recoverable under the Listed Place of Worship provisions.

An application was made to Viridor Credits Environmental Company (a grant giving arm of Viridor Waste Management) and we received a grant of £65,385, for which we are enormously grateful. We contracted HeatinGlobal, the company who looked after our old heaters, to install the new system. Work began in October 2021 and the new heating system was up and running in time for Christmas.

In October, urgent repairs were needed to one of the west windows as a piece of protective glass had fallen off and presented a potential health and safety issue to the general public. Closer inspection of both windows and the circular window showed that several pieces of protective glass were in need of replacement and therefore the decision was taken to replace all the protective glass to these windows at a cost of £8,850 plus VAT and again the VAT was recoverable under the Listed Places of Worship provisions.

We are very grateful to Booths of Eccles, who gave us the additional red carpet and carpet fittings for the steps into the chancel. I would also like to thank Mr Ron Jones for his skills in laying the carpet and making repairs to the carpet in the café area. We have also enhanced our sound system and now have the capability of using two lapel microphones and a wireless microphone for the person leading the services.

Relaxing of the Covid restrictions by September enabled us to restart our activities in Church and by Christmas we had all our groups meeting once again. We were also able to host the Transition Service for all the primary feeder schools to Salford Academy.

Valerie Slater and I wish to record our thanks to all those who have contributed to the work of St Andrew's in leading services, planning and running SALT, helping to run our community outreach groups and all the activities that make St Andrew's the warm and welcoming place that it is.

Valerie Slater & Kevin Walton

Valerie Slater: an appreciation

Valerie has decided that she will not stand for election this year as she is not feeling strong enough to undertake the role of warden. Records show she has been a warden at St Andrew's since May 2009, but I think there could have been a period before this when she held the office of warden. Valerie has dedicated herself to the work of St Andrew's for over 13 years, she has given unstintingly of herself and I hope that the meeting can join me in extending our thanks to Valerie. She is in our prayers and we hope that she will recover sufficiently to join us again for Sunday worship.

Kevin Walton

St Andrew's C E Primary School Report

The challenges of Covid continued to dominate 2021. The disruption was not as severe as the full closures during 2020, but there was still significant disruption as individual pupils, full classes and staff have had to isolate many times throughout the year. Remote learning has been embedded into the school

planning so it can be applied immediately in response to a covid case or wider outbreak. Our headteacher Mrs Bladen-Kay has seemed to have spent most of the year reviewing and applying the latest covid advice which at times seemed to be changing on an almost daily basis.

Whenever possible the school has provided face to face teaching so the children have as normal an experience as possible, but we have tried to keep visitors to a minimum. As a result, Governors met virtually and have not been into the school over the course of 2021.

Early in 2021 the PCC appointed Pastor Derek Smith of Kings Church Bolton as our Foundation Governor to fill the vacancy caused by Sarah Morrissy's resignation. There were no nominations from within St Andrew's congregation, Derek is known to our vicar and the Headteacher, he is also an experienced school governor.

The school is almost full, it has 215 pupils is very diverse, 56% speak English as an additional language

The school has continued to focus on our priorities over the year, including...

- Progress and Attainment – rapid progress required in Reading Writing Maths etc.
- Covid Recovery – identify and focus on knowledge Gaps.
- Vulnerable Groups – disproportionately impacted by Covid, need extra support.
- Culture Capital – recover lost experiences, swimming, trips, visits etc.
- Management / leadership – support staff & drive-up standards, improve curriculum.

As the impact of Covid and the statutory restrictions have eased over the Autumn term, the school is starting to feel more normal. Ofsted have resumed inspections that have been suspended for the last 18 months. Early in 2020, prior to the impact of Covid, we were advised to expect a section 5 (three day) inspection over the course of 2021. We now expect that inspection to happen in the summer term of 2022. Children's outcomes will be difficult to measure and compare because learning was so disrupted and national tests were suspended. We are hopeful that the efforts of the school and the progress the children are making will ensure we retain our good rating.

It is also worth noting that the school environment is looking particularly smart. An un-loved covered area has become a usable early years' classroom through a series of improvements. The Local Authority surveyed our roof and a significant programme of maintenance and repairs to the West end of the roof were completed. The East end of the roof will be repaired during summer 2022; the LA is managing and funding these works.

Stephen Gibbison - Foundation Governor & Vice Chair of Governors

Electoral Roll Report

On 31st December there were 36 names on the Electoral Roll. During the year we welcomed two new members Olubisi Olabisi and Kelechi Maouakolam.

Jane Lowe (Electoral Roll Secretary)

Community Report

During the year St Andrew's continued to host a distribution centre for the **Salford Foodbank** on Monday afternoons between 1 and 3pm. Foodbank volunteers (some from Eccles Team churches and others from the wider community) gave out bags of food to people who come with vouchers issued by

professionals or voluntary organisations. (The Foodbank is part of the Trussell Trust network of foodbanks). Since the summer, drinks and biscuits have been served to clients using the foodbank in the café area of the church. With the ending of the 2021 lockdown other community activities were able to restart in church. August saw the resumption of the **Friday Café** and of the **Art and Craft workshop** (financed by a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund) on Tuesday afternoons. Many regular users returned and expressed their delight at been able to attend these activities again after what for many of them has been a very lonely time. **Sporting Memories** restarted their dementia friendly sessions for older sports fans at the Friday café in September. September also saw the restarting of the **Toddler Group** on Tuesday mornings. Most of the children who used to be brought to this before the pandemic are now at school or nursery so to a large extent we are restarting with a new group of children. To minimise the risk of Covid infection we are no longer providing refreshments for children. We have, however, started reading them a Bible themed story and giving them the opportunity to do some craft work based on the story. In doing this we are following a scheme used by some churches in Bolton and devised by Steph Openshaw (Manchester Diocese Children Changing Places Project, Early Years Worker) for whose help and guidance I am very grateful. I would also like to express my gratitude to all those who give up their time to help run these activities.

Jane Lowe

SALT (Sunday School) Report

This year we did not start to meet till April due to Covid regulations. Our numbers continue to remain steady and the children attend regularly. The age range is between one and twelve which can be a challenge to ensure that individual needs are met, but we all look after each other. Each week we have games, Bible story, prayer, crafts and colouring all based on the same theme. We have looked at Harvest, the story of Ruth, David and the birth of Jesus. We also shared our nativity story which was wonderfully produced by Kate, Izzy and George. Our aim is that the children feel that they are welcome as part of the church family and to learn about God, Jesus and the Bible in a fun way. Please continue to pray for us and ask the children what they are doing.

Karen Gibbison and Kate Provan

Home Group Report 2021

Because of the ongoing nature of the Covid-19 pandemic, all this year's home group sessions took place via Zoom. Although not ideal, we are grateful for the technology that makes it possible for us to continue to study the Bible and pray together.

The first five weeks of the year, leading up to Lent, and then the seven weeks after Easter were spent looking at some of the Psalms, under the study series entitled, "Psalms: Heart Cries to God". Reading the Psalms reminds us that we are able to share all our emotions with God – our joy, our despair and everything in between.

We are grateful to Jenny Lewis for organising, hosting and leading a Zoom Lent course, which a good number of people from various congregations attended, since the usual Churches Together in Eccles Lent groups were unable to go ahead.

Once we completed the Psalms series, this was followed by considering the life of "Mary: the Mother of Jesus". It is always interesting to see what we can learn from the lives of people who are mentioned in the Bible, and we have discussed various people in past home group studies. Jesus' mother had a unique experience of God and she is honoured in the church (to a greater or lesser extent, depending on different traditions) because of it. She encountered challenges which were unique to her situation, but also many that we can relate to, as they are issues that all God's people face.

After the summer break, we travelled back to the beginning of time, looking at the way humankind first lived on earth, as written in the first 11 chapters of Genesis, from creation to the flood. We then continued through to Genesis chapter 25, seeing how God prepared to create a nation of his own people through Abraham and his descendants.

We will continue to use Zoom for our meetings until such time as we all feel it is safe to meet in one room again. If anyone would like to join in or to receive copies of the sheets we use in our discussions, do let me know.

Elaine Walton

Churches Together in Eccles

Representatives: Mrs B. Holmes & Mrs E. Harper

Although some of our usual activities had to be curtailed, the Lenten group was held on Zoom and we all managed to meet for a united service at St. Andrew's in the early summer. Our planning meetings continued and we were pleased to welcome the Mayor and Mayoress to Carols round the Cross with the Eccles Borough Band, in December. We are looking forward to the New Year and getting on with our usual programme.

Barbara Holmes

Deanery Synod Report 2021

Deanery Synod has met four times during 2021. The subject of all four meetings has been the Diocesan vision for transforming the Diocese and the need to reorganise the deanery structure from 20 deaneries to 7 deaneries.

This means that St Andrew's is no longer a part of the Eccles Deanery, but is now part of the Salford & Leigh Deanery. A new Area Dean has been appointed, Rev Colin Pearson, and he has started work in bringing the churches together into Mission Communities. Richard Lewis has been elected as Deanery Lay Chair. St Andrew's is now part of Mission Community 3, which includes St Mary Cadishead, St John the Baptist Irlam, St Michael and All Angels with St Catherine Peel Green, St Mary Magdalene Winton, St Peter Swinton, St Paul Monton, Christ Church Patricroft and St Mary the Virgin Eccles.

What happens next? Mission Community Leaders and Focal leaders will be appointed. What these positions entail, I'm not quite sure, but when I find out I will update you.

Kevin Walton and Stephen Gibbison

Parish Parochial Church Council of St. Andrew, Eccles

3. Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts (continued)

Receipts	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Building fund Restricted	Memorial or Designated	Total 2021	Total 2020
Payments	£	£	£	£	£	£
f) Clergy and staffing costs						
Clergy working expenses	731				731	940
Ordinand Support		852			852	
Clergy housing costs	1,647				1,647	1,785
	2,378	852	-	-	3,230	2,725
g) Church running expenses						
Church building improvements	13,373		46,092		59,464	36,162
Church routine annual maintenance	1,238	300			1,538	1,585
Church utility bills	2,945	365			3,310	3,862
Church insurance	3,535				3,535	3,430
Upkeep of services	29				29	11
Upkeep of grounds	171				171	-
Mission support costs	322	1,608			1,930	140
Eccles Team - shared finances	2,163				2,163	2,089
Miscellaneous	753	241			994	1,005
Church administration	176				176	229
	24,705	2,514	46,092	-	73,311	48,513

4 STAFF COSTS

a) Wages and salaries

It is the custom of the PCC to charge for the services of organists and vergers at funerals & weddings, and to pass these fees on to the individuals providing the service. In 2021 the PCC paid £60 to musicians and £90 to vergers at these occasional services. Fees for the clergy at such events belong to the Diocesan Board of Finance. These costs are netted off against fees received, because the PCC is acting merely as agent. Statutory fees income disclosed in note 3c) is net of all such costs. No amounts were sufficient to attract social security costs.

b) Payments to PCC members

No payments or expenses were paid to any PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties.

5 ECCLES TEAM

St Andrew's is responsible for administering the payments on behalf of Christ Church Patricroft PCC in relation to the team vicar's housing and working expenses.

St Andrew's is responsible for administering the payments on behalf of other churches in the Eccles Team for any joint team events.

During 2021 £2,163 was spent on behalf of these other PCC's. All of these payments are allocated proportionately to the other PCC's and are fully refunded.

6 RESERVE POLICY

At the November 2020 PCC meeting, the PCC reviewed its reserve policy and agreed that to ensure adequate working capital the minimum reserves that should be maintained should be equal to 3 months planned expenditure. For 2022 this requires the PCC to maintain at least £10,000 in immediately accessible accounts.

Appendix
The Parish of St Andrew's, Eccles.
SAFEGUARDING POLICY
PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 22nd March 2021.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church is committed to:

- ☐ Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- ☐ Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- ☐ Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- ☐ Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- ☐ Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- ☐ Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Parish will:

- ☐ Create a safe and caring place for all.
- ☐ Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- ☐ Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- ☐ Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- ☐ Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- ☐ Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- ☐ Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- ☐ Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- ☐ Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- ☐ Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- ☐ Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

This church appoints Mr Stephen Gibbison as the Parish Safeguarding Officer

Incumbent: Rev. Andy Harper Date: 25/4/22

Churchwardens: Mr Kevin Walton Date: 25/4/22 and Mrs Valerie Slater Date: 25/4/22

Accounts

St Andrew's Church Eccles
Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Contents.....	1
Administrative Information	2
Structure, Governance and Management	2
Safeguarding Report	3
Team Vicar's Report.....	3
Churchwardens' Report	4
St Andrew's School Report	5
Electoral Roll	6
Community Report.....	6
SALT (Sunday School) Report	6
Boing (Youth Home Group) Report.....	7
Jam Club Report	7
Home Group Report.....	7
Magazine and Newsletter Report	8
Churches Together in Eccles Report	8
Deanery Synod Report	8
Finance Review	9
Independent Examiner's Report	11
Statement of Financial Activities Accounts.....	Accounts pages 1-4
Parish Safeguarding policy	Appendix

The Parochial Church Council of the ecclesiastical parish of St Andrew Eccles Manchester.
Registered charity number 1132836

St Andrew's Church Eccles

Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Aims and Purposes

St Andrew's Eccles PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Team Clergy in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church building.

Administrative Information

St Andrew's Church is situated on Chadwick Rd, Eccles M30 0NZ. It is part of the Eccles Team Ministry in the Deanery of Eccles and in the Diocese of Manchester within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, 11 Abbey Grove, Eccles M30 9QN. Website: www.standrewseccles.org

Structure, Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council of the ecclesiastical parish of St Andrew, Eccles, Manchester is a registered charity (charity number 1132836). The method of appointment of PCC members and wardens is set out in the Church Representation Rules. Members of the PCC are either *ex officio* (being ordained clergy, members of the Deanery or Diocesan Synod or Church Wardens) or are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting as PCC members. (Wardens and Deanery Synod representatives are also elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting). All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

PCC members who have served during 2020 are *ex officio*

Rev Andrew Harper	Team vicar and chair
Rev Jennifer Lewis	Ordained Local Minister and Curate
Kevin Walton*	Church Warden (and deputy lay chair till AGM then lay chair)
Valerie Slater	Church Warden
Richard Lewis*/**	PCC Treasurer
Stephen Gibbison*	Safeguarding coordinator
* Deanery Synod member	** Diocesan Synod member

Elected members

Alan Cooper	PCC Lay Chair (until AGM 18 th October 2020)
Elaine Walton	Reader
Karen Gibbison	ALM (Children's work)
Jane Lowe	PCC Secretary and ALM (Community)
Sarah Morrissey	(until 12 th October 2020)

The PCC met 10 times during 2020. The average attendance was 80%. All meetings were online except for three (January, February and an October meeting directly after the AGM). There were no Standing Committee meetings in 2020. The PCC was saddened by the death of our lay chair Canon Alan Cooper who had served the church nationally and locally in so many ways during his long life.

Safeguarding Report.

Statement of Intent: The parish will follow the Church of England guidance on safeguarding children and adults at risk, per the Parish Safeguarding Handbook, Updated August 2019.

This has replaced the Diocesan handbook which is no longer available on its webpage

The C of E Parish safeguarding handbook can be accessed via a link within the diocese website,

Navigate to it via Support for Parishes >> safeguarding >> Policies and Guidance

[Diocese of Manchester | Policies and Guidance \(anglican.org\)](https://www.anglican.org/dioceses/manchester/policies-and-guidance)

If anyone would like a hard copy of the handbook please ask the safeguarding co-ordinator.

The PCC reviewed and agreed to apply the Church of England model safeguarding policy in March 2020. It was signed at the 2020 AGM in October 2020.

A signed copy of the policy is on the notice board in church and it is also published in this annual report.

Where roles require it, we are continuing to get our volunteers DBS checked and to complete the required training courses. This year due to Covid-19 all training has been delivered through on-line courses.

As Covid 19 caused the full closure of the church in Spring and restrictions on the activities that can be safely performed in the latter half of the year, very few (if any) regulated activities were being performed during those times. Where any DBS checks expired, they will be re-checked as the activities that they support resume over the course of 2021.

Stephen Gibbison, Safeguarding coordinator.

Team Vicar's Report

What positives can our church fellowship take from the last year?

Firstly, we have become more self-reliant in our faith. I've heard that people are praying more and reading their bible more, as well as using phone apps like YouVersion (bible) and the Christian meditation app, Soul Time. This bodes well for church growth. As we become stronger in our faith we are able to stretch ourselves even further, for others

Secondly, the pastoral care network has strengthened. I said last year how wonderful this fellowship is at loving on each other. It's been amazing how our fellowship has stepped up and made sure that no one has been left out, whether that's been a phone call, a lift, shopping, etc.

We've also seen the pastoral care network widened or extended to include others in the community. For example, we have a number of people doing voluntary work such as helping with Salford Food Bank and the food distribution from church on a Monday afternoon. In these different ways we continue to be 'salt' and 'light' in our community.

Despite all the difficulties, our finances leave us able to invest in growth, bills have been paid and we can rightly be proud that we have paid our parish share in full.

Whilst we miss such activities as our 'Jesus and Me' (JAM clubs) at St Andrews School, Arts and Crafts, Toddlers, Cafe, weekday communion and Sporting Memories we know we have a God of sure and certain hope, who is ever faithful. We can be confident that he will lead us in the future.

May we continue to declare that Jesus is, 'the way, the truth and the life' in everything we do and say

Rev Andy Harper, Team Vicar

Church Wardens' Report 2020

What an extraordinary year 2020 has been. The Covid -19 pandemic closed St Andrew's for public worship for 16 weeks from 26th March to 6th July and again for 4 weeks from 8th to 29th November. During these periods of closure, those of us who had access to laptops, computers and smart phones were able to meet using Facebook and/or Zoom, to join together in acts of worship. This was foreign territory for a number of us, and the fact we could not partake in the act of communion for those weeks of lockdown was disappointing for some of our community. However, we have survived and, although we can now only receive communion in one kind we look forward to when we will be able to fully partake in the act of communion and those members of our community, who have not felt able to attend will be back again with us.

Instructions from Manchester Diocese compelled the wardens to undertake Risk Assessments to ensure compliancy with legislation and to keep us all safe. We have become reasonably adept at reviewing the risk assessments and are now up to version 6. From 15th July we were able to open St Andrew's for Private Prayer and we have continued to open Monday to Friday 8.30am to 9.30am.

Besides Covid-19 preventing us meeting for worship on Sundays, it also brought an immediate stop to our community activities such as the Friday Café, Carer & Toddlers, Art & Craft Group, Sporting Memories, and Tea & Tech. We were unable to invite Branwood and St Andrew's Schools to St Andrew's for their Carol Services and Salford Academy Transitional Concert.

You will remember that our Annual Meeting was delayed due to Covid-19 from April to 18th October 2020, so if it feels as though we have only recently had an APCM it is only 6 months since our last one.

During 2020 we have undertaken a number of projects:-

We commissioned John Book, a Heating Consultant, to develop a new heating system for St Andrew's and to manage the project on our behalf. This included developing a specification and inviting tenders from installation engineers. He also made an application for a grant from Viridor to fund the project, which, by the end of 2020 had passed stage 1. In order for the application to progress to stage 2 the wardens made an application for a faculty, which became entangled in the Covid-19 pandemic. The Diocesan Chancellor decided he was not going to issue a Faculty for work which had not begun or was not a matter of extreme urgency and therefore we did not obtain a faculty until October and then we had to obtain letters of support from the Art & Craft Group, St Andrew's School, Sporting Memories, Salford Food Bank, to name but a few. This was completed by December 2020 and we now await a response to stage 2 of the application.

Work has been undertaken to replace the stolen leadwork on the northwest corner of the building, high level gutters have been cleaned and painted inside and outside. The gateposts to the carpark have been realigned and secured. The chimney on the north east corner to the original heating system has been pointed and capped.

LED lights have replaced the existing lights in the sanctuary, choir and Memorial Chapel a) to reduce electricity consumption and b) to be a little greener.

The new toilets were completed by the beginning of February. The final account will not be paid until a 12 month retention period has expired.

We received a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund to continue the Art and Craft workshop. This award has not been spent and we look forward to the Art & Craft Group starting again when Government legislation allows.

Salford Foodbank approached St Andrew's in July regarding using our building as a distribution point for food parcels. Following discussion with the PCC the Foodbank opened in September, and small numbers of people arrive every Monday afternoon to collect essential food parcels.

The Wardens would like to place on record their thanks to Jenny Lewis for all the work she continues to do for St Andrew's and its worshipping community. As we said last year "the work she does far outstrips the contract she signed with Anne-Louise to be available for 3 days per week to undertake work in our community and we thank her for the work she undertakes".

We also need to express our thanks to those people who lead our services, read, prepare intercessions, assist at communion, to our Sides People who meet and greet people on Sundays and to Elaine Walton for sharing the preaching load with Andy and Jenny.

Our Salt group continues to flourish and we wish to record our thanks to Karen Gibbison (ALM Children's Work) and Kate Provan for all the work they do in preparing teaching material for our young people and looking for ways to involve the children in our worship together.

Valerie Slater & Kevin Walton

St Andrew's C E Primary School Report for 2020

As you would expect us to report, 2020 has been a very challenging year at St Andrews School, although myself and the other Governors have been delighted with the way all the staff have responded to all the challenges set before us.

After a year at the school our headteacher Mrs Bladen-Kay has settled in extremely well, and has focused the staff on areas where our children need to do better.

The efforts of Mrs Bladen-Kay and the senior staff were noted by Ofsted, when they inspected the school at the end of January 2020. They reflected positively on the recent improvements in the curriculum and how our children were kind to each other and well behaved. The inspectors also noted that they "lived up to the school's Christian values of Love, Honesty, respect and forgiveness in all that they do.

The inspection did also identify some areas where the inspector wanted to see improvement, particularly in the outcomes that the children attain at the end of year 6 (Key stage 2 SATS). The staff and governors were aware that our outcomes are lower than we would like, and this is the reason for all the hard work that has been going into the curriculum.

Due to the concerns around outcomes, we were advised to expect a section 5 (three day) inspection over the course of 2021.

As the school was settling down to work again after Ofsted, we were then hit by the Covid-19 pandemic, and all its implications. The school was "closed" in March and only fully re-opened in September. The school remained open for vulnerable children and children of key workers, and even remained open over some holidays to support these groups. The school staff worked hard to keep teaching and supporting all the children, both those in school and learning from home. The school supported the children at home by providing both physical learning packs, E-Learning work and Zoom sessions where access permitted.

All the statutory exams were cancelled.

In September the children returned to school, though it still wasn't normal. Classes were working in small bubbles, and although the children could work relatively normally the teachers had to stay at the front of the class and not mingle with the children as they worked. Where teachers work with small groups of children this activity was limited to 15 minutes! Which was particularly limiting as small group work with children of similar abilities is a key tool for supporting children who need support.

There were several challenges over the Autumn term due to staff and children testing positive and their year group having to be sent home for the statutory 10 days.

The school management coped admirably with the ever-changing situation. At times there were several new directives being issued by the government every day. The school governors were kept up to date via extraordinary on-line meetings. Unfortunately, as she was unable to attend in person or access the on-line meetings Sarah Morrissey felt unable to continue as a foundation Governor and

resigned from the Board. We appreciate her service and will miss the experience she brought to the Governing Board.

We hope that at some point in 2021 the Covid-19 pandemic diminishes and we can return to normality in the school.

Stephen Gibbison - Foundation Governor & Vice Chair of Governors.

Electoral Roll Report

On 31st December 2019 there were 34 names on the Electoral Roll. Since then we have gained 2 new members Louise Chapman and Christopher McGuinness but also lost 2 members through the sad deaths of Joan Johnson and Alan Cooper. Our total membership on 31st December 2020 was once again 34.

Jane Lowe

Community Report

As part of our mission to love and serve our community the church continued to run or host activities during the week for the benefit of people in our local community until the pandemic lockdown began in March since when these activities have not been permitted to resume. As far as possible the church has kept in contact by email and telephone with people who attended these activities and for whom we have contact details. The church has emailed colouring / puzzle sheets to families who came to the **Toddler Group**.

In addition to this, START in Salford which runs the **Over 50s Art and Craft Workshop** delivered packs of Art materials to people who came to the workshop. Some of those who attended the **Sporting Memories Sessions** held in the **Friday café** were able to take part in online sessions run by the Sporting Memories Foundation. The **"Tech and Tea" computer course** run at the café by Inspiring Communities Together was also able to be completed online by some of the participants. The church would like to thank all these organisations for their efforts to enable activities to continue in some form for at least some of the participants during the pandemic. The church is aware how much these activities are missed by those who attended them. One positive piece of news is that a National Lottery Community Fund grant will enable the Art and Craft Workshop to run for another year when it can resume.

Another positive thing is that the church has found new ways to serve our community during the pandemic. Since September St Andrew's acts as a distribution centre for the **Salford Foodbank** on Monday afternoons between 1 and 3 pm. Foodbank volunteers (some from Eccles Team churches and others from the wider community) give out bags of food to people who come with vouchers issued by professionals or voluntary organisations. (The Foodbank is part of the Trussell Trust network of foodbanks).

Jane Lowe

SALT (Sunday School) Report

Due to Covid restrictions this year Salt has only met for a few months at the beginning of the year. We had a holiday theme as we knew that we could not go on holiday which led to stories Jesus told including the story of the wise man who built his house on the rock, the parable of the hidden treasure, the pearl and the net. Then we looked at the parable of the mustard seed and the sower. We displayed our work on the notice board which was used in a church newsletter. During the time we could not meet in church various colouring and activities were sent to all the children.

We managed to hold our nativity service that Kate and Issy and Georgia had wonderfully prepared and tried to include all our children by using their photographs on the screen.

We continue to pray for all our children especially when we could not meet

Karen Gibbison and Kate Provan.

Boing! (Youth Home Group) Report 2020

On the third Friday of January and February, the group for 11 year olds and upwards met in the café area of church. Soft drinks, toast and sweets were available to share while they played badminton or pool, listened to music or used the Wi-Fi. There was then a time to consider a Bible passage from a youthful perspective with games, art work or drama. Sadly, Covid prevented any more of the monthly sessions. The committed team who help were able to have a long break! Thanks to Gaynor, David and Richard. The group was open to young people from all the Team churches and their friends

Jenny Lewis

JAM Club at St Andrew's School in 2020

The JAM (Jesus And Me) Club was intended to take place in school every Tuesday lunch time. Children came along for half an hour to hear a Bible story, say a prayer and play games based on the theme of Joseph from Genesis, chosen by Andy Harper. However, we were only able to go into school in January and February, due to Covid. Karen and I worked together on this and we have missed the 25 children we used to see each week. In the meantime, we have been praying for them and the whole school, that they keep healthy physically and mentally, keep enjoying learning and, like Joseph, they know God is with them even in difficult and scary times.

Jenny Lewis

Home Group Report 2020

Home groups are where we are able to gather in a small group, in a relaxed atmosphere, to read the Bible and relate its message to our lives and today's world, to pray, to look after and encourage one another.

The first 6 weeks of meeting were spent in the company of St Peter, reading and discussing his first letter under the title: 'Standing Firm in God's Grace', after which we suspended home group, as usual, to join together with people from churches throughout Eccles in the Lent Groups, organised by Churches Together in Eccles. However, after a couple of weeks, the groups had to end, when the coronavirus pandemic caused the nation to go into lockdown.

Once Sunday services via Zoom had proven successful, we decided to try out home group via Zoom. Although some of those who normally attend home group were not able to join us in our temporary "home", others who have not attended for a while were able to take part again. We were also delighted to welcome Tony Wood from Christ Church as a regular member.

We began with a 12-week course on The Sermon on the Mount, which ran through July, August and September. We do not normally hold home groups during the school summer holidays, but because we had missed a number of weeks before trying Zoom, we decided to continue during that period. In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus gives specific and detailed teaching about what the Kingdom of God is like and how to be his follower. He sets the bar very high, so it is challenging to look at in depth as we did.

During the autumn term we turned our attentions to Paul's letter to the Philippians, when we spent 9 weeks with a course entitled 'The Secret to Joyful Living'. At a time when many throughout the nation were feeling less than joyful, it was encouraging to study this letter, whose writer, though suffering, remains joyful and encourages his readers in how and where to find true joy in any and all circumstances.

We followed this up with 2 sessions specifically for Advent, taken from the Advent study book, Promises, Promises by Nick Fawcett (the writer of, among other things, the No Ordinary Man books of meditations that we have made use of in services from time to time over the years). The content and mood of these sessions was more reflective and less discussion-based than we are used to, which helped to mark the season well.

We are very grateful for the technology that has enabled us to read the Bible and pray together during the pandemic restrictions, and will continue to make use of Zoom until such time that we are able to gather again in person.

Elaine Walton

Magazine and Newsletter Report 2020

The Church magazine, 'The Bell', continued in 2020 up to April under the temporary editorship of Jenny and Richard Lewis. They used some material prepared in advance by Maureen Cooper, who had to step back due to the double blow of breaking her leg and Alan Cooper being unwell. When reproducing and distributing the magazine became difficult due to Covid, Jenny and Richard produced a short Newsletter, instead. It has proved to be an enjoyable way of keeping in touch and sharing prayer needs and Christian encouragement with church members and those with whom we were in touch by the magazine. About 70 copies of this have been emailed, posted, WhatsApped, messaged....out to people each month. It also meant we could fulfil our commitment to firms who had paid to advertise with us for the year. Jenny and Richard are very grateful to folk who have contributed articles, ideas and news. Thank you to those who have generously sent donations to help towards the postage and included kind words of encouragement.

Special thanks go to Maureen for her great work on the magazine, especially in those last few months when she was coping with so much.

Jenny Lewis

Churches Together in Eccles

Representatives: Barbara Holmes and Emma Harper

Like everyone else, CTE had a difficult year. We managed to hold a short service for Remembrance Day at the cemetery and held our committee meetings on zoom.

It was a sad year for us as our excellent chairman, Rev Ruth Watson, completed her two years as chair and not only stood down but left her church in Patricroft to take up new work in Media City. Our long serving secretary, Mrs Joan Seed, who has worked tirelessly over many years, not only as secretary but acting chair & every other job when no one else was available has now reluctantly retired, and who can blame her. We are so grateful for all her care and attention to CTE matters and for all she has done.

Mrs Pam Thomas has also stood down as treasurer, after 43 years! Pam was the first and only treasurer in all that time. How do you thank people for such dedicated service?

We at St. Andrew's also lost our long time representative Alan Cooper.

We are so thankful for all the good people who serve the Churches in Eccles. We are lucky that two other people have come forward to carry on the work under the next chairman, Rev Jenny Lewis who will serve for two years.

Barbara Holmes

Deanery Synod Report 2020

Deanery Synod Representatives: Richard Lewis, Alan Cooper, Stephen Gibbison, Kevin Walton.

The synod met twice during 2020. The February meeting was in person and the December meeting was by Zoom. The major topics for discussion were as follows:-

February Meeting

New Rules for PCC's came into effect on the 1st of January 2020.

- Deanery Synod representatives change - the number of representatives from each parish depends on parish electoral roll figures.
- Sidespeople are appointed by the PCC not elected at the APCM
- The Annual meeting now has to be held before the end of May
- Archdeacons visitations are now held in June

Helen Platts and Archdeacon David Sharples outlined the ten year strategy for 2020-2030 for the Diocese. Challenges for the Diocese and Deanery during the next ten years were outlined.

Proposals were

- A consolidation of 20 deaneries into 7 deaneries
- Locally for a unification of Eccles, Salford and Leigh Deaneries

- By 2025, 2/3rds of clergy will be under 35 and in their first incumbency
- Support for clergy and lay training by the creation of 7 new full time posts of Area Deans responsible for training, development and oversight of area.

The Gospel message at the heart of it all is of Hope and Transformation, equipping the diocese to best serve its current and future members. This consultation is one element of proposals to engage with the members of the Manchester Diocese and to attract new members. The National Church Commissioners are prepared to fund some initiatives to revitalise the Church across the diocese.

December Meeting

Transforming Manchester Diocese Briefing Document on the Proposals for Mission Communities.

In the discussion we asked to consider the following questions:

- What inspires you about the proposed vision for Mission Communities set out in this document?
- Do you have any concerns about the key principles set out in the Mission Communities document, and if so, what are they?
- Thinking about what this would mean for your church community, what do you see as the opportunities and challenges of the proposed approach?

Members attending synod were then split into groups and a wide ranging and passionate discussion ensued. Points of view both for and against the proposals were aired and some participants thought there was insufficient information to reach a conclusion. The major concerns were the loss of a parish priest for some parishes; the inevitability that a parish priest would be responsible for several parishes; consequently, the parish priest would not be available to conduct a service in each parish for which they had responsibility each Sunday. This would necessitate a greater involvement of the laity in conducting a Service of the Word on some Sundays. Where were these leaders to come from and what training would they receive/ be expected to complete?

K B Walton

Financial Review 2020

Full details of the income and expenditure for 2020 can be seen in the Accounts pages of this Annual Report.

The Accounts show that our unrestricted funds had a deficit of £4,201 mainly as a result of completing the work on the new toilets (which were finished just as we went into the first lockdown) and that we had Andy, our vicar, for the whole of 2020. It is difficult to compare our overall income and expenditure with 2019 as the expenditure on the toilets, heating consultant and structural repairs were paid for by transfers from restricted funds, reserves built up by previous donations, VAT recovery, and a grant from the Diocese. As you will have read elsewhere in the report, 2020 was a very unusual year. We never imagined that our church would be banned from opening for 20 weeks owing to Government restrictions imposed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This had significant consequences for our income. The income we received from our loose collections, Gift Aid Small Donation Grant, Café, Toddlers and Art Group reduced by £4,269. Fortunately, a saving of £1,800 was made by changing our insurer and during the closure we had reduced utility bills.

Planned giving for the year was £25,381 compared to £24,464 in 2019. A special thank you to everyone who continued to set aside money each week in envelopes or each month by standing order direct to the bank. These donations really helped to enable the church expenditure to be met whilst we were closed. Our special Gift Day in November was well supported and raised £11,740 which has been allocated to our heating replacement project. In addition we received two one-off generous donations during the year (£5,679). In February we were grateful to the National Lottery Community Fund for a generous grant of £7,432 which will enable us to restart the Art and Craft Group once the Government allows.

Parish Share (our contribution to the costs of the Diocese) was £18,824. The PCC continued to honour its commitment to donate 10% of collections and planned giving to charities. £2,565 was donated to our supported charities (see accounts page 3 for further details).

We know that God will provide, just as he has done over many years at St. Andrew's, and we thank you for being part of it.

Richard Lewis, Hon Treasurer

The accounts on pages 1 to 4 were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 22 March 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Harper', is written over the text of the signature line.

Rev Andrew Harper (Team Vicar and Chair of PCC at the meeting)

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Andrew Eccles

I report to the PCC on my examination of the accounts of St Andrew's Eccles PCC for the year ended 31st December 2020 which are set out on pages 1 to 4.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the charity trustees of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



John Price
23 Ellenhall Close,
Harpurhey,
Manchester M9 5XG

30 January 2021

Parochial Church Council of St. Andrew, Eccles

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

Receipts and Payments Accounts

RECEIPTS		Unrestricted	Restricted	Building fund	Memorial or	Total	Total
	Note	Funds	Funds	Restricted	Designated	2020	2019
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Voluntary receipts							
Planned Giving							
Gift aid donations		21,829	-	-	-	21,829	21,284
Other (non gift aided)		3,552	-	-	-	3,552	3,180
Tax recovered		5,927	-	494	-	6,420	5,950
HMRC - GASDS		657	-	-	-	657	1,086
Collections (open plate)		972	-	-	-	972	2,526
All other giving/voluntary receipts	3a)	16,653	12,821	12,916	-	42,390	21,693
Activities for generating funds	3b)	261	-	-	-	261	1,176
Income from bank and investments		72	-	27	2	101	366
Income from church activities	3c)	1,857	241	-	-	2,098	5,022
Other income	3d)	2,624	-	-	-	2,624	463
TOTAL RECEIPTS		54,404	13,062	13,437	2	80,905	62,746
PAYMENTS							
Church activities							
Mission giving and donations	3e)	2,565	389	-	-	2,954	3,656
Diocesan parish share		18,824	-	-	-	18,824	18,432
Clergy and staffing costs	3f)	2,725	-	-	-	2,725	493
Church running expenses	3g)	34,418	5,000	6,629	2,465	48,513	44,813
Costs of generating funds		73	-	-	-	73	420
TOTAL PAYMENTS		58,605	5,389	6,629	2,465	73,088	67,814
Excess of receipts over payments		-4,201	7,673	6,807	-2,463	7,817	5,069
Cash at bank at 1 January		34,720	1,382	13,742	4,968	54,812	59,880
Cash at bank at 31 December		30,519	9,055	20,549	2,505	62,628	54,812

Parochial Church Council of St. Andrew, Eccles

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Building Restricted £	Memorial or Designated £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Cash funds						
Deposit funds	26,540	9,055	20,549	2,505	58,650	54,512
Bank current account	300	-	-	-	300	300
	26,840	9,055	20,549	2,505	58,950	54,812
Investment Assets						
Lloyds Banking Group 10,107 shares at 31/12/20	3,679				3,679	-
Other monetary assets						
Gift Aid recoverable	2,177	88	2,839	-	5,103	2,321
Refunds pending from VAT and Heritage England	-	-	-	-	-	4,030
Diocesan grants not yet received	-	-	-	-	-	5,000
Monies owed by Diocese and Team Churches	-	-	-	-	-	595
	2,177	88	2,839	-	5,103	11,946
Liabilities						
Bills outstanding from the toilet renovations	1,154	-	-	-	1,154	26,598
Repairs to chimney and lead theft	-	-	-	-	-	2,940
Gas and electricity used in December	325	-	-	-	325	785
	1,479	-	-	-	1,479	30,323

Notes

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the receipts and payments basis.
- The movements in the designated and restricted funds during the year were:

	Bal b/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Bal c/fwd
Restricted				
Youth worker fund	1,382	-	-	1,382
Art & Craft workshops	-	7,432	-	7,432
Carpets and lighting	1,448		1,168	279
Heating replacement fund	12,294	12,849	4,900	20,243
Building renovation	-	27	-	27
Heritage England Taylor Review		561	561	-
Held in advance for wedding 2021		241		241
Toilet refurbishment fund	-	5,000	5,000	-
Charities collections	-	389	389	-
	15,124	26,498	12,018	29,604

The Youth Worker fund represents the remaining funds (£1,382) from grants received previously. They are retained pending recruitment of a youth worker.

In February 2020 we were successful in receiving a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund which provided funding to enable the Art & Craft group to continue for 12 months.

Designated

Toilet fund	2,465	-	2,465	-
Memorial fund	2,503	2	-	2,505

The designated funds consist of monies allocated by the PCC towards building upkeep.

Parochial Church Council of St. Andrew, Eccles

3. Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Building fund Restricted £	Memorial or Designated £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Receipts						
a) All other giving/voluntary receipts						
One-off tax efficient non recurring gifts	3,730	-	-	-	3,730	1,870
St Andrew's gift day	-	-	11,740	-	11,740	12,315
Sundry donations	278	-	-	-	278	284
One-off gift of shares	3,679	-	-	-	3,679	-
Donations for charities	-	389	-	-	389	965
Legacies / in memorial gifts	-	-	615	-	615	-
Grants / Loans	8,967	12,432	561	-	21,960	6,259
	16,653	12,821	12,916	-	42,390	21,693
b) Activities for generating funds						
Sponsored cycle ride	-	-	-	-	-	494
Funds raised via online fund raising	261	-	-	-	261	316
Christmas Band Concert	-	-	-	-	-	366
	261	-	-	-	261	1,176
c) Income from church activities						
Statutory fees to PCC for weddings, funerals etc.	446	241	-	-	687	1,113
Café in the church	467	-	-	-	467	2,011
Toddler group & art group	150	-	-	-	150	855
Parish magazine	144	-	-	-	144	362
Rental received for use of church	650	-	-	-	650	681
	1,857	241	-	-	2,098	5,022
d) Other income						
Diocesan refunds for empty vicarage expenditure	591	-	-	-	591	-
Eccles Team - shared finances	2,033	-	-	-	2,033	463
	2,624	-	-	-	2,624	463
Payments						

e) Mission giving and donations

The PCC has adopted a policy of making grants to Christian charities equal to 10% of the money it receives from planned giving and open plate collections. The PCC also encourages the congregation to support charities by organising collections and special events to promote selected charities. The PCC is acting as an agent for the charities concerned, and has no control over the funds. The details of these donations during 2020 are as follows.

	From PCC	Events	
Children's Society	460	83	543
Tear Fund	460	65	525
C.M.S. (Andy + Rose Roberts - Brazil)	460	20	480
Scripture Union	430		430
C.M.S. (Andrew Young - Nepal)	430		430
National Churches Trust	100		100
Greater Manchester Churches Trust	25		25
St. Ann's Hospice (in lieu café + donations)	30	70	100
Loaves and Fishes (in lieu café)	30	10	40
Christian Aid (in lieu café)	30	10	40
Macmillan cancer support (in lieu café)	30	30	60
Royal British Legion	80	34	114
Francis House (café)	-	32	32
Wood Street Mission (café)	-	34	34
Lifeshare	-	-	-
	2,565	389	2,954
			3,656

Parochial Church Council of St. Andrew, Eccles

3. Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts (continued)

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Building fund Restricted	Memorial or Designated	Total 2020	Total 2019
Payments	£	£	£	£	£	£
f) Clergy and staffing costs						
Clergy working expenses	940				940	-
Clergy housing costs	1,785				1,785	493
	2,725	-	-	-	2,725	493
g) Church running expenses						
Church building improvements	22,067	5,000	6,629	2,465	36,162	31,367
Church routine annual maintenance	1,585				1,585	1,269
Church utility bills	3,862				3,862	4,725
Church insurance	3,430				3,430	4,177
Upkeep of services	11				11	122
Upkeep of grounds	-				-	6
Mission support costs	140	-			140	1,247
Eccles Team - shared finances	2,089				2,089	329
Miscellaneous	1,005				1,005	599
Church administration	229				229	682
Parish magazine and Crux	-				-	289
	34,418	5,000	6,629	2,465	48,513	44,813

4 STAFF COSTS

12,351

a) Wages and salaries

It is the custom of the PCC to charge for the services of organists and vergers at funerals & weddings, and to pass these fees on to the individuals providing the service. In 2020 the PCC paid £65 to musicians and £30 to vergers at these occasional services.

Fees for the clergy at such events belong to the Diocesan Board of Finance. These costs are netted off against fees received, because the PCC is acting merely as agent. Statutory fees income disclosed in note 3c) is net of all such costs. No amounts were sufficient to attract social security costs.

b) Payments to PCC members

No payments or expenses were paid to any PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties.

5 ECCLES TEAM

St Andrew's is responsible for administering the payments on behalf of Christ Church Patricroft PCC in relation to the team vicar's housing and working expenses.

St Andrew's is responsible for administering the payments on behalf of other churches in the Eccles Team for any joint team events.

During 2020 £2,089 was spent on behalf of these other PCC's. All of these payments are allocated proportionately to the other PCC's and are fully refunded.

6 RESERVE POLICY

At the November 2020 PCC meeting, the PCC reviewed its reserve policy and agreed that to ensure adequate working capital the minimum reserves that should be maintained should be equal to 3 months planned expenditure. For 2021 this requires the PCC to maintain at least £10,000 in immediately accessible accounts.

Appendix

Parish Safeguarding Handbook
Church of England

Model Parish Safeguarding Policy

The Parish of St Andrew's, Eccles. SAFEGUARDING POLICY PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 9th March 2020.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church is committed to:

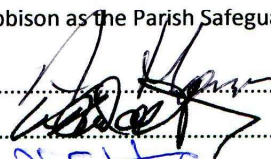
- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Parish will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

This church appoints Mr Stephen Gibbison as the Parish Safeguarding Officer

Incumbent: Rev. Andy Harper.......... Date: 18/10/20
Churchwardens: Mr Kevin Walton.......... Date: 18/10/20
Mrs Valerie Slater.......... Date: 18/10/20