

**ROYSTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH ROYSTON**  
**ANNUAL REPORT 2020**

# **St John the Baptist Church, Royston**

## **Annual Report of the PCC for 2020**

### **Background**

Royston Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

### **Membership**

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules 2020.

During the year 2020 the following served as PCC members:

Ex officio	The Reverend Heidi Huntley Mr Anthony Mills Mr Reginald Bailey Mr Nicholas Hindle Mr Robert Fox Dr Clare Davies Miss Brenda Strangleman Mrs Brenda Watkins Mrs Rebecca Wilson	Incumbent Reader (until 9 December 2020) Reader from March 2020 Churchwarden Churchwarden until APCM 2020, then elected member Churchwarden from APCM 2020, previously elected member Deanery Synod & Secretary Deanery Synod Family Missioner (until 30 September 2020)
Elected Members	Mr David Atkins Mr Philip Burchell Mr John Davies Mr Rodney Dyer Mrs Kay Makowiecki Mr Anthony Pigg Mrs Tracy Reader Mr Duncan Rodgers Mrs Ruth Savage Mr Robert Smith Mrs Liz Wainwright Mrs Joanne Wallis	Treasurer      Until APCM 2020
Co-opted members	Mrs Louise Atkins The Reverend John Fidler	SSM Curate

### **Committees**

The PCC operates through a number of committees which meet as and when required and report back to the PCC:

Standing	The only committee required by law - is empowered to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council;
Fabric	Advises and implements the decisions of the PCC on the management of the church building and the house provided for occupation by the curate; also oversees the management of the churchyard and additional burial ground;
Fabric Development	Advises on finding ways for improving usable space within the church;
Church Refurbishment Fundraising	Arranges various fundraising activities towards the cost of alteration in the church and, since the fire in December 2018, refurbishment of the church related to the need for additional space and other development;

Finance	Oversees the general financial direction of the parish, monitors income and expenditure reviews budgets and liaises with other committees on financial matters;
Magazine	Promotes knowledge of church and community related affairs by publishing the magazine, "Across Royston";
Missions	Recommends to the PCC support, including financial, for the mission of the church and for other charities. Encourages wider interest and prayer support;
Mission Action Plan	Follows the Diocese of St. Albans initiative 'Living God's Love' by exploring what it means to do this by seeking to 'Go Deeper into God, Transform Communities and Make New Disciples';
Social	Promotes friendship and fellowship within the congregation by organising parish social events;
Stewardship	Promotes Christian stewardship within the parish;
Youth & Children	Encourages and supports existing children's work. Determines new ways of sharing the faith with young people through whatever appropriate means. Encourages the training and support of leaders

Note: Both the Outreach & Nurture and Worship & Music committees have been suspended for the time being.

### **Electoral Roll**

There were 144 names on the updated electoral roll at the time of the 2020 APCM (140 in 2019).

### **Church Attendance**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, only limited numbers were able to attend Sunday services during October, so there was no "normal" Sunday adult attendance to record. The figure for October 2019 was 84.

### **Review of the Year 2020**

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic 2020 was not a normal year for the PCC, which only met in person twice, in January and February, before the first national lockdown. After that, with the unanimous agreement of every member, all PCC business was conducted online via email, with hard copies of any documents and telephone calls to the one member without internet access; there were no virtual meetings. Similarly the same applied to the work of the committees after the first couple of months.

Throughout the year the PCC was kept up-to-date with progress on the restoration of the church building and its refurbishment after the fire of December 2018, including meetings with the loss adjusters for the insurers, the Diocesan Advisory Committee and the contractors, the latter agreed as Bakers of Danbury for both the phase 2 (external works) and subsequently for the phase 3 (internal works). The PCC resolved to apply for faculties (the Church of England's planning permission) and agreed the necessary supporting statements of need and of significance, for the high level repair and reinstatement works, the internal re-ordering layout and the reinstatement of the bells. The PCC also agreed the design of the chairs for the new layout, the make and model of new electronic organ and accepted an offer for the removal of the old pipe organ. Further details of all fabric matters are given in the separate fabric report.

The Treasurer kept the PCC informed of the financial situation, as different matters were clarified and more information became available. He also produced an amended budget following the first national lockdown and the suspension of public services and of parish activities generally. Further details of the PCC's finances are set out later in this report.

Reports were circulated of the very few committee meetings which had taken place, notably the Missions and MAP committees, as well as Deanery Synod. The refurbishment fundraising committee was also very active, making grant applications as well as organising a chair sponsorship scheme, producing items for sale and arranging for market stalls on two occasions in October and December. In November the PCC received a report on 'eco-church', as a result of which it was resolved that this church should become zero neutral by 2030 and a small team was formed to monitor how this might be achieved.

On the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults the PCC had formally adopted the Church of England's policy in October 2018. Checks continued to be made that all necessary DBS certificates were up-to-date and on-line training provided by the Diocese was being undertaken.

Since the fire in December 2018 the church had been meeting for Sunday worship in Greneway School hall, but this had to stop with the introduction of the first national lockdown in mid March. A collaborative effort by a number of people then enabled Sunday worship to be available via You Tube, a resource much valued by many people. Public worship was unable to resume again until a new venue became available ie at the town hall in early September. However, this also had to stop with the second lockdown in November when You Tube services again became the means of people worshipping together. A Christingle service and a carol service in December were also provided by this means.

Otherwise people were generally kept in contact with one another with weekly notice sheets and a letter from the Vicar (circulated to everyone by email, with hard copies delivered to those without internet access) and the parish magazine 'Across Royston' continued to be produced. Although regular events like the annual church quiz and harvest supper could not be held, house groups continued to meet virtually as did some other groups, and ongoing telephone contact was organised with those who might otherwise have been more isolated. Thus the church being the body of people rather than the building, parish life continued to function, albeit rather differently from other years, but with the intention that everyone was included and no-one in the congregation should be left unsupported.

### **Financial Summary**

The devastating fire, which occurred on the 9th December 2018, continued to have a significant impact on the financial results during 2020 and this was further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic had a major impact on our ability to raise money with both church services and fundraising events not possible for the majority of the year. Both of these events are reflected in the summary detailed below.

Total income for the year was £199,062 (2019 £207,266). Stewardship income totalled £78,870, a decrease of £2,159 or 2.7%, on the previous year. Gift Aid recovery from all sources, including fire and other donations, amounted to £25,013, up from £20,477, or 22.1%, in the previous year. This Gift Aid recovery was again helped by the inclusion of a claim arising from the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS). With effect from April 2016 the amount which can be claimed annually under this scheme amounts to £2,000. As a result of lower income from collections on the plate, wall safe and other donations the income from GASDS was down by £886.

With the reduction in the number of church services collections on the plate, at £2,132, were down by £3,768 compared with 2019. As in 2019 the impact from the fire meant that no charitable collections were made at weddings and baptisms. Sundry donations were £21,394, a decrease of £12,769 year on year. Although generous donations continued to be received following the fire they were lower than in 2019. The amount received in the year, including Gift Aid, amounted to £19,417. These donations have been treated as restricted income as part of the Church Refurbishment Fund. Excluding these fire related donations the total would have been largely in line with 2019.

Other voluntary income was at £31,504, up by £24,167 year on year. Within the total figure regular fund raising in the year, at £2,295, was down by £5,042. This decrease was accounted for by a lower result from both the Quiz Evening and Saturday Coffee, the latter due to the pandemic, and 2019 including income from the Auction of Promises. Further fundraising activities were not possible during the year. Other fund raising activities towards the refurbishment did take place, the most notable one being donations to the "Sponsor a Chair" scheme which raised £24,471 (£29,246 including Gift Aid).

In 2019 Income from insurance claims, £44,935, represented the amount received in that year from insurers for contents destroyed in the fire and which will be utilised in future years.

Magazine revenue was lower at £1,252. Fee income, at £3,349, was again significantly down on the previous year, (£7,087), reflecting the activity in both weddings and funerals due to both the church not being available and the impact of COVID-19.

During the year a generous grant of £20,000 was received from The Brian Racher Trust towards the cost of the refurbishment following the fire.

Rental income was significantly up, from £1,381 to £13,128, reflecting a full years income from the house at 12 Prince Andrews Close which was let to a new tenant in November 2019.



Finally, with interest rates falling it meant that income from investments was, at £2,420, down on the £3,200 recorded in 2019.

Total expenditure was £163,296, an increase of £11,717 on 2019 (£151,579).

Mission expenditure allocation followed our standard agreed practice of giving away 10% of our total stewardship income, including Gift Aid tax relief, and £10,000 was made available to the missions committee.

Our most significant expenditure is that of Parish Share which for 2020 was £78,124 compared to £73,092 in the previous year. The increase of £5,032 reflects not only inflation, (£1,479), but also the final reduction of £3,553 in the allowance for providing housing for the curate which ceased in 2019.

Mission within parish during the year was down from £6,124 in 2019 to £1,658. This mainly reflects the lower cost of the Family Missioner who was on maternity leave until her contracted ended at the end of September, (down by £3,682), coupled with lower expenses in other areas as a result of the pandemic.

The low level of expenditure on church repairs continues to reflect the impact of the fire with the only expenditure of significance being incurred on 12 Prince Andrews Close.

Church running expenses were slightly down from £5,120 in 2019 to £4,722 this year, the continuing lower level from previous years mainly the result of the fire.

Fees paid to the diocese for weddings and funerals were, at £2,350, down by £332 reflecting the continuing lower level of activity on weddings and funerals.

Office equipment depreciation of £835 is the amount incurred in writing down the photocopier. Last year an amount of £13,578 was written off for the audio/visual equipment destroyed in the fire and which is the subject of an insurance claim.

The cost of acquiring Christmas cards and other items of merchandise accounted for the expenditure of £5,666 under Fund Raising Expenditure.

During the year, as we continued to consider the options for developing the inside of the church as part of the refurbishment, we incurred further professional fees amounting to £40,658, (2019: £15,627) which have been classified as capital as an asset under construction..

There are no other significant year on year variances to report.

In summary, unrestricted income exceeded expenditure to leave a surplus of £7,935 for the year (2019: £7,197). Restricted funds show a surplus of £84,114, (2019: £48,488). With regard to endowment funds there was an unrealised profit of £1,730 on investments as a result of which there was a net increase in consolidated funds of £93,781 compared with £59,639 in 2019.

The increase in debtors largely reflects an amount of £11,046 being the deposit paid on the new organ and £7,140 the deposit on part of the new audio/visual system. The figure for liabilities in 2019 included the sum of £11,000 as prepaid rent on 12 Prince Andrews Close.

Other than the reflection of the major items referred to above, there are no major changes to the balance sheet to report.

### **Insurance**

The Church is covered by the St Albans Diocesan group insurance scheme for Churches (effected via Ecclesiastical Insurance Group). This policy includes public liability indemnity of up to 7.5 million pounds. It also satisfies requirements within Employers' Liability (Compulsory Insurance Act of 1969).

Other costs, including losses due to fire and theft, legal expenses, minor building works and consequential loss are also covered within the policy.

### **Reliance upon unpaid volunteers**

It is acknowledged by the PCC that an ever-increasing amount of Church maintenance and day-to-day running requirements can only be met by virtue of the efforts of unpaid volunteers. Therefore the Church is wholly reliant upon the continued provision of such unpaid and voluntary services for its ongoing welfare and strength.

**ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE :**

The Parish Administrator  
Parish Church of St John the Baptist  
c/o Rosemount  
11 Hollies Close  
Royston  
SG8 7DZ

**OTHER ADDRESSES :**

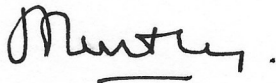
**Bank :**

Lloyds Bank Plc  
The Cross  
2 Melbourn Street  
Royston  
Hertfordshire SG8 7BL.

**Independent examiner :**

UHY Hacker Young  
Chartered Accountants  
The Nexus Building  
Broadway  
Letchworth Garden City  
Hertfordshire SG6 9BL

**On behalf of the PCC :**



**Rev Heidi Huntley**  
*Chairman*

*Wednesday 31st March 2021*

Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist, Royston

Statement of Financial Activities  
For the year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
<b>Income Resources</b>						
Incoming resources from donors	2(a)	102,382	25,027	0	127,409	141,569
Other voluntary incoming resources	2(b)	2,295	29,209	0	31,504	7,437
Income from charitable and ancillary trading	2(c)	2,251	2,350	0	4,601	8,744
Other ordinary incoming resources	2(d)	13,128	20,000	0	33,128	46,316
Income from investments	2(e)	1,666	752	2	2,420	3,200
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>		<b>121,722</b>	<b>77,338</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>199,062</b>	<b>207,266</b>
<b>Resources Used</b>						
Grants	3(a)	10,000	835	0	10,835	11,525
Activities directly relating to the work of the Church	3(b)	92,700	2,350	0	95,050	98,241
Fund raising and publicity	3(c)	0	5,666	0	5,666	2,000
Church management and administration	3(d)	11,087	-15,627	0	-4,540	39,813
<b>Total Resources Used</b>		<b>113,787</b>	<b>-6,776</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>107,011</b>	<b>151,579</b>
<b>Net Incoming / (Outgoing) Resources</b>		<b>7,935</b>	<b>84,114</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>92,051</b>	<b>55,687</b>
<b>Gains and Losses on Investments</b> - unrealised		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,730</b>	<b>1,730</b>	<b>3,952</b>
<b>Net Movement in Funds</b>		<b>7,935</b>	<b>84,114</b>	<b>1,732</b>	<b>93,781</b>	<b>59,639</b>
<b>Balance Brought Forward at 1 January 2020 (2019)</b>		<b>270,246</b>	<b>121,037</b>	<b>85,157</b>	<b>476,440</b>	<b>416,801</b>
<b>Fund Expenditure Reclassification</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Balance Carried Forward at 31 December 2020 (2019)</b>		<b>278,181</b>	<b>205,151</b>	<b>86,889</b>	<b>570,221</b>	<b>476,440</b>

Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist, Royston

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2020

	Note	<u>2020</u> £	<u>2019</u> £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	5(a)	70,493	15,043
Investment assets	5(b)	26,785	25,055
		<u>97,278</u>	<u>40,098</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	7	52,579	26,670
Short term deposits		378,808	402,140
Cash at bank and in hand		65,116	38,754
		<u>496,503</u>	<u>467,564</u>
<b>Liabilities : amounts falling due within one year</b>	8	-23,560	-31,222
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>472,943</u>	<u>436,342</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u>570,221</u>	<u>476,440</u>
<b>Funds</b>	6		
Unrestricted		278,181	270,246
Restricted	10	205,151	121,037
Endowment	9	86,889	85,157
		<u>570,221</u>	<u>476,440</u>



**Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist, Royston**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 December 2020**

**1 Accounting Policies**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP. The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention except for the investment assets, which are shown at market value. We have adopted all of the accounting policies as set out in the model set of accounting policies issued by the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England.

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis that the PCC is considered to be a going concern for the foreseeable future.

**2 Incoming Resources**

	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>Funds</u> £	<u>Restricted</u> <u>Funds</u> £	<u>Endowment</u> <u>Funds</u> £	<u>Total</u> <u>2020</u> £	<u>Total</u> <u>2019</u> £
<b>2(a) Incoming resources from donors</b>					
Christian stewardship	78,870			78,870	81,029
Gift Aid tax refund	19,215	5,798		25,013	20,477
Collections on plate	1,297	835		2,132	5,900
Sundry donations	3,000	18,394		21,394	34,163
	<u>102,382</u>	<u>25,027</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>127,409</u>	<u>141,569</u>
<b>2(b) Other voluntary incoming resources</b>					
Donations		0		0	100
Legacies	0			0	0
Fund raising events	2,295	29,209		31,504	7,337
	<u>2,295</u>	<u>29,209</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>31,504</u>	<u>7,437</u>
<b>2(c) Income from charitable and ancillary trading</b>					
Magazine revenue	1,252			1,252	1,657
Fees	999	2,350		3,349	7,087
	<u>2,251</u>	<u>2,350</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,601</u>	<u>8,744</u>
<b>2(d) Other ordinary incoming resources</b>					
Insurance claims		0		0	44,935
Grants		20,000		20,000	0
Rental income	13,128			13,128	1,381
	<u>13,128</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>33,128</u>	<u>46,316</u>
<b>2(e) Income from investments</b>					
Dividends and interest	1,666	752	2	2,420	3,200
	<u>1,666</u>	<u>752</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2,420</u>	<u>3,200</u>
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<u>121,722</u>	<u>77,338</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>199,062</u>	<u>207,266</u>

\* The income from insurance claims in 2019 represents the amount received in that year from insurers for contents destroyed in the fire and which will be utilised in future years.

Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist, Royston

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 December 2020

3 Resources Used

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Endowment Funds</u>	<u>Total 2020</u>	<u>Total 2019</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
3(a) Grants					
<i>Missionary and charitable giving:</i>					
Church overseas mission	5,100			5,100	5,200
Church home mission	2,700	0		2,700	2,045
Other non-Church charities	2,230	835		3,065	3,425
Unallocated	-30			-30	855
	<u>10,000</u>	<u>835</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10,835</u>	<u>11,525</u>
3(b) Activities directly relating to the work of the Church					
Ministry : Parish share	78,124			78,124	73,092
Clergy expenses	1,128			1,128	3,489
Readers expenses	0			0	0
Altar expenses	301			301	416
Mission within parish	1,658			1,658	6,124
Organist and music	3,690			3,690	4,215
Bellringers fees	0			0	200
Magazine printing	1,700			1,700	1,702
Church repairs	1,377			1,377	1,201
Church running expenses	4,722	0		4,722	5,120
Fees to Diocese		2,350		2,350	2,682
	<u>92,700</u>	<u>2,350</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>95,050</u>	<u>98,241</u>
3(c) Fund raising and publicity expenses					
Fund raising events	0	5,666		5,666	2,000
	<u>0</u>	<u>5,666</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,666</u>	<u>2,000</u>
3(d) Church management and administration					
Parish office administration	9,664			9,664	9,190
Office equipment depreciation	* 835	0		835	14,413
Re-Ordering costs	x	-15,627		-15,627	15,627
Licence fees	588			588	583
	<u>11,087</u>	<u>-15,627</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>-4,540</u>	<u>39,813</u>
<b>Total Resources Used</b>	<u>113,787</u>	<u>-6,776</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>107,011</u>	<u>151,579</u>

\* Includes the £13,578 written off in 2019 for the audio/visual equipment destroyed in the fire and which is the subject of an insurance claim.

x Professional fees incurred with the refurbishment of the church have been re-classified as capital as an asset under construction.

**Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist, Royston**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 December 2020**

**4 Staff Costs**

	£	£
Salaries & fees	7,250	10,348

During the year the PCC employed a secretary, and a Family Missioner .  
The secretary, Mrs. J. Wallis, is a member of the PCC and was paid £6,601 during the year.  
Apart from the above no other member of the PCC received any remuneration.  
All payments were made from Unrestricted Funds and are net of grants received

**5 Fixed Assets for use by PCC**

**5(a) Tangible fixed assets**

		<b>Freehold Land and Buildings</b>	<b>Office Equipment</b>	<b>Church Refurbishment</b>	<b>Total</b>
		£	£	£	£
Gross Book Value	At 1 January 2020	13,374	7,657	0	21,031
	Additions	0	0	56,285	56,285
	Disposals	0	0	0	0
	At 31 December 2020	13,374	7,657	56,285	77,316
Depreciation	At 1 January 2020	0	5,988	0	5,988
	Charge for year	0	835	0	835
	Eliminated on disposals	0	0	0	0
	At 31 December 2020	0	6,823	0	6,823
Net Book Value	At 31 December 2020	13,374	834	56,285	70,493
	At 31 December 2019	13,374	1,669	0	15,043

The freehold land and buildings are comprised of the Curate's house at 12 Prince Andrews Close, Royston which is included at historic cost and does not need to be shown at market value as it is regarded by the PCC as a functional asset rather than an investment asset.

The additional burial ground was acquired in the 19th century at an unknown cost and is included in fixed assets at £nil cost.

There was a fire at the church on 9th December 2018. Due to this the new audio/visual equipment that was purchased was destroyed and was written off in that year. This is part of the insurance claim for the building and contents which is on a like for like basis.

Professional fees incurred in connection with the refurbishment have been treated as asset under construction. Comparative figures have been adjusted to reflect this change.

**5(b) Investments**

1310 shares in CBF Investment Fund - value at 31st December 2020 amounted to £26,785, (2019 £25,055) - historic cost £1,081.

**Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist, Royston**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 December 2020**

**6 Analysis of Net assets by Funds**

	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Endowment</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	70,493	0	26,785	97,278
Current assets	231,248	205,151	60,104	496,503
Current liabilities	-23,560	0	0	-23,560
Fund balance	278,181	205,151	86,889	570,221

**7 Debtors**

	<u>2020</u> £	<u>2019</u> £
Income tax recoverable	26,366	22,581
Prepayments and accrued interest	24,943	2,634
Other debtors	1,270	1,455
	<u>52,579</u>	<u>26,670</u>

**8 Liabilities: amounts falling due within one year**

Creditors for goods and services	597	482
Other creditors	21,291	29,068
Provision for repairs to 12, Prince Andrews Close, Royston	1,672	1,672
	<u>23,560</u>	<u>31,222</u>

**9 Analysis of Endowment funds by type**

Expendable funds	59,862	59,862
Permanent funds	27,027	25,295
	<u>86,889</u>	<u>85,157</u>

**10 Fund Details**

The Restricted Funds are comprised of the Additional Burial Ground Revenue Fund, Stoneybridge Income Fund and the Church Refurbishment Fund

The Endowment Funds are comprised of 4 Grave Trusts, the Additional Burial Ground Capital Fund arising from the sale of the Sexton's house in 1988, and the Stoneybridge and Welsh Endowments.

**Church Refurbishment Fund (Formerly Challenge Fund)**

	<u>2020</u> £	<u>2019</u> £
Opening fund at 1 January 2020 (2019)	74,878	58,476
Net funds raised during the year	73,401	32,072
Funds capitalised/utilised during the year	-46,324	-15,671
Closing fund at 31 December 2020 (2019)	<u>101,955</u>	<u>74,878</u>

Following the devastating fire to the church on 9th December 2018 the fund was renamed the Church Refurbishment Fund. The options previously being considered for the development of the inside of the church became more acute and have been the focus of attention for the PCC. In the year many generous donations were received amounting to £19,416 including Gift Aid (2019 £31,722). In addition a grant of £20,000 was received from The Brian Racher Trust with a further £33,985, including Gift Aid, coming from fund raising activities. During the year funds amounting to £40,658, mainly professional fees in relation to the refurbishment, were capitalised/utilised. 2019 (£15,671).



**Parochial Church Council of St. John the Baptist, Royston, Herts.**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the  
Parochial Church Council of St. John the Baptist, Royston**

This report on the attached accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 6 to 11 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the regulations") and s.145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

**Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner**

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and s.144(2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

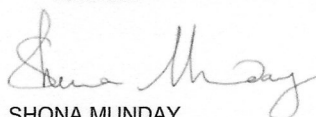
**Basis of this report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s.145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act, and the Regulations have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



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