THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. MARY OF THE ANNUNCIATION BEAMINSTER

England & Wales · Charity number 1133757

Details

Other names	ST. MARY'S BEAMINSTER P.C.C.
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2010-01-26
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Beaminster Church Office 8 Hogshill Street Beaminster Dorset DT8 3AE
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Activities

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

Activities: Financial

Classification

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

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Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£315,707	£339,382	-	-
2023-12-31	£162,512	£153,523	-	-
2022-12-31	£114,248	£238,614	-	-
2021-12-31	£73,882	£93,564	-	-
2020-12-31	£112,475	£141,683	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev DAVID FREDERICK BERESFORD BALDWIN	Chair	
Barbara Alison Simmonds		2019-03-01
Dr Gillian G Perrott		2022-03-29
Geoffrey Cox		2025-05-27
Helen Smith		2025-05-27
James Rupert Oldfield		2023-03-28
Janet Wenborn		2025-05-27
Judith Ann Hansen		2020-03-01
PHILIP A V CRAWFORD		
Rev Joanna Neary		2012-09-25
Rudi Simmonds		2017-05-04
Vivien McMurray		2014-03-27

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. MARY OF THE ANNUN

England & Wales - Charity number 1133757

Accounts

THE PARISH OF ST. MARY'S BEAMINSTER

(CHARITY COMMISSION NO: 1133757)

PCC ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2024

St Mary's Church Beaminster

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

St. Mary's Beaminster is situated in Church Street, Beaminster. It is part of the Beaminster Team Churches and in the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England.

Status: The PCC is a registered as a Charity with the Charity Commissioners.
Charity registration No: 1133757

Team Rector: Revd. Canon David Baldwin
Team Vicar: Revd. Jo Neary
Church Wardens: Mrs Judith Hansen

E**lected Members:**
Judith Hansen, and Marlene Jackaman (Standing down in 2025)
Vivien McMurray, James Oldfield and Dan Rootham (Standing down in 2026)
Philip Crawford, David Langridge and Gillian Perrott (Standing down in 2027)

Deanery Synod Reps: Rudi Simmonds due to step down in 2026.
Team Council Reps: Judith Hansen.
Lay Vice Chairman: Rudi Simmonds
Secretary to PCC: Vivien McMurray
Treasurer to PCC: Suzanne Flux.
Chair of the Finance sub-committee: Marlene Jackaman

Church Office and address for correspondence: 8, Hogshill Street, Beaminster DT8 3AE.
Team Administrator: Amanda Wheeler-Kemp
Team Online and Media Administrator: Harry Neary
Bank: HSBC.
Independent Examiner: Scott-Vevers Accountants (Bridport)

Structure, Governance and Management: the method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and Activities: St. Mary's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent the Revd Canon David Baldwin 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 and churchyard.

Committees and their briefs: The Standing Committee is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact PCC business between meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. The various subcommittees meet as and when required.

Team Safeguarding Officers: Liz Brown and Barbara Simmonds

Team Health and Safety Advisor: Vacant. A Health and Safety Group did not function as such as there were no volunteers to take this on. The churchwarden ensured that any incidents/events were recorded, and risks assessed working closely with the Fire Safety Advisor and the building company.

Electoral Roll Officer: Jenny Langridge who says that at the end of the year there were 91 people on the roll. (Previous update: 96). There had been 3 deaths, 4 had moved away and 1 had been added. The 5year update was to be done in 2025. At the APCM in May 2025 there were:- 92 parishioners on the roll.

The Parochial Church Council: Review of the year January to December 2024

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The PCC met in January, June, August and November in church. The APCM was held in April.
The Standing Committee comprising the Team Rector, Church Warden, Lay Vice Chairman, Chair of the Finance subcommittee and Secretary met to set agendas for PCC meetings and on an ad hoc basis, when decisions regarding the fabric projects needed to be made.
Minutes of the PCC meetings are displayed on the notice board in Church. The bulk of the PCC agenda is covered by reports of the work of the subcommittees:

1. Finance: Chairman: Marlene Jackaman took on this role with Suzanne Flux, who was employed by the PCC as the treasurer. Parishioners were invited to transfer to the Parish Giving Scheme and a good majority of our regular donors did this. Our day to day running costs remained high and money was transferred between accounts as necessary.

2. Fabric with the Church Environment Group: Rudi Simmonds, James Oldfield, Gill Perrott and Judith Hansen the churchwarden, continued to carry several projects forward and obtain the required faculties. Work started in July and through August. The Friends of St. Mary's gave a generous donation towards the project. The toilet in the vestry has been well used and the volunteers are getting used to the new kitchen. The dishwasher was yet to be wired up and will make a difference for our faithful kitchen volunteers when it is up and running.

3. Mission and Outreach: Chairman Revd Jo Neary. 'Walk In Wednesday' continued weekly along with the Toddler Group on a Monday morning. The online Gin Church is weekly on Thursday evenings. The ever-popular Messy Church is held during the year, and the monthly Bereavement Café has a small following.

4. Worship: Chairman Revd David Baldwin. The Director of Music liaised closely with him, and occasional meetings were held.

5. Pastoral care: Chairman Rev Prebendary Alastair Wheeler. The 3 LPAs met every few weeks for support and to discuss any issues. Angie Alexander left the team and the congregation.

These groups also include members of the congregation and usually convene between PCC meetings sending their reports to the PCC via the secretary.

In February a choir supper was held again in the Strode Room. We were also able to say thank you to all our wonderful extras that joined us for the major festivals over the year.

In March. Lent and Easter fell in March this year. The Beaminster Singers provided a musical devotion on the evening of Good Friday which was well received.

In April the CCTV was installed and quickly proved to be an asset as the incidents of vandalism came to a halt. The Friends of St. Mary's again generously donated £10,000 to cover the cost

In May, several members of the congregation travelled to Salisbury to witness the Installation of Canons, as our very own Rev Jo Neary was to become one. It proved to be a very special occasion.

In June a new shed was erected to take some of the contents of the Mort House and Vestry in time for work to begin in July. The shed was donated by John Bugler via 'Beaminster Sheds'

The Beaminster Festival came around again in in June. The congregation was involved with catering for the performers, making coffee and welcoming initiatives linked to the local community. Two members of the Church Flower Team helped with organising the floral decorations.

In July and August, the major work began on the installation of the toilet in the vestry and the upgrading of the kitchen. As the sewage system was to be connected to the town sewers, the vestry floor and the church path were dug up. Several skeletons were revealed, examined by the archaeologist and then had to be reburied and consecrated. The pipework ran down the steps and under the Strode Room. A' Deed of Easement' was agreed with the Strode Room Committee and during this procedure a major blockage was found. A specialist team had to be called in to advise and the 2 systems run alongside each other down behind the wall and into the sewers. The steps to the crypt were also filled in and the cage removed. This now allowed uninterrupted access for people with disabilities around the south side of the church. Our stonemason Ben Sabran was able to build ramps for wheelchair access.
Fortunately, the Strode Room was able to provide space so that Walk in Wednesday, communion service and coffee could continue as well as PCC meetings.

In September works to the fabric continued as there had been a few problems encountered along the way. The Toddlers group met in the Memorial Playing Fields. The idea of employing a family worker was aired with use of the Team Office as a community hub.
The Flower Festival to celebrate Harvest was put on by the Friends of St. Mary's. Local businesses were encouraged to participate.

In November the PCC reviewed hire charges for use of the church and the grass cutting contract.

December heralded a feast of music with the Advent and Christmas Carol services. The annual Martin Schellenberg Trust concert held in mid-December has also become a firm favourite.

Last but not least, the PCC must mention Judith Hansen, our churchwarden who has again gone beyond the call of duty to keep the show on the road. She has coordinated the many projects, kept an eye on the building contractors and helped resolve the problems that have arisen being on site every day. A big thank you goes to her. Also, our gratitude goes to our Finance subcommittee headed by Marlene Jackaman who with Suzanne Flux our treasurer, have kept a close eye on the incomings and outgoings and presenting the accounts with their professional acumen.

V*ivien McMurray (PCC Secretary)*

Finance Committee Report

It has been a very busy year with the large amount of building works taking place; the major projects undertaken included the kitchen/toilet works and CCTV installation.
In 2024 the kitchen and toilet work totalled £217,700 and the CCTV works £10,600; the lighting works are now due to take place in 2025.
We were very fortunate to have been able to obtain a grant of £25,000 from the Garfield Weston Foundation towards the kitchen works, many thanks to James Oldfield for applying for this money. The Friends of St. Mary's Church Beaminster were also very generous and provided funding of £50,000 towards the kitchen and £9,600 towards the CCTV installation.

We also obtained grants from DCMS of £36,000 for reclaiming VAT on eligible building works throughout the year, we also successfully passed an additional audit on these claims.
As shown on the balance sheet, despite the high level of expenditure we are still in a fortunate position to have a healthy balance in our Fabric Accounts, but due diligence must be applied to future expenditure. This balance has been possible because of the grants and donations mentioned above and some legacies and generous donations kindly received (£107,000)

From the accounts you will notice we are showing a surplus on the 2024 General Account of £1,259 (£14,433 deficit for 2023); this surplus would have been a deficit had we not transferred £30,000 from the Fabric account. This is a worrying trend as we mentioned last year we also need suggestions for fund raising events and enthusiastic people to help.
We have implemented the Parish Giving Scheme to receive planned donations (this allows us to get Gift Aid income on a monthly rather than annual basis), we need regular committed income to try and fund the increasing rising day to day costs.
The General Account is our 'housekeeping account', where our day to day running costs is met. Our biggest outlay is the Parish Share, rising over recent years from £50,045 in 2018 to £54,648.11 in 2024; Our 2025 share will be £62,012. Another big outlay in 2024 was our annual insurance premium of £8,525- this increased due to the building work.

One item of concern is the deficit of income relating to Team News, our cost was £3,340 but we only received £2,734 plus £180 in 2025 meaning that £426.00 was not recovered, this relates to copies given away free or if left in Church any payment cannot be separately identified. Although some copies are given out free to new people moving to the area, we feel that this is one area that needs to be investigated so we do not "lose" out so much going forward.
As the income in 2024 has been higher than previous years we are required to prepare our Accounts on an Accruals basis rather than Receipts & Payments; the 2023 financial statements have been re-stated and prior year adjustments made to reserves.
Thanks go to the Finance Committee for their valued input at our meetings and to David Baldwin and the PCC members for their support during the year.
We have re-appointed Scott Vevers as our independent examiner for 2024/2025.

Suzanne Flux and Marlene Jackaman

CHURCHWARDEN'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2024

During 2024 it seemed to me that the Church was in good heart. Our average attendance across both Sunday services was 61 people and we have been very happy to see both visitors and new members of the congregations.

Despite works being carried out in the Church immediately after Easter to install the CCTV and through the Summer months for the installation of the new kitchen, cooker and dishwasher, drainage and new toilet/utility facilities, we were able to continue to hold Sunday and midweek services as well as Walk-in-Wednesday. This was facilitated by the kindness of the Strode Room Committee and we are grateful to them for their assistance and, in particular, allowing us to connect our new drainage to their main drains. You have no idea how much work and mess was avoided by allowing this to happen. (See Fabric for more.) We are extremely grateful to the Friends' of St. Mary's for providing £10,000 to pay for the cost of the CCTV and £50,000 towards the cost of the building works.

My thanks, on behalf of you all, to every person who contributes to the life of our Church. We are very fortunate to have all our services covered by David and Jo as well as partner priests and LLMs without whom this would not be possible . I am also most grateful to Peter Nardone our wonderful organist and choirmaster and other organists who have joined us in Peter's absence. Thanks also to our Choir who have provided some beautiful music throughout the year and very especially on special occasions. To all LPA's and others who visit or provide home communion my thanks.

We have hosted Messy Church on several occasions this year and these have been full of joy (and mess sometimes) and have often lifted our spirits to see little people with parents or grandparents coming to hear stories of Jesus and join in the fun. Thanks, of course, to all the Messy Church Team for their faithfulness to this important part of our Ministry.

Walk-in-Wednesday has continued to be important to members of our community who come along week by week for coffee, tea, homemade biscuits, cakes and chat. Thank you to all the volunteers who give their time and skills to make these Wednesday mornings successful including the Art people and group of musicians with their music.

Bereavement Cafe (first Monday afternoon of the month) though small in number has proved to be a good opportunity to meet with those who are still feeling their grief as a result of loss of family members and to give our support. Again my thanks to the volunteers who make this possible.

We held a Charity evening for folks to bring their antiques to be perused and valued by Duke's Auctioneers. I think most people found this interesting and enjoyable

As usual iin May we had the opportunity to support Christian Aid and as well as posting 1600 envelopes through the town's doors we arranged a street collection, cake sale in the square and our organist presented a lunchtime concert. We raised over £3030 which was amazing. In addition we made our annual donations to charities – in 2024 £1,000 to each of six charities. We have been fortunate to receive generous legacies to our Church and this was our opportunity to show our love for our local and global neighbours.

Last but not least all those who opened the church every morning and closed in the evening,

sides-people, readers, bell ringers, cleaners, flower arrangers, communion prep , sound management, secretarial duties, furniture movers, coffee makers, grass mowers, gardeners and any I have forgotten and the PCC. Thank you all for your support in making our church the welcoming and friendly place it is to the glory of God.

Judith Hansen – Churchwarden May 2025

FABRIC REPORT FOR 2024

2024 was a big milestone in the life of our church building. Immediately after Easter saw the installation of the CCTV. Eleven cameras – seven inside and four outside including two on the roof were installed and paid for by the Friends' of St. Mary's at a cost of nearly £10,000. I believe this has been a great asset as a deterrent to those wishing to cause problems or to use anti-social behaviour in and around the building.

At the request of the Rector, John Bugler supplied and donated a new shed which we were able to fill with the contents of the old kitchen and vestry whilst the new building work was undertaken. We are very grateful for this donation.

In the beginning of July, at last, work began on the kitchen/toilet project.which had been planned for quite some time. The route for the drainage/sewer work was rather a headache. The initial plan was to take the pipework under the grass and dig down seven metres beside the boundary wall in order to join up with main drainage in Church Street. I had visions of tons of soil heaped up eveywhere on the frontage of the Church. Thankfully an idea was presented that we could ask the Strode Room Trustees to allow us to join up with their main drainage which they were happy to agree to. The very first day while excavating under the Mort House floor to accommodate the waste pipes from the new Toilet and out under the West Door some human remains were found. This meant that work had to cease immediately until the Archaelogist we had retained could come and advise. In the event, he thought that it would be best to leave these remains in place and work around the problem. In the event several other human remains were discovered in the churchyard. These were removed with dignity by the Archaelogist as they were in line with the drainage route and reburied by the Rector as close to their original site as possible with a short service. Other individual bones that were found were placed in a small coffin and buried in the churchyard with appropriate words from the Rector.

The work continued without any major problems including the covering over of the steps outside the rear of the church to the basement with a ladder for access purposes. This has allowed new access for wheelchairs and prams which was not possible before. The provision of a wooden ramp inside the West Door and stone ramps inside and outside the South Door (installed by our Stonemason Ben Sabran) also gives better access to the Church. Ben also rebuilt the wall alongside the cobbled slope following some accidental partial demolition of it by a concrete delivery vehicle.

Having a toilet in the church and a cupboard with sink and running water for the Flower Arrangers and Cleaner has been a great asset. Also the additional kitchen units, oven and dishwasher (now in use) have been greatly appreciated by all concerned with hospitality.
It is hoped that some minor work to the kitchen floor will complete the look. As part of the project we purchased two trolleys to accommodate the tables which not only make it easier to

move them into the Church but are now stored neatly and safely. Some gold coloured long curtains provided by Chris and Pippa Luckcraft and altered by Christine Robinson were installed to successfully exclude the cold draught through the double West Doors. Thanks to them. The final cost of the Kitchen/Toilet is £236,482 but this may be slightly less as the final Architect fee included has not been agreed.

We were grateful to receive the gift of a fourth choir stall from Barry Gibb in memory of his wife. The other three choir stalls are currently on loan from St. Mary's Bridport but we hope to purchase them in 2025.

The repainting of the wooden external doors was carried out by members of the Fabric Committee and various other works were carried out by Ben Sabran. Ben has worked on this Church for about 30 years and he continues to do so, sometimes at very short notice. We are most grateful to him.

The lift continued to be a problem at times, but less money was spent on call-outs this year. 2025 will hopefully see the church lighting replaced (see below), fire alarms installed, stonework repaired and ceiling mould removed in line with the Quinquenial Report of 2023. I am grateful to the Fabric Committee, in particular Gillian Perrott for her help with Faculties and Rudi Simmons for his advice and input. Also those volunteers involved in work in the Churchyard in 2024.who helped to keep it looking beautiful with the sowing of wild flower seeds and removal of unwanted self-sown trees or shrubsand some mowing. Thanks also to our now retired grass mower David Ennals for his splendid work.

Judith Hansen Churchwarden

Church Lighting Report 2024

After the concerns of the cost of the kitchen and toilet lead to a hold on the church lighting project in 2023, work on specifying the replacement of the main church lighting has now taken place. A lighting design company has been selected, the company having been responsible for the new lighting system at Bradpole church, who are happy with the design and the way the lights work. Estimates were obtained for the installation of the system from 3 companies, all were very close, and the company used by Bradpole was decided on. There are a few outstanding items to be decided, including the location of the switches and control box. Also, the Hillary Chapel up lights will need to be modified to use LED bulbs, this task is ongoing.
The program for the lighting is now:

1. Obtain the PCC's approval for the cost and design. (Note: Completed early 2025)
2. Obtain the church architect's approval for the design. (Note: Completed early 2025)
3. Submit to the DAC the faculty for the system
4. Find a solution for the Hillary Chapel lights
5. Discuss with the supplier and installer an agreed time when the work can be carried out, taking note of the requirements for the use of the church This should take place during the summer.

Rudi Simmonds (Chair of Fabric subcommittee)

THE BEAMINSTER AREA TEAM MINISTRY: ANNUAL CLERGY REPORT TO THE PARISHES 2024

This is my fifteenth Annual Report to the Parishes of the Beaminster Area and I would wish to record my deep appreciation to all those who work tirelessly in all our churches. Holding any office in the church is an onerous task and I thank all Church Wardens, Treasurers, PCC members, Deanery Synod and Team Council members for their tireless work throughout the past twelve months.
I would also like to thank all those who have given their time as Lay Pastoral Assistants, Bereavement Visitors, Messy Church and Lay Worship Leaders. Further thanks go to the many often unseen yet heard people who do so much to keep our churches worshipping and functioning; musicians and singers, bell ringers, flower arrangers, sides people, cleaners, church yard keepers, office volunteers, caterers, fundraisers, - the list is endless so please accept my apologies if I have missed you off it

This year has been one of ups and downs for our parishes. At long last the work to update the kitchen and put a toilet into the church in Beaminster has come to fruition whilst the churchyard environmental project goes from strength to strength with the addition of a water feature and a beehive. Sadly, the ongoing need to replace the lighting in church has been fraught with difficulties. We are indebted to the Friends of St Mary's for their support in the project. Down the road at Netherbury work has been undertaken to clean and repaint the face of the clock. There have also been several small projects completed and again we are thankful to the Friends of St Mary's Netherbury for their help and support. Over to Stoke Abbott and at last the cleaned and restored Clock mechanism was returned and major work was done to repair the church roof. Visitors still enjoy seeing the sheep grazing the churchyard in due season. Back to Melplash who have had to have roof work and guttering repairs which was hindered when damage to some windows occurred during the winter storms and work is still ongoing to complete their repairs. At South Perrott their heating boilers broke down and thanks to CW Christine heating was maintained by the supply of hot water bottles and blankets whilst the new boilers were fitted. More roofing repairs have been undertaken at SalwayAsh, and excellent environmental care of the churchyard continues. At the united parishes of Broadwindsor with Blackdown and Burstock the scandal of the chiming church clock still rumbles on and an application to redecorate Blackdown church has been made. At Mosterton whilst no major repair work has taken place the wonderful support of the local community has helped with the annual churchyard clean ups. Hooke has also had ongoing window repairs and looming over Toller Porcorum is the major repairs to the Church roof whilst legalism collided with semantics over the new notice board. Meanwhile under the care of CW Steven, Seaborough remains a beautiful haven of peace and quiet. I have not forgotten Drimpton who's faithful few have kept the Spirit alive whilst all the legal work on the future of the building grinds on.

Whilst I see the importance of maintaining our church buildings, I do feel that they take most of our energies which prevent much needed outreach and mission in our parishes……. However, in her contribution to the report I am sure that Jo will share about all the wonderful things that have been going on in terms of mission. Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to Jo, Barbara and Charlie and all our Partner Priests for their help and support over the year and to Harry and Amanda for all their support with our media and communication platforms and Office Admin.

Revd Canon David Baldwin

In terms of mission and outreach 2024 was a year of carrying on and consolidating. I want to thank all our amazing volunteers and staff team who enable all this activity. Messy Church continues to be well attended on Saturday mornings, monthly, both inside and outside the building. Highs included a hugely busy Good Friday session and the building of a bug hotel to go into the church yard at St Mary's Beaminster. Baby and Toddler group thrives on a Monday morning. In July we said goodbye to our second cohort to graduate from toddler group to primary school and we enjoy seeing them in our school collective worships week by week. We have had plenty of new babies join us and almost all our baptism enquiries now come from toddler group or end up at toddler group having been baptised. We have fewer baptisms in the team per year than pre Covid, but a much better ongoing connection with our baptism families.

We continue to offer collective worship in our primary schools each week, in the senior school termly and at festival times for Mountjoy School. Our relationships with schools continue to be close and fruitful and this is an area of work where we could do more if we increased our capacity. We secured funding to recruit for a Team Family and Community worker at the end of 2024 but have not yet been able to recruit.

Gin Church continues weekly on a Thursday online and we also offer a weekly online worship service on YouTube. Both are well received and well attended, providing good pastoral and discipleship support. We appointed a new Team administrator in 2024 and Amanda is integral to the revamp of the office space as it becomes a central hub for the team.

We continue to provide spaces across the team to build social relationships through regular coffee mornings and weekly café drop-in sessions in some parishes in team. More occasional social and fundraising events happen in every parish. The Bereavement Cafe offers a monthly space to support people in grief and this is welcomed. Our Anti-Slavery service at Melplash was one of the social justice highlights of the year.

We often talk about the Beaminster Team being fifteen churches. But that only refers to the buildings. I think we might be better to talk about congregations. We have more congregations than buildings. We have congregations in our schools, online, on weekdays and Saturdays alongside our Sunday congregations. Some congregations are flourishing, others are fragile or feeling vulnerable, some are declining. If we take the image of the body of Christ from 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 seriously then we realise that each congregation has its part to play in the body. No one congregation is more important or more inferior. We celebrate with those who are doing well, and we suffer alongside those who are suffering. It is my opinion that to become more resilient, to flourish, to encourage each other and to share in each other's challenges we need to work more closely together as the churches and congregations of the Beaminster Team. The time of isolationism must end so we can support each other more effectively. We need to know better what is going on across our team, we need to listen better to each other, we need to share our resources and expertise more generously. We must pray and worship together regularly. We were all rocked by the dreadful safeguarding revelations of the Church of England both nationally and locally. If we want our congregations to be safer, more welcoming, more open, more vibrant, more led by the Spirit of God then we must be better at working together, seeing ourselves as essential parts of the dynamic and living body of Christ here in the Beaminster Team.

Revd Canon Jo Neary

Report on the meetings of the Deanery Synod for 2024

As in previous years three meeting were held.

I attended all meeting, the first with Ann Crawford, who decided to step down at the 2024 APCM. Ann has been one of the representatives for many years and has usually produced the annual report; I think she deserves many thanks for all her service.

<u>The first meeting was held in February at LATCH, Little Cheney</u>

The Archdeacon of Dorset, The Venerable Antony Macrow-Wood gave a presentation on the changes and rationale of calculating the Parish Share in the future.

The meeting was held on a Saturday morning, which included prior to the meeting coffee and informal chats – and Bacon Rolls! (Which I think is a good way to start any meeting)

<u>The second meeting was held in July at Loders Village Hall</u>

The plans for the Synod display at the Melplash Show were presented and discussed. A new flag with the legend `Making Jesus Known` has been obtained for the show and was on display.

Revd. Jonathan Herbert, chaplain to Gypsy, Roma and Travelling People, gave a very interesting description of the history and life of Gypsies Romas and Travellers. His talk covered many anecdotes concerning the various families he had come to know and was illustrated with photographs. He said that Travellers held Clergy in respect and took seriously Christian traditions although their lifestyle varied. They welcomed Christians as visitors to their sites.

<u>The final meeting was held in November here at St Mary's, Beaminster</u>

An update on the success of Melplash show tent and plans for the future was given.

Archdeacon Dorset, The Venerable Antony Macrow-Wood attended the meeting for a second time this year, giving a brief revision of how Diocese finances were conducted. He then dealt in detail with the submitted questions on Parish Share. There followed a robust discussion with members and visitors.

A written question was then presented for submission as follows:

`This synod asks the bishops how each of them stands on the issue of the rejection of Assisted Dying as currently proposed in Parliament. '

The Lay Chair confirmed that the question would be presented to Diocesan Bishops.

Rudi Simmonds

Baby and Toddler Group

2024 was another happy year for the group, which celebrated its third birthday in May. We meet on Monday mornings during term time, with play from 10 - 11:15, when everyone joins in 'tidy up time', and we settle down to enjoy a story together, sing songs, and finish with a prayer at 11:30. During 2024, we started 'setting up' for Toddlers after the 9:30 Sunday morning service, with members of the congregation helping to move chairs and get the toys out; we really appreciate this help, and the way it gives us a slightly calmer start to our Monday mornings. Another real blessing this year has been that, following all the work in church over the summer, we now have a cupboard in the vestry in which to store our larger toys – no longer do they have to be hidden in the old pulpit, with all the carrying and going up and down of steps that entailed. And of course, having a toilet in church is such a bonus. When we were unable to meet in church during the building work, we met up at the play area in the Memorial field, taking sand toys with us, and still enjoying our story and song time – apart from a couple of times when rain stopped play!

We have welcomed new families over the year but do still have some of the original families attending, with younger siblings of the toddlers they brought in 2021, who have now started school. Jo sees many of our children when she goes into our 4 church schools each week to lead worship, another very positive link between church and school. Some baptism preparation now happens on Monday mornings, as families enquiring about baptism for their children are encouraged to come to Toddlers, and it has been a joy for us to be able to attend some of the baptisms. Many of our families attend Messy Church regularly, and it was a good to see many of them at the Crib service on Christmas Eve.

Jo, Judith, Veronica, Emily and Barbara

Pastoral Care: Lay Pastoral Assistants

LPA's are a national feature of church life encouraged and trained by a Diocesan scheme to have a particular concern in caring for church members and for others in our wider community, supporting the pastoral care offered by the clergy and Staff Team. They are trained and authorised by the Diocese on the recommendation of the clergy and are required to have regular further supervision and training.

Those cared for by LPA's range from people who are sick or housebound, including taking communion out to some of them on a regular basis, regular visiting and pastoral contact.

For 2024 - 25 we have had three active LPA's trained and authorised to work in this way – Gill Perrot, Helen Smith, and Vivien McMurray under the direction of the Rector. Their names and phone numbers are printed in the magazine, but if you or someone you know feels that an LPA may be able to help someone you are asked to talk to the clergy in the first instance so that they know who is being supported in this way.

Revd. Prebendary Alastair Wheeler

St. Mary's Church Flower Arrangers

Our group of ladies provide festival flowers and pedestal arrangements which are changed once a week except for Advent and Lent. We have added to our number of flower group members and said farewell to others. Notably and due to ill health Evelyn Snell has had to step down and we are hopeful of her return if things change.

We delighted in arranging flowers for Easter, Harvest Festival and Christmas. Some of us also participated in dressing the church for the Beaminster Festival.

Rita Cowie still organises festival flowers and we are extremely pleased that Jean Owen continues to allocate group members to take turns in doing the pedestal arrangements. We are extremely grateful to both ladies for their active involvement.

Our flower ladies are stalwarts of virtue. They deliver exceptional arrangements on a regular basis. Judith our Church Warden and Vivien often keep our arrangements refreshed if they appear in need of hydration.

We continue to honour the town's commitment to a sustainable environment and that of the church, having won the sustainability award. We do not use Oasis flower foam. We include living plants in our when it is appropriate to do so.

At Christmas we went and celebrated over lunch at Haddon House Hotel, and we enjoy our fellowship throughout the year.

Eva Livingstone

St. Mary's Ringing Guild Report

We continued to ring for most services in 2024 including Easter, Christmas and New Year's Eve. We also rang half muffled for Remembrance Sunday.
During the year we welcomed visiting bands from Cambridge University, The Rambling Ringers and a combined band from Wimborne Minster and Exeter Cathedral who successfully scored a full peal on our bells. There were also a couple of quarter peals- or at least some enthusiastic attempts-by our own band. Our 'St. Mary's Safari' outing took us to four towers dedicated to St. Mary-all on the hottest day of the year!
We were pleased to welcome two new members to the Guild, one of whom is also learning to ring at Toller Porcorum. During the year Jill stood down as Tower Captain and Harry Murley returned to take on the role.
Looking ahead we are excited to be ringing for the VE80 commemorations in 2025 and are planning an outing in October to a, yet mystery location!

Harry Murley (Tower Captain)

Team Parish Safeguarding Officer Report for 2024

As advised in last year's annual report, there is now a requirement for all Church Wardens and members of a PCC to complete the Basic and Foundation Safeguarding training courses, with the Foundation course being updated every 3 years, and to complete the Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse course. It is good to be able to report that many people around the Team completed the courses online, via the Church of England National Safeguarding Team's online learning portal, and we also held an 'in person' Basic Awareness course in October, which 8 people attended. More in person courses are planned early in 2025.

All the necessary Safeguarding checks were carried out during the year. 8 DBS checks have been completed as needed, for those new to posts, and those requiring renewal. All safeguarding information is securely stored on the Diocesan DBS Microsite. During the year, we moved from Level 1 to Level 2 on the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard, which is an online tool that helps us keep track of safeguarding in our churches and keeps us up to date with local and national changes in safeguarding requirements.

The safeguarding statement required by the Diocese is on the front page of the Team website, and gives our contact details, as well as those of the Diocesan officers. Safeguarding has been an agenda item at all PCC meetings across the Team during the year. As a Team we have complied with the duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

The events in the National church, and those more locally, that came towards the end of the year, obviously gave us all cause for concern. They also highlighted how very important it is that we have due regard for all Safeguarding requirements, and make sure that all our procedures and training are kept up to date. Whatever we are doing in our churches, we need to ensure that they truly are safe and welcoming places, for all who come into them.

There are two things that are helpful to me that I would like to draw your attention to. Firstly, if you do any online training on the Church of England National Safeguarding Team's online learning portal (details of how to access this are on the Team website) could you please add my email in the section at the bottom of the 'New Account' page labelled 'Local Reporting', as I can then see what training courses you have completed.

Secondly, if you need a DBS for the role you hold, you will see in the email that comes to tell you that your DBS is complete that there is a section headed 'DBS Update Service'. It is very easy to register for this via the link in the email, and it means that in 3 years' time, when your DBS needs to be renewed, I will not need to verify any documents again. So, it saves both you and me time! You do need to let me know that you have registered with the update service, as this isn't automatically recorded on your records.

Barbara Simmonds (Beaminster Team Parish Safeguarding Officer)

Safeguarding Training Update April 2025

We have held the following in person courses so far this year:
Basic Awareness on 11/1/25, attended by 11 people
Foundations course on 25/1/25 attended by 17 people
Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse on 26/4/25 attended by 13 people

Music Report for 2024

In last year's report I was able to report that we had flourished and grown as a choir. This year the picture is less optimistic and, while we still manage to sing an anthem most Sundays, and lead the singing of the hymns etc., we have been down in numbers, mostly owing to ill health and family circumstances. Having gained Coral Dakin, returning to England after 30 or more years in Bermuda, a winter in Beaminster was enough to prompt the return to the island in the sun – and who can blame her. Others have struggled with ill health and scheduled operations for a range of problems – hips, knees, eyes – you know the kind of thing. In saying that, we remain cheerful and choir practice from 6.30 till 7.30 on a Friday evening is enjoyable, musical and good fun. If you can sing, then please do consider joining the choir. The concentration of a dozen or so voices next to the organ makes a real difference to the congregational singing and musical confidence.

As always, the published monthly music scheme helps to keep us all on track. Some of you might not be aware that this simple A4 sheet is pinned on the noticeboard and lists the hymns (by title), anthems and organ voluntaries for the month.

During the period covered by this report I was away for much of July, August and September. I am very grateful and thankful for the regular contributions made by our deputy organists Jonathan Delbridge and Simon Clarkson. As Canon David said to me, "I don't mind you having Sundays off as long as you always manage to find a replacement who is better than you – which you do". I am so happy to work with somebody who shares a very similar sense of humour to me. At least, I hope it was humour!

Once again, on 14th December 2024 we joined Malcolm Archer (Organ) and Winston Leese (Trumpet) at a really successful concert organized by Alex Schellenberg to raise funds for The Martin Schellenberg Music Trust (TMSMT). People in Beaminster are incredibly generous and many still remember Martin and appreciate the benefit of the music trust set up in his memory to help young people.

I will reiterate my sentiments from last year in saying that behind the scenes, there are some key people who assist greatly in keeping the music on track at church, namely Vivien McMurray, Dan Rootham and Brian Ridley. They are the unsung heroes of the choir and my gratitude to them is matched only by my thanks to Revd. Canon David Baldwin and Revd. Jo Neary.

Peter Nardone (Director of Music & Organist) May 2025

St. Mary's Church Beaminster Maintenance of the Churchyard 2024

The garden team in 2024 was still Keith and Ing-Marie with Fred continuing to cut paths in the wider churchyard area and the grass around the Memorial Stones. The cutting around memorial stones by Fred continues to be difficult with so many different things being used to hold flowers or just left as small offerings. The team also regularly removed old flowers from the memorial stones and composted them after removing plastic coverings etc. After Christmas in February, we cleared the memorial stones of wreaths, once again in the region of 30 which went in commercial waste bin as they contained a great deal of metal and plastic.

The rest of the team dealt with the weeding of borders and with the cutting of larger shrubs including a fast-growing Pyracantha, climbing Hydrangea etc. All the un-compostable waste was removed to the local rubbish tip in Bridport when possible. We filled quite a few bags with churchyard compost early in the year which was used by local people who required it. The rest was used on the churchyard borders when needed.

Noel Kingsley continued to prune roses when required, which he has done for the last few years.

Wildflower seeds were sown during 2022 along the Southwest wall. It has not been reseeded but continued to produce a good display with its perennial plants. The border has required continual weeding of nettles, thistles and docks etc.

We have continued not going to the churchyard on a specific day, but to go when we see something that requires attention, or a project that needs to be undertaken by the whole team or members of the team.

We continued to clear unwanted plants, such as Red Valerian and Ivy from the walls around the churchyard as we did last year which is of course ongoing if we are to prevent masonry work by stone masons in the future.

The lift border was not very well maintained during 2024 as we had been informed the work to the drains was likely to cut through it. This however did not happen. Once the work started though, many parts of the west side of the church yard were cordoned off making access quite difficult. Hopefully the coming year will be better.

Around the table tomb in the southwest corner, we previously cleared the area and used the church compost, to prepare it for sowing more mixed flower seeds. This was done, but with poor weather and the work being done at the church no further action was taken this year, and it will have to be repeated in 2025.

Another thing undertaken towards the end of 2024 was to prepare a plot on the border along the south wall for a beehive to be placed there in 2025.

David Enalls continued to cut the long grass as it rained last year so we could not use it for anything but compost. We continued as volunteers to rake up the grass after him. It is quite a hard job with so much raking to be done. However, Gill Perrot and a friend towards the end of the year cut the grass remaining to a height she required, and we assisted with removing it, also to the compost heap. We are unsure of what will happen during 2025 and who will be doing what and when with the high grass.

Keith and Ing-Marie

ECO Church Report for the APCM 2004

In February it was very encouraging to see bees busy on the wild plum tree & early flowering shrubs in the Churchyard. A recent Church of England decision to promote biodiversity on its land is very encouraging**.** This aims to give biodiversity "equal consideration with net zero carbon" as an urgent response to the "ecological crisis".

The Fairtrade Foundation celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2024. We marked this by our Fairtrade Coffee Morning on Saturday 9 March. This was held in St Mary's Church as we had outgrown the Strode Room. The many stallholders for Cakes, Fairtrade Goods, Second handbooks, Waste not Want not, Accessories, and a Raffle came from both the church and community.

It was extremely enjoyable and over £880 was made from donations, raffle & stalls. After accounting for goods already bought, we were able to donate £600 to Fairtrade Foundation.

In May we again focused on Global Justice by supporting Christian Aid week. Church and Community members were generous in cake making for the stall in the Square. This helped to highlight global poverty and adding a donation.

June 8 saw our annual Churchyard Count on Nature, part of a national campaign. Colin Varndell & Phil Gamble identified 88 species of flora some of which are rare. Children enjoyed bug hunting!

Messy Church in July took as the theme Jesus' story of the Wise & Foolish Builders. One of the crafts was to build a Bug Church. The first resident crawling on the floor was placed inside! The Bug Church now resides in the churchyard.

September saw St Mary's ECO Church taking part in both the Harvest Weekend and Beaminster's Big Green Day

At the end of the year, we placed a shallow rainwater feature in our wildlife area near the south wall of the churchyard. Some wildflower seeds were sown alongside the south wall on the soil spoil from the recent drainage connection.

Finally, as far as our carbon zero project is going, 2024 Octopus figures showed we imported 17,230 kWh Electricity and 16,183 kWh Gas (both on a green tariff) totalling 33,413 kWh. The cost was £4,439.5 Electricity and £1.525.41 Gas totalling £5,964.91. Our export to the grid for 2024 was 8,298 kWh for which we received £1,167.48. Accounting for this, energy cost us £4,797.43.
Our solar panels produced 12,860 kWh for the year, of which some was used by our ASHPs. The 2024 total CO2 emissions saved 5,801.03 kg equalling 351 trees planted!

Gillian Perrot

Beaminster
St. Mary's Academy

Where children come first; belonging and building together
Respect † Trust † Kindness † Friendship † Responsibility

BEAMINSTER ST MARY'S ACADEMY : SUMMARY OF 2023-24

A Year of Growth and Achievement

The past year has been an exceptional period of progress and development for our school, as we continue to go from strength to strength. We are delighted to report that pupil numbers have increased significantly, with enrolment rising by over 40 children, in the last 3 years—an encouraging reflection of the trust and confidence families place in our school community.

Our academic achievements reflect both our aspirations and our commitment to excellence. While Key Stage 2 (KS2) results were not yet fully aligned with our high expectations, we have seen remarkable improvements, particularly in writing, where 71% of pupils achieved the expected standard—an impressive increase from the previous year. Additionally, 59% of pupils met the benchmark in mathematics, showcasing their hard work and perseverance.

In Key Stage 1 (KS1), our results are a testament to the dedication of our staff and pupils. Our phonics check has been consistently outstanding, with a remarkable 95% pass rate this year, following exceptional performances in previous years (95% in 2022, 100% in 2023, and 95% in 2024). These results confirm the effectiveness of our approach and the unwavering commitment to building strong foundational skills in our young learners.

Although attendance remains slightly below pre-pandemic levels, we continue to compare favourably against other schools within our Hub. Recognising the importance of consistent school attendance, we work proactively with parents to support their children, even going so far as to provide transport solutions when needed. Our dedication to ensuring every child benefits from their education remains steadfast.

The **ASEC (Academy School Education Committee)** remains an integral part of our school's journey, offering essential challenge and support to help us refine and enhance our provision. This year, we experienced changes within the governing body, but our new members have quickly settled in, bringing a wealth of diverse skills to further strengthen our leadership.

Curriculum Innovation and Faith in Action. Our curriculum continues to evolve, ensuring our pupils receive an enriching and well-rounded education. This year, we have completely

rewritten our Science, Geography, and History topics, with further exciting developments planned for September, including the launch of our new **Religious Education (RE) curriculum**.

At the heart of our school's ethos lies our Biblical underpinning, which we refined last year by embracing the parable of **'The Lost Sheep'**. This meaningful story was officially launched at the church, where each class explored its significance and how it relates to their own lives. It has since become a guiding principle in reinforcing our belief that **everyone is valued and important**. Our newly crafted vision statement captures this spirit:

"We love each other, learn together, and inspire all to succeed."

Every day, we strive to develop the whole child—nurturing their character, faith, and academic potential—so that they can flourish and achieve their very best. With unwavering commitment and a shared vision for excellence, we look forward to another year of growth, achievement, and blessings.

Darren Marklew Headteacher

The Friends of St. Mary's Church' Beaminster

The Annual General Meeting of the Friends of St Mary's, Beaminster, was held on Thursday 20th February 2025 at 2.30pm.

Peter Brook, acting Chairman of the Friends, opened the proceedings by warmly welcoming all those who were attending. This was followed by The Reverend Canon David Baldwin who thanked the committee for their hard work and generous contributions towards the refurbishment to the Church over the past year.

Peter then explained in more detail that there had been two very successful events, a Jazz Concert in April which proved very popular, and a Flower Festival which was held in the Church during Harvest-time and brought many local traders and organisations together to create a colourful and meaningful occasion.

Two major projects were supported in 2024 with £50,000 being allocated towards the refurbishment of the kitchen and new W.C. and a further £10,000 for the installation of a CCTV system. Peter particularly mentioned Judith Hansen and gave his heart-felt thanks to her for all the hard work and dedication she's given over the past year in managing these projects. The election of the committee took place, and the result was as follows:

Peter Brook, Chairman; Amanda Fairchild, Secretary; Brian Ridley, Treasurer; Jane Evans, Events Manager; Sally Mallinson; Evelyn Snell; Sue Corner; Susannah and Tim Hills.

The committee was re-elected as a whole, apart from Dan Rootham, who has temporarily stepped down, and James Oldfield who has agreed to join the committee.

After the business side to the meeting was finalised, we were treated to a personal and very informative presentation by Tim and Susannah Hills on their charity, Fingerprints, based in Uganda. A delicious tea with sandwiches and home-made cakes concluded a very interesting afternoon.

Peter took the opportunity to remind us all of a special date to put in our diaries. This year the Friends of St Mary's celebrate their 25th anniversary and to mark this important occasion the Friends will hold a Church Service in St Mary's Church on 19th June at 2.30pm followed by tea in Peter and Maggie Brook's Garden.

Sue Corner

Friends Of St Mary's Church Beaminster

Income & Expenditure for the year ending 31st December 2024

Income	2023	2024
Donations	980.00	1260.00
Tax Recovery	232.50	194.25
Open Garden	593.75	
Jazz Concert		1410.20
Harvest		337.28
Steel Band	470.10	
Total Income	2276.35	3201.73
Expenditure		
Admin, photocopying, stationery etc	40.83	78.00
Bank Charges	70.68	67.30
Printing	119.00	
Jazz Concert		757.40
Advert		50.00
Harvest		46.36
Steel Band	50.00	
CCTV		9573.77
Kitchen		50000.00
Total Expenditure	280.51	60572.83
Surplus/Deficit for the Year	1995.84	-57371.10
Statement of Account		
Carried forward HSBC	5856.12	4851096
Carried forward CCLA	116358.37	124528.21
Total resources at start of year	122214.49	129380.17
Income	2276.35	3201.73

Interest on CCLA	5169.84	5728.71
Total Income	129660.68	138310.61
Less expenditure	280.51	60572.83
TOTAL	129380.17	77737.78
Represented by		
Cash		72.61
Balance at HSBC	4851.96	2908.25
Balance at CCLA	124528.21	74756.92
TOTAL	129380.17	77737.78

have checked the above figures against
ank statements and accounting records, and
und them correct.
inda le Breton (Examiner) 3rd February 202

Charity Registered No. 1133757

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. MARY OF THE ANNUNCIATION BEAMINSTER

Known as

St. Mary's Beaminster P.C.C.

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of St. Mary Of The Annunciation Beaminster

Trustees' Report
For the year ended 31 December 2024

1. Reference and Administration Details

- **Charity name:** The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary of the Annunciation Beaminster
- **Working name:** St. Mary's Beaminster P.C.C.
- **Charity registration number:** 1133757
- **Registered office address:** Beaminster Church Office, 8 Hogshill Street, Beaminster, DT8 3AE
- **Trustees and directors:**

Trustee name	Office (if any)
Revd David F B Baldwin	Rector – PCC Chair
Philip A V Crawford	
Judith A Hansen	Churchwarden
Marlene W G Jackaman	PCC - Chair Finance
Vivien McMurray	PCC - Secretary
Revd Joanna B Neary	Team Vicar
Gillian M Perrott	
John D Rootham	
Barbara A Simmonds	
Ronald C Simmonds	
James R Oldfield	
David Langridge	

- **Auditors (or independent examiners):** Mr M.J. Cridland B.A. (Hons) F.C.A., Scott Vevers Ltd, Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors, 65 East Street, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 3LB
- **Bankers:** HSBC Bank plc & CCLA Investment Management Limited

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of St. Mary Of The Annunciation Beaminster

Trustees' Report
For the year ended 31 December 2024

2. Structure, Governance, and Management

- **Governing document:** The Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended).

- **Charitable objectives:**
  - Educating people about the religion
  - Pastoral care
  - Outreach
  - Missionary
  - Evangelical
  - MAKING JESUS KNOWN

- **Trustee appointment and recruitment:** Elected by members of the congregation at the Annual Meeting

- **Induction and training of trustees:** There is no induction process as such. When church members are elected to join the PCC, in all likelihood these people know the complexities of the Church of England's structure of governance. Newly elected people are placed into sub-committees, based on their particular known areas of expertise. These can range from administrative, finance, worship, etc.

- **Organisational structure:**
  Churchwarden, who along with the parish priest, is generally responsible for the day-to-day functioning of the church.

  PCC Secretary records the minutes of the meetings and deals with the administration arising from the meetings.

  Chair of Finance oversees the finances and liaises with the Church Treasurer.

  Chair of Fabric is responsible for the church building and keeping it in good repair

  Safe-Guarding Officer responsible for ensuring every PCC member attains the 'Basic and Foundation Safeguarding certificate'. In addition, training is given in 'Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse'

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of St. Mary Of The Annunciation Beaminster

Trustees' Report
For the year ended 31 December 2024

3. Objectives and Activities

- **Summary of the charity's activities in the year:**
  - Making this church an integral part of the Beaminster Community.
  - Keeping a Grade 1 listed building in good repair which, in turn, is leaving a legacy for the future generations of this beautiful town.
  - Contributing to Christian Aid (trying to help others in deprived areas around the world)
  - Selecting worthwhile charities (home and oversees) and making annual donations.

- **Achievements and performance:**
  Events regularly held in addition to usual church services:
  Toddler Morning for pre-school children – Play/Story time/singing
  Walk in Wednesday – Coffee and chat and a warm place to be in the winter months.
  Messy Church – Based around a bible study theme, with craft related work finishing with worship. All ages.
  Bereavement – Group session initially based around Grave Talk discussion. Refreshments served and smaller group chats.

  Works undertaken:
  Installation of a toilet and kitchen renovation. CCTV installed.

  Fundraising :
  Over £3000 raised for Christian Aid in 2024. 1600 donation envelopes posted through doors in Beaminster.

  Charitable donations:
  3 Home Charities selected. £1000 sent to each – Prout Bridge, Beaminster, Weldmar Hospice Dorchester and Street Pastors, Weymouth
  3 Overseas' Charities – Save the Children in Gaza and Ukraine, Embrace the Middle East and Ripple Effect (formerly Send a Cow). £1000 send to each.

- **Plans for the future:**
  To install a new lighting system.
  To appoint a part time Family and Community Worker (to work across our Team of Churches).

4. Financial Review

The Financial Statements in previous years have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis and as the income for the year 2024 exceeds £250,000 the Financial Statements for 2024 require them to be prepared an accruals and prepayments basis. This has resulted in the 2024 comparative figures (2023) being restated to the new method of accounting and a prior year adjustment being made to the reserves.

There now is a requirement for the Financial Statements of 2024 that the Independent Examiners Report be prepared by a suitably qualified person.

- **Review of financial position:**
  The financial position of the Church is currently fairly healthy; although we have carried out extensive construction works this year we have been fortunate to receive donations from The Friends of St Marys and also legacies and a grant.

  Total incoming resources for the year were £315,707 (2023 - £124,422). There was a net deficit for the year of £23,675 (2023 – surplus of £11,291). Total funds at 31 December 2024 were £375,793 (2023 - £399,468) included restricted reserves of £1,726 (2023 - £1,897).

  The detailed income, expenditure and reserves figures are shown in our Annual Accounts reports.

- **Reserves policy:**
  The reserves are regularly reviewed. The PCC aims to ensure that sufficient reserves are held to meet anticipated expenditure.

  Legacy monies, not required for funding recent building works, are attracting interest with a 'secure' investment institution.

- **Investment policy:**
  We employ a bookkeeper, who is supervised by the Institute of Certified Bookkeepers. The Chair of Finance, along with the members of the Finance Committee discuss recommended investments made by her and take the recommendations to the full PCC committee meeting for their approval before any movement of monies.

  Monies on deposit are held in The CBF Church of England Deposit Fund managed by CCLA (Churches, Charities and Local Authorities) Investment Management Limited and HSBC and these accounts attract interest.

- **Principal risks and uncertainties:**
  Like all charitable institutions, the nation's economy affects our income and expenditure. We are expecting large increases in our insurance premium, heating bills, electricity bills. We have been claiming VAT refunds on eligible building works, but it has been announced these refunds

will be restricted to an annual maximum of £25,000 from 2025. We have obtained various grants, but basically, we rely on the goodwill of our church members to make regular giving and gift-aid is claimed wherever possible. We have recently implemented the Parish Giving Scheme and this scheme allows Gift Aid income on a monthly basis.

5. Governance and Management Arrangements

- **Committees:** PCC (Parochial Church Council); Sub-committees – Finance, Fabric & Standing
- **Internal controls:** Agreements made by committees/sub-committees
- **External advisors:** Accounts examined/audited by an established firm of accountants, namely Scott Vevers, Bridport.

6. Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The PCC (trustees) are required under Charity law to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the financial activities of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable laws and regulations. They are also responsible for ensuring that the charity maintains an adequate system of internal control designed to provide reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss or unauthorised use and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of St. Mary Of The Annunciation Beaminster

Trustees' Report
For the year ended 31 December 2024

7. Public Benefit Statement

Under the Charities Act 2011 (or the relevant legislation in your jurisdiction), trustees must confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and that the charity's activities are carried out for the public benefit.

8. Conclusion

This report has been approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Signature(s)	Rev Canon David Baldwin	Marlene Jackaman
Full name(s)	Revd Canon David Baldwin	Marlene Jackaman
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair – Beaminster PCC	Chair - Finance
Date	10.3.25	10.3.25

Report Of The Independent Examiner To The Trustees Of The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of St. Mary Of The Annunciation Beaminster

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

M. C. Cridland

Mr. M. J. Cridland B.A. (Hons) F.C.A
Scott Vevers Ltd
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors
65 East Street
Bridport
Dorset
DT6 3LB

Date: 13/03/25

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Mary Of The Annunciation Beaminster

Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Restated Total Funds 2023 £
Income					
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	4	222,101	20	222,121	83,596
Charitable activities	5	78,701	-	78,701	29,474
Investment income	6	14,849	36	14,885	11,352
Total income		315,651	56	315,707	124,422
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	7	339,155	227	339,382	113,131
Total expenditure		339,155	227	339,382	113,131
Net income before transfers		(23,504)	(171)	(23,675)	11,291
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movements in funds		(23,504)	(171)	(23,675)	11,291
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		397,571	1,897	399,468	388,177
Total funds carried forward		374,067	1,726	375,793	399,468

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The church has no recognised gains or losses for the year other than the results above.

The notes on pages 10 to 16 form an integral part of these financial statements.

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Mary Of The Annunciation Beaminster

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £	2024 £	Restated 2023 £	Restated 2023 £
Current assets					
Debtors	10	2,606		4,119	
Cash at bank and in hand		377,066		397,166	
		379,672		401,285	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	(3,879)		(1,817)	
Net assets			375,793		399,468
The funds of the charity:					
Restricted funds	12		1,726		1,897
Unrestricted funds	12		374,067		397,571
Total charity funds			375,793		399,468

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 10/03/2025

Rev Canon David Baldwin
Chair - Beaminster PCC

Marlene Jackaman
Chair - Finance

The notes on pages 10 to 16 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

1 General information

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Mary Of The Annunciation Beaminster is a charity, established on 26 January 2010. The address of the registered office is provided in reference and administrative details. Details of the charity's operations are provided in the Report of the Trustees.

2 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

Basis of preparation

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), (Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements.

Fund accounting policy

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Income

Voluntary income including donations and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Income from tax reclaims are included in the statement of financial activities at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Income derived from events is recognised as earned (that is, as the related goods or services are provided).

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Income from charitable activities includes income recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided) under contract or where entitlement to grant funding is subject to specific performance conditions. Grant income included in this category provides funding to support programme activities and is recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and all deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangement entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

Recognition and measurement

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transactions. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for similar debt instruments.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Financial instruments (continued)

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

3 Change in accounting policy

The preparation of the Financial Statements in previous years was under the Receipts and Payments basis. In 2024 the income has exceeded £250,000 and therefore the basis of the preparation of the Financial Statements is now on an Accruals basis. The Financial Statements for 2023 have thus been restated to conform with the Accruals and Prepayments basis and a prior year adjustment to reserves made.

4 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Total Funds	
		Restated		Restated		Restated
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Voluntary giving	43,953	44,124	20	3,625	43,973	47,749
Gift Aid recoverable	10,292	9,815	-	-	10,292	9,815
Legacies	105,000	23,132	-	-	105,000	23,132
Outreach	3,282	2,900	-	-	3,282	2,900
Friends of St. Mary's	59,574	-	-	-	59,574	-
	222,101	79,971	20	3,625	222,121	83,596

Voluntary giving includes Stewardship and Parish Giving scheme.
Gift Aid includes direct reclaim from HMRC and from Parish Giving scheme.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

5 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Total Funds	
		Restated		Restated		Restated
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Activities for generating funds	4,087	4,456	-	-	4,087	4,456
Church activities	13,830	11,481	-	-	13,830	11,481
Other incoming resources	416	122	-	-	416	122
	18,333	16,059	-	-	18,333	16,059
Other income						
Other income	(200)	200	-	-	(200)	200
Donations collected for others	27	-	-	-	27	-
CAF	156	156	-	-	156	156
Grant received	25,000	-	-	-	25,000	-
VAT recovered	35,385	13,059	-	-	35,385	13,059
	60,368	13,415	-	-	60,368	13,415
	78,701	29,474	-	-	78,701	29,474

6 Income from investments

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Total Funds	
		Restated		Restated		Restated
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bank and other interest	14,849	11,334	36	18	14,885	11,352
	14,849	11,334	36	18	14,885	11,352

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Total Funds	
		Restated		Restated		Restated
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Direct costs	321,521	97,949	227	2,746	321,748	100,695
Support costs	17,634	12,436	-	-	17,634	12,436
	339,155	110,385	227	2,746	339,382	113,131
Direct costs:						
Overheads	61,731	61,021	-	-	61,731	61,021
Receipts disbursed	3,599	3,589	-	-	3,599	3,589
Church building and grounds	20,061	26,199	227	2,621	20,288	28,820
Mission and	-	133	-	-	-	133
Project expenditure	228,386	2,880	-	-	228,386	2,880
Donations	6,027	3,127	-	125	6,027	3,252
Other expenditure	1,717	1,000	-	-	1,717	1,000
	321,521	97,949	227	2,746	321,748	100,695
Support costs:						
Services support	17,512	12,298	-	-	17,512	12,298
Bank charges	122	138	-	-	122	138
	17,634	12,436	-	-	17,634	12,436

8 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No trustee received any remuneration or expenses in respect of their services as a trustee from the charity during the year.

9 Net income

Net income is stated after charging:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees	1,794	594

10 Debtors

		Restated
	2024	2023
	£	£
Operational debtors	160	-
Other debtors and accrued income	2,446	4,119
	2,606	4,119

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

11 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	Restated 2023
	£	£
Operational creditors	854	-
Other creditors and accruals	3,025	1,817
	3,879	1,817

12 Analysis of funds

	Restated at 1 January 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds					
Bells	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Electrical/sound system	879	-	(207)	-	672
Maintenance	-	20	(20)	-	-
Other	18	36	-	-	54
	1,897	56	(227)	-	1,726
Unrestricted Funds					
General funds	397,571	315,651	(339,155)	-	374,067
Total Funds	**399,468**	**315,707**	**(339,382)**	**-**	**375,793**

	At 1 January 2023	*Incoming resources*	*Resources expended*	*Transfers*	*Restated at 31 December 2023*
	£	*£*	*£*	*£*	*£*
Restricted Funds					
Bells	*1,000*	-	-	-	*1,000*
Electrical/sound system	-	*3,500*	*(2,621)*	-	*879*
Other	-	*143*	*(125)*	-	*18*
	1,000	*3,643*	*(2,746)*	-	*1,897*
Unrestricted Funds					
General funds	*387,177*	*120,779*	*(110,385)*	-	*397,571*
Total Funds	***388,177***	***124,422***	***(113,131)***	**-**	***399,468***

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

13 Net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Total Funds	
	2024	Restated 2023	2024	Restated 2023	2024	Restated 2023
	£		£		£	£
Current assets	377,946	399,388	1,726	1,897	379,672	401,285
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(3,879)	(1,817)	-	-	(3,879)	(1,817)
Net assets	374,067	397,571	1,726	1,897	375,793	399,468

14 Financial instruments

Categorisation of financial instruments

	2024	Restated 2023
	£	£
Financial assets that are debt instrument measured at amortised cost	377,226	397,166
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	3,879	1,817

Items of income, expense, gains or losses

The total interest income for financial assets not measured at fair value through profit or loss is £14,885 (2023 - £11,352).

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of St. Mary Of The Annunciation Beaminster

Annual Accounts
1st January - 31st December 2024

Prepared by
Suzanne Flux

Prepared on
3 March 2025

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Finance Committee Report

It has been a very busy year with the large amount of building works taking place; the major projects undertaken included the kitchen/toilet works and CCTV installation.
In 2024 the kitchen and toilet works totalled £217,700 and the CCTV works £10,600; the lighting works are now due to take place in 2025.

We were very fortunate to have been able to obtain a grant of £25,000 from the Garfield Weston Foundation towards the kitchen works, many thanks to James Oldfield for applying for this money.
The Friends of Beaminster were also very generous and provided funding of £50,000 towards the kitchen and £9,600 towards the CCTV installation.
We also obtained grants from DCMS of £36,000 for reclaiming VAT on eligible building works throughout the year, we also successfully passed an additional audit on these claims.

As shown on the balance sheet, despite the high level of expenditure we are still in a fortunate position to have a healthy balance in our Fabric Accounts, but due diligence must be applied to future expenditure. This balance has been possible because of the grants and donations mentioned above and also some legacies and generous donations kindly received (£107,000)

From the accounts you will notice we are showing a surplus on the 2024 General Account of £1259 (£14,433 deficit for 2023); this surplus would have been a deficit had we not transferred £30,000 from the Fabric account. This is a worrying trend; as we mentioned last year we also need suggestions for fund raising events and enthusiastic people to help.

We have implemented the Parish Giving Scheme to receive planned donations (this allows us to get Gift Aid income on a monthly rather than annual basis), we need regular committed income to try and fund the increasing rising day to day costs.

The General Account is our 'housekeeping account', where our day to day running costs are met. Our biggest outlay is the Parish Share, rising over recent years from £50,045 in 2018 to £54,648.11 in 2024; Our 2025 share will be £62,012. Another big outlay in 2024 was our annual insurance premium of £8525, this increased due to the building work.

One item of concern is the deficit of income relating to Team News, our cost was £3,340 but we only received £2,734 plus £180 in 2025 meaning that £426.00 was not recovered, this relates to copies given away free or if left in Church any payment cannot be separately identified. Although some copies are given out free to new people moving to the area, we feel that this is one area that needs to be investigated so we do not "lose" out so much going forward.

As the income in 2024 has been higher than previous years we are required to prepare our Accounts on an Accruals basis rather than Receipts & Payments; the 2023 financial statements have been re-stated and prior year adjustments made to reserves.

Thanks to the Finance Committee for their valued input at our meetings and to David Baldwin and the PCC members for their support during the year.

We have re-appointed Scott Vevers as our independent examiner for 2024.

Suzanne Flux (Treasurer) - 3rd March 2025

Year End:Balance Sheet 2024

As of December 31, 2024

	As of Dec 31, 2024	As of Dec 31, 2023 (PP)	Total Change
FIXED ASSET			
Total Fixed Asset			**0.00**
CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND			
CCLA CCLA	16,793.03	15,946.61	846.42
CCLA Fabric CCLA Fabric	189,202.61	227,439.53	-38,236.92
HSBC BMM Fabric	148,125.78	100,512.56	47,613.22
HSBC BMM Restricted Funds	54.32	18.62	35.70
Restricted funds - bells	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Restricted funds - electrical/sound system	671.86	878.86	-207.00
Restricted funds - maintenance	0.00		0.00
Restricted funds - organ	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total HSBC BMM Restricted Funds	**1,726.18**	**1,897.48**	**-171.30**
HSBC Fabric account	6,740.20	39,773.68	-33,033.48
HSBC General account	14,342.18	11,180.81	3,161.37
HSBC Stewardship account	135.00	415.00	-280.00
Total Cash at bank and in hand	**377,064.98**	**397,165.67**	**-20,100.69**
DEBTORS			
Debtors	2,606.16	4,118.58	-1,512.42
Total Debtors	**2,606.16**	**4,118.58**	**-1,512.42**
NET CURRENT ASSETS	**379,671.14**	**401,284.25**	**-21,613.11**
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR			
Trade Creditors			
Creditors	3,879.16	1,816.62	2,062.54

			Total
	As of Dec 31, 2024	As of Dec 31, 2023 (PP)	Change
Total Trade Creditors	3,879.16	1,816.62	2,062.54
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	3,879.16	1,816.62	2,062.54
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	375,791.98	399,467.63	-23,675.65
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	375,791.98	399,467.63	-23,675.65
TOTAL NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	£375,791.98	£399,467.63	£ -23,675.65
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Opening Balance Equity	509,641.37	509,641.37	0.00
Retained Earnings	-110,173.74	-110,173.74	0.00
Profit for the year	-23,675.65		-23,675.65
Total Capital and Reserves	£375,791.98	£399,467.63	£ -23,675.65

Year End:Income and Expenditure by Class 2024

January - December 2024

	CCLA	CCLA Fabric	Fabric	General	Restricted	Stewardship	TOTAL
INCOME							
1100 Voluntary giving				54,484.51			54,484.51
1200 Outreach				3,281.63			3,281.63
1300 Activities for generating funds				4,086.66			4,086.66
1500 Church Activities				13,830.00			13,830.00
1600 Other incoming resources				415.55			415.55
5110 CAF (Fabric)			156.00				156.00
5120 VAT recovered			35,385.33				35,385.33
5160 Donation Income Unrestricted (Fabric)			59,573.77				59,573.77
5400 Grants (Fabric)			25,000.00				25,000.00
LEGUN Legacy Income Unrestricted (Fabric)			105,000.00				105,000.00
STEWGIFT Gift Aid recovered (Stewardship)						9,311.68	9,311.68
STEWINCOME Stewardship income						26,690.00	26,690.00
Uncategorised Income				-200.00			-200.00
Total Income	**0.00**	**0.00**	**225,115.10**	**75,898.35**	**0.00**	**36,001.68**	**337,015.13**
GROSS PROFIT	**0.00**	**0.00**	**225,115.10**	**75,898.35**	**0.00**	**36,001.68**	**337,015.13**
EXPENSES							
2100 Overheads				61,731.11			61,731.11
2200 Receipts Disbursed				3,599.31			3,599.31
2300 Services Support				17,513.05			17,513.05
2400 Church Building & Grounds				20,286.17			20,286.17
2700 Other Expenditure				1,716.88			1,716.88
4300 Project 3 - Kitchen and Toilet			217,732.76				217,732.76
4500 Project 5 - Church Lighting			57.00				57.00
4700 Project 7 - CCTV			10,596.71				10,596.71
4999 Bank charges (Fabric)			61.60				61.60
5600 Donations (Fabric)			6,000.00				6,000.00
STEWCHAR Bank charges (Stewardship)						60.00	60.00
Total Expenses	**0.00**	**0.00**	**234,448.07**	**104,846.52**	**0.00**	**60.00**	**339,354.59**
NET OPERATING INCOME	**0.00**	**0.00**	**-9,332.97**	**-28,948.17**	**0.00**	**35,941.68**	**-2,339.46**
OTHER INCOME							
CCLAINT Interest (CCLA)	831.98						831.98
CCLAINTF Interest (CCLA Fabric)		10,959.65					10,959.65

	CCLA	CCLA Fabric	Fabric	General	Restricted	Stewardship	TOTAL
FABINT Interest (Fabric funds)			3,058.16				3,058.16
FROMCCLAFABRIC Transfer from CCLA Fabric			50,000.00				50,000.00
FROMGATOREST Transfer from General to Restricted					20.00		20.00
FROMREST Transfer from Restricted to General				227.00			227.00
INCAW Anne Woodward retirement collection				649.00			649.00
INCCAID Christian Aid (income)				3,155.92			3,155.92
INCDON Donations collected for others (income)				27.05			27.05
INCEAST Easter Offerings (income)				652.70			652.70
INCFRI Friends Flower Festival (income)				100.00			100.00
INFF Transfer from Fabric Account				30,000.00			30,000.00
RESTINT Interest (Restricted funds)					35.70		35.70
Total Other Income	**831.98**	**10,959.65**	**53,058.16**	**34,811.67**	**55.70**	**0.00**	**99,717.16**
OTHER EXPENSES							
EXPAW Anne Woodward retirement donation				649.00			649.00
EXPCAID Christian Aid				3,155.92			3,155.92
EXPDON Donations collected for others				27.05			27.05
EXPEAST Easter Offerings				652.70			652.70
EXPFRI Friends Flower Festival				100.00			100.00
INRESTG Transfer to General Account (from Restricted)					227.00		227.00
STEWGEN Transfer to General Account						36,221.68	36,221.68
TOFABFROMCCLA Transfer to Fabric from CCLA Fabric		50,000.00					50,000.00
TOGA Transfer to General Account (from Fabric)			30,000.00				30,000.00
TOREST Transfer to Restricted BMM from General				20.00			20.00
Total Other Expenses	**0.00**	**50,000.00**	**30,000.00**	**4,604.67**	**227.00**	**36,221.68**	**121,053.35**
NET OTHER INCOME	831.98	-39,040.35	23,058.16	30,207.00	-171.30	-36,221.68	-21,336.19
NET INCOME	£831.98	£ -39,040.35	£13,725.19	£1,258.83	£ -171.30	£ -280.00	£ -23,675.65

Year End:Income and Expenditure - General Year End

January - December 2024

	Total		
	Jan - Dec 2024	Jan - Dec 2023 (PY)	Change
INCOME			
1100 Voluntary giving	54,484.51	53,880.18	604.33
1200 Outreach	3,281.63	2,900.31	381.32
1300 Activities for generating funds	4,086.66	4,456.41	-369.75
1500 Church Activities	13,830.00	11,480.86	2,349.14
1600 Other incoming resources	415.55	122.37	293.18
Uncategorised Income	-200.00	200.00	-400.00
Total Income	**75,898.35**	**73,040.13**	**2,858.22**
GROSS PROFIT	**75,898.35**	**73,040.13**	**2,858.22**
EXPENSES			
2100 Overheads	61,731.11	61,021.45	709.66
2200 Receipts Disbursed	3,599.31	3,588.97	10.34
2300 Services Support	17,513.05	12,303.15	5,209.90
2400 Church Building & Grounds	20,286.17	28,817.86	-8,531.69
2500 Mission & Outreach		133.00	-133.00
2600 Donations		66.80	-66.80
2700 Other Expenditure	1,716.88	1,000.00	716.88
Total Expenses	**104,846.52**	**106,931.23**	**-2,084.71**
NET OPERATING INCOME	**-28,948.17**	**-33,891.10**	**4,942.93**
OTHER INCOME			
FROMREST Transfer from Restricted to General	227.00	2,671.14	-2,444.14
INCAW Anne Woodward retirement collection	649.00		649.00
INCCAID Christian Aid (income)	3,155.92	1,900.74	1,255.18
INCCASH Cash (income)		452.00	-452.00
INCDON Donations collected for others (income)	27.05		27.05
INCEAST Easter Offerings (income)	652.70	655.00	-2.30
INCFRI Friends Flower Festival (income)	100.00		100.00
INFF Transfer from Fabric Account	30,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
Total Other Income	**34,811.67**	**20,678.88**	**14,132.79**
OTHER EXPENSES			
EXPAW Anne Woodward retirement donation	649.00		649.00
EXPCAID Christian Aid	3,155.92	1,900.74	1,255.18
EXPDON Donations collected for others	27.05		27.05
EXPEAST Easter Offerings	652.70	625.00	27.70
EXPFRI Friends Flower Festival	100.00		100.00
EXPGIFT Gifts		452.00	-452.00
TOREST Transfer to Restricted BMM from General	20.00	50.00	-30.00

	Total		
	Jan - Dec 2024	Jan - Dec 2023 (PY)	Change
Total Other Expenses	**4,604.67**	**3,027.74**	**1,576.93**
NET OTHER INCOME	**30,207.00**	**17,651.14**	**12,555.86**
NET INCOME	**£1,258.83**	**£ -16,239.96**	**£17,498.79**

Year End:Income and Expenditure - Fabric Year End

January - December 2024

	Total		
	Jan - Dec 2024	Jan - Dec 2023 (PY)	Change
INCOME			
5110 CAF (Fabric)	156.00	156.00	0.00
5120 VAT recovered	35,385.33	13,058.52	22,326.81
5150 Donation Income Restricted TBC (Fabric)		3,625.00	-3,625.00
5160 Donation Income Unrestricted (Fabric)	59,573.77		59,573.77
5400 Grants (Fabric)	25,000.00		25,000.00
LEGUN Legacy Income Unrestricted (Fabric)	105,000.00	23,132.20	81,867.80
Total Income	**225,115.10**	**39,971.72**	**185,143.38**
GROSS PROFIT	**225,115.10**	**39,971.72**	**185,143.38**
EXPENSES			
4100 Project 1 - Boundary Wall		277.02	-277.02
4300 Project 3 - Kitchen and Toilet	217,732.76	1,981.50	215,751.26
4400 Project 4 - Air source heat pump		132.00	-132.00
4500 Project 5 - Church Lighting	57.00	432.00	-375.00
4700 Project 7 - CCTV	10,596.71	57.00	10,539.71
4998 Gold ECO Church award		96.00	-96.00
4999 Bank charges (Fabric)	61.60	67.80	-6.20
5600 Donations (Fabric)	6,000.00	3,125.00	2,875.00
Total Expenses	**234,448.07**	**6,168.32**	**228,279.75**
NET OPERATING INCOME	**-9,332.97**	**33,803.40**	**-43,136.37**
OTHER INCOME			
FABINT Interest (Fabric funds)	3,058.16	512.56	2,545.60
FROMCCLAFABRIC Transfer from CCLA Fabric	50,000.00		50,000.00
Total Other Income	**53,058.16**	**512.56**	**52,545.60**
OTHER EXPENSES			
TOFABBMM Transfer to Fabric BMM		0.00	0.00
TOGA Transfer to General Account (from Fabric)	30,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
TORESTFAB Transfer to Restricted BMM from Fabric		4,500.00	-4,500.00
Total Other Expenses	**30,000.00**	**19,500.00**	**10,500.00**
NET OTHER INCOME	**23,058.16**	**-18,987.44**	**42,045.60**
NET INCOME	**£13,725.19**	**£14,815.96**	**£ -1,090.77**

Year End:Income and Expenditure - Restricted Year End

January - December 2024

	Total		
	Jan - Dec 2024	Jan - Dec 2023 (PY)	Change
INCOME			
Total Income			**0.00**
GROSS PROFIT	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
EXPENSES			
Total Expenses			**0.00**
NET OPERATING INCOME	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
OTHER INCOME			
FROMFAB Transfer from Fabric to Restricted		4,500.00	-4,500.00
FROMGATOREST Transfer from General to Restricted	20.00	50.00	-30.00
RESTINT Interest (Restricted funds)	35.70	18.62	17.08
Total Other Income	**55.70**	**4,568.62**	**-4,512.92**
OTHER EXPENSES			
INRESTG Transfer to General Account (from Restricted)	227.00	2,671.14	-2,444.14
Total Other Expenses	**227.00**	**2,671.14**	**-2,444.14**
NET OTHER INCOME	**-171.30**	**1,897.48**	**-2,068.78**
NET INCOME	**£ -171.30**	**£1,897.48**	**£ -2,068.78**

Year End:Income and Expenditure - CCLA Fabric Year End

January - December 2024

	Jan - Dec 2024	Jan - Dec 2023 (PY)	Total Change
INCOME			
Total Income			**0.00**
GROSS PROFIT	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
EXPENSES			
Total Expenses			**0.00**
NET OPERATING INCOME	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
OTHER INCOME			
CCLAINTF Interest (CCLA Fabric)	10,959.65	10,113.06	846.59
Total Other Income	**10,959.65**	**10,113.06**	**846.59**
OTHER EXPENSES			
TOFABFROMCCLA Transfer to Fabric from CCLA Fabric	50,000.00		50,000.00
Total Other Expenses	**50,000.00**	**0.00**	**50,000.00**
NET OTHER INCOME	**-39,040.35**	**10,113.06**	**-49,153.41**
NET INCOME	**£ -39,040.35**	**£10,113.06**	**£ -49,153.41**

NOTE

Please note that CCLA accounts are reported on a quarterly basis.

Year End:Income and Expenditure - CCLA Year End

January - December 2024

	Jan - Dec 2024	Jan - Dec 2023 (PY)	Total Change
INCOME			
Total Income			**0.00**
GROSS PROFIT	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
EXPENSES			
Total Expenses			**0.00**
NET OPERATING INCOME	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
OTHER INCOME			
CCLAINT Interest (CCLA)	831.98	709.05	122.93
Total Other Income	**831.98**	**709.05**	**122.93**
NET OTHER INCOME	**831.98**	**709.05**	**122.93**
NET INCOME	**£831.98**	**£709.05**	**£122.93**

NOTE

Please note that CCLA accounts are reported on a quarterly basis.

Year End:Income and Expenditure - Stewardship Year End

January - December 2024

	Total		
	Jan - Dec 2024	Jan - Dec 2023 (PY)	Change
INCOME			
STEWGIFT Gift Aid recovered (Stewardship)	9,311.68	9,815.56	-503.88
STEWINCOME Stewardship income	26,690.00	32,453.00	-5,763.00
Total Income	**36,001.68**	**42,268.56**	**-6,266.88**
GROSS PROFIT	**36,001.68**	**42,268.56**	**-6,266.88**
EXPENSES			
STEWCHAR Bank charges (Stewardship)	60.00	65.00	-5.00
Total Expenses	**60.00**	**65.00**	**-5.00**
NET OPERATING INCOME	**35,941.68**	**42,203.56**	**-6,261.88**
OTHER EXPENSES			
STEWGEN Transfer to General Account	36,221.68	42,208.56	-5,986.88
Total Other Expenses	**36,221.68**	**42,208.56**	**-5,986.88**
NET OTHER INCOME	**-36,221.68**	**-42,208.56**	**5,986.88**
NET INCOME	**£ -280.00**	**£ -5.00**	**£ -275.00**

Notes to the Accounts

Notes from the independent examiners :

NONE

Accounts prepared by :

Suzanne Flux — Date : 4/3/25

Independent examiner :

SCOTTYEVERS LTD. — Date : 13/03/25

Beaminster Parochial Church Council Chair of Finance :

Marlene Jackaman — Date : 10.3.25

Beaminster Parochial Church Council Team Rector :

David Baldwin — Date : 10.3.25

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. MARY OF THE ANNUN

England & Wales - Charity number 1133757

Accounts

The Parish of St Mary, Beaminster

(Charity Commission No: 1133757)

PCC Annual Report and Accounts 2023

St Mary's Church Beaminster

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

St. Mary's Beaminster is situated in Church Street, Beaminster. It is part of the Beaminster Team Churches and in the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England.

Status: The PCC is a registered as a Charity with the Charity Commissioners.
Charity registration No: 1133757

Team Rector: Revd. Canon David Baldwin
Team Vicar: Revd. Jo Neary
Team Curate: Rev**.** Fiona Beale until April 2023
Church Wardens: Mrs Judith Hansen

El**ected Members:**
Judith Hansen, Philip Crawford and Gillian Perrott (Standing down in 2024)
Sue Counsell, Marlene Jackaman and Barbara Simmonds (Standing down in 2025)
Vivien McMurray, James Oldfield and Dan Rootham (Standing down in 2026)

Deanery Synod Reps: Ann Crawford and Rudi Simmonds due to step down in 2026.
Team Council Reps: Judith Hansen.
Lay Vice Chairman: Rudi Simmonds
Secretary to PCC: Vivien McMurray
Treasurer to PCC: Suzanne Flux. (Christine Ward: **Book keeper** until April 2023)
Chair of the Finance sub-committee: Marlene Jackaman

Church Office and address for correspondence: 8, Hogshill Street, Beaminster DT8 3AE.
Team Administrator: Anne Woodward
Team Online and Media Administrator: Harry Neary
Bank: HSBC.
Independent Examiner: Scott Vevers Accountants (Bridport)

Structure, Governance and Management: the method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and Activities: St. Mary's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent the Revd Canon David Baldwin 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 and churchyard.

Committees and their briefs: The Standing Committee is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact PCC business between meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. The various subcommittees meet as and when required.

Team Safeguarding Officers: Liz Brown and Barbara Simmonds

Team Health and Safety Advisor: Vacant. The Health and Safety Group did not function as such as there was no volunteer to take this on. The churchwarden ensured that any incidents/events were recorded and risks assessed.

Electoral Roll Officer: Jenny Langridge who says that at the end of the year there were:-
96 parishioners on the roll. (Previous update: 101). 4 people died, 1person had moved into a care home and 1 person had left the congregation. The 5 year update is due in 2025.

The Parochial Church Council: Review of the year January to December 2023

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The PCC met in January, May, July, October and November in church. The APCM was held in March. The Standing Committee comprising the Team Rector, Church Warden, Lay Vice Chairman, Chair of the Finance subcommittee and Secretary met to set agendas for PCC meetings and on an ad hoc basis, when decisions regarding the fabric projects needed to be made.
Minutes of the PCC meetings are displayed on the notice board in Church. The bulk of the PCC agenda is covered by reports of the work of the subcommittees:

1. Finance: Chairman: Marlene Jackaman took on this role when Hugh Lindsay stood down. A paid treasurer, Chris Ward who was appointed to get the accounts in order tendered her resignation in April. Suzanne Flux was appointed in her place. Gareth Hewitt who had examined the end of year accounts for some years also wished to stand down. The PCC agreed that a local firm of accountants be appointed to take on this work as a volunteer was impossible to find.

2. Fabric with the Church Environment Group: Rudi Simmonds, James Oldfield , Gill Perrott and Judith Hansen the churchwarden, continued to carry several projects forward and obtain the required faculties.

3. Mission and Outreach: Chairman Revd Jo Neary. Walk In Wednesday continued weekly.

4. Worship: Chairman Revd David Baldwin. The Directorof Music liaises closely with him.

5. Pastoral care: Chairman Rev Prebendary Alastair Wheeler. The LPAs met every few weeks for support and to discuss any issues.

These groups also include members of the congregation and usually convene between PCC meetings sending their reports to the PCC via the secretary.
The Foodbank subcommittee: Chair Rev Jo Neary, later came under the auspices of the Team Office and then the Prout Bridge Project. It is no longer run by the church.

The PCC was also in regular contact with the local Police Support Officer as the church has had problems with school children causing vandalism on several occasions over the year.
A burglary took place and parts of the sound equipment were taken. The Rector and Churchwarden being dissatisfied with the police response made a formal complaint. Eventually finger prints were taken and subsequently the culprit was identified. The Ipad was replaced as a result of the generosity of a member of the congregation. The CCTV is scheduled to be installed in April 2024.

In February a choir supper was held in the Strode Room. The event was held to say goodbye to Tom Cunningham who had sung for many years in the church choir. We were also able to say thank you to all our wonderful extras that joined us for the major festivals over the year.

In March several members of the congregation went to Salisbury Cathedral to take part in the Maundy Thursday service. A memorable occasion.

In April work was done on the trees at the back of the church as a new shed will be installed. Also our curate Fiona Beale left to take up a post in West Wales. Margaret Grant who had done so much for the church over the years was admitted to hospital and eventually died there. She had been the verger and member of the choir and made sure everything ran smoothly each day until she had moved to Abbeyfield. The clergy certainly miss her devotion and attention to detail.
On April the 13th the Quinquennial Inspection took place.

The Beaminster Festival came around again in in June. The congregation was involved with catering for the performers, making coffee and welcoming initiatives linked to the local community. Two members of the Church Flower Team organised the floral decorations. Following another successful year, sadly Ron Emett, who had founded the event 25 years ago, eventually moved to a nursing home. Also in June, a small group from the congregation met together and plans were made to start a monthly Bereavement Café and this new initiative began in October.

In July our Gin Church members organised a wonderful fundraising Cream Tea with Pimms.
During the summer break, family play mornings took place in the memorial playing fields with a Summer Swap event in the church. In August Hugh Lindsay- a member of the congregation, Chair of the PCC Finance subcommittee and one time churchwarden died suddenly and unexpectedly. He had also contributed enormously to the life of the church. Large numbers attended his funeral.

In September Rev Jo Neary reduced her hours working in the team as she took up a part time teaching post at Salisbury Cathedral. She tried to find a volunteer to take on Messy Church preparations but that person remains difficult to find. Plans were also made for Mission and Outreach in the form of a Nativity Festival over the Advent weekend.

In October the church Architect Daniel Cantrell was appointed as Project manager to oversee the work on the upgrade to the kitchen area and the installation of mains drainage with an accessible toilet in the Vestry. Tenders were then invited so that the work can be done in 2024.
Also the Gold Eco Award was presented to the team and Dr. Gill Perrott went to Salisbury Cathedral to receive the plaque. The Air Source Heat Pumps and solar panels had begun to show benefits.

The Nativity Festival turned out to be a very memorable event and people kindly lent their own sets- and some of them were very historic and much loved! The church twinkled with lights and greenery. The Advent Carol service brought the proceedings to a triumphal conclusion. Also in December the 3rd Martin Schellenberg Memorial concert took place and was much enjoyed.

The lift has continued to cause problems over the year and resulted in expensive call out charges.

Last but not least the PCC must mention Judith Hansen, our churchwarden who has gone beyond the call of duty to keep the show on the road. She has coordinated many projects and faculty applications. A big thank you goes to her. V*ivien McMurray (PCC Secretary)*

Churchwarden and Fabric Annual Report 2024

Another year has flown by and it has been a busy one with Fabric matters occupying a lot of my time and energy. After receiving the Quinquennial Report some of the team gave the external wooden doors a coat of Danish Oil and will continue with that when the weather allows. Ben Sabran has been carrying out various works for us. He regularly clears the guttering and hoppers on the roof which get clogged with leaves and nesting materials. He also repaired a broken drain at ground level, power washed the paths and gave the Rood Screen it's annual clean and polish in time for Christmas. We are grateful to Ben for his attention to fabric matters in and around our Church. The organ has been serviced, some chair seats have been repaired, and other minor tasks have been carried out.

CCTV

Following the theft of some of our Sound Equipment last July and other minor incidents it was decided that CCTV would be installed. Installation took place after Easter with seven cameras internally and four externally now in place. The internal cameras are not in use during Church Services and some other designated events and do not cover the Hilary Chapel which is set aside as a prayer space. Temporary notices are now displayed untill permanent ones are obtained. We are grateful to the Friends of St. Mary's who kindly agreed to pay for this work to be done.

Kitchen/Toilet project

I am pleased to report that we have now accepted a tender from Stepnells building contractors for the work to the kitchen, toilet, crypt cover and drainage at a cost of £180,000 plus VAT. There will be additional costs, for example during the drainage work running underneath the grass to meet up with the main drains/sewers in Church Street, an Archeologist will need to be employed as it is likely some human bones will be discovered. This work will mean some disruption to the paths and lawns. We are at present in discussion with the contractors to set a start date. This is likely to be in early July/August and willl obviously have some affect on our use of the Mort House and Vestry but thankfully our worship should not be affected very much. Prior to the work, the Vestry and Mort House will need to be cleared and the opportunity taken to sort out items that are no longer required and disposed of in a suitable manner. A contribution to the cost of the work will be made by the Friends of St Mary's.

Other members of the Fabric Team have also been busy and I am grateful to them all for their work on behalf of the Church:

Church Heating (Gillian Perrott)

We have completed the second winter with the new heating installation. There have been some adjustments and one part failure following servicing in heavy rainfall with the cover removed from one of the ASHPs This happened in December and the new part took some time to come due to the Christmas break. The part was covered by the guarantee. Rob (contractor) spent more than a day at the church sorting it all out but did not charge us anything. Unfortunately we were using the gas boiler for a month which increased the total kWh gas usage. Then when the boiler was serviced in early March there was another problem as the right connections were not reinstated. Again this was put right by the ASHP installers. At the beginning of 2024 at the request of the PCC and to use the ASHPs more effectively the thermostat was increased which resulted in the temperature being 18 degrees almost all the time for the rest of the winter.

Data for 2023	Usage Total	25,247kWh	(13,533 E + 11,714 G)
	Costs total	£4,240	(£2,798E + £1,442 G)
	Exported from solar installation	5,777 kWh	Credited £879
Data for 2021 (for comparison)	Usage Total	70,344 kWh	(66,5722G + 3772 E)
	Costs total	£670 E + £3,173 G)*	

***NB before energy prices rose dramatically**

Mould (Gillian Perrott)

At the last Quinquennial Inspection it was noted that there was extensive light mould dust inside the church over most of the South Aisle roof. It was particularly obvious just beyond the organ and opposite the North entrance door. It had also been noted near the base of the rear wooden organ pipes. There were also a few scattered deposits on the South Aisle roof, where the tables were stacked in the vestry and on the rear of the green baize display boards stored up against the wall in the Hilary Chapel. These 2 and inside the organ were places where air could not freely circulate. Advice was asked of the DAC and it was decided to monitor the temperature & humidity under the roofs and outside for comparison. Also Ben Sabran cleaned off a small area beyond the organ where it was worse. He checked the moisture in the wood and it was not damp. With the advice and help of Mike Chaney 4 Thermopro Monitors were purchased and placed. 3 monitors under the roof (one just beyond the organ, one opposite the North door and one opposite the south door). There was another placed on the ceiling of the porch outside. This was done before the heating was on in early October. The readings showed a high humidity of around 75% and temperature of 14 degrees. The North door had been open in the daytime throughout the summer, which had been a very wet one so humidity was around 90 to 100% outside.

After the door and windows were closed and the heating working the data was recorded at intervals throughout the winter. The readings showed humidity varied between 60 to 64 % and temperature between 16 and 18 degrees. The cleaned area of roof showed no reoccurrence of mould.

Later in November a visitation of the Archdeacon, Penny Sayer, the organ consultant and heating advisor to the DAC took place. Penny was concerned that it may be to do with the new heating arrangement and advised delaying cleaning the mould off and continuing the monitoring to collect data

The conclusion at the end of the winter was that the under floor ASHP heating is providing a good environment for the fabric of the church and the organ with humidity levels of 60 to 64%. At this level of humidity mould will not grow.

The problem last summer was probably the high humidity from outside encouraged damp to come into the church through the open door and windows and settle under the ceiling causing readings of mid 70's and in areas where the flow of air is restricted. We will continue to monitor the humidity throughout the coming summer. The plan is for the mould to be cleaned off after the installation of the new kitchen & toilet.

Church Lighting (Rudi Simmonds)

Work on specifying the replacement of the main church lighting did take place, but the only systems which were identified were very expensive and alternative solutions are being considered. However, concern about the possible increase in the costs for the Toilet/kitchen work and church finances put the lighting replacement project on hold. It is planned to resume this task in 2024. The Mort House light failed and has been replaced.

Lift (Rudi Simmonds)

The lift continues to be a probem, failing at various times during the year. The supplier has carried out repairs but the faults are still happening, the sysem is not reliable but we are unable to identify a long term solution.

Apart from the Triptych, which is on loan to Beaminster Museum until the end of November, and as far as I am aware, all other articles belonging to the Church are in place. I pray that our Church and grounds will continue to be a beautiful asset to our town and a peaceful haven in which to worship the Lord and a place to find solace and comfort in these troubled times.

Judith Hansen – Churchwarden April 2024

St. Mary's Church Flower Arrangers

Our group of ladies provide festival flowers and pedestal arrangements which are changed once a week except for Advent and Lent. We have added to our number of flower group members and welcome Georgie to the group. In addition we have had interest from a further two ladies.

Last year we commemorated the late Queen in flower and celebrated the Coronation of King Charles 111. In addition to this we provided flower arrangements for Freddie and Jenny's wedding which we were all excited about as they are regular members of the congregation.

Although Rita Cowie was extremely ill last year, she still coordinated festival flowers for most of the year. Jean Owen continues to allocate group members to take turns in doing the pedestal arrangements.

We continue to honour the town's commitment to a sustainable environment and that of the church, having won the sustainability award. We do not use Oasis flower foam. We include living plants in our displays to enable them be planted in the church grounds and have agreed to limit the number of silk flowers to be used in our arrangements.

This Christmas we celebrated together at the Stableyard Restaurant. We intend to continue enjoying fellowship of our group throughout the coming year.

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Ava Livingstone

Pastoral Care

Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPA) are a national feature of church life. They are encouraged and trained by a Diocesan scheme to have particular concern in caring for one another and for others in our wider community, supporting the pastoral care offered by the Staff Team. In this benefice I have been asked to support them in their work, meeting regularly with them for supervision and training. Those cared for in this way range from people who are sick or housebound, including taking communion out to some of them on a regular basis, regular visiting and pastoral contact.
Very sadly, over the last few years the number of authorised LPAs here has continued to dwindle, and we are currently now down to 3 active LPAs trained and authorised to work in this way.
The names and contact numbers are printed in the Team News. If you or someone you know feels that an LPA may be able to help someone, you are asked to talk to David or Jo in the first instance so that they know who is being supported in this way.

Revd. Prebendary Alastair Wheeler

Deanery Synod

The main speaker at the February 2024 meeting was Antony Macrow-Wood, who is the Parish and Benefice treasurer. He explained the new system for the parish share to try and make it as fair as they can. They are keen to make it as transparent as possible. Affordability was important so that all could feel that they could actually pay it. The affluence of the general area was decided as a red herring, so not taken into account. The poorest area would be supported by a special account that had been set up from Glebe assets and other similar untied monies. Half the money from weddings and funerals would be returned to the parishes. It was accepted that the priest spent a lot of time on these matters and that was fair. Also, it would help the rural churches more as they tend to have more of both, and they are often the poorer churches and are more expensive to run, with extra transport costs (the vicar has to drive between churches as it is too far to walk), and they often have older and listed buildings which are more expensive to maintain. They are encouraging the letting out of vicarages during the inter-regnum, which would keep them in better condition as well as bringing in money.

There will be a series of road shows in the summer to explain all this to anyone who is interested. It is a thorny subject and not everyone will be happy but they are doing the best that they can, to be fair.

Ann Crawford.

Baby and Toddler Group

2023 was another very successful year for the group, which celebrated its second birthday in May. The format of the Monday morning sessions remain unchanged; play from 10 - 11:15, then everyone joins in 'tidy up time', and we settle down to enjoy a story together, sing songs, and finish with a prayer at 11:30. There are still some of the original families attending regularly, but in July it was time to say goodbye to some of the children who had been coming since the start, as they were starting school in September – our first group of 'graduates'! Throughout the year we welcomed new members, and now have contact with over 20 families.

Many of our families attend Messy Church regularly, and it was a real joy to see many of them at the Crib service on Christmas Eve, confirmation that the Baby and Toddler group is now one of the many different expressions of church that make up the St Mary's church family.

Jo, Judith, Veronica and Barbara

St. Mary's Ringing Guild Report

We continue to ring the bells for most services at St. Mary's. The highlight of the year was being part of the national ringing on Coronation day when all ten bells were rung by local ringers. There were very few weddings to ring for in 2023, no peals and only three quarter peals.
In the summer we had a successful outing despite it being a very wet day. We rang at four towers. It is always challenging but enjoyable to ring on different bells.
We purchased new ropes for four of the lighter bells while the ropes from the four heaviest bells were sent away to have new 'tail ends' professionally spliced on below their fluffy sallies.
We have a new member in our band and it is good to have a teenager amongst us.

Jill Parr (Tower Captain)

Team Safeguarding Officers Report for 2023

All the necessary Safeguarding checks were carried out during the year. DBS checks have been completed as needed, for those new to posts, and those requiring renewal. All safeguarding information is securely stored on the Diocesan DBS Microsite.

Completion of the Basic and Foundation Safeguarding training courses is now a requirement for all members of a PCC. The highest level of training – i.e. Foundation – has to be updated every 3 years. PCC members are also required to complete the Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse training course, but this does not have to be updated. These training courses are available online, and we also plan to arrange some group training sessions in the Team.

The safeguarding statement required by the Diocese is on the front page of the Team website, and gives our contact details, as well as those of the Diocesan officers. Safeguarding has been an agenda item at all PCC meetings across the Team during the year. As a Team we have complied with the duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

We should like to thank everyone in the Team for their continued care for each other and alertness to the needs of those around them so that our churches are truly safe and welcoming places.

Liz Brown and Barbara Simmonds, Beaminster Team Safeguarding Officers

The care and maintenance of the Churchyard 2023/24

As reported previously. Wild flower seeds were sown in 2022 and provided a good display for the many visitors to the churchyard ever since.

During the winter last year we were able to get working much earlier as the weather was kinder to us and we had a better chance to start work in borders and with the compost bins. There is still some of last year's compost available and those that have taken some appear pleased with it.

We previously started work in about March as a team, but by starting earlier it has allowed less work during the rest of the year except for weeding and pruning.

This year despite many days of rain we have now started working on the compost heap and make it ready to accept the usual piles of grass and other compostable material. There are quite often things that do not compost very quickly and these we separate and they are taken to the tip with other things that require disposal.

We have decided that this year we will see what happens with the flower seed planted previously and just weed the border by the west wall of the larger weeds and nettles that have found their way back. Around the table tomb in the south west corner we have cleared the area and used the church compost, to ready it for sowing more mixed flower seed.

At present the gardening volunteers consist of Ing-Marie, Jean, Keith and Ian. It appears that Ian will be moving on in the near future so cutting the paths will need to be taken on by someone else. It has been said that this could be taken on by Fred and Jenny which would be very helpful.

We will continue to clear unwanted plants from the walls as we did last year.

The lift border turned out quite well again in 2023 with many people saying how good it was. It has had a first weed this year and the roses have been pruned by Noel. This border will still be maintained but, it is uncertain for us at present what will happen with that border until we know for sure where and when the drainage will cut its way through.

The Memorial Garden continues to be maintained with Ian cutting the grass and the rest of the team cutting the larger shrubs including a fast growing Pyracantha. We also remove old flowers from the stones and after Christmas, wreaths (30 this year). Despite Kate not being part of the team she continued until her recent death to work on Lavender and Rosemary in this area and be another source of what needed to be done and when.

With so few people now, we have tended not to just go to the churchyard on a Thursday but to go when we see something that requires attention or a project to be undertaken.

We continued last year as volunteers to rake up the grass after David Enalls had done the two major cuts. This is a hard job especially when it rains and we have been unable to donate it to anyone. It has rotted down well though.

Keith and Ing-Marie

ECO Church Report for the APCM

All sections of ECO church have continued to be worked on and addressed:-

Worship & Teaching: Intercessions have usually included prayers for creation and our environment. Pew News has contained ECO Tips every week. Children are encouraged to care for creation through teaching at St Mary's Academy and Messy Church. On one occasion at Messy Church the children were given wild flower seeds, gardening tools and water cans to enhance areas of the churchyard. On another they were taken on a supervised walk around Beaminster with litter pickers & bags to collect any litter they could find.

Church Building: The new Solar Installation worked well and we achieved getting credit for the electricity we exported from early June after changing supplier to Octopus and the installation of a new Smart Meter. The ASHP heating system continued to work well but needed some adjustments, which eventually achieved a comfortable temperature of 18 degrees in church. Most importantly we achieved Carbon Neutral due to huge reduction in kWh gas use. This was offset by electricity exported by the solar installation. Our imports were all green electricity. We are working on getting lighting changed to LED.

Churchyard: We took part in the RSPB bird count in January. Sadly hardly any small birds were seen but lots of Jackdaws in evidence, 19 at one time perching in the Copper Beech tree! Bird feeders were topped up. Early flowers on the wild plum tree and honeysuckle gave useful nectar to bees and in summer the wildflowers sewn by Keith & Ing-Marie by the west wall were beautiful and attracted a large number of bees of many varieties. We arranged Churches Count on Nature in early June for the community and filed the results with irecord.

Community & Global: Some of us were part of a volunteer group looking after Michel's Wood at the south side of Beaminster school playing fields. We worked on constructing a 'dead hedge' at the border of the wood to encourage a wildlife corridor. Some of us also took part in surveying hedges as part of the Great Big Dorset Hedge project. We held a Fairtrade Coffee Morning in early March in the Strode Room. It was so well attended that we felt we needed a larger venue in future. We raised over £600 as a donation to the Fairtrade Organisation. Many of us have signed petitions calling the government for action on Climate Change and Global Justice.

Lifestyle: Our church members are continuing on doing what they can to reduce their impact on damage to creation & climate change. There is always more we can do and that is the challenge!

Gillian Perrott

Music Report, 2023

I'm pleased to report that over the past year we have flourished and grown as a choir. The published monthly music scheme helps to keep us all on track, and the repertoire and variety of the choir's anthems has grown. A few of the singers suggested that we should wear the choir robes rather than leaving them to hang in the cupboard. I don't have a strong view on this but it seems to me that the choir actually sings a little better when they wear them. We don't wear them all the time but more recently we have used them to mark the important feasts of Christmas and Easter etc. and we also were robed for our Advent Carol service. I hope that congregation members felt that the carol services were enhanced by having both organist and conductor, and I am ever grateful and thankful for the regular contributions made by our visiting organists Jonathan Delbridge and Simon Clarkson.

December 2023 also marked the choir's first outing in concert in recent years. We joined Malcolm Archer (Organ) and Winston Leese (Trumpet) in a very successful concert organized by Alex Schellenberg to raise funds for The Martin Schellenberg Music Trust (TMSMT). It was very much a Christmas Concert and we hope to repeat the format at 4pm on 14th December 2024. A date for your diaries!

Choir membership has increased over the year with the welcome addition of Coral Dakin, Chris & Rob Howard and Mary Lester although I am sad to record that declining health has resulted in the departure from the choir of Ron and Pauline Emmet. They have both contributed greatly to the music of St Mary's over the years and we all miss their presence in our choir family.

Last year I mentioned the addition of some music desks for the choir. These were in St Mary's, Bridport, where there has been no choir for some time now. One of our basses, Barry Gibbs had arranged for them to come to us on a permanent loan and we were very grateful to him for doing the work required to necessitate this change. Since this announcement Barry has suffered the bereavement following the death of his wife Jean but has responded positively by generously donating a new (fourth) choir desk to be made in Jean's memory. Hopefully by the time you read this the desk will be in place.

Many will be aware that, behind the scenes, there are some key people who assist greatly in keeping the music on track at church, namely Vivien McMurray, Dan Rootham and Brian Ridley. They are the unsung heroes of the choir and my gratitude to them is matched only by my thanks to Revd. Canon David Baldwin and Revd. Jo Neary. Without their solid support and love of music, worship and God (perhaps not in that order), I doubt that there would be a choir at all.

Peter Nardone Director of Music & Organist

Beaminster
St. Mary's Academy

Where children come first; belonging and building together
Respect † Trust † Kindness † Friendship † Responsibility

BEAMINSTER ST MARY'S ACADEMY

SUMMARY OF 2022-23

During 2022 – 2023, the school continued on its upward trajectory. It received a call by Ofsted in May 2023. For the first time in its history, the school was categorised as 'Good' in all areas.

Highlights from the report include:

- Beaminster St Mary's Academy is a highly positive, vibrant school community. Pupils enjoy coming to school and are motivated to learn. Strong relationships between staff and pupils mean they feel safe and happy.
- Pupils behave well. Staff have high expectations of pupils. The school's values underpin these expectations. Pupils know that it is important to treat everyone with respect and kindness. They are clear about the rewards and sanctions and say teachers use these fairly.
- Any pupils who struggle to manage their behaviour are well supported by adults. Pupils are adamant that bullying does not happen at the school. They know what bullying is and can distinguish this from fallouts with friends. They are confident that adults will help to resolve any issues they have.

Leaders, at all levels, have worked tirelessly both before and after the Ofsted visit to ensure that Beaminster St Mary's offers the best possible education that it can. Numbers are increasing with an extra 20 children joining in the last two years – above our normal intake.

Results in KS2 were not quite up to our high expectations, but these children have had a large amount of their education disrupted through staff turnover and two years' worth of home-school learning.

Our KS1 results bear the fruits of our hard work, and we were ecstatic to receive a letter from Damien Hinds; who is the minister for schools, telling us that our Phonics Check of 100%, puts us in the top 1% of all school in the country.

Attendance is still below pandemic levels but compares very favourably against other schools within our Hub. The school works with parents to enable their children to attend, even to the extent of providing transport.

The ASEC continue to work closely with the school, providing that critical challenge that is so important in developing outstanding provision. We have had some movement within the governing body, but the new members have settled in quickly and have a variety of skills to support the school.
Our curriculum is developing – especially writing – where we have been asked by DSAT to work alongside fellow schools to show how Early Writing should be taught. This is a testament to both the class teacher Miss Gadsby and our tenacious English Leader Miss Woodrow, who throughout the school's journey has never settled for anything less than perfection.

This year we are looking at refining our Biblical underpinning and it is extremely likely that we will be using the parable of 'The Lost Sheep'. This is something the children can clearly understand and we are looking forward to visiting the church, and for the children to demonstrate to parents and carers their understanding.

Every day, we endeavour to develop the whole child and help them to achieve their potential. We will also remind them every day that they are loved as one of God's own children and we are hopeful that our new parable will help them to further understand their place at our special school.

Darren Marklew

Headteacher

The Friends of St. Mary's Church' Beaminster Treasurer's Report 2023

Once again there is a healthy balance in the Bank due to the interest accrued on the CCLA deposit account. For new members amongst us the large amount sitting in the CCLA a/c is due to a legacy of over £100,000.00 left to the Friends in 2019. £50.000.00 of this is ear marked for the kitchen refurbishment and the provision of a WC in the Church and £10,000.00 for the installation of CCTV.

The two fund raising events brought in over a £1,000.00. The Open Garden afternoon at Sally Mallinsons was a huge success attracting a large number of people and not just Friends. We are extremely grateful to Sally for allowing us to use her garden and for the hard work she put into making it such a success. Equally the Steel Band concert was well received and our thanks go to Mike Hayes and his band for putting a smile on the faces of the majority of the audience.

Back in 2010 donations were over £1600.00 suggesting a membership of 160 people. Current membership stands at 90, 35 of whom are Life Members. We have lost 8 Friends this year for one reason or another and only gained 3 new members.

I made an appeal in the February Team News last year for new members with no response at all and have tried again this February When the Friends were set up more than 20 years ago the membership was made up of both Church folk and people from the town with no connection to the Church. It was a link between the church and the people of Beaminster to support the PCC in the maintenance and enhancement of Beaminster's historic church. The Church is open to all and well used by the community - Mother and Toddler Group, Walk in Wednesday, the Beaminster Festival and many concerts throughout the year as well as regular services. The Church is a vital asset and meeting place in Beaminster but the Friends need more help if it is to continue to support the Church. As you will see from our expenditure another 1,000 leaflets have been printed. One way Friends could help is to talk to people, hand out leaflets either to longstanding inhabitants of the town or the many newcomers and encourage them to join. I will talk to the local Estate Agents and ask them if they would be willing to include the Friends leaflet in their “Welcome Packs” along with details of all the Church services and groups which meet in the Church. Any other ideas would be most welcome.

Once again my thanks go to Linda le Breton for auditing the accounts and to Brian Ridley for submitting our Gift Aid application.

I am now standing down as treasurer after 9 years but am happy to stay on as a committee member during the changeover period. Lastly our next event in the Church is a return visit of the Sunset Cafe Stompers who last gave a concert in 2022 raising over £1,000.00 towards funds. Please support us if you can. ***Gill Sansom Treasurer***

Friends of St Mary's Church, Beaminster

Income and Expenditure for the year ending 31st December 2023

	2023	2022
Income		
Donations	980.00	1256.00
Tax recovery	232.50	437.50
Tax recovery - paid twice by mistake	232.50	
Open Garden 2023 – Jazz Concert 2022	593.75	1703.00
Steel Band Concert 2023 – PV Concert 2022	470.10	680.90
Total Income	**2508.85**	**4077.40**
Expenditure		
Admin, photocopying, stationery etc	40.83	33.92
Gift Aid error	232.50	
Bank charges £5.00 per month)	60.00	60.00
Bank activity charges	10.68	13.01
Footeprints – brochures	119.00	
Steel Band 2023 – Jazz Concert	50.00	662.50
PV Concert		231.30
Defibrillator		1170.00
Transfer to CCLA deposit a/c	3000.00	
Total Expenditure	**3513.01**	**2170.73**
Surplus/Deficit for the Year	**1004.16**	**1906.67**
Statement of Account		
Carried Forward HSBC	5856.12	3949.45
Carried Forward CCLA	116358.37	115234.08
Total resources at start of year	122214.49	119183.53
Income	2508.85	4077.40
Money transferred to CCLA from current account	3000.00	
Interest CCLA	5169.84	1124.29
Total Income	**132893.18**	**124385.22**
Less expenditure	3513.01	2170.73
Total	**129380.17**	**122214.49**
Represented by		
Balance at HSBC	4851.96	5856.12
Balance at CCLA	124528.21	116358.37
Total	**129380.17**	**122214.49**

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THE BEAMINSTER AREA TEAM MINISTRY
ANNUAL CLERGY REPORT TO THE PARISHES 2024

This is my fourteenth Annual Report to the Parishes of the Beaminster Area and I would wish to record my deep appreciation to all those who work tirelessly in all of our churches. Holding any office in the church is an onerous task and I thank all Church Wardens, Treasurers, PCC members, Deanery Synod and Team Council members for their tireless work throughout the past twelve months. I would also like to thank all those who have given their time as Lay Pastoral Assistants, Bereavement Visitors, Messy Church and Lay Worship Leaders. Further thanks go to the many often unseen yet heard people who do so much to keep our churches worshipping and functioning; musicians and singers, bell ringers, flower arrangers, sidespeople, cleaners, church yard keepers, office volunteers, caterers, fundraisers, - the list is endless so please accept my apologies if I have missed you off the list.

Over the past nine years I have been trying to encourage the parishes of the team to work more cooperatively as one church of God and giving the Team Council a greater role. Needles to say, whilst some could see the benefit of this way forward, others have doggedly refused to give such discussions any countenance. However, as church attendance declines and time in years catches up with all of us and fewer church members are willing or able to take on roles and responsibilities, the inevitable is beginning to happen and PCCs cannot be upheld and are having to look at different ways for parish churches to survive and flourish in the future.

I feel that the Beaminster Area Team has reached a point of imbalance. Year after year we fail to elect an ever decreasing number of church officers. Last year six parishes had no elected Churchwardens; this is likely to rise to seven this year and four parishes only had one Churchwarden. For a twelve month trial I will be inviting these parishes to join together for joint PCC business meetings. Finances will still be held at a local level as will the upkeep of their buildings and social activities. Should other parishes wish to be part of this trial I would be very happy to encourage this.

The Church Representation Rules 2020 allows for PCCs to form Joint Councils within teams and contains the rules and legal agreements that can be made between PCCs and I genuinely believe that this will help to give longer term security to all of our parishes, not just those that are struggling to keep going

Finally I would like to say a huge thank you to Jo and Barbara and all of our Partner Priests for their help and support over the year and to Harry for all of his support with our media and communication platforms. I can't end without saying a special thank you to two people who have given so much to the team. Firstly to David Shearlock who took the very difficult decision to stand down as an active partner priest during the past year. David has been a constant support to the staff team for many years and his wisdom and counsel have been greatly appreciated by all who have had the privilege to work alongside him. Thank You David and Jean for being there to support him. Secondly to Anne who retired at Easter after nearly six years as Team Office Administrator and gave so much support to the parishes and to Jo and myself.

Revd Canon David Baldwin

Revd Jo Neary writes: 2023 in the Beaminster Team involved baptisms, weddings and funerals. We read a Lent book on failure. We hosted new Lent activities for the first time including a music reflection, theological discussion, and spiritual walk.

We continued our ministry in schools with collective worship, Ofsted support, foundation governors and support for RE lessons, school visits and school services. Messy Church ran both inside and outside the building, with our Good Friday Messy Church telling the Easter story to a hundred people.

We said goodbye to Fiona our curate and sent her with love and best wishes to the Church in Wales. We engaged in our communities with eco activities, litter picks, community events, fundraising, coffee mornings, fetes, barbeques, quizzes, walks, concerts, creams teas, the list goes on.

We celebrated the agricultural festivals of Plough Sunday, Rogation, Lammas and Harvest. We were up hills, in barns, round fields. We hosted the community for a summer swap event of toys and books and supported families with a uniform bank.

We fed the hungry by supporting the Foodbank, nurtured preschoolers with our toddler group and provided community connection with drop ins, Walk in Wednesday, coffee mornings and the regular pattern of worship. We knitted prayer shawls to comfort the lost, the bereaved, the ill. The summer holidays offered Pop up toddler groups and summer play days in the villages. Band on the Green began in the rain, but our songs of praise remained undampened.

A monthly bereavement café began, complementing our busy funeral ministry. We hosted our first baby loss service alongside our annual memorial service. We worked with our local communities to facilitate Remembrance Sunday events.

And to end the year and begin Advent we hosted over fifty different Nativity sets displayed for our first ever Nativity festival, engaging the communities of the team in different ways as we made Jesus known.

Every single community engagement, every act of worship, every school visit, every conversation, every book studied, every prayer, every meeting, every fundraising event, every social moment helped make Jesus known. We told his story, shared his life, lived out his love, demonstrated his forgiveness and showed his welcome and hospitality.

There is always good news to share, even in a year where some felt fragile or tired or overstretched. I have found it difficult dropping down to part time, despite being energised by the way my Sarum college job supports my parish role, and visa versa. One treasurer congratulated me on my new job in Salisbury. Well done, he said, you cost us less now. And he is right.

We have so much: beautiful churches, good relationships in our parishes, talented and gifted people, lively activities, holy worship, community connections. How might we work more effectively together to make Jesus known, how might we pray more and seek God's activity in the world, how might we share our abundance and bring hope into even the fragile places. That is the challenge of next year perhaps. But for now, thank you for all you do. You are amazing.

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	1st	January	2023	To	31st	December	2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary of the Annunciation Beaminster
Other names charity is known by	Beaminster St Mary's PCC
Registered charity number (if any)	1133757
Charity's principal address	Beaminster Church Office 8 Hogshill Street Beaminster **DT8 3AE**

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Revd David F B Baldwin	Rector – PCC Chair		
2	Susan Counsell			
3	Ann P Crawford			
4	Philip A V Crawford			
5	Judith A Hansen	Churchwarden		
6	Marlene W G Jackaman	PCC - Chair Finance		
7	Vivien McMurray	PCC - Secretary		
8	Revd Joanna B Neary	Team Vicar		
9	Gillian M Perrott			
10	John D Rootham			
11	Barbara A Simmonds			
12	Ronald C Simmonds			
13	James R Oldfield		28.03.23	
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	The Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended).
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by members of the congregation at the Annual Meeting

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Safe-guarding training and individual testing (on-line)

Risk assessment adhered to at all times

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

Educating people about the religion
Pastoral care,
Outreach
Missionary,
Evangelical
MAKING JESUS KNOWN

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Drop in café style morning – attracting all age groups – a friendly chat/listening ear and opportunities to meet people
Toddler/young mums/child minders morning – children's play area with story time and songs – promoting Jesus
Messy church – aimed more towards school age children with mums/child minders – activities/art and talk/song – promoting Jesus
Bereavement group

A warm environment in which to have quiet moments – the church is open during daylight times.

Sunday worship – BCP and CW
Mid-week communion

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Making this church an integral part of the Beaminster Community.
Keeping a Grade 1 listed building in good repair which, in turn, is leaving a legacy for the future generations of this beautiful town.
Making a contribution to Christian Aid (trying to help others in deprived areas around the world)
Selecting worthwhile charities (home and oversees) and making annual donations.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves	In recent years we have been fortunate with legacy donations. These monies are attracting interest with a 'secure' investment institution.
Details of any funds materially in deficit	Our day to day running costs are tremendous and due diligence has to be applied to spending.

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F Other optional information

We are carrying out building works to create a disabled toilet necessitating extensive drainage works. We are creating a kitchen area which will comply with statutory regulations to enable food preparation. We want our church building to be a multi-functional venue, utilising this magnificent building and at the same time, receiving a revenue from hiring charges.

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	David Baldwin	M Jackaman
Full name(s)	Revd Canon David Baldwin	Marlene Jackaman
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair – Beaminster PCC	Chair - Finance

Date 14.03.2024

Report Of The Independent Examiner To The Trustees Of The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of St. Mary Of The Annunciation Beaminster

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

M. Cridland

Mr. M. J. Cridland B.A. (Hons) F.C.A
Scott Vevers Ltd
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors
65 East Street
Bridport
Dorset
DT6 3LB

Date: 19/03/24

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	No (if any)
The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Mary Of The Annunciation of Beaminster	1133757

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/01/2023		31/12/2023

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Voluntary giving	53,880	3,625	-	57,505	60,084
Legacies	23,132	-	-	23,132	7,000
Stewardship income	32,453	-	-	32,453	-
Gift aid recovered	9,815	-	-	9,815	-
Outreach	2,900	-	-	2,900	2,437
Activities for generating funds	4,456	-	-	4,456	6,745
Church Activities	11,481	-	-	11,481	13,566
Other incoming resources	122	-	-	122	4,889
Other income	200	-	-	200	19,371
CAF	156	-	-	156	156
VAT recovered	12,204	-	-	12,204	-
Investment income	8,070	18	-	8,088	2,961
***Sub total** (Gross income for AR)*	158,869	3,643	-	162,512	117,209
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	158,869	3,643	-	162,512	117,209
A3 Payments					
Overheads	61,021	-	-	61,021	69,390
Receipts disbursed	3,589	-	-	3,589	3,517
Services support	11,704	-	-	11,704	13,882
Church building & grounds	24,991	2,621	-	27,612	23,115
Mission & outreach	133	-	-	133	67
Project expenditure	2,880	-	-	2,880	126,353
Bank charges	123	-	-	123	128
Donations	3,127	125	-	3,252	-
Other expenditure	1,000	-	-	1,000	2,221
Transfer from Stewardship	42,209	-	-	42,209	-
Sub total	150,777	2,746	-	153,523	238,673
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	150,777	2,746	-	153,523	238,673
Net of receipts/(payments)	8,092	897	-	8,989	- 121,464
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	387,177	1,000	-	388,177	509,641
Cash funds this year end	395,269	1,897	-	397,166	388,177

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	CCLA	15,947	-	-
	CCLA Fabric	227,440	-	-
	HSBC BMM Fabric	100,512	-	-
	HSBC BMM Restricted	-	1,897	-
	HSBC Fabric	39,774	-	-
	HSBC General account	11,181	-	-
	HSBC Stwardship account	415	-	-
	Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	395,269	1,897	-

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	David Ball.	David Baldwin	14/3/24
	M. Jackaman	Marlene Jackaman	14.03.2024

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of St. Mary Of The Annunciation Beaminster

Annual Accounts
1st January - 31st December 2023

Prepared by
Suzanne Flux

Prepared on
11 March 2024

For independent examination

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Finance Committee Report

It was with much sadness that Hugh Lindsay, former Chair of Finance, died in August 2023. He was a wise, steadfast gentleman and very supportive when I took over as Chair of Finance two years ago.

During 2023 we appointed a new bookkeeper, Suzanne Flux. We now look after all our finances online using Quickbooks, this is a flexible online system that clearly shows where our bank accounts and spending are on a day to day basis.

We have opened two new savings accounts this year, one for Fabric & one for Restricted Funds; these are bringing in some interest but leave the monies on instant access.

We are now using an online giving machine within the church; this raised £2600 in 2023.

There are still major projects ongoing, these being the kitchen and toilet works, lighting and CCTV. It is extremely likely that the estimated costs for these proposed works will have increased considerably to those figures given pre-Covid. The works are not expected to commence until later in the year. In these circumstances contractors are unlikely to give firm quotations months ahead of commencement of works. As shown on the Year End Balance Sheet 2023, we are in a fortunate position to have a healthy bank balance in our Fabric Accounts, but due diligence must be applied to future expenditure.

We have been able to reclaim £850 VAT on works completed within 2023 (the VAT claim monies will be shown in the 2024 accounts).

From the accounts you will notice we are showing a deficit on the 2023 General Account of £14,433 (£24,470 deficit for 2022). This deficit would have been higher had we not transferred £15,000 from the Fabric account. This is a worrying trend. We need regular committed income (setting up standing orders and completing gift aid forms if you are a taxpayer). We need suggestions for fund raising events and we need enthusiastic people to help us in fund raising.

The General Account is basically our ‘housekeeping account’, where our day to day running costs are met. Our biggest outlay is the Parish Share, rising over recent years from £50,045 in 2018 to £53,973.45 in 2023; this is slightly lower than 2022 due to personnel changes. Our 2024 share will be £54,648.11 after we have taken advantage of a discount for paying by monthly direct debit. Another big outlay is our annual insurance premium of £7979.

On a more positive note, £26,000 has been received through legacies and very generous donations.

Thanks to the Finance Committee for their valued input at our meetings and to David Baldwin and the PCC members for their support during the year. Lastly, thanks to Suzanne for creating our new reporting procedures and for her patience and determination when with dealing with our bankers.

We have appointed a new independent examiner for 2023, Scott Vevers.

Marlene Jackaman
Chair of Finance
12 February 2024

Year End:Balance Sheet 2023

As of December 31, 2023

	Total		
	As of Dec 31, 2023	As of Dec 31, 2022 (PP)	Change
FIXED ASSET			
Total Fixed Asset			**0.00**
CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND			
CCLA CCLA	15,946.61	15,451.41	495.20
CCLA Fabric CCLA Fabric	227,439.53	220,376.65	7,062.88
HSBC BMM Fabric	100,512.56		100,512.56
HSBC BMM Restricted Funds	18.62		18.62
Restricted funds - bells	1,000.00		1,000.00
Restricted funds - electrical/sound system	878.86		878.86
Restricted funds - organ	0.00		0.00
Total HSBC BMM Restricted Funds	**1,897.48**		**1,897.48**
HSBC Fabric account	39,773.68	125,319.83	-85,546.15
FABRESTBELLS HSBC Fabric account (restricted - bells) (deleted)	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
Total HSBC Fabric account	**39,773.68**	**126,319.83**	**-86,546.15**
HSBC General account	11,180.81	25,950.05	-14,769.24
HSBC Stewardship account	415.00	415.00	0.00
Total Cash at bank and in hand	**397,165.67**	**388,512.94**	**8,652.73**
DEBTORS			
Debtors	0.00	1,798.65	-1,798.65
Total Debtors	**0.00**	**1,798.65**	**-1,798.65**
NET CURRENT ASSETS	**397,165.67**	**390,311.59**	**6,854.08**
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR			

			Total
	As of Dec 31, 2023	As of Dec 31, 2022 (PP)	Change
Trade Creditors			
Creditors	0.00	2,134.55	-2,134.55
Total Trade Creditors	**0.00**	**2,134.55**	**-2,134.55**
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**0.00**	**2,134.55**	**-2,134.55**
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	**397,165.67**	**388,177.04**	**8,988.63**
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	**397,165.67**	**388,177.04**	**8,988.63**
TOTAL NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	**£397,165.67**	**£388,177.04**	**£8,988.63**
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Opening Balance Equity	509,641.37	509,641.37	0.00
Retained Earnings	-121,464.33	-121,464.33	0.00
Profit for the year	8,988.63		8,988.63
Total Capital and Reserves	**£397,165.67**	**£388,177.04**	**£8,988.63**

Year End:Income and Expenditure - General Year End

January - December 2023

	Total		
	Jan - Dec 2023	Jan - Dec 2022 (PY)	Change
INCOME			
1100 Voluntary giving	53,880.18	60,084.19	-6,204.01
1200 Outreach	2,900.31	2,437.16	463.15
1300 Activities for generating funds	4,456.41	6,744.68	-2,288.27
1500 Church Activities	11,480.86	13,566.00	-2,085.14
1600 Other incoming resources	122.37	4,888.97	-4,766.60
Uncategorised Income	200.00		200.00
Total Income	**73,040.13**	**87,721.00**	**-14,680.87**
GROSS PROFIT	**73,040.13**	**87,721.00**	**-14,680.87**
EXPENSES			
2100 Overheads	61,021.45	69,389.84	-8,368.39
2200 Receipts Disbursed	3,588.97	3,516.74	72.23
2300 Services Support	11,704.15	13,882.51	-2,178.36
2400 Church Building & Grounds	27,610.24	23,115.35	4,494.89
2500 Mission & Outreach	133.00	67.02	65.98
2600 Donations	66.80		66.80
2700 Other Expenditure	1,000.00	2,220.54	-1,220.54
Total Expenses	**105,124.61**	**112,192.00**	**-7,067.39**
NET OPERATING INCOME	**-32,084.48**	**-24,471.00**	**-7,613.48**
OTHER INCOME			
FROMREST Transfer from Restricted to General	2,671.14		2,671.14
INCCAID Christian Aid (income)	1,900.74		1,900.74
INCCASH Cash (income)	452.00		452.00
INCEAST Easter Offerings (income)	655.00		655.00
INFF Transfer from Fabric Account	15,000.00		15,000.00
Total Other Income	**20,678.88**	**0.00**	**20,678.88**
OTHER EXPENSES			
EXPCAID Christian Aid	1,900.74		1,900.74
EXPEAST Easter Offerings	625.00		625.00
EXPGIFT Gifts	452.00		452.00
TOREST Transfer to Restricted BMM from General	50.00		50.00
Total Other Expenses	**3,027.74**	**0.00**	**3,027.74**
NET OTHER INCOME	**17,651.14**	**0.00**	**17,651.14**
NET INCOME	**£ -14,433.34**	**£ -24,471.00**	**£10,037.66**

Year End:Income and Expenditure - Fabric Year End

January - December 2023

	Total		
	Jan - Dec 2023	Jan - Dec 2022 (PY)	Change
INCOME			
5110 CAF (Fabric)	156.00	156.00	0.00
5120 VAT recovered	12,203.97		12,203.97
5140 Other income (Fabric)		19,371.40	-19,371.40
5150 Donation Income Restricted TBC (Fabric)	3,625.00		3,625.00
LEGRES Legacy Income Restricted (Fabric)		1,000.00	-1,000.00
LEGUN Legacy Income Unrestricted (Fabric)	23,132.20	6,000.00	17,132.20
Total Income	**39,117.17**	**26,527.40**	**12,589.77**
GROSS PROFIT	**39,117.17**	**26,527.40**	**12,589.77**
EXPENSES			
4100 Project 1 - Boundary Wall	277.02	50,800.45	-50,523.43
4200 Project 2 - Solar Panels (Carbon Zero)		32,629.19	-32,629.19
4300 Project 3 - Kitchen and Toilet	1,981.50	1,536.66	444.84
4400 Project 4 - Air source heat pump	132.00	40,999.37	-40,867.37
4500 Project 5 - Church Lighting	432.00		432.00
4600 Project 6 - Online giving Machine		388.00	-388.00
4700 Project 7 - CCTV	57.00		57.00
4998 Gold ECO Church award	96.00		96.00
4999 Bank charges (Fabric)	62.80	68.00	-5.20
5600 Donations (Fabric)	3,125.00		3,125.00
Total Expenses	**6,163.32**	**126,421.67**	**-120,258.35**
NET OPERATING INCOME	**32,953.85**	**-99,894.27**	**132,848.12**
OTHER INCOME			
FABINT Interest (Fabric funds)	512.56		512.56
Total Other Income	**512.56**	**0.00**	**512.56**
OTHER EXPENSES			
TOFABBMM Transfer to Fabric BMM	0.00		0.00
TOGA Transfer to General Account (from Fabric)	15,000.00		15,000.00
TORESTFAB Transfer to Restricted BMM from Fabric	4,500.00		4,500.00
Total Other Expenses	**19,500.00**	**0.00**	**19,500.00**
NET OTHER INCOME	**-18,987.44**	**0.00**	**-18,987.44**
NET INCOME	**£13,966.41**	**£ -99,894.27**	**£113,860.68**

Year End:Income and Expenditure - Restricted Year End

January - December 2023

	Total		
	Jan - Dec 2023	Jan - Dec 2022 (PY)	Change
INCOME			
Total Income			**0.00**
GROSS PROFIT	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
EXPENSES			
Total Expenses			**0.00**
NET OPERATING INCOME	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
OTHER INCOME			
FROMFAB Transfer from Fabric to Restricted	4,500.00		4,500.00
RESTINT Interest (Restricted funds)	18.62		18.62
Transfer from General to Restricted	50.00		50.00
Total Other Income	**4,568.62**	**0.00**	**4,568.62**
OTHER EXPENSES			
INRESTG Transfer to General Account (from Restricted)	2,671.14		2,671.14
Total Other Expenses	**2,671.14**	**0.00**	**2,671.14**
NET OTHER INCOME	**1,897.48**	**0.00**	**1,897.48**
NET INCOME	**£1,897.48**	**£0.00**	**£1,897.48**

Year End:Income and Expenditure - CCLA Year End

January - December 2023

			Total
	Jan - Dec 2023	Jan - Dec 2022 (PY)	Change
INCOME			
Total Income			**0.00**
GROSS PROFIT	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
EXPENSES			
Total Expenses			**0.00**
NET OPERATING INCOME	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
OTHER INCOME			
CCLAINT Interest (CCLA)	495.20	200.59	294.61
Total Other Income	**495.20**	**200.59**	**294.61**
NET OTHER INCOME	**495.20**	**200.59**	**294.61**
NET INCOME	**£495.20**	**£200.59**	**£294.61**

NOTE

Please note that CCLA accounts are reported on a quarterly basis.

Year End:Income and Expenditure - CCLA Fabric Year End

January - December 2023

			Total
	Jan - Dec 2023	Jan - Dec 2022 (PY)	Change
INCOME			
Total Income			**0.00**
GROSS PROFIT	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
EXPENSES			
Total Expenses			**0.00**
NET OPERATING INCOME	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
OTHER INCOME			
CCLAINTF Interest (CCLA Fabric)	7,062.88	2,559.76	4,503.12
Total Other Income	**7,062.88**	**2,559.76**	**4,503.12**
NET OTHER INCOME	**7,062.88**	**2,559.76**	**4,503.12**
NET INCOME	**£7,062.88**	**£2,559.76**	**£4,503.12**

NOTE

Please note that CCLA accounts are reported on a quarterly basis.

Year End:Income and Expenditure - Stewardship Year End

January - December 2023

	Total		
	Jan - Dec 2023	Jan - Dec 2022 (PY)	Change
INCOME			
STEWGIFT Gift Aid recovered (Stewardship)	9,815.56		9,815.56
STEWINCOME Stewardship income	32,453.00		32,453.00
Total Income	**42,268.56**	**0.00**	**42,268.56**
GROSS PROFIT	**42,268.56**	**0.00**	**42,268.56**
EXPENSES			
STEWCHAR Bank charges (Stewardship)	60.00	60.00	0.00
Total Expenses	**60.00**	**60.00**	**0.00**
NET OPERATING INCOME	**42,208.56**	**-60.00**	**42,268.56**
OTHER INCOME			
STEWINT Interest (Stewardship)		200.59	-200.59
Total Other Income	**0.00**	**200.59**	**-200.59**
OTHER EXPENSES			
STEWGEN Transfer to General Account	42,208.56		42,208.56
Total Other Expenses	**42,208.56**	**0.00**	**42,208.56**
NET OTHER INCOME	**-42,208.56**	**200.59**	**-42,409.15**
NET INCOME	**£0.00**	**£140.59**	**£ -140.59**

Notes to the Accounts

Notes from the independent examiners :

Accounts prepared by :

Suzanne Flux Suzanne Flux Date : 14/3/24

Independent examiner :

M. C... Date : 19/03/24

Beaminster Parochial Church Council Chair of Finance :

Marlene Jackaman M. Jackaman Date : 14.03.2024

Beaminster Parochial Church Council Team Rector :

David Baldwin David Baldwin Date : 14/3/24

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. MARY OF THE ANNUN

England & Wales - Charity number 1133757

Accounts

Beaminster Area Team Ministry

The Parish of St Mary, Beaminster
(Charity Commission No. 1133757)

Annual Report and Accounts 2022

St Mary's Church Beaminster

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

St. Mary's Beaminster is situated in Church Street, Beaminster. It is part of the Beaminster Team Churches and in the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England.

Status: The PCC is a registered as a Charity with the Charity Commissioners.
Charity registration No: 1133757

Team Rector: Revd. Canon David Baldwin
Team Vicar: Revd. Jo Neary
Team Curate: Rev. Fiona Beale
Church Wardens: Mrs Judith Hansen

Elected Members:
Tom Cunningham, Vivien McMurray and Dan Rootham (Standing down in 2023)
Judith Hansen, Philip Crawford and Gillian Perrott (Standing down in 2024)
Sue Counsell, Marlene Jackaman and Barbara Simmonds (Standing down in 2025) Wendy Simmons stepped down early due to illness and subsequently died.

Deanery Synod Reps: Ann Crawford and Rudi Simmonds (Kath Barnett stood down early).
Team Council Reps: Judith Hansen.
Lay Vice Chairman: Rudi Simmonds
Secretary to PCC: Vivien McMurray
Treasurer to PCC: Vacant but Chair of the Finance sub-committee: Marlene Jackaman

Church Office and address for correspondence: 8, Hogshill Street, Beaminster DT8 3AE.
Team Administrator: Anne Woodward
Team Online and Media Administrator: Harry Neary

Bank: HSBC. 17, East Street, Bridport DT8 3JZ

Independent Examiner: Gareth Hewett

Structure, Governance and Management: the method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and Activities: St. Mary's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent the Revd Canon David Baldwin 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 and churchyard.

Committees and their briefs: The Standing Committee is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact PCC business between meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. The various subcommittees meet as and when required.

Team Safeguarding Officers: Liz Brown and Barbara Simmonds

Team Health and Safety Advisor: Neville Adams

Electoral Roll Officer: Jenny Langridge who says that at the end of the year there were:-
103 parishioners on the roll. (Previous update: 101). 6 people died, 3 people have moved into care homes and 2 people have left the congregation. The 5 year update was completed in 2019.

The Parochial Church Council: Review of the year January to December 2022

Business returned to near normal after the pandemic and as we learned to live with the Coronavirus. The PCC met in January, March, June, September and November in church with some short Extra-ordinary meetings as needed and notably a meeting in January with the Archdeacon of Sherborne. This was followed in February by a lengthy meeting with the Diocesan Advisory Committee in church. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the aspects of the faculty applications for the installation of the solar panels and the Air Source Heat Pumps (ASHP). Also to discuss the plans for the upgrading of the current kitchen, installation of the W.C. and the associated drainage, adaption of the crypt to create equal access around the church and the installation of LED lighting. Following this the PCC held a meeting with the church architect Daniel Cantrell from John Stark and Crickmay, to go over the plans for the proposed upgrade to the kitchen and the W.C.
The APCM was held in March. The Standing Committee comprising the Team Rector, Church Warden, Lay Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary met to set agendas for PCC meetings and on an ad hoc basis, when decisions regarding the fabric projects needed to be made.
Minutes of the PCC meetings are usually displayed on the notice board in Church. The bulk of the PCC agenda is covered by reports of the work of the subcommittees:

1.Finance: Chairman Hugh Lindsay who had to stand down as his wife's health deteriorated. Marlene Jackaman took on this role. Wendy Simmons the Treasurer herself had to stand down due to ill health at the beginning of the year. A paid treasurer, Chris Ward was appointed to get the accounts in order to be verified and these were presented and agreed in May after the APCM.

2. Fabric with the Church Environment Group: Rudi Simmonds, Gill Perrott and Tony Giddings who later resigned. Rudi Simmonds and Gill Perrott formed a working party with Judith Hansen the churchwarden to move the projects forward and agree to 'sign off' the works to the west end wall. Gill Perrott continued to carry the Carbon Zero project forward and 2022 saw the installation of the Air Source Heat Pumps and the solar panels. Two flags have also needed replacing this year.

3. Mission and Outreach: Chairman Revd Jo Neary.

4. Worship: Chairman Revd David Baldwin.

5. Pastoral care: Chairman Rev Prebendary Alastair Wheeler.

These groups also include members of the congregation and usually convene between PCC meetings sending their reports to the PCC via the secretary.
The Foodbank subcommittee: Chair Rev Jo Neary, later came under the auspices of the Team Office.

The Health and Safety Group did not function as such as there was no volunteer to take this on. Advice was sought from Neville Adams the Team Safety Advisor as needed. The Fire Safety Officer from Dorset and Wiltshire Fire Service was contacted and visited to give advice regarding the fire exits. A defibrillator was purchased and sponsored by the Friends of St. Mary's Church.
The PCC were also in regular contact with the local Police Support Officer as the church has had problems with school children causing vandalism on several occasions over the year. As I write this, the PCC will need to consider CCTV cameras being installed in church and the Friends of St. Mary's are also willing to support us with this project if agreed. We are very grateful to them.

In May the family of Martin Schellenberg our director of Music who had died in the church in 2021 placed a plaque to his memory on to the music stand. We are very grateful to Dr Peter Nardone who took over in 2021. In 2022 the church has been filled with musical occasions, organ recitals and his cheerful sense of humour giving encouragement to keep the choir singing in spite of reducing numbers. We are grateful to the extras that join us at the special services in the year.
At the end of the year we were delighted to receive 3 choir stalls on loan from St. Mary's Church Bridport. They fit in nicely with the church furniture and most pieces that have been made by Ron Emett over the years.

There was much to celebrate in June with a special service of thanksgiving for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. A new Bishop arrived at Salisbury and several of us went to the Cathedral for the Inauguration of the Ministry of the Right Reverend Stephen Lake. Champagne and excellent nibbles were served on the Green. Each member of the congregation was given an envelope containing £10 with a challenge to do something creative and make a difference to someone or something with the contents. This indeed happened and David set up a 'Hardship Fund' in the team and the result was incredible thanks to the generosity of our congregations.
Our own Sarah Keen was ordained deacon and took up a position in the Golden Cap Team.
Fiona our curate came to the end of her curacy and set about finding a parish.
One of our retired clergy the Rev Elfreda Savigear died following a progressive illness and care in a specialist nursing unit in Poole. Her funeral service was very well attended.

So also several members of our congregation died in 2022 namely, Carol Lindsay, Colin Smith, Marjorie Aird, Jim Foster, Duncan Harris and Wendy Simmons. Over the years they have faithfully contributed much to the life of St. Mary's and are greatly missed. Paul Martin-Davies, Patricia Harris, and Barry Longman, all had to move to nursing or residential homes as more care was needed.
Robert Hahn who so enjoyed coming to 'Walk in Wednesday', was sadly forced into moving to Weymouth as his home in the Wessex Autistic Unit in Barnes Lane was closed down. The sight of his enjoyment of the art class and the music is now a happy memory.
The whole country was saddened by the death of HM the Queen in September and gave thanks for all that she had done during her reign while celebrating her life of devotion to service.

The Beaminster Festival was back in full swing this year. The congregation was involved with catering for the performers, making coffee and welcoming initiatives linked to the local community.
3 members of the Church Flower Arranging team thoroughly enjoyed their part in proceedings.

An Advent Team Quiet Day was held in Netherbury Village Hall led by the Rev. David Campbell and was much enjoyed by everyone. Jackie Bush provided the catering and the choice of soups and cake was much appreciated. The Beaminster Lights Event was back in spite of the concerns over energy

costs and lifted the spirits! The Parent Teacher Associations of the local schools set up their stalls in the chuch. Our Christmas tree this year was sponsored by AJ Wakely and was remarked upon by several people that it was a beautiful specimen

Thanks go to everyone in the congregation for all your help and particularly this year to the Fabric subcommittee who have been juggling all the projects, getting quotes and faculties, applying for grants and keeping things on track with the wall, the Kitchen project, the LED lighting, the drains, the trees, the solar panels, the ASHP's, WiFi etc.... I could go on.

The Finance subcommittee headed by Marlene Jackaman have done a huge amount of sterling work by introducing on line banking and introducing a card reader for donations. Dan Rootham has kept on taking the cash to the bank. Well done to them.

Last but not least we must mention Judith Hansen, our churchwarden who has gone beyond the call of duty to keep the show on the road. A big thank you goes to her.

. *Vivien McMurray (PCC Secretary)*

St. Mary's Ringing Guild Report

We still have a loyal band, if small band of ringers at St. Mary's and we nearly always manage to ring for every church service. We also have 4 regular visitors who have second homes in the area.
We joined three National Ringing Events in 2022. Firstly for the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, again at the occasion of HM's demise and the succession of her son King Charles III and then the day of the Queen's funeral .On each occasion we were able to ring all ten bells, half muffled as appropriate. This year we only rang at one wedding.
In the summer we had an outing and rang at 4 towers in the Yeovil area.
Our annual spring clean led to a discussion about a possible fire risk presented by the boxes of old hymn books stored at the bottom of the spiral staircase. These have all now been removed.
We also had some concerns about the maintenance of the bells and asked Taylors, the bell foundry in Loughborough to carry out an inspection and service them. The PCC has been sent a copy of the report which mentions the leaking tower roof and the detrimental effects on the bell fittings. In the ringing room, damp can stiffen the ropes making ringing difficult. We now put plumbing pipe insulation on the ropes below each sally (the fluffy bit!), when they are not being rung. This has helped to keep the tail ends flexible.
We had a wonderful celebration in February when over 40 ringers in the area came together over tea in the Strode Room. We rang a Quarter Peal on all ten bells to mark the 90th birthday of Sue Philp. So overall it has been another busy year and we thank the PCC for their continued support.

Jill Parr (Tower Captain)

St. Mary's Church Flower Arrangers

We are now a group of 14 ladies who, in turn, provide the floral pedestal with fresh flowers throughout the year, excluding Lent and Advent. In addition we come together to decorate the whole church for important festivals in the Church calendar. 2022 was busier than normal as we also celebrated the Platinum Jubilee of HM the Queen through flower.
Jean Owen organises the rota for the pedestal flowers and Rita Cowie looks after the allocation of arrangements for festival flowers. Judith Hansen, our church warden created a map of the church detailing all the flower stations. The usual festivals are Easter, Harvest and Christmas and an allocated amount of money is available for arrangements, on these occasions.
In line with the commitment by Beaminster Town Council to achieve plastic free status and the church commitment to Eco principles, we have agreed not to use any more Oasis flower foam and our current stocks have now been used up. We have also been encouraged to use living plant material which can be planted in the church yard and reused in the future. This results in our using different ideas while flower arranging- in addition to our classical creations.
This Christmas we all met in the Greyhound for lunch and invited those ladies who had 'retired' from the group. We plan an afternoon tea to cement our fellowship in flowers and thank everyone for their continued commitment and would welcome any newcomers to the group.

Ava Livingstone

Pastoral Care

The Lay Pastoral Assistants are a feature of church life, encouraged and trained by a diocesan scheme to have a particular concern in caring for one another and for others in our wider community, whom I support.
Those cared for in this way range from people who are sick or housebound, including taking communion out to some of them on a regular basis, regular visiting and pastoral contact.
Sadly the hope last year of increasing the number on our team from its current 5 people did not work out, and we are likely to lose one of our small remaining band in the next few months.

The names and phone numbers of our LPAs are printed in the magazine, but if you or someone you know feels that an LPA may be able to help , you are asked to talk to David or Jo in the first instance so that they know who is being supported in this way.

Alastair Wheeler

St Mary of the Annunciation, Beaminster
APCM Music Report, 2022

Over the past year we, like most church communities, have evolved from a congregation licking its wounds after Covid to a more stable situation where normal service has now largely been restored. Through the year I have managed to put in place those things that I had hoped might be possible. The monthly music scheme is always published and displayed in the north porch allowing congregation to find out what a particular piece of music was heard after the service or what hymns there are to look forward to next week. It's not an important document or even one that we necessarily adhere to rigidly, but it is a declaration of intent and I hope bears witness to an element of thought, planning and care taken over the commitment to weekly worship. For just over a year now I have had the responsibility of selecting the hymnody used week by week in St Mary's and, whilst the choices might not always be to everyone's taste they are hopefully in sympathy with the church seasons and feel of the services. We have also started developing the congregational music for our Communion services, combining our well known setting by John Rutter, with the newer Mass of St Cedd that I wrote for the congregation to sing at Chelmsford Cathedral in 2001. I would hope to add further to this as time moves on.

The choir has remained at around a dozen singers, with occasional help from extras on special services. We were all saddened at the death of Colin Smith whose distinctive bass voice and large personality had enlivened our lives for many years. A few months before he died he wrote to me saying that he had invited his friend, Maurice Yarham, to join the choir and that he'd be coming along that Friday night. He rounded off the email by saying "If you don't want him then you had better contact him and tell him not to come". This was in keeping with Colin's directness and assuredness, however Maurice did come on that Friday night and joined as a tenor, adding to the faithful service given week by week by the other choir members. The only other change in personnel has been the departure of Tom Cunningham who decided in December that he, for personal reasons, should move back to the congregation for the time being. Although not singing, he is still part of the choir family and we enjoy his support and company Sunday by Sunday. I am continually grateful to those who step up when I am called away for musical reasons or holidays; Brian Ridley has been taking choir practice in my absence and Jonathan Delbridge has been deputizing on the organ for many of the services this year. Our worship is enhanced by their gifts, and I thank them for their support.

Another important change has been the addition of some music desks for the choir. These were in St Mary's, Bridport, where there has been no choir for some time now. Our bass, Barry Gibbs arranged for them to come to us on a permanent loan and we are very grateful to him for doing the work required to necessitate this change. The singers now have somewhere to put their books and music which is very useful. Additionally the style of the desks is in keeping with the other furnishings in the church. Lunchtime concerts made a welcome comeback in 2022 and a series of organ recitals in June and July was well attended and supported by a dedicated crew of coffee makers and stewards. What a great team!

Peter Nardone
Director of Music & Organist
March 2023

St. Mary's Church Beaminster

Annual Report to the P.C.C. for the care and maintenance of the Churchyard 2022

It has been a very good year in the Churchyard, the rebuilding of the West wall is now completed at last and looks beautiful. Wild flower seeds were sown and in July, after the removal of masses of Stinging Nettles, they were amazing (many thanks to Inge-Marie).

The Large Macrocarpa which grew from the adjoining property at the West end of the Churchyard was felled in the Autumn, with the permission of the owners following the damage after a bad storm. Surprisingly, although it was so large, no one seems to have missed it.

We also have a new Shed kindly erected by Ian and Keith. This gave us an opportunity to clear around the area of stones - dust bins - old pots and odd planks of wood and fencing. The Compost heap is well managed and of a quality that cannot be bettered. The Copper Beech continues to grow at a rate of knots, is becoming a problem and needs expert advice.

Valarian, beautiful though it is, causes a lot of work as it reseeds <u>everywhere</u> including the Stone walls. We make a concerted effort to dead head the flowers before the seed blows around. In summer the cobbled paths are also a lot of work, we do not use chemicals unless we absolutely need to in exceptional circumstances.

A concerted effort was made on the border near to the lift to remove or severely cut back the shrubs which were outgrowing the size of the plot.

The Memorial Garden is changing as many more Plaques are added each year. The Circle of Wild Flowers is diminishing. However, overall it is a lovely garden and widely visited by the local community and many visitors to the Church.

We are a team of five people, very friendly and if anyone would like to join us we would be very pleased.

Jenny Tyler,

Church Warden's Annual Report for 2022

This year St. Mary's has seen the numbers in the congregation return to a more normal size and it has been good to welcome newcomers to the church and area also. We are grateful as ever for the many services provided by the Clergy including Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms and Wednesday morning Communion. Walk in Wednesday has seen people young and old continuing to drop in for coffee and a chat, as well as joining the Art Table or playing musical instruments or knitting prayer shawls. Toddler and Baby group continues to provide a Monday morning of fun and chatter for Mums, Dads, toddlers and babies and we welcome new people most weeks. Messy Church continues to meet in the Church or Churchyard with enjoyment and christian teaching through word, song and crafting fun. I would like to thank everyone who volunteers to host these events as well as those who create rotas, provide a welcome at the Church door, read the lesson, write prayers, assist with Communion, arrange the flowers or make coffee on Sunday mornings. Our services are much enhanced by the beautiful music provided by our Organist Peter Nardone and our faithful choir members and I thank them on behalf of all of us. The sound of our bells ringing out across the town continues to be a joy and again I thank our ringers for the time and effort put into this. It has been our pleasure to welcome our local schools who continue to hold services and other events in our Church.

This year has seen quite a lot of activity within the Church and grounds. Completion of the West Wall repairs and the attachment of loose memorial stones to the wall have left it looking very smart and tidy. The gardeners dug a small bed in front of the wall and sowed wild flower seeds providing a very beautiful array of flowers which were much admired. The plan is a repeat sowing this year. We much appreciate all the work that the volunteer gardeners do to keep the Churchyard looking as it does.

A Faculty has been applied for so that light pruning of the Copper Beech tree at the rear of the Church, (which now has a Tree Preservation Order on it), can be carried out and the Field Maple can be felled as the roots are penetrating the drains and it has outgrown its space - all in agreement with the planners. We are grateful to Ben Sabran (Stonemason) who continues to carry out work on our behalf to both outside and inside the church including levelling/cleaning paving, removal of Ivy, repairs to the tower and cleaning and polishing of the the Rood Screen.

A Faculty was obtained and the installation of two Air Source Heat pumps and forty solar panels has furthered our aim of being as close to a 'green' church as possible, and as I write we are about to finalise the sale of electricity that the solar panels are producing. Many thanks to Gillian Perrott for all the work she has undertaken in getting the installations in place and coping with the sometimes frustratingly slow progress involved.

The lift is continuing to cause problems and as I write a meeting has been arranged to meet a supervisor from the lift company to discuss what might be done.

The lights in the Church are gradually failing and we are in the protracted process of trying to agree suitable replacement LED lights. A Faculty has been applied for so that the long awaited work on the Kitchen/Toilet/Crypt/Sewer reordering work can go ahead. We are grateful to the Friends' of St. Mary's for their supplying funds for both of these projects.

I am especially grateful to Gillian Perrott for her assistance in applying for Faculties. Having not had anyexperience of this previously I was relieved when she offered her help. Thanks also to Rudi Simmonds for his input into Fabric matters and for the purchase of the Wifi which supports the ASHPs.

Thanks are due to Marlene Jackaman, Chris Ward, Dan Rootham and other members of the Finance Committee for their work in keeping our Accounts in order and for the installation of the new Card Machine which is proving a success. Also I offer my thanks to the Church Secretary Vivien McMurray who opens and closes the church each day and without whose advice and work I would have struggled this year.

As can be seen from this report it takes the contributions of many people to keep our Church working and worshipping as it does, supporting congregation and community alike. New volunteers are welcome and I will always be happy to find them something to do!!

I believe that the buldings and contents of the Church are mostly in good order. We are grateful for the loan of moveable choir stalls from St. Mary's Church in Bridport which have improved the look of that area of the Church.

I pray that God will continue to richly bless His Church here at St. Mary's in all we say and do for His sake and to His glory.

Judith Hansen
Church Warden
March 2023

CHURCH ATTENDANCE FIGURES FOR 2022 WITH COMPARISON FOR 2021

	Sunday 8.00		Sunday 09.30		Wednesday 10.00		Messy Church	
	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021
Number of services	52	41	52	41	52	33	7	4
Attendance (Adults)	356	326	2825	1870	652	360	160	108
Attendance (under 16)	1	1	99	10	1	0	139	75
Average attendance all ages	7	8	56	46	13	11	43	46

These figures include Easter Sunday Service but exclude the Christmas Services

	2022	2021
Baptism all ages	5	3
Marriages	4	6
Thanksgiving Service/deceased	11	3
Funerals in church	10	7
Burial	4	2
Interment of Ashes	10	6
Funerals elsewhere	12	6
Home Communions	70	24

Online Statistics for October 2022 provided by Harry Neary

Average views of Rev Chat was over 100 per video via Facebook, and another 20-30 on YouTube.
Worship at Home average views was 60-70 on Facebook with another 30-40 on YouTube
Visits to the website was 4231, a rise of 9.4 percent over the previous October.

Marlene Jackaman
Mar-23

Attendance Stats for 2022

	JAN		FEB		MAR		APRIL		MAY		JUNE		JULY		AUG		SEPT		OCT		NOV		DEC		TOTALS
	< 16	Adult	< 16	Adult	< 16	Adult	< 16	Adult	<16	Adult	<16	Adult	<16	Adult	<16	Adult	<16	Adult	<16	Adult	<16	Adult	<16	Adult	
Sunday 8am	0	30	0	25	0	40	1	27	0	34	0	25	0	43	0	24	0	27	0	35	0	26	0	20	357
Sunday 9.30am	0	257	3	251	7	248	15	229	18	285	9	217	12	263	6	239	6	208	8	254	2	194	13	180	2924
Wednesday 10 am	0	59	0	64	0	68	0	38	0	55	1	39	0	47	0	77	0	53	0	48	0	64	0	39	652
Messy Church	15	19	0	0	14	12	22	30	11	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	24	18	21	38	35	0	0	299
All Prayer Sessions	0	8	0	11	0	9	0	17	0	23	0	20	0	18	0	0	0	28	0	17	0	19	0	7	177
School Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	110	50	0	0	413	189	762
Saints & Special Days/Services	0	9	0	0	2	49	0	85	0	0	1	290	0	0	0	2	15	150	25	124	0	0	0	3	755
Ash Wednesday	0	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	0	0									0	0	0	0	0	0	24
Maundy Thursday							0	33	0	0									0	0	0	0	0	0	33
Good Friday							0	37	0	0									0	0	0	0	0	0	37
Easter Eve Vigil 6am							1	23	0	0									0	0	0	0	0	0	24
Easter Day 8 am							0	12	0	0									0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Easter Day 9.30 am							3	64	0	0									0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ascension Day									0	36									0	0	0	0	0	0	36
All Souls Memorial																			0	48	0	0	0	0	48
Remembrance Service																					0	180	0	0	180
9 Lessons & Carols																							2	95	97
Crib Service																							28	101	129
Midnight Service																							1	63	64
Christmas Day 8am																							0	9	9
Christmas Day 10.30am																							8	48	56
TOTALS	15	382	3	351	23	450	39	519	29	452	11	591	12	371	6	342	42	490	161	597	40	518	465	754	6663

Red figures included elsewhere - itemized for information

June Sp Services including Truro Choir 234 attendees
Sept Special Thanksgiving Service for the Queen RIP
Oct Sp Service - Confirmation Service

Finance Committee Report

When I joined the Finance Committee in 2017 having just been appointed as Church Warden, I asked Hugh Lindsay if he would continue in his role as Chair of Finance, as normally the two wardens would chair either Fabric or Finance and Jack Barnet was doing a fine job as Chair of Fabric. (Hugh agreed and continued in this role until January 2022.) Wendy Symonds was our treasurer and with Hugh's and Wendy's financial backgrounds and reasonable stability in the country's economy, our church sailed along in calm waters.

In January 2022 it was apparent Wendy was unwell and was struggling to present the year end accounts. At the same time Carol, Hugh's wife, was also a very poorly lady. Hugh stepped down as Chair of Finance and I took over the reins as Chair of Finance and Acting Treasurer. Before moving on I want to take this opportunity of thanking Hugh for all his professionalism and commitment to our church finances over many years. I want also to pay my respects to Wendy. Her book-keeping was meticulous, and it is only after taking over from her that we realise just how much work is involved in our church accounting. Carol and Wendy are no longer with us but those of us who had the privilege of knowing them, will never forget them. Likewise, Robin Musson, who also was part of the Finance team for many years.

A lot of changes have been made during 2022. We now operate with on-line and telephone banking. We appointed Chris Ward as our bookkeeper who, along with Dan Rootham, devised a very comprehensive coding system and impressive spreadsheets, so we are aware at each quarter end just how our finances are progressing – or otherwise. It has been a learning curve and we've tweaked the system as we've jogged along. Thank you, Chris and Dan.

Whilst we were creating new systems, there were major projects ongoing. The boundary wall, the solar panels, and the Air Sourced Heat Pumps. A lot of money passing through the accounts. Gill Perrott, managed to get us a grant from Dorset Council of £19,371 for the panels and the heat pumps and we were able to reclaim VAT on some costs (the VAT claim monies will be shown on 2023 accounts). Rudi Symons and Judith Hansen were feeding us all the information we needed on the projects, so thanks to those people.

From the accounts you will notice we are showing a deficit on the 2022 General Account of £24,470 (£19,682 deficit for 2021). Our biggest outlay is the Parish Share, rising over a five years' period, from £50,045 in 2018 to £58951 in 2022. However, in the 2023 Budget Guide for the Diocesan Synod, dated 24 September 2022, it is written that for every pound we pay 72p comes back to us on clergy stipends, pensions, and housing, 13p goes towards ministerial and parish support and 2p on work with children and young people. Another big outlay is our annual insurance premium of £7,429, £3,981 of which came back into our account when an insurance claim had to be made for storm damage to our porch lantern.

Over £7,000 has been received through legacies, £1,000 specifically made for the maintenance of our church bells. Peter Nardone arranged for some of his friends to come and give organ recitals during the summer months which made a nice profit of over £700 for us. We now have a defibrillator and the Friends of St Mary's funded this to the tune of £1,170, for which we thank them.

We do need to oversee the ongoing deficits on the day to day running of our church. We need regular committed income (setting up standing orders and completing gift aid forms if you are a taxpayer). We need suggestions for fund raising events and we need enthusiastic people to help us in fund raising.

You may question why I am asking for more cash whilst sitting in the CCLA accounts is £235,828. We have some major projects in hand. A new kitchen, installing a toilet and replacement lighting doesn't come cheap and it would be my hope that some money could be placed into investments generating higher interest rates which, in turn, could reduce our deficit without effort.

After many years of examining our accounts, Gareth Hewitt will no longer review our accounts in the future. He has given so much of his time and professional advice. He has been a true friend of St Mary's Church and we will miss his valued input.

Thanks to the PCC for their support over a difficult period and special thanks to Philip Crawford, Hugh Lindsay, Dan Rootham, Brian Ridley, and Chris Ward for their commitment. – ***Team Finance.***

Marlene Jackaman
Chair of Finance
15.3.2023

St Mary's Beaminster Parochial Church Council

General Account

(Parish Finance: everyday income and expenditure)

Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	RECEIPTS	Q4 2022	TOTAL 2022
£	£	£		£	
11,671	20,121	11,256	Voluntary Giving	17,036	60,084
494	713	592	Outreach	638	2,437
2,341	3,022	772	Activities for generating funds	610	6,745
0	0	0	Income from investments	0	0
1,295	2,008	6,388	Church Activities	3,875	13,566
1,446	2,536	52	Other Income	856	4,890
17,246	28,400	19,060		23,015	87,721

Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	EXPENDITURE		
£	£	£			
21,697	18,217	14,738	Overheads	14,738	69,390
2,912	346	259	Receipts Disbursed	0	3,517
2,442	3,857	3,444	Services Support	4,140	13,882
6,891	5,774	5,023	Church Building & Grounds	5,428	23,116
67	0	0	Mission & Outreach	0	67
0	0	0	Donations	0	0
50	1,170	0	Other Expenditure	1,000	2,220
					0
34,059	29,363	23,464		25,305	112,192

Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022		Q4 2022	TOTAL 2022
-16,813	-963	-4,403	DEFICIT/SURPLUS FOR QUARTER	-2,291	
			TOTAL DEFICIT FOR 2022	-24,470	

Bank Accounts	
HSBC balance end Q4	25,950
Notes:	
Other income:	
Includes insurance proceeds	3,982
Various other collections/payments (in/out):	
Transferred from the Fabric Fund to the General Account (Q1)	43,583
Payments made from the General Account incorrectly (Q1)	9,791
In/Out: Payment to Christian Aid (Q2)	1,502
Payments made from the General Account incorrectly (Q3)	11,944
Transferred from the Fabric Fund to the General Account (Q3)	11,944
In/Out: Salisbury DBF Sudan General Fund (Q4)	46
In/Out: Rector's Talent Fund (Q4)	100

Team News clarification: TN subs are paid into the TN account. The team admiistrator invoices Beaminster PCC but the invoice is for the total number of copies delivered to Beaminster each month and includes a number of copies that are complimentary and copies that are placed for sale in the church.

Chris Ward
Q4 2022 Final
3rd February 2023

Reviewed and agreed the books and records by:

GARETH HEWETT: G S Hewett

DATE: 21/03/2023

M Jackaman
Chair. Finance

Rev Cana David Beadle
Tea Rector
28/03/23

St Mary's Beaminster
General Account - Y/E 31/12/2022
Reconciliation between CW accounts dated 03/02/2023 and Final proposed accounts

	Income	Expenditure	Deficit	
	£	£	£	
Per Original Accounts	82,446.00	107,352.00	-24,906.00	
Cheque included in 2021 accounts (Q1 Expenditure: Receipts Disbursed)	-	-778.50	778.50	
Cheque included in 2021 accounts (Q1 Expenditure: Receipts Disbursed)	-	-178.75	178.75	
Bank charges (Q1 Jan 2022)	-	18.57	-18.57	
Bookkeeping costs (Q4 Dec 2022 Accrual)	-	627.12	-627.12	
Income banked in Jan 2022 (Q1 Income: Voluntary Giving)	124.00	-	124.00	
Insurance claim (Q1 and Q2 Income: Other Income, Q1 and Q2 Expenditure: Overheads)	3,981.68	3,981.68	-	
Defibrillator (Q2 Income; Voluntary Giving, Q2 Expenditure: Other expenditure)	1,170.00	1,170.00	-	
Revised Accounts	87,721.68	112,192.12	-24,470.44	
FINAL ACCOUNTS	87,721	112,192	-24,470	
Check	0.68	0.12	-0.44	Rounding

St Mary's Beaminster Parochial Church Council

Fabric Account

(Capital Projects: legacy income and capital expenditure)

Financial Summary for Quarter 4 – October to December 2022

Q1&2 2022 £	Q3 2022 £	RECEIPTS	Q4 2022 £	TOTAL 2022
1,000	0	Legacy Restricted	0	1,000
3,000	1,000	Legacy Unrestricted	2,000	6,000
78	39	CAF	39	156
0	19,371	Other income (Grant for solar panels and ASHP from Dorset Council)	0	19,371
4,078	20,410	TOTAL INCOME	2,039	26,527

Q1&2 2022 £	Q3 £	EXPENDITURE	Q4 2022 £	TOTAL 2022
47,881	1,164	Boundary Wall	1,756	50,800
7,657	24,251	Solar Panels	721	32,629
288	1,249	Kitchen & Toilet	0	1,537
8,077	24,536	Air Source Heat Pump	8,387	40,999
0	0	Church Lighting	0	0
36	17	Bank Charges	15	68
0	0	Giving Machine Equipment	388	388
63,939	51,217	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	11,266	126,422

Bank Accounts

HSBC balance end Q4	126,320

Notes:

Transferred from the Fabric Fund to the General Account (Q1/Q2)	43,583
Transferred from the General Account to the Fabric Fund (Q1/Q2)	0
Payments made from General Account incorrectly (Q1/Q2)	9,791
Legacy paid into General Account incorrectly (Q1/Q2)	1,000

Chris Ward
Monday, February 06, 2023
Fabric Account Report Q4 Final

Reviewed and agreed to the books and records by:

Gareth Hewett: G Sheet

Date: 07/03/2023

Rev Canon David Bell
Team Rector
28/03/23

M. Jackaman
Chair. Finance

St Mary's Beaminster Parochial Church Council - PCC A

CCLA Account - PCC A

Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	RECEIPTS	Q4 2022	TOTAL 2022
13.29	30.40	56.61	Interest	100.29	**200.59**
13.29	30.40	56.61		100.29	**200.59**
13.29	30.40	56.61	**SURPLUS FOR QUARTER**	100.29	**200.59**

Bank Accounts

CCLA Balance at end Q4	15,451.41

Approved by the PCC on **and signed on behalf of the PCC by:**

Reverend Canon David Baldwin: Denis Baldwin

Marlene Jackaman: M. Jackaman.

Reviewed and agreed to the books and records by:

Gareth Hewett: G Hewett

Date : 07/03/2023

St Mary's Beaminster Parochial Church Council - Fabric Account

CCLA Account - PCC Fabric

Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	RECEIPTS	Q4 2022	TOTAL 2022
15.52	306.48	807.41	Interest	1,430.35	**2,559.76**
15.52	306.48	807.41		1,430.35	**2,559.76**
15.52	306.48	807.41	**SURPLUS FOR QUARTER**	1,430.35	**2,559.76**

Bank Accounts

CCLA Balance at end Q4	220,376.65

Notes:

TRF to HSBC Fabric Account 04/05/2022	200,000.00

Approved by the PCC on **and signed on behalf of the PCC by:**

Reverend Canon David Baldwin: David Baldwin

Marlene Jackaman: M. Jackaman

Reviewed and agreed to the books and records by:

Gareth Hewett: G Hewett

Date: 07/03/2023

St Mary's Beaminster Parochial Church Council

HSBC Stewardship Account

Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	RECEIPTS	Q4 2022	TOTAL 2022
13.29	30.40	56.61	Interest	100.29	**200.59**
13.29	30.40	56.61		100.29	**200.59**

Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	EXPENDITURE	Q4 2022	TOTAL 2022
15.00	15.00	15.00	Bank Charges	15.00	**60.00**
15.00	15.00	15.00		15.00	**60.00**
- 1.71	15.40	41.61	DEFICIT/SURPLUS FOR QUARTER	85.29	**200.59**

Bank Accounts

HSBC Balance at end Q4	415.00

Notes:

8,960.00	16,444.29	8,867.16	Transfers to General Account	13,136.00	47,407.45
8,955.00	8,041.00	7,729.00	Voluntary Giving recognised in General Account	13,346.00	38,071.00
-	9,456.45	-	HMRC Recovery recognised in other accounts	-	9,456.45

Approved by the PCC on **and signed on behalf of the PCC by:**

Reverend Canon David Baldwin: David Baldwin

Marlene Jackaman: M. J Jackaman

Reviewed and agreed to the books and records by:

Gareth Hewett:

Date : 07/03/2023

Fabric Report for 2022

The following is a report for the activities carried out during 2022 on the church fabric

Toilet & Kitchen

After many comments, reviews and a DAC meeting, the final design has been approved by the PCC, and the process for obtaining the necessary approvals started. Dorset Council have given planning approval for the external works (installation of a sewer and crypt cover) and a Faculty application for the work has been submitted to the DAC. When approved, the specification for the work will be sent to various companies for quotation.

A minor problem caused by not closing an Interim Faculty for investigation of the sewer and crypt cover meant that we had to apply for another Faculty to close this, which now has been completed.

When the work is carried out, various items will need to find new homes in the church, or be removed. This is an ongoing task (for example a cupboard has been moved from the vestry and put in the shed (replacing various items that the Beaminster Festival had been storing there) and we need to review items to see if they are still required.

Heating

The Air Sourced Heat Pump system has been installed, and after initial minor problems is now working correctly. The gas boiler is automatically used during very cold weather and when the fan heaters are in use. Gill is continuing to monitor the system performance.

Solar Array

The Solar Array has been installed and is fully operational. When the electricity is not required for church use it is automatically exported to the national grid. At the moment we are not receiving any payment for this, but we are changing our electricity supplier to one who will pay for the excess electricity (Supplier still being 100% green energy).

West Wall

The west wall repairs are now complete (including the damage from the fallen tree), but will require regular inspections for any new cracks from settlement, etc.

Lights

First the good news, the external light on the church was damaged during a storm, this has been repaired and is now working, also the lights on the gate on the ramp have also been repaired.

On the internal lights, it was planned to simply replace the existing units with similar LED lights – how wrong can you be! It reminds me of the joke 'How many people does it take to change a light bulb?', at the moment the following have been involved – PCC members, 2 different lighting companies, 3 different lighting consultants, at least 3 different DAC members, the church architect, plus others – also the need to meet the requirements of various documents and specifications. At the moment no one has been able to propose an acceptable solution, we are continuing to investigate.

Trees

Work is needed on the Copper Beech tree and a large self-seeded Field Maple near the shed. The Copper Beech has a Tree Preservation Order and we now have permission to carry out the work.

Bell Tower

During maintenance of the bells water damage to some of the wooden beams was noticed, this requires the leak to be fixed and further investigation to see if the beam needs repair.

WiFi

The new WiFi has been installed and appears to be operating correctly, the only known problem was when 'Three' were doing an upgrade to the Beaminster transmitter.
The system is now on an unlimited data monthly account with 'Three'
To access requires a password, we require a policy on the management of acces to the WiFi.

The Lift

The lift continues to have reliability problems, Judith has had discussions with the company but it is still to be resolved.

Minor Tasks

Various other tasks have been carried over the year as required

Thanks to Judith, Gill, Fabric sub-committee members and all others who continue with the upkeep of the fabric of the church.

Rudi Simmonds 20/3/2023

Team Safeguarding Officers Report for 2022

The Beaminster Team is committed to making the churches and the church schools in the Team safe and welcoming places for all.

All the necessary Safeguarding checks were carried out during the year. No referrals were made to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

Applications for DBS checks have been registered as requested throughout the year and all renewals have been completed. We continue to be grateful for access to the Diocesan DBS Microsite, a Dashboard with relevant information about staff and volunteers within the Team, enabling us to keep all data secure, in one place and up-to-date.

Members of the Team completed the Domestic Abuse Awareness Training which was facilitated by the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

The Team website provides contact details, at parish and diocesan levels, for all who are looking for safeguarding advice together with the Team's Safeguarding Policy.

We should like to thank everyone in the Team for their continued care for each other and alertness to the needs of those around them so that our churches are truly safe and welcoming places.

Barbara Simmonds
Liz Brown
Beaminster Team Safeguarding Officers

Friends of St Mary's Church Beaminster

Minutes of the 21st Annual Meeting

22 February 2022 at St. Mary's Church Beaminster

Present: Jack Barnett (Chairman)
Mrs J Tyler (Secretary)
Mrs G Sansom (Treasurer)
Mr A Giddings (Project Manager) Absent

Committee Mr P Brook
Miss E Snell
Mrs S Mallinson
Mrs S Corner Absent

The Chairman welcomed the Members and the Minutes of the 20th AGM were read. There are 97 Members including Life Members and 7 New Members.

The Treasurer then gave a report on the Balances of the accounts and reported to Members of the Legacies left to the 'Friends' in the past year. Gill mentioned that as it is a Charitable Account The Bank is now charging 40p for each cheque paid into the account and for every payment. Gill appealed to Members who did not already pay by Standing Order would they please consider doing so. The Auditors were thanked and Linda le Breton kindly agreed to continue for the coming year. Two Concerts are arranged for this year. In April there will be Jazz in the Church with the 'Sunset Café Stompers' and also in October a concert with The Parnham Voices.

The Chairman then stood down for the election of the 2022 Committee. Jack Barnett was re-elected as Chairman and the Committee were also elected en bloc. Although both the Treasurer and Secretary are retiring at the end of this year. An appeal was made, but sadly there were no volunteers from the floor to replace them.

Jack then gave a presentation Showing some wonderful views and pictures of the Church and some items which the 'Friends' have contributed to over several years, and are funding ahead.

The Organ 2008, Table top Tombs re-set by Ben Sabin, The Lift £10,000, Crocketal Pinnacle and Flag pole 147 steps to the Tower. Clock inside the Tower £2,236 donated. Bells and Bell Room. Boiler £5000 Microphones for any gathering, War Memorial Window, and Defibrillator £1000.

Peter Brook told Members that we must keep ahead we must not lose momentum it would be good to have some younger people and some new ideas for fund-raising. Linden Boothby praised the Committee for the never ending list to keep the Church well looked after for generation to come.

Canon Rev'd David Baldwin gave an update. The Covid Lockdown has left the Church with a £455,000 deficit. Many people have great affinity with the Church, but sadly young people do not come to worship. Update: Drainage – not as big a job as first thought, some of the work already done some years back. The Faculty will be granted for Solar Panels, Eco heat pumps, a grant of 40% has been offered. The new works will be to install Toilets, Kitchen and Janitorial area. However just a few days ago the tree on the west right hand corner fell onto the west wall, fortunately, the damage to the wall is not as bad as first thought, and as the Stone Masons are already working on the wall we hope it can be rectified soon and not incur huge costs.

The meeting closed at 3.35pm followed by Tea and Cakes

Jack Barnett

Friends of St Mary's Church, Beaminster
Income and Expenditure for the year ending 31st December 2022

	2022	2021
Income		
Donations	1256.00	1270.00
Tax Recovery – 2 years	437.50	
Jazz Concert – ticket sales	1475.00	
" " - wine donations	228.00	
Parnham Voices Concert – ticket sales	550.00	
- wine	130.90	
Total	**4077.40**	**1270.00**
Expenditure		
Admin' photocopying etc	33.92	9.68
Bank charges - £5.00 per month	60.00	
Bank activity charges	13.01	
Jazz Concert – fee	600.00	
" " - wine donations	56.00	
" " - flowers – thank you gift	6.50	
Defibrillator	1170.00	
Parnham Voices Concert – fee	175.00	
" " " - wine	44.00	
" " " - publicity etc	12.30	
Total	**2170.73**	**9.68**
Statement of Account		
Carried forward HSBC	3949.45	2689.13
Carried forward CCLA	115234.08	115220.39
Total resources at start of year	119183.53	117909.52
Income	4077.40	1270.00
Interest CCLA	1124.29	13.69
	124385.22	119193.21
Less expenditure	2170.73	9.68
Total	122214.49	**119183.53**
Represented by		
Balance at HSBC	5856.12	3949.45
Balance at CCLA	116358.37	115234.08
Total	122214.49	**119183.53**

The Friends of St Mary's, Beaminster
Treasurer's Report for the year ending 2022
AGM 2023

As you will see there is a healthy balance in the Bank due to fund raising and an increase in the interest accrued in the CCLA deposit account - £1,124.29 against £13.69 last year.

For new members, the reason for the large amount sitting in the CCLA account is due to a legacy of over £100,000.00 left to the Friends in 2019, some of which will be used to fund the kitchen refurbishment and the provision of a WC in the Church.

The Jazz Concert in April was a huge success. It attracted a large audience and brought in over a thousand pounds. The Parnham Voices Concert in October had a much smaller audience but still raised almost £450.

The only major expenditure this year was to purchase a defibrillator for use in the Church and in the Community.

Currently membership stands at 64 annual members and 33 life members. We need to find a way of attracting new people to join, in 2019 there were 135 members. Several of our members have died during the year including Colin Smith who for many years along with Eric Whittle upheld the aims and objectives of the Friends either as Chairman or Secretary and they are both sadly missed.

I have made an appeal in the February Team News for new members and we are also planning to take part in the Beaminster Connect initiative on Saturday 22nd April along with many other organisations in the town in an effort to attract more Friends.

I will conclude by saying yet again that it is still my intention to step down as treasurer when someone can be found to fill the post.

Gill Sansom
Treasurer

Finally I would like to thank Linda le Breton for auditing the accounts and Brian Ridley for submitting the Friends' claim for tax relief on Gift Aid donations.

The Beaminster Area Team Ministry: Annual Clergy Report To The APCM's 2023

As I write this my 12th annual report to the parishes of the Beaminster Team, I think back to a recent conversation Jo and I had a few weeks ago. She correctly pointed out to me that it is often too easy to dwell on things that have not gone to plan rather than to celebrate the many things across the team that have happened and breathe new life into the lives of our communities. I am sure that Jo will write about some of these in her section of this report. But as I write I reflect on the many good works that you all do , everything from looking out for others, organising activities that bring communities together, caring for God's world and the environment. Then there are the many often unseen things such as caring for our buildings and the churchyards, preparing churches for worship, providing food for events, ringing bells, which brings joy to many (There will always be the occasional moan!) musicians and singers and those who serve as Foundation Governors at our church schools, the list is endless to you all thank you for what you do and for your commitment and time.

Last July we welcomed Bishop Stephen as our Diocesan Bishop and he challenged us to do something that showed the love of Christ to our communities. He gave all those who attended his welcome service a £10 note and Jo and I asked people to match this and you were brilliant in your response. You have helped us to support the work of Mountjoy School and many individuals who have been affected by the financial crisis of the past months. This was truly the love of Christ in the world.

Whilst across the team we have seen a near return to normal after the pandemic we have begun to see the growing fragility of some of our smaller communities of faith. In 2020 The General Synod started their work on simplifying areas of church life that have always seemed to have made life difficult. One of these was an amendment to how teams could better organise themselves allowing for greater cooperation and cohesion, especially in the area of forming joint councils within teams. Over the past 13 years I have been trying to encourage the parishes of the team to work cooperatively with each other, acknowledging that we are one community of faith. Many parishes are now desperately struggling to find people to serve on PCC's with often one person having to undertake multiple offices. Four of our parishes do not have any Churchwardens and only three parishes have the luxury of two who can share the considerable weight of office. One parish does not have a PCC. It is clear to see that the inevitable is beginning to happen and that work required to be undertaken by PCC's cannot be upheld. Only by parishes accepting that we have to look for fresh ways of working together will churches across the team survive and flourish in the future.

Having just completed the recent round of 12...yes 12 PCC meetings it was plain to see that a number could see the benefit of forming closer ties and working relationships with their neighbours, even if they have been sworn enemies since fighting on opposite sides in the English Civil War! Needles to say others have doggedly refused to give such discussions any countenance. I need to find a platform for us to come together so that we can pray about and discuss how this might look and work in reality. The Team Council is clearly not the place as at the last Team Council Meeting there were 6 parishes that had no representation present. After Easter Jo and myself will seriously look at what and how we can do this.

In the meanwhile I would ask for your continued prayers as to how we can address the seriousness of decline and the immediacy of developing a clearer vision for mission and evangelism.

Finally I would like to say a huge thank you to Jo, Neville and Barbara and all of our Partner Priests, including Dr David Campbell, for their help and support over the year, without them the team would not be able to offer the service rota we have provided post covid.

And finally I am pleased to be able to announce that following her interview Fiona has been appointed as Priest in Charge of the Parishes of Aberporth, Blaenporth and Betws Ifan, which is part of the Local Ministry Area of Bro Teifi in St David's Diocese. The provisional date for her licensing is Monday 22nd May at 7.00 pm in Aberporth. Her farewell service will be the Team Service at 11.00 am in Beaminster on Sunday 30th April. We all congratulate Fiona on her appointment and the next steps in her ministry and I would like to thank her sincerely for all the hard work and effort that she has given across the team over the past three and a half years.

Jo writes: So much happens over the course of the year and there is much to celebrate. Highlights include:

- Strong relationships with all our schools including worship in school and in church, RE lessons, foundations governors, SIAMS and Ofsted support, pastoral care and chaplaincy to our school communities.
- Worship and activities for children and families including Messy Church, toddler group, summer holiday activities, prayer spaces, family worship and baptisms.
- 22 baptisms and 12 confirmations, nurturing faith in children, teenagers and adults.
- Wide engagement through our online worship, Facebook community and Rev Chat discussions.
- New things are still springing up: this year a new ministry knitting prayer shawls.
- And old things still flourishing: Worship, Walk in Wednesday, Messy Church, Gin Church, Christmas and Easter outreach, Fairtrade, Ecochurch, Foodbank, fundraising, social activities, coffee mornings, churchyard care - just to name a few.

What shall we do next? Continue to engage and serve our communities. Pray faithfully. Listen to the needs of our communities. Listen to the prompting of the Holy Spirit and Study and share scripture together. Worship. Listen to the wisdom of experience of each other and work better together to continue to tell the story of God in the world today.

Baby and Toddlers group 2022

On Monday mornings, during school term time, the church undergoes its first transformation of the week. The chairs at the back of church are moved to the edges, to provide a clear space all across, which is then filled with the toys that spend the rest of the week hidden away in the old pulpit. Parents (sometimes grandparents and great grandparents too) and children arrive from 10am onwards, and soon there is activity everywhere – sit and ride toys being ridden, babies lying on the padded play mat and observing each other as much as playing with toys, disputes over who is cooking what in the play kitchen, towers being built and tunnels crawled through, parents taking the chance to enjoy a cup of coffee or tea, to chat together, to join in games with the children. At 11:15, the toys are cleared away, and we gather on the mat to enjoy a story, sing songs, and finish our time together with a prayer. The children and parents leave at 11:30, and by midday, everything is back in place, the church is quiet and ordered once again.

In May, we celebrated the first birthday of the group, with a Bouncy Castle in church for the morning! Some of our Monday morning 'regulars' have been coming since the very first meeting in May 2021, and throughout the year we have welcomed new families, including some who initially come as part of baptism preparation. We have contact with over 20 families, and it has been good to be able to welcome some of them to Messy Church too.

Barbara Simmonds LLM

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. MARY OF THE ANNUN

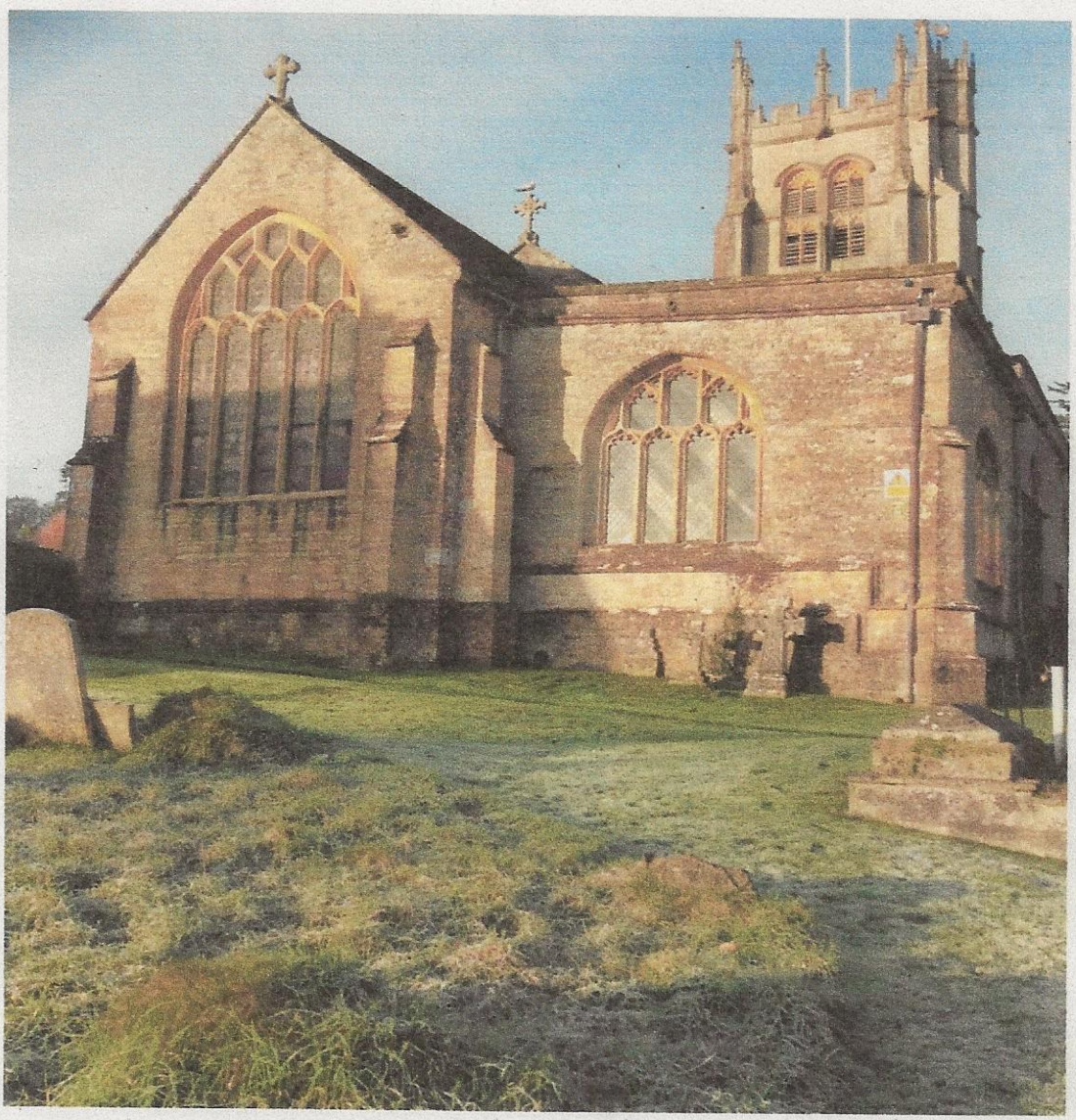
England & Wales - Charity number 1133757

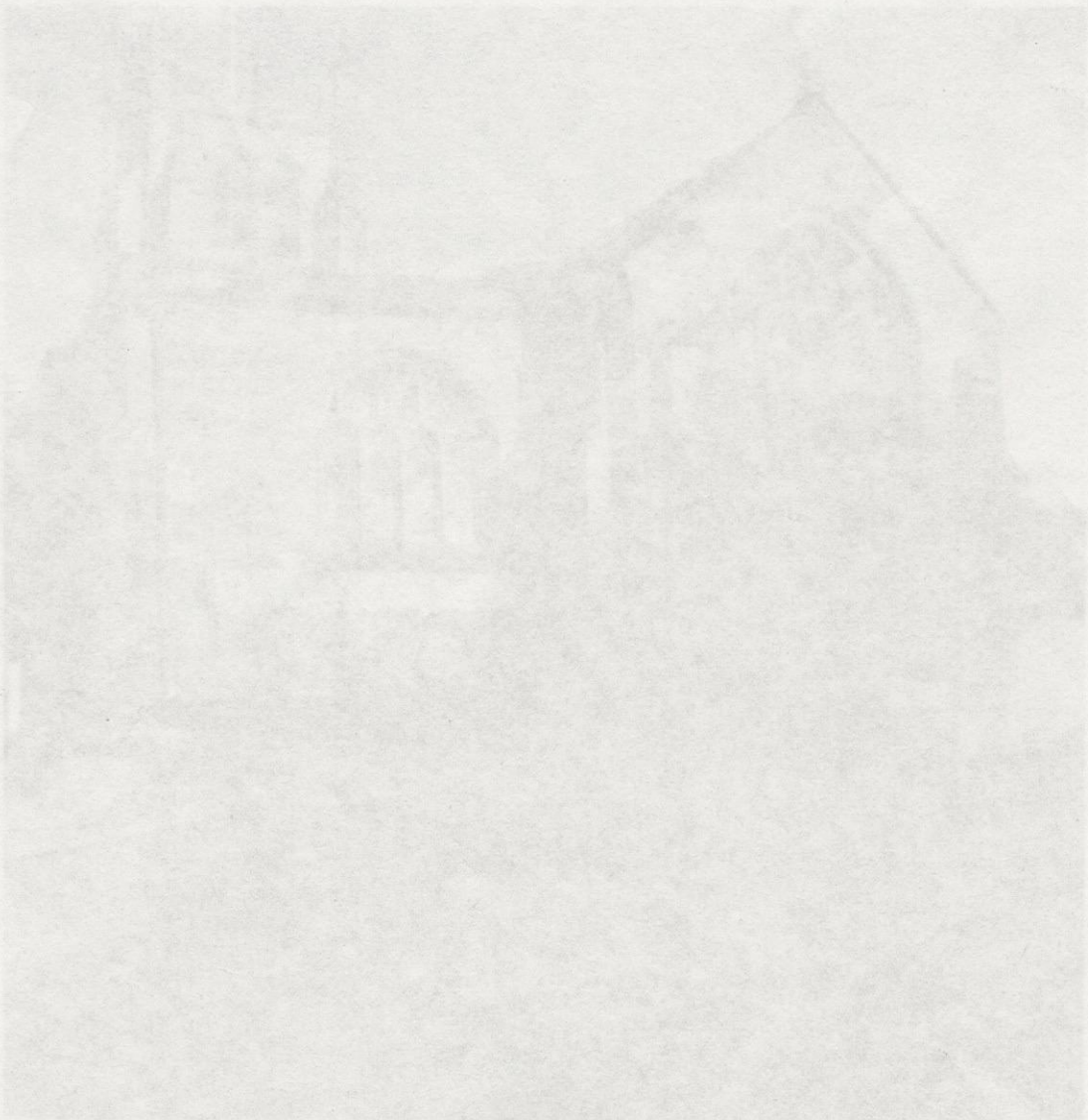
Accounts

Beaminster Area Team Ministry

The Parish of St Mary, Beaminster
(Charity Commission No. 1133757)

Annual Report and Accounts 2021





St Mary's Church Beaminster

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

St. Mary's Beaminster is situated in Church Street, Beaminster. It is part of the Beaminster Team Churches and in the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England.

Status: The PCC is a registered as a Charity with the Charity Commissioners.
Charity registration No: 1133757

Team Rector: Revd. Canon David Baldwin
Team Vicar: Revd. Jo Neary
Team Curate: Rev. Fiona Beale
Church Wardens: Mrs Judith Hansen

Elected Members:
Sue Counsell, Brian Ridley Wendy Simmons and Barbara Simmonds (Standing down in 2022)
Tom Cunningham, Tony Giddings, Vivien McMurray and Dan Rootham
(Standing down in 2023) Judith Hansen, Philip Crawford and Hugh Lindsay (Standing down in 2024)

Deanery Synod Reps: Kath Barnett, Ann Crawford and Rudi Simmonds.
Team Council Reps: Judith Hansen.
Lay Vice Chairman: Rudi Simmonds
Secretary to PCC: Vivien McMurray
Treasurer to PCC: Wendy Simmons

Church Office and address for correspondence: 8, Hogshill Street, Beaminster DT8 3AE.
Team Administrator: Anne Woodward
Team Online and Media Administrator: Harry Neary

Bank: HSBC. 17, East Street, Bridport DT8 3JZ

Independent Examiner: Gareth Hewett

Structure, Governance and Management: the method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and Activities: St. Mary's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent the Revd Canon David Baldwin 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 and churchyard.

Committees and their briefs: The Standing Committee is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact PCC business between meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. The various subcommittees meet as and when required.

Team Safeguarding Officers: Liz Brown and Barbara Simmonds

Team Health and Safety Advisor: Neville Adams

Electoral Roll Officer: Jenny Langridge. At the end of the year there were:-101 parishioners on the roll. (Previous update: 110). 3 people died, 2 moved away, 2 people have moved into care homes and 2 people have left the congregation. The 5 year update was completed in 2019.

The Parochial Church Council: Review of the year January to December 2021

Due to the continued changing restrictions caused by the Coronavirus pandemic, the PCC met on line via Zoom in February and in the church in July and October. The APCM was held in church in May. The Standing Committee comprising the Team Rector, Lay Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary were unable to meet at the beginning of the year because of the national lockdown. Some decisions were made via telephone or email. However it was able to meet in July, September and October Normally they gather to decide the agenda but again this year communicated as needed during the lockdowns especially as fabric issues arose. Minutes of the PCC meetings are usually displayed on the notice board in Church. The bulk of the PCC agenda is covered by reports of the work of the subcommittees: 1.Finance: Chairman Hugh Lindsay. 2. Fabric with the Church Environment Group: Rudi Simmonds, Gill Perrott and Tony Giddings. 3. Mission and Outreach: Chairman Revd Jo Neary. 4. Worship: Chairman Revd David Baldwin and Pastoral care: Chairman Rev Prebendary Alastair Wheeler. 5. A new subcommittee was set up –the Foodbank subcommittee: Chair Rev Jo Neary. Health and Safety: Chairman-vacancy. These groups also include members of the congregation and normally convene between PCC meetings sending their reports to the PCC via the secretary. 2021 has been very different again and only the Finance subcommittee met in November.

As the pandemic continued to challenge us, a further restriction came into force in the New Year. We were able to congregate at a distance and wearing masks but no singing was permitted initially. The clergy with the Media Administrator continued to put together a weekly service on line and the 'Rev Chat' spot continued to attract a dedicated following. The Pew News was circulated by email and in a paper format. Weekly prayers took place via Zoom as well as Gin Church and people kept in touch more easily than during 2020. Funerals were allowed to take place with slowly increasing numbers as the year went by but weddings were seriously affected by the government restrictions. Churches in the team remained open for private prayer.

One of our retired clergy the Rev Canon Barney Milligan died in January. So also the Rev Canon Gregory Page Turner who was becoming less well, continued to be cared for at home for some time.

Also in January the sump pump in the flooded crypt began to cause problems and Tony Giddings managed to get this replaced as a matter of urgency. However the proposed work to cover over the crypt and remove the wire cage had to be put on hold because of Covid restrictions as the virus was becoming more transmissible and the vaccination programme was in full swing.

Gill Perrott continued to carry the Carbon Zero project forward and was able to do a lot of the ground work in spite of all the restrictions. Grants were secured towards the costs.

Mothering Sunday posies were left in the porch in March as there were still no services. Reflections were printed and left in the church for Holy week. A service was held for Palm Sunday and for Easter Day. No singing was permitted but humming was allowed...behind our masks.

Our Pioneer Priest the Rev Jo Neary had a sabbatical at the beginning of the year until March.

The Duke of Edinburgh died in April with comments coming from the town as to why the flag was not flying at half- mast and this precipitated the need for specialist repairers to be called in. The flag pole was in urgent need of repair and the men doing the work could be seen from all over the town causing much amusement. A special service was later held to celebrate the life and achievements of HRH.

Considerable progress had been made regarding the west end boundary wall and work began in May. Little did we know that various issues would arise and that the work would continue well into 2022 almost doubling the costs of the original estimate. We are very grateful to Tony Giddings for overseeing this project and liaising with the neighbours on the other side of the wall!

The Bishop of Salisbury announced in July that he would retire at the end of the year. Government restrictions were eased on July 19th and choir practice was held for the first time on July 23rd. During rehearsal our Director of Music Martin Schellenberg collapsed and died while playing the organ. In spite of best efforts to revive him he did not respond, leaving the members of the choir in a state of shock. The PCC were very fortunate as the Team Rector received several offers of help to play the organ until a new Director of Music could be appointed. Martin will be remembered for his enthusiasm and musicianship. He had only been with us for 3 years and had put our lunchtime concerts and recitals 'on the map' with many supporters from the town. The musician Malcolm Archer at the organ and Winston Leese on trumpet played at his funeral in August and again the church was packed as Covid restrictions were easing further and we began to live with the virus. A Memorial Trust has been set up by his family to advance the musical education of young people with grants and awards. It was indeed fortunate that Dr Peter Nardone who was one of the team of organists who had offered to cover for Martin decided to apply for the post and was successful. He started as Director of Music on October 1st.

In September the church was able to open its doors to the community again for 'Walk in Wednesday' in a slimmed down form. Lunches would no longer be available as volunteers are reducing in number but a rota was set up to serve coffee and homemade biscuits from 11am until 12.30. The art table gradually reappeared and music became a feature as the year came to a close. Margaret Trevett who had faithfully made the soup each week died in hospital.

In July the Rev Canon Gregory Page Turner went to a nursing home near his brother but ended up back at home for a while eventually dying in September. His requiem mass in October was an unforgettable experience because of the music chosen and the incense. The choir combined with Loders church choir and a few extras for what was an uplifting occasion. We also said goodbye to Judith Eastman, June Bugler and July Bunt in 2021, the latter being a long time member of the choir. Mary Sadler moved away and Christine Whittle and Brenda Martin-Davies moved to nursing homes.

The Beaminster Festival were able to put on 3 concerts in September as there had not been the usual programme in June and July.

The Finance subcommittee met in November to investigate the investment of some of the funds that were given as legacies to the church and later reported back to the PCC. In December our Treasurer said that she would be standing down at the end of the financial year due to personal issues. The PCC is very grateful to her for all her hard work and commitment over the last 8 years.

Grateful thanks must also go to Jean Owen who has worked tirelessly to make sure that the church has been beautifully decorated with flowers, organised and decorated the Christmas tree, set up the Crib and after 10 years stood down at the end of the year. The duties have been divided up across the team of flower arrangers. We were able to decorate at Easter and Christmas keeping respectable distances from each other and even managed to celebrate at Christmas with Prosecco and mince pies, much to the amusement of Ben Sabran our stonemason who was up on the rood screen clearing cobwebs. (He deserves a mention as well for tirelessly clearing gutters and keeping the rooks out of the belfry, jet washing the paths and mending pinnacles and crumbling masonry)

In the autumn we were able to plan for the usual services of Remembrance, Advent and Christmas with a Christmas bazaar held in church by the community. A memorial concert was held in aid of the Martin Schellenberg Music Trust as a Christmas Fanfare with mulled wine and mince pies. This was well supported and proved to be a rousing occasion. So with more optimism bringing another very eventful year to a close....

Thanks must go to all the people who keep the church going.... wash the tea towels empty the bins, make the coffee, put out tables and chairs, set up the play equipment , mow the churchyard and weed the beds, put out the books, stock up the candles, distribute the Christmas cards, count the money, welcome the visitors... I could go on....We could not do it without you. Thank you.

Vivien McMurray (PCC Secretary)

St. Mary's Ringing Guild Report

After the National Lockdown and the restrictions imposed in 2020, life was slightly easier although there was still no general ringing in 2021. The tenor bell was rung half muffled when Sir Tom Moore died. The tenor rang out again for HRH the Duke of Edinburgh following his death. A lighter bell, also half muffled was rung at the time of the Duke's funeral in keeping with towers throughout the U.K. and the wider ringing world. For Canon Milligan's funeral a single, half muffled bell was sounded.
At Easter we rang hand bells in the churchyard as the congregation arrived for the service.
By July we were able to meet to ring for services once again. There were still restrictions on the duration (45 minutes), the number allowed in the tower (six only for the 6 bells rung) with everyone wearing masks and using the hand sanitiser. We also kept all the windows open wide, the door and trapdoor in the ceiling ajar. It was cold but it kept us safe!
Going into February 2022 a quarter peal to mark the Queen's ascension to the throne in 1952 rang out. The six ringers were all West Dorset Guild members.
We only have seven regular ringers so rarely ring all 10 bells. However bell ringing life is beginning to feel a little more normal and we are even abandoning our masks....

Jill Parr (Tower Captain)

St. Mary's Church Flower Arrangers

The team managed to keep the church decorated with flowers as much as possible this year as the doors were always open and we were not subject to any total lockdown as in 2020. I have been responsible for organising the team since 2012 and have really enjoyed the experience. I decided to stand down at the end of 2021 and following a meeting in November the tasks have been divided up between a new creative team headed by Rita Cowie. We are fortunate to have recruited some more people and they come with bright new ideas. I know that we can look forward to seeing beautiful and colourful arrangements in the future. My very sincere thanks go to the team for all their help and support over the last 10 years and I know will continue to support Rita.

Jean Owen

Pastoral Care

Over the last year, I have continued to supervise and encourage the small and shrinking team of Lay pastoral Assistants. LPA's are a feature of church life encouraged and trained by the Diocese to have a particular concern in caring for one another and for others in our wider community. Those cared for in this way range from people who are sick or housebound, including taking communion out to some of them on a regular basis, regular visiting and pastoral contact, to welcoming young Mums who are contacting the clergy for Baptism or involved in other church groups.
Sadly the team has shrunk in size over the last year, down to just 4 people but they do a ley bit of work for our church communities. LPA's names and contact numbers are printed in the Team News. If you or someone you know feels that an LPA may be able to help them, you are asked to talk to David or Jo in the first instance so that they know who is being supported in this way.

Alastair Wheeler

CHURCH ATTENDANCE FIGURES FOR 2021 (Coronavirus - reduced services) WITH COMPARISON FOR 2020

	Sunday 8.00		Sunday 09.30		Sunday Evensong		Wednesday 10.00		Breakfast @ 10.00		Messy Church	
	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
Number of services	41	33	41	33		2	33	10		0	4	2
Attendance (Adults)	326	336	1870	1456		24	360	89		0	108	60
Attendance (under 16)	1	0	10	6		0	0	0		0	75	51
Average attendance all ages	8	10	46	44	0	12	11	9	0	0	46	56

All ages	2021	2020
Christmas Eve/Day attendance	129	100
Services during Advent attendance	143	51
Remembrance Service attendance	138	0
Saint Days and Special Services	83	19
School Services	370	
Baptism Under 16	3	1
Marriages	6	1
Thanksgiving Service/deceased	3	0
Funerals in church	7	3
Burial	2	4
Interment of Ashes	6	5
Funerals elsewhere	6	16
Home Communions	24	72

Once again, our team of clergy have excelled themselves with innovative methods to continue mission throughout lockdown. Pre-recorded Sunday worship and 'live streamed' discussion/prayer meetings using Facebook, YouTube and Zoom became more popular. We believe that we had around 35 people using this kind of 'remote' worship who would not normally have attended our regular church services.

Our worshipping community at the end of 2021, (including both those people who attend regularly in person and those who regularly attend our Church at Home services) was in the region of 169, of those 19 were children aged 0-10 years, 37 adults aged between 18-69 years and 113 aged 70+. *These figures were recorded in the Stats for Mission for Beaminster 2021 and submitted to Salisbury.*

Marlene Jackaman
March 2022

The Beaminster Area Team Annual Clergy Report 2022
(Reviewing the year January to December 2021)

The year 2021 began in a similar vein to 2020 with lockdown and closure of team churches. Worship was suspended from February including Lent and we returned on Palm Sunday. Understandably it took a few months for confidence to return and congregation numbers to start returning to pre-pandemic levels. Other activities were slow to return and parish finances have reported difficulties.

I have written in past annual reports on the difficulties of finding officers to fill the needed positions on PCCs. Last year's APCMs yet again showed up the continuing fragility across the team with five churches unable to elect any churchwardens, and just three with the required two wardens. The pressure upon individuals to single-handedly carry out day to day requirements is unreasonable.

Last year I shared Neville Adams' concerns over the church in Drimpton and we are now dealing with what this means in reality. Following a meeting with the wider community and Archdeacon I have been working with a small group of parishioners to see what the future holds for the church. Without a sense of reality I can see this pattern spreading in the team. I am aware just how hard so many of you work to keep the show on the road and I express my sincere and heartfelt thanks to everyone of you.

The upkeep of ancient and listed buildings is a drain on parishes across the country, not only in terms of time but also in finances. Added to this are the costs associated with the upkeep of churchyards. Long gone are the days when the local community saw it as a form of pride to give their time to help, although we still have a few churchyards where this tradition is maintained in some ways. I was grateful to those parishes who took the Generous Giving scheme seriously and to those who responded with their support. Also I would like to thank our treasurers for the diligent way in which they maintained payment of the parish share as a priority.

The outcome of the Church 2030 consultations was that we should be looking at six areas; prayer, study, working with the community, management of parishes, families and children, and discipleship. I have added in pioneering new ways of being church. I hope that across the team we can make these our priorities going forward. I recognise how much work is already going on within parish communities. I hope that we can provide support to parishes from within the wider team from volunteers who have a passion for discipleship and seeing growth.

I would like to thank my colleagues, especially Jo and Fiona for their continued prayer and support in the mission and ministry of the team. Also to our partner priests, licensed lay ministers, lay worship leaders, lay pastoral assistants, those who administer the team and office; Mandy Alford, Brian Ridley, and office volunteers. I also thank Anne Woodward and Harry Neary for their outstanding work and support in the administration, communications, and technology required in keeping a team of this size running smoothly. There are also many other people who may have been missed but I will do my best to put this right at each annual parish meeting.

Revd Canon David Baldwin Team Rector

Jo writes:

The highlights of 2021 for me have been gradually getting back to a more familiar way of being church together in person, celebrating new things flourishing, growing despite Covid challenges, and the joy of being able to sing again in church.

We maintained a good connection to our children and families via weekly recorded collective worship for schools and online Messy Church but it has been a joy to return to in person worship both in school and at Messy Church. Summer holiday activities in Drimpton and Salway Ash were well attended and highly valued for gathering people back together safely. Walk in Wednesday returned in September and has flourished in a new and slightly shorter format which has less impact on the volunteers. The foodbank has continued to be well supported by our churches and used more than ever by those in need.

New things have flourished too. We have a new toddler and baby group in Beaminster supporting baptism ministry throughout the team. And a growing number of disciples in our Zoom community meeting Gin Church. Our online community on social media and YouTube continues to thrive and is probably the third biggest congregation in the team after schools and St Mary's Beaminster. We had a really positive time engaging with both the Bible Course led by Fiona and the Living in Love and Faith course led by the whole deanery. The only sadness was the small number of people who engaged.

There was joy to be had in outdoor worship particularly in Blackdown and Salway Ash and I hope this could be developed in the future, perhaps to include children and families.

The lows? The inevitable struggle to find volunteers to do everything and to avoid overburdening the same people and the sadness of those who have got out of the habit of church and haven't returned. Also the continued pressure from the diocese and the wider church to succeed and grow new things and flourish when the real success has just been to keep going. I also feel we need to pray more because when we pray things grow, when we don't pray we just stay still. How might you be able to find time each week to commit to pray for new things happening in the team?

A huge thank you to all the volunteers who don't just keep the show on the road but also do amazing things well beyond the boundaries of usual Sunday worship. There is much to do together, do come and join in with what God is doing in the Beaminster Area Team.

Beaminster Foodbank report 2021

Beaminster Foodbank, based at Prout Bridge, continues to work hard to support vulnerable families and individuals in Beaminster and the surrounding villages.

We operate as a subcommittee of Beaminster PCC and this subcommittee functions as the Beaminster Foodbank management committee. Current membership is Rev Jo Neary Chair, Helen Smith Foodbank manager, Cheryl Mackenzie Volunteer coordinator and Joy Edwards Treasurer.

Our finances currently reside in the Team Office account managed by Mandy Alford and Anne Woodward. Our money is ringfenced and Joy Edwards keeps our accounts independently and they have been reconciled with the Team office bank account at the year end. During the year we have received a number of donations from Dorset Council and individual donors. We prefer people to donate to the foodbank through giving food or using the voucher system at Nick Tett's and Fruit and Two Veg. We have strong financial reserves currently. We would very much like to have our own bank account and access to online banking under the charitable status umbrella of the PCC. We hope that with the new PCC treasurer this will be possible very soon.

Food bank use has increased year on year for every year the foodbank has been open. Last year we fed 748 people with 319 food parcels. Amazingly our donations have kept pace with the increased need. We are very grateful for our donors' generosity. Foodbank usage figures are reported monthly to Dorset Council. We are currently feeding more single people than families, but this can change month by month. There is very little variation across the school holidays and term time, the need holds up across the year. We have seen increased referrals from Magna and CAB and Domestic violence and other charities and local family workers. We also accept self-referrals, although there have been fewer of those. There are a few repeat users that use us every week and we are beginning to have those conversations with individuals about stopping dependence on the food bank. It is really positive having CAB on hand as they operate a drop-in service on Friday morning at Prout Bridge. We are currently in the process of recruiting new volunteers to our team.

We are so grateful for the hard work of our volunteer foodbank manager, Helen Smith and all our volunteers who keep the food bank running and supporting people in need.

Beaminster St Mary's Academy

2021 was yet another year of turbulence and change for our church primary school. We began the year in lockdown when many children were learning at home. We had a strong remote learning offer for our children and were able to be open to welcome key worker and vulnerable children. Thankfully school reopened fully in March but since then attendance has been lower than we would like as Covid continued to spread and isolation rules were observed.

During the summer term we were outside as much as possible, classes were kept separate from others in bubbles and a sense of normality returned. Huge progress was made in our Early Years with a fantastic new early years classroom and outdoor space allowing for free flow between inside and outside and a creative and stimulating learning environment. Great progress was also made in phonics, adopting a new phonics scheme, training staff and embedding good teaching across the school. Both developments were noted positively in our interim Ofsted inspection in May 2021.

We were able to appoint three new members of staff after several resignations and in September 2021 we began with great hope and with an increased number of children on roll. Sadly, Covid continued to challenge us but our new staff team worked well together and children were feeling positive about being in school and learning. At Christmas we were so pleased to be able to host the whole school at our Experience Christmas event led by the Messy Church team and to hold a Christmas carol service. Sadly, we said goodbye in December 2021 to the headteacher, Mrs Carys Barnett, and we thanked her for her hard work and commitment to raising standards. We welcomed a new headteacher, Mr Darren Marklew, in January 2022 along with a new chair of governors, Mr Steven Loveridge and we look forward to making more progress in raising standards and becoming a good school where every child can flourish.

St Mary's Church Beaminster

Annual report from the Gardening Team 2021

The Gardening Team: Jenny Tyler, Jean Sherlock, Ian Largent and Keith and Ing -Marie Beldham.

I am pleased to report that the main activity this past year has been the start of repairs to the West Wall. We are all very pleased to have such Craftsmen, who are very nice fellows doing this important work .

The new Shed is to be delivered in the new year and Keith and Ian will clear out the old to make ready for the new. The Compost area has been turned over to start again.

The Wilding area is still somewhat disappointing the grass grows very high and the flowers do not seem to have a chance. We have planted a lot of Yellow Rattle to help with this as it thrives in grass. The Snowdrops in the main Graveyard area are wonderful in the early Spring.

The bed near to the Lift is probably the most challenging as the shrubs have been in there for many years and are now very deep rooted. However thanks to Ing-Marie and Jean who have worked wonders on it and it is looking very good. We are all working very hard on the Valerian which looks very pretty in flower, but unfortunately reseeds all over the Churchyard and roots deeply into the walls and stonework causing the mortar to break up and the stones to loosen.

I hope it is appreciated how lovely the Memorial garden always looks due mainly to Ian who gets down there earlier in morning than the rest of us to cut the grass.

I have to report that the Churchyard is in need of serious consideration with the Grave Stones leaning and grass coming up through, which cannot be easily dealt with. Some expert advice is needed.

Jenny Tyler

ECO Church report for 2021

Since gaining the ECO Church Gold Award we have continued to be involved in different projects. However difficulties have continued with Covid restrictions. We started with an ECO Group Zoom on 9 January 2021 to think about what we could do. Throughout the year some of us attended various Zoom & Webinar meetings on Eating Ethically, Creativity against Climate Change, West Dorset Environment Alliance (WDEA), Sustainable Dorset, Multifaith Climate Action Change, Fairtrade Fortnight Ecumenical Service (no public gathering was possible), C of E Buildings Environment Department Webinars on Lighting, Heating, Carbon Zero and Low Carbon Dorset discussing our Carbon Zero Project.

Most of the concentration 2021 has been on how to reduce our Church building Carbon Footprint in line with our Archbishop's request for churches to be Carbon Zero by 2030. We had already started with work on our Carbon Zero Project at the end of 2020. This will involve a 40 panel Solar installation on the South Aisle roof. This will assist in the running of two Air Source Heat Pumps and exporting excess renewable energy. The boiler would still be needed for the occasional use of the wall heaters. This would significantly reduce our use of gas. Face to face events linked to the project started with the Energy Audit in February, Structural Engineer assessment of the South Aisle roof in March, Acoustic Survey in September and various meetings with installers on site throughout the year. Continued work on the Faculty Application (C of E buildings planning permission) and submission of Planning Application with Dorset Council in September is ongoing. The planning notice was duly posted on the church railings in October.

Other events included a Church Wildlife Count (part of a national Caring for God's Acre) in June, causing much interest & good attendance. Our results were submitted to the national database. We took part with the Town Council and Beaminster Area ECO Group in running The Beaminster Big Green Day in September. This was also part of the national Big Green Week and the launch of the Beaminster Earth Alliance.

November 2021 saw a Traidcraft stall in the back of church selling goods including Christmas cards.

Gillian, on behalf of the church, took part in the Hilfield Centenary Service & Planting Day in December. We now have a tree number 52 as part of a 100 tree plantation.

Gillian Perrott

St Mary of the Annunciation, Beaminster
APCM Music Report, 2021

It was on hearing of the very sad death of Martin Schellenberg in July that I telephoned the Rector to offer my services as an organist. Living locally in Loders, and as a long-time acquaintance and friend of Martin's, I felt I could not sit idly by when there was a pressing need for an organist at St Mary's Beaminister. I had left my job in Worcester in 2018 and having worked in cathedrals (Chelmsford and Worcester) for 18 years I had no desire to tie myself down to providing church music for the next part of my life. However I continued to play the hymns and voluntaries for the Sunday services here at St Mary's for the rest of July and August 2021 and came to the conclusion that, whilst I had needed a break from church music I now felt comfortable with the desired commitment in Beaminster.

These summer services were tinged with sadness. Of course, there was no choir singing and we had no musical setting of the communion service to sing as restrictions seemed still to be in place, in the uncertain way that we had come to accept from our government. As a result the services were simple yet beautiful. This period allowed me time to gradually get to know members of choir, congregation and clergy, and in September it felt like the right thing to take up the role as Director of Music and Organist.

Since September the choir has been rehearsing and we have begun to sing services and anthems once again. Things feel a little more normal and there has been a spirit of optimism and uplift in our worship. Brian Ridley has been a supportive and warm colleague, playing for services and taking choir practices when I have been away. My settling in has been made much easier with the practical help from Vivien McMurray and Dan Rootham. As I am now venturing down the dangerous path of naming individuals I will come to an abrupt halt, acutely aware that the community of those who have welcomed and helped is too great to number. Thank you all.

Advent and Christmas displayed the range of services that we would all recognise as normal and the choir's contribution to the carol services seemed to be very much appreciated by those who worshipped with us.

The near future will see the reintroduction of a monthly music scheme for services (posted in the North Porch), weekly anthems from the choir, appropriate organ voluntaries and hymns, the introduction of new congregational communion settings and a series of lunchtime organ recitals on Thursdays in June and July. In all of this I am mindful of Proverbs 16:9 The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps. We live in uncertain and, in many ways, unhappy times but I believe that if we listen to the teachings of Jesus and plan in faith, God will do the rest.

Peter Nardone
Director of Music & Organist
February 2022

SAFEGUARDING – report for the year 2020-2021

It is good to remind ourselves that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone.
In our churches we are called to provide a welcome for all, with particular regard for those who are most vulnerable, to value and respect everyone and to ensure a safe and trustworthy environment.
Thank you for all you do in your parishes to turn these words into reality.

In the last year, as the Covid19 pandemic has continued to cause great anxiety in the world, people in the Team have successfully worked together in their parishes to provide safe spaces for worship, bearing in mind the needs of their own communities.

We can report that all necessary DBS checks have been completed and recorded on the Beaminster Team Microsite. This is part of the Diocesan site which Barbara and Liz are able to access and which carries a record of all those in the Team who have DBS clearance.

Training sessions have continued online.

At Diocesan level there have been changes to the staffing. Filling the role vacated by Heather Bland are Jem Carter and Suzy Futcher who share the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer position.
Johnathan Whiter remains as Safeguarding Trainer and Christine Romano provides Safeguarding Admin Support- DBS enquiries.

Barbara Simmonds
Liz Brown
Parish Safeguarding Officers

Because of the level of our annual income, St. Mary's Beaminster has to be registered with the Charity Commission. This means that all PCC members are regarded as trustees and as such, require DBS clearance. I am pleased to be able to report that all the necessary checks have now been completed.

Friends of St. Mary's Church, Beaminster
AGM 22nd February 2022
Treasurer's Report

As you can see it is a healthy balance with very little expenditure last year. You will also notice the interest accrued on the deposit account was a pittance – £13.69 last year and £236.59 in 2020. There have been new developments with regard to bank charges. What was a Community Bank Account has now been replaced by a Charitable Bank Account. This new account carries a monthly fee of £5.00; a 40p charge on every cheque paid in or out; a 0.40% charge on the value of cash paid in, plus a 40p charge for every transaction. For this reason I am encouraging Friends to donate by standing order where possible.

We are living in strange times and the last 2 years have seen many changes amongst our donors. When I took over as treasurer from Jane Blake in 2015 there were 110 members plus life members and now the number stands at 97 including 30 life members. Sadly we have lost 15 of our membership in recent times. Several new members have already been recruited this year and hopefully some of the numerous newcomers to Beaminster can be encouraged to support the Friends and in doing so help to preserve our beautiful Church for future generations. If you are able to approach anyone who might be interested in joining us there are leaflets available which can be handed out.

During the year the Committee is planning two fund raising events, a Jazz concert on the 9th April and then a concert by Parnham Voices on the 22nd October. The plans to refurbish the kitchen and to provide a WC in the Church are progressing and will go ahead once the main drainage has been addressed.

I am standing down as treasurer and looking for a replacement to join the committee. It isn't an onerous job, the committee meet several times a year. I would be happy to stay on the committee for a year to work with the new treasurer if needed.

Lastly on behalf of the Friends I would like to thank Linda le Breton for auditing the accounts and Brian Ridley for submitting the claim for the tax recovery on Gift Aided donations. A cheque (£178.75) for the 2020 claim was too late to be included in the accounts.

Gill Sansom
Treasurer

12th February 2022

Friends of St Mary's Church, Beaminster
Income and Expenditure for the year ending 31st December 2021

		2021	2020
Income			
Donations (subscriptions inc some for 2020)		1,270.00	785.00
Tax Recovery			278.75
	Total	1,270.00	1,063.75
Expenditure			
Admin' photocopying		9.68	13.24
Stamps & Stationery			19.47
Gift Token – auditor			5.00
	Total	9.68	37.71
Statement of Account			
Carried forward HSBC		2,689.13	102,616.06
Carried forward CCLA		115,220.39	14,030.83
Total resources at start of year		117,909.52	116,646.89
Income		1,270.00	1,063.75
Interest CCLA		13.69	236.59
		119,193.21	117,947.23
Less Expenditure		9.68	37.71
		119,183.53	117,909.52
Represented by			
Balance at HSBC		3,949.45	2,689.13
Balance at CCLA		115,234.08	115,220.39
	Total	119,183.53	117,909.52

St Mary's Beaminster Parochial Church Council - General Account

Financial Statement for year ended 31 December 2021

2020	RECEIPTS		2021
£		£	£
43,557	Regular Giving		41,176
3,345	Collections		3,911
1,057	Hospitality		314
-	Eco Group		-
1,083	Other Giving		1,357
2,559	Team News		2,257
43,136	Various Other Collections (see note 1)		2,908
94,737	**Receipts from Parishioners**		**51,923**
12,204	Tax Recovery	12,163	
1,571	Fund Raising	931	
-	Book Sales	205	
13,775	**Total Voluntary**		13,299
1,000	Hire of Church		870
2,893	Fees		7,665
70	Interest		7
-	Miscellaneous		118
112,475	**TOTAL RECEIPTS**		**73,882**
	PAYMENTS		
56,144	**Parish Share**		56,143
	Team Overheads		
5,375	Team Expenses		5,178
1,500	Church Office		1,500
	Receipts Disbursed		
2,559	Team News		2,219
43,136	Various		2,908
1,105	Transfer to fabric Account		-
	Services Support		
-	Organ Maintenance		1,020
6,563	Choir & Organist		6,305
337	Supplies (Parish Admin)		802
1,055	Printing, Stationery & Postage		1,292
	Bank Charges		27
117,774	**Carried forward**		77,394

117,774	**Brought forward**	77,394
	Church Building & Grounds	
7,020	Insurance	6,975
4,470	Utilities	1,041
	Repairs & Renewals	
-	Flag Pole	696
-	Alarm	542
5,429	Maintenance	2,795
1,250	Churchyard	1,719
536	Cleaning	525
144	Refuse	49
	Mission & Outreach	
791	Hospitality	284
499	ECO Group	-
82	Social	-
94	Flower Fund	470
94	Health & Safety	74
	Donations	
1,000	Sudan	-
1,500	Other	-
1,000	**Strode Room**	1,000
141,683	**TOTAL PAYMENTS**	**93,564**
-29,208	**DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR**	**-19,682**
35,000	Legacies - Talbot	-
-	Transfers from the Fabric Account	50,000
5,792	**NET MOVEMENT FOR THE YEAR**	**30,318**

2020 £		2021 £
	Bank Accounts	
10,132	HSBC Accounts	15,854
15,173	CCLA Account	15,243
25,305	Resources at the beginning of the year	31,097
5,792	Net movement for the year	30,318
31,097	Resources at the end of the year	61,415
	Represented by:	
15,854	HSBC Account at 31 December 2021	46,164
15,243	CCLA Account at 31 December 2021	15,251
31,097		61,415

Approved by the PCC on **and signed on behalf of the PCC by:**

Reverend Canon David Baldwin (Rector) ..... David Baldwin

Marlene Jackaman ..... MJackaman

Reviewed and agreed to the books and records by:

Gareth Hewett ..... G Hewett

12 MAY 2022

Notes

(1) Various other collections/payments (in/out)

Christian Aid	1,921
RBL Remembrance Service	251
Easter Offerings	277
Cash	164
Gift Aid (Friends)	179
Strode Room (correction payment error)	89
Calligraphy	15
D Baldwin	12
	2,908

2020		2021
£		£
	Bank Accounts	
10,172	HSBC Accounts	15,854
15,173	CCLA Account	15,243
25,305	Resources at the beginning of the year	31,097
5,792	Net movement for the year	30,318
31,097	Resources at the end of the year	61,415
	Represented by:	
15,854	HSBC Account at 31 December 2021	46,164
15,243	CCLA Account at 31 December 2021	15,251
31,097		61,415

Approved by the PCC on and signed on behalf of the PCC by:

Reverend Canon David Baldwin (Rector)

Marlene Jackaman

Reviewed and agreed to the books and records by:

Gareth Hewett

12 MAY 2022

Notes

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Calligraphy	15
D Baldwin	12
	2,908

St Mary's Beaminster Parochial Church Council - Fabric Account
Financial Statement for year ended 31 December 2021

2020			2021
£			£
	INCOME		
10,105	Donations		-
156	CAF		156
1,923	Grant - Listed Place of Worship		-
12,184			156
	Legacies		
320,904	Talbot	3,399	
55,000	Gildersleve	22,827	
1,000	Livingstone	-	
1,000	Palk	-	
-	Dennis	12,857	
-	Maw	10,000	
-	Rivers	3,000	
			52,083
76	Interest		9
390,164	TOTAL INCOME		52,248
	EXPENDITURE		
-	Architects Fees	16,665	
-	Heating and Plumbing Works	1,370	
-	Building Works - Surveys and Fees	6,055	
-	Works to Retaining Wall	25,485	
-	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		-49,575
390,164	**SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR**		2,673
-	Transfer to the General Account		-50,000
390,164	**TOTAL MOVEMENT DURING THE YEAR**		**-47,327**

2020 £		2021 £
	Bank Accounts	
87,491	HSBC Accounts	477,579
17,732	CCLA Account	17,808
105,223	Resources at the beginning of the year	495,387
390,164	Net movement for the year	-47,327
495,387	Resources at the end of the year	448,060
	Represented by:	
477,579	HSBC Account at 31 December 2021	430,243
17,808	CCLA Account at 31 December 2021	17,817
495,387		448,060

Approved by the PCC on **and signed on behalf of the PCC by:**

Reverend Canon David Baldwin (Rector) Dennis Baldwin

Marlene Jackaman MJackaman

Reviewed and agreed to the books and records by:

Gareth Hewett G Hewett

12 MAY 2022

Beaminster Parochial Church Council

Accounting Policies

Accounting Convention

The financial Statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

Incoming Resources

Contributions receivable are accounted for in the period to which they relate.

Resources Expended

Expenditure is accounted for on the cash accounting basis.

Independent Examiner's Report to the members of the Beaminster Parochial Church Council

I report on the St Mary's Beaminster Parochial Church Council Fabric Fund Account and the St Mary's Beaminster Parochial Church Council – General Fund Account for the year ended 31st December 2021.

Responsibilities and duties of the members of the Beaminster Parochial Church Council

As members, you are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records and for the preparation of the accounts as at 31st December 2021 for the two funds listed above.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by you and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items, and seeking explanations from you 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 these 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 proper accounting records has 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.

Gareth Hewett
Independent Examiner

12 May 2022

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. MARY OF THE ANNUN

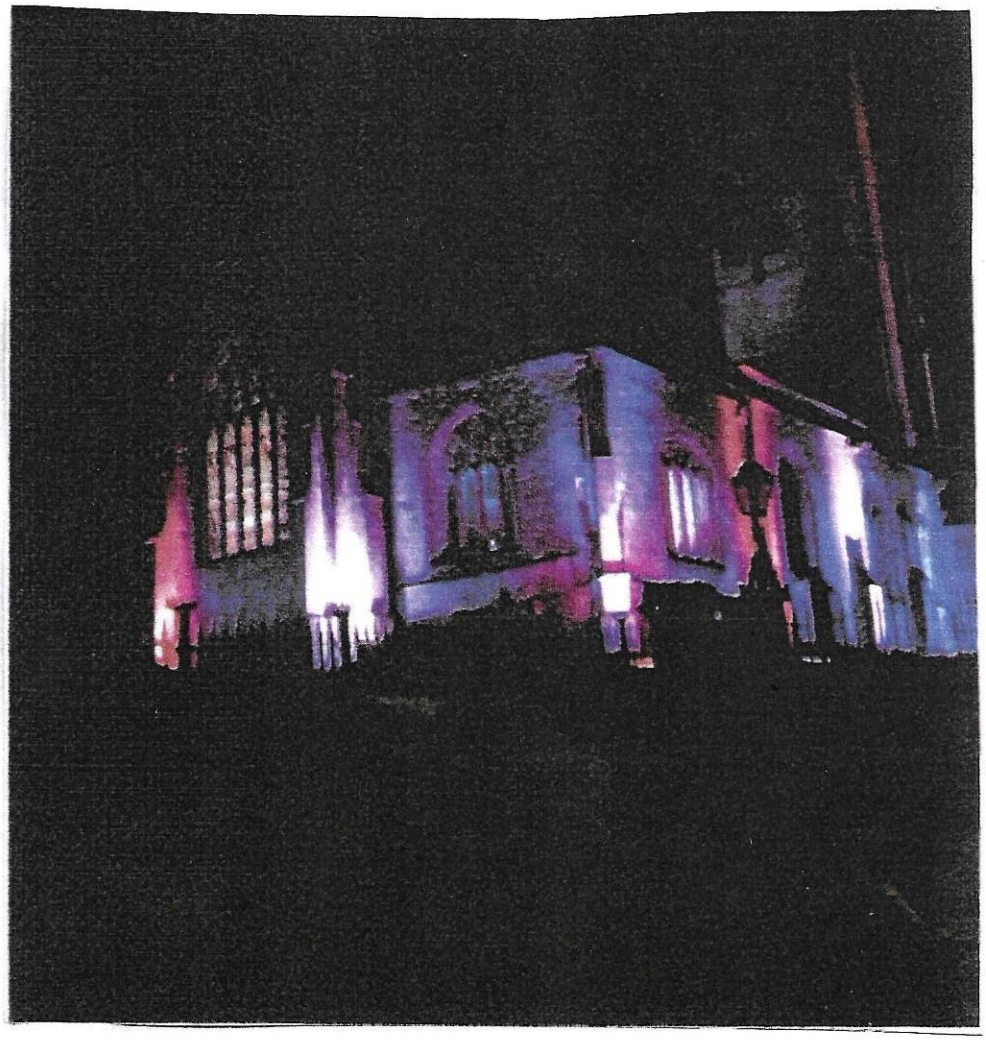
England & Wales - Charity number 1133757

Accounts

Beaminster Area Team Ministry

The Parish of St Mary, Beaminster
(Charity Commission No. 1133757)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2020



St Mary's Church Beaminster

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

St. Mary's Beaminster is situated in Church Street, Beaminster. It is part of the Beaminster Team Churches and in the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England.

Status: The PCC is a registered as a Charity with the Charity Commissioners.
Charity registration No: 1133757

Team Rector: Revd. Canon David Baldwin
Team Vicar: Revd. Jo Neary
Team Curate: Rev. Fiona Beale
Church Wardens: Vacant

Elected Members:
Philip Crawford and Hugh Lindsay (Standing down in 2021)
Sue Counsell, Brian Ridley Wendy Simmons and Barbara Simmonds (Standing down in 2022)
Tom Cunningham, Tony Giddings, Judith Hansen, Vivien McMurray and Dan Rootham (Standing down in 2023)

Deanery Synod Reps: Kath Barnett, Ann Crawford and Rudi Simmonds.
Team Council Reps: Judith Hansen.
Lay Vice Chairman: Rudi Simmonds
Secretary to PCC: Vivien McMurray
Treasurer to PCC: Wendy Simmons

Church Office and address for correspondence: 8, Hogshill Street, Beaminster DT8 3AE.
Team Administrator: Anne Woodward
Team Online and Media Administrator: Harry Neary

Bank: HSBC. 17, East Street, Bridport DT8 3JZ

Independent Examiner: Gareth Hewett

Structure, Governance and Management: the method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and Activities: St. Mary's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent the Revd Canon David Baldwin 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 and churchyard.

Committees and their briefs: The Standing Committee is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact PCC business between meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. The various subcommittees meet as and when required.

Team Safeguarding Officers: Liz Brown and Barbara Simmonds

Team Health and Safety Advisor: Neville Adams

Electoral Roll Officer: Jenny Langridge. At the end of the year there were:-111 parishioners on the roll. (Previous update: 118). 5 people had died and 2 had moved away. The 5 year update was completed in 2019. The average weekly attendance was much reduced as the church was closed for a good part of the year.

The Parochial Church Council: Review of the year January to December 2020

Due to restrictions caused by the Coronavirus pandemic, the PCC only met twice, in February and December. The delayed APCM was held in church in September. The Standing Committee comprising the Team Rector, Lay Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary were able to meet in February but unable to meet prior to each meeting after that. Normally they gather to decide the agenda but this year communicated as needed during the lockdowns. Some decisions were taken by email or phone call. Minutes of the PCC meetings are displayed on the notice board in Church. The bulk of the PCC agenda is covered by reports of the work of the subcommittees: 1.Finance: Chairman Hugh Lindsay. 2. Fabric: Rudi Simmonds and Tony Giddings. 3. Mission and Outreach: Chairman Revd Jo Neary. 4. Worship: Chairman Revd David Baldwin and Pastoral care: Chairman Rev Prebendary Alastair Wheeler. 5. Health and Safety: Chairman-vacancy. 6. Church Environment Group: Chairman Gill Perrott. These groups also include members of the congregation and normally convene between PCC meetings sending their reports to the PCC via the secretary. 2020 has been very different as very few meetings were able to take place.

The year began as usual and with a few problems with the lift. The finances were looking much improved following a legacy and the fundraising efforts by the congregation. The Director of Music had plans for the choir and would continue the lunch time concerts. Rumours of the Coronavirus Covid 19 pandemic were circulating. The Prime Minister announced the first Lockdown on March 23rd and the church was closed until further notice as we all stayed at home. Easter was therefore very different and although the weather was good, people were unable to meet as normal with family. We stayed indoors only going out for a little exercise or for essential food supplies. There was very little traffic and we all came to appreciate the sights and sounds of nature around us as never before. Residents came onto their doorsteps to 'clap for carers' each Thursday evening. Otherwise the town was eerily quiet. On one Thursday, the church was lit up by a local company with blue lighting to acknowledge the tremendous work being done by all the workers in our NHS. The following week by special request, the church was bathed in red, white and blue lighting to commemorate VE day in May. It was quite a spectacle.

As we were unable to congregate, the clergy and media administrator had begun to put together a weekly service on line. The Pew News became the 'From the Hub- Covid 19 weekly Update'. This was circulated by email, viewed on the Team website or printed and distributed by the computer literate to those who could not access it. Prayers and weekly coffee and chat took place via Zoom. It was noticed that more people were accessing the church on line as lockdown continued and some

spiritual searching began. People living on their own began to become socially isolated but shopping was delivered and neighbours looked out for each other. Messy Church increased its virtual attendance. Funerals were allowed to take place with numbers restricted to 15 with 2 metre social distancing and weddings were cancelled as numbers were so restricted. Funerals were later increased to a maximum of 30 attendees but by then face masks were to be compulsory.
Jack Barnett stepped down as churchwarden at the end of May after 6 years of service. Gradually the church was opened for private prayer and in July churches were able to hold services with restricted seating, fresh air and hand gel. The building was left to air for 72 hours before the Sunday service. Separate entry and exits were established and the clergy poured over the guidance from the www.Gov. UK website which was updated on a regular basis. A 'QR' code was generated for those visiting the church with smart phones. Otherwise a register for contact details began so that contact could be made with 'Track and Trace' in case of an outbreak or resurgence of the virus. The congregation was definitely not allowed to gather outside the church after the service and socialising over coffee became a distant memory. However it was wonderful to hear the organ being played again and although singing was not allowed humming was permitted.
In July St. Mary's Beaminster received the Gold Eco Award following all the hard work put in by Dr. Gill Perrott. A special Golden Celebration rose was presented to the Church Environment Group. In August the numbers at weddings were increased to 30 people only. We were able to meet outside with 6 other people. In September the PCC was able to hold the delayed APCM in church with social distancing and mask wearing. Our curate Fiona Beale was ordained by the Bishop of Sherborne at ther end of the month. The Deanery also set up the LPA and LLM course but this would continue on line as the months went by. In October the Youth Band requested that they meet weekly in church which was permitted. The food bank was transferred from being a joint project with the Children's Centre and would now be run by the church, working in partnership with Dorset Council.

Robin Musson became ill and died in November. As well as all his work with the British legion, he had been a stalwart of the church for many years and treasurer on the Team Council. In fact several well-loved members of the congregation died in 2020. Eric Whittle, Bob Quemard and Jim Beeny also left us, along with Beryl Maw (the amazing lace maker). They had all contributed to the life of our church in different ways and are missed. Eric bought and installed the Christmas tree for the church each year without fail until it became too difficult for him. Jim Beeny led the gardening team and took delight in keeping the churchyard in order. Bob always the well turned out gentleman was looked after devotedly by Rita as he began to decline from his dementia.

Great progress was being made by scientists in 2020 to create a vaccine and the Government decided on a system of Covid tiers. Plans were made for Christmas and it looked as though families would be permitted to meet indoors in reduced numbers. As it happened, this did not come to pass. There was to be no singing for Advent but a small choir was permitted, and came together to sing for 2 Carol services and 2 midnight services because of social distancing. Sadly the congregation was still unable to sing. However the rise in Covid infections began again and the country went into lockdown as we went into 2021. It has been an extraordinary year that we will never forget and this annual report will make interesting reading in years to come.

Vivien McMurray (PCC Secretary)

St. Mary's Ringing Guild Report

In March 2020, the first Covid lockdown closed the tower and there was to be no ringing. The clock continued to play 'Hanover' through the day, thanks to the conscientious clock minder, reminding us of the pealing bells.

As lockdown eased in summer 2020 we were allowed by law to ring three bells for fifteen minutes for Sunday services. A rota was drawn up and the 3 ringers would climb the stairs. If Chris and Pippa Luckcraft were both ringing there could be 4 bells! Masks were worn throughout, hands sanitised and social distancing maintained. I don't think anyone really enjoyed the experience! A muffled bell was rung for funerals. The only other ringing has been hand bells in the churchyard before Christmas morning at a safe distance. It was a joyful sound and lovely for us to get back together. Three or four ringers had never rung hand bells before and, with lockdown restrictions, we had to practice under the pavilion roof!

Into the New Year, the tenor bell was tolled 100 times for Captain Sir Tom Moore. A different bell was rung at the January funeral of Revd Canon Barney Milligan and 99 times for the Duke of Edinburgh as part of a national tribute on the day of the Royal Funeral . Harry Murley and Chris Luckcraft deserve credit for doing this.

We have lost some ringers through lockdown and now only have seven able to commit to regular Sunday ringing. Getting back to ringing will be a 'slow and careful' process as we move cautiously towards regular ringing again when we are allowed to. ...but there is no rush!

Jill Parr (Tower Captain)

The Friends of St. Mary's

Due to the Covid 19 restrictions, we were not able to hold our AGM this February but all those on the committee as of February 2020 agreed to carry on. The then current committee namely: Jenny Tyler (Secretary), Gill Sansom (Treasurer),Peter Brook, Evelyn Snell, Sally Mallinson, Sue Corner and Tony Giddings were willing to continue into 2021. Eric Whittle died this year and is greatly missed. He had been the secretary of the Friends of St. Mary's for many years.

The Friends had planned 2 fund raising events-a jazz concert in the Spring and the return of Parnham Voices for a concert in the Autumn. Hopefully these events will be rescheduled when restrictions have been lifted. We hope to be able to once again raise funds to support the essential work of the Church.

Jack Barnett (Chairman)

CHURCH ATTENDANCE FIGURES FOR 2020 (Coronavirus - reduced services) WITH COMPARISON FOR 2019

	Sunday 8.00		Sunday 09.30		Sunday Evensong		Wednesday 10.00		Breakfast @ 10.00		Messy Church	
	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2019	2019
Number of services	33	52	33	52	2	7	10	44	0	3	2	9
Attendance (Adults)	336	751	1456	3294	24	138	89	478	0	152	60	320
Attendance (under 16)	0	0	6	91	0	0	0	0	0	12	51	286
Average attendance all ages	10	15	44	65	12	20	9	11	0	55	56	67

These figures include Easter Sunday Service but exclude the Christmas Services
(2019) 9.30 under 16 includes Confirmation Service

	2020	2019
Christmas Eve/Day attendance	100	385
Services during Advent attendance	51	827
Remembrance Service attendance	0	215
Saint Days and Special Services	19	*1110
* including School Services		
Baptism Under 16	1	6
Marriages	1	3
Thanksgiving Service/deceased	0	2
Funerals in church	3	9
Burial	4	6
Interment of Ashes	5	5
Funerals elsewhere	16	13
Home Communions	72	160

During the lockdown periods there has been an enormous amount of online services, pre-recorded or live-streamed, through the church website, using Facebook and Zoom. Our thanks must go to our Clergy team and Harry Neary for their ingenuity and commitment during this wearisome time. It is difficult to estimate how many 'hits' and Zoom/FaceBook followers we have had, but it has been phenomenal. A special mention also to the Messy Church team. Their efforts on Messy Church Zoom are worthy of Blue Peter Badges! **Marlene Jackaman - ACPM Report May 2021**

Team Safeguarding Officers report for 2020

All necessary Safeguarding checks were carried out during the year, with some changes to procedures being made as necessary because of the pandemic. For example, some document checks for DBS applications and renewals were carried out on Zoom during periods of lockdown, and others took place outside, with social distancing procedures in place.
As we reported last year, the Diocese has developed a Safeguarding microsite, and over the year this was gradually rolled out, and has proved to be very useful. All applications for DBS checks, and records of these and Safeguarding training are now centralized on the microsite, and so it is now much easier for us to keep track of the level of DBS check individuals have, and when DBS clearance needs to be renewed. Safeguarding training courses and updates moved online from the start of the pandemic.

The safeguarding statement required by the Diocese is on the front page of the Team website, and gives our contact details, as well as those of the Diocesan officers. Safeguarding has been an agenda item at all PCC meetings across the Team during the year. As a Team we have complied with the duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

Liz Brown and Barbara Simmonds, Beaminster Team Safeguarding Officers

Lay Pastoral Assistants – Alastair Wheeler

Canon David Baldwin has asked me to take on the role of encouraging the small team of Lay Pastoral Assistants in their role of supporting all of us as church folk caring for one another and for others in our wider community.

While every church member shows Christian love and concern in action for those we know, the team of LPA's are asked by David Baldwin or Jo Neary to assist them in specific support and contact with others. These range from people who are sick or housebound to young Mum's contacting the clergy for Baptism or involved in other church groups.

This form of lay ministry – things church members are specifically trained and authorised to do – has been around for thirty or forty years now, but Salisbury Diocese, and this Deanery, are encouraging and promoting the way it works around here, and how it can be further developed.

So two new people, Vivien McMurray and Angie Alexander, went through the official training course over the winter, using new ways of being trained at a distance because of lockdown. At Easter we welcomed them into the team. While one of our long term LPA's Helen Smith also did the course as a refresher and to keep up with ways the Diocese sees LPA ministry.

As well as Helen, Vivien and Angie have joined existing LPA's Gill Perrott from Beaminster and Dermot Stack from Drimpton, each of whom brings their own gifts of personality and wide ranging experience of supporting others.

Over the least year we have lost two of our longstanding LPA team members who have both moved to focus on other commitments and opportunities.

Liz Brown and Paul Grant, both of whom are members of Salway Ash church community, have signifcant personal commitments and involvement in supporting others in different contexts, including schools and cancer care, and are concentrating on giving time to those ways of helping others.

LPA's names and phone numbers are printed in the magazine, but if you or someone you know feels that an LPA may be able to help them you are asked to talk to David or Jo in the first instance so that their time commitment doesn't become swamped!

Alastair Wheeler

Report on the Fabric of the Church during 2020

With the church being closed for a large part of the year, and activities restricted to only essential tasks, it has been a quiet year for the fabric committee. No major problems have been identified.

At the beginning of Lockdown in April, Ben Sabran replastered areas of the internal church walls and recoated them in distemper. At the same time he removed all of the cobwebs in the vaulted ceiling and cleaned and polished the Rood Screen. He also made a full inspection for any visible signs of wood beetle rot.

In the autumn he cleaned all of the rainwater goods and roof gullies, cleaned the bird nesting from the bell chamber and power washed the pathways.

There has been progress on two existing projects, the repairs to the church boundary wall and the update of the kitchen facilities with provision of toilets within the church building.

1. The plans for the repairs to the boundary wall and the various required approvals have been completed. Work is expected to be carried out during 2021. An additional task identified is the removal of a tree in the cottage garden that may be causing additional damage to the wall foundations.

2. The kitchen / toilets plans are to be ready to be reviewed and approval by the PCC. During investigations, the need to install a sewer from the church to the mains in Church Street was identified. The planning for this is ongoing.

3. During the year, the problem with water collecting in the crypt became worse, due to failure of the drainage pump. Work should take place during 2021 to replace the pump. The crypt was also checked for asbestos, no problems identified and a report should be available soon.

4. A further task is being planned to remove the cage over the stairs to the crypt (on the south side of the church) and replace it with a level pathway, to provide better flat access to the garden of remembrance and the church grounds.

We are grateful to Tony Giddings for project managing and progressing the above four activities.

During the year the ECO sub-committee have identified various options for reducing the church's carbon footprint, which have been investigated and proposed to the PCC as detailed below.

1. To replace internal lights and the flood lights with low power LED lights. This was approved by the PCC. One quotation has been received but we are awaiting receipt of a second quotation before proceeding.

2. A Solar Array on the south roof, which would church reduce the church electricity consumption from the grid and offset part of the carbon footprint from the gas consumption of the heating boiler. It was agreed by the PCC to approve the installation provided the necessary approvals could be obtained. Detailed work to identify array fixing method, roof structural survey, planning permission and Diocesan approval are being carried out.

3. To investigate the installation of an Air Sourced Heat Pump to provide part or all of the church's heating system. It was decided that further information would be required on the overall running costs (reduction in gas consumption but increased electricity consumption) before a decision could be reached and this will be discussed by the PCC in the future.

These 3 activities have been researched and coordinated by Gillian Perrott, who we thank for her effort to improve the carbon footprint of the church and other ECO projects.

Other minor tasks are outstanding, including repairs to the flagpole which have not been carried out yet due to the pandemic, but should be able to be addressed in 2021 when conditions allow.

This year Jack Barnett stood down as Church warden and also as chair of the fabric committee, after many years of looking after the church and its fabric. He will be missed, not only for the work he did but also for his extensive knowledge of the fabric of the church.

Rudi Simmonds - Vice Lay Chair of the PCC

St Mary's Chuch Beaminster

Report to the APCM for the care and maintenance of the Churchyard for 2020

Sadly our Leader Jim Beeny died towards the end of 2020. He was a very special man, a retired Farmer who was so good with the Management of the Churchyard. He was a quiet, smiling man who always had a friendly word for everyone. His knowledge of wildlife and the green earth was so cheering to us all, and we are greatly missing his leadership.

The Team of Jean Sherlock, Jenny Tyler, Keith and Ing- Marie Beldham and Ian Largent meet weekly on Thursday mornings and we also put in more time individually to keep things up to standard. The main grass cutting is done professionally but the Memorial Garden cutting is tended beautifully by Ian and Keith. Fortunately we were able to continue despite Covid regulations as of course we mainly work separately. However we did so miss our coffee and catch-up after our sessions.

This year we received an **Eco Gold** award for the Churchyard, for which we are all very pleased. Gill Perrot was awarded a Yellow Rose which is planted in the main border in commemoration of this.

Memorial Garden: In the past year it has been noticed that more artificial flowers and inappropriate pots and ornaments have been put on the plaques – not adhering to the rules and guide lines and making it very difficult for grass cutting.

Pathways around the Church take up much of our time, we do not like using Chemicals but sometimes this is inevitable particularly the outside wall along the road. Some of the Trees and shrubs are getting rather large - Jean and Ing- Marie have worked very hard on this particularly near the lift area.

We are once again making an effort to grow more wild flowers in the Churchyard, the soil is rich which is not good for wild flowers, but is wonderful for everything else. Next year we plan to grow a goodly number of Snakes Head Fritillaries and other suitable bulbs.

The Garden Shed is to be replaced in May for which we are very pleased. Sadly, the wall at the West end has still not been repaired.

Lots of people visit the Church and all say how beautiful it is. Long may it remain so.

Jenny Tyler

The Parish Church of St Mary of the Annunciation, Beaminster

APCM Music Report, 2020

2020 was a very different, challenging and musically fragmented year as the world dealt with the pandemic, Covid-19.

Our very loyal, dedicated and enthusiastic choir at St Marys sang from the beginning of January to 15th March. They continued to grow in confidence and always sang liturgically appropriate music to the very best of their ability. Sadly, the choir didn't sing again until December!

After 15th March churches were locked the length and breadth of the country. People were encouraged to stay at home and to shield thus trying to reduce the spread of the deadly disease. However, behind the scenes folk were being creative and supplying 'stay at home' congregations with on-line services. I recorded a lot of organ pieces for use with these services both on an instrument in Stoke-sub-Hamdon and also at St Mary's, when I was allowed to.

Church services resumed again in July and kept going until November, but there was a big difference. The seats were all socially distanced, members of the congregation remained seated and wore face coverings throughout, the services were said, we could 'hum a hymn' behind our face coverings and no choirs were allowed to sing as this action was deemed 'dangerous'!

There was a lifting of the lockdown towards the end of the year and the choir were allowed to get together again to celebrate Christmas. It did seem a bit odd as we hadn't even celebrated Easter! After much discussion, we sang, in a socially distanced manner, from the chancel leaving plenty of metres between us, the clergy and then the congregation. This worked extremely well and we were most grateful for all the lovely, encouraging and positive comments from members of the congregation. It really was most wonderful to hear singing in St Marys again.

Another Lockdown meant the end to the choir singing for 2020!

Our very successful series of Lunchtime Concerts resumed in January and stopped in March. Due to restrictions, no concerts are allowed to take place anywhere.

In many ways, 2020 will not be forgotten easily.

Martin J. H. Schellenberg
Director of Music & Organist
April, 2021

St Mary's Beaminster Church Flower Arrangers Report 2020

It was of course a strange year! It all started normally with the weekly pedestal arrangements in Church, looking through my 2020 Diary I saw that Walk In Wednesday began the new year activities on the 8th January, Raucous Chorus began their new season, Moviola started up, Keep Fit classes started and Church services took place, the Flower Arrangers Christmas Lunch took place and generally things seemed normal. On February 7th my Grand daughter flew over from Denmark and reported that in the Airport people were wearing masks, the threat of Covid had arrived but we carried on as usual until 23rd March, when we began our first lock down.The Church closed and so did everything else! No flowers! 14th June the Church opened after 12 weeks but it was decided that there would not be flowers for the immediate future. Vivien put some quite lovely artificial flowers on the pedestal. In September the flower arrangers were back for reduced placements for Harvest Festival, it was so good seeing the colours back and the Church itself coming alive again. After the Festival flowers we were then able to put small pots of living flowers on the pedestal, David agreeing if folk came into Church to pray or just to sit quietly it might help brighten their lives a little, a symbol of hope! For the Remembrance Service I had ordered the Flowers, but on the 5th November we were again in lockdown, flowers cancelled, everything cancelled, so I had to call poor Gemma (Gemmas Flowers) and cancel our order as well. We did flowers for Christmas, again reduced placements, but it felt so good the group of 6 of us being together again and hopefully bringing 'Comfort and Joy',the Christmas theme through out the Churches.

Yes a strange year indeed, with new experiences! Think we may all have learned a few things about ourselves and the great value of friendships. 2021 will be another story!

ECO Group Report 2020 for the APCM

The highlight of this year has been gaining the ECO Church Gold Award on 18 July. This was the pinnacle of just over 3 years involvement by the ECO group. We had to achieve Gold in all 5 sections:-
Worship & Teaching, Buildings, Land, Community & Lifestyle.
We produced a comprehensive Power Point presentation of 90 slides which can be viewed on the Beaminster Churches Team website, select NEWS, next ECO Church and scroll down to the photo of a light bulb! This was sent to A Rocha prior to the 90 minute Zoom assessment. The ECO group + Jo Neary were grilled by 3 assessors from A Rocha Eco Church. They were particularly impressed with our Community involvement. The PCC presented the ECO Group with a Golden Celebration rose which is now planted in the Churchyard in the bed beyond the Strode Room.

Since then, ECO Church Beaminster has been active in joining/ working with Climate Action Groups:-
Beaminster Area ECO Group (BAEG) West Dorset Friends of the Earth (FOE)
West Dorset Environmental Alliance (WDEA), made up of; Turn Lyme Green, Transition Town Bridport, FOE, BAEG & ECO church. The aims of these organisations are info sharing & action taking. An additional aim of WDEA is consulting regularly with our MP (Chris Loder) on Climate Change & environmental matters.
David Langridge and I were part of the Beaminster Long Term Resilience Policy working party made up of some members from ECO Church, BAEG, and the Town Council.
Lastly, Dorset Climate Action Network (Dorset CAN) which is a Dorset wide alliance of groups sharing info & support, working towards actions to mitigate Climate change & lobbying local & national government.

All of the above by way of ZOOM!

Throughout the year a pilot group made up of church & community members took part in Sustainable Dorset's Green Living Guide. We called ourselves Greener Choices and met for 7 sessions discussing Food, Energy, Travelling, Water, Waste, Community. We gained information, discussed & were encouraged in individual action to reduce our Carbon Footprints. We had to cope with Zoom in Covid lockdown. We gained mention in Sustainable Dorset's AGM as the most impressive group!!

During the autumn we had visits form various Solar PV & Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP) installers who assessed possibilities towards our aim for the church building to be carbon zero by 2030. A paper on this was produced for the December meeting of the PCC, who approved the go ahead with Solar PV. The PCC will hopefully approve, when they have some further information, of ASHPs to run our under-floor heating already in place, early next year.

Gillian Perrott

Friends of St Mary's Church, Beaminster
Income and Expenditure for the year ending 31st December 2020

		2020	2019
Income			
Donations (subscriptions)		785.00	1427.00
Tax recovery		278.75	294.25
Fund raising – donations			37.00
Fund raising – Garden Party			316.00
Fund raising – Stonemason's Talk			255.00
Legacy			100952.97
			103282.22
	Total	**1063.75**	**103282.22**
Expenditure			
Admin' photocopying		13.24	8.10
Garden Party wine			33.60
Stamps and stationery		19.47	
Gift token – auditor		5.00	
PCC Boiler contribution			5000.00
	Total	**37.71**	**5041.7**
Statement of Account			
Carried forward HSBC		102616.06	4375.54
Carried forward CCLA		14030.83	13942.98
Total resources at start of year		**116646.89**	**18318.52**
Income		1063.75	103282.22
Interest CCLA		236.59	87.85
		117947.23	**121688.59**
Less expenditure		37.71	5041.70
	Total	**117909.52**	**116646.89**
Represented by			
Balance at HSBC		2689.13	102616.06
Balance at CCLA		115220.39	14030.83
	Total	**117909.52**	**116646.89**

The Beaminster Area Team Annual Clergy Report 2021.

The past twelve months have been a real test for everyone. The Church has not been exempt from this testing and for many church communities across the country it has heavily highlighted the fragility of their existence both spiritually and financially. Having been unable to meet for regular acts of worship and for the many community and social activities has put a severe strain on funding. This has become a real threat to the existence of the church in some areas.

In a recent conversation with Neville Adams LLM over his concerns for Drimpton, I was grateful to him for starting a much needed discussion that all of our churches should be having. I told Neville that it is worth remembering the Parochial history of a parish when reviewing its life. Along with Seaborough, Drimpton was once in Somerset and Bath & Wells Diocese. Only when county boundaries were changed and both parishes came into Dorset did they become part of Salisbury Diocese. At that time both churches became Chapels of Ease within the Parochial Parish of Broadwindsor, thus they did not have parish status. Under the development of the Beaminster Area Team (1978 -83) Canon Tim Biles created three parishes that had never existed previously; Drimpton, Seaborough, and Salway Ash. Also at that time the united parishes of South Perrott & Chedington with Mosterton, Toller Porcorum & Hooke, Netherbury (including S Ash) & Melplash with Mapperton were all separated into stand alone parishes. In my humble opinion this was, even then, unsustainable in the long term as it meant that every year the team had to elect 14 Parochial Church Councils, with 14 Church Wardens, and 14 sets of officers. Decline in church attendance was at that time well noted and continues today. Also the requirement of individual church congregations to uphold and finance the repairs to buildings of historical importance to the nation (4 grade 1, 2 grade2* and 5 grade 2 listed buildings) in the Beaminster Team has finally led to a dearth of those willing to stand for leadership roles within the church and has put a real strain on finances.

All of the above deflects us away from the real calling of those of us who are proud to call ourselves followers of Jesus Christ and who wish to place at our heart true Christian witness of serving the communities in which we live and work, which of course is the gospel imperative. At the heart of this is our corporate worship which can take many forms. These could include prayer walks around the village, litter picks as a way of blessing both the community and showing our care of God's creation, home based prayer groups, working parties to help those unable to look after their own gardens, etc. All of these express how we follow the two great Commandments to love the Lord our God, and to love our neighbours as ourselves.

Over the past few years I have been looking at how we can simplify the structural bureaucracy that has constantly hampered the Team, allowing us to move forward with our real desire to bring the love of God more into our communities. Last year I had planned, before lockdown in March, to bring together those parishes who could not elect Church Wardens and full complements of PCC members to begin discussing how we develop a closer structure of working together as one PCC, with individual church committees becoming standing committees of the PCC. As we begin to be able to meet again I will be inviting parishes in this position to meet with me soon.

Whilst I know that this will be unpalatable to some, many realise that we cannot just keep on doing what we have always done, especially as what we have always done has in reality been the bearer of the present unsustainable situation. Only fifteen years ago the Team comprised three stipendiary clergy and seven partner priests as well as five lay readers. When I arrived every parish had one Church Warden who led one service a month. It is easy to see why the rota could support 12 services every Sunday.

It is the tradition that I thank everyone for their service over the past twelve months and whilst I do not name everyone here I will be doing so at each annual meeting. But I do thank Anne and Harry for their continual support of the Team and Jane for her personal care and support for my wellbeing during this Covid strange time.

Revd Canon David Baldwin

2020 has been a quite unimaginable year. We have been so grateful to live in an area of the country where the impact of Covid on health has been relatively limited, yet the loss of income, jobs, business, connectedness, and relationships has been a huge challenge to all our communities.

I have been so hugely grateful that David and I began some form of online ministry with our Rev Chat series long before the whole Church of England was forced online. It gave us some confidence as we recreated the Beaminster Area Team on Facebook, YouTube, and through our website.

It has been an innovative year. We have pre recorded services, provided collective worship via YouTube, live streamed Messy Church, provided summer holiday activities in a bag, hosted outdoor carol and Christingle services, built a new online community on Facebook, even conducted an entirely online Holy Week including a live streamed Exultet sung from a back garden. We have prayed together, studied the bible together, met together, chatted and drunk coffee together, conducted business together, and consumed gin together via the wonders of Zoom.

It hasn't been church in the same way that we have been used to, but it has still been church. We meet together virtually, we worship God and encourage one another. We know not everyone is included, and we have tried hard to connect with those not online through phone calls, garden conversations, and the printed word. We know some feel isolated and left out, we are sorry. Thank you to those who have kept in touch with others and gone the extra mile in being a good neighbour.

So much was paused over the last year, so much was missed but God's presence was never paused or restricted. Huge thanks to the whole of the staff team for their hard work and creativity. Thanks to our churchwardens and congregations for caring for each other and filling in endless risk assessments. But if it hadn't been for Harry then much of what we have produced would have never seen the light of day, thank you so much.

I feel hopeful for all that lies ahead, because our hope lies in God: creator, redeemer and sustainer.

Revd. Jo Neary

St Mary's Beaminster PCC
Finance Sub Committee Report to APCM 2021

The Finance Sub Committee meets regularly before each PCC meeting and when any important financial issue arises. Because of the lockdown it met only twice in 2020. Wendy Simmons continues as an excellent Treasurer and we are very grateful to Brian Ridley, our Gift Aid Officer, for all that he does in recording donations by Bankers Orders and in recovering the Gift Aid.

General Fund
The detailed accounts for the General Fund show that it had a deficit for 2020 of £22,500 as compared with a deficit of £1058 in 2018.

In view of the lockdown, it is difficult to make useful comments on many items of income and expenditure.

There was a fall of10% in Tax efficient giving from £47,800 in 2019 to £43,300 but more substantial falls in Cash Collections and Hospitality, arising from the absence of Walk in Wednesday and Lunch time concerts for most of the year. In 2020 the PCC made donations of £2,500,including £1,000 to the Sudan as compared with £1,600 in 2019.

There was no Festival in 2020 but the Festival made a generous donation of £1,000.

Parish Share rose from £53,696 to £56,144, an increase of 4%

Fabric Fund
The Fabric Fund received legacies totalling £378,000 and a generous donation of £5,000 from the Friends of St Mary's.

Bank balances at the year end totalled £495,400

The PCC has severalsignificant building works outstanding at the year end including the party wall with Knowle Cottage and the improvements to the Mort House.

The financial position is sound.

Hugh Lindsay
Chairman Finance Sub Committee
May 2021.

St Mary's Beaminster Parochial Church Council - General Fund
Financial Statement for year ended 31 December 2020

2019			2020
	Receipts		
47813	Tax efficient giving		43557
7075	Cash collections		3345
	Donations:-		
	Hospitality inc.Sunday Coffee		
4290	& Walk in Wednesdays		1057
185	ECO Group		-
2667	Other giving		1083
2813	Team News - see note 1		2559
	Various other collections &		
6772	receipts - see note 2		43136
71615	**Receipts from parishioners**		
13989	Tax recovery		12204
7190	Fund raising inc.Lunchtime Concerts		1571
92794	**Total voluntary**		**108512**
4481	Hire of church (Festival donation)		1000
6367	Fees & Expenses		2893
516	Flower Fund		-
113	Interest		70
104271			**112475**
	Payments		
53696	**Parish Share**		56144
	Team Overheads		
6336	Team Expenses		5375
1200	Church Office		1500
	Receipts disbursed		
2813	Team News		2559
6772	Various (see above)		43136
	Transfer to Fabric Account		1105
	Organ/Services		
930	Organ Maintenance		-
-	Piano		-
7130	Choir & Organist		6563
677	Services Supplies		337
1763	Printing , Stationery & Postage		1055
	Church Building & Grounds		
7075	Insurance		7020
2934	Heating & Lighting	4838	
-	less refund	-368	4470
58	Repairs & Renewals		
4915	Maintenance		5429
1863	Churchyard		1250
957	Cleaning		536
171	Refuse		144
99290	Carried Forward		136623

99290	Brought Forward		136623
	Mission & Outreach		
2812	Hospitality inc. Sunday Coffee & Walk in Wednesdays		791
332	ECO Group		499
145	Fairtrade		-
14	Social		82
604	Flower Fund		94
-	Health & Safety		94
1600	**Donations** (Sudan)		1000
	Other		1500
532	**Architect**		-
1000	**Strode Room**		1000
106329			141683
-2058	**Deficit/Surplus**		-29208
	Legacies (General Account)		
1000	Livingstone		-
-	Talbot		35000
-1058			5792
	Reconciliation		
11303	HSBC Balance		10132
15060	CCLA Balance		15173
26363			25305
-1058	Deduct deficit/Add surplus		5792
25305			31097
	Represented by		
9762	HSBC General account		15284
370	Stewardship		570
15173	CCLA		15243
25305			31097

Notes

1 Team News subscriptions collected and paid to Beaminster Team News Account.

2 Various other 'In & Out' items :-

Legacy (Talbot)		40904.00
Calligraphy		30.00
Gift Aid :-	Friends	278.75
LPOW.(VAT refund)		1923.40
		43136.15

The attached Accounting Policies form part of this Financial Statement.

Approved by the PCC on 25/05/21 and signed on behalf of the PCC by
Reverend Canon David Baldwin (Rector) David Baldwin
rs Wendy Simmons (Hon Treasurer) W Simmons

Reviewed and agreed to the books and records by Mr Gareth Hewett. G Skett

MR. G.S. HEWETT

24 May 2021

St Mary's Beaminster Parochial Church Council - Fabric Fund
Financial Statement for period ended 31 December 2020

2019			2020
	Income		
5,000	Donations		10,105
156	CAF		156
	Listed Place of Worship Grant Scheme		
-	(Refund VAT-Church Boiler)		1,923
	Legacies		
59,624	Nichols		
-	Talbot	320,904	
-	Livingstone	1,000	
-	Gildersleve	55,000	
-	Palk	1,000	
			377,904
132	Interest		76
64,912			390,164
	Expenditure		
11,540	Church Boiler		-
11,540			-
53,372	Surplus/Deficit		390,164
	Reconciliation		
34,251	HSBC		87,491
17,600	CCLA		17,732
51,851	Resources at beginning of year		105,223
53,372	Deficit/Surplus		390,164
105,223			495,387
	Represented by		
87,491	HSBC		477,579
17,732	CCLA		17,808
105,223			495,387

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G S Hewett

Mr. G.S. Hewett

24 May 2021

Beaminster Parochial Church Council

Accounting Policies

Accounting Convention

The financial Statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

Incoming Resources

Contributions receivable are accounted for in the period to which they relate.

Resources Expended

Expenditure is accounted for on the cash accounting basis.

Independent Examiner's Report to the members of the Beaminster Parochial Church Council

I report on the St Mary's Beaminster Parochial Church Council Fabric Fund Account and the St Mary's Beaminster Parochial Church Council – General Fund Account for the year ended 31st December 2020.

Responsibilities and duties of the members of the Beaminster Parochial Church Council

As members, you are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records and for the preparation of the accounts as at 31st December 2020 for the two funds listed above.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by you and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you 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 these 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 proper accounting records has not been met; or

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Gareth Hewett
Independent Examiner

24 May 2021

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