

ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BLACKMORE ST. LAURENCE

Charity Number 1134161

**Annual Report and Financial Statements
of the
Parochial Church Council**

For the year ended 31st December, 2021

Incumbent:

The Reverend Sam Brazier-Gibbs
The Vicarage
Church Street
Blackmore
Ingatestone
Essex
CM4 0RN

Bankers:

Santander plc
Bootle
Merseyside
L30 4GB

HSBC
91 High Street,
Brentwood,
Essex, CM14 4RU

CCLA Investment Management Limited
COIF Charity Funds
Senate House
85 Queen Victoria Street
London EC4V 4ET

Independent Examiner:

Mrs. Clare E. Corby
Farriers
Blacksmiths Alley,
Blackmore, Essex, CM4 0QU

The Priory Church of St Laurence, Blackmore
Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council (PCC)
for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

Administrative Information

St. Laurence Church is situated in Church Street, Blackmore. It is in the Deanery of Epping Forest and Ongar and part of the Diocese of Chelmsford within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Church Street, Blackmore, Ingatestone, Essex, CM4 0RN.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity, registered with the Charity Commission, No. 1134161.

Aims and purposes

St. Laurence's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Grade 1 listed Church building and churchyard.

Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of the PCC is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Laurence the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our vicar), the churchwardens, our Licenced Lay Minister and members elected by those on the Electoral Roll of the church. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and are welcome to stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC is responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. The full PCC met four times with the average level of attendance of 80%. There were also two meetings held on Zoom with an attendance of 92%. Given the wide responsibilities of the PCC it has a number of Task Groups. Each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life.

These Task Groups, which include Mission, Outreach and Discipleship; Pastoral Care; Health and Safety; Children and Youth Work; Fabric and Finance; Worship Group and Ministry Team are all responsible to the PCC and report back to it regularly with minutes of their decisions being received by the full PCC and discussed as necessary.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

We started the year with on-line services but when Churches emerged from 'Lock Down', in-person Sunday services resumed, although everyone had to wear a mask and singing of hymns was not allowed until July. Hymn books were not distributed but the words were projected on to a screen for all to see.

Rev Sam started a morning prayer group in Church and on Zoom which has proved popular.

Church Attendance

There are 68 parishioners on the Electoral Roll, 10 of whom are not resident within the parish.

Deanery Synod

The Synod met on zoom every quarter through the year and has been in discussion about how to become a mission agency. They have had various speakers including a guest from Citizens UK. St Laurence has been represented at every meeting.

The Church Building

The Fabric Committee met several times during 2021 and the following topics were discussed: tower and lych gate re-shingling/re-cladding; interior decorating; organ major overhaul; holm oaks fouling south side of church; new heating system; seating; lighting; audio-visual system with wifi; re-ordering – kitchen, w.c., quiet room, font; car parking. These were all items that have been on hold during the pandemic and will be part of a five year plan.

Pastoral Care

Sandra Wood and Sandra Keeble have been reviewing this and it will be overhauled next year. The Prayer Chain is currently being run by Sam.

Mission and Evangelism

We have developed a new strategy for mission and evangelism called the Evangelism Pathway and this is gradually being implemented within the church.

Children and Youth Work

Youth work has largely been on hold during the pandemic but recommenced towards the end of the year.

Ecumenical Relationships

As part of the Ongar MMU (Mission and Ministry Unit) we engage regularly with other churches in the area.

Gill Hall – Secretary

Financial review 2021

Receipts totalling £82,855, details of which are shown in the Financial Statement, were mostly placed throughout 2021 in our General Account with Santander plc, the exception being interest on other accounts, which was retained with them.

Payments in 2020 amounted to £74,835, which means there was a surplus of £8,020. Fundraising activities and church usage resumed during the year and are again helping us to balance the books. We received a £5000 legacy along with £3000 from the closure of the village playgroup although this is designated to be used for children's work.

We have commenced activities for the repair of the Tower and Lych Gate and re-ordering the church and have engaged architectural services. The Friends of St Laurence (FoSL) have funded the architect fees for the Tower and Lych Gate project.

I would like to thank the many church members and friends who support the church through regular giving, which is our main source of income, all those who come and support the fundraising and social activities and FoSL for their fundraising activities and support for the fabric of the building and churchyard.

We paid our parish share of £43,087. The parish share largely provides the stipends, housing and training for the clergy and the necessary legally required administration of the Diocese as the Church of England is the state church. The Diocese allocates the specific costs for the provision ministry, training of future ministry and Diocesan services to each Benefice, along with grants from the Church Commissioners and a Fee Credit in support of the occasional offices undertaken in the previous year.

We have continued to support our Romanian Charity, Children in Distress and the Brentwood Schools Christian Workers Trust and the British Legion's Poppy Appeal.

We have seen an increase in people giving regularly by monthly standing order. However, our parish share has increased for 2022 and our regular monthly giving income is not enough to cover this. This puts more pressure on fundraising and other activities to make up the shortfall and cover other expenditure. This situation should improve as 'normality' is resumed following the pandemic and our congregation begins to grow again.

John Hughes – Treasurer

Financial Statement for the Year ended 31st December 2021

General Fund Receipts and Payments Account

Receipts

Notes

	2021	2020
Voluntary Receipts	£	£
Planned giving (Gift Aided)	30047	29067
Other Planned Giving	1745	0
Service Collections, Contactless & Online	2367	4187
All other giving	12430	20320
FoSL Funding	4515	0
Gift Day (2020)		7272
Income Tax recovered	12578	8375
Legacies received	5000	0
Grants	0	0
Activities for Generating Funds		
Teas in the Tower	0	0
Serenitea	832	1772
Social Events	2555	274
Christmas Market	1597	315
Income From Investments & Other Accounts		
CCLA General Fund Interest	2	27
Fabric Fund Donation	43	0
Business Tracker Bond Interest	758	355
Church Activities		
Parish Magazine	0	0
Merchandise	241	120
Charity	162	126
Church Users	1015	800
Fees	6697	2531
Other Receipts		
Other	3	272
Total Receipts	82855	75762

Payments

Costs of Generating Funds		£	£
Fundraising Activities		0	0
Church Activities			
Mission Giving/Donations	4	2325	1730
Parish Share		43087	41924
Clergy & Staff Expenses	5	6534	7140
Miscellaneous		594	293
Church Expenses			
Mission and Evangelism	6	622	184
Church Running Expenses	7	6097	5552
Church Office Expenses	8	1656	973
Church Utility Bills		996	1697
Costs of Trading		240	
Other Outgoings	9	1071	891
Major Capital Expenditure			
Tower and Re-Ordering		8952	0
Vicarage		2663	0
Total Payments		74835	60384

Surplus/Debit

8020 15421

Notes to the Accounts for the year to December 2021

1 Accounting Policies

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2011 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

2 Funds

The general fund usually represents the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any special restrictions regarding their use and are available for application to the general purposes of the PCC unless specified otherwise.

The fabric fund consists of unrestricted and restricted funds designated for the maintenance of the Church building, tower and churchyard.

These accounts include monetary transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC can be held responsible. They do not include the accounts of other Church groups that owe an affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

The Blackmore PCC have agreed to waive future contributions of Stondon Massey PCC Ministerial and Office Expenses.

Where the PCC collects monies on behalf of other charities, both the Receipts and Payments are included in these accounts.

	2021	2020
	£	£
3 Sundry Receipts:		
Other	272	221
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	272	221
4 Mission Giving and Donations		
BCSWT	1200	1200
Children In Distress	450	450
Childrens Society	0	
British Legion	80	80
Community Giving	595	255
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2325	1985
5 Clergy and Staff Expenses:		
Ministry Expenses & Resources	6144	6177
Organist / Bells / Choir	290	170
Verger	100	100
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	6534	6447
6 Mission and Evengelism:		
Children and youth	106	184
Worship Material	352	
Training	164	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	622	184

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

	2021	2020
	£	£
7 Church Running Exps.		
Insurance	2770	2742
Copyright Licences	411	327
Consumables	163	258
General Maintenance	360	930
Organ & Piano maint.	108	408
Churchyard	1828	1180
Memorial Plaques	458	155
	<hr/> 6097	<hr/> 6001
8 Office Expenses:		
Office-Stationary	84	
Office-Postage	55	273
Office-Telephone	434	415
Office-Electricity	594	300
Office-Photocopier	218	399
Magazine Production	0	
IT Software/Hardware	270	
	<hr/> 1656	<hr/> 1388
9 Other Outgoings		
Payments to CDBF	1071	
Book Purchases (monies recovered)		145
Flower Tribute Expenses		100
Stondon Gift Day		221
	<hr/> 1071	<hr/> 466

Financial Statement for the Year ended 31st December 2021

Fabric Fund Receipts and Payments Account

	2021			2020		
	Designated	Restricted	Total	Designated	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Receipts</u>						
Interest from CCLA Fabric Fund	2		2	42		42
Donations	43		43		600	600
Complaint Goodwill Gesture	50		50			0
	95	0	95	42	600	642
<u>Payments</u>						
Morgan Fire Protection			0	196		196
M D Landscapes (Anglia) Ltd			0	156	600	756
HSBC Account Closure Transfer	309		309			
	309	0	309	352	600	952
Surplus			-214			-310
CCLA Fabric Fund account at 31st December 2021	14312	1655	15967	14526	1655	16181

THE PRIORY CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE, BLACKMORE
Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st December 2021

			2021	2020
	General Funds	Designated Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cash Funds and Bank Accounts				
Santander Current Account	27364	4174	31538	24373
Santander Deposit Account	62	309	371	62
HSBC Fabric Fund	0	0	0	216
C.C.L.A General Fund	12668		12668	12667
C.C.L.A Fabric Fund		15967	15967	15965
Hampshire Trust Bank	59042		59042	58284
Total Cash and Bank Accounts	99137	20450	119587	111567
Total Funds	99137	20450	119587	111567

Other monetary Assets (all in respect of unrestricted funds)

End of year Income Tax claim £1,969 £6,392

Other Assets

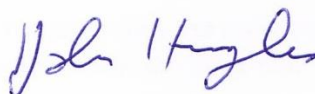
Moveable church furnishings held by the Church Wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal.

Office Equipment used for Parish administration.

Approved by the PCC on the 25/5/22 and signed on their behalf



Reverend Sam Brazier-Gibbs
Chairperson



John Hughes
Treasurer

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of The Priory Church of St. Laurence, Blackmore.

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2021 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Charities Act
- To follow the procedures laid down by the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Charities Act.
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC 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 the PCC concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Charities Act and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Charities Act have not been met, or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Clare E Corby

Farriers, Blacksmiths Alley, Blackmore, Essex CM4 0QU

23rd April 2022