

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, 2022

Incumbent:

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

Bankers:

Santander plc
Bootle
Merseyside
L30 4GB

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
Ingatestone
CM4 0QU

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 2022 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

5th May 2023

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

Structure, Governance and Management

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

The PCC passed a resolution to rescind the Six Year Rule for electing churchwardens and will elect them every year.

The PCC members are 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 six times with the average level of attendance of 80%. 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 Leadership 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

This year has seen the resumption of normal Sunday services, with the choice at Communion of receiving a dipped wafer or taking the traditional wafer and wine. We no longer use hymn books and the words are projected on to a screen.

There are also Prayer Meetings on Monday evenings and Tuesday mornings

Bible Study is held on Thursday afternoons and Christianity Explored on Thursday evenings.

There was a full programme of services over the Christmas period including the Starlight Service and Midnight Mass.

Church Attendance

There are 55 parishioners on the Electoral Roll, 13 of whom are not resident within the parish.

Deanery Synod

There have been several meetings this year, attended by Joh Hughes, Kevin Wood and Rev Sam, with Bishop Guli introducing herself at the November meeting.

The Church Building

The heating in the church has been under discussion for much of this year and it has now been decided to replace the side heaters, which have always been in the wrong position, with new ones which will be in the correct position.

The DAC have approved the Schedule of Works for the recladding of the tower and lychgate and a lot of work has gone into sorting out available grants, etc., but we are having trouble getting approval from Brentwood Borough Council and our architect is working on this.

The church is now open to visitors every day during daylight hours.

Pastoral Care

Sandra Wood and Sandra Keeble are running this successfully, bringing help to those in need.

Serenitea, which is held every Tuesday morning is very well supported and attended by many people who are not regular church goers.

The Prayer Chain is currently being run by Sam.

Mission and Evangelism

During 2022 MODS organised a St George's Evening of song with Graham O'Leary; a barbecue; Harvest Supper; Christmas Fair and a Christmas Fun Quiz all of which were very successful.

Children and Youth Work:

Friday Club for under 12's is well attended and the Youth Group for teenagers has twelve members.

Ecumenical Relationships

St Laurence continues to have a good relationship with the Blackmore Baptist Church.

Gill Hall – Secretary.

Financial Report 2022

Receipts totalling £85,440, details of which are shown in the Financial Statement, were mostly placed throughout the year in our General Account with Santander plc, the exception being interest on other accounts, which was retained with them. Payments amounted to £79,374 producing a surplus of £6,066.

We have seen an increase in funds generated by church social and fundraisings activities which have fully resumed following the covid pandemic which curtailed activities in 2020 and 2021. We have also seen an increase in fees following a full year of weddings, funerals and baptisms.

Our parish share of £49,490 was paid in full. 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 church.

We have continued to support Children in Distress, the Brentwood Schools Christian Workers Trust and the British Legion's Poppy Appeal and have resumed supporting the Church of England Children's Society through a collection at the Starlight Christmas service.

Regular giving by monthly standing order has increased over 2021 and we are still encouraging the take-up of this as it makes budgeting easier and helps us to understand our financial position and outlook. A new booklet "Generous Giving" has been produced and is available in printed copy in church or online from the link on the church website 'Giving' page.

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 the Friends of St Laurence group for their fundraising activities and support for the fabric of the building and the churchyard.

John Hughes – Treasurer

Financial Statement for the Year ended 31st December 2022

General Fund Receipts and Payments Account

Receipts

Notes

	2022	2021
	£	£
Voluntary Receipts		
Planned giving (Gift Aided)	32653	30047
Other Planned Giving	1010	1745
Service Collections, Contactless & Online	3684	2367
All other giving	13011	12430
FoSL Funding	1815	4515
Gift Aid Recovered	6997	12578
Legacies Received	3000	5000
Grants	0	0
Activities for Generating Funds		
Teas in the Tower	864	0
Serenitea	5309	832
Social Events	1547	2555
Christmas Market	1737	1597
Income From Investments & Other Accounts		
General Accounts	124	2
Fabric Account(s)	156	43
Business Savings Bond	414	758
Church Activities		
Parish Magazine	0	0
Merchandise	556	241
Charity	474	162
Church Users	1636	1015
Fees	10298	6697
Other Receipts		
Other	3	155
Total Receipts	85440	82855

Payments

Costs of Generating Funds		£	£
Fundraising Activities		339	0
Church Activities			
Mission Giving/Donations	4	2941	2325
Parish Share		49490	43087
Clergy & Staff Expenses	5	6525	6534
Miscellaneous		289	594
Church Expenses			
Mission and Evangelism	6	1402	622
Church Running Expenses	7	9924	6097
Church Office Expenses	8	1852	1656
Church Utility Bills		1753	996
Costs of Trading		448	240
Other Outgoings	9	2777	1071
Major Capital Expenditure			
Tower and Re-Ordering		1098	8952
Vicarage		537	2663
Total Payments		79374	74835

Surplus/Debit	6066	8020
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Notes to the Accounts for the year to December 2022

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.

	2022	2021
	£	£
3 Sundry Receipts:		
Other	155	272
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	155	272
4 Mission Giving and Donations		
BCSWT	1200	1200
Children In Distress	775	450
Childrens Society	396	0
British Legion	90	80
Community Giving	480	595
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2941	2325
5 Clergy and Staff Expenses:		
Ministry Expenses & Resources	5940	6144
Organist / Bells / Choir	385	290
Verger	200	100
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	6525	6534
6 Mission and Evengelism:		
Children and youth	1308	106
Worship Material	45	352
Training	49	164
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1402	622

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

	2022	2021
	£	£
7 Church Running Exps.		
Insurance	2913	2770
Copyright Licences	541	411
Consumables	647	163
General Maintenance	2310	360
Organ & Piano maint.	264	108
Churchyard	1883	1828
Memorial Plaques	1367	458
	<u>9924</u>	<u>6097</u>
8 Office Expenses:		
Office-Stationary	137	84
Office-Postage	30	55
Office-Telephone	447	434
Office-Electricity	474	594
Office-Photocopier	535	218
Magazine Production	0	0
IT Software/Hardware	230	270
	<u>1852</u>	<u>1656</u>
9 Other Outgoings		
Payments to CDBF	2777	1071
	<u>2777</u>	<u>1071</u>
	79374	74835

THE PRIORY CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE, BLACKMORE **Financial Statement for the Year ended 31st December 2022**

Fabric Fund Receipts and Payments Account

	2022			2021		
	Designated	Restricted	Total	Designated	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Receipts</u>						
Interest from CCLA Fabric Fund	156		156	2		2
Donations			0	43		43
Complaint Goodwill Gesture			0	50		50
	<u>156</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>156</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>95</u>
<u>Payments</u>						
HSBC Account Closure Transfer			0	309		309
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>309</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>309</u>
Surplus			156			-214
CCLA Fabric Fund account at						
31st December 2022	<u>14468</u>	<u>1655</u>	<u>16123</u>	<u>14312</u>	<u>1655</u>	<u>15967</u>

THE PRIORY CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE, BLACKMORE
Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st December 2022

			2022	2021
	General Funds	Designated Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cash Funds and Bank Accounts				
Santander Current Account	12687	4224	16911	31538
Santander Deposit Account	20062	309	20372	371
C.C.L.A General Fund	12792		12792	12668
C.C.L.A Fabric Fund		16123	16123	15967
Cambridge and Counties Bank	59456		59456	59042
Total Cash and Bank Accounts	104997	20656	125652	119587

Other monetary Assets (all in respect of unrestricted funds)

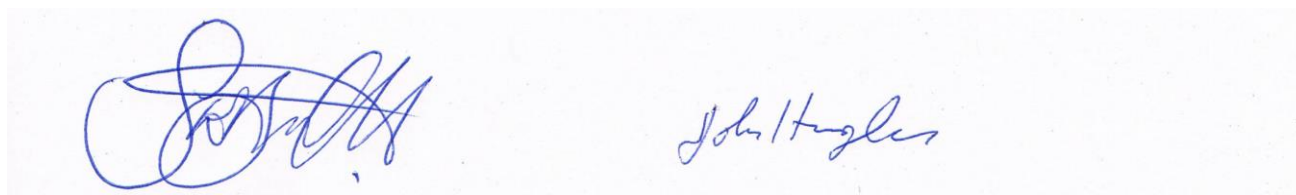
End of year Income Tax claim	£4,473	£1,969
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Other Assets

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.

The accounts have been presented to the PCC on 25th January 2023 and signed on their behalf



Reverend Sam Brazier-Gibbs
Chairperson

John Hughes
Treasurer