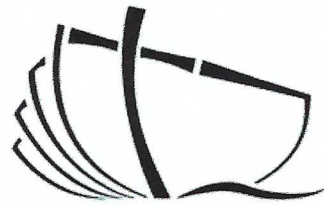


ANNUAL REPORT

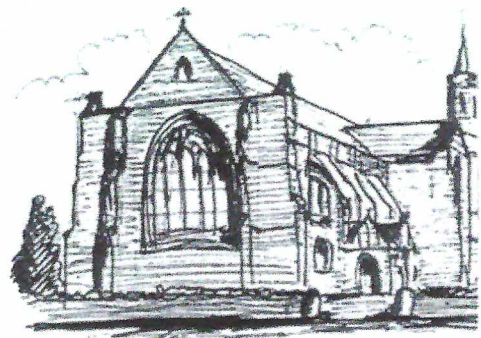
2021

The Parochial Church
Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of
Great Crosby Saint Faith

Registered Charity
No. 1134518



Diocese of Liverpool



Administrative Information

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Great Crosby St Faith is a charity registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales. Charity Registration number: **1134518**

St Faith's Parish Church is situated on the corner of Kingsway and Crosby Road North, Liverpool L22 4QQ and its Church Hall is located on Milton Road, Waterloo, Liverpool, L22 4RE. It is part of the Diocese of Liverpool in the Church of England. The correspondence address is: The Vicarage, Milton Road, Waterloo, Liverpool, L22 4RE.

Website: <http://www.stfaithsgreatcrosby.org.uk>

For the period 1st January 2021 until the date this report was approved, the following served as members of the PCC:

<i>Priest-in-Charge</i>	Fr. John Reed (<i>Chair of the PCC</i>)
<i>Church Wardens</i>	Mr. Gareth Griffiths (<i>Lay Chair of the PCC</i>) Vacancy
<i>Clergy Representative</i>	Fr. Dennis Smith
<i>Reader Representative</i>	Miss Paula O'Shaughnessy
<i>Deanery Synod Representatives</i>	Mr. Gareth Griffiths (<i>re-elected at APCM 2020</i>) Mr. Kevin Mulholland (<i>from APCM 2020</i>) Vacancy
<i>Elected Members</i>	Ms. Lillie Wilmot (<i>to APCM 2021</i>) Mr. Rick Walker (<i>to APCM 2021</i>) Mrs. Fiona Whalley (<i>resigned</i>)
<i>To retire 2022</i>	Mr. Kevin Mulholland Mrs. Vivienne Shillitoe Mrs. Rosie Walker
<i>To retire 2023</i>	Mrs. Eunice Little Mrs. Irene Taylor Mr. Richard Woodley
<i>To retire 2023</i>	Mrs. Dot Huyton Mr. Harry Huyton Mr. John Battersby
<i>Co-opted Members:</i>	Mr. David Jones (<i>Treasurer</i>) Mr. Rick Walker (<i>PCC Secretary</i>) Mrs. Christine Spence (<i>Assistant Warden</i>) Ms. Corinne Hedgecock (<i>Assistant Warden</i>) Ms. Helen Kibbey (<i>Parish Safeguarding Officer</i>)

The Liverpool Diocesan Board of Finance acted as Custodian Trustee for the inalienable property of the Church.

Bankers: TSB plc, PO Box 373, Leeds, LS14 9GQ.

Independent Examiner: Mr Raymond Bissex FCA, St. Mary's Annexe, 32 Brooklands Avenue, Waterloo, Liverpool, L22 3XZ.

Architect: Robbie Bell, Saunders Bell, Sherwood Road, Crosby, L23 7UF

Day-to-day management control of the Church is exercised by the Incumbent, Fr. John Reed, and the Churchwarden, Gareth Griffiths.

Structure, Management and Governance

The PCC of Great Crosby St Faith is a body corporate and operates under the *Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956* and *Church Representation Rules (2020)*.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All those who attend our services/members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The full PCC met six times during the year with an average level of attendance of 75%.

From the APCM 2021, the PCC operated the following sub-committees:

Standing Committee: Fr. John Reed (Chair), Mr Gareth Griffiths (Warden and PCC Lay Vice Chair), Mr David Jones (Parish Treasurer), Mr Rick Walker (Parish Secretary), Fr. Dennis Smith, Mr Kevin Mulholland, Mr Richard Woodley.

Finance & Stewardship Committee: Mr David Jones (Treasurer) (Chair), Fr. John Reed, Mr Gareth Griffiths, Mr Rick Walker, Mr Peter Garner.

Fabric Committee: Mr Rick Walker (Chair), Fr. John Reed, Mr Gareth Griffiths, Fr. Dennis Smith.

Planning & Communications Committee: Fr. John Reed (Chair), Mr Gareth Griffiths, Mr David Jones, Mrs Rosie Walker, Ms Corinne Hedgecock, Mr Joe Watson.

Church Hall Committee: Fr. John Reed, Mr Gareth Griffiths, Mrs Christine Spence, Ms Corinne Hedgecock.

Social Committee: Mrs Rosie Walker (Team Leader), Mrs Audrey Dawson, Mrs Mary Crooke, Mrs Christine Spence, Mrs Irene Taylor, Mrs Irene Salisbury, Mrs Eileen Matthews.

Worship Committee: Fr. John Reed (Chair), Fr. Dennis Smith, Revd. Denise McDougall, Mr Gareth Griffiths, Mr David Jones, Mr Joe Watson, Mrs Irene Taylor, Mrs Christine Spence.

PCC members receive information on trustee responsibilities, basic health and safety, risk management and safeguarding procedures.

Aims and Purposes

St Faith's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the Priest-in-Charge, the Reverend John Reed, 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 Parish Church of St Faith, located on the corner of Kingsway and Crosby Road North, Liverpool, L22 4QQ and its Church Hall, located on Milton Road, Liverpool, L22 4RE.

Objectives and Activities

The general functions of PCCs are stated within section 2 of the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at the Parish Church and to become part of the community of faith at St Faith's. The PCC maintains an overview of worship in the Parish and discusses how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish.

Our worship puts faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

Statement of Public Benefit

When planning the activities for the year, the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and in particular, the specific guidance for charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and Prayer; regular public worship that is open to all, and the provision of sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation.
- Enabling people to learn about the Gospel and develop their knowledge of, and trust in, God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit through sermons, courses and small groups.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish and for members of the congregation, including visiting the sick, housebound and bereaved.
- Mission and outreach work
- Taking of religious assemblies in schools.
- Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings and the distribution of literature.
- Promoting the whole mission of the Church through provision of activities that meet the needs of various groups within the Parish.
- Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas.

To facilitate this, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church of St Faith and the Church Hall.

Key activities from 2021 included:

- Leading the way in the Diocese by being open for public worship but being safe under Covid restrictions.
- Sharing the Parish Eucharist with the congregation and hundreds of viewers on YouTube and Facebook.
- Weekly prayers and reflections led on Facebook, including special online talks for Lent and Advent.
- Continuing St Faith's social life through parish lunches, "Easter Cheer" and fundraising events, raising money for church funds and Christian Aid.

- Carrying out essential repairs to the church building in accordance with the Quinquennial Report and installing new heating boilers.
- Organising two hugely successful “Come and Sing” events and involving other churches and the wider community in musical events.
- Re-started the Christmas Tree Festival in December, which raised nearly £4,000 for church funds and £2,000 for the 32 charities.

Church Attendance

The average weekly attendance counted during October 2021 was 71 and the average Sunday attendance during the same period was 64. These figures do not include baptism services, weddings or funerals but the numbers are higher because of the Patronal Festival in October.

Electoral Roll

Following the revision for the APCM 2022, there are currently 66 names on the Church Electoral Roll, 21 of whom are resident within the parish and 45 of whom are not resident within the parish. 5 names were added to the Roll and 4 names were removed under Church Representation Rules 2020 Rule 4.

Pastoral Care

The clergy and ministry team visit, on behalf of the Church, those who are unwell or are unable to leave their houses on their own. Those who wish it receive regular communion either at home or in hospital and those who are bereaved are visited when it seems appropriate.

Occasional Offices

From January – December 2021, there were:

- 10 baptisms
- 2 weddings, and
- 8 funerals

Mission and Evangelism

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. The Social Committee is to be congratulated on its fundraising efforts that resulted in £773 for Christian Aid. It is good that these efforts on behalf of others can be combined with opportunities for fellowship.

The parish website is updated regularly with details of services and social events. The “Friends of St Faith’s Great Crosby” page on Facebook has 149 members and is updated daily. The “St Faith’s Crosby Music” page on Instagram has 54 followers and posts photographs and videos of musical events in the church. A “NewsLite” leaflet is published monthly and distributed at the Sunday services with news about our church and articles of general interest.

Safeguarding

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops’ guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

We are committed to:

- The care, nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and all adults;
- The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and all adults;
- The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where victims of abuse can report or disclose abuse and where they can find support and best practice that contributes to the prevention of abuse.

To this end:

- We will carefully select, support and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with the principles of Safer Recruitment. We will respond without delay to every complaint made, that any adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to offer informed pastoral care and support to anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry that recognises the importance of understanding the needs of those who have been abused, including their feelings of alienation and / or isolation.
- We will seek to protect survivors of abuse from the possibility of further harm and abuse.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of respect and responsibility, where they are trusted by others.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision, and referral to the appropriate authorities, to any member of our Church community known to have offended against a child, young person or adult who is vulnerable.
- The Parish Safeguarding Officer is Ms. Helen Kibbey and the Vulnerable Adults Officer is Mr Gareth Griffiths.

In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

Other Policies

The PCC affirmed its commitment to holding policies that follow Diocesan and national church guidance on Data Protection, Volunteering, the Environment, Health and Safety and Risk Management. Links to the Diocesan guidance are to be found in the Parish Policy Handbook. The PCC Secretary holds copies of this in hard copy and electronic form and they are available on request.

The PCC of Great Crosby St Faith complies with its obligations under the “GDPR” by keeping personal data up to date; by storing and destroying it securely; by not collecting or retaining excessive amounts of data; by protecting personal data from loss, misuse, unauthorised access and disclosure and by ensuring that appropriate technical measures are in place to protect personal data.

Report of the Priest-in-Charge

The pandemic has been an ever-present reality. Throughout the year, we have had to react to constantly changing advice from the Government and the Bishops. Occasionally, we have had direct rules to follow. When the church was closed for public worship, we continued to produce worship online through the website and Facebook and sent letters to those without internet access. The newly acquired experience of recording and using Facebook and YouTube led to "Thought for the Day" in Lent and Advent, involving Readers and Clergy from the United Benefice. The Advent talks involved some well-known guests including Paul Bayes, the retiring Bishop of Liverpool. Some talks had a very large audience.

The church was closed for lockdown in mid-January but re-opened for worship on Ash Wednesday, although full choral services only resumed in July and so we returned to a new normal. The response from the congregation in returning to worship was encouraging. The worship highlights of the year were inevitably in the Autumn and Winter but, without the steady growth in numbers through the difficult months, they would not have taken place.

In January, Robert Woods left the post of Director of Music. April saw the appointment of Joe Watson as the new Director of Music, and he quickly made us aware of what we had been missing musically with a reinvigorated choir, and he produced several very successful and innovative new events. The Director's report below covers these in more detail.

Hall bookings increased throughout the year with a Vaccination Clinic, that jabbed well over 25,000 people. The queues were the talk of Waterloo for many months. Slimming World have two additional weekday bookings. There is a well-attended "Knit and Natter" group that meets every other week. The "Kind Hearts Café" is a regular Thursday meeting point for both congregation and community members, with the added bonus of helping work amongst the homeless in Liverpool. Father Dennis has tried the food and highly recommends it!

The Scouts, Cub Scouts and Beavers have all returned on a Thursday evening and numbers are buoyant. The Rainbow section has combined with another group and has sadly closed at St. Faith's. The Brownies continue to meet on Monday evening. Parade services began later in the year and it was good to have the young people back in church with us. The Alcoholics Anonymous group have not re-opened.

Additional income from the hall, planned giving, the recitals and the Christmas Tree Festival have helped church finances, but we still fell short on Parish Share contributions. I would like to thank David Jones, the PCC Treasurer, for his continued work with church finances.

Catering at events is invaluable in bringing people together and raising funds, thanks go to our dedicated Social Committee members.

Brenda Cottarel took a break from being Church Warden after seven years but continued helping Gareth Griffiths the remaining Church Warden throughout the year. They have worked hard to keep the church looking clean.

The worship of St. Faith's is the reason why we are here; my thanks go to colleagues in the Ministry Team, servers, choir, Director of Music and Irene Taylor who arranges the flowers. The "Living in Love and Faith" course was jointly run with St. Mary's and resulted in some good discussions.

The crowning glory of the year was the Christmas Tree Festival and our thanks go to Rick and Rosie Walker and their team for organising a very successful event. The event brought

together many volunteers from church, working hard behind the scenes, and attracted many visitors of all ages. The sense of community and the good news of Christmas was at the heart of this year's Festival. Both the church finances and a large number of charities benefitted from this.

We have had to bid farewell to some stalwart members of the congregation who now "rest on another shore". We remember their contribution to the life of St. Faith's with gratitude. Some have moved to new homes in other places and new faces have joined us. Others amongst us have indicated that their many years of faithful service at St. Faith's will be coming to an end. Without change there is no life, it is a reality in any group or organisation. Long established roles become person shaped, and we look at the person and rightly say I cannot be that person. Calling is at the heart of being a Christian, God has constantly surprised me over the years with people stepping forward unexpectedly to take on new responsibilities. The report lists some roles that need new people to take them on. My challenge to all of you is, "are you willing to take a step of faith and try something new and allow God 'to make all things new'".

Fr John Reed
Priest-in-Charge

Report of the Parochial Church Council

A total of six meetings were held over the year and a wide variety of topics were discussed. The attendance was around 75% with some members needing to isolate because of the pandemic. Some members do not have internet capability in their homes so "online" meetings were not a realistic option.

There were the perennial discussions over relatively minor issues, but several meetings included coping with the Covid pandemic and how the guidelines from both the Government and the Diocese were to be implemented. With such a large and well aired building, St Faith's was able to re-start regular services before many smaller churches, but with appropriate social spacing and hygiene measures.

The pandemic had also limited opportunity for fund raising, and although regular giving was maintained, it had not been possible to add to the Back of Church fund. Similarly, the ever-growing costs of running a large church building made some decisions difficult - in particular the Parish Share which the PCC resolved to pay the share whenever possible. Sadly, a small number of payments had to be missed.

The church heating system became costly and unreliable – it was over fourteen years old and with advice from the Diocese, the boilers were replaced at considerable cost. It is hoped that this investment will pay for itself in reduced gas bills, and in addition our system is more eco-friendly. The Quinquennial Inspection produced the expected list of work to undertake, and several thousand pounds were earmarked for roof and window repairs to be carried out as soon as competitive quotations had been received.

A suggestion from the Diocese that we may become part of a larger multi-parish group was examined thoroughly. This topic had been raised in previous years, but the PCC reaffirmed that they did not think it appropriate for St Faith's.

Rick Walker
Parish Secretary

Report of the South Sefton Deanery Synod

Two members of the PCC sit on the Deanery Synod (there is one vacancy). This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. Deanery Synod met twice during the year.

22 September 2021 at the Parish Church of St Philip, Litherland

We received a presentation by Ruth Pryce, about her work as chaplain to the Marie Curie Centre, Woolton.

The business side of the evening revolved round the restructuring of the Deanery committees, carried over from 2019. These were constituted as follows:

Deanery Leadership Team

Clergy – Rev Canon Andrew Stott, Rev Gregor Cuff
Lay – Ray Glenn, George Carter

Deanery Finance Team

Clergy - Rev Debbie Statter, Rev Bill Matthews
Lay – Ann McGee, vacancy

Deanery Mission, Evangelism and Justice Team

Clergy – Rev Paula Bridson, Rev Ravi Sangra, Rev Josie Williams, Rev John Reed, Rev Colin Oxenforth.
Lay – Barry Gray, Pat Vivian, Jill Morland Duff, Lynn Murray, Karyn Smith

Elections to Diocesan Synod

Clergy – Rev Gregor Cuff, Rev Ravi Sangra, Heather Goldsmith
Lay – George Carter, Jill Morland Duff, Nancy Bell

We were also made aware of the presence of some 60-80 families of Afghan refugees in the Sefton area. They would value gifts of long-sleeved clothing, shoes and toiletries, all of which should be new and cellophane-wrapped.

30 November 2021 at Christ Church, Bootle

The main item of business was a presentation by the Venerable Pete Spiers, Archdeacon of Knowsley and Sefton, of the Diocesan initiative *Fit for Mission 2* (FFM2). The delivery of the presentation was hindered by problems with the digital projector but the slides were circulated later that week.

After the presentation many questions were posed and discussion continued after the Archdeacon had left. Questions and comments included:

- How effective are the outreach projects, such as the Joshua Centre, at making disciples and how critically are they assessed? Do they give Value for Money?
- Why do these outreach projects focus on 'Young People'? The Gospel is for all ages and it is likely that the current membership of our churches would be able to engage people who are about ten years younger than themselves more effectively than they would young adults.
- Concern was expressed about the justice of asking parishes to bear the financial burden of clergy stipends. Many parishes were historically endowed with Glebe land

and parsonages but these were taken by the Church Commissioners in the 1970s. In return the Commissioners were meant to assume the responsibility for clergy stipends but they seem to be reneging on that. Is it fair that the Commissioners are supporting Diocesan Initiatives instead of clergy stipends?

- The prospect of turning the whole Deanery into a small number of very large parishes is worrying. A parish which stretches 5 miles in all directions is no longer a parish in the sense generally understood.

The rest of the scheduled business was postponed.

As a result of this discussion, Synod asked the Area Dean to raise the following issues, in a hope that it will facilitate a greater understanding of thinking behind this radical initiative:

- What is the theology and reasoning that drives the strategy and vision for FFM2? How does our approach to the restructuring of a diocese, of parishes and deaneries reflect the good news of the abundant love of Christ and our hope for the future?
- As part of his presentation, Archdeacon Pete talked about the decline in church attendance. Has any Diocesan research been done around decline? National statistics and Statistics for Mission tell us it is happening and has been happening for a long time, but they do not tell us why and, without understanding that, no vision and strategy agenda stands much chance of being successful.
- What is it about our churches, our theology, our actions or even our history that is preventing people from coming to churches within the diocese of Liverpool, within Sefton deanery, and for each of us, our own churches?
- FFM2 is being presented as a done deal. What is the Diocesan strategy for FFM2 if the bid for Commissioners' funding is unsuccessful?

Report on the Church Fabric

Church and Hall

Risk Management Assessments that were carried out in 2020 remained in place during the lockdown and Covid restrictions in 2021. Care was taken to ensure that safe distancing and hygiene measures were in place to make the church a safe environment for parishioners and visitors as restrictions were removed or relaxed.

Repairing broken or slipped roof slates seems to be a regular item of maintenance, although the provision of scaffolding is often more expensive than the cost of the actual work! Clearing of drains and downspouts, cutting back weeds and removing rubbish were also done during the year.

The church boilers were replaced in the summer and the response of the congregation to the Vicar's appeal letter greatly exceeded expectations. The new boilers have a higher output than the old ones and the work was completed to a high standard within one week. A burst radiator in the hall early in the year that flooded the floor was contained through the vigilance of the Wardens and several hours of mopping. Christine Spence, who does a lot behind the scenes for the hall, was on hand filling mops and buckets.

More roofing repairs and the long-awaited repairs to the West window stonework were carried out in January 2022. The white efflorescence on the walls was also removed, followed by a deep cleaning of the church carried out by a cleaning contractor. Measures to deter pigeons

from roosting on the window ledges proved less successful as they moved further up the building!

Our new Director of Music identified several faults with the organ and the PCC appointed Harrison & Harrison Ltd to take over responsibility for its maintenance. Sadly, regular tuning visits had not taken place for some years but this has now been corrected. The wind system is in a poor state due to a combination of old and failing leather and an inadequate blower. In July, a specialist Organ Blower and Humidification engineer reported that the blower is too small for the organ and that the acoustic cabinet surrounding it is made from a flimsy material that makes it ineffective as a barrier to transmitting sound. Reports from three organ building firms have been obtained and these, together with the support and advice of the Diocesan Organ Adviser, will be considered in due course. Some electrical work in the organ loft, that was branded "dangerous and a serious fire hazard", was repaired.

Thanks are due to Irene Taylor and the team of flower arrangers who keep the church looking so lovely for services and special occasions.

Back of Church Development

During the year we asked our architect and our quantity surveyor to prepare realistic estimates on the work that is proposed. The total was slightly over £100,000 and the project is only achievable with the help of grant aid. We took some (free) advice from a funding expert who suggested a number of grant making bodies who may be able to assist us. He also said that our present fund of about £25,000 shows considerable commitment to the project and would encourage corporate donors.

However, the effects of the pandemic and pressures of other commitments prevented any further progress on the project in 2021.

We hope that with renewed enthusiasm the next year may see some positive progress.

Rick Walker
Project Team Leader

Report of the Director of Music

Overview

It has been an absolute pleasure to have held the position of Director of Music at St Faith's since my appointment in May 2021. St Faith's Crosby aspires to be home to one of the most successful music foundations across the Diocese. Consequently, I have implemented a challenging and exciting plan that articulates a strong and deliverable vision for a progressive, creative and caring Music Department. Most importantly, it is underpinned by an uncompromising commitment to ensuring that we continue to provide excellent music to enhance our liturgy for the parish community.

There has been much change, but by sticking to the core values that makes St Faith's the fantastic church and community that is, we are now in a position where we have a creative and forward-thinking Music Department to ensure that we offer a truly outstanding quality of music.

Using the Music Department Development Plan, created in April 2021 and approved by the PCC, to provide a coherent vision for the Music Department, the document will critically analyse our success, whilst identifying opportunities for the future.

Branding

This year has seen the complete re-launch of the 'image' of St Faith's Crosby Music. Significant investment has been made by the church to give the Music Department a modern, stylish look in line with the Christian values of the Church. Over the course of the last year, the new Music Department logo has been established, along with a whole host of customisable posters, colours, fonts, and brand consistency guidelines.

The re-branding of the Music Department to bring it in line with our vision of a modern, outward facing operation could not have been more successful. Our logo is now instantly recognisable around Waterloo, Crosby and beyond, and our consistent branding has helped consolidate this further. Whilst in the church, branded items such as lanyards, placemats and all programmes and publicity being designed in the new 'house style' only help consolidate our new image and help spread the word of St Faith's Music around the community.

This redesign was a bold move for St Faith's, with no other church in our community having such a modern, bright, and powerful branding design. However, the support from the church has significantly enhanced the benefits of this, with St Faith's clearly being the market leader in Church and Cathedral Music branding.

Social Media

This year has seen the launch of St Faith's Crosby Music's Facebook page. At the time of writing, the Facebook page is 'liked' by 74 people and 'followed' by 92 people. Giving St Faith's a public presence on social media has been key to the success of our 'Come and Sing' events and lunchtime concert series this year. It should be noted at this point that without the branding mentioned earlier, the Facebook page would simply have not been possible.

In a change from previous years, sponsored advertising has been used on social media to generate advertisement and audiences for St Faith's events. There is no doubt that advertising on Facebook has increased audience numbers considerably at all St Faith's Crosby Music events. In the next year, it is the intention to explore partnerships with Liverpool John Moore's University, to create a programme whereby students at the University are put on placement at St Faith's to expand further our social media presence.

Organ

One of the biggest success stories of this year in terms of the organ has been securing the internationally renowned company Harrison and Harrison Organ Builders to take over the day-to-day care of our organ. It has been commented on widely throughout the church community how much better the organ is sounding now. The lack of care and attention over many years led the organ to be in a very sorry state, but we can now rejoice that a fine organ builder is looking after the organ once more.

At the time of writing, we have asked three different organ building firms to tender for future works on the organ. Inspections by Harrison and Harrison have found serious deterioration in parts of the organ's structure. The focus of the next year will be exploring these reports, deciding on the best course of action, and exploring potential funding options. This is likely to include the launch of an Organ Fund Appeal, as significant sums of money are likely to be needed to secure the future of our organ.

Planning

The establishment of a three-monthly Music and Liturgy planning meeting has been instrumental in successful long term musical planning at St Faith's. In what I believe has not happened for a long time, there is now an active dialogue between the Music Department and the Clergy as to the musical selection at services. The results of this have been overwhelmingly positive, with the congregation enjoying weekly music that is both well known, but also stretching the musical repertoire of the church.

The publication of the monthly Order of Service Music (OSM) has given reassurance to the choir, clergy and congregation about what music is being delivered on a week-by-week basis. This is critical to the success of St Faith's Music, as the primary goal of the Music Department is to enhance and uplift weekly liturgy.

Choir & Recruitment

The choir in the last nine months have been truly phenomenal. Their steadfast commitment to St Faith's, their driving energy, enthusiasm, and support to the Music Department have been instrumental to the success we have. I cannot thank them enough for their commitment and what they do for St Faith's.

I am delighted that Mari Griffiths and Viv Shillitoe have taken up the role of Choir Librarians. This is a huge role, but a role that is critical to the smooth running of the Music Department. I am hugely grateful for all that they do to support music, and I look forward to working with them over the next year.

Over the course of the last nine months, the choir have recruited three new members. Choir recruitment is going to be the focal point for my time over the next few months. At the time of writing, we are in the process of submitting a funding application to the Ouseley Church Music Trust for a grant to support the start of the St Faith's Choral Scholarship Scheme. This scheme would make us the only Anglican Church in Merseyside other than the Anglican Cathedral to offer a formal training programme for young singers. We are also in the process of appointing three choir chaperones. This will allow us to continue to develop the plans in forming a Junior Choir, something that I see as being key to the future success of Music at St Faith's.

The choir is certainly going through an exciting time of development, and I'm sure that all of St Faith's community will be excited to see what 2022 holds!

Concert Series

St Faith's has been blessed in previous years by running a highly successful lunchtime concert series, something I was keen to inherit and develop myself. In a change to previous years, the 2021 concert series was much shorter, comprising six concerts performed by professional musicians.

The much shorter series – compared to the traditional 23 – have proved to be more popular than before. The catering team, under Rosie's direction, did a really great job and the table service this year (because of Covid restrictions) also seemed to work very well.

The 2022 concert series will be following the same format as the 2021 concerts, with 8 concerts performed by professional musicians being held in June and July. In another change from previous years, a single programme will be printed for the entire concert series, much like the Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra do. Whilst a small charge will be introduced for professionally produced and printed programmes, programmes will still be available free of

charge on audience members own electronic devices. This will be downloadable by using a QR code displayed at the church entrance.

This last year has also seen two highly successful 'Come and Sing' events, one being the Festal Evensong in August and Fauré Requiem in November. Both events were attended by more than 130 people, and 2022 will see the return of more 'Come and Sing' events, only bigger and better!

As a result of a very generous anonymous donation, St Faith's was able to invite internationally renowned organist Martin Baker to perform a live soundtrack to the 1925 film 'Phantom of the Opera'. This event was a huge success, bringing in a new audience to St Faith's, but also showing off the organ in a different way to it is usually heard! We hope to be able to work with Martin again in 2022.

Technology

This year has seen many technological developments within the church, formed because of the requirements of a modern Music Department. Having Wi-Fi in the church (accessible only to certain people at present due to bandwidth constraints) has allowed services to be streamed live, whilst allowing Music Department staff to work whilst in the building. Furthermore, the new CCTV system in the organ loft has allowed the organist to stream live services whilst having full view of the church from the organ console. The purchase of new high-quality condenser microphones has allowed the quality of digital media to be enhanced greatly. Organ recitals have also been enhanced considerably, with audience members now able to watch organists play on a large screen at the front of the church.

In the next year, it is the intention to explore options to add to the current intelligent lighting system. The use of intelligent lighting has added noticeably to the ambience of concerts and the overall professional look of events, and this is something that will be explored further.

Commendations

As mentioned earlier, I express a huge amount of gratitude to the Choir for their commitment over the last nine months and previous. Without them, we would not be able to fulfil our primary role of providing excellent music to enhance the liturgy of St Faith's.

Rosie and Rick Walker and the Social Committee have been very supportive of Music Department events over the last nine months. I couldn't be more thankful for having such a great team all working towards the same goal. Thank you!

I am especially thankful to the PCC for their support on my ambitious development plans for St Faith's Music. Without your support, we would not have had the year we had! I am particularly grateful to Fr John Reed, Gareth Griffiths and David Jones for their support, guidance and commitment to music. I am eternally grateful for all that you have done and cannot express this enough!

The congregation of St Faith's is unlike no other! Your support, energy and drive have helped St Faith's Music develop like no other church in Liverpool this year! I always look forward to seeing and engaging with you at events, and here's to another year of incredible music for our community!

Conclusion

On a personal note, it has been the most rewarding of experiences to be part of the St Faith's community since my appointment in May 2021. We have achieved such great things in a short time! I say "we" because no person can achieve great things alone. It is the St Faith's community that have grown St Faith's Music themselves, and I wholeheartedly look forward to the next year as we take St Faith's Music to heights we could only dream of!

Thank you to everyone for all your support.

Joe Watson BA (Hons), PGCE, LRSM
Director of Music

Social Committee

St Faith's Catering

After the difficult conditions imposed on us during the lockdown in 2020, the last year moved to a slightly more normal calendar of events.

There was just one brown bag picnic and that was at Easter when the "Easter Cheer" celebration attracted nearly 80 participants! Although we all hope that this was the last time we will have to hold this type of event, we were pleased that over 400 people had enjoyed these novel social meals, which had helped to keep up the spirit of St Faith's during difficult times.

The Saturday recitals returned after a one-year absence and the catering was arranged around socially distanced seating and waitress service. Although there were fewer recitals than previous years, the quality of the music (and we hope the food) ensured that the audience thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Parish meals in the hall and at the Back of Church returned with good numbers and a new idea of tea and cakes following evensong proved popular.

Catering for evening events included tapas style food for the large choir and audience at the Faure "Come and Sing" evening, and the popular Phantom of the Opera silent film showing.

The Christmas Tree Festival proved the usual round of hot and cold food, interminable cups of tea and coffee, and a great opportunity to welcome back many of the local community who had been absent due to the pandemic.

I am very grateful to all who have helped during the past 12 months and look forward to the challenges of the coming year. If anyone would like to join the team, please come and have a word with me.

Rosie Walker
Catering Team Leader

Christmas Tree Festival 2021

After a successful but restricted year "on-line" during the Covid pandemic last year it was good to be able to hold the 2021 Festival back in church. A long blue banner announced the coming Festival to the outside world, and with the help of the Cubs and Scouts and an army of volunteers it was obvious that the Festival had lost none of its magic. Jars of jam and pickles

appeared, cakes, biscuits and scones were baked, followed by knitted and home-made goods and produce. With a table of donated raffle prizes, we were set for a fabulous week.

And so it proved.

The 13th Christmas Tree Festival was off to a flying start and the festivities were augmented by a dozen or more stalls from 'outside' traders who added sparkle and variety to our offerings. Father Christmas himself dropped in to add his touch of magic for the children.

Every day the church filled with visitors and the chink of coins dropping into collecting tins mixed with the sounds of happy chatter, organs being played and children singing Christmas Carols. 'Previously loved' goods were sold, and the Catering team provided delicious food and drink for everyone.

There were several musical highlights including the Carol Service with the Military Brass Band, and a concert of classical guitar playing and piano, and our Barbershop friends from the Wayfarers Chorus livened up the final Saturday.

With an estimated attendance of 2000+ it was not surprising that the 32 Charities who had sponsored trees were delighted as they collected nearly £2,000 including a tithe of the money raised for St Faith's.

A happy and successful end to a busy year!

Rick Walker
Festival Team Leader

Financial Review

This is the second year of living with lockdowns and Covid restrictions but we appear to have weathered the storms and had a successful financial year, due in no small part to some inspiring musical events and the return of the Christmas Tree Festival.

It is encouraging to note a small, but very welcome, increase in the level of planned giving (bank standing orders and weekly envelopes) and we are most grateful to all those parishioners who give so generously. We are also very grateful to those parishioners who have switched to monthly standing orders away from weekly envelopes and loose cash on the plate which helps our cash flow too. We are investigating ways of having a contactless machine for payments in future and this will be particularly helpful for casual visitors at baptisms, weddings and funerals.

The PCC remains committed to the payment of Parish Share which, at £3,784 every month, is our biggest outgoing. We paid nine of the twelve months in 2021, despite repairs to the building's fabric that were essential. There is, however, a substantial amount outstanding and the PCC has made occasional payments to reduce this as and when it can.

The recovery of Gift Aid tax continues to be an important source of income and it was encouraging to note the very generous donations to the Boiler Appeal of £6,505 were further supplemented by approximately £1,500 in Gift Aid. The capital cost of the boilers is being written off over four years.

If the legacies in 2020 are not included, there is a healthy increase of nearly £14k in the level of income in 2021. This has been achieved through some outstanding musical events and a large increase in hall income due, principally, to the Vaccination Centre. Although expenditure

is higher, it has returned to more “normal” levels since the church was open for most of the year.

We are very grateful to all those who worked so hard and imaginatively in raising funds for the church in a variety of ways, not least the “Bags of Cheer”, Christmas Tree Festival and a number of inspirational musical events. These have proved to be well-supported and successful events, both in financial terms and in their outreach to the wider community which was particularly important during a year of continuing concerns over Covid.

The PCC, as Trustees of the charity, continue to act responsibly in managing the charity’s financial affairs.

David Jones MBE
Parish Treasurer

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds (if possible) that equates to at least three months’ unrestricted payments. This is equivalent to £20,000. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. The balance of £6,804 held on unrestricted (including designated) funds at 31 December 2021 did not match this target. It is the PCC’s hope to increase this over time, as and when income recovers.

Risk Management

The major risks to which the PCC are exposed are being reviewed and a Risk Management Plan will be prepared for consideration by the PCC. Risk can be defined as ‘the threat that an event or action will adversely affect an organization’s ability to achieve its objectives and execute its strategies’. The risks may be categorized as follows:

- Financial risk – the most common category of risk and many non-financial risks can be measured in terms of financial impact. The PCC approved a set of Internal Financial Procedures to manage financial risk.
- Reputational risk – can have an impact if unwelcome publicity hinders the mission of the church. Regular media releases are issued to local newspapers and the Diocesan Bulletin.
- Statutory and legal requirements – such as health and safety, employment law, Charities Act, and child protection. The PCC has policies in place.
- Operational risk – relates to threats to the Church’s ability to deliver its objectives owing, for example, to damage to the church building.

Plans for 2022

- To seek to increase communication between the Ministry Team and those members of the congregation isolating at home, the sick or their relatives/carers.
- To increase and record in the service register Home Communion visits for the housebound.
- To increase the numbers on the Electoral Roll by 5% and to contact those who have not attended church for more than three consecutive Sundays.
- To invite families from recent baptisms to attend special services, like parades.

- To consider funding options to take forward the development of the toilet and kitchen facilities at the back of the church.
- To prepare a strategy for the future of the organ.
- To increase the number of regular planned givers by 10%.
- To promote the further use of the Hall for meetings, groups and organisations.
- To organise a series of events to enhance the liturgy and music in the church.
- To rebuild the church website to make it more accessible and user-friendly.
- To increase the numbers in the serving team and those who read lessons and prepare intercessions.
- To put in place a composite rota for intercessors, readers, duty wardens, sidespersons and eucharistic assistants that is communicated to all.

Volunteers

We should like to thank all those who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community that it is. In particular, our Churchwarden, Mr Gareth Griffiths, who gives so much of his time to the care of the church and its people, and Mr David Jones, our Treasurer, who manages the church finances so carefully, all the members of the PCC, the Ministry Team, Assistant Wardens, sidespersons, the catering team and those who clean and tidy the church. A huge number of people continue to give generously of their time, talents and resources to enable St Faith's to go on being God's holy, catholic and apostolic church in this place, to be God's people in God's mission, and to care for this holy house.

Approved by the PCC on 6 March 2022 and signed on their behalf by



**Fr. John Reed CA
Chair of the PCC**

The Parish of St Faith, Great Crosby

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
INCOME						
Donations and legacies	2(a)	53,771	6,953	1,257	61,981	76,580
Fundraising activities	2(b)	4,506	10,485	4,755	19,746	12,275
Church activities	2(c)	15,957	-	-	15,957	12,310
Investments	2(d)	141	-	-	141	168
TOTAL INCOME		74,375	17,438	6,012	97,825	101,333
EXPENDITURE						
Raising funds	3(a)	294	602	2,700	3,596	3,469
Church activities	3(b)	83,296	7,712	1,257	92,265	69,145
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		83,590	8,314	3,957	95,861	72,614
NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENT (LOSS)						
		(9,215)	9,124	2,055	1,964	28,719
(Loss) on investment		(104)			(104)	(1,421)
Transfer of funds		1,655	285	(1,940)	0	0
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(7,664)	9,409	115	1,860	27,298
BALANCE B/FWD 1 JANUARY 2021		(16,583)	21,642	2,082	7,141	(20,157)
BALANCE C/FWD 31 DECEMBER 2021		(24,247)	31,051	2,197	9,001	7,141

The movements in Designated and Restricted Funds were as follows:

	Balance B/fwd	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance C/fwd
DESIGNATED					
Events Fund	602	4,032	60	(250)	4,324
Catering Fund	228	-	542	535	221
Back of Church Fund	19,612	2,460	3,300	-	18,772
Boiler Fund	-	10,946	4,412	-	6,534
Organ Fund	1,200	-	-	-	1,200
	21,642	17,438	8,314	285	31,051
RESTRICTED					
100 CLUB	2,082	4,755	2,700	(1,940)	2,197
Mission	-	1,257	1,257	-	-
	2,082	6,012	3,957	(1,940)	2,197

The Parish of St Faith, Great Crosby

Balance Sheet at 31st December 2021

		Unrestricted fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	TOTAL 2020 £
	Note					
Fixed assets	5					
Tangible assets		6,699	6,534	-	13,233	-
Investment		-	2,585	-	2,585	2,689
		<u>6,699</u>	<u>9,119</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,818</u>	<u>2,689</u>
Current assets						
Debtors	6	9,844	-	-	9,844	7,840
Cash at bank and in hand		10,960	21,932	2,197	35,089	32,717
		<u>20,804</u>	<u>21,932</u>	<u>2,197</u>	<u>44,933</u>	<u>40,557</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7					
		<u>51,750</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,750</u>	<u>36,105</u>
Net current (liabilities)		(30,946)	21,932	2,197	(6,817)	4,452
Total net assets/ (liabilities)		<u>(24,247)</u>	<u>31,051</u>	<u>2,197</u>	<u>9,001</u>	<u>7,141</u>
PARISH FUNDS						
Unrestricted funds		(24,247)			(24,247)	(16,583)
Designated funds			31,051		31,051	21,642
Restricted income funds				2,197	2,197	2,082
		<u>(24,247)</u>	<u>31,051</u>	<u>2,197</u>	<u>9,001</u>	<u>7,141</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 6 March 2022 and signed on their behalf by

John. W. Reed.

Rev John Reed C.A.
Priest-in-Charge



David Jones MBE
Parish Treasurer

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Funds

General fund represents the funds of the Parochial Church Council ("PCC") that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application for the general purposes of the charity. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the trustees are also unrestricted.

Designated funds are general funds for which the PCC has designated that they should be used for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds represent donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund.

Income

Donations, legacies and other voluntary income

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. All other income is recognised when it is receivable, incoming resources are accounted for gross

The charity received substantial amounts of voluntary help from its supporters, but no attempt is made to place a financial value on these services and they have not been included.

Expenditure

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.96 (2) (a) of the Charities Act 1993.

The Parish of St Faith, Great Crosby

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

Fixed assets (continued)

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2005 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,000 so all expenditure has been written off when incurred.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight-line basis over four years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Investments are valued at market value at 31st December.

2 INCOME	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	TOTAL 2020 £
2(a) Voluntary income					
Planned giving	35,792			35,792	35,278
Gift aid donations	1,629			1,629	3,708
Tax recoverable	11,516	1,500		13,016	12,208
Collections	2,421			2,421	1,247
Donations	1,898	2,212	1,257	5,367	5,479
Legacies	-			-	17,497
Grants	515	3,241		3,756	1,163
	<u>53,771</u>	<u>6,953</u>	<u>1,257</u>	<u>61,981</u>	<u>76,580</u>
2(b) Fundraising activities					
100 Club	-		4,755	4,755	4,725
Appeals	200	6,505		6,705	4,590
Events	4,306	3,980		8,286	2,960
	<u>4,506</u>	<u>10,485</u>	<u>4,755</u>	<u>19,746</u>	<u>12,275</u>
2(c) Church activities					
Fees	2,434			2,434	4,070
Church hall	12,555			12,555	4,495
Land rent	395			395	3,420
Candles, cards and books	488			488	325
Trading	85			85	-
	<u>15,957</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>15,957</u>	<u>12,310</u>
2(d) Investment					
Dividends	50			50	-
Bank interest	91			91	168
	<u>141</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>141</u>	<u>168</u>
Total income	<u>74,375</u>	<u>17,438</u>	<u>6,012</u>	<u>97,825</u>	<u>101,333</u>

The Parish of St Faith, Great Crosby

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	TOTAL	TOTAL
	Funds			2021	2020
	£	£	£	£	£
3 EXPENDITURE					
3(a) Raising funds					
Stewardship envelopes	-			-	86
Events	-	542		542	336
100 Club	-		2,700	2,700	2,700
Bank charges	294	60		354	347
	<u>294</u>	<u>602</u>	<u>2,700</u>	<u>3,596</u>	<u>3,469</u>
3(b) Church activities					
Missionary and charitable giving	-		1,257	1,257	960
Ministry: Diocesan parish share	46,186			46,186	24,679
Clergy expenses	307			307	272
Vicarage expenses	1,800			1,800	2,254
Ministry team expenses	175			175	102
Church running expenses					
Utilities	5,338			5,338	6,420
Building insurance	4,303			4,303	4,184
Building maintenance	4,216			4,216	14,468
Professional fees		3,300		3,300	-
Upkeep of services	1,459			1,459	1,092
Music department	10,747			10,747	6,608
Flowers	148			148	-
Depreciation		4,412		4,412	-
Hall expenditure	3,703			3,703	5,419
Printing and stationery	3,253			3,253	2,231
Parochial council expenses	714			714	266
Sundries	947			947	190
	<u>83,296</u>	<u>7,712</u>	<u>1,257</u>	<u>92,265</u>	<u>69,145</u>
Total expenditure	<u>83,590</u>	<u>8,314</u>	<u>3,957</u>	<u>95,861</u>	<u>72,614</u>

No payments were made to the Independent Examiner.

The Parish of St Faith, Great Crosby

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

4 STAFF COSTS

There were no employees during the year.

Some expenses were reimbursed to trustees for services other than as trustees during the year.

5 FIXED ASSETS

5(a) Tangible

		Church equipment
		£
Cost	At beginning of the year	-
	Addition	17,645
	At end of the year	<u>17,645</u>
Depreciation	At beginning of the year	-
	Charge for the year	4,412
	At end of the year	<u>4,412</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	At beginning of the year	-
	At end of the year	<u>13,233</u>

5(b) Investment

		Standard Chartered Plc
Market value	At 1 st January 2021	2,689
	Revaluation loss	(104)
	At 31 st December 2021	<u>2,585</u>

		2021	2020
		£	£
6 DEBTORS			
	Tax recoverable	2,593	3,773
	Other	<u>7,251</u>	<u>4,067</u>
		<u>9,844</u>	<u>7,840</u>
7 LIABILITIES:	amounts falling due within one year		
	Other	<u>51,750</u>	<u>36,105</u>

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the Parochial Church Council of St Faith, Great Crosby on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021, which comprise Trustees' Report, Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and related Notes.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The PCC are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent Examiner's statement.

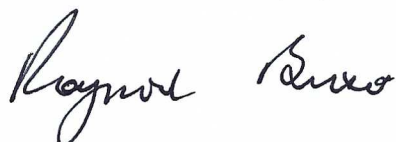
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, 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 financial statements 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 material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Raymond Bissex F C A
32 Brooklands Avenue, Waterloo, Liverpool, L22 3XZ
Date: 19 February 2022