



# Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

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# **APCM - Introduction to the Annual Report**

Having had our last year's APCM in October 2020, we are now adjusting back to the normal date for holding our annual meeting and the opportunity to reflect and report on the 'strange' year that 2020 has been. Due to the timing of last year's APCM, you will find that a significant part of the reports in these pages will resemble those from last year. However, we have made sure to include what took place in the last term of 2020, so please read on!

Throughout 2020 we have all had to make significant adjustments to the way we go about doing things. It was no longer possible to 'just pop out' without asking 'do I need to go? Is this my one bit of exercise? What is local? Have I got my face mask?...'

As a church community we have also had to learn to hold things lightly throughout 2020 and to make changes as we went along. Many of our well laid plans had to change at the beginning of the year with the arrival of the first lockdown, such as launching new home groups in April 2020 and running a mission week last summer. We had to quickly learn and discover how best to stay connected with each other when we couldn't meet physically. And although we had a few months toward the end of 2020 when we could gather for 'in person' services, for the majority of the year we have had to move online, learning our way around Zoom and Screenshare, breakout rooms and Mute/ Unmute! A whole new world for many of us... I am very grateful to all those who have helped us with this transition to 'doing things online', not least Gareth Hutchinson, Shaylesh Raja and Chris Roe.

2020 saw a number of people move to pastures new, including the Hutchinson family (although they didn't move far!) We are very grateful for having had Gareth and Laura, Noah and Eli here at the Martyrs for a number of years and continue to wish them well in Kirby Muxloe and Desford.

In this report you will discover all sorts of different ways we as a church have sought to continue to fulfil the mission God has called us to. It is a good and encouraging read!

However, we also appreciate that 2020 has been a very challenging and stretching year for many people in our church and community. Many have battled illnesses and hospitalisation, others have had to juggle work and home schooling, some have been faced with being laid off from work and with very bleak employment opportunities ahead. It has been a tough year for young and old...

In recent months we have also grieved the passing of Gwyneth Moor, a very special friend to so many of us, especially through her involvement in the Girl Guides movement over several decades. We continue to feel sad that Gwyneth is no longer with us, as well as giving God thanks for her life and the significant impact she made in so many lives.

So, as we take time to look back and reflect after a challenging year, the good news of Jesus still brings hope to our world.

Paul admonishes us not to... *lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.* **2 Corinthians 4:16-18**

As we continue to move forward into 2021, we will encourage one another not to lose heart and to hold on to hope. We remain grateful for the vaccination roll out and are hoping for a summer free of most, if not all, restrictions. We are committed to our lives being lived together as a church community, within our local community, where we are willing to come alongside one another and provide friendship, prayer and practical support. And we continue to keep our eyes on Jesus and to follow him closely, whatever the future holds.

Finally, a special thank you to those in various leadership roles, whether serving on the PCC, part of the Leadership Group, lay readers, homegroup leaders, pastoral assistants, licensed evangelist, ministry leaders and of course the staff team. Thank you for your hard work, commitment, and friendship!

Please note that although this is a very comprehensive report there are other ministries and activities not included, such as 'Tomatoes', Mothers' Union, 'Shake, Rattle and Roll', 'You and Me', youth work, student ministry, Music Group, Guides / Brownies and homegroups – the list could go on.

I commend this annual report to you.  
Lord let your Kingdom come and let your will be done!  
*Bertin*

# STATUTORY REPORTS

## OVERVIEW OF THE PCC

### Location & Contact Information

The Church of the Martyrs is situated on Westcotes Drive, Leicester, with its office being within the Church Hall at 19 Westcotes Drive, Leicester LE3 0QT. Any correspondence to this address or emailed to [churchadmin@martyrs.org.uk](mailto:churchadmin@martyrs.org.uk)

### Background

The PCC is a legal body of the church registered with the Charity Commission under registration 1134668. The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, Revd Ole Bertin Hermo, in promoting in the parish, the whole mission of the church, (pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical) and has the responsibility for the maintenance of church buildings, assets and managing church finances. The PCC meets approximately once every 2 months, although there have been some additional ad hoc meetings as circumstances have dictated.

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. The number of elected members of the PCC is governed by the number of people on the electoral roll. In the case of The Martyrs, with over 100 members on the roll, it enables 12 elected places, with a 3<sup>rd</sup> of posts being due for re-election each year. Members stand for a term of 3 years. In the case of any member elected to Deanery Synod or General Synod, they are part of the PCC in addition to the other elected places.

### Membership

In normal circumstance the APCM should be held before the end of May. As a result of the COVID restrictions brought into force by the Government, the Diocese extended the 2019/20 year to the end of October. As a result, the existing PCC membership shown below have only been in post since the last APCM held on the 4th October 2020. Members who have served during this shortened last extended year are as follows:

### Ministers:

Vicar: Revd Ole Bertin Hermo (*Chair*)

Curate: Vacancy

### Churchwardens:

Mr Pete Coopey (from APCM 2014)

Mrs Lorraine Pointon (from APCM 2020)

### Other Ex Officio:

Mrs. Shayne Ardron (*General Synod & Reader representative on PCC*)

### Elected Members:

Mrs Liz Bamford (until APCM 2023) (*Lay Chair & Deanery Synod*)

Mrs Julie Shaw (until APCM 2023) (*Deanery Synod*)

Mr David Spence (until APCM 2021)

Mr Wale Ogunsemi (until APCM 2021)

Mr Ben Lawton (until APCM 2021)

Mrs Wendy Bebbington (until APCM 2021)

Mr Pete Gilbert (until APCM 2022)

Mrs Nina de Salis Young (until APCM 2022)

Mr Robin Pointon (until APCM 2022)

Mr Lloyd Ganza (until APCM 2023)

Ms Cynthia Kupara (until APCM 2023)

Mr David Basopo (until APCM 2023)  
Mrs Debra Gilbert (until APCM 2023)  
Mr. Steven Ardron (until APCM 2023) (*PCC Secretary & Deanery Synod*)

**Co-opted members:**

Mr. Edward de Salis Young (*Treasurer*)

**Standing Committee (Leadership Group)**

The Standing Committee is a formally constituted body that exists to transact the business of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) between meetings of the PCC subject to any directions given by the PCC. It has authority to deal with any matters of urgency that may arise between PCC meetings. At the Martyrs it is combined with, and is known as, the Leadership Group with an expanded role of providing guidance and leadership on matters of liturgy, worship, faith, and the life of the church. It is comprised of the Clergy, the Church Wardens (Pete Coopey & Lorraine Pointon), and the Treasurer (Ed de Salis Young), plus a number of nominated representatives approved by the PCC; currently these are: Liz Bamford, Lloyd Ganza, Sue Seaman, Liz Lawton, and David Gilbert.

**Hall Management Committee**

This is a sub-committee of the PCC. It has responsibility for the running, usage, and maintenance of the Hall. The Hall Management Committee usually meets twice a year. Membership during the past year: David Hemmings (Chair), Bertin Hermo, Ed de Salis Young, Ruth Inman, Liz Coopey, Julie Shaw, and James Hart.

**Other Groups and Teams**

There are a wide range of other groups and teams and mission initiatives whose work enables the Church of the Martyrs to thrive. At this point of the year we thank God for the immense contribution that the individuals connected to them make to the life and mission of our church.

*Steven Ardron, PCC Secretary*

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE PCC**

During the course of this shortened year the PCC has continued to discuss a range of issues and the minutes of the last meetings would be available at the back of Church, or on request. Topics covered have, as always been varied, but have continued to centre around how we meet during a pandemic, when we can reopen and the challenges we face with the restrictions in place. Continued safeguarding training, youth work updates, Baby Basics, Money Matters, and practical issues to do with finances and the Church fabric have all equally taken time in our discussions, as we have continued to meet in a Zoom format.

Significant progress has been made in respect of the Pioneer minister opportunity with the Diocese in connection with our move to becoming an Intercultural Worshipping Community. Some members of the PCC and Church Wardens have been involved with the recent interview process, and an announcement on an appointment will hopefully be made in due course.

*Steven Ardron, PCC Secretary.*

**LEADERSHIP GROUP REPORT**

**Membership January to October:** Rev. Bertin Hermo, Pete Coopey and John Sinclair (church wardens), Liz Bamford (Lay chairperson of the PCC), Ed de Salis Young (Treasurer), Lloyd Ganza (ICW) with Sue Seaman, Liz Lawton, and David Gilbert, with Rev. Gareth Hutchinson until July and Gail Gould leaving in August.

**Current membership:** Rev. Bertin Hermo, Pete Coopey and Lorraine Pointon (church wardens), Liz Bamford (Lay chairperson of the PCC), Ed de Salis Young (Treasurer), Lloyd Ganza (ICW) with Sue Seaman, Liz Lawton, and David Gilbert. It is anticipated that the Pioneer Minister to be appointed in 2021 will join the group.

Meetings begin with some reflection on a word from scripture and prayer.

The Leadership Group acts as the Standing Committee for the church when it considers a finance report and prepares the PCC agendas – sometimes making recommendations for the PCC to consider. It also acts a support group and “sounding board” for the clergy.

Regular items discussed include: Finance and Tithing, progress with the Quinquennial report (the maintenance work recommended by a 5-yearly inspection of the building), Work with Children and Young People, Mission and Ministry, Developing Discipleship, the prayer life of the church and progress with the idea of Intercultural Worship. During lockdown there has been a regular update on staffing as the church has used the furlough scheme. The group has also looked at how the Pastoral Work of the church happens. The focus of the group is gradually shifting from “business items” to that of Mission and Ministry.

Since lockdown began meetings have been held by Zoom and have really had to focus on the impact of COVID-19 and the lockdown – this has meant responding to the various changes in regulations both nationally and from the diocese. This has led to a necessary change of focus and the group has devoted time to how the church could safely open for private prayer and public worship; the response to online services, socials, and opportunities for prayer; having an oversight of the pastoral needs of the congregation; considering how the needs of children and young people can best be met and has touched on the link between The Black Lives Matters Movement and our developments with the BAME population.

*Pete Coopey, Secretary to the Leadership Group*

## **ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT – APRIL 2021**

The electoral roll is a list of names and addresses of every person who can vote in the annual parochial church meeting. The number of electors reported at the 2020 annual parochial church meeting was 141.

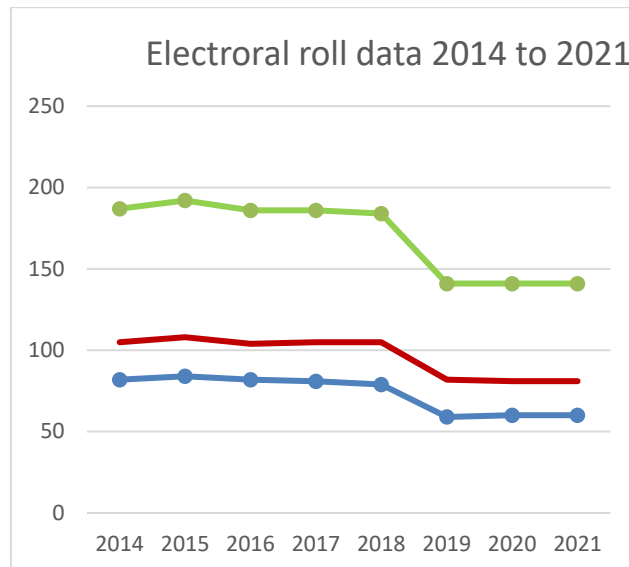
Total number of electors upon the church electoral roll for 2021 is 141.

The electoral roll consists of 60 people who are residents of the parish and 81 are non-residents of the parish.

During the last 7 months 2 names have been added and 2 names have been removed

**Church of the Martyrs electoral roll summary**

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Resident	82	84	82	81	79	59	60	60
Non-Resident	105	108	104	105	105	82	81	81
Total	187	192	186	186	184	141	141	141
Added	9	11	1	1	0	29	6	2
Removed	0	6	7	1	2	72	6	2



*Ben Lawton, Electoral Roll Officer*

## **ATTENDANCE REPORT**

### **Introduction**

Sitting down to produce a church attendance report for the calendar year 2020 has been quite a thought-provoking exercise. This year the report will have very little detail on numbers and comparison against earlier years as church attendance at the church building was not the full picture. Increases in numbers or decreases in numbers is not available or not relevant for most of 2020.

For myself I have not attended a service at The Church of the Martyrs since March 2020 and only entered the church building twice in the last 12 months. We have seen few attended services and reduced numbers at attended services due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With this in mind the following attendance report is for the calendar year 2020.

### **Pre Covid-19 lockdown**

On Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020, the Church of the Martyrs building closed its doors for a period of 25 weeks due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Church of England guidance. Up to and including Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March church attendance was similar to 2019.

### **Church Building Closure period**

From Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March until Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2020 no attended services were held within the Church of the Martyrs building, thus attendance in the church building on Sunday was zero. However, we continued to meet as a Church in other ways.

Online service streaming via Facebook commenced on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020. The number of people partaking in the service is almost impossible to confirm. Not knowing the numbers viewing at each IP address or knowing who views for a short period or starts the service part way through. However, we do know the views at the time of posting the services was between 50 and 60 IP addresses.

The online Sunday service was followed by an online Zoom meeting at 11:30hrs where several of the church family joined together to generally catch up on church news. Again, the number joining varied from week to week.



### Sunday Clubs

On Sunday 15th March 2020, the last Sunday clubs were held. Up until that date Sunday club attendance was similar to 2019. From 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 the Sunday clubs remained closed for the remaining duration of 2020.

### **Restricted church opening from 13<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

#### Sunday 09:00hrs service

The 09:00hrs Sunday communion service did not recommence and was suspended for the rest of 2020.

#### Sunday 10:30hrs service

From Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2020 the church doors reopened weekly to a limited number of the congregation at 10:30hrs. The average congregation attendance at this service was 48 people, of this 7.8% was young people under the age of 16 years. This reflects the agreed restricted capacity of the building set at 55 by the PCC to comply with social distancing guidance. Sunday live services continued streaming online during this period.

#### Sunday Ketchup Club

From Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2020 a weekly Sunday afternoon online young people's club was commenced. This continued weekly for the remainder of 2020 with the exceptions of Sundays when there was an all-age service.

#### Sunday 18:15hrs service

From Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2020 the 18:15hrs Sunday service recommenced. The average congregation at this service was 10 people, no young people under the age of 16 years attended this service.

#### Wednesday 11:00hrs service

An additional service was introduced from Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020, the church building opened weekly at 11:00hrs for short services. The average congregation at this service was 15 people, no young people under the age of 16 years attended this service.

#### Additional information

During the above period, a local lockdown closed the church building for 4 weeks from 5<sup>th</sup> November to 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020. During this time, the attendance at The Church of the Martyrs was zero.

Apart from the above all services continued to the end of 2020 until the first week of January 2021 when we entered the second national COVID-19 lockdown and the Church of the Martyrs building then closed once more.

#### Special Services

The usual Christian festival events did not all occur as normal within the church building during 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Easter and Harvest was during the first COVID-19 lockdown period and online services continued for these festivals.

Some Christmas services only occurred online including carols by candlelight and the crib service. The Christmas eve midnight service was held within the church to limited numbers. The Christmas day service was held within the church and also live online.

#### **Tomatoes Local**

Tomatoes Local commenced 2020 as normal meeting every 2 weeks until Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic Tomatoes closed for the rest of 2020.

*Ben Lawton*

## **FABRIC REPORT**

### **Vicars Board**

The proposal passed by the PCC required a full faculty - which was rejected, the diocese preferring to keep the original board and find an engraver to update it. I have found a company in Hinckley who do laser engraving on wood. Following a number of emails this company has failed to respond hence we now need to look for a company who will agree to undertake the work.

### **Electrical Works**

The Chancel spotlights are now in need of replacement as a number of these are failing.

### **Church Heating**

The current church building heating is split into 2 sections. Each section is powered by 2 gas-fired boilers. The system is now more than 20 years old, and the cost of maintenance can be relatively high. The heating system will require assessing for suitability going forwards and quotations for possible upgrades to the system or replacement should be sought.

### **Pigeon Infestation**

There was a pigeon infestation in the upper level of the church tower. This has been cleaned out by a working party from the church and new mesh installed to prevent pigeons entering the loft. Thanks to Bertin Hermo, Ben Lawton and Dave Seaman.

### **Relaying Slabs near the Shaftesbury Road entrance**

Work undertaken during the year included relaying the slabs near the Shaftesbury Road entrance. The contractor has done an excellent job and there has been some very good feedback on the work.

### **Metal Cage erected around the cellar steps**

A metal cage was erected around the cellar steps (to prevent this area being used by drug takers who had been leaving a lot of discarded needles).

### **General Repairs and Maintenance**

There are a few areas of concern with regards ongoing maintenance issues as follows:

- Church heating - as noted above.
- The carpet in the area at the back of the church is showing signs of wear and is proving increasingly difficult to keep clean. Provision should be made to either replace the carpet or consider alternative floor covering within the coming years.
- Ladder access to the upper level of the bell tower needs to be improved.
- Several of the high-level spotlights in the Chancel area have failed. Quotations are being sought for new lighting units.
- We should also consider the repair of the dormer window.

*Pete Coopey, Church Warden*

## **WEST LEICESTER MISSION PARTNERSHIP**

2020 was a different year in so many ways because of COVID-19. We were unable to hold any of our usual joint events. Every parish or worshipping community has found different ways to keep in touch and worship together and serve one another. Clergy and others have continued to meet weekly for Morning Prayer by Zoom, circulating 'virtually' around the churches and worshipping communities. On those Thursday mornings we have been able to share our concerns and ideas and pray for each other and our communities.

We also had a ZOOM farewell breakfast, including delivering a 'socially distanced' gift for Keith Magee as he moved on from St Peter's Braunstone Park to a new parish.

For reference, the churches and worshipping communities in the Mission Partnership are Holy Apostles, Church of the Martyrs, St. Anne's & St Paul's with St Augustine's, St Margaret's, St. Peter's Braunstone, Wyggeston's and the Sound Cafe.

*Bertin Hermo*

## **CITY OF LEICESTER DEANERY SYNOD**

Due to the unprecedented year we have all experienced, as you are aware things were rather different. The Synod met twice by zoom plus a newsletter and presentation was distributed.

### **May – with Bishop Guli**

Bishop Guli led an online meeting to which everyone on the Synod was invited. There was no formal agenda, but we discussed how the pandemic was impacting our churches. Her pastoral support in this way was most appreciated by those able to attend.

### **July – Newsletter and presentation on YouTube**

A newsletter was distributed focussing on “green” issues including working towards being an eco-diocese and the youth climate strikes. We reflected on “A green recovery” and had suggestions for Creationtide. An accompanying presentation was available on YouTube.

### **November – Full Zoom Meeting**

39 people managed to connect for our first full virtual meeting. We opened with a hymn. Pioneers Kat Gibson and Matthew Gough reflected on their experiences working through the pandemic including the founding of Roots a new fresh expression. Les Michelmores, Lay Chair talked about what the deanery standing committee does and requested to delay elections until 2021. Vic Allsop, Deanery Treasurer has been working with the Generous Giving Team on Parish Gift pledges and thanked all those who have already pledged. Richard Pickering of Green Christians shared a PowerPoint presentation on climate change put together in conjunction with Climate Action Leicester and the Leicester chapter of Friends of the Earth which talked about living with the planets environmental limits and achieving a sustainable economy which was endorsed by those attending.

As you can understand this has been far from a normal year, but the work of all in the Deanery has continued and we thank the clergy who have been supporting us all throughout these difficult times and in particular our Area Dean Anthony, and Assistant Area Dean Adrian who have been supporting our clergy.

*Annabel Cowley, Deanery Administrator*

## **HALL REPORT**

### **Introduction**

This report covers the calendar year 2020. Hall bookings continued as usual during the early part of the year from January to mid-March. In line with government guidance regarding the coronavirus pandemic and the lockdown announced in March 2020, all Hall bookings, whether regular or one-off, were suspended from 22/03/20 onwards. The Hall then remained closed for the rest of the year apart from a very small number of user groups noted below. This closure of more than 9 months has of course had a significant impact on the Hall's revenues. Further details can be found in the Finance Report.

Two of our regular user groups were able to return in mid-September and October but bookings were again suspended from early November onwards due to the second lockdown. Hopscotch were able to have a limited reopening on 01/06/20 for a month and then closed for the summer holidays. Hopscotch then opened for the Autumn term on 01/09/20.

A COVID-19 risk assessment was completed for the Hall during the year in line with government guidance. A copy of the risk assessment was sent out to representatives of the Hall's regular user groups for information and to help them in their own planning for when bookings are allowed to resume.

## Repairs and Maintenance

Repairs and maintenance items completed during the year:

- Hall electrical items – a number of fluorescent tube units failed in the Hall during the early part of the year and were declared obsolete. LED tube lighting units were fitted as replacements.
- Fly-tipping in the Hall car park and grounds – fly-tipping has been a problem on a number of occasions through the year. Items dumped included an old 3-seater sofa; a mattress; a child's buggy; bags of old clothing and black bin liners full of household rubbish; several pillows and an old duvet. The items were disposed of as quickly as possible.
- Hall Annexe – the tenants, (Armonia Music Tuition), said that a number of changes were required in order to make the Annexe COVID-19 compliant before they could reopen for the Autumn term. Most of the work was done by the tenants, (for example, deep cleaning, providing hand sanitisers, signage and screens etc) but one item needed the Hall's involvement:  
Providing improved ventilation – the two large sash windows in the main tuition area were found to be painted and sealed shut. A specialist contractor freed up both windows, made repairs where necessary, and re-corded the sash fitments. One of the windows needed significant repairs due to the presence of rotting timber. New sash window locks and catches were also required. The work was completed during August and September. The windows now work well and provide much improved ventilation.
- First floor meeting room – secondary glazing units were fitted to the windows in October. This will make the room more comfortable to use and will also help in reducing heating costs.
- Hall cellar – ingress of water when there is heavy rain – external repairs were completed by a contractor in October and appear to have resolved the problem.

## Health & Safety

- Hall fire alarm control panel – new panel fitted in January 2020. The old panel had developed faults and could not be repaired.
- The annual gas safety inspection was completed in February 2020.
- The annual fire extinguisher safety check was completed as scheduled in January 2020.
- The Hall Health and Safety Policy document was reviewed and updated in April 2020.
- A COVID-19 risk assessment was completed for the Hall during the year in line with government guidance.
- The fixed electrical wiring test is completed every five years and is next due in September 2021.

*David Hemmings, Church & Community Hall Administrator*

## HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT

A small team has invested time in reviewing and updating our Health and Safety Policies – one for the church and one for the Community Hall. These were approved by the PCC in May 2020.

Our policies, so far as is reasonably practicable, is that our activities are carried out safely and do not pose a risk to the health of our employees, volunteers, congregation, visitors, contractors, and others who may use the church, church grounds and the Community Hall. The policies are based on comprehensive risk assessments and a separate Fire Risk assessment.

The PCC accepts that it has overall responsibility for the policy and will ensure that adequate resources and training are made available for its implementation. In order to ensure that health and

safety matters are kept constantly under review, an item on health and safety will be on the agenda for all meetings of the Parochial Church Council. The Church and Community Hall Administrator meets with one of the wardens before each PCC meeting to help prepare a report.

The PCC are confident that appropriate measures are in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all who use the church, church grounds and Community Hall.

Work undertaken this year includes relaying the slabs to the Shaftesbury Road door, building a metal cage around the cellar steps (to prevent this area being used by drug takers who had been leaving a lot of discarded needles), writing guidelines for the safe handling of discarded needles and ensuring all fire, gas and electrical checks have taken place and been recorded.

*Pete Coopey on behalf of the Health and Safety Working Group*

## **SAFEGUARDING REPORT**

At the Martyrs we aim to promote the welfare of children, young people, and adults by working to prevent abuse from occurring, protecting those who are at risk of being abused and responding well to those who have been abused. This is a whole church responsibility.

The PCC have allocated the following responsibilities:

**Dave Spence:** DBS certificates, Safeguarding training and Safer Recruitment.

**Pete Coopey:** Safeguarding Coordinator, Policy review, Maintaining the safeguarding dashboard and preparing reports to the PCC, the APCM and the diocese.

**Katherine Hawker:** Adult Safeguarding.

The PCC has adopted all the relevant guidelines issued by the Church of England and the Diocese and has the appropriate up to date policies in place which are reviewed annually. The majority of the PCC, all wardens and deputy wardens have attended C1 (foundation) Safeguarding Training and have a current DBS. All members of the congregation involved in work with children and young people, and members of the Pastoral Team, have attended safeguarding training and have a current DBS certificate.

The Parish Dashboard generates action points and the priority from this is to ensure that all new members of the PCC have a DBS check and complete Level C0 (basic awareness) as a minimum and Level C1 (foundation) training where possible. In addition, this year we audited both DBS certificate holders and safeguarding training to ensure that renewals and the appropriate level of training are undertaken. All new Church volunteers and workers requiring a DBS certificate are asked to undertake safeguarding training.

*Pete Coopey and Dave Spence*

## **PASTORAL TEAM REPORT**

Although outside of this time frame (Jan-Dec 2020) it is only right and proper to acknowledge and give thanks for the wonderful and selfless example of Gwyneth Moor in caring for and supporting many, many people.

The Martyrs is a church where a great deal of pastoral care goes on – between friends and from the support given within home groups. Much of this care is discreet and reflects the caring nature of our church life together and much of it is unseen.

The Pastoral Team continues to meet regularly, every fortnight if possible. The team currently comprises Bertin Hermo, Margaret Farrell, Kathryn Hawker, Pete and Liz Coopey. Gareth Hutchinson left the team to take up a new post. In 2021 Audrey Basopo and Jane Berridge have joined the team. The team works to a Pastoral Policy that highlights the need for accountability and confidentiality – a copy of this is available on request from Pete Coopey.

The team considers the known needs of the congregation – including those who are no longer able to attend church services and are probably not known to the majority of those who do. Individual team members visit people (at home, in hospital or in care homes) or make telephone contact. The team oversees the delivery of Easter flowers, Harvest Baskets and Christmas gifts amongst the congregation. This year some extra Christmas “goody boxes” were delivered to people living on their own.

Under normal circumstances members of the team make Home Communion available to people who are housebound – this has not been possible due to lockdown. The way support is offered has had to change due to the restrictions caused by COVID-19 and the “lockdown”. Each member of the Pastoral Team has undertaken to contact named individuals who live alone or who are particularly vulnerable. Contact is made by phone and some doorstep conversations. Some shopping has also been done for people who have been shielding. The House Groups have helped doing this. Where possible key information e.g., the newsletter and Martyrs Matters have been delivered to people who cannot access the internet.

I would like to recognize the contribution made by the Mothers’ Union to the pastoral care of the church.

*Pete Coopey, on behalf of the Pastoral Team*

## **YOUNG CHILDREN’S AND FAMILIES’ WORK REPORT**

It seems a long time ago since our amazing children’s teams and kids were having fun together getting to know Jesus in our church buildings.

Some of our families enjoyed taking part in the Prayer Day held early in the year where we had corporate, individual, and creative prayer. I helped organise some of this with a team of others.

When lockdown started in March, we were sad to close our Sunday Clubs and Shake (toddler group) and hoped it wouldn’t be for long, but we all know how that panned out! We also had to cancel our Good Friday Family Event which was planned in a similar style to the previous year where we had many families from our church and the community get together with Easter activities and exploring the Easter story.

Shayne started to post Shake sessions online which we found many adults were accessing rather than Shake regulars, so she used this opportunity to encourage those engaging with the sessions.

I was on full and part time furlough over the spring and summer months and learnt about new ways of communicating. In the summer some of our children took part in the online holiday club run by the diocese. It was brilliant, with an amazing magazine style interactive programme, followed by small group time on Zoom.

Over the early summer we started looking at using Zoom with our children and had a few Ketchup Catchups to interact with our families and see how that might work. We also spoke to families to find out if their children found the Zoom style of meeting helpful.

Bertin and I also distributed a gift to each child in Rainbow Club and Ketchup Club. It was lovely to see some of the children and pray with them and their families.

I’ve also taken part in planning, recording and delivering elements of our in person and online 10.30 services. It has been a steep learning curve in tech and looking at what things work in a recorded or social distanced format!

In September we started Ketchup Club online with the idea of families participating in exploring the Bible together. Most of the time we have followed the themes from the 10.30 services to

compliment them. We have looked at God's superpower The Holy Spirit and exploring Christmas. We have seen children express their faith, get to know Jesus better, have amazing discussions and pray with some crazy songs and games along the way!

We launched Shake on Zoom after half term but didn't get much uptake on it so decided to go back to Shayne's Facebook sessions after Christmas.

For Christmas we invited Hopscotch Playgroup to a Christmas Story Trail in the church gardens and to visit the tree and crib scene. This was a big success with lots of positive feedback from children and grownups.

The Shake Leaders team were able to run a pre-recorded crib service online and I helped plan and lead elements of the Christmas Day All Age Celebration.

Thank you so much to all in our church family who have helped me, children, and our families in so many ways in 2020 whether in person, indirectly or through prayer.

*Irene Hart, Children's and Young Families' Worker*

## **MONEY MATTERS LEICESTER REPORT**

Due to Covid, From May, we moved entirely to remote working, using WhatsApp video calls and phone calls.

We saw an extraordinary instance of God's provision when we received several unexpected grants and donations, bringing our income to over £22,000 for the year. We gave away over £2,300 of this as Christmas vouchers, food vouchers and fees for insolvency.

As our costs are around £9,000pa, we are now securely funded for some time.

We've helped Hope67 in Coalville to open as a satellite centre of MML.

We have a wonderful team of 10 volunteers.

## **Our Clients in 2020**

In this extraordinary year, our usual clients – typically single mums on benefits living in social housing, and often with Council Tax and catalogue type debts - were no longer coming forward. It may be because those types of debts were not aggressively pursued during the pandemic. This experience was replicated across the network.

Instead, the absence of these clients revealed another type of client, who had been there all along, but less visible: those with long term serious and complex problems such as gambling, domestic, sexual, and financial abuse, and court cases around family breakup. These clients were more likely to be in work; a few even had stable and well-paid jobs. Their debt problems tended to be complex in ways which were sometimes new to us.

We saw over 70 clients in 171 appointments. 71% of clients live in most deprived 30% of areas. 33% have one or more disabled people in the household. They had a total of £767,000 debt, excluding mortgages.

## **Two client comments**

*'Thank you so much for all your help i don't no what I'd done without you and your team you have all been amazing'*

*"Good morning*

*I'm sending this email to express my sincere gratitude for your service.*

*My daughter has been supported by a wonderful lady named (...). She has been working with (my daughter) to help her sort her finances, address her many debts and how to manage her money for the future.*

*When the country went into lockdown, (...) continued to contact (my daughter) via the telephone. During this time, (my daughter) was experiencing some terrible mental health issues and, as a key worker in a residential home, struggling with PPE supplies and the responsibility of keeping service users safe, the stress became almost too much. (My daughter) had to access medical support and medication.*

*Throughout this time, (...) has been a vital source of strength for (my daughter), reassuring her that her finances will eventually get sorted\* and constantly reminding her that she's doing a wonderful job working in such an important role. A truly holistic approach to supporting people. I truly believe that (...) has helped to keep (my daughter) working*

*I am so very grateful to (...) and your service. A very big well done Money Matters Leicester.*

*Many, many thanks"*

*\* This email arrived just as we were processing her daughter's Debt Relief Order. She is now debt free, loving her job, and free of the crushing burden of debt.*

*Nina de Salis Young, Centre Manager, Money Matters Leicester*

## **BABY BASICS REPORT**

The last year has kept us very busy at Baby Basics with a huge demand for our help. In 2020 we gave out 452 referrals. This often included items for siblings as well as we saw the request for toys, books and clothes increase as families were not able to shop in charity shops or cheaper clothes shops for their essentials. The pandemic meant that we had to adapt the way we worked having less volunteers in at a time, changing the way we took donations and apply for emergency grants to enable us to buy new bigger equipment when we were short. We have been very successful over the last year applying for grants for buggies, cots and highchairs which has enabled us to get the items out quickly to families who were waiting for them. This funding means we no longer (whilst we have funding) have a waiting list for cots so we can give a baby a safe place to sleep as soon as they need it.

Laura has now increased her paid hours from 7 hours to 12 hours a week to keep up with the demand of leading Baby Basics and the team of 10 volunteers. The 50<sup>th</sup> Baby Basics centre has just opened in the UK, Baby Basics Leicester being the 2<sup>nd</sup> busiest centre.

Being part of Baby Basics UK during the pandemic has pulled all the centres together. HRH Duchess of Cambridge launched a new initiative last summer in support of all Baby Basic centres. 19 British brands donated new items to the centres providing wonderful items to give out as well as raising our profile nationally. More recently, Dunelm also donated 8,000 items to Baby Basics UK as they recently stopped doing baby equipment and had a warehouse full of items. These we then sorted and redistributed to all the centres.

Even before the pandemic we were quite tight for space, we are now desperate for new premises for us to work from as we need to expand. A larger space will allow us to have more volunteers in at a time, have guaranteed parking space available for volunteers and collections, as well as more room to sort and pack referrals or donations. We are currently going through the application process with the National Lottery Fund, asking them for funding for the next 5 years for rent of new premises. Although we have seen some possible places to move to, we are now waiting to see if we have been successful with the next phase of the application. Whilst we would love to stay near the Westcotes area it seems that we may need to move further away from the city if we can afford something suitable.

We look forward to developing our team further in 2021 and seeing where the year may take us.

*Laura Hutchinson*

## **INTERCULTURAL WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY (IWC)**

In 2020 Church of the Martyrs IWC steering group (constituting of six people) continued in efforts to drive and grow the vision of Intercultural Worshipping Community. The IWC project is about the renewal of Anglican Church life across our diocese, communities where people from different cultural and ethnic heritage deliberately interact with one another in order to deepen their understanding and experience of God and of each other.



Despite what has been a tough 2020-2021 for the church and the community due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the IWC steering group was able to engage in several internal meetings and workshops on and offline to share ideas on what could be done to intentionally encourage different cultures and ethnicities to worship and interact together. For example, there were different people who participated in the Sunday services, Bible Readings, Intercessions, the Vicars door-step interviews etc.

So far, the IWC has been a success having only being launched in 2019 considering the undeniable lockdown challenges in our region. We have been able to cover a lot of ground when it comes to talking and learning about race and ethnicity, and we have been able to bring along the congregation with us. For example, we ran a review of the BBC Small Axe films with the intention that it would encourage our church to learn and understand our diversity. We continue to encourage people with questions or queries regarding enabling diversity in our church to come forward.

The steering group also continues to receive support from the diocese, including the likes of recruitment of a Pioneer Minister who will be joining us some time later in the summer of 2021, and we look forward to when we are all allowed back in the church building for more activities. However, to date, the steering group remains on course to meet its aims and objectives of the IWC project as we continue to meet on a regular basis to share thoughts and ideas. The initial funding for this project runs until 2026.

*Lloyd Ganza*

## **FINANCE REPORT**

The Martyrs finances are split into a number of different funds which represent different areas or projects relating to church work. These are accounted for separately and each is described here.

In 2020, the **General fund** had a surplus of £9,216 which compares to a budgeted deficit of £2,000.

Despite the church being closed for most of the year, our overall income was very close to budget. Donation income was slightly lower than budgeted, with most people thankfully being able to maintain their regular giving, and the introduction of online and contactless giving using a credit card helping to offset the reduction from normal collections. We also received extra grant funding, including a specific grant for Covid costs and a small amount of furlough grant.

Against this, our expenditure, including transfers to other funds, was around £11,000 under budget. The main reasons for this were significant savings in utilities, service, tomatoes, trips and other costs due to the Covid restrictions.

The surplus has increased our General fund reserves to £52,000, which is very welcome after a large drop in 2019 due to Quinquennial and other works.

The **Hall fund** had a significant deficit in 2020, of £5,500. This was hardly surprising as the rental income was £11,000 lower than the £30,500 budget, with most of the Hall closed for a large part of the year. Hopscotch were able to re-open after the first lockdown and continue with normal rental payments all year, as were Money Matters, which were both much appreciated. Income was also boosted slightly with furlough grants. Hall expenditure was below budget, but only slightly, with most costs unchanged. This deficit has reduced the Hall reserves once again, from £16,700 to £11,250 over the year, and to avoid reserves dropping further we will need to increase rentals and income once again when able to re-open. We have also just received a £5,000 grant from Leicester City Council to help cover Covid-related loss of income, which is very welcome.

The **Buildings fund** is currently dormant, with the side aisle restoration and new chairs purchase completed in 2017. The remaining funds of £1,614 at the end of 2020 are being used to pay the depreciation on the chairs, and this will cover the next 3 years of that cost.

The **Mission Partnership fund** was set up to receive donations from the Mission Partnership churches (including the Martyrs) and fund Mission Partnership events and expenses, primarily those of Helen Hayes in her ministry work. As Helen has now finished, no new donations are being received, however there is still a balance of £2,400 which can be used to fund future Mission Partnership activities.

The **Money Matters fund** covers the Money Matters Leicester debt counselling service. This had a much increased income of £22,800 with several significant grants and other donations, and overall had a surplus of £16,200 leaving reserves of £18,400. This should provide funding for 2021 and beyond.

The **Baby Basics fund** has continued to grow and support an increase in referrals and donations, with income of £28,100 and spend of £20,500, giving a surplus of £7,600. The fund continues to pay the Baby Basics Manager part-time.

The **Children and Families fund** pays for the work of our Children and Families worker, Irene Hart. We started the year with £6,800. Individual donations to the fund increased in 2020, and with the diocese grant and various furlough grants during the year, we were able to fund Irene's work through 2020 and return a small surplus of £1,700. We finished with £8,500 in the fund, and this with the final diocese grant and ongoing donations should cover costs for 2021 and some of 2022. However, we will need additional fundraising to cover future years, as reserves get used and the diocese grant finishes.

The **Organ fund** holds and depreciates the cost of the Organ, current value £4,212.

Finally the **Tithe fund**, which holds our tithe donations prior to paying out as well as the Leadership Group tithe money. The final tithe donations paid out in 2020 were as follows:

- £437 to the Tree of Life project of Leicester Diocese
- £437 to the Diocese of Kiteto eye clinic appeal
- £874 to CMS as a general donation
- £874 to The Children's Society as a general donation
- £874 to the One Roof Project in Leicester
- £1,748 to support the work of Bruce and Louise Nadin in South Africa
- £1,748 transferred to support the Money Matters fund
- £1,748 to increase the Leadership Group tithe

Donations totalling £436 were made from the Leadership Group tithe, leaving £1446 remaining in the Tithe fund which represents the remaining Leadership Group tithe money available to donate.

Finally I'd like to thank again the Finance team for their continued support: Nina de Salis Young who administers Gift Aid and does most of the data entry; Malcolm Greenwood who runs the envelope scheme; all the collection counters; Noel Smith, our Independent Examiner; Mike Dampier doing the banking; and of course David Hemmings in the Church Office.

*Edward de Salis Young, Treasurer*

# Church

OF THE MARTYRS

**Annual General Meeting of the Church of the Martyrs Leicester  
Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 11.15hrs in the Church and online**

## **AGENDA**

### **Annual Meeting of Parishioners**

- 1. Opening Prayer**
- 2. Appointment of Clerk for Meetings**
- 3. Apologies**
- 4. Minutes of AMP 2020**
- 5. Election of Church Wardens for 2021-22**

### **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Minutes of 2020 APCM**
- 3. PCC Reports**
  - a) PCC Proceedings
  - b) Leadership Group Report
  - c) Electoral Roll and Attendance Report
  - d) Church Fabric and Inventory Report
  - e) Financial Report
  - f) Mission Partnership
  - g) Deanery Synod Report
  - h) Church Hall Report
  - i) Health and Safety Report
  - j) Safeguarding Report
  - k) Pastoral Team report
  - l) Mission and Ministry Reports
    - Family and children's work
    - Money Matters Leicester
    - Baby Basics
    - Intercultural Worshipping Community (IWC)
- 4. Elections & Appointments**
  - a) Election of 4 PCC Members to serve for 3 years
  - b) Note Appointment of Deputy/Assistant Wardens
  - c) Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2021-22
  - d) Reader representation on PCC for 2021-2022
  - e) Appointment of one representative to the Mission Partnership Action Group
- 5. Open Forum:** an opportunity to ask questions about the life of the church; questions to be submitted by **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May** to Steve Ardron (07770 852149) ([steven.ardron@virginmedia.com](mailto:steven.ardron@virginmedia.com))
- 6. Closing Prayer.**

# Church

OF THE MARTYRS

## **Annual General Meeting of the Church of the Martyrs Leicester Sunday 4th October 2020 at 11.45hrs in the Church**

### **MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS SUNDAY 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

#### **Annual Meeting of Parishioners**

##### **Present in Church:**

Revd. Bertin Hermo, Elizabeth Bamford, Linda Tilley, Eileen Melbourne, Erol Melbourne, Sue Seaman, Shaylesh Raja, Ruth Twaite, Sue Gammon, Les Gammon, Irene Hart, Margaret Wicks, Pete Gilbert, Debra Gilbert, Shayne Ardron, Steve Ardron, Ed de Salis Young, Liz Lawton, Sarah Shepherd, David Shepherd, Judith Edwards, Patricia Woods, Simon Kibanya, John Sinclair, Maureen Pointon, David Woodcock, Robin Pointon, Lorraine Pointon, Julie Shaw, Katherine Hawker, Roz Burch, Pete Coopey, Tony Shelley, Sue Hermo, Wendy Bebbington, Ola, Emmanuel, Chris & Sarah Roe.

##### **Present by Zoom:**

Liz Coopey, Malcolm Greenwood, James Hart, Arthur Deegan, Chris Freeman, Rob Freeman, Mavis Mullins, Dave Spence. Trevor Worsfold

##### **Apologies:**

Liz Preston, David Gilbert

#### **1. Opening Prayer**

Bertin opened the meeting with prayer at 11.50hrs.

#### **2. Appointment of Clerk for the Meetings**

Steve Ardron was appointed as Clerk for the meetings.

#### **3. Minutes of the AMP 2019**

It was proposed from the chair that the minutes of the AMP held on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2019 were an accurate record, this was accepted unanimously by the meeting and there were no matters arising.

#### **4. Appointment of Church Wardens for 2020 / 21**

The following were proposed for the roles of Church Warden: Pete Coopey was proposed by Pete Gilbert and seconded by John Sinclair, Lorraine Pointon was proposed by Julie Shaw and seconded by Pete Gilbert. Both Pete Coopey and Lorraine Pointon were duly declared elected to serve as Church Wardens for one year with full approval of the meeting. Thanks of the meeting were given to Pete & John for undertaking all of the work throughout the extended period of service, and Pete for being willing to stand as warden again for another year. John had been a warden since 2017. Pete 6 years. Disapply the rules for Pete was passed unanimously. Dave Shepherd proposed and Dave Seaman seconded.

#### **Meeting closed 12:00**

# **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

## **1. Attendance & Apologies**

Both as recorded for the AMP.

## **2. Minutes of the 2019 APCM**

The minutes of the 2019 APCM, held on 7th April 2019 were accepted as a true record with no matters arising.

## **3. Reports**

Review of Leadership group names.

Rev. Bertin Hermo, Pete Coopey, Lorraine Pointon, Ed de Salis Young, Liz Bamford, Lloyd Ganza, David Gilbert, Liz Lawton, Sue Seaman

### **a) Electoral Roll Report**

The Electoral Roll Report was presented by Ben Lawton noting that the previous year there had continued to be a total of 141 members on the Electoral Roll, but with 6 added and 6 removed in the last 12 months. The report was received by the meeting and Ben and his wife, Liz, were thanked for all their hard work in managing the Roll as required this year.

### **b) Proceedings of the PCC Report**

The report as printed on page 4 of the Annual Report document was presented to the meeting and members given the opportunity to ask questions. There were no matters arising and no questions asked.

### **c) Leadership Group Report**

The report as printed on page 5 of the Annual Report document was presented to the meeting and members given the opportunity to ask questions. There were no matters arising and no questions asked.

### **d) Fabric Report & Inventory**

The Fabric Report as printed on pages 9-11 of the Annual Report was presented to the meeting noting the high level and roof works on the church undertaken in 2019. Works from the Quinquennial completed in 2019 including Pillar. Dave Woodcock was thanked for organising the works arising from the quinquennial survey. No questions were asked or matters arising.

### **e) Finance Report**

Ed de Salis Young presented the Finance Report and the accounts to the meeting as printed in the Annual Report, both in terms of the Church, Hall, Baby Basics etc. It was noted that the General Fund was likely to show a small surplus.

Ed spoke of the Hall reserves decreasing from £30,000 to £16,700.

The Children's and Families fund reduced from £19,500 to £6,800.

Due to government furlough scheme and some regular giving towards family and children's worker, we are now looking to wait to do major fund raising in 2021.

Church general fund - declined in 2019, but surplus in 2017 & 2018 put it fairly level.

Online giving and online Apps now being used. SUM UP and Give a Little. Over £2000 were raised for Money Matters using Give a Little. Can have pages for different accounts.

Ongoing since April/COVID. Total income is almost the same as 2019. Monthly giving down 7%, No collections taken, but money transfers instead. Appreciation to everyone continuing to give.

Hall more badly effected in income. Expenditure reduced but the hall will make a loss this year. COVID impact has been less than feared. BB & MM have obtained grants during the period along with further donations. Laura continues to lead the BB project and we host the finances.

Ed was thanked from the floor by Wendy Bebbington and the rest of the meeting for his work in managing the budget and presenting such a clear report. He in turn thanked those who contributed to accounts and managing income including Nina De Salis Young, David Hemmings, Malcolm Greenwood, Mike Dampier, and all the weekly collection counters. Ed also thanked Noel Smith our Independent Examiner for his work in auditing the accounts.

It was proposed by Debra Gilbert that Ed's verbal report along with the written report on pages 17-19 of the Annual Report Document and the accounts as stated at the rear of the document be accepted. This was seconded by Robin Pointon and unanimously agreed by the meeting.

#### **f) to k) Other Written Reports**

The following reports were received by the meeting -

- f) Mission Partnership
- g) Deanery Synod Report
- h) Church Hall Report
- i) Health & Safety Report
- j) Safeguarding Report
- k) Pastoral Team Report

#### **l) Mission & Ministry Reports** (video was played during the service as well)

- Young Children's and Families' Work Report. Thanks to Irene for her work during 2019.
- Money Matters Leicester. Appreciate work done by Nina and other team members.
- Baby Basics: Just sent out 1000<sup>th</sup> referral.
- Intercultural Worshipping Community (IWC). Celebrating diversity. Martyrs is one of 5 churches in the Diocese involved in the project. A Martyrs Steering Group, headed up by Lloyd Ganza, is helping to move the vision forward.

### **4. Elections and Appointments**

#### **a) Parochial Church Council**

Thanks to those due to retire this year from PCC. They are:

Lloyd Ganza  
Freya Gilbert  
Julie Shaw  
Steve Ardron

James Gould also resigned during Lockdown as he and Gail were moving away to Sheffield, thereby giving a place for 1 year, albeit this will in reality be until April/ May 2021. The available posts this year are shortened by the late AGM. Using the time period from April 2020, there are 4 posts available for 3 years and one for 1 year.

**Bertin** declared that nominations had been received as follows:

- Wendy Bebbington proposed by Julie Shaw and seconded by Dave Seaman.
- David Basopo proposed by Pete Coopey and seconded by John Sinclair.
- Cynthia Kupara proposed by Roz Burch and seconded by Sue Hermo.
- Lloyd Ganza proposed by Roz Burch and seconded by Sue Hermo.
- Debra Gilbert proposed by Elliot Lee and seconded by Liz Bamford.

In the absence of any other nominations, there was no requirement for a vote and the abovementioned were duly elected to the PCC. Four of the vacancies are to serve for three years and one for one year. To be decided at the next PCC meeting who would stand for the initial short period. Bertin thanked those who were standing down as well as those named above as newly elected to the PCC.

#### **b) Deanery Synod**

There are 3 vacancies for three years on the Deanery Synod. Those willing to stand being -

- Steve Ardron proposed by Pete Coopey and seconded by Maureen Pointon.
- Liz Bamford proposed by Julie Shaw and seconded by Pete Coopey.
- Julie Shaw proposed by Liz Bamford and seconded by John Sinclair.

In the absence of any other nominations, there was no requirement for a vote and the abovementioned were duly elected to the PCC.

#### **c) Deputy / Assistant Wardens**

Whilst not being formal church appointments the valuable work of Deputy Wardens was recognised. The Deputy Wardens for this year are Liz Bamford, Katherine Hawker, and Eileen Melbourne.

#### **d) Independent Examiner**

Ed de Salis Young proposed that Noel Smith be appointed as Independent Examiner for the forthcoming year. This was seconded by Roz Burch and unanimously agreed by the meeting.

#### **e) PCC Reader Representative**

Shayne Ardron was appointed as Reader representative on the PCC.

#### **f) West Leicester Mission Partnership**

It was noted and approved that Linda Tilley be appointed as a Lay Representative on the West Leicester Mission Partnership Action Group for a further year.

#### **g) Sides People and Welcomers**

No formal appointments required. There are major changes on how we do things as a result of COVID, therefore in no hurry to fill these appointments. A huge thank you to those below who have served.

The names were as follows.

**Sides People:** - *Barbara Hewitt, Angela Sharp, Muriel Miller, Sue Gammon, Robin Pointon, Margaret Wicks, Rosemary Matley, Mavis Millins, Julie Shaw, James Lynch*

**Welcomers:** *Trevor Worsfold, Gwyneth Moor, Cynthia Kupara, Pete Gilbert, Olayinka Olatunde, Janet Lenton, Maureen Pointon*

**Communion assistants appointed. They are:** *Shayne Ardron, Sue Gammon, David Gilbert, Pete Gilbert, Liz Lawton, Shaylesh Raja, John Riley, Angela Gordon, Trevor Worsfold and Janet Lenton*

### **5. Open Forum**

It was noted that no questions had been received prior to the meeting for Open Forum discussion.

Pat Woods asked, "Do we need a proper platform built for the camera, rather than tables"? This can be looked into.

From Bertin. Luke 5 story. Let's go out into deep waters to fish. Tried whole night etc, but because you said, we will go.

Bertin just wanted to add that we do not know what the journey looks like for us, but we are being called to some new things, not necessarily in a safe place. Uncomfortable and choppy waters. We need to hear from Jesus. Because you said so.....We will go....and journey together. Set sail for the choppy waters. It may not make sense, but we need to trust him that he is leading us into a good place.

## **6. Votes of Thanks**

Thanks were expressed to Helen Creigh for pastoral teamwork, all church gardeners and those that clean the cellar steps.

Thanks to Bertin & Sue from Pete Coopey.

## **7. Meeting Close**

Pete Coopey led a short time of prayer before the meeting closed. Bertin closed the meeting 12:48 hrs thanking all those for their attendance.



# **ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

Begins on the following page

# **CHURCH OF THE MARTYRS LEICESTER**

**Registered Charity no 1134668**

**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

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**CHURCH OF THE MARTYRS, LEICESTER**  
**Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2020**

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2020 which are set out on pages 3 to 9.

**Respective responsibilities of PCC and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees 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 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- 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 charity 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 as trustees 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**

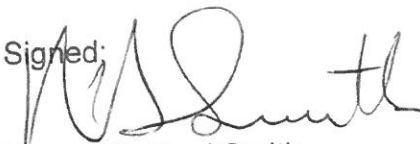
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(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 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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.

Signed: 

Name: Mr Noel Smith

Address: Broughton Astley, Leicestershire

Date: 16 Apr 2021

**CHURCH OF THE MARTYRS, LEICESTER**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020**

**Note 1:**

**Accounting Policies**

These Accounts have been prepared in accordance with Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable Accounting Standards and the Charities SORP 2005.

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention.

**Scope of the Accounts**

The Accounts combine the results of the Church, Hall and associated funds for the year. The Accounts include monetary transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC can be held responsible.

**Funds**

**Unrestricted funds** [general fund] represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any special restrictions regarding their use.

**Restricted funds** represent income and donations from individuals or groups which may be expended only on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. At the start of 2020 there were 5 active Restricted Funds: Children and Families Worker Fund, Money Matters fund, Baby Basics fund, Organ fund (donations for the church organ), and Mission Partnership fund. This did not change during the year.

**Designated Funds** have been designated by the PCC and as such could be 'undesignated' in the future. At the start of 2019 there were 3 active Designated Funds: the Hall fund, Buildings Development fund and Tithe fund (to hold unspent tithe monies). This did not change during the year.

The Accounts 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 main affiliation to another body or those that are informal gatherings of church members.

## **Incoming Resources**

- Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC
- Planned giving received under Gift Aid is recognised only when received
- Income Tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income to which it relates is received
- All funds raised from events are accounted for gross
- Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue
- Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due.

## **Resources used**

Donations are accounted for when paid over. The Parish Share is accounted for when due, although any unpaid amount at 31st December is provided for in these financial statements as an operational (though not legal) liability and as such is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet. All other expenditure is recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

## **Fixed Assets**

Consecrated and beneficed property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993. Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust of 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).

Items acquired before 2000 are not included in the accounts either because there is insufficient cost information available or the value is considered too low. The expenditure on individual items and equipment under £1,500 is written off when incurred.

The church does record 5 fixed assets, which are over the £1,500 threshold. Depreciation is applied on a 'straight line' basis over the likely lifespan of each item, based on advice from suppliers. The 5 items are the electronic organ (25 years lifespan), and the main audio visual (AV) projector, sound desk, photocopier and church chairs (all 10 years lifespan).

The church (rather than the Diocese) also owns the Martyrs' Community Hall which was built later than the church and paid for by parishioner fundraising. This is noted here, but not shown as a fixed asset in the accounts as the value is uncertain.

# Church of the Martyrs, Leicester – Statement of Financial Activities – Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

Statement of Financial Activities	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Designated	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Total	Church	PCC Total	PCC Total
	Church	Church	Church	Church	Church	Hall	MP	Money Matters	Baby Basics			2020 (£)	2019 (£)
	General Fund	Buildings	Tithe	Organ	Ch&Fam								
<b>Incoming Resources</b>													
Voluntary income (note 2a)	114,629	-	-	-	16,597	3,545	160	22,781	27,717	131,226		185,429	142,583
Investment income (note 2b)	131	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	131		131	239
Income from Charitable Activities (note 2c)	605	-	-	-	-	19,577	-	-	-	605		20,182	30,363
Other Incoming Resources (note 2d)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	361	-		361	2,055
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>115,365</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,597</b>	<b>23,122</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>22,781</b>	<b>28,078</b>	<b>131,962</b>		<b>206,103</b>	<b>175,240</b>
<b>Resources Expended</b>													
Cost of Generating Funds (note 3a)	96	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	27	96		154	613
Grants (note 3b)	184	5,680	-	-	15	-	-	2,089	13,034	5,879		21,002	15,161
Activities directly related to Church Work (3c)	97,504	537	468	468	14,846	30,267	-	4,107	7,399	113,355		155,128	208,151
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>97,784</b>	<b>6,217</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>14,861</b>	<b>30,267</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,227</b>	<b>20,460</b>	<b>119,330</b>		<b>176,284</b>	<b>223,925</b>
Net incoming resources	17,581	6,217	-	468	1,736	(7,145)	160	16,554	7,618	12,632		29,819	-
Transfers between funds (note 4 below)	-	8,365	6,992	-	-	1,700	-	327	-	-		-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>9,216</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>1,736</b>	<b>(5,445)</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>16,227</b>	<b>7,618</b>	<b>11,259</b>		<b>29,819</b>	<b>-</b>
Total funds brought forward	42,927	2,285	4,680	4,680	6,756	16,708	2,242	2,173	9,655	56,648		87,426	136,111
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>52,143</b>	<b>3,060</b>	<b>4,212</b>	<b>4,212</b>	<b>8,492</b>	<b>11,263</b>	<b>2,402</b>	<b>18,400</b>	<b>17,273</b>	<b>67,907</b>		<b>117,245</b>	<b>87,426</b>

## Note 4: Fund transfers were:

General to Tithe fund (tithes)	8,740.00
Tithe to Money Matters (tithe)	1,748.00
Money Matters to General fund (intern)	375.00
Money Matters to Hall fund (rent)	1,700.00

# Church of the Martyrs, Leicester – Balance Sheet for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

Balance Sheet		Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	PCC Total	PCC Total
		Church	Buildings, Hall, Tithe	Organ, MP, MM, BB, CH&Fam	2020 (£)	2019 (£)
<b>Fixed Assets - Equipment (note 5)</b>		<b>4,236</b>	<b>3,226</b>	<b>4,212</b>	<b>11,674</b>	<b>13,539</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>						
Cash at bank and hand		42,613	12,643	48,066	104,492	71,059
Debtors - Tax reclaimable (note 6)		5,401	100	1,074	6,475	6,841
Debtors - general (note 6)		520	1,220	582	2,322	1,266
<b>Total</b>		<b>48,534</b>	<b>13,863</b>	<b>49,722</b>	<b>112,119</b>	<b>79,166</b>
<b>Current Liabilities (note 7)</b>						
Agency collections		10			10	268
Creditors - general		617	2,766	3,155	6,538	5,011
<b>Total</b>		<b>627</b>	<b>2,766</b>	<b>3,155</b>	<b>6,548</b>	<b>5,279</b>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<b>52,143</b>	<b>14,323</b>	<b>50,779</b>	<b>117,245</b>	<b>87,426</b>
<b>Represented by Funds</b>						
<b>Unrestricted</b>						
General fund		52,143			52,143	42,927
<b>Designated</b>						
Hall Fund			11,263		11,263	16,708
Buildings Fund			1,614		1,614	2,151
Tithe Fund			1,446		1,446	134
<b>Restricted</b>						
Baby Basics				17,273	17,273	9,655
Mission Partnership Fund				2,402	2,402	2,242
Money Matters Fund				18,400	18,400	2,173
Organ				4,212	4,212	4,680
Children & Families Worker				8,492	8,492	6,756
<b>Balances at 31 December 2020</b>		<b>52,143</b>	<b>14,323</b>	<b>50,779</b>	<b>117,245</b>	<b>87,426</b>

Approved on behalf of the PCC ..... *Bertin Hermo* ..... Name: Bertin Hermo, Vicar Date: 05/05/2021  
**CHURCH OF THE MARTYRS, LEICESTER.**

# Church of the Martyrs, Leicester – Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

## Note 2:

Incoming Resources Detail		Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Designated	Total	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	PCC Total	PCC Total
		Church	Church	Church	Church	Church	Church	Church	Church	Money Matters	Baby Basics	2020 (£)	2019 (£)
		General Fund	Buildings	Yth Worker	Ch&Fam	Tithe	Organ		Hall	MP			
<b>2a Voluntary Income</b>													
General donations Gift Aid		31,021.54			3,015.00			34,036.54		2,738.00		36,774.54	36,634
Donations gross via CAF		-			30.00			30.00		400.00	5,000.00	5,430.00	6,047
Donations gross via PGS		58,125.83						58,125.83				58,125.83	53,657
Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid		5,980.57			833.75			6,814.32		634.50		7,448.82	10,929
General donations (non Gift Aid)		6,958.25			50.00			7,008.25	1,100.00	160.00	8,040.83	17,620.88	15,912
Cash Collections		1,283.11						1,283.11				1,283.11	3,451
Special Collections Gift Aid		2,063.05			500.00			2,563.05				2,563.05	1,778
Special Collections non Gift Aid		2,478.97						2,478.97				2,478.97	354
Grants & Legacies		6,717.99			12,168.65			18,886.64	2,445.21	17,697.00	14,676.00	53,704.85	13,820
<b>Total</b>		<b>114,629.31</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,597.40</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>131,226.71</b>	<b>3,545.21</b>	<b>160.00</b>	<b>27,716.83</b>	<b>185,430.05</b>	<b>142,583</b>
<b>2b Investment Income</b>													
Bank/CCF Interest		130.50						130.50				130.50	239
<b>Total</b>		<b>130.50</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>130.50</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>130.50</b>	<b>239</b>
<b>2c Income from Charitable Activities</b>													
Tomatoes Donations		438.80						438.80				438.80	805
PCC Fees (Weddings, Baptisms)		166.00						166.00				166.00	610
Hire/Lettings of buildings								-	19,577.30			19,577.30	28,833
Trading Income								-				-	115
Parish Holiday, Soul Survivor								-				-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>604.80</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>604.80</b>	<b>19,577.30</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,182.10</b>	<b>30,363</b>
<b>2d Other</b>													
Social Events								-				-	-
Miscellaneous Income								-			361.13	361.13	2,055
Insurance Claims								-				-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>		<b>115,364.61</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,597.40</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>131,962.01</b>	<b>23,122.51</b>	<b>160.00</b>	<b>28,077.96</b>	<b>361.13</b>	<b>2,055</b>
												<b>206,103.78</b>	<b>175,240</b>



# Church of the Martyrs, Leicester – Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

## Note 3:

Resources Expended Detail	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Restricted	Designated	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Total	Church	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	PCC Total	PCC Total
	Church	Church	Church	Church	Church	Church	Church	Church	Church	Church	Church	Church	Church	Church	2019 (£)	2020 (£)
<b>3a Cost of Generating Funds</b>																
Social Events, Envelopes	96.11								96.11						612	154.07
<b>Total</b>	<b>96.11</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>96.11</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>154.07</b>
<b>3b Grants</b>																
Tithes paid out		5,680.00							5,680.00						6,261	5,680.00
Other Donations	184.04				15.20				199.24						8,899	15,322.64
<b>Total</b>	<b>184.04</b>	<b>5,680.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15.20</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,879.24</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15,160</b>	<b>21,002.64</b>
<b>3c Activities directly related to Church Work</b>																
Parish Share	72,812.00								72,812.00						75,205	72,812.00
Remuneration Costs (inc temporary)	3,482.39				14,679.66				18,162.05						39,521	37,188.83
Clergy and Staff Expenses	899.54				55.74				955.28						3,061	955.28
Mission: Children and Youth	297.84				0.13				297.97						2,021	297.97
Mission: Soul Survivor									-						-	-
Mission: Other trips, courses and training	1,648.28								1,648.28						1,241	2,435.88
Mission: Tomatoes	456.06								456.06						1,876	456.06
Mission: Other activities	81.54								81.54						255	81.54
Admin, photocopying, office expenses	1,602.01								1,602.01						3,366	3,046.78
Printing, Publicity, Notice boards	195.47								195.47						676	269.72
Consumables and Cleaning Equipment	339.50								339.50						1,967	1,239.63
Insurance Premiums	3,361.52								3,361.52						6,138	5,862.11
Bank Charges	257.10								257.10						330	257.10
Fees: Subs, Licenses, Membership, PRS	1,006.53								1,102.41						2,993	2,880.01
Equipment: Computers, furniture etc	210.59								210.59						4,877	1,197.93
Equipment: Worship (PA etc)	195.87								195.87						-	195.87
Worship and Service Resources, Manuals	3,575.49				14.39				3,589.88						3,342	3,696.37
Fixed Asset Depreciation	860.15								1,865.15						1,865	1,865.15
General Maintenance	4,633.54								4,633.54						23,086	11,419.01
Premises: Rental, legal and valuations	-								-						700	1,800.00
Utilities	1,588.34								1,588.34						13,201	7,170.95
PCC Expenses and Governance Costs									-						1,438	-
Major or Quinquennial Work									-						20,993	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>97,503.76</b>	<b>537.00</b>	<b>468.00</b>	<b>468.00</b>	<b>14,845.80</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>113,354.56</b>	<b>30,266.91</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,106.73</b>	<b>7,399.99</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>208,153</b>	<b>155,128.19</b>
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>97,783.91</b>	<b>6,217.00</b>	<b>468.00</b>	<b>468.00</b>	<b>14,861.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>119,329.91</b>	<b>30,266.91</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,226.91</b>	<b>20,461.17</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>223,925</b>	<b>176,284.90</b>

## Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

**Note 4:** For details of Fund transfers, see Note 4 on the summary SOFA page.

### Note 5: Fixed Assets

(a) Tangible	Electric Organ	A/V system	Sound Desk	Copier	Church Chairs	Total
<b>Actual Cost</b>						
At 1 January 2020	11,700	19,150	3,600	2,907	5,374	42,731
Additions						0
Disposals						0
At 31 December 2020	11,700	19,150	3,600	2,907	5,374	42,731
<b>Depreciation</b>						
At 1 January 2020	7,020	17,461	2,520	580	1,611	29,192
Additions	468	210	360	290	537	1,865
Disposals						
At 31 December 2020	7,488	17,671	2,880	870	2,148	31,057
<b>Net Book Value at 31 December 2020</b>	<b>4,212</b>	<b>1,479</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>2,037</b>	<b>3,226</b>	<b>11,674</b>
<b>Net Book Value at 31 December 2019</b>	<b>4,680</b>	<b>1,689</b>	<b>1,080</b>	<b>2,327</b>	<b>3,763</b>	<b>13,539</b>

### Note 6:

Debtors consist of Gift Aid tax recoverable and general debtors (for example Hall users). For Baby Basics, they also include pre-payments to a Revolut card account used for purchasing by the Manager. The stated Gift Aid tax owing at the end of 2020 matches the tax claim made in Q1 2020.

**Note 7:** Liabilities consist of Agency collections (those collected for others but not yet paid over), invoices not yet paid, deposits held, and accruals.

The total Parish Contribution offer the Martyrs made for 2020 was £72,812, which was fully paid during the year.

### Note 8:

#### (a) Salaries

During the year the PCC employed an Administrator, a Premises Officer, a Hall Cleaner, a Children and Families Worker, and a Baby Basics Manager, making a total of 5 employees who were all part-time. The payroll is administered by the Diocese of Leicester, and wages for all employees have had appropriate PAYE and NI deductions made. Pension contributions have been made for the Administrator and the Children and Families Worker; other employees were below the threshold for pension enrolment.

#### (b) Payments to PCC Members

A small immaterial portion of the expenses paid to the incumbent may have related to his services to the PCC. No other payment or expenses were paid to any other PCC member, persons closely related to them or related parties, except for direct reimbursements for items bought for the church.

