

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF FELIXSTOWE, SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST WITH SAINT EDMUND

England & Wales · Charity number 1135596

Details

Other names ST JOHN'S PCC, FELIXSTOWE

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2010-04-19

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address St John the Baptist Church
Orwell Road
Felixstowe
Felixstowe
IP11 7PW

Phone 07581 390224

Email admin@felixparish.com

Website felixparish.com

Activities

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

Activities: Regular worship open to all The provision of sacred space for personal prayer & contemplation
Pastoral work, Teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses & small groups Promotion of Christianity
via the staging of events meetings & distribution of literature Promoting the mission of the Church via
provision of activities for senior citizens, parents, young people & other special need groups

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£163,119	£174,408	-	-
2023-12-31	£167,875	£152,802	-	-
2022-12-31	£185,467	£183,405	-	-
2021-12-31	£156,790	£178,034	-	-
2020-12-31	£120,383	£121,900	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
REV Andrew Dotchin	Chair	2015-11-26
Barbara Bown		2020-10-25
DIANA EILEEN BARNARD		
Denis Heath		2020-10-25
GARATH JONES		2017-01-01
Gillian Berry		
James Lumley		2021-04-12
June Heath		2020-10-25
Kate Prewer		2020-10-25
MRS PENNY BROOKES		
REV Penny Brinkley		2016-06-01
SHEILA ANNE DONALD PCC Sec		
Sharon Hume		2018-03-18

Accounts

Agenda for the Annual Meeting of Parishioners

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on Sunday 28th April 2024.
3. Matters arising from the Minutes
4. Election of Churchwardens.

Agenda for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 28th April 2024
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes
4. Reports of the PCC to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
 - (a) Electoral Roll
 - (b) Secretary to the PCC
 - (c) Financial Statement of the PCC for the year ending 31st December 2024.
 - (d) Fabric Report
 - (e) Deanery Synod Report
 - (f) Reports from Church Groups and Activities.
5. Elections

Deanery Synod Elections:

Our Parish may elect three members to Deanery Synod. Deanery Synod members are ex officio members of the PCC. Our current member Gillian Berry has one year left to serve.

PCC Elections:

The PCC should have a minimum of 9 and a maximum of 12 ordinary members who serve for a period of 3 years. These are elected over a period of three years to preserve continuity.

6. Appointments
 - (a) Sidesmen
 - (b) Independent Examiner.

7. A.O.B.

Any items must be notified to the Chair no later than 8pm on Saturday 10th May 2024.

8. Closing Prayer.

PCC Information for the APCM
The Parish of Felixstowe, Saint John the Baptist with Saint Edmund
Annual Reports of the Parochial Church Council
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024
Administrative Information.

The Church of Saint John the Baptist is situated on the corner of Orwell Road and Princes Road within the Felixstowe Conservation Area.

The Church of Saint Edmund is on Langer Road where it is joined by St. Edmund's Road.

The Parish is a part of the Colney's Deanery within the Ipswich Archdeaconry of the Diocese of Saint Edmundsbury and Ipswich.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a registered charity number 1135596

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2024 until this report was approved are:

Vicar:	Reverend Canon Andrew Dotchin	Chair & Secretary to the PCC until August
Associate Priest:	Reverend Penny Brinkley	Ex-Officio
Associate Priest:	Reverend Elizabeth Corker	Ex-Officio
Associate Priest:	Reverend Philip Young	Ex Officio
Associate Priest:	Reverend Jane Pearse	Ex Officio
Associate Priest:	Reverend Catherine Bond	Ex Officio
Associate Priest:	Reverend Derek Brown	Ex Officio
Wardens:	Diana Barnard	
	Barbara Bown	
Representatives on the Deanery Synod:		
	Reverend Penny Brinkley	Ex Officio (Member of Diocesan Synod)
	Gillian Berry	Ex Officio
Elected Members:		
	Liss Coates (Parish Administrator)	Ex Officio
	Denis Heath – Elected in 2023 for 3 years.	
	June Heath – Elected in 2023 for 3 years.	
	Julia Dawson – Elected in 2023 for 3 years.	
	Andrew New – Elected in 2024 for 3 years.	
	Sharon Hume – Elected in 2024 for 3 years	
	Tracey Lack – Elected in 2024 for 3 years.	
	Sandra Watson – Elected in 2024 for 3 years.	
	Tracey Laflin – Elected in 2024 for 3 years **	
	Mary Trayler – Elected in 2024 for 3 years. **	
	Stanley Wilberforce – Co-opted in 2024. **	

** Resigned as members for various reasons.

Structure, Governance and Management of the Parish of Felixstowe: St. John the Baptist with St. Edmund

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules of the Church of England. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. Under the Church Representation Rules, the PCC is able to have a maximum of 12 elected lay members, and during the last year has been made up of 9 elected lay members. There are 2 vacancies to be filled at the APCM in 2025.

Objectives and Activities

The purpose of the PCC is set out in the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956, and it states:

- (1) It shall be the duty of the Minister and the PCC to consult together on matters of general concern and importance to the parish.
- (2) The functions of the Parochial Church Council shall include -
 - (a) co-operation with the Minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical ;
 - (b) the consideration and discussion of matters concerning the Church of England or any other matters of religious or public interest, but not the declaration of the doctrine of the Church on any question;
 - (c) making known and putting into effect any provision made by the Diocesan Synod or the Deanery Synod, but without prejudice to the powers of the Council on any particular matter.
 - (d) giving advice to the Diocesan Synod and the Deanery Synod on any matter referred to the Council;
 - (e) raising such matters as the Council consider appropriate with the Diocesan Synod or Deanery Synod.
- (3) In the exercise of its functions the Parochial Church Council shall take into consideration any expression of opinion by any Parochial Church Meeting.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves policy was agreed by the PCC at the meeting on 15th June 2017. £60,000 is currently set as the level for the Parish Reserves. This will be reviewed by the PCC at the first meeting of the new PCC after each APCM. (This money will only be touched in great need.)

Electoral Roll

Financial Review

The report of the Treasurer to the PCC is included within this report.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners Sunday, 28 April, 2024 in St. John's Church

1. Apologies for Absence

Penny Brookes, Gillian Berry,.

2. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on Sunday 29 April 2023

Proposed: Dennis Heath Seconded: Frank Atkinson

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

None

4. Election of Churchwardens

There being only two candidate for the two vacancies Diana Barnard and Barbara Bown were declared elected.

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting Sunday, 28 April, 2024 in St. John's Church

1. Apologies for Absence

Penny Brookes, Gillian Berry.

2. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on Sunday 29 April 2023

Proposed: June Heath Seconded: Sharon Hume

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

None

4. Reports of the PCC to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting were received

(a) Electoral Roll

Sharon Hume reported to the meeting that the number on the Electoral Roll stood at 140, 49 of whom were resident in the parish, and 91 non-resident.

(b) Financial Statement of the PCC for the year ending 31st December 2023

The Chair thanked Andrew New for his work as Treasurer

(c) Safeguarding Report

The Chair thanked Sarah Docherty for her work as Parish Safeguarding Officer as she stood down from the office.

(d) Secretary to the PCC

Canon Andrew was thanked for his work as stand-in Secretary

(e) Fabric Report

(f) Deanery Synod Report

(g) Reports from Church Groups and Activities

5. Elections

Deanery Synod Elections:

Our Parish may elect three members to Deanery Synod. Deanery Synod members are *ex officio* members of the PCC. Our current members, Garath Jones and Gillian Berry have two years left to serve.

PCC Elections:

Thanks were given to Penny Brooks, who after many years of service on the PCC had decided to not stand for re-election.

The PCC should have a minimum of 9 and a maximum of 12 ordinary members who serve for a period of 3 years. These are elected over a period of three years to preserve continuity.

The following were elected:

Tracey Lack, Tracey Laflin, Sharon Hume, Andrew New, Sandra Watson, Mary Trayler
Stan Wilberforce (co-opted)

Appropriate levels of Safeguarding training would be required for some of the newly elected

6. Appointments

(a) Sidesmen

The Sidesmen were reappointed NEM CON

(b) Independent Examiner

Canon Andrew Dotchin proposed that Philip Keble continue as Independent Examiner. This was agreed by the meeting.

7. A.O.B.
None

8. Closing Prayer
The Growing in God prayer was said to close the meeting.

The Growing in God Prayer

O Lord, our God, giver of life and growth,
grow in us a longing for you,
that we might deepen our faith;
grow in us a compassion for your world,
that we might serve our neighbours;
grow in us a vision for your kingdom,
that we might proclaim your love.
By the power of your Spirit, and in Jesus' name.
Amen.

Reports of the PCC to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting – 11 May 2025

(a) Electoral Roll

99 – of which 37 are resident and 62 are non-resident in the Parish (as at 5th May 2025)

(b) Treasurer's Report - Year Ending 31st December 2024

I am pleased to present the Treasurer's Report for the year ending 31st December 2024. This report summarises the financial position of the parish and outlines key activities and trends drawn from the Receipts and Payments and Balance Sheet documents.

Financial Overview

As of 31st December 2024, the parish's total net assets stood at £353,381.02, compared with £366,608.74 the previous year—a net reduction of £13,227.72. This decline is largely attributed to a deficit in the General Fund, while our restricted and endowment funds remain stable or have grown modestly.

Fund Breakdown

General Fund (Unrestricted)

Closing balance: £(331.03)

Previous year: £16,948.06

Deficit: £15,279.09 (reflecting increased costs and a slight drop in giving)

Major expenses: Parish share (£72,477.08), utilities and maintenance (over £25,000), salaries (£8,157.18)

Despite continued generosity from parishioners and income from lettings, rising operating costs have resulted in a year-end deficit. This is a concern and requires attention moving forward.

Restricted Funds

Total balance: £70,673.69 (up from £63,028.55 in 2023)

Key contributors include:

- Pitstop Fund: Grew to £19,284.95 due to successful fundraising and grant income.
- Welfare Fund: Declined to £4,672.42 despite a £10,000 transfer, due to strong demand for food and voucher support.
- Agency Fund: Small balance of £60.71, reflecting the pass-through nature of donations collected and distributed.

These funds reflect the vibrancy and outreach of our parish and demonstrate how effectively targeted donations are being used.

Endowment Funds

Closing balance: £283,038.36

Previous year: £286,632.13

Includes the St John PCC Reserve Account, Browse Bells Fund and 6 Graham Court.

A modest drawdown and a small investment return were recorded. These funds provide long-term financial stability and are being carefully managed.

Assets Snapshot

- (b) Fixed assets: Remain unchanged at £250,000, reflecting the value of 6 Graham Court.
- (c) Current assets: £103,381.02, held across various bank and reserve accounts
- (d) Cash reserves: Healthy levels across Pitstop, Welfare, and SumUp accounts

Conclusion and Looking Ahead

While our restricted and endowment funds remain strong, the deficit in the General Fund underlines the importance of increasing core giving and controlling costs. Our outreach ministries, especially the Pitstop and Welfare, continue to serve the community effectively and rely on your ongoing support.

I want to thank our donors, volunteers, and the finance team for their diligence and generosity throughout 2024. As we face the new year, we do so with faith, commitment, and a shared responsibility for sustaining our parish life.

Andrew New
Treasurer

Reports of the PCC to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting:

Secretary's Report

There have been 10 full PCC meetings for the year and one Extraordinary meeting which was held on 7th August 2024 following the announcement that Andrew would be leaving us on 29th September.

At every meeting of the PCC our Agenda is led by the four parts of the Growing in God principles which are at the heart of the Diocesan Strategy to ensure that parishes address all areas of life in their communities. The four areas are Growing Deeper, Growing in Influence, Growing in Number and Growing Younger. Each of these portfolios is held by different members of the PCC who value the help of many others and who may be approached if there are any enquiries about the work that has been carried out or planned.

Some of the matters which have been discussed at meetings include:

The New lighting in St. John's church.
Problems with the heating and the organ.
Safeguarding issues.
Messy church and the growth in numbers.
Pitstop. It's success and new venue.
Parish Pantry opening times, manning and venue.
Church Finances and Banking arrangements.
Church maintenance in general which is ongoing
Care Home Communion visits.
Marriage and Funeral fees.
Monday Communion Services
Parish Profile
Strategy for Church Keys
Health & Safety
Social Activities

Tracey Lack

Growing in God Report

Growing Deeper

Our three home groups continue to meet on a regular basis, with each having it's own distinct style, hopefully meaning there is something for everyone.

We have again as a church joined with Churches Together Felixstowe to host a session on the Lent film. This year we have looked at the 'King's Speech'. These sessions have been well attend by people from several churches. On a personal level it would have been nice to have seen more from St John's congregation taking part. Lark Rise retreat days have been well attended by both our own parishioners and others from various churches in the Diocese and further afield.

Growing in influence

Pitstop and the pantry are both flourishing and have their own reports, but are an opportunity for us to reach out into the wider world of Felixstowe Town.

We again hosted the Mayor's charity fashion show and the Civic Remembrance day services, and both myself and Philip have had the honour to lead memorial services for various events in our towns and countries history, including the flood memorial, the lost of 'the gipsy' and 'the Hurricane bomber' that went down just off Felixstowe.

Growing Younger

Messy church continues to flourish as does Pitstop which have their own reports.

We have started going back into Langer school and had the pleasure of hosting both their Graduation Service and Christmas service and look forward to doing more with them in the future.

This year we hosted the Air cadets for the annual Christingle service and the guides had their 'Thinking Day Service' in St John's and the Sea Cadets held their Trafalgar Day service with us. We look forward to doing more with the youth organisations in the future.

Growing in number

Messy church numbers have increased steadily since a very shaking restart after Covid.

Congregation numbers remain steady, but are not yet back to pre-Covid numbers although we have seen some new faces recently with several Baptism over the Easter period.

Sadly we have also lost a few who have been promoted to glory.

God bless

Rev. Penny Brinkley

Growing deeper Report

Home group report:

Jane & Catherine's home group is one of three run in the Parish of Felixstowe & meets twice a month at Lark Rise, their home. There are ten members and a good sense of fellowship. Having completed the Everyday Witness course last summer (2024) we studied the Parables of Jesus in the Life Builder series which led to lively discussions. Now the group is studying Luke's gospel and is enjoying learning together. The group begins with tea and sharing of news or prayer requests and at the end there is a time of prayer before ending by sharing the Grace.

Lark Rise Retreats

Lark Rise Retreats is run under the auspices of the Parish of Felixstowe by Catherine, Jane & Penny as part of the Parish's Growing Deeper initiative. Since the last APCM we have offered:

3 events led by John Bell of the Iona Community, attended by 70+

2 study days on Ruth,

3 Advent quiet days

A day on Poetry and prayer led by Malcolm Guite attended by 70+

Following the John Bell weekend in June 2024, a number of people expressed an interest in a pilgrimage to Iona. We have booked The Bishop's House for Sat 16 – 23rd May 2026 and 23 pilgrims have booked places, there is also a waiting list.

The advent days, which were led by Sarah Wallington-Smith, booked up very quickly and thanks to a kind offer from Rev'd Alix Taylor, we ran an extra day at Alix's home in Metfield. Running days in the north of the county has been successful and we intend to offer days there as part of our ongoing programme. We continue to use our home, St Nicholas' church at the Ferry and St John's for larger events but are also planning to have days at St Edmunds.

Days are usually on Thursdays and repeated on Saturdays. We are grateful to Diana and her team for providing coffee, tea and cake for our larger events and to the PCC for their support. Looking forward we have a programme for 2025 that includes Archdeacon Rich on 3rd May "Open Arms" based on The Prodigal Son, Finding Inner Peace and The Secret Garden. Many who attend live in Felixstowe and more than a dozen have attended from St John's.

Jane Pearse

Fabric Report

This has been a very busy year for church maintenance, here are some of the tasks carried out by our volunteers.

ST Edmunds Hall has been taken over by Pit Stop and Liss and her team have redecorated, and a new boiler fitted.

In January fire extinguishers had their annual service.

New LED lights have been fitted in the nave and chancel making the church brighter and more welcoming, and hopefully cutting the bills.

Heaters repaired and serviced so it should not be so cold next winter.

A leak has been repaired in the roof above the entrance to the lady chapel.

Gutters have been cleared at both St John's and St Edmunds.

The lightning conductor passed its annual test.

The meeting room has been redecorated by the wonderful Pit Stop team.

Alan and Stan have rebuilt the outer door at the top of the tower, also upgraded the lighting in the clock room, and upgraded various timers for floodlights and clock face lights.

Alan also had the emergency unit in the tower replaced installed a sensor light over the vestry door, also repaired various leaks sticking doors and fitted new locks.

New external notice boards have been installed with one more to come.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Alan, Stan, Sandra & Rob, Sharon and Andrew New and not forgetting Liss and the incredible ladies from Pit Stop, for their help in keeping these three buildings going.

Denis Heath

St. John's and St. Edmunds Maintenance Report

Denis Heath is a member of the PCC and in charge of the Fabric of the church. He recently asked Stan Wilberforce and I to look at some issues and niggles and we have carried out a survey of what we feel needs to be done. However, a formal survey is normally carried out on a rotational basis by the Diocesan office

Much has been about getting doors and locks working and making dark night access safe for our volunteers collecting items for the Parish Pantry. All entrances now have working PIR lights to aid entry at night.

Some major items of building fabric include:

- (e) Investigating the water leaks we had above St. John's Priests Vestry, some time ago and ensuring this does not occur again
- (f) Repair of the Glass entrance door in the main church entrance. This functioning will help reduce our heating costs but the job will be expensive
- (g) Repainting of the clock face hands and maintaining the outer bearings of the clock faces. This will need to be managed via abseiling from the tower parapet. Again, this is not a cheap job
- (h) The Ringing Chamber North lead lights have bowed outwards and need repair before they fall outwards. Quotations for repair are being progressed.
- (i) St Edmunds Church. All entrances doors and door frames need attention. This is to ensure there is no easy access for rodents into the church.
- (j) St Edmunds entrance porch outside wall, and particularly under the windows, is badly in need of repointing. Some leaded light windows have glass missing and are badly in need of repair and refurbishment.

Minor Niggles

- Setting of Heater Time Clocks. We must maintain the integrity of the heating control system and we may need to run instructional sessions for people who need to ensure heating is available for their events.
- If the power goes off to the tower or main distribution board, the clock stops and has to be manually restarted.
- Church Keys. We have realised during the past few months that we needed to gain control of Church keys. This has turned into a major project, but we now have a new keyboard, list of keys and hopefully key holders.

Can you Help?

Many of the jobs can be managed by competent enthusiastic DIY people. Painting, decorating and minor repairs all help. I know there is effort in redecorating the door at the top of the Tower but it is not complicated. If you have time to do a few jobs it would be appreciated. Just call Denis or me and we can usefully use your time. Why not join the team!

Alan Rutterford

Colneys Deanery Synod Report

Colneys is 1 of 18 Deaneries in St Edmundsbury & Ipswich Diocese. Within the deaneries there are 116 Benefices (with a total no. c 443 parishes).

Each deanery has its own Deanery Synod consisting of lay members and clergy.

At local level the synod addresses issues, concerns and needs of their parishes. It can forward resolutions and concerns for wider discussion at a Diocesan Synod and the allocation of the 'Share' from the Deanery to the parishes.

It promotes communication and collaboration between parishes and priests.

There are usually three meetings a year with the Deanery secretary sending minutes of the previous meeting which are forwarded to PCC members. Business matters are discussed and there is usually a short presentation from an invited speaker. These have included church 'Friends' Groups, and the diocesan net zero carbon officer and diocesan secretary have been invited.

Gillian Berry

Deanery Representative

The Parish Pantry Report

Our Parish Pantry continues to be well used by both regulars and walk-ins. The numbers do vary between 20-40 on average, and depending on the day and what is on offer. Regular users like having the Pantry manned which we now do for the first hour of opening and this bring us in line with other food banks,

We now offer a second Pantry at St. Edmund's Church organised by Liss Coates and her amazing team of helpers. This runs from 9am – 10am Monday, Wednesday and Friday – plus alternate weekends.

We had an incredible Christmas Eve at St. Edmunds where the opening was to have been from 8pm – 9pm but due to the huge amount of food donated by Marks & Spencer, Liss finally closed the doors at 10pm!

More notices have been placed on 'fridge/freezer doors to safeguard the church when giving away fresh items that have reached their 'use by' dates.

Julia Dawson

Choir Report

I want to say a big thank you to a talented and dedicated group of people. Despite our ages (average 83) and our infirmities (we can no longer process and have demonstrated that we can sing just as well sitting down!), there has been only one Sunday service in the past year when we have been unable to provide a choir. In addition we have sung on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, the service of Hope and Remembrance, the song for St Edmund and the Carol Service.

We said goodbye to Mary Trayler who moved back to Tiptree (lucky Tiptree). Thank you Mary, we miss you.

My usual plea for new members. We welcome all ages, and we have a youngster whom we hope will become a regular member.

We were without the organ from just before Christmas to the first week of April and how we missed it and Jeremy's skills, whether he was playing a quiet simple hymn, or using the full power of the organ to raise our spirits to the sublime.

*O praise ye the Lord! All things that give sound;
Each jubilant chord re-echo around;
Loud organs his glory forth tell in deep tone,
And sweet harp the story of what he hath done.*

*O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
To him be out poured all ages along,
For love in creation for heaven restored,
For grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!*

Liz Watson

Messy Church Report

Messy Church continues to welcome families from all over the Felixstowe area, from tiny tots to teenagers. Some of the children have been attending since they were babes in arms; it's wonderful to watch them grow.

There have been lots of new families regularly attending along with long-standing attendees too; we have grown a lot over the past year!

We usually meet on the second Wednesday each month at 3.45pm and finish with a family dinner at 5pm. The families enjoy stories, crafts and games, with each month having a different biblical theme.

Volunteers to assist with crafts, food prep and washing up are always welcomed - speak to Sharon, Penny, Philip or Diana if you are able to offer help.

Sharon Hume

Bellringers' Report

2024-25 has been a very good year for recruitment and training.

The Suffolk Guild of Ringers installed some more receptors for the simulator in the tower in 2024 to enable practices on all 8 bells for ringers, without disturbing the neighbours. This has been used a few times through the year.

I am happy to report that we have had practices almost every week, and we have recently had more of our own learners able to do some Sunday ringing.

Unfortunately, through 2024 and until recently, the lack of ringers has meant that we had as few as 2 bells ringing on occasion, 6 maximum with our own and Falkenham ringers.

The new recruits have also received extra training in other towers, thanks to Lesley Barrell, Hal Meakin and Elizabeth and Stephen Christian.

We rang for 1 wedding, and have 3 more booked for this year.

Our ringing band is now much bigger, with 3 real Sunday ringers, 2 ringers who rang for the first time on Easter Sunday, 1 who had help to ring for Easter Day and 1 who has had to miss a lot but will be returning very soon.

That's very nearly a full band for the 8 bells. More interested people are welcome to email felixstowe@suffolkbells.org.uk, to ask to join us on a Wednesday evening from 7.30-9pm.

The bells have had their annual inspection and are regularly checked and maintained by Dan.

Jackie Savage – Tower Captain

Floodlighting Sponsorship Report

I was asked to take on the Floodlighting Sponsorship in 2015. I arranged for my name to be the contact and I now notify the person typing up the weekly pew sheet so that the dedication is included on the Sunday for that week. I totalled the income at the end of the year and the person doing the book-keeping would agree the figures for one or two bookings a month, amounting to an average income of about £200 per annum.

During Lock down the process became more problematic. While the church was closed, people continued to bring their form and payment to post through my letter box and took it to the Administrator instead of the church. The income dwindled and once we were over this difficult period I began to re-assess. It became clear that the church was very short of money and as this form of income had reduced, I began to realize that it had far more potential. I admit I take great personal delight in seeing St John's tower lit up at night because I can see it from my home. Alan Rutterford, put much effort into overhauling the lighting and setting the timing. The floodlit spire can be seen from all over the town of Felixstowe and symbolically, your personal message is spread far and wide. It is difficult to put a price on how this powerful imagery helps to validate whatever personal dedication you give which is close to your heart.

Following the improvements it was decided by the PCC to raise the payment for one week's floodlighting from £15 to £20 and I decided on a campaign of promotion. I began by having a small table at the Christmas Cracker and set myself the target of filling each weekly slot in the pew sheet. I currently have over half the year full with bookings and have just arranged the first shared Sunday agreement. I have asked the clergy team to give a flyer out when arranging a wedding, funeral or other church event and have taken flyers myself to churches in the town to open up the scheme. A supply of Flyers and Application Forms are kept at the back of the church with the aim of making this inclusive for all. I am hoping to reach an income approaching £1,000 by the end of this first year of promotion. Thank you for all your bookings and for all your heartfelt messages.

Patricia Skirrow

It has been another enjoyable and sociable year at church. We feel that getting together to share an occasion is as important as the money raised. We are trying to come up with new ideas and Andrew New has asked us to try and make an additional £4000 this year to help balance the books.

Having introduced Ladies who brunch, we have decided to change it to People who brunch as the men were feeling a bit left out.

We are going to discuss a possible Auction of Promises. We are having a summer strawberry tea with just a few in house stalls. Quiz nights are popular as ever and we are all pleased the heating is now mended so that these occasions are more enjoyable.

There are concerts in the diary including 'Pastoral Quire'. This has been arranged by Jeremy who will be playing the organ. He has arranged this at St. John's on 8th August. All the ticket money will go to St John's.

This year we have planned three lunches. Our Parish lunch which was held in January, our Patronal lunch which will be in June and Harvest lunch in October.

Our coffee mornings are still popular but we really need more people to come and support. It is a lot of work and it would be good to make it as profitable as possible. Please pass the word and invite friends and family to all our events. Our next coffee morning is May 24th for Christian Aid. And the following Saturday we are holding a jumble sale to make money from what has accumulated.

We have a happy busy social committee if anyone is interested In joining it please talk to me or Barbara or Sharon. We meet about 8 times a year normally on a Monday morning. If you have fund raising events you would be interested in in organising do let us know.

Looking forward to seeing lots of you all this year

Diana Barnard

Pitstop is a volunteer run – donation-based service located in St Edmunds church, Langer Road, Felixstowe, where you will find everything, you need for babies and children for FREE. Everything we have has been donated to us for free by the public, so therefore everything we have is given away for free!

With each passing year Pitstop continues to go from strength to strength bustling with children and families and 2024 has been extraordinary. Our usual annual events (Easter, Summer & Halloween) were a huge hit and at Christmas, for the first time, we teamed up with the Lions club and had our own Christmas Grotto which was visited (and loved) by over 150 families. In 2024 we introduced cake sales, jumble sales and the offerings of a free cooked meal on a Thursday evening. In the October of 2024, Pitstop moved into its lovely new home at St Edmunds Parish Hall and it is positively thriving. Special thanks to all of our volunteers, they are the heart of Pitstop, and the community.

Our current opening hours are Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays 9-12, every second Thursday 5-7 and second Sunday 10-2.

Liss Coates

Wolsey Court Home group report for 2025 AGM

A home group is more than a Bible study group, it is a place to relax, talk, and discuss those questions you never have the time to ask in church. This is our aim, and we hope that as a group we have achieved this while exploring our faith together.

In addition, we have looked at some of stand out points in the Old Testament, a few Old Testament prophets, meditated on some psalms, thought about some of the smaller epistles in the New Testament, and most recently pondered on the what Christ's time on earth taught us.

However, as an 'aside' in the flow of conversations, we have discussed Spirituality, prayer, growing as Christians, and many other topics that grew out of conversation together; and had some 'no agenda' socials just to relax together sometimes in our chalet near Cliff Café.

There are usually around 9/10 of us, so we have room for a few more. We meet in our home on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. If you are interested talk to us.

Revd Ann & Revd Ivan Barley

Report on Communion in nursing homes

As part of his Ministry Andrew Dotchin had previously made arrangements to take monthly communion to Care Homes at
Cotman House,
Montague House,
Coniston House
and Mill Lane.

After he left it was decided by the Ministry team to try to re-ignite our contact and I made enquiries with all of the Homes who said they would like a regular visit. In response to a request for help with this ministry Elizabeth Corker, David Finch, Catherine Bond, Andrew New, Sarah Docherty and Barbara Bown volunteered and were approved by the PCC. We began with Christmas visits to each home and since then have built a regular monthly pattern of visits to each of them. Usually, the same people go to each home to create continuity and build relationships with residents and staff.

All volunteers have a clear DBS and have safeguarding C1 and C2. In January we undertook the Diocesan BASICS course and an introduction to pastoral care. John Cardy provided training with regard to taking reserved sacrament to the homes and he ensures the Aumbry is refreshed regularly. Elizabeth has created a short service which is dignified and allows flexibility.

A visit was made to White Gables at Christmas but they have visits from two other churches. Sarah and I have recently started to visit Westcliff. Elizabeth and I also take communion to some parishioners individually. All services are shown in the service register. A good team is ensuring that monthly visits are made to five nursing homes and these are much appreciated. Thank you to everyone who is enabling this work.

Do please pray for this work and ask me if you have any questions. Blessings

Jane Pearse

Servers' Report

During the last year we welcomed Frazer to train as a server. He has now become a valued member of the team.

For various reasons, we are at present short of servers at the 10am service, and would welcome any one who feels that they would like to join the team. Full training would be given. It is a privilege to be allowed to serve at the altar, assisting the priest and not to be taken lightly. It also requires regular attendance at the services, whether serving or not. If you are interested in joining the team, please contact John Cardy or any member of the clergy team.

John Cardy

Parish of Felixstowe

Balance Sheet detailed

		As at 31/12/2024	As at 31/12/2023
Fixed assets			
	GHC: 6 Graham Court	250,000.00	250,000.00
	Total Fixed assets	250,000.00	250,000.00
Current assets			
	30775649: General bank account	811.23	16,399.98
	53766640: Welfare bank account	4,672.42	16,716.53
	57822181: SumUp business account	1,310.64	-
	73593479: Pitstop bank account	19,284.95	3,146.28
	CB01: Cash box	992.42	548.08
	CB3033812-001: St John PCC Reserve Account	33,453.95	36,632.13
	CB3033813: St John PCC Browse Bells	42,855.41	43,165.74
	Total Current assets	103,381.02	116,608.74
	Net Asset surplus (deficit)	353,381.02	366,608.74
Reserves			
	Excess/(deficit) to date	(13,227.72)	-
	Z01: Starting balances	366,608.74	366,608.74
	Total Reserves	353,381.02	366,608.74

Represented by Funds

General (Unrestricted)	(331.03)	16,948.06
Restricted	70,673.69	63,028.55
Endowment	283,038.36	286,632.13
Total	353,381.02	366,608.74

Parish of Felixstowe
Receipts and payments
Selected period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

Note	From To	01 January 2024 31 December 2024	01 January 2023 31 December 2023
INV - Investments (Endowment) Fund			
Income and endowments			
Investments			
Income from Investments		1,406.23	-
	Total Investments	1,406.23	-
Total Income and endowments		1,406.23	-
Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure		1,406.23	-
Brought forward balance		286,632.13	286,632.13
Transfers to/(from)		(5,000.00)	-
Adjustments		-	286,632.13
Total carried forward balance		283,038.36	286,632.13
INV - Investments (Restricted) Fund			
Income and endowments			
Investments			
Income from Investments		1,726.46	-
	Total Investments	1,726.46	-
Total Income and endowments		1,726.46	-
Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure		1,726.46	-
Brought forward balance		43,165.74	43,165.74
Adjustments		-	43,165.74
Total carried forward balance		44,892.20	43,165.74
PC Pitstop - Push Chair Pitstop (Restricted) Fund			
Income and endowments			
Donations and legacies			
Donations received - Pitstop		24,674.20	-
Grants received - Pitstop		5,355.08	-
	Total Donations and legacies	30,029.28	-
Other trading activities			
Proceeds from fundraising activities		20.00	-
	Total Other trading activities	20.00	-
Other income			
Bank interest and loyalty scheme		187.52	-
	Total Other income	187.52	-
Total Income and endowments		30,236.80	-
Expenditure			
Expenditure on charitable activities			
Veune hire - Pitstop		260.50	-
Vestry expenses		2,224.97	-

Note	From To	01 January 2024 31 December 2024	01 January 2023 31 December 2023
		954.97	-
		692.51	-
		117.60	-
	Total Expenditure on charitable activities	4,250.55	-
Other expenditure			
Storage		900.00	-
Honorarium		2,676.96	-
Rates and council services		150.00	-
Maintenance		120.66	-
IT and AV equipment purchase and maintenance		119.00	-
Moving costs		907.55	-
	Total Other expenditure	4,874.17	-
Total Expenditure		9,124.72	-
Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure		21,112.08	-
Brought forward balance		3,146.28	3,146.28
Transfers to/(from)		(3,000.00)	-
Adjustments		-	3,146.28
Total carried forward balance		21,258.36	3,146.28
Welfare - Welfare Account (Restricted) Fund			
Income and endowments			
Donations and legacies			
Donations - welfare		8,436.15	-
	Total Donations and legacies	8,436.15	-
Total Income and endowments		8,436.15	-
Expenditure			
Expenditure on charitable activities			
Salaries - welfare		750.00	-
Purchase of supermarket vouchers		23,272.00	-
Food purchased - Welfare		5,720.39	-
Food deliveries - welfare		577.30	-
	Total Expenditure on charitable activities	30,319.69	-
Other expenditure			
Consumables and stationery - Welfare		268.57	-
Bank charges - welfare		102.00	-
	Total Other expenditure	370.57	-
Total Expenditure		30,690.26	-
Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure		(22,254.11)	-
Brought forward balance		16,716.53	16,716.53
Transfers to/(from)		10,000.00	-
Adjustments		-	16,716.53
Total carried forward balance		4,462.42	16,716.53
Agency - Agency Fund Collection (Restricted) Fund			
Income and endowments			
Donations and legacies			
Donations collected for other organisations / individuals		2,572.71	-
	Total Donations and legacies	2,572.71	-

Note	From To	01 January 2024 31 December 2024	01 January 2023 31 December 2023
Total Income and endowments		2,572.71	-
Expenditure			
Raising funds			
Payment of donations collected for others		2,512.00	-
	Total Raising funds	2,512.00	-
Total Expenditure		2,512.00	-
Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure		60.71	-
Brought forward balance		-	-
Total carried forward balance		60.71	-
General - General Fund (Unrestricted) Fund			
Income and endowments			
Donations and legacies			
Regular service collection		4,854.17	-
Planned giving		15,390.00	-
Parish Giving Scheme		24,848.59	-
Donations Received		11,572.69	-
Donations and fundraising - direct appeals		10,876.28	-
	Total Donations and legacies	67,541.73	-
Other trading activities			
Special services fees		5,047.75	-
Rental		18,645.72	-
Proceeds from fundraising activities		5,501.44	-
Proceeds from catering activities		3,403.41	-
Room hires and masts		10,722.20	-
	Total Other trading activities	43,320.52	-
Investments			
Income from Investments		980.29	-
	Total Investments	980.29	-
Other income			
Special services collections		947.14	-
Gift aid		6,454.23	-
Bank interest and loyalty scheme		70.28	-
	Total Other income	7,471.65	-
Total Income and endowments		119,314.19	-
Expenditure			
Raising funds			
Payment of donations collected for others		235.97	-
Catering costs		2,100.81	-
	Total Raising funds	2,336.78	-
Expenditure on charitable activities			
Parish share		72,477.08	-
Vestry expenses		1,839.02	-
Training		300.00	-
	Total Expenditure on charitable activities	74,616.10	-
Other expenditure			
Salaries		8,157.18	-
Mileage and travel		1,243.75	-

Note	From To	01 January 2024 31 December 2024	01 January 2023 31 December 2023
Car insurance and road tax premium		593.23	-
Music expenses		4,141.20	-
Home / study group expenses		250.51	-
Fabric		170.99	-
Electricity and gas		13,509.26	-
Water		1,098.22	-
Rates and council services		148.22	-
Maintenance		11,920.34	-
Insurance		8,111.02	-
Printing costs		1,865.92	-
IT and AV equipment purchase and maintenance		1,461.41	-
Consumables and stationery		2,614.01	-
Broadband and mobile phones		999.68	-
Agents fees		860.00	-
Bank charges		495.46	-
	Total Other expenditure	57,640.40	-
Total Expenditure		134,593.28	-
Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure		(15,279.09)	-
Brought forward balance		16,948.06	16,948.06
Transfers to/(from)		(2,000.00)	-
Adjustments		-	16,948.06
Total carried forward balance		(331.03)	16,948.06

**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WITH ST EDMUND, FELIXSTOWE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES (MEMBERS OF THE
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL)**

I report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and the Examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, they 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 Commissioners (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

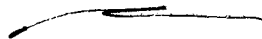
My examination was carried out in accordance to be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 edition, issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishops Council. The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
 - a. to keep accounting records in accordance with the Act; and
 - b. to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act and the Regulations 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



Date 5th April 2025

Philip Keeble, ACMA,
5 The Cambria
Key Street
Ipswich
IP4 1FF

Accounts

The Parish of Felixstowe, St John the Baptist with St Edmund

Diocese of Saint Edmundsbury and Ipswich

'Open to God Open to All'

www.FelixParish.com

Reg. Charity No. 1135596



The Growing in God Prayer

O Lord, our God, giver of life and growth,
grow in us a longing for you,
that we might deepen our faith;
grow in us a compassion for your world,
that we might serve our neighbours;
grow in us a vision for your kingdom,
that we might proclaim your love.

By the power of your Spirit, and in Jesus' name. Amen.

Agenda and Reports for the
Annual Meeting of Parishioners
and the
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Sunday 28 April 2024 at 11.30 am

PART 1

Minutes of Previous Meetings, Electoral Roll, Finance and Safeguarding

Agenda for the Annual Meeting of Parishioners

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on Sunday 29 April 2023
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes
4. Election of Churchwardens

Agenda for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on Sunday 29 April 2023
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes
4. Reports of the PCC to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting:
 - (a) Electoral Roll
 - (b) Financial Statement of the PCC for the year ending 31st December 2023
 - (c) Safeguarding Report

To follow in Part two of the Papers for the APCM

- (d) Secretary to the PCC
 - (e) Fabric Report
 - (f) Deanery Synod Report
 - (g) Reports from Church Groups and Activities
5. Elections

Deanery Synod Elections:
Our Parish may elect three members to Deanery Synod. Deanery Synod members are *ex officio* members of the PCC. Our current members, Garath Jones and Gillian Bailey have two years left to serve.

PCC Elections:

The PCC should have a minimum of 9 and a maximum of 12 ordinary members who serve for a period of 3 years. These are elected over a period of three years to preserve continuity.

Amongst the current members:

Penny Brookes has indicated her intention to retire from the PCC. Sharon Hume's term of office has come to an end and James Lumley has one year left to serve. This leaves vacancies for between two and eight ordinary members.

6. Appointments
 - (a) Sidesmen
 - (b) Independent Examiner

7. A.O.B.
Any items must be notified to the Chair no later than 8pm on Saturday 27 April 2024
8. Closing Prayer

Structure, Governance and Management of the Parish of Felixstowe: St John the Baptist with St Edmund

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules of the Church of England. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. Under the Church Representation Rules, the PCC is able to have a maximum of 12 elected lay members, and during the last year has been made up of 9 elected lay members; there are 5 vacancies to be filled at the APCM in 2024.

Objectives and Activities

The purpose of the PCC is set out in the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956, and it states:

- (1) It shall be the duty of the minister and the PCC to consult together on matters of general concern and importance to the parish.
- (2) The functions of parochial church councils shall include—
 - (a) co-operation with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical;
 - (b) the consideration and discussions of matters concerning the Church of England or any other matters of religious or public interest, but not the declaration of the doctrine of the Church on any question;
 - (c) making known and putting into effect any provision made by the Diocesan Synod or the Deanery Synod, but without prejudice to the powers of the Council on any particular matter.
 - (d) giving advice to the Diocesan Synod and the Deanery Synod on any matter referred to the Council;
 - (e) raising such matters as the Council consider appropriate with the Diocesan Synod or Deanery Synod.
- (3) In the exercise of its functions the Parochial Church Council shall take into consideration any expression of opinion by any Parochial Church Meeting.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves policy was agreed by the PCC at the meeting on 15th June 2017. £60,000 is currently set as the level for the Parish Reserves. This will be reviewed by the PCC at the first meeting of the new PCC after each APCM. (This money will only be touched in great need.)

Electoral Roll

140 - Of which 49 are resident and 91 are non-resident in the parish (as at 14th April 2024)

Financial Review

The report of the Treasurer to the PCC is included within this report

PCC information for the APCM
The Parish of Felixstowe, Saint John the Baptist with Saint Edmund
Annual Reports of the Parochial Church Council
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023
Administrative Information

The Church of Saint John the Baptist is situated on the corner of Orwell Road and Princes Road within the Felixstowe Conservation Area.

The Church of Saint Edmund is on Langer Rd where it is joined by St Edmund's Rd.

The Parish is a part of the Colney's Deanery within the Ipswich Archdeaconry of the Diocese of Saint Edmundsbury and Ipswich.

The correspondence address is.

The New Vicarage, 54 Princes Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk, IP11 7PL.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a registered charity number 1135596

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2023 until this report was approved are:

<i>Vicar:</i>	Reverend Canon Andrew Dotchin	<i>Chair & Secretary to the PCC</i>
<i>Associate Priest:</i>	Reverend Penny Brinkley	<i>Ex-Officio</i>
<i>Associate Priest:</i>	Reverend Philip Young	<i>Ex-Officio</i>
<i>Wardens:</i>	Diana Barnard (<i>one vacancy</i>)	
<i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod:</i>	Reverend Penny Brinkley	<i>Ex-Officio</i>
		<i>(Member of Diocesan Synod)</i>
	Gillian Berry	<i>Ex-Officio</i>
	Garath Jones	<i>Ex-Officio</i>
<i>Elected Members:</i>	Sharon Hume ***	
	Penny Brookes **	
	James Lumley **	
	Barbara Bown *	
	Denis Heath *	
	June Heath *	
	Sandra Watson *	
	Julia Dawson *	
	Lesley-Anne Dotchin *	

***Term expires at APCM 2023

**Elected in 2022 for 3 years

*Elected in 2023 for 3 years

Co-opted:

Andrew New	<i>Treasurer</i>
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**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners
Sunday, 29 April 2023 in St. John's Church**

1. Apologies for Absence

Val Bourne, Zem Mullett, Anne Young

2. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on Sunday 3 April 2022

Proposed: Di Barnard Seconded: Denis Heath

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

4. Election of Churchwardens

There being only one candidate for two vacancies Di Barnard was declared elected

**Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Sunday, 29 April 2023 in St. John's Church**

1. Apologies for Absence

Val Bourne, Zem Mullett, Anne Young

2. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on Sunday 3 April 2022

Proposed: Julia Dawson Seconded: June Heath

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

4. Reports of the PCC to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting were received

(a) Electoral Roll

Sharon Hume told the meeting that the number on the Electoral Roll stood at 125, 51 of whom were resident in the parish, and 74 non-resident.

(b) Secretary to the PCC

There were no questions for the Secretary's Report.

**(c) Financial Statement of the PCC for the year ending
31 December 2022**

IT WAS DECIDED that, as far as possible, miscellaneous expenditure would be itemised in future.

IT WAS DECIDED that a separate Ledger account be set up so that the costs of running Pushchair Pitstop could be identified separately for those of running St Edmund's Church.

(d) Fabric Report

There were no questions for the Fabric Report.

(e) Deanery Synod Report

There were no questions for the Deanery Synod Report.

(f) Church reports

There were no questions for any of the other Reports.

5. Elections

Deanery Synod Elections:

Our Parish may elect three members to Deanery Synod. Deanery Synod members are *ex officio* members of the PCC.

There being only two candidates for three vacancies Garath Jones and Gillian Berry were declared elected. They remain in office for three years.

PCC Elections:

There were vacancies for 6 members to serve on the PCC. Five names were nominated to fill these vacancies. There being more vacancies than nominees the following were declared elected:

Julia Dawson, Denis Heath, June Heath, Lesley-Anne Dotchin

Sandra Watson – was elected conditionally and her appointment confirmed after fulfilling the required time to be on the Electoral Roll.

6. Appointments

(a) Sidesmen

The Sidesmen were reappointed NEM CON

(b) Independent Examiner

The Revd Andrew Dotchin proposed that Philip Keble continue as Independent Examiner, which was seconded by Denis Heath and agreed by the meeting.

7. A.O.B.

There was no other business.

8. Closing Prayer

The Growing in God prayer was said to close the meeting.

Reports of the PCC to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting – 28 April 2024

(a) Electoral Roll

140 - Of which 49 are resident and 91 are non-resident in the parish (as at 14th April 2024)

(b) Treasurer's Report

As I was only coopted as treasurer on the 07 February 2024, I am only able to provide a report based on an analysis of the figures provided and not from personal experience of the financial activity of the Parish over 2023.

Income:

Our total income for the year amounted to £167,875. This included donations from parishioners, fundraising events, rental income, and any other sources of revenue.

Expenses:

During the fiscal year, we incurred expenses totalling £152,802. Our key areas of expense have been Parish Share, utilities, and maintenance costs.

Financial Highlights:

- It is positive to note that despite challenges posed by the financial climate over 2023, we were able to post a surplus on our activities of £15,073.
- It is also positive to note the increase in Parish Giving Scheme which is a very efficient way to collect contributions from parishioners. The increase in Parish Giving Scheme offset a drop in other contributions.
- We did not contribute the full amount of Parish Share to the diocese we are expected to provide. We are just under £10,000 short of our full expected contribution.

Financial Position:

- The final position of our reserves is provided on the attached list of assets and liabilities. We had to draw down from our reserves over 2023 to cover the running costs of the parish which is reducing our overall reserves to the lowest level they have ever been.
- Despite the hard work of the volunteers who have maintained some form of recording of transactions over 2023, the lack of a Treasurer, robust financial processes and focus on the financial position of the Parish has contributed in some way to the situation we find ourselves in. This will be a key focus of my work as Treasurer for the year ahead.

Future Outlook:

Based on a future projection of our current position, we are predicting a small surplus this year. But as the first three months of the year has played out there is a strong possibility of us going into another deficit.

A key area of work for me as Treasurer over the next year is to focus on three key themes.

- Setting a foundation of effective stewardship
- Building trust by increasing transparency
- Improving our financial position

With these in mind work has already started on the following areas.

- Introducing a robust reporting mechanism based on key accounting principles
- A proposal for changes to the way we manage monies received so that the PCC may consider ensuring more transparency and stronger financial management
- A review of our current funds including Pushchair Pitstop and the Welfare Account to ensure that robust systems are in place to manage income and expenses in these areas.
- A review of our current expenses and ensuring we are getting value for money
- Introduction of a proper budgeting process for 2025 starting at the end of the Summer

Appreciation:

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all parishioners for their ongoing generosity and support. Your contributions enable us to carry out the important work of our parish and make a positive difference in the lives of others.

I would like to also thank Sue Toomey and Kate Prewer who have both done a sterling job under difficult circumstances to keep the management of our accounts going for 2023.

In conclusion, there is a lot of work that will need to happen over 2024 to ensure that we enter 2025 with a strong foundation of effective stewardship, that we are building trust through increased transparency, and that we will have an effective plan to improve our financial position. I am confident that we can get there and look forward to working with the wider parish family on the tasks ahead.

Andrew New – April 2024

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WITH ST EDMUND, FELIXSTOWE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES (MEMBERS OF THE
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL)

I report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and the Examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, they 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 Commissioners (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 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 with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
 - a. to keep accounting records in accordance with the Act; and
 - b. to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act and the Regulations 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

Date 29th March 2024

Philip Keeble, ACMA,
5 The Cambria
Key Street
Ipswich
IP4 1FF

St. John the Baptist with St. Edmund's – 1135596
Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by fund)
As at: 31 December 2023

		Balance	Previous balance
Tangible assets			
B001: Graham Court - Asset			
General fund	Unrestricted	259,000.00	259,000.00
		259,000.00	259,000.00
	Tangible assets	259,000.00	259,000.00
Cash at bank and in hand			
A001: General Account - Asset			
Pushchair Pitstop	Designated	1,000.00	1,000.00
Reserve	Designated	13,000.00	13,000.00
General fund	Unrestricted	2,399.98	(8,221.14)
		16,399.98	5,778.86
A002: Pitstop Account - Asset			
Pushchair Pitstop	Designated	3,509.46	—
General fund	Unrestricted	(363.18)	—
		3,146.28	—
A003: Welfare Account - Asset			
Welfare	Designated	15,792.11	15,540.97
General fund	Unrestricted	924.42	972.92
		16,716.53	16,513.89
A004: CCLA Investement Account - Asset			
Browse Bells	Restricted	54,761.57	53,924.15
Reserve	Designated	(10,758.01)	(10,758.01)
General fund	Unrestricted	(837.82)	34.82
		43,165.74	43,200.96
A005: CCLA Reserve Account - Asset			
Reserve	Designated	36,311.76	35,494.56
General fund	Unrestricted	320.37	—
		36,632.13	35,494.56
	Cash at bank and in hand	116,060.66	100,988.27
	Grand Total	375,060.66	359,988.27

St.John the Baptist with St.Edmund's - 1135596

**Analysis of income and expenditure
Selected period: 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023**

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Income and endowments						
<i>Donations and legacies</i>						
101 - Loose Plate	1,590	—	—	—	1,590	3,603
102 - Planned Giving	17,150	—	—	—	17,150	17,850
103 - Goodbox	3,152	—	—	—	3,152	2,858
104 - Parish Giving Scheme	22,976	—	—	—	22,976	15,040
105 - Gift Aid Parish Giving Scheme	4,955	—	—	—	4,955	3,447
106 - Donations	14,206	—	—	—	14,206	7,158
107 - Donations for Welfare, including Parish	260	10,954	—	—	11,214	14,612
108 - Suffolk Community Fund Grants	12,000	900	—	—	12,900	44,000
109 - Pushchair Pitstop	642	12,346	—	—	12,988	—
307 - Special Collections	240	—	—	—	240	885
401 - Legacies for Specific Purposes	—	—	—	—	—	—
402 - Non Specific Legacies <i>Donations and legacies Totals</i>	—	—	—	—	—	—
	77,173	24,200	—	—	101,374	109,456
<i>Income from charitable activities</i>						
301 - Children and Young Persons	1,383	100	—	—	1,483	5,329
<i>Income from charitable activities Totals</i>	1,383	100	—	—	1,483	5,329
<i>Other income</i>						
201 - Wall-safe	148	—	—	—	148	1,448
202 - Floodlighting	135	—	—	—	135	310
203 - After service tea and coffee	794	—	—	—	794	371
204 - Miscellaneous	7,302	356	—	—	7,658	12,967
205 - Cash in Hand	—	—	—	—	—	—
302 - Wedding Collections	—	—	—	—	—	—
303 - Baptism Collections	55	—	—	—	55	212
304 - Funeral Collections	314	—	—	—	314	—
305 - Wedding Fees	2,157	—	—	—	2,157	3,693
306 - Funeral Fees	7,041	—	—	—	7,041	2,589
501 - Graham Court	9,356	—	—	—	9,356	6,073
502 - St John's Church	17,332	150	—	—	17,482	6,112
503 - Parish Hall	12,375	—	—	—	12,375	9,710
504 - Meeting Room	330	—	—	—	330	30
601 - Insurance	—	—	—	—	—	—
602 - VAT	—	—	—	—	—	—
603 - Gift Aid	—	—	—	—	—	11,043
604 - Other Refunds	316	682	—	—	999	392
701 - Bank Interest	955	828	837	—	2,621	1,235
702 - Transfer of Funds	1,913	600	—	—	2,513	91,719
800 - Other Income	33	1,000	—	—	1,033	103
<i>Other income Totals</i>	60,561	3,617	837	—	65,017	148,012
Income and endowments	139,118	27,918	837	—	167,875	262,797
Grand totals						

Total

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Expenditure						
Expenditure on charitable activities						
1901 - Parish Share	61,326	—	—	—	61,326	66,901
2024 - Disbursements for Welfare ASD	—	5,643	—	—	5,643	19,041
2025 - Pushchair Pitstop	445	3,920	—	—	4,366	—
2101 - Children and Young Persons	—	—	—	—	—	31
2102 - Donations Made	2,347	500	—	—	2,847	2,357
2103 - Special Collections	165	—	—	—	165	1,430
2104 - Catering	1,681	—	—	—	1,681	2,434
2105 - Subscriptions	272	—	—	—	272	465
2606 - Stationery	153	—	—	—	153	362
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	66,392	10,064		—	76,456	93,024
Other expenditure						
2001 - Admin Salary	3,727	—	—	—	3,727	3,444
2002 - Cleaner Salary	3,640	—	—	—	3,640	3,276
2010 - A Dotchin Expenses	3,358	682	—	—	4,041	13,624
2011 - E Corker Expenses	—	—	—	—	—	—
2012 - P Brinkley Expenses	1,350	—	—	—	1,350	71
2013 - P Young Expenses	43	—	—	—	43	—
2014 - T Gibb Expenses	—	—	—	—	—	—
2020 - Organist Expenses	3,990	—	—	—	3,990	3,890
2021 - Vestry Expenses	662	—	—	—	662	1,029
2022 - Parish Training	—	—	—	—	—	—
2023 - Admin Expenses	1,020	30	—	—	1,051	22,106
2201 - Fabric St John's Church	1,480	—	—	—	1,480	2,681
2202 - Fabric Parish Hall	—	—	—	—	—	—
2203 - Fabric St Edmund's Church	12	—	—	—	12	120
2301 - Gas St John's Church	860	—	—	—	860	—
2302 - Gas Parish Hall	556	—	—	—	556	524
2303 - Electricity St John's Church	4,430	—	—	—	4,430	2,512
2304 - Electricity Parish Hall	2,132	—	—	—	2,132	409
2305 - Electricity St Edmund's Church	4,760	—	—	—	4,760	1,395
2306 - Water St John's Church	369	—	—	—	369	208
2307 - Water Parish Hall	555	—	—	—	555	368
2308 - Water St Edmund's Church	181	—	—	—	181	164
2309 - Rates Parish Hall	49	—	—	—	49	74
2401 - Maintenance St John's Church	10,485	—	—	—	10,485	14,668
2402 - Maintenance Parish Hall	942	—	—	—	942	214
2403 - Maintenance St Edmund's Church	1,075	—	—	—	1,075	—
2404 - Organ/Piano	102	—	—	—	102	—
2501 - Insurance St John's	5,148	—	—	—	5,148	4,680
2502 - Insurance Parish Hall and St Edmund's Ch	1,719	—	—	—	1,719	1,563
2601 - Printer Lease	2,306	—	—	—	2,306	1,874
2602 - Printer Insurance	211	—	—	—	211	720

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

2603 - Printer Usage Charge	1,070	—	—	—	1,070	845	
2604 - IT Equipment and Licenses	310	—	—	—	310	110	
2605 - Consumables	1,214	—	—	—	1,214	1,543	
2701 - Agent's Fees	1,032	—	—	—	1,032	1,032	
2702 - Insurance	473	—	—	—	473	401	
2703 - Other Expenses	1,170	1,769	—	—	2,939	2,920	
2801 - Bank Charges	577	108	—	—	686	674	
2802 - Transfer of Funds	1,690	3,750	—	—	5,440	94,234	
2900 - Other Expenditure	359	6,935	—	—	7,294	1,542	
Other expenditure Totals	63,069	13,276	—	—	76,345	182,928	
					Total		
		Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Expenditure Grand totals		129,461	23,340	—	—	152,802	275,952

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

(b) Safeguarding Report

I am very grateful for the sterling work that Jan Hickman did in her tenure as Safeguarding Officer to get the necessary training and certification required by the Church of England across all volunteer roles within our church. More specifically, her work enabled safeguarding to become part of everyone's normal conversation.

I used Jan's paperwork to build up a spreadsheet of information which I have used to remind volunteers when renewal of safeguarding certificates has been necessary. Most people are able to do the training via the online Church of England portal (<https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org>), but where necessary I have taken individuals through either the Basic Awareness (C0) or the C1 (Foundation) training.

We are currently running at approximately 95% coverage for all volunteer roles and DBS for key positions outside of the Clergy team are up to date. All members of the PCC must have C1 training; to date, there are still 3 individuals who only have C0 certification, 1 individual's certificate expired in March and has not been renewed despite numerous reminders.

Pushchair Pitstop has 100% coverage (22 volunteers); Tea and Coffee group is 100% (10 people); Messy Church key leaders covered; Sidesmen 100% (6 people), Parish Pantry 100% (10 people) Catering 90% (5/6 people).

Safeguarding Sunday took place on 19 November 2023, and, although a last-minute decision, went well in explaining where Safeguarding fits in with faith and how it is everyone's responsibility.

Face-to-Face training courses in our immediate locality have been scarce but there is a C0 scheduled for Tuesday 16 July at St Martin's Church Trimley IP11 0TN (max 12 spaces). Booking can be made via the following link: <https://cofesuffolk.org/safeguarding/training>.

Church of England Safeguarding Standards, Quality Assurance Framework and Diocesan/Parish Audits:

These were published by the Church of England National Safeguarding Team in October 2023. They can be found on the Diocesan website under Safeguarding (www.cofesuffolk.org/Safeguarding) or

www.churchofengland.org/nationalsafeguardingstandards

Organisations with safeguarding responsibilities need to know and be able to demonstrate how well they are fulfilling those responsibilities. In summary, there are 5 standards (Culture, Leadership and Capacity; Prevention; Recognising, Assessing and Managing Risk; Victims and Survivors; Learning, Supervision and Support) which aim to cover the breadth of safeguarding activity in churches and will enable church bodies to identify both their strengths and areas for development and improvement. This, in turn will inform their strategic planning in respect of safeguarding. There will be a round of independent audits of dioceses and cathedrals which will start in 2024. Suffolk is scheduled for 2025.

Areas of Concern:

- a) **Parish Pantry:** The opening hours/users who are often classed as vulnerable increases risk to volunteers who may be monitoring/helping with Pantry. A Lone Working Policy/Guide was developed and given to PCC for implementation. National Safeguarding Standards 2.9 and 2.11 refers.
- b) **St John's Church Open access:** National Safeguarding Standard 2.11 refers – risks to individuals, both volunteers and visitors increase with greater access, often with no church members present. This has been brought to PCC's attention and consideration must be given to lighting, notices about Exits that are not the front door, and possibly some sort of Doorbell camera/CCTV coverage.

I am standing down at this APCM. All group leaders will be given a Safeguarding Pack which will include a list of their volunteers/certificate dates plus a 'reminder' list for certificates due to expire from May 2024. The full summary spreadsheet will be left with PCC and the Parish Dashboard updated. We are in a good situation regarding Safeguarding training with most volunteers up to date and covered for the next three years.

Sarah Docherty April 2024

Reports of the PCC to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting:

(d) Secretary's Report

The Statutory Reports of the PCC to the APCM (Finance, Safeguarding, Fabric, and Deanery Synod) are included elsewhere in the papers set before the APCM. This report deals with the core activities of the PCC and Parish since the last APCM. At every meeting of the PCC our Agenda is led by the four parts of the **Growing in God** principles which are at the heart of the Diocesan Strategy to ensure that parishes address all areas of life in their communities. The four areas are **Growing Deeper, Growing in Influence, Growing in Number** and **Growing Younger**. Each of these portfolios is held by different members of the PCC who value the help of many others and who may be approached if there are any enquiries about the work that has been carried out or planned.

In addition to this work members of the PCC have begun work with Revd Phil Dykes (the former Diocesan Mission Enabler) and now with our Archdeacon The Ven Rich Henderson on succession planning following the expected retirement of Canon Andrew Dotchin sometime between Summer 2025 and Summer 2026.

Growing Deeper: (Revds Catherine and Jane)

Aimed at deepening the spiritual life of all our worshippers the largest activity in this area in the past year has been the successful launch and promising future of *Lark Rise Retreats*. The chief activity of *LRR* is the provision of sacred space for Quiet Days at a variety of venues across Felixstowe. Hosted and led mostly by Revds Catherine, Jane and Penny, with support from other members of the Ministry Team, it has seen a growing number of parishioners pay a deeper attention to their journey of faith. The forthcoming events involving world renowned speakers John Bell (in June) and Malcolm Guite (in November) will draw many more people closer to God's love.

This year the Churches Together in Felixstowe Lent Course was around the movie *Chocolat*. Our Parish provided two weekly sessions (Tuesday afternoon and Saturday morning) to enable as wide a group to participate as possible.

Our Home Groups and Book Club continue to thrive and all of them would welcome additional members.

Rev Penny, in her role as Diocesan Spiritual Director, has increased the visibility of the *Cursillo* movement in the Deanery. Parishioners are invited to speak to her or any other *Cursillistas* (people who have attended a *Cursillo* weekend) to find out more about how to get an extra 'hug' from God and God's people.

During the year we had the special privilege of offering a month of ministry experience to (the now Revd) Alyx Taylor and Andrew Revitt as part of their journey into ordained ministry.

Growing in Influence: (Di Barnard and Canon Andrew)

For the last seven years or so St John's has been designated as Felixstowe's Civic Church. This means that each year we host the Civic Service of Remembrance in November as well as the Mayor's Civic Service in June. Along with this members of the Ministry Team are invited to help lead Civic events at the Town Hall such as flag raisings as well as lead memorial events at commemorations during the year. This year past it was a special privilege to be asked by the Mayor to host a Civic Service for Peace in Palestine on 5 November.

As a mark of our influence on the local community the Mayor of Felixstowe made three Community Service Awards to people and groups associated with our Parish. These were Di Barnard, Pushchair Pitstop and Molly Bennett (one of our Air Cadets who was recently baptized). Following on from this Pushchair Pitstop was nominated as a Mayoral Charity which has raised the profile of their work and our Parish throughout the year.

Once again we coordinated the *Food for All* programme - a Church and community initiative which provides free lunches for families during the Summer Holidays. This year we provided (through Pushchair Pitstop) a packed lunch on Mondays and our Social Committee cooked a hot meal and a yummy dessert on Thursdays.

Other support to those (besides the Parish Pantry) in need in the community is provided through giving shopping vouchers, free breakfast in Winter at Pushchair Pitstop and signposting people to the newly established Felixstowe Relief Charity where we are represented by Norman Berry and Canon Andrew as trustees

Felixstowe School is making more use of our facilities with, in the last 14 months, four students spending a week helping in parish activities and 15 6th Form students spending a whole day in St John's clearing out the Clock room in the Tower, the Church Basement, and sorting out goods for the Parish Pantry.

We also have a steady presence and influence in the Media. There are frequent articles in the local press, the Diocese has showcased several of our projects in the County press and the blessing on Revds Catherine and Jane's Civil Partnership drew the attention of the National and world media. Members of the Ministry Team are frequently interviewed on Local Radio and Canon Andrew continues with his *Pause for Thought* every weekday just after 7.30am on Suffolk Sound Radio. He also broadcast on BBC Radio 4's *Beyond Belief* programme.

Growing in Number: (Canon Andrew)

It is pleasing to note an increase in our Electoral Roll numbers since the last APCM. But it is more pleasing to note that this increase has often come about because of being more engaged in the life of our community with people being drawn to worship with us as a result of seeing the Gospel in action. It is humbling to note that several of our newer members started attending worship to receive Bread from the Parish Pantry but now come to receive the Bread of Life as well.

It was wonderful to have six of our number baptized during the 10am service on Easter Day and also see some of them go on to have regular roles helping run the Tea Rota, welcome visitors to Parish Pantry and join the Altar serving team. We look forward with joy to welcome the Deanery and one of our Bishops to St John's for a Confirmation service on 20 October.

Mention must be made of the members of Ipswich Deaf church who, through the gentle ministry of Revd Penny, now make regular visits to Felixstowe for Tea and worship. They enriched our Service of Lessons and Carols at Christmas and we look forward to future times together.

Growing Younger: (Revd Penny and Sharon Hume)

Our involvement with Uniformed Youth groups continues with both Sea and Air Cadets meeting in St John's for enrolment and Awards evenings. (The presence of Air Cadets is always followed by the landing of paper aeroplanes in the Clerestory windowsills...). This year our Sea Cadets will host the Trafalgar Day celebrations for the East of England which will include a parade through town and a service in St John's on 13 October; a special privilege for them and for us.

We continue to have visits from Cub packs, Langer Primary, Youth Alpha and Felixstowe School to investigate the church and ask questions about the faith. As in previous years Langer Primary Academy are very grateful for donations of chocolate – Advent Calendars at Christmas and eggs at Easter. After a long break post-Covid regular monthly assemblies are being taken by Canon Andrew in the School once more.

Messy Church and Pushchair Pitstop continue to increase in number and will always welcome new volunteers and helpers. With this in mind the Ministry Team has begun the practice of having a family eucharist at the 10am service once a quarter to help introduce our younger members to our Sunday worship experience.

Finally mention must be made of the biannual Messy Pitstop free BBQ held in the Vicarage garden and St John's church. Our Pitstop and Messy church teams come together to offer free fun and food to any members of our community. In the most recent of these we gave away just over 300 burgers and Hot dogs, at least three of which were consumed by our local policing team, one of whose children will be being baptized in the Summer.

Copies of the Minutes of all or any meeting of the PCC are available from the PCC Secretary to anyone whose name is on the Electoral Roll of the Parish.

(Andrew Dotchin – April 2024)

(e) Fabric Report

Over the past year at St Johns:

the Annual gutter and roof clearance has been done.

Electrical installation checks completed and passed.

Fire Extinguishers serviced.

Tower Floodlights replaced.

Heaters serviced

Kitchen Sink and Toilet repaired

New PA system installed

Ongoing Works at St John's:

Awaiting quotes for church lighting and Gully works on Vestry roof and Two down pipes.

3 light timers in church tower need replacing.

Stronger lighting needs fitting in clock room.

Awaiting decision from PCC about glass door in the Porch.

Over the past year at St Edmund's:

Blocked gullies and down pipes cleared

New Taps fitted in Parish Hall.

Quotes being sought for new boiler in Parish Hall

Fire Extinguishers serviced.

(Denis Heath April – 2024)

(f) Deanery Synod Report

Colneis Deanery Synod met on three occasions through 2023.

The first meeting was at St Mary's Walton where Revd Phil Dykes the Diocesan Mission Enabler spoke about plans for growth and how the diocese is seeking to support parishes. During the first half of the year the Rural Dean was off on long term illness and then moved posts. Rev Chris stood in as acting Rural Dean and part way through the year took the role on permanently.

The second Synod was held at St Michael's Martlesham and was a social occasion for Synod members to get together and share joys and concerns.

The final Synod of the year was held at St John's Felixstowe. In this synod we discussed clergy well-being and how clergy can look to care for themselves and how clergy can be cared for.

(Revd Chris Hood – Rural Dean)

(g) Reports from Church Groups and Activities

i) Choir Report

Another year has gone by. Another report when I get the opportunity to publicly thank a group of very committed and reliable people who have given their time and talents to enhance the worship of St John's, with the voices of the choristers and the musicianship of Jeremy, our organist.

I think over the last year, there have only been one or two Sundays when we failed to provide a choir for the sung Eucharist. In addition we have sung at the Song for St Edmund, the service of Hope and Remembrance, services on Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday, the Carol Service, and at several funerals which this year included two people very important to the choir, Barbara Durrance and Twig Shrubbs.

However the congregation will be only too aware that we are all elderly, with a variety of health problems, and without new voices in the near future, the choir cannot survive. I am sure there are church members who could help us lead the singing. You don't have to be able to read music and individual help is available. Please think about it. You'll always find me in the vestry after the Sunday service unless I'm away for the weekend (which doesn't happen very often).

(Liz Watson – April 2024)

ii) Social Committee Report

It's been another busy sociable year. Apart from our own funds we have also been pleased to raise money for Christian Aid, Sea Cadets, Zane, Christians against Poverty, RNIB and Open Doors Charity

Your social committee meets at Pat Cordy's and is in the process of arranging a busy schedule of events. Coffee mornings continue to be popular, and the average Quiz raises over £1000.

On June 23rd we will be holding a St Johns patronal festival lunch. We have a group called Dot and Do Dah coming on September 28th. They sell good second-hand men's and women's clothes, shoes, bags etc. This will be their first sale in Felixstowe and all proceeds will go to the Parish. There will also be another Quiz, coffee mornings on May 4th and July 20th and the Christmas Cracker on December 7th. The Harvest lunch will be on October 5th.

A huge thank you goes to all those that so willingly help, quite often at very short notice.
(Diana Barnard 2024)

iii) **Messy Church**

Messy Church continues to welcome families from all over the Felixstowe area, from tiny tots to teenagers. Some of the children have been attending since they were babes in arms; it's wonderful to watch them grow.

We meet on the second Wednesday each month at 3.45pm and finish with a family dinner at 5pm. The families enjoy stories, crafts and games, with each month having a different biblical theme.

To continue our engagement with families we have introduced quarterly Family services in 2024, with some of the children getting involved in the service too.

Our next Messy Church will be on Wednesday 8th May, everybody is welcome.

(Sharon Hume - April 2024)

iv) **Pushchair Pitstop**

Since its opening Pitstop continues to grow from strength to strength.

2023 saw a whole heap of 'firsts' including being chosen as one of the Mayors' Charities of the year! Alongside our usual parties (Easter, summer etc) at Christmas we had the most wonderful party and gifted between 450-500 presents to local children.

This year we introduced our 'Uniform Bank' which in its first run kitted out 63 children with brand new uniforms, our 'Prom Bank' which enabled us to dress around 20 students ready for Prom and 'Warm Spaces' offering free hot breakfast and drinks.

In the summer we had our first Carnival float and took to the skies with the theme of *Peter Pan* – our Vicar making a very fetching Tinkerbelle! Carnival this year is on Saturday 27 July and our Theme is '*Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*'. Look out for us as we parade past St John's Church.

East Suffolk District Council has recognised the good work we do and so has given us a little funding to take Pitstop on tour to other villages and parts of the District to encourage other communities to start their own projects.

We currently open 4 times a week and are just about keeping up with the demand. You'll find us at St Edmund's on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9am-12pm and alternate Saturdays and Sundays 10am-2pm. We continue to thank the St Edmunds congregation for their continued support.

With several more ideas and dreams in the pipeline, we are sure that the rest of 2024 will be just as exciting.

(Liss Coates - April 2024)

v) **The Parish Pantry**

The pantry is continuing to grow in usage, and we are seeing more Ukrainian families and also those from outside Europe using our service. Some guests have expressed a liking for their being a church member during the busy opening times to welcome them. Apart from helping people with their needs our team have also helped remind our guests to share the food available amongst all and only take the food they need for immediate use. If you would like to be part of our welcoming team please speak to Canon Andrew or myself and we will be very happy to explain what is involved in helping our church be as welcoming a place as possible.

(Julia Dawson – April 2024)

vi) **Lark Rise Retreats**

As part of St John's commitment to Growing Deeper Catherine, Penny and Jane are offering a series of quiet days or retreat days. They have set up Lark Rise Retreats. The website and online booking system were launched in August. Some days are held at Catherine & Jane's home in Ferry Road and others at St Nicholas Church. The number of people coming to share the peaceful atmosphere is growing steadily.

Themes have included *Land, Sea & Sky, The Prodigal Son, Advent, Franciscan Spirituality, Peace, Presence & Poetry and The Women who sat at Jesus' Feet*. Days begin and end with simple worship & include short talks, time for reflection, lunch and a led meditation. Most days are offered twice (usually on a Thursday and the following Saturday)

In 2024 we intend to offer days every 2 or 3 months and include a well-known leader each year. In June we have the joy of welcoming John Bell and on Saturday 9 November the poet, bard and priest Malcolm Guite will be with us to speak on *Poetry & Prayer*. We encourage you to try a day and are always happy to answer any questions you have.
(Jane Pearse - 28 April 2024)

vii) **Home Group in Old Felixstowe**

Our Bible study group meets at our home, 230 Ferry Road, Felixstowe IP11 9RU, on the First and Third Mondays on each month from 2 to 3.30pm. We enjoyed studying 'Everyday Witness' and are using a Life builder study book '*Parables, the greatest stories ever told*' to study the parables in more depth.

Together, we try and answer the questions in the book. Each session is led by Catherine or Jane. We also pray for each other and have a lot of laughter along the way as we try and deepen our faith. Our time is enhanced by Julia Dawson's homemade biscuits and cups of tea.

(Catherine Bond – 2024)

viii) **Home Group in Wolsey Court**

A home group is more than a Bible study group, it is a place to relax, talk, and discuss those questions you never have the time to ask in church. This is our aim, and we hope that as a group we have achieved this while exploring our faith together.

In addition, we have looked at some of the Epistles in the New Testament, a few Old Testament prophets, meditated on some psalms, thought about Lent, and most recently pondered on the time between the Resurrection and the Ascension.

However, as an 'aside' in the flow of conversations, we have discussed Spirituality, prayer, growing as Christians, and many other topics that grew out of conversation together; and had some 'no agenda' socials just to relax together sometimes in our chalet near Cliff Café.

There are usually around 9 or 10 of us, so we have room for a few more. We meet in our home on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. If you are interested talk to us.

(Revds Ann & Revd Ivan)

ix) **Parish Book Group**

The book group meets every other month and discusses theological books, secular stories, personal accounts, and books with Christian themes. We meet in the Meeting Room at St John's on Monday afternoons and usually there are about 6 of us. The person who recommended the book leads the discussion and we have tea, coffee and cake. In the last year we have enjoyed and can recommend:

The Cleaner of Chartres

Murder before Evensong

How to be a bad Christian

For my great pain, have mercy on my little pain

The Disappearing Act of Esme Lennox

Chocolat

Our numbers have dropped off but we are looking for new members and someone to lead the group. Do ask me or Revd Penny for details.

(Jane Pearse - 18 April 2024)

Analysis of income and expenditure
Selected period: 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Income and endowments						
<i>Donations and legacies</i>						
101 - Loose Plate	1,590	—	—	—	1,590	3,603
102 - Planned Giving	17,150	—	—	—	17,150	17,850
103 - Goodbox	3,152	—	—	—	3,152	2,858
104 - Parish Giving Scheme	22,976	—	—	—	22,976	15,040
105 - Gift Aid Parish Giving Scheme	4,955	—	—	—	4,955	3,447
106 - Donations	14,206	—	—	—	14,206	7,158
107 - Donations for Welfare, including Parish	260	10,954	—	—	11,214	14,612
108 - Suffolk Community Fund Grants	12,000	900	—	—	12,900	44,000
109 - Pushchair Pitstop	642	12,346	—	—	12,988	—
307 - Special Collections	240	—	—	—	240	885
401 - Legacies for Specific Purposes	—	—	—	—	—	—
402 - Non Specific Legacies	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Donations and legacies Totals</i>	77,173	24,200	—	—	101,374	109,456
<i>Income from charitable activities</i>						
301 - Children and Young Persons	1,383	100	—	—	1,483	5,329
<i>Income from charitable activities Totals</i>	1,383	100	—	—	1,483	5,329
<i>Other income</i>						
201 - Wall-safe	148	—	—	—	148	1,448
202 - Floodlighting	135	—	—	—	135	310
203 - After service tea and coffee	794	—	—	—	794	371
204 - Miscellaneous	7,302	356	—	—	7,658	12,967
205 - Cash in Hand	—	—	—	—	—	—
302 - Wedding Collections	—	—	—	—	—	—
303 - Baptism Collections	55	—	—	—	55	212
304 - Funeral Collections	314	—	—	—	314	—
305 - Wedding Fees	2,157	—	—	—	2,157	3,693
306 - Funeral Fees	7,041	—	—	—	7,041	2,589
501 - Graham Court	9,356	—	—	—	9,356	6,073
502 - St John's Church	17,332	150	—	—	17,482	6,112
503 - Parish Hall	12,375	—	—	—	12,375	9,710
504 - Meeting Room	330	—	—	—	330	30
601 - Insurance	—	—	—	—	—	—
602 - VAT	—	—	—	—	—	—
603 - Gift Aid	—	—	—	—	—	11,043
604 - Other Refunds	316	682	—	—	999	392
701 - Bank Interest	955	828	837	—	2,621	1,235
702 - Transfer of Funds	1,913	600	—	—	2,513	91,719
800 - Other Income	33	1,000	—	—	1,033	103
<i>Other income Totals</i>	60,561	3,617	837	—	65,017	148,012
Income and endowments Grand totals	139,118	27,918	837	—	167,875	262,797

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Expenditure						
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>						
1901 - Parish Share	61,326	—	—	—	61,326	66,901
2024 - Disbursements for Welfare ASD	—	5,643	—	—	5,643	19,041
2025 - Pushchair Pitstop	445	3,920	—	—	4,366	—
2101 - Children and Young Persons	—	—	—	—	—	31
2102 - Donations Made	2,347	500	—	—	2,847	2,357
2103 - Special Collections	165	—	—	—	165	1,430
2104 - Catering	1,681	—	—	—	1,681	2,434
2105 - Subscriptions	272	—	—	—	272	465
2606 - Stationery	153	—	—	—	153	362
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities Totals</i>	66,392	10,064	—	—	76,456	93,024
<i>Other expenditure</i>						
2001 - Admin Salary	3,727	—	—	—	3,727	3,444
2002 - Cleaner Salary	3,640	—	—	—	3,640	3,276
2010 - A Dotchin Expenses	3,358	682	—	—	4,041	13,624
2011 - E Corker Expenses	—	—	—	—	—	—
2012 - P Brinkley Expenses	1,350	—	—	—	1,350	71
2013 - P Young Expenses	43	—	—	—	43	—
2014 - T Gibb Expenses	—	—	—	—	—	—
2020 - Organist Expenses	3,990	—	—	—	3,990	3,890
2021 - Vestry Expenses	662	—	—	—	662	1,029
2022 - Parish Training	—	—	—	—	—	—
2023 - Admin Expenses	1,020	30	—	—	1,051	22,106
2201 - Fabric St John's Church	1,480	—	—	—	1,480	2,681
2202 - Fabric Parish Hall	—	—	—	—	—	—
2203 - Fabric St Edmund's Church	12	—	—	—	12	120
2301 - Gas St John's Church	860	—	—	—	860	—
2302 - Gas Parish Hall	556	—	—	—	556	524
2303 - Electricity St John's Church	4,430	—	—	—	4,430	2,512
2304 - Electricity Parish Hall	2,132	—	—	—	2,132	409
2305 - Electricity St Edmund's Church	4,760	—	—	—	4,760	1,395
2306 - Water St John's Church	369	—	—	—	369	208
2307 - Water Parish Hall	555	—	—	—	555	368
2308 - Water St Edmund's Church	181	—	—	—	181	164
2309 - Rates Parish Hall	49	—	—	—	49	74
2401 - Maintenance St John's Church	10,485	—	—	—	10,485	14,668
2402 - Maintenance Parish Hall	942	—	—	—	942	214
2403 - Maintenance St Edmund's Church	1,075	—	—	—	1,075	—
2404 - Organ/Piano	102	—	—	—	102	—
2501 - Insurance St John's	5,148	—	—	—	5,148	4,680
2502 - Insurance Parish Hall and St Edmund's Ch	1,719	—	—	—	1,719	1,563
2601 - Printer Lease	2,306	—	—	—	2,306	1,874
2602 - Printer Insurance	211	—	—	—	211	720
2603 - Printer Usage Charge	1,070	—	—	—	1,070	845
2604 - IT Equipment and Licenses	310	—	—	—	310	110
2605 - Consumables	1,214	—	—	—	1,214	1,543
2701 - Agent's Fees	1,032	—	—	—	1,032	1,032
2702 - Insurance	473	—	—	—	473	401
2703 - Other Expenses	1,170	1,769	—	—	2,939	2,920
2801 - Bank Charges	577	108	—	—	686	674
2802 - Transfer of Funds	1,690	3,750	—	—	5,440	94,234
2900 - Other Expenditure	359	6,935	—	—	7,294	1,542
<i>Other expenditure Totals</i>	63,069	13,276	—	—	76,345	182,928

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Expenditure Grand totals	129,461	23,340	—	—	152,802	275,952

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WITH ST EDMUND, FELIXSTOWE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES (MEMBERS OF THE
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL)**

I report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and the Examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, they 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 Commissioners (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 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 with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

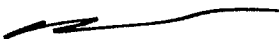
Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
 - a. to keep accounting records in accordance with the Act; and
 - b. to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act and the Regulations 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

Date 29th March 2024



Philip Keeble, ACMA,
5 The Cambria
Key Street
Ipswich
IP4 1FF

Accounts



Felixstowe: St John the Baptist 2022 Return of Parish Finance

Included Churches

Churches Included	☒ Felixstowe: St John the Baptist ☒ Felixstowe: St Edmund
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Fresh Expressions of church included:

Names:	Messy Church
Description	A regular event for families following a biblical theme with stories, crafts and a shared meal at the end.

Incoming Resources

Receipts

Voluntary receipts	Unrestricted	Restricted
1 - Regular giving	£32,890	£0
3 - Collections at services	£3,603	£0
4 - All other giving and voluntary receipts, including Special Appeals (recurring and one-off)	£26,076	£0
6 - Gift Aid recovered (regular giving and one-off donations)	£14,490	£0
7 - Legacies received (capital value)	£6,073	£0
8 - Grants (Include recurring and one-off)	£44,000	£0
TOTAL	£127,132	£0

Activities for Generating Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted
9 - Fundraising activities (gross proceeds)	£19,552	£0

Investment income	Unrestricted	Restricted
10 - Dividends, interest, receipts from property etc.	£520	£0

Church Activities	Unrestricted	Restricted
11 - Fees retained by PCC (weddings, funerals etc.)	£6,494	£0
12 - Trading activities (gross proceeds), NOT fundraising	£16,162	£0



Other receipts	Unrestricted	Restricted
13 - Other receipts/income not already listed PLEASE NOTE BRIEF DETAILS IN COMMENTS BOX IN SECTION E	£91,719	£0

Total Receipts/Income (from Financial Statements.)

Unrestricted	£261,579
Restricted	£0
Combined Total	£261,579

Regular Givers and Legacies

Regular Givers And Legacies

14 - Number of regular givers	53
16 - Number of new legacies received in year	1
For your information, weekly average total regular giving per total regular giver	£11.93

Resources Expended

Payments

All expenditure from any fund under the control of the PCC needs to be accounted for on this form. This does **NOT** include money transferred out of one PCC fund into another.

Costs of generating funds	Unrestricted	Restricted
17 - Costs of fundraising activities	£3,895	£0

Church Activities	Unrestricted	Restricted
18 - Mission giving and donations	£2,357	£0
19 - Diocesan parish share contribution	£66,901	£0
20 - Salaries, wages and honararia	£6,720	£0
21 - Clergy and staff expenses	£68,600	£0

Church expenses	Unrestricted	Restricted
22 - Mission and evangelism costs	£0	£0
23 - Church running expenses (<i>Including Governance</i>)	£21,125	£0
24 - Church utility bills	£5,580	£0
25 - Costs of trading	£74	£0



Major capital expenditure	Unrestricted	Restricted
27 - Major repairs to the church building	£2,801	£0
28 - Major repairs to church hall or other PCC property, including redecoration	£0	£0
29 - New building work to the church, church hall, clergy housing, or other PCC property	£0	£0
SUB-TOTAL of all expenditure payments items above:	£178,053	£0

	Unrestricted	Restricted
99 - Other payments not already listed	£1,433	£0

Total Payments/Expenditure (from Financial Statements)

Unrestricted	£179,486
Restricted	£0
Combined Total	£179,486

Cash and Investment Balances

30 - On which basis were your accounts prepared?	☒ Receipts and Payments ☐ Accruals
--	--

Cash and Investment Balances

	Unrestricted	Restricted
31 - Cash and deposit balances/Net current assets as at 31 December	£24,021,536	£0
32 - Investment assets as at 31st December	£0	£0

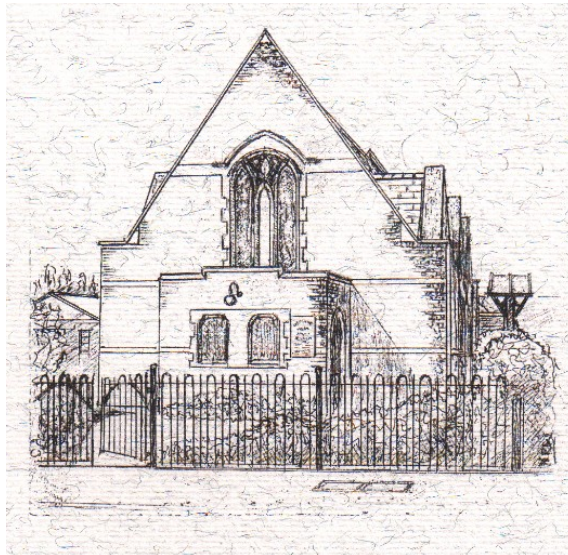
Looking back across 2022, was there any exceptional financial activity affecting movement on cash and investment balances? Please provide details in this box	Covid recovery
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Accounts

The Parish of Felixstowe, St John the Baptist with St Edmund
Diocese of Saint Edmundsbury and Ipswich

'Open to God Open to All'

www.FelixParish.com Reg. Charity No. 1135596



(a) Electoral Roll

(b) Secretary to the PCC

(c) Financial Statement of the PCC for the year ending 31st December 2021

(d) Fabric Report

(e) Deanery Synod Report

(f) Church reports

5. Elections

4. Election of Churchwardens

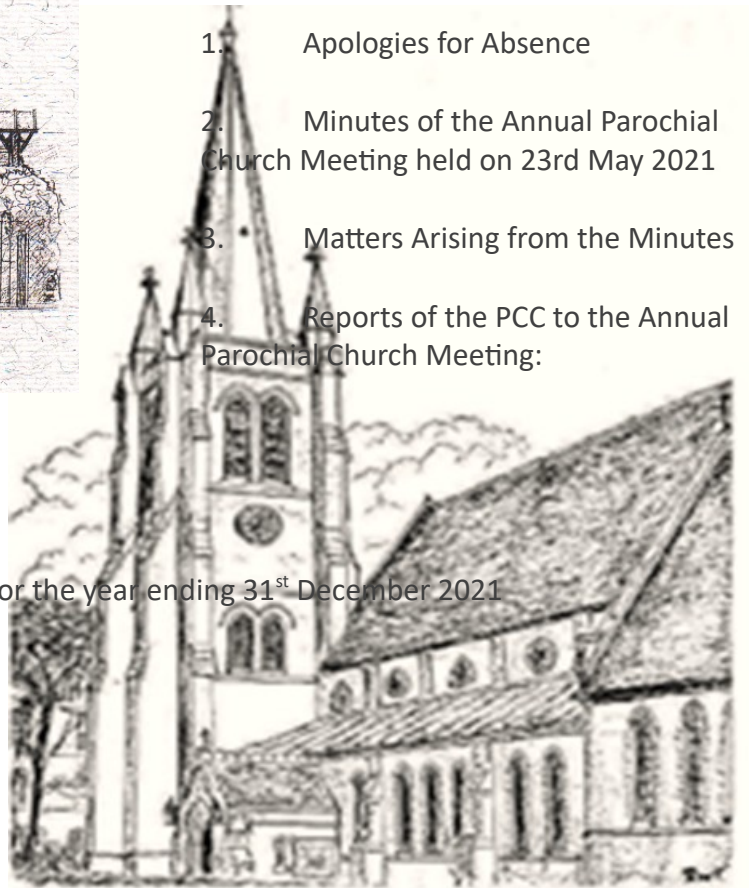
Agenda for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 23rd May 2021

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

4. Reports of the PCC to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting:



Agenda and Reports
for the
Annual Meeting of Parishioners
and the
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Sunday 3rd April 2022 at 11.15 am

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church representation rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. Under the Church Representation Rules, the PCC is able to have a maximum of 12 elected lay members, and during the last year has been made up of 8 elected lay members; there are 5 vacancies to be filled at the APCM in 2022.

Objectives and activities

The purpose of the PCC is set out in the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956, and it states:

- (1) It shall be the duty of the minister and the PCC to consult together on matters of general concern and importance to the parish.
- (2) The functions of parochial church councils shall include—
 - (a) co-operation with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical;
 - (b) the consideration and discussions of matters concerning the Church of England or any other matters of religious or public interest, but not the declaration of the doctrine of the Church on any question;
 - (c) making known and putting into effect any provision made by the diocesan synod or the deanery synod, but without prejudice to the powers of the council on any particular matter;
 - (d) giving advice to the diocesan synod and the deanery synod on any matter referred to the council;
 - (e) raising such matters as the council consider appropriate with the diocesan synod or deanery synod.
- (3) In the exercise of its functions the parochial church council shall take into consideration any expression of opinion by any parochial church meeting.

Reserves policy

The Reserves policy was agreed by the PCC at the meeting on 15th June 2017. £60,000 is currently set as the level for the Parish Reserves. This will be reviewed by the PCC at the first meeting of the new PCC after each APCM. (This money will only be touched in great need.)

Church attendance

As of March 2021 there were 126 members on the electoral roll.

Review of the year

The report of the Secretary to the PCC is included within this report

Financial Review

The report of the Treasurer to the PCC is included within this report

PCC information for the APCM
The Parish of Felixstowe, Saint John the Baptist with Saint Edmund
Annual Reports of the Parochial Church Council
for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

Administrative Information

Saint John the Baptist's Church is situated on the corner of Orwell Road and Princes Road within the Felixstowe Conservation Area; and Saint Edmund's is on Langer Road. It is a part of the Colneys Deanery within the Ipswich Archdeaconry of the Diocese of Saint Edmundsbury and Ipswich. The correspondence address is The New Vicarage, 54 Princes Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk, IP11 7PL.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a registered charity number 1135596

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2021 until this report was approved are:

<i>Priest in Charge:</i>	Reverend Andrew Dotchin	<i>Chairman</i>
<i>Associate Priest;</i>	Reverend Penny Brinkley	<i>Ex – Officio</i>
<i>Associate Priest:</i>	Reverend Philip Young	<i>Ex – Officio</i>

Wardens: Mr James Lumley (*from APCM 2021*)

Representatives on the Deanery Synod

Reverend Penny Brinkley	<i>Ex-Officio</i>	
Mrs Jan Hickman	<i>Ex-Officio</i>	<i>Vice Chairman</i>
Mrs Gillian Berry	<i>Ex-Officio</i>	
Mr Garath Jones	<i>Ex-Officio</i>	

Elected Members:

Diana Barnard *	
Barbara Bown **	
Penny Brookes ***	
Sheila Donald *	<i>Secretary to the PCC</i>
Kath George* (<i>until APCM 2021</i>)	
Denis Heath **	
June Heath **	
Sharon Hume *	<i>Parish Administrator</i>
Kate Prewer **	
***Term expires at APCM 2022	
**Elected in 2020 for 3 years	
*Elected in 2021 for 3 years	

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS 23RD MAY 2021

Apologies for absence:

Sheila Donald, John and Zem Mullett, Revd Penny Brinkley, Ann and Philip Young, Jane Pearse, Catherine Bond, Mary Bingham, Terry Gibb

Minutes from the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on 11th October 2020:

Proposed by Bill Rollings and seconded by Kate Prewer

There were no matters arising from the minutes

Election of Churchwarden: James Lumley

Revd Canon Andrew Dotchin welcomed James as our new Churchwarden and thanked Terry Gibb the outgoing Churchwarden.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 23RD MAY 2021

Apologies for absence:

Sheila Donald, John and Zem Mullett, Revd Penny Brinkley, Ann and Philip Young, Jane Pearse, Catherine Bond, Mary Bingham, Terry Gibb

Minutes from the APCM held on 11th October 2020 were proposed by Kate Prewer and seconded by Liz Watson

There were no matters arising.

Reports of the PCC:

- a) Electoral Roll now stands at 127, a net increase of one from the previous year
- b) Andrew extended his thanks to PCC Secretary Sheila Donald for coping with her work as PCC Secretary with the added issues of Zoom meetings and facemasks
- c) Financial Statement: Andrew thanks Terry Gibb for his work covering the Treasurer roll.
- d) Fabric Report (as given in pack)
- e) Deanery Synod Report (as given in pack)
- f) Church Reports:
 - Andrew thanked the choir.
 - Social events have suffered but we hope to recommence in the coming months.
 - Safeguarding: Andrew said that he was so pleased that we are doing all that we should be with our Parish Safeguarding.
 - Messy Church has re-started in the vicarage garden
 - Pushchair Pitstop: has given away approx. £100k worth of toys, baby equipment and clothing
 - The Parish Pantry will continue to run
 - The Bells: there will be a bell simulator installed to aid learning for bellringers

SECRETARY'S REPORT TO THE APCM 2021 – 2022

There have been 8 full PCC meetings, and 1 brief meeting since the last APCM.

Matters most discussed have been;-

- Pushchair Pitstop's growth
- Parish Pantry financing
- How and when to lift Covid restrictions
- Church finances
- The Vestry flooding
- Church roof maintenance
- Tower pointing
- Electrical work
- St John's garden
- New Social events and fundraising

Sheila Donald
March 2022

Finance Report 2021-22

The detail of 'what' can be seen in the accompanying statement of accounts that 2021-22 has not been a great year, but has considering all circumstances not been a bad year either. The headline is, we have spent £21,243 more than we made over the 12 months. The notable differences is a 26% increase in general expenditure against 2020, but keeping in mind C-19, with lockdowns it is likely not a true comparison of normal year, like for like.

The bottom line is, we spend with caution and consideration to allow the church to function and offer services to parishioners and benefit the wider parish at need. The fact that our internal income growth over the last 24 months does not match our external cost increases is a concern. Despite all courageous efforts of those who donate time and services for free, those who organise and attend fundraising endeavours and legacies received.

We need to turn our -£21,000 into +£21,000 over this next 12 months, finding an additional +£42,000 to enable both the fabric and the wellbeing essentials to sustain future need. The PCC will continue to act with due diligence to mitigate unnecessary spend, ensuring the sustainment of fabric and services within a backdrop of rising inflation and demand through 2022-23.

James Lumley
Church Warden
March 2022

St.John the Baptist with St.Edmund's - 1135596

Analysis of income and expenditure

Selected period: 01 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
Current assets						
Income and endowments						
<i>Donations and legacies</i>						
101 - Loose Plate	£1,492.04	—	—	—	£1,492.04	—
102 - Planned Giving	£23,785.20	£100.00	—	—	£23,885.20	—
103 - Goodbox	£2,825.23	—	—	—	£2,825.23	—
104 - Parish Giving Scheme	£15,291.60	—	—	—	£15,291.60	—
105 - Gift Aid Parish Giving Scheme	£2,116.24	—	—	—	£2,116.24	—
106 - Donations	£22,463.17	£27,365.00	—	—	£49,828.17	—
307 - Special Collections	£226.50	—	—	—	£226.50	—
401 - Legacies for Specific Purposes	—	—	—	—	—	—
402 - Non Specific Legacies	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	—	—	£2,000.00	—
<i>Donations and legacies Totals</i>	£69,199.98	£28,465.00	—	—	£97,664.98	—
<i>Income from charitable activities</i>						
301 - Children and Young Persons	£1,593.77	—	—	—	£1,593.77	—
<i>Income from charitable activities Totals</i>	£1,593.77	—	—	—	£1,593.77	—
<i>Other income</i>						
201 - Wall-safe	£360.17	—	—	—	£360.17	—
202 - Floodlighting	£135.00	—	—	—	£135.00	—
203 - After service tea and coffee	£55.20	—	—	—	£55.20	—
204 - Miscellaneous	£5,612.03	—	—	—	£5,612.03	—
302 - Wedding Collections	£125.00	—	—	—	£125.00	—
303 - Baptism Collections	£150.98	—	—	—	£150.98	—
304 - Funeral Collections	£798.38	—	—	—	£798.38	—
305 - Wedding Fees	£1,729.00	—	—	—	£1,729.00	—
306 - Funeral Fees	£3,650.10	—	—	—	£3,650.10	—
501 - Graham Court	£8,669.36	—	—	—	£8,669.36	—
502 - St John's Church	£4,826.03	—	—	—	£4,826.03	—
503 - Parish Hall	£9,595.00	—	—	—	£9,595.00	—
504 - Meeting Room	£30.00	—	—	—	£30.00	—
601 - Insurance	—	—	—	—	—	—
602 - VAT	£5,483.03	—	—	—	£5,483.03	—
603 - Gift Aid	—	—	—	—	—	—
604 - Other Refunds	—	—	—	—	—	—
701 - Bank Interest	£61.62	£59.16	—	—	£120.78	—
702 - Transfer of Funds	£15,309.49	£881.77	—	—	£16,191.26	—
800 - Other Income	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Other income Totals</i>	£56,590.39	£940.93	—	—	£57,531.32	—
Income and endowments	£127,384.14	£29,405.93	—	—	£156,790.07	—
Grand totals						

Income ↑ 23%

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Expenditure						
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>						
1901 - Parish Share	£78,873.92	—	—	—	£78,873.92	—
2101 - Children and Young Persons	£537.94	—	—	—	£537.94	—
2102 - Donations Made	£99.95	£3,390.51	—	—	£3,490.46	—
2103 - Special Collections	£736.21	—	—	—	£736.21	—
2104 - Catering	£191.09	—	—	—	£191.09	—
2105 - Subscriptions	£209.00	—	—	—	£209.00	—
2606 - Stationery	£99.34	—	—	—	£99.34	—
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities Totals</i>	£80,747.45	£3,390.51	—	—	£84,137.96	—
<i>Other expenditure</i>						
2001 - Admin Salary	£3,444.00	—	—	—	£3,444.00	—
2002 - Cleaner Salary	£3,276.00	—	—	—	£3,276.00	—
2010 - A Dotchin Expenses	£3,321.10	£15,367.89	—	—	£18,688.99	—
2011 - E Corker Expenses	—	—	—	—	—	—
2012 - P Brinkley Expenses	£266.43	—	—	—	£266.43	—
2013 - P Young Expenses	—	—	—	—	—	—
2014 - T Gibb Expenses	—	£200.00	—	—	£200.00	—
2020 - Organist Expenses	£3,262.00	—	—	—	£3,262.00	—
2021 - Vestry Expenses	£682.23	—	—	—	£682.23	—
2022 - Parish Training	—	—	—	—	—	—
2023 - Random Expenses	£361.68	—	—	—	£361.68	—
2201 - Fabric St John's Church	£2,010.00	£504.00	—	—	£2,514.00	—
2202 - Fabric Parish Hall	—	—	—	—	—	—
2203 - Fabric St Edmund's Church	—	—	—	—	—	—
2301 - Gas St John's Church	£1,197.14	—	—	—	£1,197.14	—
2302 - Gas Parish Hall	£109.70	—	—	—	£109.70	—
2303 - Electricity St John's Church	£2,902.88	—	—	—	£2,902.88	—
2304 - Electricity Parish Hall	£456.78	—	—	—	£456.78	—
2305 - Electricity St Edmund's Church	£91.09	—	—	—	£91.09	—
2306 - Water St John's Church	£72.00	—	—	—	£72.00	—
2307 - Water Parish Hall	£414.56	—	—	—	£414.56	—
2308 - Water St Edmund's Church	£121.47	—	—	—	£121.47	—
2309 - Rates Parish Hall	£33.21	—	—	—	£33.21	—
2401 - Maintenance St John's Church	£1,401.42	£2,509.19	—	—	£3,910.61	—
2402 - Maintenance Parish Hall	£486.90	—	—	—	£486.90	—
2403 - Maintenance St Edmund's Church	—	—	—	—	—	—
2404 - Organ/Piano	£368.00	—	—	—	£368.00	—
2501 - Insurance St John's	£4,678.75	—	—	—	£4,678.75	—
2502 - Insurance Parish Hall and St Edmund's Ch	£1,434.14	—	—	—	£1,434.14	—
2601 - Printer Lease	£2,810.46	—	—	—	£2,810.46	—
2602 - Printer Insurance	£271.28	—	—	—	£271.28	—
2603 - Printer Usage Charge	£765.81	—	—	—	£765.81	—
2604 - IT Equipment and Licenses	£2,385.33	£1,330.27	—	—	£3,715.60	—
2605 - Consumables	£1,203.71	£120.00	—	—	£1,323.71	—
2701 - Agent's Fees	£1,028.00	—	—	—	£1,028.00	—
2702 - Insurance	£309.57	—	—	—	£309.57	—
2703 - Other Expenses	—	—	—	—	—	—
2801 - Bank Charges	£397.20	£90.60	—	—	£487.80	—
2802 - Transfer of Funds	£18,901.77	£15,309.49	—	—	£34,211.26	—
2900 - Other Expenditure	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Other expenditure Totals</i>	£58,464.61	£35,431.44	—	—	£93,896.05	—

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Expenditure Grand totals	£139,212.06	£38,821.95	—	—	£178,034.01	—

This last year has seen numerous planned and un-planned projects and programmes completed and launched for the safety and betterment of the church properties

1.0 Vestry Flood

Heavy rains and high winds combined to create a once a decade storm last May. The result was an ingress of water into the vestry, via (a) blocked flat roof gutters, (b) blocked overflow pipe, and (c) cracked & missing windows. The result was water damaged carpets, documents and garments and internal damp within the brickwork of the vestry. Through our insurers, swift action resulted in a drying program for the brickwork, with no lasting damage. This was accompanied by remedial works to clear blocked gutters, overflows and downpipes across all roofs and drains. The cost of the damage amounted to a £500 excess, without impact to our insurance premiums. All associated means of ingress have been repaired to mitigate future risk of occurrence.

2.0 Quinquennial Assessment

The five yearly architects assessment was completed in May 2021. The findings of which highlighted structural matters requiring attention over the next 5 years, highlighting the urgency of works to be undertaken. The most abundant of which is the condition of the exterior brickwork and pointing, that requires attention. The most urgent of which has been addressed through point 3.0. The two main areas of attention are (a) the tower brickwork; to repair and replace structurally damaged bricks and re-point where necessary, and (b) address lower level re-pointing and damp on the Northern side of the church.

3.0 Guttering

The church has a very large roof footprint, which amasses significant volumes of water when rained on, the dispersment of which away from the building is critical to the health of the brickwork. Add to this the position of the church, its height and lack of sheltering buildings, when water is added to high winds, the impacts if unattended can amount to sustained and unseen water ingress, affecting the structural fabric of the building. In October a full and comprehensive work was undertaken to clear and repair all means of water dispersal from the building, resulting in a twice annual programme of works, in May for a light clean and October a deep clean, post autumn leaf fall. At the time of Octobers works, a full visual assessment was made by our builders, using an access platform to review all suggested areas of investigation in the quinquennial.

4.0 Ground Works

The exterior grounds of St John's did not do justice to the beauty of the internal fabric of the church. In September we employed a professional gardener to undertake a programme of works, likely to run through 2022 into 2023, to restore the outside to a standard becoming of the church and its place as a responsible exemplar of how to thrive within a conservation area. The South side has been cleared, cut-back and re-ordered to act as an invitation. Other works of consideration are the management of the trees within the covenants of protection and conservation, the boundary wall and its potential replacements and how the East and North side can grow to attract wildlife and become a focal point for all the right reasons.

5.0 Electrical Works

We have replaced old energy hungry lighting for new LED's where we can, as a like for like change, negating the need for faculty agreements (i.e. as would be needed within the main body of the church), the benefit is seen in the meeting room, kitchen and vestry's. The safety of the parish pantry food store (Andrew's garage) has also undergone professional attention and actions to ensure mitigation of fire, personal safety alongside food defence, supporting the fridges and freezers under constant use. On grounds of health and safety, additional lighting is being added to the tower stairs, to avoid shadows and allow for light above the ringing chamber and the belfry doors. The exterior lighting, the flood lights in particular are also under review, to replace with energy efficient alternatives.

6.0 Heating Works

It proved more of a challenge to find heating professionals, who were either available, willing or affordable to undertake the service and repair of heating in both St. Edmunds and St. Johns. The outcome has been the need for a new boiler in the meeting room / kitchen as the old unit was uneconomical to repair. I'm sure, as all buildings of their age, heating will remain a focus and challenge of the years to come as we work towards being both environmentally greener and seek more economical options amidst growing fuel prices.

The 6 points above show the headlines of this last year, the coming year has many challenges and opportunities to be undertaken...

- The re-pointing of St Edmunds front porch for structural safety
- The replacement of St John's boundary wall with low-cost, greener, more enticing alternative
- The refurbishment of St John's external doors, including repair of iron works
- The re-pollarding of the Elm's and cutting back along the North and East side trees
- All essential re-pointing and brick repair, on the tower, and Northern walls.
- The planting of grounds... all your extra garden plants welcomed to make St John's bloom.

What we need to do and what we can afford to do, regrettably are not in congruence with each other. Ensuring all buildings are safe and add benefit to all who use them is our priority. We need to generate more revenue than we spend to ensure continuous use and growth to the betterment of all.

James Lumley
Church Warden
March 2022

Safeguarding Report 2021-2022.

The year 2021 was the year that when Basic Awareness was started in 2018 it was valid for three years hence a surge in renewals. Everyone had to be contacted and it was their choice as to carry on or not as the case may be.

Sadly some of these people willing to serve were because of health reasons or that they were no longer with us prevented a hundred per cent renewal.

These are the figures:-

13 renewals

23 new applicants

The high number of new applicants is mainly due to the young women that help at the Parish Pitstop. My sincere thanks go to Sharon Hume who as administrator had phone numbers to contact those concerned.

Jan Hickman
Parish Safeguarding Officer

Report From Serving Team

Deanery Report 2021-2022

The items of the running of Deanery Synod (general housekeeping) have been by-passed in this report and the highlights and speakers have been reported.

July Synod held at St. Mary's Walton.

Rev. Paul Clarke opened with prayer.

Rural Dean Rev. Canon Andrew Dotchin introduced the subject "Three Stars and a Wish" which gave the parishes a chance to share two or three things (stars) that worked well during the recent lockdowns and of one wish for how they would go forward.

Various activities were mentioned from on-line Bible Studies, various craft events, Awareness and help for those in need and a real boom in the pop-up shops to our Pitstop for small children. The overall wish was to know who was in the church family and to get in touch and to analyse what we have done wrong and to start afresh but most of all how to reach out.

October Synod held at St. Andrews.

Rev David White opened with prayer.

Archdeacon Sally Gaze gave us a talk about Lightwave.

Lightwave is a project aimed at establishing worshipping communities in rural areas to work alongside and complement traditional Sunday services. Now there are 23 Lightwave groups and 16 in the pipeline and there is a Rural Chaplain giving a 24 hour helpline to support farmers. The project aims to be ecological and work with nature. It helps children engage with nature and is "Growing with God" in the countryside. Doorstep carols with Radio Suffolk was a great success. Extending Pop-up shops also featured.

Each parish then gave a synopsis on what activities they were accomplishing.

The next Deanery Synod will be held at Kesgrave on 22nd March 2022 too late for a report in this APCM

Jan Hickman

Deanery representative of St. John the Baptist Felixstowe.

I think everyone rejoiced when servers were once again a part of the Sunday morning Eucharist, the bells ringing out at the consecration bells being one more step towards 'normality' whatever that may turn out to be.

We are gradually re-introducing our involvement in the Eucharist, moving from pre and post service duties while maintaining all sensible precautions to protect our fellow worshippers from infections and illness.– starting with preparation and clearing of the altar, use of bells at the moments of consecration, and more recently assisting clergy in the Sanctuary and offering the chalice.

I would like to pay tribute to Jean Leitch and Kate Prewer for their support and dedication to re-establishing step by step the usual rituals which make our services so reverent and comforting – in a world of turmoil The Usual is very reassuring and calming. I would also like to offer my thanks to John Cardy for his sustained and very valuable services behind the scenes, and to Leslie-Anne Dotchin for her continued interest although not in a position to re-join the rota at present

As we are currently a very small team this might be an opportunity to consider extending the group of people willing and able to join us as servers, as regularly or infrequently as convenient. Full training will be offered and we are very non-judgemental in our attitude to inexperienced colleagues – whatever mistakes you may feel you might make I certainly will confess to having made them myself many times over the past years I have had the privilege of being a server.

Anyone interested in joining the team, please speak to myself, Jean or Kate and we can arrange a short meeting, without commitment, to discuss details.

Many thanks for all the support our small team has received over the last trying year.

Thanks be to God

Sue Toomey

16th March 2022

St. John's Mothers Union

Our group of loyal members have continued to keep in touch and met when restrictions allowed a few times informally and once in October for a rescheduled talk from Alan Peats that had been booked for spring 2020!

Now we are back meeting together each month on a Tuesday evening at 7.30pm in the Church meeting room do come and join us for a varied programme of talks and topics. You will be most welcome, with refreshments to round off the meeting!

Gillian Berry
Secretary

Choir Report

It is lovely to have positive choir news to report after the Covid restrictions of last year. At the time of the last report in May 2021, there was no congregational singing, and the choir was restricted to singing during communion. We first sang a full service on 1st of August, and to make it extra special there was a baptism that day. The importance of hymn singing was celebrated by Andrew inviting the congregation to nominate their three favourite hymns, and over the next few weeks these were included in the services.

As choir leader, I do worry about our aging choir; bereavement and sickness (including Covid), have limited attendance, and there have been a couple of Sundays when we have not been able to provide a choir. The Carol Service was less ambitious than in previous years. The choir is still observing reduced social distancing, and this prevented us having additional singers. However, a visiting brass band at the Carol Service made it a joyous occasion and lifted all our spirits.

The next great Festival (no service in 2020, and no singing in 2021) is Easter. Then we'll really know we're back! Alleluia!

Liz Watson – March 2022

Social Report

It really hasn't been much of a year socially but we have been grateful to have done anything. When we have to cancel events it's not just the disappointment of not gathering to share the occasion with friends, church misses out on the much needed financial support social gatherings bring.

We managed a small coffee morning in September alongside Ride and Stride both bringing essential funds in. We also enjoyed a snifter outside on Merchant Navy day and the Harvest lunch was a great success we all seemed rather pleasantly surprised to be out enjoying ourselves.

Messy Church has been quiet. During lockdown several of our long term participants moves up to senior school, several travelling out of town. Sadly this means they are seldom back in Felixstowe in time to join us. Work is in hand to do more in the holidays and to find a winning formula. The simple family supper we serve remains popular.

A few concerts were enjoyed, especially the Last Night of the Proms in September

We have a small social committee planning all sorts of events for this year. Anyone is welcome to join us and help. Keep an eye out for upcoming events. We have a lot to look forward to including coffee mornings, lunches and quizzes.

Thank you for all your help and support.

Diana Barnard
Pushchair Pitstop.

This year has seen the Pushchair Pitstop move back to St Edmunds Church after being at St John's throughout 'lockdown'. It is now open Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning 9.30am to 12.30pm, alternate Saturdays and Sundays 10am to 4pm and once a month on a Thursday evening 5.30pm to 7.30pm.

We have to say a big thankyou to the St Edmunds congregation who are supporting us, allowing Pitstop to take over most of the church, with a 'shop' area down one side and play and coffee areas down the other side.

We have had a couple of joint events with Messy church one in the vicarage garden in the summer and the other in St Edmunds Hall in November when Father Christmas visited. We will be having an Easter event in the Vicarage garden weather permitting on the 20th April.

A big thankyou to the generosity of those who brought donations for the 'Ukraine Appeal' to the Pitstop and all those who continue to give so generously not only baby clothes, equipment and toys but also of their time enabling us to open as much as we can.

Rev Penny and the Pitstop Team March 2022

MESSY CHURCH 2021

We cautiously restarted Messy Church in July, making it a Covid safe occasion by holding it in the Vicarage garden. Families booked in online and we had 4 or 5 of our regular families attending, pleased that we were able to meet up again after all the pandemic lockdowns.

We arranged the activities so that each family kept to their own table as much as possible and Diana and her team served an alfresco tea.

During August, a combined Messy Church and Pushchair Pitstop garden party with BBQ was held over a lunchtime, proving very popular. A raffle was held and raised well over £100 which more than covered the cost of the event.

Messy Church sessions were held during September, October and November, with a Get Messy for Christmas session held in December.

We were blessed with good weather for the September session which we were able to hold in the Vicarage garden again. However, with the return to school and with Covid cases rising again, attendance was lower for the end of 2021.

Hopefully, by arranging more combined Messy Church and Pushchair Pitstop events this year, and by holding the sessions during school holidays, we will be able to increase our Messy Church attendance to pre-Covid levels again. With a view to returning to monthly sessions as before.

The Messy Church Team

Mrs J. Savage. Tower Captain, St John's, Felixstowe.
3rd March 2022

2021-22 has been another year wherein very little happened.

The easing of restrictions this year has allowed more ringers to ring for Sunday services - following the guidelines. The lack of available ringers meant that we didn't manage to ring any bells for Christmas.

The Suffolk Guild of Ringers installed a simulator in the tower in June to enable practices for new ringers without disturbing the neighbours. This has been used a number of times through the year.

I am happy to report that there have been quite a few practices and we started Sunday ringing on 1st May. Unfortunately, the dearth of ringers has meant that we had as few as 2 bells ringing on occasion, 5 maximum with our own ringers, but we had 8 bells one Sunday when a visiting band augmented our numbers! This was much appreciated by the congregation.

We have rung for two weddings, with 8 ringers for one and 4 for the other (by request).

Our ringing band is still very small, despite a lot of interest when we had a "Have-A-Go" morning on 11th September. Three people showed a keen interest, but only one is a regular learner at the moment. One learner will be rejoining us in March and another hopefully starting in April.

In the autumn a request was made to be allowed to buy a half-set of muffles for all eight bells, and a quotation was submitted to the PCC for approval. The lighting in the spiral staircase will be improved, an engineer has investigated the noisy emergency light box and a decision was made to safeguard the tower against unauthorised access. A problem was reported regarding the Belfry door, which has a faulty lock and is stiff to open.

Book Club

Book club meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 2.30 in the church or when the weather is nice in the vicarage garden. We enjoy cake (usually homemade) and a drink as we discuss the book we have read during the preceding month.

We have read a diverse set of books including, Hell's Angel by Brian Greenaway, God of Surprises by Gerard W Hughes and for Lent we have read Dear England by Stephen Cottrell.

The book is always chosen by the group with all suggestions being noted as we try and read through everyone's choices. Usually the person who's book choice we have read writes a short review for the Parish Magazine, which includes the next book to be read.

We always welcome new members, we are friendly diverse group, so don't be shy just come and give us a try.

Rev Penny

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST WITH ST. EDMUND, FELIXSTOWE
Registered Charity no. 1135598

St John's Flower Team report for the year 2021

Despite the Covid-19 emergency, building lock-downs and "stay at home" advice, Judy Saberton and myself have maintained the tradition of at least some flower arrangements in the church this year.

There has been no contributions made to the fund and the only expense taken has been to re-stock the Oasis wet brick store.

Please contact me if you are interested in doing a window display or other arrangements in 2022, assuming that circumstances permit.

Flower room (North porch) May I remind everyone, that the north porch is a designated emergency exit and not to leave any old arrangements and other bits and pieces in there. Please take away any finished displays out of the building and wherever possible to recycle the materials used.

Thank you.

J Holland

Jenny Holland
27th January 2022

St. John's Flower Fund Accounts for the Year ended 31st December 2021

RECEIPTS			PAYMENTS		
Date	Details	Amount	Date	Details	Amount
	/	/	8 th Oct.	Oasis wet bricks	£14.15
	Total	NIL		Total	£14.15

Represented in NatWest St John's Church Flower Fund Account by -

Opening balance 1/1/2021	£523.30
Excess payments over receipts	£14.15
Closing balance 31/12/2021	£509.15

J Holland

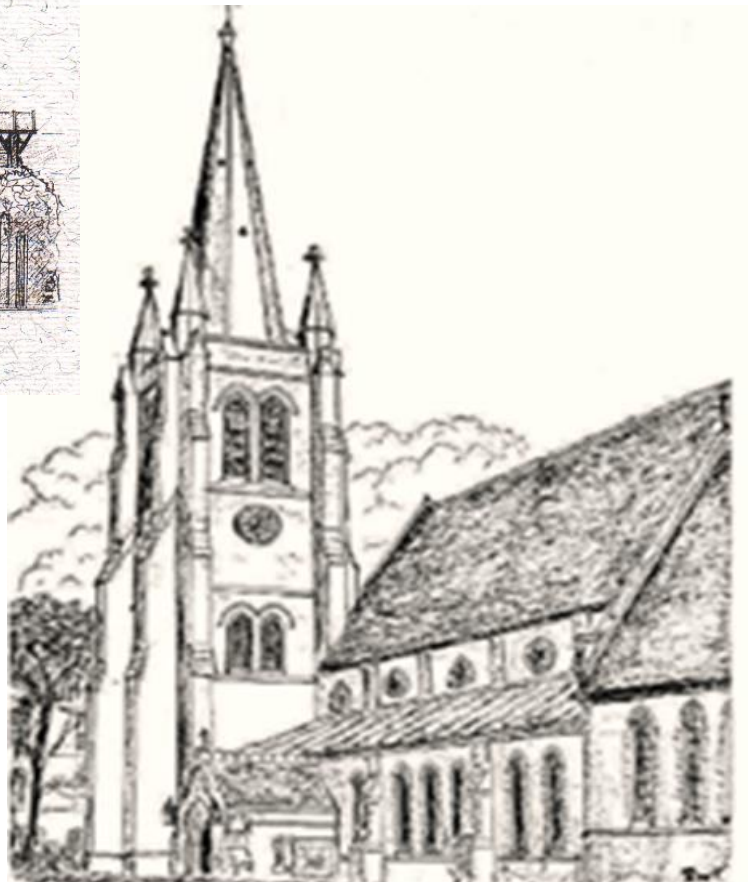
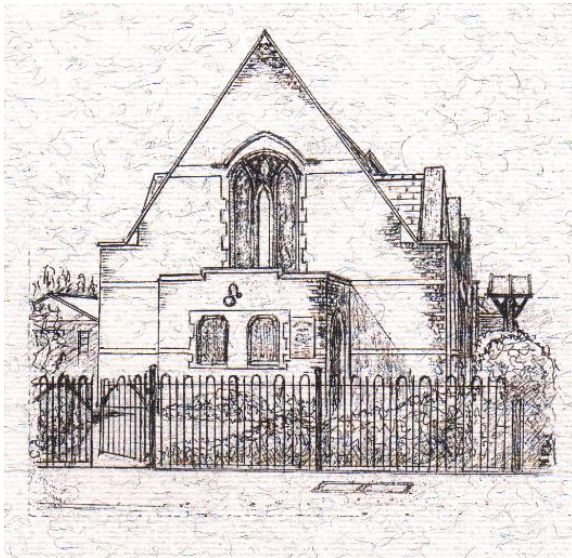
Accounts

The Parish of Felixstowe, St John the Baptist with St Edmund
Diocese of Saint Edmundsbury and Ipswich

'Open to God Open to All'

www.FelixParish.com

Reg. Charity No. 1135596



Agenda and Reports
for the
Annual Meeting of Parishioners
and the
Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 23rd May 2021 at 11.15 am

Agenda for the Annual Meeting of Parishioners

(Also known as the Annual Parish Meeting or Easter Vestry Meeting)

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on 11th October 2020
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes
4. Election of Churchwardens

Agenda for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 11th October 2020
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes
4. Reports of the PCC to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting:
 - (a) Electoral Roll
 - (b) Secretary to the PCC
 - (c) Financial Statement of the PCC for the year ending 31st December 2020
 - (d) Fabric Report
 - (e) Deanery Synod Report
 - (f) Church reports
5. Elections

A minimum of 3 members to serve for a period of 3 years on the PCC and
1 vacancy for Deanery Synod
6. Appointments

Independent Examiner
7. A.O.B

any items to be raised must be notified in writing to the Chairman no later than
12 noon on Saturday 22nd May 2021.
8. Closing Prayers

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church representation rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. Under the Church Representation Rules, the PCC is able to have a maximum of 12 elected lay members, and during the last year has been made up of 9 elected lay members; there are 6 vacancies to be filled at the APCM in 2021.

Objectives and activities

The purpose of the PCC is set out in the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956, and it states:

- (1) It shall be the duty of the minister and the PCC to consult together on matters of general concern and importance to the parish.
- (2) The functions of parochial church councils shall include—
 - (a) co-operation with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical;
 - (b) the consideration and discussions of matters concerning the Church of England or any other matters of religious or public interest, but not the declaration of the doctrine of the Church on any question;
 - (c) making known and putting into effect any provision made by the diocesan synod or the deanery synod, but without prejudice to the powers of the council on any particular matter;
 - (d) giving advice to the diocesan synod and the deanery synod on any matter referred to the council;
 - (e) raising such matters as the council consider appropriate with the diocesan synod or deanery synod.
- (3) In the exercise of its functions the parochial church council shall take into consideration any expression of opinion by any parochial church meeting.

Reserves policy

The Reserves policy was agreed by the PCC at the meeting on 15th June 2017. £60,000 is currently set as the level for the Parish Reserves. This will be reviewed by the PCC at the first meeting of the new PCC after each APCM. (This money will only be touched in great need.)

Church attendance

As of March 2020 there were 126 members on the electoral roll.

Review of the year

The report of the Secretary to the PCC is included within this report

Financial Review

The report of the Treasurer to the PCC is included within this report

PCC information for the APCM
The Parish of Felixstowe, Saint John the Baptist with Saint Edmund
Annual Reports of the Parochial Church Council
for the Year Ended 31st December 2020
Administrative Information

Saint John the Baptist's Church is situated on the corner of Orwell Road and Princes Road within the Felixstowe Conservation Area; and Saint Edmund's is on Langer Road. It is a part of the Colneys Deanery within the Ipswich Archdeaconry of the Diocese of Saint Edmundsbury and Ipswich. The correspondence address is The New Vicarage, 54 Princes Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk, IP11 7PL.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a registered charity number 1135596

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2020 until this report was approved are:

<i>Priest in Charge:</i>	Reverend Andrew Dotchin	<i>Chairman</i>
<i>Associate Priest:</i>	Reverend Penny Brinkley	<i>Ex – Officio</i>
<i>Associate Priest:</i>	Reverend Philip Young	<i>Ex – Officio</i>
<i>Reader</i>	Mr Terry Gibb	<i>Ex - Officio</i>

Wardens: Mr Terry Gibb

Representatives on the Deanery Synod

Reverend Penny Brinkley	<i>Ex-Officio</i>	
Mrs Jan Hickman	<i>Ex-Officio</i>	<i>Vice Chairman</i>
Mrs Gillian Berry	<i>Ex-Officio</i>	
Mr Garath Jones	<i>Ex-Officio</i>	

Elected Members:

Diana Barnard ***	
Barbara Bown *	
Penny Brookes **	
Edwin Candy (<i>until APCM 2020</i>)	
Sheila Donald ***	<i>Secretary to the PCC</i>
Kath George*	
Denis Heath *	
June Heath *	
Sharon Hume ***	
Kate Prewer *	
Celia Sims (<i>until APCM 2020</i>)	
Mary Trayler (<i>until APCM 2020</i>)	
***Term expires at APCM 2020	
**Elected in 2019 for 3 years	
*Elected in 2020 for 3 years	

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on Sunday, 25th October, 2020 in St. John's Church

The Revd. Andrew Dotchin welcomed everyone to the meeting, which was much later in the year than usual, due to the pandemic.

1. Apologies

Vicki Westren, The Revd Peter Leitch, Twig Shrubbs

2. Minutes

Kate Prewer proposed that the previous year's minutes be accepted by the meeting, this was seconded by Dawn Kemp and agreed unanimously.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Election of Churchwardens

Andrew told the meeting that no nominations had been received for churchwardens. He explained that if there were no churchwardens the incumbent would distribute the various duties among the PCC.

Andrew expressed the thanks of the church for the sterling work done by Terry Gibb as sole churchwarden for most of the last very difficult eighteen months. Much work had been done on the fabric in that time.

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting Held on Sunday, 25th October, 2020 in St. John's Church

1. Apologies

Vicki Westren, The Revd Peter Leitch, Twig Shrubbs

2. Minutes

Steve Kemp proposed that the 2019 minutes be accepted by the meeting, Jean Leitch seconded, and the minutes were agreed.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Reports of the PCC to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

(a) Electoral Roll

Sharon Hume said that there were now 126 members in total on the Electoral Roll, of whom 54 were resident in the parish, and 72 non-resident.

(b) Secretary's Report

Sheila Donald reported that there had been 11 PCC meetings over the year – 10 full meetings and 1 brief one.

A considerable amount of time had been spent on church fabric. The roof repairs at St John's had been a major subject, also various repairs at St Edmund's hall. The proposed automatic glass door for the Tower corridor had finally been set in motion.

Finance had also taken up much time. A contactless terminal had been purchased and the Parish Giving Scheme had been started.

A great number of Health and Safety policies had also been set in place.

(c) Financial Report

Alan Middleton reported that due to the roof repairs there had been a considerable deficit of income over expenditure. The Reserve fund now stood at £87,574.97 and the Browse Bell fund at £53,622.97.

Thanks were given to Terry Gibb for paying the invoices, and Susanne Barsby and Sharon Hume for banking and producing the Gift Aid figures, also Philip Keble for examining the accounts.

(d) Fabric Report

Terry Gibb had overseen a tremendous amount of work on the fabric. The roof repairs had been completed on both sides, with a grant of £9,000 given towards the cost from the Taylor Review.

Mary Traylor, as Health and Safety officer, had done a full safety audit and many measures had been put in place, including extra hand rails, PAT testing of all electrical appliances, and portable emergency lighting .

The front door of St Edmund's hall was replaced at a cost of £1,600.

A faculty had been submitted to the DAC to install an electric glass door in the main entrance and the boxing in of all the electric boxes. This had been carried out since the report was written.

The church grounds had been given a good tidy up following the roof repairs.

(e) Deanery Synod Report

There were no questions on the Deanery Synod report.

(f) Church reports

There were no questions on the other church reports, so the meeting continued with the elections.

5. Elections

(a) Deanery Synod

Andrew explained that Deanery Synod members were ex-officio members of the PCC. Two nominations had been received, Garath Jones and Gillian Berry, who were elected to the Deanery Synod.

(b) PCC members

There were 6 vacancies for the PCC. 4 nominations had been received before the meeting, Denis and June Heath, Kate Prewer, and Barbara Bown, who were duly elected. Kath George was elected from the meeting, proposed by Franks Atkinson, and seconded by Diana Barnard. Andrew thanked the retiring members for their service.

6. Appointments

(a) Stewards

Andrew told the meeting that a list of stewards would be published separately.

(b) Independent examiner

Philip Keble was proposed as Independent Examiner, which was agreed by the meeting.

7. Any other business

Churchwarden's presentation

Andrew said that Terry Gibb had overseen the renewal of the roof of St John's on both sides, had the doors at St Edmund's Hall replaced, and organised the automatic glass door which had been an ongoing project for many years. He thanked Terry for going above and beyond his duties as Churchwarden. The Revd Elizabeth Corker thanked Pam Gibb for her continual support. A presentation was made to Terry.

8. Closing prayers

The Grace was said to close the meeting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT TO THE APCM 2020 – 2021

Since the October APCM there have been 3 PCC meetings, 1 Zoom PCC meeting, and 1 very brief meeting. Various items have been agreed via email, and ratified at the next meeting.

The main topics of discussion have been financial concerns, which have been very worrying since the pandemic, safeguarding, Covid protocols, and the ongoing successes of the Pushchair Pitstop and Parish Pantry.

Sheila Donald
April 2021

FINANCIAL, STATEMENT TO THE APCM

Due to the Covid Pandemic the church like many others suffered a loss of income. Services were suspended, Parish Hall Hirings apart from the playgroup were stopped, and social events such as Coffee Mornings, Easter Lunch, Summer Lunch and Harvest Supper were likewise suspended.

Only £47,130 of the 2020 Parish Share was paid but the final payment for 2020 has now been paid.

Thanks to some generous donations including one for £25,000, reclaim of Gift Aid and VAT the finances are stable and due to past budget savings it was still possible to install the glass door in the entrance to St Johns Church and other essential maintenance carried out

T R Gibb Reader and Acting Treasurer

St John the Baptist with St Edmunds Felixstowe
Financial Statement 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2020

Assets

Bank Balances

	01/01/2020	31/12/2020
Barclays General Account	£3,963.37	£2,552.81
Barclays Restricted Account	£100.00	£9,652.16
Barclays Welfare Account	£485.39	£1,448.91
CCLA Reserve Account	£87,574.97	£67,844.00
CCLA Bells Account	<u>£53,622.97</u>	<u>£53,820.97</u>
	£145,746.70	£135,318.85

Freehold property of a Flat at Graham Court £259,000

Income

2020

FWO

Plate	£6,522.00	
STO	£18,304.00	
Envelopes	£7,343.00	
Parish Giving Scheme	£7,602.00	
Gift Aid on Parish Giving Scheme	£1,779.00	
Goodbox	£1,610.00	
		£43,160.00

Other Income

Rent Graham Court	£8,240.00	
DBF Funerals	£2,443.00	
Weddings	£770.00	
Hirings	£9,416.00	
Donations	£27,039.00	
Cellnex	£5,189.00	
Gift Aid Reclaim	£16,200.00	
Vat Reclaim	£3,897.00	
Heritage Grant Roof Repairs	£629.00	
DBS Grant Screen in Parish Hall	£1,000.00	
ST Eds Group Housing 21 Refund	£35.00	
Magazine//Newsletter	£123.48	
Voltives	£62.00	
Tea/Coffee	£129.00	
Charity Events	£873.00	
Parish Lunch	£647.00	
Flood Lighting	£60.00	
Produce/ Tombola	£421.00	
Ladders Sale	£50.00	
	£77,223.48	£77,223.48
Total		£120,383.48

St John the Baptist with St Edmunds Felixstowe
Financial Statement 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2020

Expenditure

	2020	
St Johns Utilities	£3,357.00	
Parish Hall Utilities	£1,084.00	
St Edmunds Utilities	£402.00	
St Johns Water	£303.00	
Parish Hall Water	£308.00	
St Edmunds Water	£37.00	
St Johns Maintenance	£1,808.00	
St Edmunds Maintenance	£104.00	
Parish Hall Mainrenance	£834.00	
New Parish Hall Door	£1,745.00	
Grounds Maintenance St Johns	£1,371.00	
Church Insurance	£5,749.00	
Stationary	£360.00	
Office Supplies New Printer	£399.00	
Printer Costs	£4,038.00	
Vestry Costs	£827.00	
Performing Rites Licenece	£303.00	
Parish Share	£47,130.00	
Bank Charges	£278.00	
Graham Court Agent Fees	£728.00	
Insurance on Graham Court	£232.00	
Admin Salary	£3,444.00	
Cleaner Salary	£3,376.00	
Rev Dotchin Expenses	£3,824.00	
Rev Brinkley Expenses	£198.00	
Rev Corker Expenses	£0.00	
Rev Young	£0.00	
Reader Gibb	£0.00	
Organist	£710.00	
Catering	£147.00	
Sign Hymns A&M	£66.00	
Parish Lunch	£664.15	
Architect Fees	£5,929.00	
Charitable Donations	£1,145.00	
Glass Door and Electric Cupboard	£26,416.00	
Church Deep Clean	£3,228.00	
St Edmunds Group	£90.00	
Bells Service	£294.00	
Faculty Fees	£200.00	
Health And Safety \	£772.00	
	£121,900.15	£121,900.00

Income/Expenditure {£1516.52}

Welfare Account

Income {donations}	£1,858.30
Expenditure on deserving causes	£895.86

Independent Examiner's Report via email

PhilipKeeble <Philip.Keeble@cofesuffolk.org> Thu, Mar 4, 8:42 PM
to me

Hi Terry,

I've had a chance to look over your accounts for 2020, and I'm very happy with them. Obviously a very challenging year, as with so many Parishes but you have firm financial foundations which are good.

Please pass on my best wishes to Andrew.

Regards

Philip

Supplementary Financial Report

It is now nearly six months on from the financial statement and the parish finances are still struggling as a result of the pandemic and lock down

On average the parish outgoings exceed the income by £1927 per month.

At the start of the pandemic our reserves with the CCLA investment bank was £87,574.00 It now stands at £42,673.00

Terry Gibb {Church Warden and Acting Treasurer}

Deanery Report 2020-2021

Lockdown has not permitted our Deanery meetings so this is the shortest report I have ever given with nothing to report other than the very sad news that the Lay Chairman John Dangerfield died last year. John will be very sadly missed by all at deanery and beyond in the wider world where he was loved and respected. Our sad loss indeed.

Jan Hickman
May 2021

Church Wardens Report APCM 23/05/2021

Fabric Due to Covid restrictions little has happened since the last APCM. The fire extinguisher inspection has been carried out.

Some minor repairs carried out in the toilets at the Parish Hall and the disabled ramp repaired for health and safety reasons. The price for this came in at £300 under budget due to the underlying structure being in better repair than first thought. An external WiFi has been installed in the church to allow live streaming of services, weddings and funerals

During this time Andrew introduced a Parish Pantry using the surplus food from local super markets. Opening seven days a week has provided much needed food for the deserving and needy in the parish and has been an outstanding success

St Edmunds Church has now been shut of over a year. The Push Chair Pit Stop moved as a temporary measure to the meeting room and have again provided a much needed help for Mums during the pandemic.

The Parish Hall has been used exclusivity for the play group during the pandemic. A screen and projector has been installed in the Parish Hall paid for by a council grant.

In the coming year the new PCC will, in consultation with the whole congregation, be looking at future usage of St Edmunds Church.

T Gibb [Church Warden]

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St Johns Mothers' Union Group

Sadly after February 2020 we have been unable to meet in person for our monthly get-togethers. Speakers booked for 2020 meetings will hopefully be able to reschedule when we meet again. Thanks to Elizabeth for keeping us up to date and Jenny for her Mothering Sunday and Easter gifts to each member.

We were able to contribute to the annual Blythwood Christmas shoebox appeal and with help from Felixstowe's Inner Wheel members 50 shoeboxes were filled, collected and distributed to needy families in E Europe.

We are hopeful we can look forward to our annual MU Summer Evening with fish and chip supper at The Hut on Tuesday 13 July after a break of 16months.

Gillian Berry

April 2021

Choir Report

What a strange year in the life of the Choir, indeed in all our lives. The research which suggested that the corona virus was spread more by singing than by talking has affected the way we worship whether as a member of the congregation or a member of the choir. Since the original lockdown ended and St John's opened again for services, the choir, as an affiliated member of the Royal School of Church Music, has been governed by the RSCM guidance on how we may safely sing and comply with legal regulations.

Before we started singing again in September, we had to complete a risk assessment to make sure choir members were "covid secure". We are fortunate to have a big chancel at St John's which allows eight choristers to be 2 metres apart in all directions. We do not robe because there is not enough room in the vestry to maintain social distancing when changing. For the same reason we keep our music in our places in the chancel throughout the week so that we do not get too close together getting music from the cupboard. Once we are in our places, we are allowed to remove our masks, but if we move from our places we put them back on. As there is no congregational singing at the moment, we are only singing during communion.

We were able to sing up until Christmas, and then with the further full lockdown, not until Easter though we could provide a solo singer, hence Nick sang the Nunc Dimittis at the Candlemas service. We started singing again as a choir on Low Sunday. It is not easy singing so far apart; sometimes we feel very vulnerable because we hear all our own little mistakes, our wobbly notes, or shortage of breath. Without Jeremy at the organ giving us confidence it would feel impossible.

We are all longing for the time when the congregation can join us in singing the service with a full quota of hymns, and so we can achieve that great value of singing together, that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts.

Liz Watson – May 2021

Social Report

There has been no formal social events at St Johns during lockdown. Thanks to the Parish Pantry and Pushchair Pitstop there has been a lovely social atmosphere on many occasions which has been lovely.

Looking forward, the first coffee morning will be held on Saturday July 10th, 10 am- noon with coffee and cake etc being served in the Vicarage garden and the stalls will be in church. Proceeds to go to church.

We are hoping to reintroduce monthly Sunday lunches after church £10 including wine. There will be a raffle or tombola and all profits to church.

Do come and support events and help us get back to enjoying each other's company and make some much needed cash .

Diana Barnard

Safeguarding Report 2020-2021

From your Safeguarding Officer Jan Hickman

Last year I reported 63 of you had completed a Basic Awareness course (C0). This course needs to be refreshed every three years. Those who completed the course in 2018 need to refresh. I am sorry to report that the renewal of this course has had a poor response within our congregation. So far the 39 members of the congregation who did this course in 2018 up to 30/04/2021 has dwindled to 6. There may be a few reasons why this has happened:-

People may feel that through age or infirmity they are not able to commit to this service.

Covid 19 has surely played its part.

People are used to attending church through social media and will continue to do so and not physically give service.

People feel they have done their bit.

People do not like on line participation.

There of course many other reasons but when we do get out of restrictions there appears to be a lack of volunteers.

I am pleased to report that the requirement of a foundation course (C1) to all PCC members has been duly completed.

Two young ladies that help run the Parish Pitstop have completed a DBS and are undergoing safeguarding training.

There have been numerous courses I have had to attend by zoom and online and am pleased to report these have successfully been completed. We now have a Parish Roadmap that I must complete (Boris is not the only person to have a Roadmap).. this roadmap has various statistical information and various leaflets to bring to the attention of the PCC.

There is always new literature and compliance I have to deal with so life as a safeguarding Officer is not boring.

I look forward to the return of some semblance of normality in the near future.

Jan Hickman
May 2021

Messy Church:

Although we have not been able to meet up with our Messy Church families for over a year we have kept in touch with regular emails, sending them issues of Young Church magazine, copies of the parish newsletter and crafty and cooking ideas that we would have been doing in our usual Messy sessions.

We are restarting again on Wednesday 12th May, as we have families who have expressed an interest in returning. Messy Church will be a bookable event for the time being. Things will be a little different but we will make it work again!

Sharon and the Messy Church Team

Pushchair Pitstop

This year has seen Pitstop being moved from St Edmunds to St John's since the first Lockdown. It has meant we have been able to be open at all times, helping parents both new and old, when they have been unable to shop for baby supplies.

Over this time Gina has gathered a group of enthusiastic helpers around her and we now endeavour to have someone available to sort and help when we are open. We would like to say a really big thank you to everyone one who helps, at times it can be thankless but others so rewarding, when you see the relief on some parents faces. We have had many tears of joy over the year and hope we will continue to be able to bring joy to many more parents. All helpers have done or are in the process of doing their necessary safeguarding.

The addition of clothes rails has helped to make the meeting look much better and is far easier to keep tidy. These have been purchased through monies that have come into the Pitstop either as donations or raffles.

We are now starting to look at what happens after 'Lockdown' and moving back to St Edmunds and hopefully starting to be able to have a stay and play time and offer teas, coffee and support again. This is envisaged to happen after playgroup have broken up for the Summer Holidays.

We have been able to arrange a couple of events starting with a BBQ in the vicarage garden last summer, to visit by Father Christmas, with all children receiving a goody bag, over 50 were given away and an Easter trail with goody bag where we also gave away 50 bags. These events were in connection with Messy Church families. We are planning another BBQ for this summer.

God Bless

Rev Penny and Gina



The Parish Pantry

Feeding Bodies, Nurturing Souls

Report to the APCM - 23 May 2021

How we began

When the first Lockdown due to Covid-19 was enforced in March 2020 the BASIC Life Charity chose to close all of its Pop-up Shops including the one at St Edmund's Church. When the lockdown was lifted BASIC chose to move the pop-up shop from St Edmund's to the River of Life Church for a while but this venture has not persisted and left our Parish as the only part of Felixstowe, Walton and Trimley without any easily accessible provision to help those most at need (The West End of Felixstowe is amongst the 10% most deprived in our nation).

During the second Lockdown in October 2021, as St John's could not be used for any other activities, the North aisle was used as a collecting point for customers from the Pushchair Pitstop. It was during this time that we were approached by Morrisons who asked, as there were children visiting the Pitstop, if we might pass on some of their free packed lunches for schoolchildren. The response was immediate and immense as we gave away almost 60 meals in two days. This showed us that there was an unmet need in our parish and the idea of the Parish Pantry was born.

How we operate

Parish Pantry seeks to provide food without cost or condition to anyone who enters our premises. We do this in a spirit of charity and without judgment of the need of our clients recognising that we are called to serve Christ through our care of the thirsty and the hungry, the sick and the stranger. ([Matthew 25v37-40](#)).

While offering pastoral care to all who come through our doors we will not demand that anyone pay for the services provided nor pry into their personal circumstances. We depend on the work of the Holy Spirit to draw people towards God and offer our buildings as a place where that encounter may begin without any coercion on our part. Our Guiding Principles are the [Five Marks of Mission](#) of the Anglican Communion paying special attention to the imperatives that we *respond to human need by loving service and strive to*

safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth. The latter being done chiefly by the use of surplus food which may otherwise be discarded.

This work is chiefly done by the provision of free food and toiletries laid out on tables in the South Aisle of St John's. We are open for six hours a day every day of the week. However the majority of goods are collected within the first hour of opening. If we have a large amount to pass on the tables are re-stocked during the day. In seven months of operation we can count on the fingers of one hand the number of times the end of the day has not seen empty tables.

Our guests

Those who use the Parish Pantry number between 50 and 70 people each day with a core of about 20 who visit at least every other day. There are several identified groups of people who use the Pantry. Some are well known to us having been previous users of the Pop-Up Shop at St Edmund's. With Pushchair Pitstop also being at St John's there is a group of mums and young children who now use the Pantry but were unable to visit the Pop-up Shop. We have a core group of families of Eastern European descent, (mostly Polish and Romanian speaking) who find the church setting very comforting and often remain in church to light candles and pray once they have collected food. There are a handful of young adults who are living in supported accommodation who use the pantry. Always a pleasure to have them in the morning queue as they are very caring of the more elderly and offer help as needed. During the most recent lockdown we have also noticed an increase in visits by elderly people in the late afternoon who have found it difficult to return to normal shopping routines and see the Pantry as a safe place to collect a few necessities.

Though no donations are expected many of our guests put a gift in the wall safe or use the Goodbox contactless machine. These gifts are added to the Parish General Funds.

Who we work with

Far and away the majority of the donations to the Pantry are made by several local supermarkets. Morrisons, both Lidl stores, and Marks & Spencer (Martlesham) and Boots provide regular donations of waste and surplus food. Morrisons have been particularly generous with gifts of chilled and frozen food which has enabled us to join the national Community Fridge Network. Many supermarket deliveries are coordinated through a group called Neighbourly and it was through them that we obtained a £400 grant from Aldi to specifically buy food for children. This has been greatly appreciated in Pushchair Pitstop which is able to keep baby and toddler meals to give away. We also, through a government grant to Suffolk County Council, have a weekly delivery of 300Kg of fruit, veg and tinned food by Fareshare. Another of our bulk deliveries is coordinated by Garath Jones who operates a delivery service to homes in Whitton and Castle Hill from the Castle Hill Community Centre. We are fortunate that Garath is also a member of our PCC and we have a weekly date where we exchanged surplus supplies that each of us has with each other to ensure nothing is wasted.

Another consistent source of supplies are a group of very faithful parishioners who, week by week, have gone shopping and bought bags and bags of fresh produce to place on the tables. On some

days these gifts have been the only thing we have had to put on the tables. They are like manna from heaven. There are other groups that help as well, notably a group of men in Ipswich who, no longer able to drink in their local pub, cooked Sunday lunch together by Zoom and bought a monthly delivery of fruit and veg with whatever they had left in their kitty. Several parishioners make regular donations to the Parish Welfare account which enables the Pantry to buy items to fill the gaps in provision by other donors so that we can provide a balanced diet for all.

Lastly, and humbling to watch in action, our guests themselves when they come and collect items often leave on the table food that they have at home that they cannot use immediately.

It's not only food and toiletries

Working with Suffolk County Council alongside Langer Primary and Grange Primary we were able to provide over 30 households with food vouchers that we purchased from Morrisons. The total grant of £3 000 was used to buy £25 vouchers which were distributed to families and individuals according to their circumstances. We are in the process of applying for a larger government grant through the Suffolk Community Foundation which will enable us to help families directly affected by Covid with food and fuel cost for up to £500 per family.

The Future

Sadly, even once Covid is under control, we expect community need for assistance to remain at similar levels. Our economy may be beginning to recover quickly but it will not return to pre 2020 levels for some time and many jobs and sources of income have now gone forever. Our guests were already vulnerable to the ups and downs of the economy before Covid and even if new work is available most of them do not have the skills or resources to retrain.

Under God's guidance, and with your support we hope to continue to see the work of the Pantry continue until it is no longer needed.

Thank you Di, Alison, Jo, Garath, Mark, Julia, James, Catherine, Jane, Kate, and all the others who make the Pantry a success and a place of succour. Our prayer is that we will soon join the ranks of the 'unemployed' as need decreases. Until then please continue to support our work by gifts in kind, in cash, and in prayer.

Pax et Bonum

Revd Canon Andrew Dotchin - Vicar

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Dotchin', with a date '18/1' written below it.

Bellringers' Report for APCM 2021

*Mrs J. Savage. Tower Captain, St John's, Felixstowe.
28 April 2021*

2020-21 has been a year wherein very little happened.

During Lockdown 1, there was no ringing at all, but the Summer easing of restrictions allowed a small group of ringers to ring for Sunday services - following strict guidelines. The Tiers and Lockdown 2 meant that we were grounded again, but we managed to ring 2 bells for Christmas. During this period, our long-serving and skilled Tower Captain, Brian Aldous, stood down. He left a big hole, which Lesley Barrell and I hope to fill together.

Meanwhile, the Suffolk Guild of Ringers set in motion the plan to install a simulator in the tower to enable practices for new ringers without disturbing the neighbours. This has, unfortunately, been delayed while we await permissions from above.

St John's, Felixstowe, is now an A.R.T. (Association of Ringing Teachers) accredited tower. I am happy to report that there has been a start to practices (a child and 2 adults, with the permission of Rev. Dotchin, Vicar of Felixstowe Town and Rural Dean of Colneis, and following the CCCBR guidelines), and we hope to start Sunday ringing on 1st May.

Our ringing band is very small at the moment, but we intend to recruit (together with Falkenham Church) after June 21st, when we will be allowed to teach again. This is the early stages of discussion at the moment, but we might have a "Have-A-Go" practice night or an "Open Towers Day" (split in two), possibly on Heritage Day in September.

Mr. Flatters and Mr. McArthur, SGR technical advisors, gave the bells their annual inspection yesterday. Here is their report:

St John the Baptist Felixstowe.

Following a request, Chris McArthur and I carried out an inspection of the bell installation on Tuesday 27th April. We are both members of the Suffolk Guild of Ringers and our advice and assistance is given freely and in good faith.

The installation dates from 2003 and is generally well protected from the elements by boarded louvres and a floor to the base of the spire.

The bellframe is of composite construction comprising cast iron H section frame sides for the seven bells in the lower tier and lowside frames for the upper tier, these are all painted in red gloss and are generally in good order except for some rust on the tops of the side frames and the arms of the H castings. You need to clean these and apply a spray coat of red primer paint. The H castings bolt to a base of galvanised rolled steel girders, the ends of which are further protected by bitumastic paint where they are set in the walls in concrete. The upper arms are tied by an angle iron structure with further steel beams carrying the fourth bell, some access decking and euro grid is built over this to give access to the upper level. All galvanised steel is in good condition.

The bolt fixings between the castings and steel gate end assemblies show some signs of rust. Spray paint these for protection.

The fifth bell was reported to be acting oddly, Chris positioned himself next to it and I rang it up slowly. We report that the bell handles well and sets properly and the pulleys rotate as the rope passes over them.

All clappers were checked for tightness through the heads of their respective bells and headstocks. The clapper bushes were checked for wear, these show some looseness appropriate to their age.

Some bellropes had been poorly tied off around the wheels, I retied those of the treble, 2nd, 5th and 6th and showed Jacky how to tie the 4th off. New ropes were fitted to the two tenor bells, set to normal height, then rung up and the tail lengths set and tied off. The bells were then rung down.

We hope this enables this superb light ring to be used once the current lockdown is rescinded.

Jed Flatters. 29/4/2021

THE PARISH CHURCH OF St. JOHN THE BAPTIST WITH St. EDMUND, FELIXSTOWE
Registered Charity no. 1135596

St John's Flower Team report for the year 2020

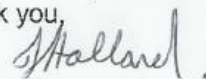
Despite the Covid-19 emergency, building lock-downs and "stay at home" advice, I have maintained the tradition of at least some flower arrangements in the church this year.

With no special displays possible for Easter, Remembrance Sunday or other major events, I have not needed to use the Flower fund account, nor has there been any contributions made into it.

Please contact me if you are interested in doing a window display or other arrangements in 2021, assuming that circumstances permit.

Flower room (North porch) May I remind everyone, that the north porch is a designated emergency exit and not to leave any old arrangements and other bits and pieces in there. Please take away any finished displays out of the building and wherever possible to recycle the materials used.

Thank you,



Jenny Holland
6th January 2021