



(Photo by kind permission of Michael Wright)

Incumbent: The Reverend Heather Leppard

Church Lane, Old Basing, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG24 7DJ

Large print copies available on request

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PCC, 2021

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. In 2010 this PCC became an independent charity number 1136606

Membership of the PCC during the 12 months January-December 2021 was

Incumbent The Rev Heather Leppard (Chair)

Churchwardens & Vice Chairs Mark Holley
Robert Jackson

*Representatives
on Deanery Synod* Joanna Jarrett-Kerr
Paul Skinner
Rebecca Aldridge

Elected members Jeanette Edwards
Debbie Filer (Secretary)
Katharine Harding
Mike Jackson
Janet Jackson *from 23 May 2021*
Alan Jones
Mike Leaming
Andree McLean
Sue Smith
David Stevens
Julia Wright (Treasurer)

*Environmental/ Ecological
Representative* Andy Molloy

Bank:

The National Westminster Bank plc, 3 London Street, Basingstoke, Hampshire

Independent Examiner:

Mr Colin Bezant
3 Up Fallow, Lychpit, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG24 8YW

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Governing Document

The Parochial Church Council is a charity established under the Parochial Church Powers Measure (1956) as amended and the Church Representation Rules. Its activities are to provide a ministry of presence and engagement with God through sacramental worship, mission and hospitality.

a) Methods Adopted for Recruitment and Appointment of New Members

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The new regulations now apply, as stated in the Annual Report 2012.

All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC.

b) Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of New Members

The Churchwardens, Treasurer, PCC Secretary and Parish Administrator are offered formal training through the Diocese. Courses in general church governance are also held that are recommended to all PCC members and other in-house steps are taken to ensure PCC members understand fully their role and responsibilities on the Council.

c) Organisational Structure

In 2021 the PCC met online via Zoom in February, March, May and July and in person in September and November. All approvals for online meetings were ratified by M29 Measure in line with the Church Representation Rules relating to Parish Governance.

d) Committees:

The following report to the PCC:

*di) During 2021 the **Standing and Finance Committee** met via Zoom in January, March, May and July and in person in September and November and comprised:*

Vicar - 'The Rev'd Heather Leppard, Churchwardens: Mark Holley, Robert Jackson, PCC Secretary: Debbie Filer, PCC Treasurer: Julia Wright, PCC elected member: Andree McLean.

*dii) The **Building Group** (Fabric Group)*

The Vicar, Mark Holley, Mike Jackson, Robert Jackson, Ian Kershaw, Mike Leaming and David Stevens (*co-opted*) comprise this group, which meets according to need to discuss matters concerning the Church Building and Fabric.

e) Risk Management

The major risks to which the Church is exposed relate to financial instability, fraud, failure to comply with legal obligations and commitments in relation to the church building.

The reserves in our General Fund are £58,331. This is an increase of over £8,000 from 2021. The PCC is very conscious that the expenditure of the church continues to be greater than our income, with expenditure exceeding income by £6,766 across all funds this year. We are fortunate to have additional reserves in designated funds that are available to help us in the short term. The objective of the PCC is still for all day to day expenses to be covered by the General Fund in the long term and the Generous July campaign in 2021 helped to increase our regular income. Income and expenditure is closely monitored and the use of the computerised accounting system assists in this.

The PCC ensures that any minor expenditure has to be approved by the Vicar and Churchwardens. Major expenditure has to be approved by the PCC. The Treasurer monitors payments requested and any cheques drawn require the approval of two signatories authorised by the PCC. All expenditure is assigned to a cost code and budgets are set and agreed for each of these. These budgets are regularly monitored. The PCC considers carefully its legal obligations and has policies in force to ensure they are met.

The Churchwardens and David Stevens, the PCC appointed Health and Safety Officer, monitor and manage fire and health and safety matters connected with the use of the church premises and report back to the PCC. A Health and Safety Policy, a Lone Workers' Policy, a Child Protection Policy and a Vulnerable Adult Policy are in place and updated annually.

The Parish is registered for the purposes of the Data Protection Act with the Administrator as the Data Controller. All information is held and used in a manner which complies with the General Data Protection Regulations. GDPR is a standing agenda item and PCC members, staff and volunteers are encouraged to complete and review training.

We are fortunate in having such a beautiful church building but this does impose considerable obligations. The condition of the building is monitored regularly by the Churchwardens and the PCC appointed architect. Reports of concerns are made to the PCC who determine what action should be taken and how any expenditure should be financed.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives

The chief role of the Parochial Church Council is, together with the Incumbent and clergy, to promote the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC represents parishioners and, on their behalf, considers and agrees appropriate action on matters relating to St Mary's Church, its fabric, finances, daily life and future direction. The Incumbent is the Chair of the PCC and Mark Holley and Robert Jackson (Churchwardens) are joint Vice Chairs. The business of the PCC is conducted through discussion, review and liaison with other interested groups and individuals, any of whom may, in this way, raise concerns or topics for consideration.

The members of the Parochial Church Council of Old Basing and Lychpit follow the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in "The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit" and have had regard to it in their work for and in the Parish. The Council Members believe that promoting the work of the Church of England in this Parish helps to promote the whole mission of the Church (pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical) more effectively in the Parish as a whole and so provides a benefit to the public by:

- providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for all who wish to benefit from what the Church offers;
- promoting Christian values, and by service by members of the Church in and to their communities and for the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

Church Attendance

In 2021 there were 6 weddings; 23 funerals (5 in the Church, 15 at the Crematorium and 3 at the Graveside); 14 baptisms; and 1 renewal of marriage vows.

There were 85 Christmas communicants.

ELECTORAL ROLL

On 31st December 2021 the Electoral Roll stood at 125 of whom 102 were resident in the Parish and 23 non-resident.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2021

Few of us imagined that 2021 would be a second year dominated by the impact of the pandemic. For some this year has been difficult and exhausting, for others it has given space to rest and relax; yet through it all we continue to give thanks for God's faithfulness and presence with us.

As I look back on this past year, there is much to be thankful for. Thank you to Mark and Robert for all their support as Church Wardens, to Debbie for all her support as administrator. Thank you everyone who serves on the PCC and to all who help day to day in the parish. As I begin to list you all in my head, I am struck by just how much time so many of you give to the church both visibly and behind the scenes. Your love and your commitment help make St Mary's the great community that it is today.

Our worship this year began once again online from the Vicarage, moving back into the Church building in Holy Week. We continue to offer a hybrid pattern of online worship and worship in the church building. It has been great to have Helen Holley and Colin Bezant share in preaching, as Helen begins training as a Licenced Lay Minister, and Colin embarks on the Bishop's Permission to Preach course. Alongside our Sunday Worship and Daily Prayer at the church, this year we also held a couple of opportunities for contemplative prayer. 'One Thing' was a time of corporate silent prayer that ran for five weeks in the summer, and we had a series of four Taize Prayer services in Advent. In the autumn, we began a new service for young families on a Friday Morning, Diddy Disciples, which will continue into 2022.

Our links with St Mary's Junior School remain strong, and throughout the year I have been leading Acts of Worship online, and in school when restrictions have been relaxed. We congratulate St Mary's Junior School on achieving an 'Outstanding' OFSTED inspection this year, and thank all who serve as Foundation Governors from the church community for their support. We once again welcomed Great Binfields Primary School to the Church for Harvest, and I have been to lead assemblies at Old Basing Infant School.

This year, our Treasurer Julia Wright, along with Mike Leaming (Stewardship Officer) and Gary Taylor supported me in running 'Generous July.' It was an opportunity for

us to reflect on the generosity of God together through a sermon series, and we invited each member of the church to review their giving. We had a positive response, and thank you all very much for your generosity. As you will see in this report we have recorded our smallest annual budget deficit for many years across all funds. The increase in regular giving gives us renewed hope as we head into 2022.

As you will see in the updates that follow, throughout 2021 different groups within the church community have adapted and found ways to thrive in sometimes difficult circumstances. Thank you to each of you for being part of the church community here at St Mary's and for your prayers, your commitment, and for the ways in which you serve and live out your faith.

Reverend Heather Leppard
February 2021

Safeguarding at St Mary's 2021

St Mary's PCC has adopted the Church of England's Safeguarding policy, Promoting a Safer Church. It is fully compliant with its duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding & Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). No Serious Incident occurred during the year that should have been reported to the Charity Commissioners.

The PCC has appointed Jeanette Edwards as the Safeguarding Officer with Safeguarding being a standing agenda item at each PCC meeting. Details of how to contact the Safeguarding Officer, and the Vicar, are on display in the church.

Risk Assessments have focussed on keeping people safe when visiting the church and the church buildings, and for the services we have been able to hold.

All staff and volunteers in roles are recruited according to the House of Bishops Safer Recruitment Practice Guidance and appropriate training completed following Church of England guidance. Basic and Foundation Training was up to date and is now being extended following the introduction of New Leadership Pathway in Q4 2021. Any outstanding Leadership training will be completed as courses are available following suspension during the lockdowns.

All Disclosure and Barring checks have been carried out online with those valid for 5 years now starting to be renewed after 3 years in line with latest requirements

2021 Festivals

During June the successful Summer Days are Here Again Festival and Concert by our Organist Paul Wright were held. Sponsored displays won by the Rainbows and Brownies surrounded St Mary's alongside a variety of stalls and Children's Activities. An interactive Nature Trail was created within the Conservation Area, Men's Breakfast provided a BBQ with refreshments and cream teas also available.

In December we held the 'Christmas Creatures' Tree Festival which following the lifting of restrictions could return to being held both inside and out. Over 20 trees lit up St Mary's with the Rainbows and Brownies plus The Dogs Trust being voted as favourites. There was an increase in people wanting to have stalls at the event, the Nature Trail that had proved so popular was recreated with new activities and Men's Breakfast supplied hot food which was warmly welcomed.

Besides raising over £4000 in funds these events were an opportunity for outreach and fellowship with the parish. The PCC is very grateful to parishioners for their support at both well attended events. It was lovely seeing the children and adults from the local community and beyond enjoying themselves in and around our church.

Preparations for The Flower Festival are already underway for June 25/26 with the annual Christmas Tree Festival in December.

Jeanette Edwards

Children & Youth

Children and families activities have been reduced during COVID restrictions. In order to ensure a continuity of care for these groups the use of Roots resources has allowed St Mary's to provide suggested worship and follow on activities for use through the week at home. Continuing on from 'take home' activity bags launched last year, during Lent families were invited to collect a selection of activities focusing on Lent themes and Holy Week activities.

Following the return to school at the beginning of the new academic year, as restrictions were reduced, both Messy Church and Junior Church activities were re-launched. Messy Church focussed on the story of the 10 lepers. Junior Church continues during the Sunday 9:30 Eucharist service although there has been some minor changes to the format to due to on going COVID advice.

In October, we launched a new service, Diddy Disciples, on a Friday morning for children aged 0-4 with their grown ups. We begin with the lighting of candles and singing of songs and celebrating Jesus' presence with us. We then hear a Bible Story, which is followed by craft, play and refreshments time. Afterwards we come back together for prayers and closing songs.

In December the Christingle service formed part of the Christmas Tree festival celebrations. This year instead of being presented with pre-made Christingle the congregation were invited to create their own from kits provided as the service progressed. All funds raised during the service supported the Children's Society.

Andree McLean and Reverend Heather Leppard

St. Mary's Choir

This year has been a minor miracle in that the Choir is still functioning even though practice has been severely affected. We managed two carols at the Carol service where the six regular members were joined by others unable to attend regularly.

I offer deeply felt thanks to Myrna Lewis who keeps the Choir and me in good order and to the irregular members who help whenever they can. Thank you to all.

Jo Jarrett-Kerr

Flower Arranging Team

On the Church Flower Arranging Team there are currently 16 Volunteers. Two members have left this year after many years of loyal service, and one new member was recruited. We are hoping to encourage a few more volunteers in 2022 as currently each volunteer does approximately eight arrangements per year. Volunteers need have no formal training in floristry.

In a 'normal' year there are usually 4 arrangements placed within the Church and these are changed fortnightly. At Christmas, Easter and Harvest Festival, this is increased to 8 arrangements.

However, this has been another Pandemic year, and so until February 2021 just one arrangement was placed in Church until Easter when the rota continued as usual. These were done by a smaller group of 8 of the volunteers at that time.

We are advised on dates for weddings and then ensure that only white or cream flowers are used in arrangements and this year added and removed flowers to the Advent foliage arrangements for a wedding on December 18th. Two Christmas trees are also decorated by the Flower Arrangers.

One volunteer did an arrangement for the St Mary's Summer Festival on June 26th 2021 and two Volunteers helped at the Christmas Tree Festival.

Two Duty Organisers oversee the care of the arrangements over approximately a 3 month period during which time an informal coffee morning is held. We held our AGM on November 4th in the Parish Rooms.

Lorna Guthrie

St Mary's House Groups

At present there is one active house group meeting regularly and that is the PILGRIM group. We take our name from the Church of England *Pilgrim Course for the Christian Journey* written by Stephen Cottrell et al. and run by Fr Alec a few years ago. Indeed this group arose from those attending this course.

We meet every Friday evening in the houses of our members, rotating around those able to host us. We gather at about 7.15 pm for coffee, tea, cake ! and chat and our meeting starts at 7.30 pm with prayer and ends with prayer around 9.00 pm.

We were not able to meet for much of the year because of Covid restrictions but we started again in September. We enjoy many lively discussions and I think we all feel we learn a lot from each other at our meetings.

This year we finished the Bible Study guide written by Tom Wright on the Gospel of Matthew. The book covered the whole of the Gospel in 25 weeks. Each week one member of the group reads the passage once, we pause for contemplation and then another group members reads the passage again. Each reader uses the translation of the Bible which he/she prefers, which can make interesting comparisons. Then we turn to the questions set on the passage by Tom Wright which can be challenging.

For example, after reading Matthew 13:54-14:12; "How does Jesus violate expectations in his home town?" and "what Herod-like characteristics might be lurking in your own life, even in a small way?" Some of the questions call for very personal answers, and we are bound to keep our discussions confidential.

Having finished the study guide for the Gospel of Matthew, we moved on to Tom Wright's Study guide to the Gospel of Luke.

We have been together as a group for some time now and are comfortable with being open with each other. However, we are happy to welcome new members. If the group were to grow too large for comfort in private houses we would split into two groups.

Penny Potter

Study Groups

The book group began the year meeting on Zoom, and in the autumn resumed meeting in a local pub. We have enjoyed reading and discussing a variety of books.

In the autumn a group took part in the Living in Love and Faith Course (LLF), which gives an opportunity to explore identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage. The materials encouraged us to engage with scripture and lived experience – through both the experiences of those present on the course and LLF video clips. It was good to have the space to discuss these topics.

Reverend Heather Leppard

Men's Breakfast Club

We, of The Men's Breakfast Club have been meeting now for twelve years or more. We call ourselves a club but there is no membership fee involved men and boys, come and go as and when they choose. We get together in the parish room on the first Saturday of each month, to share with one another a hearty breakfast cooked by ourselves in the parish room kitchen, and to generally talk about anything anyone wishes to raise.

Prior to the lockdown we had occasional guest speakers joining us for breakfast and then giving a talk on their chosen subject and we also arranged some trips out for the men. As a group of willing and able men we help out at the church fete (erecting marquees, and the BBQ) and the Christmas Fayre (BBQ in December that was a first!!! and serving Mulled wine/mince pies) and other sundry jobs.

The lockdown of course put a temporary end to our breakfast get togethers but ever resourceful, a group of the men set up a fortnightly "virtual" breakfast club via

“zoom” to talk and chat over tea/coffee and perhaps a home cooked breakfast. Fortunately in September we were able to re-open the parish room and commence face to face breakfast once again (taking into account covid rules in place at the time) and I’m pleased to say that numbers are again building up to pre covid levels.

So remember men, the first Saturday of the month is Men’s Breakfast Club @ 8.45am in the parish room, look forward to seeing you there, all the best,

Chris Beadle

Ploughman’s Lunch Club

As with many social gatherings the covid 19 pandemic stopped us meeting from the outset back in March 2020. The Ploughman’s team, a group of 8 mainly long standing volunteers, continued to keep a watchful eye on the situation and over the summer of 2021 we came together to come up with a workable, safe way to resume our lunch club.

Finally, in line with strict government and church guidelines, we were able to welcome back our ‘lunchers’ in September 2021. We now operate a waitressed table service for a pre booked limited number of lunchers, who book from the 1st monthly for that month’s lunch. All helpers are asked to take a lateral flow test on the morning of the lunch and masks are worn for the duration of the lunch. Designated tasks are undertaken by individuals to minimise any the spread of the virus. Pleasingly our reopening has been well received and we have had a full booking list each month to date. The new system appears to work very well for both helpers and lunchers, many of whom have commented favourably.

We continue to make a profit, which is ringed fenced in the church accounts, for the upkeep of the kitchen and parish room.

Denise Lane

The Village Cafe

The Village cafe reopened in September 2021 after forced closure due to lockdowns and covid. Since reopening, we have started a take away service, affectionately known as “cakeaway”, which enables our customers to pre order and pre pay for cakes to be collected. This has proved extremely popular and we will continue this.

We were unsure how popular the cafe would be after being closed for such a long period but I am happy to report that our community continue to support us so much so that we have been able to fund one AED to be installed in the church grounds and are well on our way to funding another device to be installed at the A30 end of the village.

A breakdown of our takings since reopening on 24th September -
Total takings between 24th September and 3rd December - £1512.36.

We also had donations from Alison's Wonderland, Flamingo and the local W.I of £122. This made our overall total £1634.36, of which 24.7% was paid in rent for the Parish room, a total of £395.00. This leaves a grand total of £1239.36.

We are struggling a little with volunteers to serve on Friday afternoons so are currently looking to add to our existing team. We have more than enough bakers but would like to add to the team that looks after our customers during opening hours.

Deb Thorne

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Independent Examiners Report to the PCC of St Mary's Parish Church, Old Basing & Lychpit

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2021 which are set out hereafter, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations and the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

Respective Responsibilities of Trustee and Examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirements of the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) do not apply.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. That examination includes a review of the accounting record kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those accounting records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts 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 I do not express an audit opinion of the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's statement

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

1. Which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - To prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records 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.



Mr Colin Bezant
February 2022

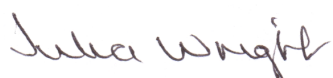
PCC HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2021

I think we were all hopeful that things would return to normal in 2021 following such a restrictive 2020, but it wasn't to be. However, financially 2021 has been a much better year for the church. Reverend Heather did marry people, our parish room was used more and we had our fund raising summer fete, Christmas Tree festival and Phoenix Choir evening.

I was delighted with the response to Generous July (when we asked you to consider why you donated to St Mary's and to review your donations). My family found many roads new to us around Lychpit and Old Basing as we cycled to deliver the envelopes and we got over half of the pledges back. Following this, people have either maintained their regular giving or increased it through the parish giving scheme, standing orders, cash, cheques or regular use of the Goodbox. Thank you all so much. This impacts our income not just for 2021 but also for future years to come. And many of these are also gift aided which increases our income further. Remember, if you haven't reviewed your giving recently, then please do so. You don't have to wait for our next campaign. Just ask Debbie Filer or me for more details.

Looking just at the General Fund (the one that is used for all day to day expenses except for the administrator's salary) this grew by £8,143 in 2021 compared to making a loss of over £8,000 in 2020. This is wonderful news and although it still won't support the Administrator salary things are certainly moving in the correct direction. Over all funds, in 2020 expenses exceeded income by £69,876 of which £45,636 was due to the cost of building repair works. In 2021, the expenses exceeded income by £6,766. Thankfully there was no further building works and the repair to the East Window is being met by insurance and the Friends of St Mary's Church.

Last year I stressed the importance of the church being able to meet its day to day expenses, otherwise the funds will diminish, as has been happening these last few years. 2022 is looking more encouraging and with the flower festival this year and other fund raising, I hope it's the start of an upward trend.



Julia Wright
February 2022

PCC of St Mary's Old Basing & Lychpit

**Statement of Financial Activities
For the period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021**

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Incoming resources						
Incoming resources from generated funds						
Voluntary income	84,388	—	—	84,388	75,095	
Activities for generating funds	7,651	—	—	7,651	1,835	
Investment income	101	66	—	167	659	
Incoming resources from charitable activities	11,159	—	—	11,159	8,866	
Other incoming resources	—	1,804	—	1,804	—	
Total incoming resources	103,300	1,870	—	105,170	86,458	
Resources used						
Cost of generating funds						
Fundraising trading cost of goods sold and other	1,431	—	—	1,431	544	
Charitable activities	89,735	17,486	—	107,221	152,474	
Other resources used	3,283	—	—	3,283	3,283	
Total resources used	94,450	17,486	—	111,936	156,303	
Net income / (expenditure)	8,849	(15,615)	—	(6,766)	(69,845)	
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in	2,000	—	—	2,000	466	
Gross transfers between funds - out	(2,000)	—	—	(2,000)	(466)	
Net income / (expenditure)	8,849	(15,615)	—	(6,766)	(69,845)	
Other recognised gains / losses						
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	543	—	543	1,010	
Net movement in funds	8,849	(15,072)	—	(6,222)	(68,834)	
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward	58,023	167,826	—	225,849	294,684	
Total funds carried forward	66,873	152,753	—	219,627	225,849	

PCC of St Mary's Old Basing & Lychpit

Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2021

	As at 31/12/2021 £	As at 31/12/2020 £
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	6,567	9,851
Investments	1,475	61,907
	<u>8,043</u>	<u>71,759</u>
Current assets		
Debtors	1,920	2,600
Cash at bank and in hand	222,246	158,786
	<u>224,166</u>	<u>161,387</u>
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	12,282	6,596
Provisions for liabilities and charges due within one year	300	700
Net current assets less current liabilities	211,584	154,090
Total assets less current liabilities	219,627	225,849
Liabilities		
Total net assets less liabilities	219,627	225,849
Represented by		
Unrestricted		
Unrestricted - General fund	58,331	50,188
Designated		
Designated – Children's Corner	58	58
Designated – Friends of St Mary's Building Donation	---	--
Designated – Ploughman's Lunch	7,942	7,508
Designated – Surplices for Choir	267	267
Designated – Tesco Technology	272	--
Restricted		
Restricted - Dorothy Iris Silver	65,281	80,925
Restricted - Kemp Legacy Fund	1,475	1,290
Restricted - Investment Bond - Warden and Vicar Discretion	60,988	60,617
Restricted - Dunbar Fund for Restoration & Preservation	23,495	23,481
Restricted - Agency Collection	482	482
Restricted - Hoare Gift Account	1,030	1,029
Funds of the church	219,627	225,849

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

The accounts are a summary of the Financial Statements which have been reviewed by the Independent Examiner. A copy of the full financial statements, including relevant notes to the accounts, is available from the Administrator, Debbie Filer.

Churchwardens' Report on The Fabric of St. Mary's Church 2021

During the year the only works done to the fabric of the building were the 'snagging' repairs for the works done during the winter of 2019/20. They have been agreed by the church's appointed architect, but have not yet been signed off as the lightening conductor needs to be tested.

A Faculty has been granted by the Chancellor of the Diocese for repairs to the East Window following impact damage. The works have been delayed due to previous commitments for the specialist contractor, but should be completed early in 2022. The majority of the cost has been paid by the Church's insurers, but we are very thankful to the Friends of St Mary's who have paid the excess on this.

We have also received at the end of December List B authorisation for an Automatic External Defibrillator (generally known as an AED). This will be placed on the external north wall of the Parish Room and is being paid for by funds raised by the Village Cafe. We thank everyone who has raised funds for this.

Externally, we have reinvigorated the team that looks after the flower and shrub beds around the church building. In September we saw a busy morning when people started work on them, and the results are already impressive and we look forward to a colourful display.

Mark Holley & Robert Jackson
February 2022

Terrier & Inventory Report

There have been no significant removals over the past year.

We have received the following additions:

A memorial bench has been placed in the East side of the churchyard. It is of a Larbreck design and is in memory of Cyril James Knight. The inscription reads "Cyril James Knight, a gentle man".

An iPad Air, model number MD789B/A, serial number DMPMQFF1FK15 generously donated by Andree McLean.

An iPad (8th generation) model number MYLA2B/A, serial number F9FG09QQ1GD and a Mevo start streaming camera model number 23T94 kindly donated by Tesco Community Grant to enable us to live stream funerals.

A contactless Charity donation box has been purchased to facilitate giving by bank card- Good box- GB-CCBM-V03-WW-B05-41

Mark Holley- Churchwarden
February 2022

Report on the Churchyard

Following damage sustained by wind in December 2020, a Yew tree in the north east corner (near the bins) was felled following the necessary applications having been made.

Robert Jackson - Churchwarden
February 2022

REPORT FROM THE BASINGTOKE DEANERY SYNOD, 2021

Due to the continued disruption caused by the Covid pandemic, only two meetings of Deanery Synod were held in 2021. These took place on 13th July at St. Paul's Church, Tadley and on 5th October at St. Mary's Church, Eastrop.

At the July meeting, there was some necessary business to approve revised financial arrangements for the Deanery Synod's own funds (a small balance that is separate from the Common Mission Fund). Paul Carson, of Winklebury and Worting Parish, had agreed to take on the role of Deanery Treasurer to manage these accounts, in addition to being Finance Chair of the Deanery Synod.

The meeting received a presentation from Chris Hill, who had recently taken on the role of Diocesan Mission Trainer, on the Bishop's Commission for Mission (BCM) courses. Those available for the Autumn Term would be: Worship; Working with Children, Youth and Families; Prayer Champions; Creation Care.

Richard Harlow, Area Dean, outlined plans for the Living in Love and Faith (LLF) initiative. There were expected to be courses running in many parishes and he would lead a course for any in parishes in interregnum. As the numbers were low enough, the meeting was able to continue outside with Synod members socialising.

At the October meeting the focus was on recovery from the pandemic and other support for our communities. Jonathan Clark and Peter Hay spoke about the Basingstoke Movement for Recovery (BM4R), which is part of a nationwide initiative which aims to encourage churches to work together to support people across the areas of food, housing, unemployment, and health. They shared a 'Vision Support Structure' which envisages how a network of churches can support the council in areas such as housing, business, police, health and social care, voluntary sector, and faith. We can do this by sharing best practice; building relationships; praying for each other; eliminating duplication; identifying gaps. BM4R carried out an audit of 55 churches and charities and had had initial responses from 12 churches, including St Mary's Old Basing & Lychpit, and 10 charities. 596 volunteers had been involved in helping 11,507 people.

Penny Dillely talked about the 'Community Food Link' in Basingstoke. This is a new initiative that has been developed in the last 18 months, after many years of prayer. Different groups of volunteers collect food from Tesco, M & S and Lidl stores across the town that would otherwise be thrown away. This is then sorted and delivered to various hubs at churches across Basingstoke for distribution. This also provides an opportunity to support individuals informally through listening and sharing advice, including in areas such as job application.

Please speak to any of three lay representatives on the Deanery Synod or Revd. Heather if you wish to know more about any of these matters.

Rebecca Aldridge, Jo Jarrett-Kerr, Paul Skinner

February 2022

ANNUAL REPORT

Approved by the PCC on 20th February 2022

Signed by the Chair, The Reverend Heather Leppard

Reverend Heather

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