

Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul Uppingham
Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Annual reports for the year ending 31st December 2020



Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul, Uppingham, Rutland

Annual report of the Parochial Church Council

Year ended 31st December 2020

Introduction

The reports below are submitted for approval and information at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting to be held in the Church on the evening of Wednesday 26 May 2021.Σ

So that all members of our Church are able to share in our vision for the growth of the Church within the community, our Mission Action Plan (MAP) and Inventory are available from the Rector.

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Administrative Information

The Church of St Peter & St Paul, Uppingham, is located in the Market Place LE15 9TJ. It is part of the Diocese of Peterborough within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is: The Rectory, 43 Lime Tree Avenue, Uppingham LE15 9SS.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity currently registered with the Charities Commission.

Parochial Church Council

Members of the PCC who served from 1st January 2017 until the date of the approval of this report are shown at Appendix 1 (page 11).

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.

Objectives

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent Revd Canon Rachel Watts in promoting the mission statement of the Church and conducting the business of the Church relating to financial affairs and the maintenance of the Church buildings and possessions.

Vision statement

Serving God through love in action in Uppingham.

March 2020 - May 2021

From March 2020 our activities had to cease or move online, due to the pandemic.

Lunch Club, Coffee after Church and Social activities all had to stop.

We were so fortunate to be able to have excellent online services due to Nick's superb talent, time and effort in making the videos.

This allowed the Choir to record either at home, or when possible in the nave of the Church in order to provide music for the online services, including some splendid Evensong music.

Our Mothers' Union was also able to record some special online services.

We look forward to the time when we can start meeting again with some form of normality but are thankful for all that we have been able to achieve during lockdown.

Safeguarding

As a church we are seeking to promote a safe culture with the aims of preventing abuse from occurring, protecting those at risk of being abused and responding well to those that have been abused. It is at the heart of Christian faith and everyone's responsibility. In this last year, the Church of England's past failure to take child sexual abuse seriously was highlighted by the recent reports from the Independent Enquiry into Child Sexual Abuse. The church of England has taken on board the recommendations from this enquiry and made significant changes to its practices. For further information, I would strongly recommend you read the report for yourself which can be found via the following link:

<https://www.iicsa.org.uk/news/inquirys-anglican-church-investigation-leads-church-reform-and-new-law>

It is for this reason that training and DBS checks have become necessary for those in positions of authority or working with children and/or vulnerable adults. Over the last year the training has had to be online but I am pleased to report that most people have now completed the basic awareness course.

There have been no recorded safeguarding incidents over the last year. Please stay vigilant and remember if you do need to report a safeguarding concern, there is clear guidance on how to do this at the back

of church. You can also contact me on the following email address: saunderssue13@gmail.com

Sue Saunders

Benefice Safeguarding Advisor

Stewardship & Giving schemes

The various methods of parishioners and visitors giving to our church, coupled with gift-aid tax refunds resulted in around £74,415 being received in 2020, compared with £76,535 in 2019, a drop of 3%. The largest cause of the drop, not surprisingly, being the need to close the church due to the impact of coronavirus. Our parishioners gave generously through 2020 and since the end of the year there have been a number of generous one-off donations that will appear in next year's figures.

We are very grateful to everyone who gives to support their church. There are four different ways in which we can give:

PETERBOROUGH SCHEME / PARISH GIVING SCHEME
£43,835 in 2019 risen to £48,450 in 2020)

We are nearly complete in transferring everyone from the old standing order "Peterborough Scheme" to the new Direct Debit "Parish Giving Scheme". Only 9 donors remain on the old scheme, most of these being parishioners with whom we have lost contact. The diocese delayed closing the scheme due to coronavirus and so we have continued to receive this income this year.

At the beginning of 2019 we had 58 donors and because some of these represent couples or households this related to about 70 parishioners. Now, two years later, we have 55 donors representing around 67 parishioners. This continues to be a really healthy position and donations increased by almost 12% between 2019 and 2020.

Exactly half of donors on the new Parish Giving System (23 of 46) have agreed to index-linking. This helps us keep income matching the inevitable increases in costs.

WHITE ENVELOPE SCHEME (£2060 in 2019 fell to just £870 in 2020)

This has been declining steadily over the last few years. Almost all regular donors have moved onto the Parish Giving Scheme. Most envelopes are from occasional visitors but the dramatic fall is mainly due to closure of the church.

LARGE AND ONE-OFF DONATIONS (£21,675 in 2019 to £21,690 in 2020)

Our parishioners continue to be very generous and give occasional or sometimes annual one-off donations. There are also a good number of one-off donations received in early 2021 which are not in these figures.

CASH-COLLECTIONS (£8960 in 2019, fell to £3410 in 2020)

This is money received from collections in services and donations given in the boxes at the back of church. This is the largest negative impact and is directly attributable to the closure of the building.

So, overall our donations have been impacted significantly by coronavirus but thanks to the generosity of our regular givers, the impact has been much less severe than would otherwise have been the case. If this level of giving is maintained it should help us restore our finances now that church is again open. We remain very dependent on the large and one-off donations and should those cease we would have a bigger problem, so we should continue to encourage regular giving and legacies in wills to help us maintain a healthy church in the longer term.

Geoff Thompson
Stewardship Secretary

NOTE THAT ALL AMOUNTS HAVE BEEN ROUNDED, ARE APPROXIMATE, AND INCLUDE GIFT-AID TAX RELIEF CLAIMED FROM HMRC

Most giving is for the General Fund which helps the church allocate funds to the greatest need, but some donors allocate their money to specific funds such as Fabric or Organ Fund.

Church Hall

During the first lockdown of 2020 the church hall carpet was cleaned. The curtains were cleaned and had fire proofing applied to them. Paper towel holders and paper towels have also been introduced into the cloakrooms, together with hygiene notices. An automatic hand sanitiser has been placed in the entrance hall. Thanks must go to Ian and Sue Cripps for making the ledge in the entrance hall on which to place the hand sanitiser. It is greatly appreciated. The heating system and hot water boiler have also been serviced by Robert Cliff Limited in January 2021.

Hilary Dawe
Church Hall Bookings

Children, family & youth work

Unfortunately, due to Covid we haven't been able to go into schools to deliver collective worship and other support. But we have stayed in close contact with school and have been recording weekly collective worships, that have then been shown in school. It was also a great way to reach out to families in their homes, during the periods of lockdown. We are really excited to be able to go back into school in June to deliver a programme with the children. We are waiting to hear back which classes we will be working with.

Rooted has continued to meet either on zoom, or in person when we have been allowed. We have been following an Alpha course together, along with other resources. We are very excited to be doing a sponsored bike ride in May to raise funds for Christian Aid and Rooted. We have also had a new young person join us this year. For some sessions we invite younger siblings to join us and are thinking about starting a group for the younger ones.

I continue to go out with the Rutland Council youth workers. We are in Uppingham on a Thursday afternoon. This has been a great way for me to not only learn from the Council youth workers but to build links and also meet young people in Uppingham.

I have been keeping in touch with families I had made contact before Covid, via a fortnightly newsletter. Hopefully it won't be long now before we are able to get back into schools on a more regular basis.

Nat Stiles
Children & Youth worker

Bell Ringing

The year 2020 was difficult for everyone nationwide, with coronavirus pandemic regulations in place. For most of the year no ringing was possible. The restrictions were relaxed during the summer months, but bell ringing was still only permitted for Sunday services only, if ringers could maintain a 2 metre distance, plus there being adequate ventilation in the ringing room. So, the distance between the ropes was measured and we concluded that, in Uppingham, we could only ring on four alternate bells.

We achieved ringing for Sunday services on just thirteen occasions. We also rang on the four alternate bells in commemoration of VJ Day on 15th August and for one wedding and one funeral in the same month.

When pandemic restrictions were re-imposed the only ringing permitted was tolling on one single bell for special reasons. We did this on Remembrance Sunday in November and for one funeral in December.

With the death of HRH Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh, we tolled again. On Friday 9th April on the announcement of the event, and at midday on Saturday 10th in accordance with a period of national mourning. The tenor bell was tolled again for thirty minutes prior to funeral on April 17th.

When it is possible to return to ringing again on a more normal basis we hope to hold events to promote bell ringing and hopefully recruit.

Sue Webster
Tower Captain

Churches Together

We have enjoyed great fellowship and inspiring times together over the last year. The work of the CTU has proved to be significant in our community outreach programs and has gone some way in our understanding of each other's worship experiences, and individual traditions. This can only be good for all our churches. It is our prayer and hope that we together can make a real difference in the life of Uppingham and Belton.

We have shared much in the last year, from joint worship during the week of Prayer for Christian Unity in January 2019 to singing our Christmas Carols in December, Lent discussion groups, a garden party at the Vicarage, a pilgrimage to Launde Abbey, a stall at the Flower and Produce Show, a Holiday and Craft Club for youngsters and the valuable work done through Café Church – so much was accomplished during 2019 and, along with our 'triumphs' we also recognize we can do more for together.

It would be right to express our sincere gratitude to the members of the CTU and Belton Forum. We meet regularly, every other month, to pray, discuss and plan our work in the community. We believe it to be a worthwhile effort and are privileged to serve all our churches and our communities in the best ways we can. 2020 promises to be an exciting time of new adventures in the faith.

Sadly, of course, 2020 practically disappeared from our calendars. Due to the restrictions in place to cope with the coronavirus pandemic, so much of what we planned had to be cancelled. But it was encouraging to hear of online/zoom/email/Church at home worship. I know that we regularly prayed for each other, and remembered each other in Christian love and grace. 2021 holds a promise that we can worship together later in the year. Perhaps we can arrange a united service of thanksgiving. We met on the zoom platform on March 18th and plan a further meeting on May 6th also on zoom.

We would ask for your prayers as we 'seek and serve' among you. Nothing will be truly done without them in our mission to Uppingham, Belton and beyond.

Prayers and blessings to you.

Pastor Trevor Wilson
Secretary CTU and Belton

Uppingham CofE Primary School

Two years of school life condensed into a paragraph is a challenge, particularly given the year we have had. This time last year I wrote "Our school is trying to work out how to re-open safely after a long period on lockdown. I was in school the day it closed. Everyone was anxious but the Head, Julia Exton, led an assembly all about being FANTASTIC. Since then many teachers and assistants have been just that, in school every day working with children who cannot be kept at home, providing packed lunches for children who are at home and extra food for families who are struggling with loss of income. This is what makes me very proud of our school. It's not just about education results but about pastoral care."

Little did we know that time and again the school had to close for the majority of children, while those of key workers stayed in small 'bubbles' in school.

The challenge for the staff was immense, trying to teach in a very different way from that to which they were most familiar. We are part of Rutland Learning Trust, a supportive and encouraging body of schools which work together to share skills and experience, provide IT support and ensure Heads never feel isolated or alone. The Trust ensured that while schools did choose different ways to approach the Covid Year, everyone had support. We are now back in school, working with de-socialised children and a huge range of educational experience from home schooling.

We have had the challenge of lower pupil numbers this year, reducing income significantly, while costs remain largely static, and we are not alone since many schools in Rutland are well under capacity. Classes had to be restructured but we can turn this into a strength and use it to develop the curriculum in different ways. This will continue into next year with a different structure.

Canon Rachel, with Revd Debbie, our Curate, run collective worship regularly helped by Youth Worker Nat Stiles.

Liz Clarke
Chair of Governors

Electoral Roll

Currently there are 65 members. The roll changes throughout the year as new members join the congregation, residents relocate and members are no longer able to attend due to infirmity. We also lose members who have gone before us to be with our risen Lord.

Jenny Harris
Parish Administrator

Server's Report

Due to Covid we have had limited time to serve at the High Altar.

I would like to thank Harry for his continuing dedication to working beside me on the Sundays we have been able to hold services in Church. I look forward to retraining the serving team once we come fully out of lockdown and can increase our team again.

Nicky Jervis
Lead Server

Appendix 1

PCC Members 2019-20

Clergy			
Canon Rachel Watts	01572 829956	rectorofuppingham@gmail.com	45 Lime Tree Ave Uppingham LE15 9SS
The Revd Debbie Smith-Wilds	01572 822906	curateofuppingham@gmail.com	18 Siskin Road, Uppingham, Rutland, LE15 9UL
Ex Officio			
Rev Dr Roy Seden	01572 822244	rseden@gmail.com	60 Leicester Road, Uppingham, LE15 9SD
Jill Cannings	01572 821870	jillcannings2@gmail.com	1 Ayston Road, Uppingham LE15 9RL
Deanery Synod			
Shirley Harris	01572 822428	potatoes.unlimited@btinternet.com	49 Stockerston Crescent Uppingham LE15 9UA
Margaret Jennings	01572 823509 (XD)		35 Stockerston Crescent Uppingham LE15 9UA
Diocesan Synod			
Vacant			
Musical Director			
John Wardle	01572 829923	johnwardle@btinternet.com	5 Elizabeth Way Uppingham LE15 9PQ
Churchwardens			
Nick Clarke	01572 829885	bevingdon@gmail.com	1H Spring Back Way, Uppingham LE15 9TT
Deputy Churchwardens			
Richard Cole	01572 821190	r.cole583@btinternet.com	26 Stockerston Crescent Uppingham LE15 9UB
Jeffrey Whelband	07753 422816	jeffrey.whelband@gmail.com	Sutton Lodge Farm, Dingley Lane, Sutton Bassett LE16 8 HL
Elected Lay Representatives			
Janet Wardle	01572 829923	janetwardle97@gmail.com	5 Elizabeth Way Uppingham LE15 9PQ
Pat Cole	01572 821190	p.cole155@btinternet.com	26 Stockerston Crescent Uppingham LE15 9UB
Bobby Chamberlain	01572 821885	bobbychamberlain12@gmail.com	12 The Beeches Uppingham LE15 9PG
Ian Cripps	01572 850800	iandcripps@gmail.com	4 Elizabeth Way Uppingham LE15 9PQ
Geoff Thompson	01572 821560	geoff169@gmail.com	48 Leicester Road, Uppingham LE15 9SD
Roy Farmer	01572 869573	roy.farmer@virgin.net	7 Elizabeth Way, Uppingham, LE15 9PQ
Co-opted			
Russ Garley	01572 869164	russgarley@aol.com	44 Firs Ave, Uppingham LE15 9RE
Nat Stiles	07740 486982		40 Green Lane, Ashley, Near Market Harborough, Leicestershire, LE16 8HD
Secretary			
Jenny Harris	01572 822223	uppinghamchurchoffice@gmail.com	14 Chestnut Close Uppingham LE15 9TQ
Number of Members 19 (incl clergy), 11 elected members (incl wardens)			

**St. Peter & St. Paul Uppingham
The Parish of Uppingham-with-Ayston**

Accounts for Year End 31 December 2020

Incumbent:

Reverend Canon Rachel Watts
The New Rectory
45 Lime Tree Avenue
Uppingham

Churchwardens:

Nick Clarke
1H Springback Way
Uppingham

Vacant

Treasurer:

Mr Russ Garley
44 Firs Avenue
Uppingham

Bank:

HSBC
Oakham

Independent Examiner:

Chris Sworn
5 Main Street
Preston

St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report

The report on the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 which are set out on pages 2 to 5, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ('The Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and examiner

The church's trustees, the PCC, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC considers that an audit is not required and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of an independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as the church's trustees concerning any 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 on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date: 5 May 2021

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

Receipts and Payments Account

		Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	Total 2020 (£)	Total 2019 (£)
Receipts							
Voluntary Receipts							
Planned Giving		54,474	0	0	0	54,474	52,844
Collections at Services		2,025	0	0	0	2,025	5,300
Other Voluntary Income	5c	1,717	236	179	0	2,131	4,188
Gift Aid Recovered		14,859	0	0	0	14,859	14,838
		73,075	236	179	0	73,489	77,171
Activities for Generating Funds	5d	1,438	0	0	0	1,438	8,861
Income from Investments	5e	79	5,469	3	113	5,663	7,522
Church Activities	5f	3,757	5,639	40	0	9,435	14,100
Total Receipts		78,349	11,343	222	113	90,026	107,653
Payments							
Parish Share and Clergy Expenses		70,177	0	0	0	70,177	68,959
Worship		4,374	0	0	0	4,374	8,940
Faith Development & Outreach	5g	5,350	158	0	0	5,508	4,194
Church Running Costs & Maintenance	5h	11,236	4,217	81	0	15,534	20,472
Administration		13,592	80	0	0	13,671	13,134
Governance and Stewardship		0	0	0	0	0	0
Fundraising		20	0	0	0	20	186
Total Payments		104,748	4,454	81	0	109,284	115,885
Excess of receipts over payments		(26,399)	6,889	141	113	(19,257)	(8,232)
Transfers between funds		2,750	(2,750)	0	0	0	0
		(23,649)	4,139	141	113	(19,257)	(8,232)
Cash at bank a 1st January		42,757	119,902	4,424	26,505	193,588	201,820
Cash at bank a 31st December		19,108	124,041	4,565	26,618	174,331	193,588

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

		Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	Total 2020 (£)	Total 2019 (£)
Cash Funds							
Bank Current Account		9,863	28,245	2,692	0	40,800	37,305
Deposit Fund		9,244	95,795	1,873	26,618	133,530	156,283
		19,108	124,041	4,565	26,618	174,331	193,588
Other Monetary Assets							
Income Tax Recoverable		545	0	0	0	545	1,520
Land rental		0	270	0	0	270	0
		545	270	0	0	815	1,520
Investment Assets							
Investment Fund Shares at Market Value	5a	0	0	0	123,579	123,579	115,779
Land Holdings	5b	0	0	0	204,000	204,000	204,000
		0	0	0	327,579	327,579	319,779
Liabilities							
Utility Bills		483	0	0	0	483	992
Other		0	0	0	0	0	0
		483	0	0	0	483	992

Notes

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Charities Act 2011, using the Receipts and Payments basis.
2. **Unrestricted funds** are general funds available for the general objectives of the church (**General Fund**). **Designated funds** are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes (**Bell Fund**). **Restricted funds** can only be used for the purposes for which they have been given, within the objectives of the church. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against those specific funds (**Fabric, Church Hall, St Thomas' Charity and Mission legacy**).
3. Endowment funds are given to the Church with the specific instruction that only the income gained from investing the money can be spent (**Clifford Pugh** deposit account and also see note 5a).
4. The movements in designated and restricted funds during the year were:

	Balance B/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfer	Balance C/fwd
Restricted					
Church Hall	19,218	3,039	2,968	0	19,289
Church Fabric	34,348	7,090	1,329	0	40,110
St Thomas Charity	2,711	945	158	0	3,498
Mission & Ministry Legacy	63,625	269	0	(2,750)	61,144
	119,902	11,343	4,454	(2,750)	124,041
Designated					
Bell Fund	4,424	222	81	0	4,565
	4,424	222	81	0	4,565

5. Further analysis of Financial Statements

	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	Total 2020 (£)	Total 2019 (£)
a) Investment Funds						
Uppingham Church Lands [Charity of Richard Pateman]	0	0	0	13,045	13,045	12,260
Uppingham Parish Lands and Stock Charity	0	0	0	507	507	477
J Pretty Charity	0	0	0	1,349	1,349	1,268
C E Thorpe Charity	0	0	0	18,768	18,768	17,640
Mrs M B Fowler for a Poor Woman	0	0	0	1,999	1,999	1,879
Uppingham St Peter and St Paul PCC [Charity of Richard Pateman]	0	0	0	44,539	44,539	41,674
Uppingham Church Rooms	0	0	0	43,372	43,372	40,581
	0	0	0	123,579	123,579	115,779
b) Land Holdings						
16 Acres at Hallaton	0	0	0	64,000	64,000	64,000
15.196 Acres	0	0	0	60,000	60,000	60,000
Landfill Site	0	0	0	80,000	80,000	80,000
	0	0	0	204,000	204,000	204,000
c) All other giving / voluntary receipts						
Donations	375	236	179	0	790	2,321
Wall Safe	1,342	0	0	0	1,342	1,867
Screen & Projector	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1,717	236	179	0	2,131	4,188
d) Activities for Generating Funds						
Church Fund Raising Events	595	0	0	0	595	6,431
Concerts	348	0	0	0	348	1,039
Magazine	495	0	0	0	495	1,390
	1,438	0	0	0	1,438	8,861
e) Investment Income						
Dividends on Investment Funds	0	3,489	0	0	3,489	3,397
Deposit Account Interest	79	409	3	113	604	1,141
Land Rental	0	1,570	0	0	1,570	2,983
	79	5,469	3	113	5,663	7,522
f) Income from Church Activities						
Fees (includes organ, choir)	3,507	3,850	40	0	7,397	8,797
Charity Fund Raising Events	250	0	0	0	250	1,348
Trading	0	0	0	0	0	0
Church Hall Lettings	0	1,789	0	0	1,789	3,955
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3,757	5,639	40	0	9,435	14,100
g) Donations Made (included within Faith Development and Outreach)						
Children's Society	0	0	0	0	0	634
Poppy Appeal / British Legion	0	0	0	0	0	437
St Luke's Hospital	20	0	0	0	20	20
Cottesmore Military Wives	0	0	0	0	0	250
Local Charities and Causes	0	158	0	0	158	3,000
	20	158	0	0	178	4,341
h) Church Running Expenses						
Utilities	6,021	58	0	0	6,080	5,980
Insurance	3,641	553	0	0	4,194	4,105
Maintenance	33	1,716	81	0	1,830	6,773
Organ repairs	0	480	0	0	480	480
Cleaning	1,540	1,410	0	0	2,950	3,134
	11,236	4,217	81	0	15,534	20,472

St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report

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- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of an independent examiner's report

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Independent examiner's statement

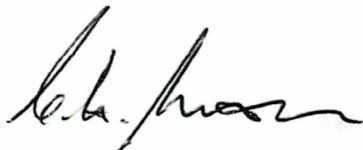
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Signed:



Date: 5 May 2021