

Parish of the Ascension Hanger Hill with West Twyford St Mary

Annual report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2020

1 Reference and Administrative Information

The Parish of the Ascension Hanger Hill with West Twyford St Mary is situated in the northern part of the London Borough of Ealing and is part of the Willesden Area of the Diocese of London within the Church of England.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) was registered with the Charity Commission on 5th October 2010. The Charity name is The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of the Ascension, Hanger Hill with West Twyford, St Mary. The Charity number is 1138274.

The PCC's correspondence address is:
The Ascension Vicarage, Beaufort Road, London, W5 3EB

The PCC's bankers are:
HSBC Bank plc, 31 Holborn, London EC1N 2HR

The PCC's solicitors are:
Winckworth Sherwood, Minerva House, 5 Montague Close, London, SE1 9BB

The PCC's independent examiner is:
Data Developments
Creative Industries Centre
Wolverhampton Science Park
Glaisher Drive
Wolverhampton
WV10 9TG

The PCC members who served during the period covered by this report are:

Vicar:	The Revd Simon Reed (PCC Chair)
Minister at St Mary's:	The Revd Pete Harris (PCC Vice Chair)
Pastoral Assistant:	Mrs Elizabeth (Liz) Williams (PCC Secretary)
Parish Assistants:	Ms Rachel White
Churchwardens:	Mr Colin McKenzie, Mr Justin Carter (to 8 th June 2020)
Deputy wardens:	Mrs Rosy Sookias (A) Mr Arby Ghazarian (M)
Deanery Synod Representatives:	Mrs Elizabeth (Liz) Williams (to 25 th October 2020), Mr Kester Worme
Elected members:	Mr Ben Atuobi, Mrs Denise Avanesian, Ms Annlinda Buckingham, Mrs Lindsey Anne Carter (PCC Treasurer)(to 25 th October 2020), Mr Amir Zarifnia

2 Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956. The method of appointing PCC members is as set out in the Church Representation Rules and in the Parish Scheme as approved by the Bishop's Council on 29th October 2002 and subsequently amended on 2nd October 2006. All members of the congregation are encouraged to apply for membership of the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

In addition to ad hoc working parties, there are three subordinate bodies which report to the PCC, namely:

1) the Standing Committee which is empowered by the PCC to transact business between Council meetings and which, for the period covered by this report, comprised the Vicar, Minister at St Mary's, Church Wardens, Deputy Church Wardens, PCC secretary and the Parish Treasurer.

2) the Church of the Ascension District Church Council to which the PCC delegates the day to day management of the Church of the Ascension part of the parish and which comprises some PCC members and some directly elected members according to the requirements of the Parish Scheme. For the period of this report this comprised the Vicar, the Minister at St Mary's, the Pastoral Assistant, the Parish Assistant, the Church Wardens, the Ascension Deputy Church Warden, the Parish Treasurer, Ascension elected PCC members and the following elected members: Mrs Iyabo Adeola, Mrs Susan Lawes, Dr Lucy Pavesi.

3) the St Mary's District Church Council to which the PCC delegates the day to day management of the St Mary's part of the parish and which comprises some PCC members and some directly elected members according to the requirements of the Parish Scheme. For the period of this report this comprised the Vicar, the Minister at St Mary's, the Pastoral Assistant, the Parish Assistant, the Church Wardens, St Mary's Deputy Church Warden, the Parish Treasurer, St Mary's elected PCC members and the following elected members: Ms Judy Abrams (to 25th October), Mr Philip Calliste, Mr Kester Worme.

3 Objectives and Activities

The PCC (the Trustees) confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives, in planning future activities, and setting the grant making policy for the year.

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent, the Revd Simon Reed, in the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England and in promoting within the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelical, social, and ecumenical.

The PCC also has responsibility for the financial affairs of the parish and for supporting the District Church Councils as they strive to achieve the ideals embraced by their respective vision statements:

The Church of the Ascension – *"To create community and grow community"*

St Mary's West Twyford – *"To be a church growing closer to God, each other, and our community."*

4 Achievements and Performance

The PCC met six times during 2020 with an average attendance of 75%. The two District Church Councils each met on four occasions. The Ascension DCC had an average attendance of 70% participating members (one *ex officio* St Mary's member did not attend and is not included in the statistics). The St Mary's DCC had an average attendance of 65% (the three *ex officio* Ascension members did not attend and are not included in the statistics). The deliberations of both DCCs were reported to the full PCC and discussed where necessary.

In addition to routine business and receiving reports from subordinate committees, the PCC or Standing Committee considered the following matters in particular:

- Parish budget and Common Fund contributions
- Parish external mission giving
- Repayment of the St Mary's Restoration Project loan
- Annual Safeguarding update
- Covid-19 Actions during lockdown
- New finance arrangements

- Future clergy staff at St Mary's
- Parish Assistant role
- Ascension & St Mary's Mission Action Plans
- Archdeacon's Triennial Visitation actions
- Review of Parish policies

In addition to routine business, the Ascension DCC considered the following matters in particular:

- Mission Action Plan
- Parish link with Community of Aidan and Hilda
- Review of services during lockdown
- Archdeacon's Triennial Visitation
- Christian Aid Week
- Church and Hall maintenance, including Quinquennial works

In addition to routine business, St Mary's DCC considered the following matters in particular:

- Mission Action Plan
- Parish link with Community of Aidan and Hilda
- Review of services and events during lockdown
- Future plans for St Mary's
- Archdeacon's Visitation updates
- Church and Community Hall maintenance, inc. Quinquennial works

At the time of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 25 April 2020, the Electoral Roll stood at 97 with 68 members belonging to the Church of the Ascension and 29 to St Mary's – a slight decrease at both churches. The figures for 2020 were 95, 66 and 29 respectively.

Sunday service attendance figures cannot be directly compared with 2019 as regular services were suspended from 15th March. Up to that point there was an average attendance of 37 at the Church of the Ascension and 24 at St Mary's (as compared to 37 and 26 for the whole year in 2019). Online joint Zoom services commenced on April 5th and a 9am service at the Ascension was resumed from July 19th with a temporary suspension from November 8th-29th. Total average Sunday attendance from April 5th onwards was 46 of which an average of 9 people attended the service in church. In addition videos of the online services posted on the Parish website received an average of 55 plays each.

Membership of the Planned Giving Scheme 2020 was 54 at 31st December 2020 with 36 members belonging to the Church of the Ascension and 18 to St Mary's. The figures for 2019 were also 54, 36 and 18 respectively.

5 Report on the Activities of the Parish Generally in 2020

For the Ascension and St Mary's, as for the rest of the world, 2020 was a year in which we found ourselves in a completely unexpected situation of global pandemic, and the completely uncharted waters of how to be church during successive national lockdowns. We have not only coped remarkably well but in fact have flourished and grown during these testing times.

We adapted with extraordinary speed to worshipping online. Our Zoom services are not only well attended but also offer a greater degree of personal engagement than the YouTube broadcasts many other churches have adopted. They have been attended by visitors from around the UK and abroad, some of whom have become regulars. Along the way we have gained 6 new local members (4 adults and 2 children). Special thanks must go to Lee Dewsnap, our Director of Music, whose newly acquired recording and production skills have enormously enhanced our worship. An unexpected hit has been online Daily Prayer, our very first online innovation, which has become an internationally followed parish prayer rhythm, accessed by somewhere between 15 and 40 people each day.

We also ran the 24-7 Prayer Course and the Bible Society's Bible Course, both of which were well attended, and an online Alpha course which attracted 4 guests who were not church members. Prayer 24 and an Advent Quiet Evening also took place online. Our Youth Group has also continued in a

climate in which many similar groups have struggled. Our online Carol service drew a higher number of visitors than normal services would in church. Simon was also involved in co-teaching several international courses for church leaders organised by the Community of Aidan and Hilda.

Our community activities of course had to close, but Rae White enabled us to offer support to isolated neighbours during the first lockdown, and Liz Williams has kept in regular touch with the Ascension Friends members. In these and other ways we have supported our members who do not or cannot attend online services. In the periods when lockdown restrictions lifted, Sue Lawes organised two very successful neighbourhood plant sales in the spring and at Christmas. We have also innovated to enable full communion services to take place safely in both churches when permitted.

In the background a long and still incomplete process of restructuring has been taking place in how we operate our church finances. Thanks are due to Lindsey Anne Carter, Rosy Sookias, Colin McKenzie, and Pete Harris for their work on this.

In summary 2020 was, despite all its considerable hardships, a year of innovation and growth for our churches. We ended the year with energy and momentum, not only looking forward to when we will be able to meet again with fewer restrictions, but also with optimism about the challenges and opportunities of continuing and developing as hybrid churches with both a face to face and online ministry locally, nationally, and internationally.

Revd Simon Reed (Vicar of the Parish)

6 Financial Review

In 2020 we outsourced our bookkeeping to Kevin Ogilvie of Charity Bookkeeping and Examination Services, and in the process changed our accounting systems and made some small amendments to the way income and expenditure is reported. They are being presented in a different format to previous years, therefore in this year's accounts is not possible to show all comparative figures.

As with most churches our income and expenditure was affected by the Coronavirus pandemic. However we were both fortunate and grateful that due to the high level of members' giving by Standing Order our giving was only £2,300 lower than last year. Although our hall lettings income was only reduced by £3,000, total reduction in letting both of our churches was reduced by £12,000.

It has been the practice in previous years for the Parish to pay a less than a one twelfth portion of its Common Fund each month with a balancing top up at the end of the year. However, the Diocese, because of the Covid situation, took the decision to write off any unpaid Common Fund at the end of 2020. The result of this meant that there was a reduced expenditure of £14,000.

It was agreed to cover the costs of the Parish Assistant from the general fund so the Parish Assistant fund was closed. As it was in negative in 2019 the fund was balanced by using General Fund money.

The Parish was also remembered in three legacies totalling £59,666. This was allocated to a designated legacy fund and the PCC are looking at various projects where this money could be used.

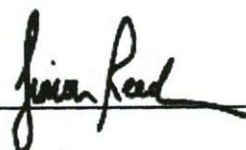
Rosy Sookias (Acting Treasurer)

7 Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy that the value of unrestricted funds should not exceed the value of approximately six months' unrestricted payments. The balances at 31st December 2020 comply with this policy.

It is PCC policy to invest funds not immediately required with the Church of England Central Board of Finance.

Revd Simon Reed:



Independent Examiner's report**Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2020****Respective responsibilities of the P.C.C and the examiner**

The P.C.C. members acting as the charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for the year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of the Independent Examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission and the guidance published in the PCC Accountability (The Charities Act 2011 and the PCC, 5th edition). An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required for an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matter has come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

Date: 9th April 2021

Signed:



Stephen Hendy

Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:						
Giving						
CoA	37,128	—	—	—	37,128	—
St M	14,794	—	86	—	14,880	—
Parish	6,783	59,656	—	—	66,439	—
Tax Recovery						
CoA	8,413	—	—	—	8,413	—
St M	3,461	—	—	—	3,461	—
Church Halls						
CoA	28,952	—	—	—	28,952	—
St M	333	—	—	—	333	—
Other income						
CoA	5,960	—	—	—	5,960	—
St M	3,644	—	—	—	3,644	—
Parish	2,314	—	—	—	2,314	—
Total income	111,781	59,656	86	—	171,523	—
Expenditure on:						
Churches						
CoA	7,430	—	—	—	7,430	—
St M	10,544	—	—	—	10,544	—
Church Halls						
CoA	9,523	—	—	—	9,523	—
Parish Staff	13,805	—	—	—	13,805	—
Work of the Church	46,773	—	—	—	46,773	—
Miscellaneous	4,133	—	704	—	4,838	—
Total expenditure	92,208	—	704	—	92,913	—
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	19,573	59,656	(618)	—	78,611	—
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in	—	—	18,760	—	18,760	—
Gross transfers between funds - out	(18,760)	—	—	—	(18,760)	—
Other recognised gains / losses						
Net movement in funds	813	59,656	18,142	—	78,611	—
Total funds brought forward	25,107	—	(37,363)	—	(12,256)	(12,256)
Total funds carried forward	25,920	59,656	(19,221)	—	66,355	(12,256)
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
General fund	25,920	—	—	—	25,920	25,107
Designated						
Legacy Fund	—	59,656	—	—	59,656	—
Restricted						
Ascension Repair Fund	—	—	383	—	383	383
Deanery Syond Grant	—	—	511	—	511	511
Parish Assistants	—	—	—	—	—	(18,760)
Parish Pastoral Fund	—	—	1,105	—	1,105	1,105
St Mary's Restoration Fund	—	—	(21,221)	—	(21,221)	(20,603)

Balance sheet

Class and code	Description	This year	Last year
Current assets			
6501	HSBC current account	57,762	25,922
6510	CCLA (CBF) deposit account	4,582	4,562
6590	Cash in hand	—	—
6595	Tax Reclaim	38,049	39,507
Z05	Accounts Receivable	9,106	5,669
	Total Current assets	109,499	75,660
Liabilities			
6699	Agency collections	835	—
9901	Loans received	—	10,000
9902	LDF Loan	31,425	31,425
Z04	Accounts Payable	10,721	46,490
	Total Liabilities	42,982	87,916
	Net Asset surplus(deficit)	66,517	(12,256)
Reserves			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	78,773	—
Z01	Starting balances	(12,256)	(12,256)
	Total Reserves	66,517	(12,256)
	Represented by funds		
	Unrestricted	25,920	25,107
	Designated	59,656	—
	Restricted	(19,221)	(37,363)
	Endowment	—	—
	Total	66,355	(12,256)

Fund movement by type

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/losses	Closing
ARepair - Ascension Repair Fun						
Restricted	383	—	—	—	—	383
Sub-total for ARepair	383	—	—	—	—	383
Asst - Parish Assistants						
Restricted	(18,760)	—	—	18,760	—	—
Sub-total for Asst	(18,760)	—	—	18,760	—	—
Legacy - Legacy Fund						
Designated	—	59,656	—	—	—	59,656
Sub-total for Legacy	—	59,656	—	—	—	59,656
Pastoral - Parish Pastoral Fund						
Restricted	1,105	—	—	—	—	1,105
Sub-total for Pastoral	1,105	—	—	—	—	1,105
Rest - St Mary's Restoratio						
Restricted	(20,603)	86	704	—	—	(21,221)
Sub-total for Rest	(20,603)	86	704	—	—	(21,221)
Synod - Deanery Syond Grant						
Restricted	511	—	—	—	—	511
Sub-total for Synod	511	—	—	—	—	511
General - General fund						
Unrestricted	25,107	111,781	92,208	(18,760)	—	25,920
Sub-total for General	25,107	111,781	92,208	(18,760)	—	25,920
Grand total	(12,256)	171,523	92,913	—	—	66,355

Analysis of income and expenditure

		Total				
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS						
Giving - CoA						
CoA Planned Giving	31,907	—	—	—	31,907	—
CoA Gift Aid	228	—	—	—	228	—
CoA Loose plate collections	1,746	—	—	—	1,746	—
CoA Unrestricted Donations	3,097	—	—	—	3,097	—
CoA Restricted Donations	150	—	—	—	150	—
Total	37,128	—	—	—	37,128	—
Giving - St M						
St M Planned Giving	13,377	—	—	—	13,377	—
St M Gift Aid	380	—	—	—	380	—
St M Loose plate collections	85	—	—	—	85	—
St M Unrestricted Donations	82	—	—	—	82	—
St M Restricted Donations	500	—	86	—	586	—
Parish Assistant Donations	370	—	—	—	370	—
Total	14,794	—	86	—	14,880	—
Giving - Parish						
Other planned giving	4,812	—	—	—	4,812	—
Parish Unrestricted Donations	1,971	—	—	—	1,971	—
Legacies	—	59,656	—	—	59,656	—
Total	6,783	59,656	—	—	66,439	—
Tax Recovery - CoA						
CoA Tax Recovered on Planned Giving	8,413	—	—	—	8,413	—
Total	8,413	—	—	—	8,413	—
Tax Recovery - St M						
St M Tax Recovered Other	3,461	—	—	—	3,461	—
Total	3,461	—	—	—	3,461	—
Church Halls - CoA						
CoA Church hall lettings	28,952	—	—	—	28,952	—
Total	28,952	—	—	—	28,952	—
Church Halls - St M						
St M Church hall lettings	333	—	—	—	333	—
Total	333	—	—	—	333	—
Other income - CoA						
CoA Fundraising/Events	1,755	—	—	—	1,755	—
CoA Church Lettings	4,131	—	—	—	4,131	—
CoA Welcome Area Lettings	74	—	—	—	74	—
Total	5,960	—	—	—	5,960	—

Other income - St M

St M Fundraising/Events	1,149	—	—	—	1,149	—
St M Church Lettings	2,495	—	—	—	2,495	—
Total	3,644	—	—	—	3,644	—

Other income - Parish

Non-recurring one-off grants	200	—	—	—	200	—
Parish Magazine	760	—	—	—	760	—
Bank and building society interest	19	—	—	—	19	—
Fees for weddings and funerals	665	—	—	—	665	—
Magazine income - advertising	300	—	—	—	300	—
Parish magazine sales	102	—	—	—	102	—
Unidentified Income	267	—	—	—	267	—
Total	2,314	—	—	—	2,314	—
INCOME TOTAL	111,781	59,656	86	—	171,523	—

EXPENDITURE

Churches - CoA

CoA Church Running - Upkeep of Services	43	—	—	—	43	—
CoA Church running - electric	893	—	—	—	893	—
CoA Church running - gas	2,193	—	—	—	2,193	—
CoA Church running - Insurance	1,482	—	—	—	1,482	—
CoA Church maintenance	1,006	—	—	—	1,006	—
CoA Church Running - Cleaning	1,334	—	—	—	1,334	—
CoA Site - Equipment	480	—	—	—	480	—
Total	7,430	—	—	—	7,430	—

Churches - St M

Parish Assistant Expenses	7	—	—	—	7	—
Parish Assistant Training	150	—	—	—	150	—
St M Church running - electric	956	—	—	—	956	—
St M Church Running - gas	(1,888)	—	—	—	(1,888)	—
St M Church Running -water	752	—	—	—	752	—
St M Church Running - insurance	4,941	—	—	—	4,941	—
St M Church Running - Maintenance	2,893	—	—	—	2,893	—
St M Church Running - Misc	114	—	—	—	114	—
St M Church Running - cleaning	1,587	—	—	—	1,587	—
St M Site - routine maintenance	529	—	—	—	529	—
StM Fundraising Costs	504	—	—	—	504	—
Total	10,544	—	—	—	10,544	—

Church Halls - CoA

Hall running - Electricity	977	—	—	—	977	—
Hall running - gas	4,730	—	—	—	4,730	—
Hall running - insurance	1,758	—	—	—	1,758	—
Hall running - maintenance	350	—	—	—	350	—
Hall running - Cleaning	1,656	—	—	—	1,656	—
Hall Running - Cleaning supplies etc	51	—	—	—	51	—
Total	9,523	—	—	—	9,523	—

Parish Staff

Working expenses - Vicar	196	—	—	—	196	—
Book Allowance - Vicar	240	—	—	—	240	—
Parish Assistant Living Expenses	4,000	—	—	—	4,000	—
Housing - Vicar	1,401	—	—	—	1,401	—
Housing Community Minister	3,424	—	—	—	3,424	—
Secretarial Support	4,545	—	—	—	4,545	—
Total	13,805	—	—	—	13,805	—

Work of the Church

Education	262	—	—	—	262	—
Children's Work	51	—	—	—	51	—
Upkeep of services	455	—	—	—	455	—
COA Organist	5,683	—	—	—	5,683	—
St M Keyboard player	2,325	—	—	—	2,325	—
Common Fund	36,000	—	—	—	36,000	—
Church office - telephone	172	—	—	—	172	—
Bookkeeping	1,825	—	—	—	1,825	—
Total	46,773	—	—	—	46,773	—

Miscellaneous

Administration - Telephone	975	—	—	—	975	—
Administration - Office Supplies	431	—	—	—	431	—
Administration - Misc	411	—	—	—	411	—
Misc/Subs/Licences	424	—	—	—	424	—
Printing costs	1,892	—	—	—	1,892	—
Loan Interest	—	—	704	—	704	—
Total	4,133	—	704	—	4,838	—
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	92,208	—	704	—	92,913	—
GRAND TOTAL	19,573	59,656	(618)	—	78,611	—