

MARDEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

England & Wales · Charity number 1142437

Details

Other names CHURCH OF ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS, MARDEN, KENT

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2011-06-16

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

Contact

Address The Vicarage
High Street
Marden
Tonbridge
TN12 9DR

Phone 01622831379

Email office@mardenchurch.org.uk

Website www.mardenchurch.org.uk

Activities

Objects: PROMOTING IN THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH THE WHOLE MISSION OF THE CHURCH.

Activities: Marden Parochial Church Council is the body empowered by the Canterbury Diocese to support the incumbent of St Michael & All Angels Church, Marden in the ministry of the Anglican Church in Marden. It is also responsible for safeguarding the fabric of the church and for overseeing the finances of the church by monitoring income and expenditure and the annual budget.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Kent

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£169,381	£201,418	-	-
2023-12-31	£171,936	£154,420	-	-
2022-12-31	£173,271	£124,739	-	-
2021-12-31	£133,841	£155,813	-	-
2020-12-31	£131,189	£115,792	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ALI BONNEY		2011-06-16
ANNE COX		2021-05-23
BRIAN WOODGATE		2011-05-29
Dr Stephen Henry Meech		2016-04-26
Graham Clifford Codling		2012-09-13
Jan Collins		2021-05-23
Janet Gowen-Smith		2021-05-23
Jennifer Laura Smith		2022-03-20
Jonathan Picken		2016-04-20
Matt Young		2017-04-26
Matthew Peter McMillan		2023-11-08
Michael Arthur Springett		2023-07-12
SANDRA BOURNE		2018-04-27
Sarah Davies		2021-05-23
Sian Burr		2022-03-20
Stephen Leslie Newell		2023-04-23

MARDEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

England & Wales - Charity number 1142437

Accounts



**St. Michael
& All Angels**

MARDEN PARISH CHURCH

Annual Report

and

Financial Statements

of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ended

31 December 2024

Charity Number: 1142437

Contents

	Page
Legal and administrative information	3
Annual Report	4 - 13
Statement of the PCC's responsibilities	14
Independent examiner's report	15-16
Statement of financial activities	17
Statement of assets and liabilities	18
Notes	19 - 25

Legal and Administrative Information

Incumbent:	Revd Nicky Harvey
Curate:	Revd Vicki Young (From June 2024)
Churchwardens:	Dr Stephen Meech Mrs Janet Gowen-Smith
Representatives on the Deanery Synod:	Graham Codling Brian Woodgate
Elected PCC members:	Gay Adam Ali Bonney (Secretary) Sandra Bourne Sian Burr Jan Collins Anne Cox Sarah Davies Steve Newell Jenny Smith Mike Springett Mathew Young
Co-Opted PCC Member:	Matt McMillan (Treasurer)
Church Office:	The Vestry Hall, High Street Marden TN12 9DR
Independent Examiner:	Les Stracey Bowling Green Cottage, High Street, Marden TN12 9DP
Bankers:	NatWest Bank 3 High Street Maidstone ME14 1HJ

Annual Report

SAFEGUARDING

We are committed to being a 'Safe Church', and last year we followed the strict Safeguarding procedures, DBS checks and Data Protection laid out by the Church of England and the Diocese of Canterbury. We were grateful to our parish safeguarding officers Gay Adam and Janice Collins who have kept us up to date with training requirements and relevant safeguarding news. Gay Adam and Revd Nicky met regularly during the year to discuss Safeguarding requirements and to fill in the Safeguarding dashboard. Thank you to Jo Fryer, the DBS officer, who continued to maintain that checks were up to date.

Marden Church's Safeguarding Policy had its annual review by the PCC and the policy statement was displayed on our noticeboards both in the church and Vestry Hall noticeboards. A copy of Marden Church's **Data Protection** Policy is held in the church office and can be read on our website and is reviewed by the PCC every three years.

OUTREACH AND MISSION

Marden Church has had another busy year and been active out in the wider community growing the links between the church and the village. It has been important to continue to adapt and change as a church in order to be relevant to our community and to be part of community events. This includes being a visible and approachable presence, an inclusive church welcoming to all and there to share the joys of life, including baptisms and weddings, and for those sadder times at funerals, memorial services and burials of ashes.

It was a joy to welcome the bells back in February after their refurbishment. This had only been made possible by the efforts of the village and those involved in fundraising. Our thanks should go to the bellringers who worked tirelessly to obtain funds and grants. They did a lot of barbequing at events which also included the **Saints and Sinners** cricket match. During a Deanery visit the Bishop of Dover, the Rt Revd Rose Hudson – Wilkin blessed the bells and ropes at a special Evensong.

This year the church was again used for **concerts** – a lovely way to welcome the village in to the building. There were concerts by Kent Chamber Choir and Antiphony.

Our involvement in the village included **Marden at Christmas** and the first **Apple Fest**. On **All Hallows Eve** we opened the Vestry Hall for hot drinks and activities for those walking around the village and offered mulled wine to those waiting to see the West Kent Young Farmers **Tractor Run**. These events gave us an opportunity to talk with those who came, give out our leaflets and let people know what goes on at our church. Revd Nicky was also asked to bless the fruit at the **National Fruit Show**, originally the Marden Fruit Show, at Detling Showground.

During 2024 we continued to run the **Marden Foodbank**. The foodbank is open every Monday between 9.30am and 11.30am in the Vestry Hall. It is a real lifeline for some in the community, especially in the current economic climate with the increases in the cost of living. Recipients were very grateful for the help and support they received. Involve attended on a monthly basis and provided support and practical help with benefit applications and problems affecting health and wellbeing. **Marden Pre-school** were also helped from the foodbank with various breakfast/snack items to help them feed children who arrived hungry. We were hugely grateful to all the generous individuals, businesses, the Parish Council, grants, clubs and societies in and around Marden that donated food and money to keep this vital resource going. Thank you to Kathy Young, Jan Collins, Angela Lindsell, Revd Vicki and Revd Nicky who continued to organize, shop for and manage the Marden Food Bank, on behalf of the church. As part of our outreach to those in need in our community we organised two pre-loved uniform events.

During the year our links with local schools continued. **Bethany School** came regularly to help with the foodbank as part of their enrichment programme. Our links with **Marden Primary Academy** continued to grow and Revd Vicki and Revd Nicky led assemblies in school and services in church. Many classes visited during the year to help them learn about different aspects of Christianity. We also hosted visits from **Marden Scout Group** as Cubs and Beavers came to complete their faith badges and try the bells.

Little Fishes toddler group continued to thrive on Wednesday mornings during term time throughout the year and is an important form of outreach to the whole community. It has really helped young families by offering friendship and support as well as allowing the children to socialise. Thank you to Kathy Young, Jan Collins and Liz Bryant for all they do to make this a welcoming space each week.

Other outreach activities include the monthly Community Lunch, **Craft Group**, **Village Café** and **Charity lunches**. Thank to everyone who helps with these activities.

Our **online presence** through the website and Facebook are a significant help in spreading news of events. We continued to livestream two services a week through our Facebook page and these receive significant views. Our noticeboards have been kept up to date with details of services and events. The **pew sheet** continued to be sent out to those on the electoral roll and physical copies given out on Sunday and placed in the church porch. Copies of the pew sheet and flyers for any other events were made available at Village Café, Messy Church, Little Fishes etc. The **Parish Magazine** was published each month providing news about the church and the various village organisations. Thank you to those who edit, distribute or help in any way with the magazine.

NURTURING FAITH

With all the outward facing things Marden Church does, it is vitally important that our activity is underpinned by worship and prayer. This is what enables us to know what our Good News is – God’s love for all people – and to keep going when times are tough.

There are many ways in which we ‘refuel’, both individually and together, but here are some of the things Marden Church offers to help with.

Sunday worship offers a chance, week by week, to ponder the Bible, pray for others, stand in the presence of God and share in the food of communion. We were able to offer a traditional language Holy Communion service at 8.00am and the 10.30am service which alternates between Morning Worship and Holy Communion. Numbers at our 10.30am Sunday worship have showed a slight increase as new people have come, found a place of welcome and stayed. This is encouraging especially as every year we say goodbye to some of our congregation either through death or because they have moved away. **Evening services** each month attract a small but loyal congregation, and our **Choral Evensongs** have attracted larger numbers. These services are an important part of what we can offer, something quite different to the morning services, so if you haven’t tried these services yet do come along. **Taizé services** take place about four times a year led by Sarah Emanuel and again these reflective, candlelit services have a small but loyal congregation. Throughout the year we maintained our **Midweek Communion service** on a Thursday. Numbers remained small but it is – at the moment - important to offer this service. **Morning Prayer** was said in church on Mondays and Wednesdays.

The smooth running of Sunday services is aided by all our **welcomers, sidespeople, intercessors** and **Bible Readers**. Thank you for the parts you play and for the time you offer to do these roles. Thank you to our **Verger** Jan Collins for all you have done in making funerals and weddings run smoothly during the year.

Church Music. Our worship continued to be supported by Kevin Deacon our organist and the choir, by singing a variety of music each Sunday and leading the hymns. Thank you to Anne Cox and Sarah Emanuel for their work behind the scenes that helped the choir run smoothly. The choir supported some of our major services including the Carol Service. We thank them for their commitment over the year. With the return of our refurbished bells, the **Bellringers** continued to call people to worship on a Sunday and ring for weddings and funerals.

During the season of **Lent and Holy Week** there were of course lots of extra services. Palm Sunday and Easter Day services were well attended but the services on Ash Wednesday, Compline during Holy Week and Maundy Thursday less well attended. **Mothering Sunday** gave young and old the opportunity to say thank you to parents and carers with the gift of a plant.

Our **Harvest Festival** and **Patronal Festival** both took place in September. The Harvest Festival has been moved to September to fit in with the rhythm of the harvest in the village. The church was decorated beautifully with floral displays and fresh produce, and our thanks goes to the **Flower Ladies** for their displays throughout the year.

Throughout the year we offered other types of services too. The **Armistice Day** service on 11th November was held inside the church and provided a chance for a quieter act of remembrance for those who came. The **Remembrance Sunday** service on the 10th was

again held outside. We were joined by the Scout Group, Parish Council and the Fire Service. The numbers for this service increased from 2023 as families feel able to come as being outside allows greater flexibility with children. The annual **All Souls' Service** was well attended and appreciated by those who came. This is a service for relatives of those we had taken funeral services for in the last 3 years, as well as those who wanted to remember a loved one.

The **Christmas Services** were again very popular and well attended by church members and those in the wider village community. Numbers of people attending these services showed an increase on the previous year. Again we had to hold two **Christingle services** to cater for numbers. We were most grateful to Peter Hall for kindly supplying all the apples for the Christingle services and for all those who helped assemble the Christingles.

At Marden Church we take seriously the faith development of our **children and families**. This year saw a tidy up of our Children's Chapel and some new resources placed there. The dresser continued to present a problem in blocking the view from the Children's Chapel into the main body of the church, but no solution was found. This area is important, and is used during the week as well as on Sundays. **Sunday Club** has met regularly on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month during Communion services. The numbers remain small, and it is often difficult to plan for, but is valued by those who attend. Thank you to Kathy Young and her helpers for all they do for our young people.

It is difficult to compete with Marden Sports Club and the wide variety of other activities on Sunday mornings, but while we may not often have many children in church on Sunday mornings, we do have contact with a considerable group of children and families who appreciate what we offered. All age interactive talks at key services are received well and **Messy Church** on a Sunday afternoon is very popular. Messy Church met eight times during the year and allowed all ages to explore faith creatively. Thank you to the Messy Church volunteers who make these sessions possible. Communication with children and families was enabled by regular mailings and the production of a leaflet explaining what's on specifically for them.

Home Groups gave opportunities for people to meet with others, explore their faith, study the Bible and give each other mutual support. There were two Home Groups in 2024 led by Rev. John Bourne and Sarah Emanuel.

A **Lent Group** was run at the Village Club as well as during the Monday home group. This was based on 'Lent in a Bag' a resource for group or self-reflection. A lent resource was also available for children. **Advent reflections** 'In the Picture' helped people journey through Advent, and there was a paper chain Advent activity for children.

Prayer is an important part of the life of the church. The prayer group attended an away day at The Living Well to talk about prayer and how prayer could be made more visible in church. After this time the prayer group began to meet regularly to pray on a Friday morning and before Sunday services. As part of **Thy Kingdom Come** – a national prayer

event – the prayer team put together a 24 hour of prayer event and encouraged us to pray for our village.

The prayer tree and prayer net continue to be used and prayer resources were available in church. **Reflection prayer stations** based on the people of Holy Week were available in church over Easter. The **Labyrinth** in the churchyard was maintained and guided walks are available in the church porch.

MINISTRY

During 2024 Revd Nicky was assisted in ministry by Sarah Emanuel, Lay Reader, and Amanda Abbitt, our Authorised Lay Minister who both preached and led services during the year. We are extremely grateful to both Sarah and Amanda for their ministries amongst us, and to Tim Kneller and Naomi Lumutenga for preaching also. In June we had the pleasure of welcoming our curate Revd Vicki Young to Marden following her ordination as Deacon in Canterbury Cathedral on 29th June.

Revd Nicky, Revd Vicki and Sarah Emanuel offered **Home Communion** to those who were unable to attend church for whatever reason. The list of **Chalice assistants** was reviewed and authorisation was sort for them to do this.

Kathy Young, our Youth and Children's worker, continued to nurture the faith of our young people. She ran Sunday Club, helped with Messy Church and sent out the baptism anniversary cards as well as regular newsletters to our baptism families letting them know about services and groups for children. Kathy is also Church Administrator, Gift Aid secretary and helped manage the Food Bank. Thank you for all you have done this year Kathy.

FUNDRAISING

As a church we receive no money from the government or from the Diocese, so the church relied on fundraising activities throughout the year to generate much needed income for church funds (bills, insurance, repairs etc) and the parish share payment. We are very grateful to all who come along to support these events. Numerous events were held and these included:

- A Summer Market was held in the church, with a number of stalls including cakes, provisions, crafts, refreshments, teddy zip wire
- Cream Teas were held in the Vicarage Garden during five consecutive Sunday afternoons during August and September.
- In September, Marden Church took part in the Ride & Stride in support of the Friends of Kent Churches
- The East Peckham Silver Band performed a concert in church as part of our Patronal festival weekend at the end of September.
- A Harvest Quiz and Supper was held to celebrate Harvest festival
- Apple Fest

- The Christmas Market held in the church at the end of November was very successful and a lovely way to start the Christmas season.
- The Christmas Tree festival in the church, together with pumpkin soup and rolls were available for all, as part of the Marden at Christmas celebrations.

These events can only take place if we all come forward to help in some way. In the coming year please do think of offering time to help with our fundraising efforts – both behind the scenes and on the day.

AWAY GIVING

Throughout 2024 Marden Church continued to focus on a charity a month to support. Charities show a breadth of local, national and international causes. Each month – usually the first Friday of the month – a soup or ploughman’s lunch is offered along with cake and refreshments. A raffle is also held. This takes place in the Vestry Hall and is open to anybody to attend in return for a donation. Occasionally we have a representative from a charity with us who will give a brief talk about their charities work.

PCC

The Parochial Church Council has met six times during the year with the **Finance and Standing Committee** meeting in between to carry out any business required by the PCC. Alongside the Incumbent the PCC is responsible for promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church building, the Churchyard and the Vestry Hall. During the year the PCC has discussed many things including finance, insurance, services and maintenance issues. The various sub committees report back to the PCC about their activities and findings for discussion and approval.

Stephen Meech and Janet Gowen-Smith continued to serve as Churchwardens, and we are hugely grateful for all that they did during the year, and for the support they gave Revd Nicky in her ministry.

Matt McMillan continued as our treasurer, and we are grateful to him for keeping the PCC up to date with financial matters and the day to day running of church finances. As always money matters feature heavily in PCC discussions particularly around finding the parish share payment and how we can raise funds for the church and its activities.

VESTRY HALL

The Vestry Hall is our church hall, and its oversight has been organised by a committee led by Graham Codling. During the year it was necessary to update the hire agreement for hall users due to changes in Safeguarding requirements and to make non church groups hiring the hall aware of their need for their own public liability insurance. The hall is used by many people for parties and functions, wakes and church groups.

During the year Barbara Judd stepped down after many years of loyal service as our Hall bookings officer. We are very grateful for all Barbara has done in this role and making

people who book the hall feel welcome. Kathy Young has taken over this role. We are also grateful to Sandra Osborn who has kept the hall clean and tidy over the year.

CHURCH

Our church continued to remain open each day during 2024. The church is visited quite a lot during the day by those wanting a quiet place to pray or who are just visiting. Leaflets on the church's history and other leaflets, including the pew sheet, are available on the table inside the door. Leaflets for marriage, baptism and labyrinth walks are placed in the porch where there is also our prayer tree.

In 2024 we finally had our delayed Quinquennial Inspection (QI). The report was as good as we could have expected with nothing major being identified that needed urgent attention. In response to the QI the pews in the church were checked by Gulliver Timbers, who confirmed that the insect damage was historic and not new. They also confirmed that there were no issues with the timber in the Priests Room.

The old grey chairs used in church were replaced during 2024. They had served us well but had become scruffy and torn. They were replaced by second hand chairs from another church. These look much better when put out for large services such as weddings and Memorial services.

On the return of the bells the clock was again able to strike the hour. This had been missed by the village while the bells were being refurbished. I would like to thank our **Steeplekeeper** Chris Barker, aided by other bellringers in his absence, for attending to the clock and keeping it to the correct time by winding it twice a week.

The roof and gutters had their annual inspection in the Autumn, and debris cleared as necessary. As required by the church insurers Trinitas, the lead on the roof was marked with 'Selectamark' and the correct signs displayed both inside and outside the church.

CHURCHYARD

Marden Church has a large churchyard surrounding it and this has continued to be maintained by the Community Payback team. They have paid particular attention to keeping the graves and boundary wall free from ivy as well as keeping the new ashes plot and the war graves tidy. The churchyard is used by many people in the village for a variety of reasons so we are grateful it is now maintained so well.

As part of our involvement with Eco Church and Gods Acre parts of the churchyard were again left to grow naturally and left uncut for a good part of the year. Pathways are cut through the long grass and the prayer labyrinth is maintained, while these areas grow. The number of bluebells in the churchyard is increasing and a kent pyramidal orchid was spotted too.

As part of the **Health and Safety** checks the gravestones were 'wobble' tested to make sure they were safe. One wobbly monument identified was repaired by the family.

We continue to bury ashes in the new ashes plot which runs alongside the footpath on the east boundary. This brings a lot of comfort to those who have lost loved ones in the village and those connected with the church through the electoral roll. This area complies with the Diocesan guidelines for Churchyards regarding burial of ashes and memorial tablets.

It should be noted that the church boundary is to the fir trees only. The area between the fir trees and the station carpark netting is the responsibility of Network Rail. One tree was felled in this area by them, as it had fallen into the railway carpark. They have put up new fencing at the station to prevent train passengers accessing the footpath bridge over the railway and through the churchyard.

THE ELECTORAL ROLL

In April 2024 the electoral roll stood at 143. A complete revision of the roll is due next year and this will give us a better idea of our roll number.

Financial review

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024 is set out on page 17 and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2024 on page 18.

In 2024 total receipts for unrestricted funds were £126,727, this compares to £124,844 in 2023. This increase was largely due to legacies gifted to the church in 2024 of £7,480 and other charitable generating activities increasing to £11,747 in 2024, compared to £9,490 in 2023. This is offset by Vestry Hall rent decreasing to £9,189 in 2024 from £9,697 in 2023 and general giving including gift aid being down £6,850.

Total designated fund receipts in 2024 decreased to £42,654, comprising donations of £16,070 for the Marden Food Bank, £22,222 for the Restoration of the Bells Fabric Fund, £4,362 for charitable giving. In comparison, total designated fund receipts in 2023 were £47,092.

In 2024 net total funds showed a deficit of £32,037 compared with a surplus of £17,516 in 2023. This surplus comprised a £32,654 deficit in restricted funds as the restoration of the bell fund was completed.

At the year-end 2024 total unrestricted funds carried forward were £30,595 (2023: £29,978) and total designated funds carried forward were £16,366 (2023: £49,020). Net assets at the year-end 2024 were £46,961 (2023: £78,998) and included bank balances of £54,867 (2023: £69,351).

As at 31 December 2024 total designated funds of £16,366 included £8,438 for the Food Bank (2023: £9,025), £7,928 for Fabric General Fund (2023: £9,173) and £0 for the Restoration of the Bells Fabric Fund (2023: £30,822).

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds equating to at least three months' unrestricted payments. This is equivalent to approximately £30,000. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. PCC hit this target in 2024 with unrestricted funds of £38,501 carried forward at the end of the year (versus £29,978 at 2023 year-end).

Designated funds of £16,366 at the year-end were exclusively for the use of the Food Bank, and the General Fabric Fund.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the PCC has a reasonable expectation that it has adequate unrestricted funds to meet its debts as they fall due. The PCC has a reasonable expectation that it has adequate unrestricted funds if there is a shortfall in donations to meet the commitments for the next 12 months.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The PCC

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is the governing body of St Michael & All Angels Church, Marden. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. 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.

At the PCC meetings all matters regarding the running of the church and its finances were discussed. At each of its meetings the Council received reports from the Incumbent relating to Mission and Ministry, the Parish Safeguarding Officer, the Treasurer, the Churchwardens regarding church fabric and maintenance, from meetings of Deanery and Diocese, the Vestry Hall Committee and from the Youth and Children's Worker and the Food Bank.

The Vicar, other ministers (lay or ordained), the Churchwardens and the representatives at the Deanery & Diocesan Synods are, by nature of their role, members of the PCC. The remaining 12 members are elected at the Annual Meeting. As at the date of this Report there are currently 11 elected members.

The PCC members who have served from the APCM 2024 are set out on page 3. Sandra Bourne will be retiring at the APCM 2025 and Sian Burr and Jenny Smith will be eligible for re-election.

With an electoral roll of between 100 and 200, the PCC is entitled to have 12 elected members.

Committees

Various groups and committees met between PCC meetings as appropriate and reported back to the PCC for discussion and decision. These groups and committees include the Finance and Standing Committee, the Vestry Hall Committee, the Charities Committee and the Fabric Committee.

Finance and Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any direction given by the PCC. It oversees the general finances of our Church work by monitoring income and expenditure. In 2024, it comprised the Incumbent, Churchwardens, Treasurer, and the PCC Secretary and met as necessary to discuss matters arising between PCC meetings.

Vestry Hall Committee

This group had the responsibility of overseeing the maintenance and running of the Vestry Hall.

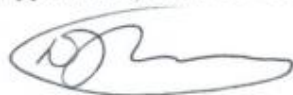
Charities Committee

Marden Church supported a number of charities over the year, with a particular focus given to a specific named charity each month of the year. The charity was promoted throughout the month, with information and leaflets displayed on a large board by the entrance door to the church. Donations to the charity are placed in the box by the church door or made on-line to the treasurer. The total is given to the charity at the end of the month, together with any extra fundraising events held during the month.

We continue with our Mission objective of SHARING GOD'S LOVE IN:

- WORSHIPPING TOGETHER
- LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER
- SERVING OTHERS.

Approved by the PCC on 4th March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Rev'd Nicky Harvey
Chairperson for 2024

Statement of the PCC's responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the Charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- a) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- b) make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c) state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- d) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Independent examiner's report to the Parochial Church Council of St Michael and All Angels, Marden

I report to the members of the Parochial Church Council (the PCC) on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 18 to 26.

This report is made solely to the PCC, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I may state to the PCC those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the PCC for this report or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. The PCC consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the 2011 Act and that an independent examination is needed.

I report in respect of my examination of the financial statements of the PCC under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, I can confirm that no matters have come to my attention giving me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements covering the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008.

In connection with my examination, I have considered the ability of the PCC to continue as a going concern.

Independent Examiner's report (continued)

In examining the financial statements, I have concluded that the PCC's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate because:

- after making due inquiries and the the work that I have preformed I have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the PCC's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date of signing the Annual Report and Financial Statemets; and
- the Parish Share payable to the Diocese of Canterbury is a voluntary payment and can be deferred if the PCC does not have sufficient unrestricted funds to make this payment.

I have no other concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



L D Stracey ACMA
Bowling Green Cottage
High Street
Marden
Kent TN12 9DP

1 April 2025
May

Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Incoming resources					
Voluntary income	2(a)	85,208	42,654	127,862	131,670
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	11,747	-	11,747	9,490
Income from investments	2(c)	-	-	-	-
Church activities	2(d)	20,583	-	20,583	21,079
Other incoming resources	2(e)	9,189	-	9,189	9,697
		<u>126,727</u>	<u>42,654</u>	<u>169,381</u>	<u>171,936</u>
Resources expended					
Fundraising activities	3(a)	155	-	155	49
Church activities:					
Diocesan Parish Share	3(b)	77,681	-	77,681	86,099
Church improvements	3(c)	-	54,289	54,289	-
Other church activities	3(d)	48,274	21,019	69,293	68,272
		<u>126,110</u>	<u>75,308</u>	<u>201,418</u>	<u>154,420</u>
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources		617	(32,654)	(32,037)	17,516
Balance brought forward at start of the year		29,978	49,020	78,998	71,300
Transfer to Fabric Fund		-	-	-	-
Transfer funds to Marden Dementia Friendly Community (With Living Memories)		-	-	-	(9,818)
Total funds carried forward at end of the year		<u>30,595</u>	<u>16,366</u>	<u>46,961</u>	<u>78,998</u>


The notes on pages 19 to 25 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of assets and liabilities
at 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Current assets			
Debtors	5	-	16,252
Cash at bank	6	<u>54,867</u>	<u>69,351</u>
		54,867	85,603
Creditors:			
Amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>(7,906)</u>	<u>(6,605)</u>
Net assets		<u>46,961</u>	<u>78,998</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted funds	4	30,595	29,978
Designated funds	4	<u>16,366</u>	<u>49,020</u>
Total funds		<u>46,961</u>	<u>78,998</u>

The notes on pages 19 to 25 form an integral part of these financial statements.

These financial statements on pages 17 to 25 were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 4th March 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



Rev'd Nicky Harvey
Chairperson for 2024

Notes *(forming part of the financial statements)*

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2015) preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements are presented in sterling and rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

The primary objective of the charity is to promote the gospel of Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrine and practice of the Church of England. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognized at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The church is a registered charity in England and Wales. The trustees are the members of the PCC.

Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the PCC has a reasonable expectation that the Church has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Therefore the PCC continues to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

In addition the PCC has a reasonable expectation that it has adequate unrestricted funds if there is a shortfall in donations to meet the commitments for the restoration of the church bells.

Funds accounting

Unrestricted funds are general funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and can be used by the PCC for general purposes.

Notes *(continued)*

1. Accounting Policies *(continued)*

Funds accounting *(continued)*

Designated funds represent donations or grants received for specific future purposes. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given and any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year are carried forward as a balance on that fund.

The designated funds comprise donations and grants for the Restoration of the Church Bells Fund, the General Fabric Fund, Living Memories (dissolved 2023) and Marden Food Bank.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognized when received. Tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognized when the incoming resource, to which it relates, is received. All other income is recognized when it is receivable.

Resources expended

The voluntary diocesan Parish Share is accounted for when due except where there is a strong possibility or no likelihood that the PCC will not have the funds to meet the payment and it is then accounted for on a receipts and payments basis. All other expenditure is generally recognized when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Current assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown in debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Short term deposits include cash held on deposit at the bank.

Notes *(continued)*

2. Incoming Resources

(a) Voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Planned giving	53,487	-	53,487	52,441
Collections at services	4,286	-	4,286	2,936
Gift aid recovered	15,111	-	15,111	17,153
Donations	4,844	42,654	47,498	59,140
Legacies, grants and other income	7,480	-	7,480	-
	85,208	42,654	127,862	131,670

(b) Activities for generating funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Fundraising activities	11,747	-	11,747	9,490

(c) Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Interest income	-	-	-	-

(d) Church activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Fees from weddings, funerals etc.	10,022	-	10,022	11,687
Magazine income	10,561	-	10,561	9,392
	20,583	-	20,583	21,079

Notes *(continued)*

2. Incoming Resources *(continued)*

(e) Other incoming resources

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Vestry hall income	9,189	-	9,189	9,697

3. Resources expended

(a) Cost of generating funds

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising activities	155	-	155	49

(b) Parish Share

The Parish Share for the years ended 31 December 2024 and 31 December 2023 has been paid in full. Arrears amounting £25,484 for the Parish Share for the year ending 31 December 2020 had not been accrued for as at 31 December 2022 as it was not possible to make the payment due to insufficient available funds. The Parish Share is not a legally enforceable liability and is a voluntary contribution payable when funds permit. In 2023, following PCC approval, an amount of £12,664 was paid to the Diocese of Canterbury in full and final settlement of the arrears as the Diocese offered a 50% discount. At 31 December 2023 and 31 December 2024, the Parish Share was fully up to date.

(c) Church improvements

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Restoration of Bells	-	54,289	54,289	-
	-	54,289	54,289	-

The total cost of the restoration of the church bells of £54,289 includes an amount of £15,693 which was paid in 2022 and was included in prepayments at 31 December 2023 (see note 5). The restoration of the church bells was completed in March and the cost was primarily covered by donations received in 2024 and prior years and the shortfall of £1,245 was covered by a transfer from the fabric fund.

Notes *(continued)*

3. Resources expended *(continued)*

(d) Other church activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Fees remitted to diocese	4,880	-	4,880	6,033
Food bank	-	16,657	16,657	16,555
Church giving	-	4,362	4,362	4,996
Magazine expenses	4,734	-	4,734	4,841
Vestry hall expenses	3,486	-	3,486	3,045
Office expenses	2,519	-	2,519	3,489
Church utilities	11,494	-	11,494	8,323
Ministry expenses	21,161	-	21,161	19,634
Living Memories	-	-	-	1,356
	48,274	21,019	69,293	68,272

Living Memories expenses exclude £9,818 was transferred to Marden Dementia Friendly Community (With Living Memories) during the prior year (Note 8).

4. Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2024 £
Debtors	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	38,501	16,366	54,867
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(7,906)	-	(7,906)
	30,595	16,366	46,961

5. Debtors

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Gift aid receivable	-	-	-	559
Prepayments	-	-	-	15,693
	-	-	-	16,252

The prepayment in 2023 pertained to the church bells (see note 3c).

Notes *(continued)*

6. Cash at bank

	2024	2023
	£	£
Unrestricted funds	38,501	69,351
Designated funds	16,366	-
	54,867	69,351

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deferred income from magazine advertising	7,906	6,528
Vestry Hall rents received in advance	-	77
Wedding deposits received in advance	-	-
	7,906	6,605

8. Designated funds

	2024
	£
Balance at 1 January 2023	49,020
Incoming resources	42,654
Resources expended	(75,308)
	16,366

Designated funds comprise:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Marden Food Bank	8,438	9,025
Living Memories	-	-
Restoration of Bells Fund	-	30,822
Fabric Fund General	7,928	9,173
	16,366	49,020

Notes *(continued)*

8. Designated funds *(continued)*

The balance on the Restoration of Bells Fund can be analysed as follows:

	2024 £
Balance at 1 January 2024	<u>30,822</u>
Donations received during the year	22,222
Transfer from the fabric fund	1,245
Spent in the year	<u>(54,289)</u>
Balance at 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>

MARDEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

England & Wales - Charity number 1142437

Accounts



St. Michael
& All Angels

MARDEN PARISH CHURCH

Annual Report

and

Financial Statements

of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ended

31 December 2022

Charity Number: 1142437

Contents

	Page
Legal and administrative information	3
Annual Report	4 - 14
Statement of the PCC's responsibilities	15
Independent examiner's report	16 -17
Statement of financial activities	18
Statement of assets and liabilities	19
Notes	20 - 26

Legal and Administrative Information

Incumbent:	Revd Nicky Harvey
Churchwardens:	Dr Stephen Meech Mrs Janet Gowen-Smith
Representatives on the Deanery Synod:	Graham Codling Brian Woodgate Di Copas
Elected PCC members: (2021-2022)	Ali Bonney (Secretary) Sandra Bourne Sian Burr Jan Collins Anne Cox Sarah Davies David Emanuel Jonathan Picken Jenny Smith Robert Tweddle Carol Walker Chris Wyton Mathew Young
Co-Opted PCC Member:	Mike Davidson (Treasurer)
Church Office:	The Vestry Hall, High Street Marden TN12 9DR
Independent Examiner:	Les Stracey Bowling Green Cottage, High Street, Marden TN12 9DP
Bankers:	NatWest Bank 3 High Street Maidstone ME14 1HJ

Annual Report

Aim and purposes

The PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Nicky Harvey, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church building, the Churchyard and the Vestry Hall.

Objectives and activities

The PCC is committed to being an inclusive church providing an environment that enables as many people as possible to worship at our church – St. Michael and All Angels - and to become part of our parish community. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how the services can involve the many groups that live within the parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. Since the Covid pandemic this has included the provision of online worship.

When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular the PCC tries to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of the parish community through:

- worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel, and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus;
- provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;
- missionary and outreach work.

The mission statement of the PCC is:

To share God's love

- in worshipping together;
- in learning and growing together; and
- in service to others.

Achievements and performance

Electoral roll

In April 2022 there were 135 members on the Electoral Roll and at the end of the year there remained 135 members on the Roll. This compares to 125 in April 2021.

Church attendance

For the first time since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, there were no lockdowns or restrictions on our communal worship in church throughout 2022, which has been wonderful. However, as a church we have been very aware that the spread of Covid throughout the community remains high and many of our church members are elderly or have health conditions which make them vulnerable.

Whilst all our main services have returned to worship in church, we are continuing to offer on-line services through the church Facebook page for those unable to attend in person and these continue to be well viewed.

Marden Church is an inclusive church and welcoming to all abilities and disabilities, which is especially important in light of the Church of England's Living in Love and Faith policy and inclusivity of LGBTQ+ communities.

In January, PCC members agreed that we should apply to register formally as an Inclusive Church and adopt the Inclusive Church vision statement. Our application was accepted and we are now registered with Inclusive Church and the Inclusive Church logo is displayed on our website.

The numbers of families that are beginning to attend church regularly is very encouraging and the popularity of Messy Church and the Little Fishes Toddler group is helping to develop our links with families in the community.

Links with Marden Primary Academy – not a church school – have grown throughout the year since the lifting of Covid restrictions. Rev Nicky takes regular assemblies in school, and the school have been to the church for whole school services as well as individual class visits.

This year the church took the lead in helping the community through the period of mourning after the death of our late Queen, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The church was open for people to light a candle and sign a book of condolence. Flowers were laid by individuals and the Parish Council next to the old stocks. Special services were held throughout the period of national mourning and our bells were also tolled to mark this sad event.

The Remembrance Day service on 11th November was held inside the church. The Remembrance Sunday service on the 13th was again held outside. Both were beautiful services and well attended.

The Christmas Services were very popular and well attended by church members and those in the wider community. It was lovely to once again host the BAE Systems band at Carols by Candlelight.

Three candidates from Marden church were confirmed at the Deanery Confirmation Service at St Laurence's Church Hawkhurst in January.

The monthly Communion service held on the 1st Wednesday of each month at Bramley Court is going well and is much appreciated by those who come.

Personnel

Revd Nicky has continued to be supported in her ministry by Sarah Emanuel, our Reader, and Amanda Abbitt, our Authorised Lay Minister. As a trained bereavement minister, Amanda is authorised to conduct funerals in church and we are extremely grateful to both Sarah and Amanda for their support throughout the year. Sarah offers Home Communion to those who are unable to attend church on a regular basis.

Kathy Young continues to develop the faith of our young people as Youth and Children's Worker. She runs Sunday Club, helps with Messy Church and sends out the baptism anniversary cards. Kathy is also Church Administrator and is responsible for managing the Food Bank with Janice Collins

Alec Noakes retired as Gift Aid Secretary in July, following his house move further north. Alec has been handling our Gift Aid for around 15 years and we are most grateful for all his dedication and hard work in this area and also the Sound and Projection team over many years. We wish Alec and his family every happiness for the future.

Kathy Young kindly offered to add the role of Gift Aid secretary to her responsibilities – thank you Kathy.

Stephen Meech and Janet Gowen-Smith continue to serve as Churchwardens, and we are hugely grateful for all that they do, and for the support they give Revd Nicky in her ministry.

The PCC 'Away Morning' at Sissinghurst in May gave PCC members the opportunity to get together and discuss broader church issues – such as where we are now as a church, where do we need to go to nurture and grow as a church, and how are we going to get there? Members also looked into creating a Friends of Marden Church leaflet and electronic giving.

Support of worship services

Thankfully throughout 2022 we were able to return to communal worship in church, although services continue to be posted online, enabling those who are unable to attend in person to stay connected.

The weekly news sheet keeps church members informed and involved with all church services, activities and events, alongside the monthly Marden Church Parish Magazine. Our website continues to offer current information and is monitored and updated on a regular basis. Our Safeguarding policy is easily accessible on the website.

Sunday Club runs on the 2nd and 4th Sundays during Communion services. Numbers have continued to increase throughout the year with children actively participating and engaging with the liturgy led activities. The number of families that are beginning to attend church regularly is also very encouraging.

Messy Church is a great success with many families from our church, and the wider community, attending regularly. It is held in the Vestry Hall around every 6 weeks throughout the year, with a focus on a particular theme such as Harvest, Light, Christmas and Joseph, offering all age activities and craft followed by informal worship and tea.

Lent reflection booklets were available for use at home during Lent, and a Lent group was attended by a small regular group of people. Reflective Prayer stations were set up in church reflecting on the stations of the cross.

A Prayer Labyrinth was marked out in the churchyard as an invitation to prayer. Advent reflections were also available for use at home.

All are very welcome to join our Home Groups for a time of bible study, prayer and fellowship. Revd John Bourne leads the Thursday evening group and Sarah Emanuel leads the Tuesday afternoon group and new members are always welcome to join either of these groups.

Community building and fundraising

Thankfully, all the church led community events have restarted following the lifting of all Covid -19 pandemic restrictions. These are thriving and include:

- Craft Group
- Weekly Village Café
- Little Fishes Toddler group
- Monthly Community Lunch
- Come and Sing
- Events for charity including coffee mornings and soup lunches

Kathy Young and Janice Collins continue to organise and manage the Marden Food Bank, on behalf of the church. It is open on Monday mornings between 10-12 noon and is a real lifeline for some in the community, especially in the current economic climate and the increases in the cost of living. They are very grateful for the help and support they receive. Involve Kent visits the Food Bank on a monthly basis and is able to offer practical help with benefit applications and housing support.

The village community continues to be very generous in their support of the foodbank. All financial donations are managed by the church and used to buy supplies.

As well as donations from individuals, the Food Bank was supported by generous donations from the Parish Council and other community organisations such as the Paddock Wood Lions, the Salvation Army and Bethany School.

Students from Bethany School have been visiting on a Friday afternoon as part of their enrichment programme and have been very helpful sorting out and shopping for the Food Bank.

All Harvest Festival donations were handed over to the Food Bank and it was also the nominated church Charity of the Month for October, and received a welcome boost to funds.

Kathy is very grateful for the support she receives from Jan Collins, Angela Lindsell and Sandra Osbourne. It helps build relationships and trust when visitors see a familiar friendly face.

Little Fishes toddler group continues to thrive on Wednesday mornings during term time throughout the year and is an important form of outreach to the whole community. On average around 25 children attend each session and some of the families now also come along to Messy Church and Crib and Christingle services.

Many Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals have been held in the church throughout the year celebrating our joys and grieving for our sorrows.

The church took part in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations during the June Bank Holiday weekend. The church had a stall on Southons Field and the Bell ringers organised a BBQ to raise money for the restoration of the church bells. A Flower Festival was held in the church.

The church relies on Fundraising activities throughout the year to generate much needed income for church funds and we are very grateful to all who come along to support these events. Numerous events were held and these include:

A mid-summer Market was held in the front Vicarage garden in June, with a small number of stalls including cakes, provisions, crafts and a delicious BBQ.

Cream Teas were held in the Vicarage garden during five consecutive Sundays in August and September.

In September, Marden Church took part in the Ride & Stride in support of the Friends of Kent Churches and hosted the Friends of Kent Churches Tea event raising further funds.

We held a band concert in church as part of our Patronal festival weekend at the end of September.

The Christmas Market held in the church at the end of November was very successful and a lovely way to start the Christmas season.

The Christmas Tree festival in the church together with soup and rolls were available for all, as part of the Marden at Christmas celebrations.

We are very grateful to Carol Walker and Graham Codling for all the hard work they have put in to organising and managing so many fundraising events over the years and to all those who have helped out and supported in any way.

Sadly, the Friends of Marden's Heritage agreed that the charity would be dissolved at the end of March 2022. Membership had waned in recent years and there was a lack of volunteers to take up positions on the committee.

Over the past 13 years, the charity donated over £36,000 to the church which was largely used to refurbish the church tower and repair the church windows. Members of the PCC are most grateful to the support the FOMH has given to the church over the years.

Revd Nicky and Niall Dosad, the head of Marden Primary Academy have continued to extend the links between the church and the school throughout the year. Revd Nicky visits the school to take assemblies and the whole school came to church for a Remembrance service and the Christmas end of term service

Marden church once again welcomed Ordinands from St Augustine's Theological College to carry out a mission project in the community as part of their studies. The students organised an excellent day working with Years 3 and 4 pupils from Marden Primary Academy in the church, focusing on the Christmas Story.

Revd Nicky has also developed close links with Marden Scout Group.

Throughout the year we have continued to support nominated charities, as part of our Charity of the Month and the charities concerned have been very grateful for the donations that we have been able to send. Soup lunches are held in the Vestry Hall once a month in support of the Charity of that month and these have been hugely popular and successful in raising funds.

The church was very much a part of the parish 'Warm Spaces' initiative alongside other village groups and organisations to offer our services to those who need it in the village and help provide warm spaces to visit on a rota basis throughout the week in the winter months.

We are actively encouraging outside groups to use the church as it is lovely for it to be used by the wider community. However, we do need to make a charge for this as there are financial overheads such as heating and insurance.

The building

In February 2020, James Sawle our Tower Captain presented a report to the PCC for the proposed urgent restoration of the church bells.

The 8 Bells of Marden church are 110 years old and have had no significant maintenance work since their installation by Alfred Bowell. As a result, much of the fittings are in need of renewal and updating and in their current condition are becoming increasingly harder to ring, and require more monthly maintenance.

Three estimates were obtained with quotes in the region of £45k plus VAT.

Since then, and following the easing of all Covid restrictions, due to the pandemic, the bell ringers have thrown themselves into fundraising for the project with all funds raised going into a designated Bells Restoration Fund.

In September we put down a deposit of £15k with our preferred bell hanger, Nicholson Engineering, who have guaranteed to carry out the works for £45k plus VAT with the work scheduled to take place in Autumn 2023.

Earlier in the year storm Eunice caused some damage to both the church roof and also, to a lesser extent, to the roof of the Vestry Hall. The large church Notice Board was also blown over and damaged in the same storm. This was very kindly repaired by Les Daniel.

Essential repairs were carried out to the leather on the organ reservoir.

The Flagpole halyard has been replaced and we have a new flag with the Diocesan crest.

The Lady Chapel pews have been detached and moved to the side following the Pews Temporary Minor Re-Ordering (TMRO). This enabled us to make more flexible use of the floor space in the middle – and was particularly beneficial for displaying crafts at the Christmas Market and for use when the school visits.

A Health and Safety walk of the church and churchyard is carried out twice a year by members of the fabric committee.

A team of volunteers help to keep the church clean on a regular basis.

Bookings for the Vestry Hall have been good and we secured three new regular bookings later in the year.

Unfortunately our lengthy application for a grant from Allington Landfill Facility for the refurbishment of the Vestry hall was turned down.

The grounds

Under the oversight of the Fabric Committee, the Churchyard is developing well into its state of ‘Gods Natural Acre’.

Sadly in June, several fires were lit in the churchyard causing some damage to the fir trees and grass. These incidents were extremely concerning and reported to the police and the fire brigade. These actions, and other antisocial behaviours in the village, called for greater police presence and vigilance in the community.

The Maidstone Task Force organised for the Community Payback Team to work in the churchyard every Sunday to clear brambles and undergrowth, supervised by the probation service. The Payback Team has done a great job and their work is much appreciated. Members of the team are invited to join the congregation for coffee and biscuits after the main 10.30am Sunday services.

Outside contractors continued to maintain areas of tight mowing and areas of natural (but maintained) growth supported by a team of volunteers to clear other parts of the churchyard. PCC members are grateful to all those who have helped look after and maintain the churchyard – it is hugely appreciated.

The people

We continue to build relationships with those in the wider community with a healthy number of Weddings and Baptisms.

A copy of Marden Church's Data Protection Policy is held in the church office and can be read on our website and is reviewed by the PCC every three years.

As mentioned earlier in the report, we are now registered with Inclusive Church as a church which celebrates and affirms every person and does not discriminate.

We are committed to being a 'Safe Church', following strict Safeguarding procedures, DBS checks and Data Protection. Stricter regulations, as a result of GDPR, have meant that people may receive additional consent forms to sign and that is all part of the process of reinforcing ourselves as a safe church.

Marden Church's Safeguarding Policy is reviewed by the PCC on an annual basis.

Marden Church belongs to the Weald Deanery, and our Deanery representatives keep the PCC informed of developments within the Deanery and neighbouring parishes. Graham Codling is the Deanery Lay Chair and Brian Woodgate, the Deanery secretary.

Churches within the Deanery have been working on the Weald Wide Web plan, with the aim of encouraging co-operation between churches, reaching out to all our communities and adapting to change. This has now been approved and has formed a framework from which to work for parishes in the deanery. There is no specific path to follow, but parishes are encouraged to share ideas and work collaboratively.

Deanery Elections will take place in 2023, with three representatives from Marden Church elected on to the Deanery.

Financial review

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2022 is set out on page 18 and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2022 on page 19.

In 2022 total receipts for unrestricted funds increased to £129,319 compared to £119,416 in 2021. This increase was largely due to legacies gifted to the church and also to higher income from fundraising activities (£6,137) and from hire of the Vestry Hall (£7,160) in the absence of any Covid-19 lockdowns or restrictions during 2022. Regular planned giving and the gift aid reclaimed on it fell 4% to £73,079. Gross income of £9,655 from the Parish Magazine was largely unchanged from 2021.

Total designated fund receipts in 2022 increased to £43,952, comprising donations of £11,175 for the Marden Food Bank, £22,337 for the Restoration of the Bells Fabric Fund (including a generous legacy), £4,466 for charitable giving and £5,971 for Living Memories. In comparison, total designated fund receipts in 2021 were £14,425 (£5,962 for the Food Bank, £4,420 for the Fabric Fund, £2,825 for charitable giving and £1,217 for Living Memories).

In 2022 net total funds showed a surplus of £48,532 compared with a deficit of £21,972 in 2021. This surplus comprised a £30,135 surplus in unrestricted funds (2021: deficit of £263) and a £18,397 surplus in unrestricted funds (2021: deficit of £21,709). These swings from deficit back to surplus in both unrestricted and designated funds reflected a combination of factors: in 2021 a restoration of the church windows cost £20,869 and we returned to paying the full amount of our Parish Share (£78,650 versus £53,960 in 2020), whereas the inflow of funds in 2022 benefited from three legacies and a major fund raising effort for the restoration of the church bells.

At the year-end 2022 total unrestricted funds carried forward were £45,816 (2021: £15,681) and total designated funds carried forward were £25,484 (2021: £7,087). Net assets at the year-end 2022 were £71,300 (2021: £22,768) and included bank balances of £59,323 (2020: £26,977).

As at 31 December 2022 total designated funds of £25,484 included £11,268 for the Food Bank (2021: £3,121), £6,072 for Living Memories (2021: £2,470) and £8,141 for the Restoration of the Bells Fabric Fund (which included £1,496 transferred from the Heritage Fabric Fund on its dissolution in 2022).

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds equating to at least three months' unrestricted payments. This is equivalent to approximately £30,000. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. PCC was able to return to meeting this target in 2022 with unrestricted funds of £45,816 carried forward at the end of the year (versus £15,681 at 2021 year-end).

Designated funds of £25,484 at the year-end were exclusively for the use of the Food Bank, Living Memories, the Bells Fabric Fund and the General Fabric Fund.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the PCC has a reasonable expectation that it has adequate unrestricted funds to meet its debts as they fall due despite unpaid voluntary 2020 Parish Share contributions of £25,329, payable to the Diocese of Canterbury. There is no legal requirement for the PCC to accrue for the outstanding amount in the financial statements as it is not a legally enforceable liability and it is a voluntary contribution payable when funds permit. In January 2023 £8,534 was paid to the Diocese as a part-payment towards the arrears. In addition the PCC has a reasonable expectation that it has adequate unrestricted funds if there is a shortfall in donations to meet the commitments for the restoration of the church bells.

Structure, governance and management

The PCC

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is the governing body of St Michael & All Angels Church, Marden. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. 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.

The PCC meets six times during the year, which includes an Away Morning. Between PCC meetings the Standing Committee comprising the Vicar, the churchwardens, the Treasurer and the PCC secretary, meets to act on behalf of the PCC.

At the PCC meetings all matters regarding the running of the church and its finances are discussed. At each of its meetings the Council receives a report from the Incumbent relating to Mission and Ministry, Treasurer, from the Churchwardens regarding church fabric and maintenance, from meetings of Deanery and Diocese, from the Vestry Hall Committee, Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks and from the Youth and Children's Worker and the Food Bank.

The Vicar, other ministers (lay and ordained), the Churchwardens and the representatives at the Deanery & Diocesan Synods are, by nature of their role, members of the PCC. The remaining 12 members are elected at the Annual Meeting. As at the date of this Report there are 12 elected members.

The PCC members who have served from 1 January 2022 until the date of this report are set out on page 2. Chris Wyton and Mathew Young will be retiring at the APCM 2023 and David Emanuel will be standing down. Sarah Davies and Anne Cox will be eligible for re-election.

With an electoral roll of between 100 and 200, the PCC is entitled to have 12 elected members.

Committees

Various groups and committees meet between PCC meetings as appropriate and report back to the PCC for discussion and decision. These groups and committees include the Finance and Standing Committee, the Vestry Hall Committee, the Charities Committee and the Fabric Committee.

Finance and Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any direction given by the PCC. It oversees the general finances of our Church work by monitoring income and expenditure and the annual budget.

In 2022, it comprised the Incumbent, Churchwardens, Treasurer, and the PCC Secretary. The Finance and Standing Committee meets 5 times during the year.

Vestry Hall Committee

This group has the responsibility of overseeing the maintenance and running of the Vestry Hall.

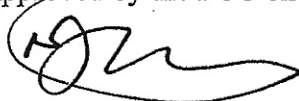
Charities Committee

Marden Church supports a number of charities over the year, with a particular focus given to a specific named charity each month of the year and two charities during December. The charity is promoted throughout the month, with information and leaflets displayed on a large board by the entrance door. Any donations to the charity are placed in the box by the door or made on-line to the treasurer, and the total is given to the charity at the end of the month, together with any extra fundraising from special events, such as the soup lunches, held during the month.

We continue with our Mission objective of SHARING GOD'S LOVE IN:

- WORSHIPPING TOGETHER
- LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER
- SERVING OTHERS.

Approved by the PCC on 8th March 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Rev'd Nicky Harvey

Statement of the PCC's responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the Charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- a) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- b) make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c) state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- d) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Independent examiner's report to the Parochial Church Council of St Michael and All Angels, Marden

I report to the members of the Parochial Church Council (the PCC) on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 18 to 26.

This report is made solely to the PCC, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I may state to the PCC those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the PCC for this report or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. The PCC consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the 2011 Act and that an independent examination is needed.

I report in respect of my examination of the financial statements of the PCC under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, I can confirm that no matters have come to my attention giving me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements covering the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008.

In connection with my examination, I have considered the ability of the PCC to continue as a going concern due to the unpaid voluntary Parish Share contributions due to the Diocese of Canterbury for 2020 amounting to £25,329 as at 31 December 2022 and the commitment of £47,079 inclusive of VAT for the restoration of the church bells, of which £15,693 inclusive of VAT was paid during the year.

Independent Examiner's report (continued)

I am satisfied that the PCC can continue as a going concern because, after making due inquiries:

- the Parish Share is not a legally enforceable liability and is a voluntary contribution payable when funds permit, of which £8,534 was paid in January 2023 and also there is no legal requirement for the PCC to accrue for the outstanding amount in the financial statements; and
- as at 31 December 2022 donations of £23,834 had been received to cover the cost of the restoration of the church bells and as at the date of signing this report a further £6,418 had been received in donations leaving a further £16,827 by October 2023;
- the PCC have a reasonable expectation in the event of any shortfall in the fund raising for the restoration of the church bells that the Church has adequate unrestricted funds, which as at 31 December 2022 were £45,816, to meet any shortfall in the fund raising for the restoration of the church bells.

I have no other concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



L D Stracey ACMA
Bowling Green Cottage
High Street
Marden
Kent TN12 9DP

29 March 2023

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Incoming resources					
Voluntary income	2(a)	94,286	43,952	138,238	99,566
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	6,137	-	6,137	8,311
Income from investments	2(c)	-	-	-	1
Church activities	2(d)	21,736	-	21,736	22,960
Other incoming resources	2(e)	7,160	-	7,160	3,003
		<u>129,319</u>	<u>43,952</u>	<u>173,271</u>	<u>133,841</u>
Resources expended					
Fundraising activities	3(a)	335	-	335	-
Church activities:					
Diocesan Parish Share	3(b)	70,117	-	70,117	78,650
Church improvements	3(c)	(15,693)	15,693	-	20,869
Other church activities	3(d)	44,425	9,862	54,287	56,294
		<u>99,184</u>	<u>25,555</u>	<u>124,739</u>	<u>155,813</u>
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources		30,135	18,397	48,532	(21,972)
Balance brought forward at start of the year		15,681	7,087	22,768	44,741
Total funds carried forward at end of the year		<u><u>45,816</u></u>	<u><u>25,484</u></u>	<u><u>71,300</u></u>	<u><u>22,768</u></u>

The notes on pages 20 to 26 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of assets and liabilities

at 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Current assets			
Debtors	5	18,078	2,640
Cash at bank	6	59,323	26,977
		<u>77,401</u>	<u>29,617</u>
Creditors:			
Amounts falling due within one year	7	(6,101)	(6,849)
Net assets		<u>71,300</u>	<u>22,768</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted funds	4	45,816	15,681
Designated funds	4	25,484	7,087
Total funds		<u>71,300</u>	<u>22,768</u>

The notes on pages 20 to 26 form an integral part of these financial statements.

These financial statements on pages 18 to 26 were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 8th March 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:



Rev'd Nicky Harvey
Chairperson for 2022

Notes *(forming part of the financial statements)*

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2015) preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements are presented in sterling and rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

The primary objective of the charity is to promote the gospel of Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrine and practice of the Church of England. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognized at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The church is a registered charity in England and Wales. The trustees are the members of the PCC.

Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the PCC has a reasonable expectation that the Church has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future given that the outstanding amount of £25,329 due to the Diocese of Canterbury for the 2020 Parish Share is not a legally enforceable liability and is a voluntary contribution payable when funds permit. Also there is no legal requirement for the PCC to accrue for the outstanding amount in the financial statements. In addition the PCC has a reasonable expectation that it has adequate unrestricted funds if there is a shortfall in donations to meet the commitments for the restoration of the church bells. Therefore the PCC continues to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Funds accounting

Unrestricted funds are general funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and can be used by the PCC for general purposes.

Notes *(continued)*

1. Accounting Policies *(continued)*

Funds accounting *(continued)*

Designated funds represent donations or grants received for specific future purposes. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given and any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year are carried forward as a balance on that fund.

The designated funds comprise donations and grants for the Heritage Fabric Fund (dissolved 2022), the Restoration of the Church Bells Fund, the General Fabric Fund, Living Memories and Marden Food Bank.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognized when received. Tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognized when the incoming resource, to which it relates, is received. All other income is recognized when it is receivable.

Resources expended

The voluntary diocesan Parish Share is accounted for when due except where there is a strong possibility or no likelihood that the PCC will not have the funds to meet the payment and it is then accounted for on a receipts and payments basis. All other expenditure is generally recognized when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Current assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown in debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Short term deposits include cash held on deposit at the bank.

Notes (continued)

2. Incoming Resources

(a) Voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Planned giving	58,149	-	58,149	59,716
Collections at services	2,758	-	2,758	2,742
Gift day	-	-	-	500
Gift aid recovered	14,930	-	14,930	16,402
Donations	5,449	43,952	49,401	10,202
Legacies, grants and other income	13,000	-	13,000	-
	<u>94,286</u>	<u>43,952</u>	<u>138,238</u>	<u>99,566</u>

(b) Activities for generating funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Fundraising activities	<u>6,137</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,137</u>	<u>8,311</u>

(c) Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Interest income	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

(d) Church activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Fees from weddings, funerals etc.	12,081	-	12,081	13,085
Magazine income	9,655	-	9,655	9,875
	<u>21,736</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,736</u>	<u>22,960</u>

Notes *(continued)*

2. Incoming Resources *(continued)*

(e) Other incoming resources

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Vestry hall income	7,160	-	7,160	3,003

3. Resources expended

(a) Cost of generating funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Fundraising activities	335	-	335	-

(b) Parish Share

The Parish Share due for 2022 and 2021 was paid in full. The Parish Share for 2020 excluded arrears of £25,484 which were not accrued as it was not possible to make the payment due to depleted funds. The Parish Share is not a legally enforceable liability and is a voluntary contribution payable when funds permit. In January 2023, following PCC approval, a payment of £8,534 was paid to the Diocese of Canterbury as a part-payment towards the arrears.

(c) Church improvements

An advance payment of £15,693 was paid during the year for the restoration of the Church bells which has been included in resources expended for Designated funds for the year ended 31 December 2022. This advance payment was transferred to prepayments as at 31 December 2022.

Notes *(continued)*

3. Resources expended *(continued)*

(d) Other church activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Fees remitted to diocese	6,876	-	6,876	7,403
Church giving	-	7,493	7,493	14,580
Magazine expenses	3,662	-	3,662	3,666
Vestry hall expenses	3,589	-	3,589	3,394
Office expenses	3,129	-	3,129	3,358
Church utilities	9,814	-	9,814	7,455
Ministry expenses	17,355	-	17,355	15,803
Miscellaneous expenses	-	2,369	2,369	635
	44,425	9,862	54,287	56,294

4. Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2022 £
Debtors	2,385	15,693	18,078
Cash at bank and in hand	53,251	6,072	59,323
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(6,101)	-	(6,101)
Amounts due from unrestricted funds to designated funds	(3,719)	3,719	-
	45,816	25,484	71,300

5. Debtors

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Gift aid receivable	2,385	-	2,385	2,640
Prepayments – restoration of bells fund	-	15,693	15,693	-
	2,385	15,693	18,078	2,640

Notes *(continued)*

6. Cash at bank

	2022	2021
	£	£
Unrestricted funds	53,251	24,507
Designated funds	6,072	2,470
	<u>59,323</u>	<u>26,977</u>

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Deferred income from magazine advertising	5,401	5,310
Vestry Hall rents received in advance	400	221
Wedding deposits received in advance	300	800
Charity donations received in advance	-	518
	<u>6,101</u>	<u>6,849</u>

8. Designated funds

	2022
	£
Balance at 1 January 2022	7,087
Incoming resources	43,952
Resources expended	(25,555)
	<u>25,484</u>

Designated funds comprise:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Marden Food Bank	11,268	3,121
Heritage Fabric Fund	-	1,496
Living Memories	6,072	2,470
Restoration of Bells Fund	8,141	-
Fabric Fund General	3	-
	<u>25,484</u>	<u>7,087</u>

Notes *(continued)*

8. Designated funds *(continued)*

The balance on the Restoration of Bells Fund can be analysed as follows:

	2022 £
Balance at 1 January 2022	-
Transfer from the Heritage Fabric Fund	1,496
Donations received during the year	22,338
Advance payment to the contractor	<u>(15,693)</u>
Balance at 31 December 2022	<u>8,141</u>

The outstanding amount to be funded at 31 December 2022 can be analysed as follows:

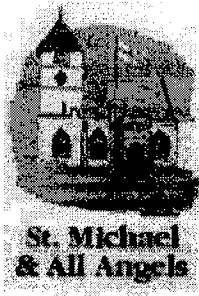
	2022 £
Amount committed to contractor	47,079
Advance payment to the contractor	<u>(15,693)</u>
Balance on Restoration of Bells Fund	<u>(8,141)</u>
Balance to be funded at 31 December 2022	<u>23,245</u>

As at the date of the signing of these financial statements further donations of £6,418 have been received during 2023.

MARDEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

England & Wales - Charity number 1142437

Accounts



MARDEN PARISH CHURCH

Annual Report

and

Financial Statements

of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ended

31 December 2021

Charity Number: 1142437

Contents

	Page
Legal and administrative information	3
Annual Report	4 - 14
Statement of the PCC's responsibilities	14
Independent examiner's report	15 - 16
Statement of financial activities	17
Statement of assets and liabilities	18
Notes	19 - 23

Legal and Administrative Information

Incumbent:	Revd Nicky Harvey	
Wardens:	Mr Graham Codling Mrs Carol Walker Dr Stephen Meech Mrs Janet Gowen-Smith	Retired APCM 2021 Retired APCM 2021 From APCM 2021 From APCM 2021
Representatives on the Deanery Synod:	Graham Codling Brian Woodgate Di Copas	
Elected PCC members:	Ali Bonney (Secretary) Sandra Bourne Jan Collins Anne Cox Sarah Davies David Emanuel Jane Higgs Jane Lowther Stephen Meech Jonathan Picken Zoe Tsui Robert Tweddle Carol Walker Chris Wyton Matthew Young	From APCM 2021 Retired APCM 2021 Retired APCM 2021 Until APCM 2021 Until APCM 2021
Co-Opted PCC Member:	Mike Davidson (Treasurer)	
Church Office:	The Vestry Hall, High Street Marden TN12 9DR	
Independent Examiner:	Les Stracey Bowling Green Cottage, High Street, Marden TN12 9DP	
Bankers:	NatWest Bank 3 High Street Maidstone ME14 1HJ	

Annual Report

Aims and purposes

The PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Nicky Harvey, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church building and the Vestry Hall.

Objectives and activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at the parish church of St. Michael and All Angels. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how the services can involve the many groups that live within the parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. This has included - during the Covid pandemic - the provision of online worship.

When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular the PCC tries to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of the parish community through:

- worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel, and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus;
- provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;
- missionary and outreach work.

The mission statement of the PCC is:

To share God's love

- in worshipping together;
- in learning and growing together; and
- in service to others.

Achievements and performance

Electoral roll

In April 2021 there were 125 members on the Electoral Roll and at the end of the year there were 126 members on the Roll.

Annual Report *(continued)*

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Church attendance

We started the year with a national lockdown due to the continued spread of Covid-19 throughout the country, and the church was closed for communal worship, given the high levels of Covid infection in the local community. Once again, we had to turn to on-line services as our main forms of worship and all services were live streamed through the church Facebook page and were well viewed. This included midweek and Sunday services. Service sheets were made available on the website for people to download and use in their homes.

We returned to worship in church on Easter Day and it was a service full of Joy! Services continued to be posted online for those unable to attend in person.

The Sunday Evening Prayer service continued on Zoom for the first half of the year, until evening services were reintroduced in church in the early summer. Throughout the year, we had to adapt and change the way that we were able to reach out to our community, as rules and regulations changed.

As restrictions throughout England were lifted in the summer months of 2021, PCC members agreed that we should take a gradual, cautious approach to our re-opening and a staged approach to the easing of restrictions, especially as many church members are elderly or have health conditions which make them vulnerable.

The Remembrance Service was held outside, due to the high levels of Covid circulating at the time. It was a beautiful service and well received by all those who were able to attend.

Christmas Services went ahead as planned, and were well attended – especially by the wider community - given the prevalence of the virus and mask wearing and other Covid safety measures were adhered to as far as possible.

Personnel

Revd Nicky has continued to be supported in her ministry by Sarah Emanuel, our Reader, and Amanda Abbitt, our Authorised Lay Minister. As a trained bereavement minister, Amanda is authorised to conduct funerals in church and we are extremely grateful to both Sarah and Amanda for their support throughout the year.

Kathy Young continues to develop the faith of our young people as Youth and Children's Worker. However, the restrictions caused by the pandemic meant that she was not able to meet up with our young people regularly for the first part of the year. Kathy is also Church Administrator and responsible for managing the Food Bank.

Annual Report *(continued)*

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Personnel (continued)

Jane Lowther retired as Treasurer at the APCM in May and PCC members expressed their thanks to Jane for all that she has done to manage the church finances and also for her leadership of the choir over many years. We wish Jane and her family every happiness in their move to the Peak District.

Mike Davidson very kindly volunteered to take on the role of treasurer and we are very grateful to him for this.

Graham Codling and Carol Walker retired as Churchwardens at the APCM in May. Revd Nicky expressed her thanks to both of them for all that they have done, in particular taking the church through the pandemic and also the period of interregnum. They have done an amazing job and offered years of service. She also thanked them for welcoming her and supporting her so wonderfully in her new ministry.

Stephen Meech and Janet Gowen-Smith were elected as our new Churchwardens in May, and we are very grateful for all that they have done following their election as custodians of the church.

Support of worship services

With a national lockdown at the start of the year, on-line services became a mainstay of worship at a local, Diocesan and national level. As restrictions eased, in church worship resumed and our Easter Day service was held in church. Services continued to be posted online, enabling those who were unable to attend in person to stay connected.

The weekly news sheet has kept church members informed and involved with all church services, activities and events, whether in person or on line.

During the season of Epiphany, Revd Nicky distributed Epiphany Blessing Boxes to everyone on the church electoral roll. It was an excellent way for Nicky to meet the church community, given that face to face contact was so hard at the start of her ministry with us with strict Covid restrictions in place.

As we were unable to hold a Mothering Sunday service in church, a prayer tree was set up in the porch so that people could write the name of someone dear to them or a prayer at this time. Posies of flowers were available in the church porch for people to collect to give to their loved ones.

Lent bags were made up for people to collect from the church porch for use throughout the Lent period. Two Lent courses were run and meetings were held on Zoom.

Annual Report *(continued)*

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Support of worship services (continued)

Messy Easter bags were put together to reach out and support children and families. These contained activities and crafts to enable them to explore Holy Week.

Messy Church was restarted in September, reaching out to families who are unable to come to church due to other commitments, such as sporting activities. The sessions have all been very well attended and enjoyed by all.

Throughout the pandemic, our home groups have continued to provide support and comfort to people through regular meetings, whether in a home environment or on Zoom, as restrictions allowed. Revd John Bourne and Sarah Emanuel lead our two home groups, and new members are always welcome to join either of these groups.

Community building and fundraising

Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, church led regular community events were thriving. These included:

- Craft Group
- Weekly Village Café
- Monthly Community Lunch
- Living Memories
- Come and Sing
- Events for charity including coffee mornings and lunches

Sadly, the announcement of lockdowns and restrictions imposed on social gatherings, meant that all the above events and activities could no longer take place, as the Vestry Hall and other community places in the village could no longer host any social events.

As restrictions gradually began to ease, some of these activities were able to resume and the Vestry Hall was re-opened for use.

Kathy Young continues to organise and manage the Marden Food Bank, on behalf of the church. It is open on Monday mornings between 10-12 noon and we have about 30 families on our register, with 12-15 families visiting each week, and they are all very grateful for the help and support that they receive.

The village community continues to be very generous in their support of the foodbank. All financial donations are managed by the church and used to buy supplies.

Annual Report *(continued)*

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Community building and fundraising (continued)

As well as donations from individuals, the Food Bank was supported by generous donations from the Brigade Gym in Marden, from Marden Primary Academy and from the Trefoil Guild in Staplehurst.

All Harvest Festival donations were handed over to the Food Bank and it was also the nominated church Charity of the Month for October, and received a welcome boost to funds.

With the lifting of restrictions and the re-opening of the Vestry Hall, it became apparent that a permanent storage area would be needed to store all the Food Bank supplies. A cupboard was constructed in the porch area of the hall, and this works very well providing ample storage.

Kathy is very grateful for the support she receives from Jan Collins and Angela Lindsell. It helps build relationships and trust when visitors see a familiar friendly face.

Following the lifting of restrictions, we were once again able to hold Weddings and Baptisms, which have been much welcomed. We continue to have a large number of requests for Baptism, which take place either during the main Sunday service or at a separate service on a Sunday afternoon. Having this choice is much appreciated by the families concerned.

Funerals were able to take place during the periods of lockdown, but with very limited numbers allowed to attend.

A mid-summer Market was held in the front Vicarage garden in June, with a small number of stalls including cakes, provisions and crafts. This was very well attended and raised over £1,000 of much needed funds for the church.

Cream Teas were held in the Vicarage garden, or in the Vestry Hall in inclement weather, on Sunday afternoons during July and August. This was a joint fundraising venture between the church and the Friends of Marden's Heritage and raised an incredible £1,430 which was divided equally between the two charities.

Following two very successful taster sessions in July, Little Fishes toddler group was formally started in September on Wednesday mornings during term time. This has proved hugely popular, as there was a great need for this type of provision, and this has formed an important form of outreach to the whole community.

In September, Marden Church took part in the Ride & Stride in support of the Friends of Kent Churches. £500 was raised for the charity - with £250 coming back to the church - which was fantastic and thanks to Margaret Bradford who organised the event in our church and to all who took part in the event.

Annual Report *(continued)*

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Community building and fundraising (continued)

The Christmas Market at the end of November was very successful and a lovely way to start the Christmas season. Thanks to all the hard work of all those involved, an amazing £2,760 was raised.

Once again we were able to hold a Christmas Tree festival in the church and soup and rolls were available for all in the church, as part of the Marden at Christmas celebrations.

Revd Nicky and Niall Dosad, the head of Marden Primary Academy are keen to extend the links between the church and the school and these will be developed further in the coming months. Marden church welcomed Ordinands from St Augustine's Theological College to carry out a project in the community as part of their studies. The students organised an excellent day working with pupils from Marden Primary Academy in the church, focusing on Remembrance.

Throughout the year we have continued to support nominated charities, as part of our Charity of the Month and the charities concerned have been very grateful for the donations that we have been able to send. It is hoped that next year we will be able to organise more fundraising events in support of charities, as restrictions and Covid levels ease.

The building

In the spring of 2021, work began on the Restoration of the Church Windows and this was carried out and completed to a very high standard over the course of two months by Nick Easthope, the glass conservator. Several years of fundraising by the church and the FCMH enabled sufficient funds to be raised to carry out the work. We were also supported by a grant from the Friends of Kent Churches.

PCC members are very grateful to Brian Woodgate for overseeing the repairs and liaising with the contractor.

A review of Fire Safety was carried out in the church, including risk assessments, procedures and equipment.

A thorough BIG CLEAN of the church was carried out in the summer to remove the dust and dirt that had accumulated for over a year. A team of volunteers now help to keep the church clean on a regular basis.

From 1st June, the Vestry Hall was open for use for groups of up to 15 people and it reopened fully for bookings in September, with revised guidelines to comply with the current Covid regulations, providing much needed income for the church.

Annual Report *(continued)*

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

The grounds

Under the oversight of the Fabric Committee, the Churchyard is developing well into its state of 'Gods Natural Acre'.

Outside contractors continued to maintain areas of tight mowing and areas of natural (but maintained) growth supported by a team of volunteers to clear other parts of the churchyard.

PCC members are grateful to all those who have helped look after and maintain the churchyard – it is hugely appreciated. Special thanks are given to Mat Young, Matilda Young and Tom Adam for all their work clearing the churchyard and for uncovering graves that have been hidden for many years.

The people

With the closure of the church during the national lockdown, church members looked to on-line forms of worship and contact with the church community. The on-line services have been an invaluable support to church members and those in the wider community, who may not be able to or wish to come to church.

Weddings, funerals and Baptisms were severely affected by the changing restrictions imposed during the first part of the year, which was very difficult for all those involved. Yet despite the restrictions we were still been able to offer a funeral ministry and offer support to those who have been bereaved. Once the restrictions were lifted we were able to hold 8 weddings, 15 infant baptisms and 3 adult baptisms.

A copy of Marden Church's Data Protection Policy is held in the church office and can be read on our website and is reviewed by the PCC every three years.

We are committed to being a 'Safe Church', following strict Safeguarding procedures, DBS checks and Data Protection. Stricter regulations, as a result of GDPR, have meant that people may receive additional consent forms to sign and that is all part of the process of reinforcing ourselves as a safe church.

Marden Church's Safeguarding Policy is reviewed by the PCC on an annual basis.

Marden Church belongs to the Weald Deanery, and our Deanery representatives keep the PCC informed of developments within the Deanery and neighbouring parishes. Graham Codling is the Deanery Lay Chair and Brian Woodgate, the Deanery secretary.

Bishop Rose visited the Deanery in June, and came to Marden in the morning to meet Revd Nicky and Graham. She enjoyed a tour of the local Anno Gin distillery!

Churches within the Deanery have been working on the Weald Wide Web plan, with the aim of encouraging co-operation between churches, reaching out to all our communities and adapting to change.

Annual Report *(continued)*

Financial review

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2021 is set out on page 17 and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2021 on page 18.

In 2021 total receipts for unrestricted funds increased to £119,416 compared to £101,678 in 2020, reflecting some reopening of church services and activities as Covid-19 restrictions eased. The increase was largely due to a £10,256 increase in gross fees received for weddings and funerals, a £6,013 increase in collections at services and ad-hoc donations, and an increase of £2,783 from fundraising activities. Gross income from the Parish Magazine and Vestry Hall (respectively £9,875 and £3,003) was largely unchanged from 2020 (respectively £10,128 and £2,667). Regular planned giving remained stable.

Total designated fund receipts for the year were £14,425, chiefly comprising £5,962 for the Marden Food Bank, £4,420 for the Fabric Fund, £2,825 for charitable giving and £1,217 for Living Memories. In comparison, total designated fund receipts in 2020 were higher: at £29,511 (of which £23,751 was for the Food Bank), primarily due to increased receipts for the Food Bank during the first few months of the Covid-19 pandemic.

There was an overall deficit for the year of £21,972 compared with a surplus of £15,398 in 2020. The total deficit comprised a small deficit of £263 in unrestricted funds (2020: surplus of £5,154) and a deficit of £21,709 in designated funds (2020: surplus of £10,243). This negative movement in net resources was largely attributable to the £20,869 payment for the restoration of the church windows and the return to paying the full amount of our Parish Share in 2021 (£78,650 versus £53,960 in 2020).

At the year-end 2021 total unrestricted funds carried forward were £15,682 (2020: £15,945) and total designated funds carried forward were £7,087 (2020: £28,796). Net assets at the year-end 2021 were £22,769 (2020: £44,741) and included bank and deposit balances of £26,977 (2020: £47,846).

As at 31 December 2021 total designated funds of £7,087 (2020: £28,796) comprised £3,121 for the Food Bank (2020: £8,915), £2,470 for Living Memories (2020: £1,937) and £1,496 for the Heritage Fabric Fund (2020: £17,944).

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds equating to at least three months' unrestricted payments. This is equivalent to approximately £30,000. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. Due to the unprecedented situation caused by the Covid-19 pandemic the PCC fell well short of this target as unrestricted funds at 31 December 2021 were £15,682. Designated funds of £7,087 at the year-end were exclusively for the use of the Food Bank, Living Memories and the Heritage Fabric Fund.

Annual Report *(continued)*

Financial review *(continued)*

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the PCC has a reasonable expectation that it has adequate unrestricted funds to meet its debts as they fall due. At 31 December 2021 unrestricted funds were insufficient to meet unpaid voluntary Parish Share contributions of £25,484 due for 2020 to the Diocese of Canterbury. The Parish Share is not a legally enforceable liability and is a voluntary contribution payable when funds permit. Also there is no legal requirement for the PCC to accrue for the outstanding amount in the financial statements.

Structure, governance and management

The PCC

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is the governing body of St Michael & All Angels Church, Marden. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. 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.

The PCC normally meets six times during the year, which includes an Awayday. Between PCC meetings the Standing Committee comprising the Vicar, the churchwardens, the Treasurer and the PCC secretary, meets to act on the behalf of the PCC.

However, the closure of the church during lockdown and the imposition of tight restrictions meant that PCC meetings had to be held on Zoom during this time.

At the PCC meetings all matters regarding the running of the church and its finances are discussed. At each of its meetings the Council receives a report from the Incumbent relating to Mission and Ministry, Treasurer, from the Churchwardens regarding church fabric and maintenance, from meetings of Deanery and Diocese, from the Vestry Hall Committee, Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks and from the Youth and Children's Minister and the Food Bank.

The Vicar, other ministers (lay and ordained), the Churchwardens and the representatives at the Deanery & Diocesan Synods are, by nature of their role, members of the PCC. The remaining 12 members are elected at the Annual Meeting. As at the date of this Report there are 11 elected members.

The PCC members who have served from 1 January 2021 until the date of this report are set out on page 2. Robert Tweddle will be retiring at the APCM 2022. Sandra Bourne will be eligible for re-election.

Annual Report *(continued)*

Structure, governance and management *(continued)*

With an electoral roll of between 100 and 200, the PCC is entitled to have 12 elected members

Committees

Various groups and committees meet between PCC meetings as appropriate and report back to the PCC for discussion and decision. These groups and committees include the Finance and Standing Committee, the Vestry Hall Committee, the Charities Committee, the Finance Group and the Fabric Committee.

Finance and Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any direction given by the PCC. It oversees the general finances of our Church work by monitoring income and expenditure and the annual budget.

In 2021, it comprised the Incumbent, Churchwardens, Treasurer, and the PCC Secretary. The Finance and Standing Committee meets 5 times during the year.

Vestry Hall Committee

This group has the responsibility of overseeing the maintenance and running of the Vestry Hall.

Charities Committee

Marden Church supports a number of charities over the year, with a particular focus given to a specific named charity each month of the year and two charities during December. The charity is promoted on the 1st Sunday of the month, usually by the church's representative of that charity, with information and leaflets displayed throughout the month on a large board by the North Chapel. Any donations to the charity are placed in the box by the door or made on-line to the treasurer, and the total will be given to the charity at the end of the month, together with any extra fundraising from special events held during the month.

Finance Group

The Finance Group is a practical, hands-on team concerned with all financial aspects of the church to support the Treasurer in his role.

Annual Report *(continued)*

We continue with our Mission objective of:

SHARING GOD'S LOVE IN:

- WORSHIPPING TOGETHER
- LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER
- SERVING OTHERS.

Approved by the PCC on 9th March 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



Rev'd Nicky Harvey
Chairperson for 2021

Statement of the PCC's responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the Charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- a) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- b) make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c) state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- d) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Independent examiner's report to the Parochial Church Council of St Michael and All Angels, Marden

I report to the members of the Parochial Church Council (the PCC) on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 18 to 24.

This report is made solely to the PCC, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I may state to the PCC those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the PCC for this report or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. The PCC consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the 2011 Act and that an independent examination is needed.

I report in respect of my examination of the financial statements of the PCC under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, I can confirm that no matters have come to my attention giving me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements covering the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008.

In connection with my examination, I have considered the impact of Covid-19 on the PCC's reserves and its ability to continue as a going concern. I am satisfied that the PCC can continue as a going concern, despite net assets on unrestricted funds amounting to £15,682 at 31 December 2021 being insufficient to meet the unpaid voluntary Parish Share contributions due to the Diocese of Canterbury for 2020 amounting to £25,484 because, after making due inquiries, the Parish Share is not a legally enforceable liability and is a voluntary contribution payable when funds permit. These unpaid voluntary contributions have not been accrued for in the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 as I understand there is no legal requirement for the PCC to do so.

Independent examiner's statement (continued)

I have no other concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



L D Stracey ACMA
Bowling Green Cottage
High Street
Marden
Kent TN12 9DP

10 March 2022

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Incoming resources					
Voluntary income	2(a)	89,562	10,004	99,566	113,329
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	3,891	4,420	8,311	2,609
Income from investments	2(c)	-	1	1	2
Church activities	2(d)	22,960	-	22,960	12,957
Other incoming resources	2(e)	3,003	-	3,003	2,293
		119,416	14,425	133,841	131,190
Resources expended					
Fundraising activities	3(a)	-	-	-	90
Church activities:					
Diocesan Parish Share	3(b)	78,650	-	78,650	53,960
Church improvements		-	20,869	20,869	-
Other church activities	3(c)	41,029	15,265	56,294	61,742
		119,679	36,134	155,813	115,792
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources		(263)	(21,709)	(21,972)	15,398
Balance brought forward at start of the year		15,945	28,796	44,741	29,343
Total funds carried forward at end of the year		15,682	7,087	22,769	44,741

The notes on pages 20 to 24 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of assets and liabilities
at 31 December 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Current assets			
Debtors	5	2,640	2,682
Cash at bank	6	26,977	47,846
		<u>29,617</u>	<u>50,528</u>
Creditors:			
Amounts falling due within one year	7	(6,848)	(5,787)
Net assets		<u>22,769</u>	<u>44,741</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted funds	4	15,682	15,945
Designated funds	4	7,087	28,796
Total funds		<u>22,769</u>	<u>44,741</u>

The notes on pages 20 to 24 form an integral part of these financial statements.

These financial statements on pages 17 to 24 were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 9th March 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:



The Rev'd Nicky Harvey
Chairman for 2021

Notes *(forming part of the financial statements)*

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2015) preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements are presented in sterling and rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

The primary objective of the charity is to promote the gospel of Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrine and practice of the Church of England. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognized at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The church is registered charity in England and Wales. The trustees are the members of the PCC.

Going concern

The PCC continues to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements because the PCC has a reasonable expectation that it has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future given that the outstanding amount of £25,484 due to the Diocese of Canterbury for the 2020 Parish Share is not a legally enforceable liability and is a voluntary contribution payable when funds permit. Also there is no legal requirement for the PCC to accrue for the outstanding amount in the financial statements.

Funds accounting

Unrestricted funds are general funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and can be used by the PCC for general purposes.

Designated funds represent donations or grants received for specific future purposes. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given and any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year is carried forward as a balance on that fund. The designated funds at the start and end of the year comprise donations and grants for the Heritage Fabric Fund, Living Memories and the Marden Food Bank.

Notes (*continued*)

1. Accounting Policies (*continued*)

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognized when received. Tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognized when the incoming resource, to which it relates, is received. All other income is recognized when it is receivable.

Resources expended

The voluntary diocesan Parish Share is accounted for when due except where there is a strong possibility or no likelihood that the PCC will not have the funds to meet the payment and it is then accounted for on a receipts and payments basis. All other expenditure is generally recognized when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Current assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown in debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Short term deposits include cash held on deposit at the bank.

2. Incoming Resources

(a) Voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Planned giving	59,716	-	59,716	60,081
Collections at services	2,742	-	2,742	765
Gift day	500	-	500	500
Gift aid recovered	16,402	-	16,402	16,926
Donations	10,202	10,004	20,206	34,549
Legacies, grants and other income	-	-	-	508
	89,562	10,004	99,566	113,329

Notes *(continued)*

2. Incoming Resources *(continued)*

(b) Activities for generating funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Fundraising activities	3,891	4,420	8,311	2,609

(c) Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Interest income	-	1	1	2

(d) Church activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Fees from weddings, funerals etc.	13,085	-	13,085	2,829
Magazine income	9,875	-	9,875	10,128
	22,960	-	22,960	12,957

(e) Other incoming resources

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Vestry hall income	3,003	-	3,003	2,293

3. Resources expended

(a) Cost of generating funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Fundraising activities	-	-	-	90

Notes *(continued)*

3. Resources expended *(continued)*

(b) Parish Share

The Parish Share due for 2021 was paid in full. The Parish Share for 2020 excluded arrears of £25,484 which were not accrued as it was not possible to make the payment due to depleted funds. The Parish Share is not a legally enforceable liability and is a voluntary contribution payable when funds permit.

(c) Other church activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Fees remitted to diocese	7,403	-	7,403	1,728
Church giving	-	14,580	14,580	19,168
Magazine expenses	3,666	-	3,666	3,412
Vestry hall expenses	3,394	-	3,394	2,902
Office expenses	3,358	-	3,358	8,477
Church utilities	7,455	-	7,455	10,972
Ministry expenses	15,803	-	15,803	14,983
Miscellaneous expenses	(50)	685	635	100
	41,029	15,265	56,294	61,742

4. Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2021 £
Debtors	2,640	-	2,640
Cash at bank and in hand	24,507	2,470	26,977
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(6,330)	(518)	(6,848)
Amounts due from unrestricted funds to designated funds	(5,135)	5,135	-
	15,682	7,087	22,769

Notes *(continued)*

5. Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Gift aid receivable	<u>2,640</u>	<u>2,682</u>
	<u>2,640</u>	<u>2,682</u>

6. Cash at bank

	2021	2020
	£	£
Unrestricted funds	<u>24,507</u>	<u>27,965</u>
Designated funds	<u>2,470</u>	<u>19,881</u>
	<u>26,977</u>	<u>47,846</u>

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Deferred income from magazine income	<u>5,310</u>	<u>5,087</u>
Vestry Hall rents received in advance	<u>220</u>	<u>-</u>
Wedding deposits received in advance	<u>800</u>	<u>700</u>
Charity donations received in advance	<u>518</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>6,848</u>	<u>5,787</u>

8. Designated funds

	2021
	£
Balance at 1 January 2021	<u>28,796</u>
Incoming resources	<u>14,425</u>
Resources expended	<u>(36,134)</u>
	<u>7,087</u>

Designated funds comprise:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Marden Food Bank	<u>3,121</u>	<u>8,915</u>
Heritage Fabric Fund	<u>1,496</u>	<u>17,944</u>
Living Memories	<u>2,470</u>	<u>1,937</u>
	<u>7,087</u>	<u>28,796</u>

MARDEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

England & Wales - Charity number 1142437

Accounts



MARDEN PARISH CHURCH

Annual Report

and

Financial Statements

of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ended

31 December 2020

Charity Number: 1142437

Contents

	Page
Legal and administrative information.....	3
Annual Report	4 - 14
Statement of the PCC's responsibilities.....	15
Independent examiner's report.....	16 - 17
Statement of financial activities	18
Statement of assets and liabilities	19
Notes.....	20 - 24

Legal and Administrative Information

Incumbent:	Revd Ali Duguid Revd Nicky Harvey	Retired February 2020 Licensed October 2020
Wardens:	Mr Graham Codling Mrs Carol Walker	
Representatives on the Deanery Synod:	Graham Codling Brian Woodgate Di Copas	
Elected PCC members:	Ali Bonney Sandra Bourne Anne Cox Sarah Davies David Emanuel Jane Higgs Jane Lowther Stephen Meech Jonathan Picken Zoe Tsui Robert Tweddle Chris Wyton Matthew Young	Secretary. Retired Sept 2020 Appointed Sept 2020 Appointed Sept 2020 Treasurer Retired Sept 2020
Co-Opted PCC Member:	Ali Bonney	From November 2020
Church Office:	The Vestry Hall High Street Marden TN12 9DR	
Independent Examiner:	Les Stracey Bowling Green Cottage, High Street, Marden TN12 9DP	
Bankers:	NatWest Bank 3 High Street Maidstone ME14 1HJ Scottish Widows Bank 67 Morrison Street Edinburgh EH38YJ	

Annual Report

Aim and purposes

The PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Nicky Harvey, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church building and the Vestry Hall.

Objectives and activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at the parish church of St. Michael and All Angels. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how the services can involve the many groups that live within the parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular the PCC tries to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of the parish community through:

- worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel, and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus;
- provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;
- missionary and outreach work.

The mission statement of the PCC is:

To share God's love

- in worshipping together;
- in learning and growing together; and
- in service to others.

Achievements and performance

Electoral roll

In April 2020 there were 123 members on the Electoral Roll and at the end of the year there were 121 members on the Roll.

Annual Report *(continued)*

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Church attendance

Church attendance was severely affected by the worldwide Covid-19 pandemic.

In March 2020 the UK went into a national lockdown and all places of worship were forced to close. Once churches were permitted to open later in the year, a service of Morning Prayer was held on Sunday mornings in church and this was well attended, given the social distancing measures that had to be enforced.

Communion Services were introduced towards the end of the year following the licensing of our new vicar, Revd Nicky Harvey, but a further lockdown curtailed these and other services in the church.

Throughout the year, access to on-line forms of worship flourished, as people were able to participate in these from the safety of their own homes.

Sarah Emanuel, our reader, uploaded regular weekly services filmed from inside the church, to our church Facebook page, which were well received. She also initiated an Evening Prayer service via Zoom every Sunday evening. Following her licensing, Revd Nicky streamed live services of worship from the church and the vicarage, depending on the restrictions in force at the time. These again were through the church Facebook page due to the church not being equipped with Wi-Fi.

Personnel

Revd Ali Duguid retired as Vicar of Marden in February and members of the church were able to say their goodbyes with Prosecco and Cake, following her final service. We thank Revd Ali for all that she has done for Marden Church over the years and wish her every happiness in her retirement.

On Tuesday 13th October, Revd Nicky Harvey was licensed as Vicar Designate of St Michael and all Angels, Marden by Bishop Rose, and she was warmly welcomed in her new ministry by those able to attend the Licensing service. Unfortunately, numbers had to be strictly limited due to social distancing measures in place. Revd Nicky was licensed as Vicar of the parish on December 15th by the Archdeacon of Maidstone The Venerable Andrew Sewell.

Revd Nicky was brought up in the Congregational Church and United Reformed Church and then joined the local Anglican Church in Seal where she remained for 34 years and was authorised as Pastoral Assistant in 2010. She was ordained as Deacon in 2017 and Priesthood in September 2019. Nicky served her Curacy at St Mary's, Hadlow.

Her education and work history and pastoral experience is wide-ranging and varied. She was a senior carer for BUPA at Pinehurst House, with responsibility for care of the dying, for nearly ten years and later worked as a hospital chaplain with Kings NHS Foundation Trust where she developed a particular interest in ministry to those in critical care, maternity and delivery, coronary care, children's wards and special care baby unit.

Annual Report *(continued)*

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Personnel (continued)

Revd Nicky has been a school governor for many years and has been involved with the Scouting movement since 2004.

She has three grown up children and enjoys music, gardening, sewing, walking and spending time in Northumberland, as she is a Companion of the Northumbria Community.

Since her Licensing in October, Revd Nicky has immersed herself in the ministry of the church in Marden, despite the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic, and has been warmly welcomed into the local community.

Judy Noakes retired from her position as Church Administrator in October, after 16 years of dedicated service. Judy achieved so much in her role and was an outstanding support to both Revd James Robertson and Revd Ali Duguid in their ministries. We wish her every happiness in her retirement and thank her for all she has done for the parish during her time as Church Administrator.

Kathy Young continues to develop the faith of our young people as Youth and Children's Minister. However, the restrictions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic meant that she was not able to meet up with our young people regularly throughout the year.

It became apparent that the pandemic was causing increasing hardship to many families in the local community, and Kathy became increasingly involved in the organisation and managing of the Marden Food Bank, in collaboration with the Children's Centre.

Church finances have been severely affected by the pandemic, and it was decided to extend Kathy's role as Youth and Children's Minister to include Church Administrator and Organiser of the Food Bank for the foreseeable future. We are extremely grateful to Kathy for taking on these extra responsibilities and for adapting herself to the changing needs of our church. She has been an invaluable support to Revd Nicky in her new ministry in Marden.

Following Revd Ali Duguid's retirement, and the ensuing Interregnum and national lockdown, Sarah Emanuel, our Reader, played a key role in the ministry of the church in Marden. She introduced regular on-line services filmed in the church during the lockdown and led services of Morning Prayer in the church, once restrictions had been lifted. Sarah also established a virtual Village Café, via Zoom, held every Friday morning. She also set up a weekly Bible Study via Zoom.

Annual Report *(continued)*

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Personnel (continued)

Amanda Abbitt, our Authorised Lay Minister, continues to support the Ministry of the church in all areas and led services of Morning Prayer in the church, once lockdown restrictions had been lifted. As a trained bereavement minister, Amanda is authorised to conduct funerals in church and we are extremely grateful for her support in this area throughout the year. Amanda leads the pastoral team, and she maintained regular contact with team members during the year to ensure support of the pastoral needs of the village and church community.

As mentioned above, the income of the church was dramatically reduced as a direct result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Jane Lowther, our treasurer, faced considerable challenges managing the accounts but worked hard to keep members of the PCC and the Diocese informed throughout the year.

Our churchwardens, Graham Codling and Carol Walker have managed to steer Marden Church magnificently through not only through an Interregnum, but also a global pandemic and our wholehearted thanks go to them for all their hard work and dedication during a very difficult year.

Support of worship services

Following Revd Ali's final service at the beginning of February, Marden church entered a period of Interregnum and Communion services were led by ordained ministers from inside and outside the parish.

On 23rd March the UK went into a national lockdown and churches and other places of worship were not permitted to open. As mentioned previously, on-line services became a mainstay of worship at a local, Diocesan and national level.

Churches were permitted to re-open later in the year in July. Strict social distancing measures had to be enforced at all times within the church building and services of Morning Prayer were resumed, led by Sarah Emanuel and Amanda Abbitt. We thank them for all their work in enabling services to resume in church.

Revd Nicky when she arrived in the parish maintained the provision of the current on-line services throughout, and these were well received and reached people beyond our normal Sunday congregation. They also enabled regular worshippers, unable to attend due to ill health or shielding, to stay connected. During the second lockdown in November our online provision of services extended to daily services of either Morning Prayer or Compline.

Annual Report *(continued)*

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Community building and fundraising

At the start of the year church led regular community events were thriving. These included:

- Craft Group;
- Weekly Community Café;
- Monthly Community Lunch;
- Living Memories.
- Come and Sing
- Events for charity including coffee mornings and lunches

However, the announcement of the national lockdown in March meant that all the above events and activities could no longer take place, as the Vestry Hall and other community places in the village could no longer host any social events.

Income for the Vestry Hall ceased immediately and any church or charity fundraising events had to be cancelled.

With the national lockdown and loss of jobs and income in the community, many local individuals and families were struggling to support themselves. The church took over the running of the Marden Food Bank and Kathy Young focused her energies on providing much needed food and grocery supplies to households in the community. The Children's Centre and church members supported her and generous donations from the whole community have poured into supporting the Food Bank.

The Food Bank is now permanently located within the Vestry Hall and all financial donations are managed by the church and used to buy supplies.

Very few church fundraising events took place during the year, although we were able to hold a mini Christmas market at the beginning of December outside the Vestry Hall, with social distancing measures in place and a considerable amount of money was raised to support church finances.

A Remembrance Day service was held outside the church on Remembrance Sunday and this was very well attended and much appreciated. This service was shortened to comply with Covid regulations at the time, but a live streamed service through the church Facebook page service was held on Armistice Day - from inside the church – where the names of those who died from Marden were read.

Annual Report *(continued)*

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Community building and fundraising (continued)

Unfortunately, due to the rising number of Coronavirus cases in the village, all Christmas services and activities had to be held on-line. This included the Christingle services usually organised by Kathy Young with our younger church members. However Christingle kits were put in the church porch and people were able to make them at home or during our live streamed Christingle service which was well attended.

The building

The Faculty for the Restoration of the Church Windows was received during the year and it is hoped that work would be able to start on the restoration in Spring 2021.

In February, James Sawle, Tower Captain, made a presentation to the PCC regarding the restoration of the church bells. He explained that the church bells' fittings would need to be restored in the next 5-10 years before their condition deteriorates to the point that they cannot be rung. PCC members thanked James and the bell ringers for their report, and agreed that they could explore the project further with the PCC's support, and would welcome further updates.

The grounds

Under the oversight of the Fabric Committee, the Churchyard is developing well into its state of 'Gods Natural Acre'.

Outside contractors continued to maintain areas of tight mowing and areas of natural (but maintained) growth supported by a team of volunteers to clear other parts of the churchyard.

The people

With the closure of the church during the national lockdown, church members looked to on-line forms of worship and contact with the church community. The on-line services offered by Sarah Emanuel and Revd Nicky have been an invaluable support to church members and those in the wider community, who may not be able to or wish to come to church.

Weddings and funerals were severely affected by the changing restrictions imposed during the year, which had been very difficult for all those involved. Yet despite the restrictions we have still been able to offer a funeral ministry and offer support to those who have been bereaved.

Annual Report *(continued)*

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

The People (continued)

A copy of Marden Church's Data Protection Policy is held in the church office and can be read on our website and is reviewed by the PCC every three years.

We are committed to being a 'Safe Church', following strict Safeguarding procedures, DBS checks and Data Protection. Stricter regulations, as a result of GDPR, have meant that people may receive additional consent forms to sign and that is all part of the process of reinforcing ourselves as a safe church.

Marden Church's Safeguarding Policy is reviewed by the PCC on an annual basis in May.

Marden Church belongs to the Weald Deanery, and our Deanery representatives keep the PCC informed of developments within the Deanery and neighbouring parishes. Graham Colling is the Deanery Lay Chair and Brian Woodgate, the Deanery secretary.

Financial review

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2020 is set out on page 18 and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2020 on page 19.

Total receipts on unrestricted funds for the year are £101,678 compared to £133,130 in 2019. The decrease in receipts is primarily due to a £16,622 decrease in total giving, £6,208 decrease in vestry hall income and a decrease of £6,772 in fees received from weddings and funerals. The total receipts for designated funds for the year are £28,383, including charitable giving of £4,331 and £300 for Living Memories and £23,751 for the Marden Food Bank this compares with £17,178 for 2019. Collections at services of £765 were compared to £5109 in 2019 due to church services being suspended due to the Covid pandemic.

The surplus for the year of £15,397 compared to a deficit of £7,932 in 2019. Unrestricted funds show a surplus of £5,155 (2019: deficit of £3,891) and designated funds show a surplus of £10,242 (2019: deficit of £4,041).

The balances carried forward at 31 December 2020 for unrestricted funds totalled £15,945 (2019: £10,790) and for designated funds totalled £28,796 (2019: £18,554).

The Voluntary Parish Share contributions were not paid in full due to reduced income as a direct consequence of Covid-19 pandemic. The Parish share arrears at 31 December 2020 amounting to £25,484 have not been accrued in the financial statements because there is a strong possibility that the PCC will not have sufficient funds to make the payment due to the uncertainty over the future income of the PCC.

Annual Report *(continued)*

Financial review *(continued)*

The net assets of £44,741 (2019: £29,343) as at 31 December 2020 includes bank and deposit balances of £47,846 (2018: £31,298).

The designated funds as at 31 December 2020 of £28,796 (2019: £18,544) include £17,944 (2019: £16,443) for the heritage fabric fund, £1,937 (2019: £2,111) for the living memories fund and £8,915 (2019: £nil) for the Food Bank

Reserves policy

It is the PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds, which equates to at least three months unrestricted payments. This is equivalent to approximately £30,000. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. Due to the unprecedented situation caused by the Covid-19 pandemic the PCC fell well short of this target as the net assets at 31 December 2020 were £15,397. The net assets amounting to £28,796 held in designated funds are retained to meet the specific objects of the Heritage Group Fund, the Living Memories funds and the Food Bank

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on concern basis because after making due enquiries of the Diocese of Canterbury the PCC have reasonable expectation that, despite the net assets on unrestricted funds being insufficient to meet the unpaid voluntary parish share contributions due to the Diocese of Canterbury for 2020 amounting to £25,484, the PCC has adequate unrestricted funds to meet its debts as they fall due because the Parish Share is not a legally enforceable liability and is a voluntary contribution payable when funds permit.

Structure, governance and management

The PCC

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is the governing body of St Michael & All Angels Church, Marden. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure.

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.

The PCC normally meets six times during the year, which includes an Awayday. Between PCC meetings the Standing Committee comprising the Vicar, the churchwardens, the Treasurer and the PCC secretary, meets to act on the behalf of the PCC.

Annual Report *(continued)*

Structure, governance and management *(continued)*

The PCC (continued)

However, the closure of the church during lockdown and the imposition of tight restrictions meant that communication between PCC members during this time was more fragmented. Communication via e-mail and subsequently Zoom meetings ensured relevant issues were addressed.

At the PCC meetings all matters regarding the running of the church and its finances are discussed. At each of its meetings the Council receives a report from the Incumbent relating to Mission, Treasurer, from the Churchwardens regarding church fabric and maintenance, from MLT, from meetings of Deanery and Diocese, from the Vestry Hall Committee, Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks and from the Youth and Children's Minister.

The Vicar, other ministers (lay and ordained), the Churchwardens and the representatives at the Deanery & Diocesan Synods are "ex officio" members of the PCC. The remaining 12 members are elected at the Annual Meeting. As at the date of this Report there are 11 elected members.

Due to the restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, it was not possible to hold the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in April, as scheduled. Once restrictions eased, the APCM took place in September.

The PCC members who have served from 1 January 2020 until the date of this report are set out on page 2. Jane Higgs will be retiring at the APCM 2021. David Emanuel and Zoe Tsui will be eligible for re-election.

With an electoral roll of between 100 and 200, the PCC is entitled to have 12 elected members

Committees

Various groups and committees meet between PCC meetings as appropriate and report back to the PCC for discussion and decision. These groups and committees include the Finance and Standing Committee, the Vestry Hall Committee, the Ministerial Leadership Team and its sub teams, the Charities Committee, the Stewardship Committee, the Fabric Committee and the Eco Church Group.

Finance and Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any direction given by the PCC. It oversees the general finances of our Church work by monitoring income and expenditure and the annual budget.

Annual Report *(continued)*

Structure, governance and management *(continued)*

Finance and Standing Committee (continued)

In 2020, it comprised the Incumbent, Churchwardens, Treasurer, and the PCC Secretary. The Parish Administrator is a co-opted member. The Finance and Standing Committee usually meets 5 times during the year but in 2020 met 3 times formally and liaised via e-mail on other occasions.

Vestry Hall Committee

This group has the responsibility of overseeing the maintenance and running of the Vestry Hall.

Ministerial Leadership Team

The MLT is made up of the following groups each representing an area of Parish Ministry:

Mission: Mr Graham Codling

Prayer: Janet Gowen-Smith

Administrator: Mrs Judy Noakes and Mrs Kathy Young (from October)

Pastoral: Mrs Amanda Abbitt

Youth and Children's Minister: Mrs Kathy Young

Worship: Revd Alison Duguid (until February) and Revd Nicky Harvey (from October)

Music in Worship: Mrs Jane Lowther

PCC Liaison: Mrs Carol Walker

The MLT usually meets six times during the year. At every meeting a report is received from each group, minutes are taken by Carol and sent to all members of the PCC for discussion at PCC meetings. This procedure allows the group to discuss, challenge, inform and report on the ministry life of the Church on a regular basis.

Charities Committee

Marden Church supports a number of charities over the year, with a particular focus given to a specific named charity each month of the year and two charities during December. The charity is promoted on the 1st Sunday of the month, usually by the church's representative of that charity, with information and leaflets displayed throughout

the month on a large board by the North Chapel. Any donations to the charity are placed in the box by the door and the total will be given to the charity at the end of the month, together with any extra fundraising from special events held during the month. The PCC continues to monitor the system of charitable giving.

Annual Report *(continued)*

Structure, governance and management *(continued)*

Charities Committee (continued)

However, 2020 was a very different year and along with church donations, charitable donations have also suffered this year due to the pandemic.


Financial and Resources Support Group – replaces the Stewardship Committee.

At the PCC/MLT Awayday in May 2019, members looked at ways to support the Treasurer in her position and it was decided to rename the Stewardship Committee, the Financial and Resources Support Group (FRSG) as a more practical, hands on team concerned with all financial aspects of the church to support the Treasurer in her role.

We continue with our Mission objective of:

- SHARING GOD'S LOVE IN:
- WORSHIPPING TOGETHER
- LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER
- SERVING OTHERS.

Approved by the PCC on 10th March 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



Rev'd Nicky Harvey
Chairman for 2020

Statement of the PCC's responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the Charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- a) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- b) make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c) state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- d) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Independent examiner's report to the Parochial Church Council of St Michael and All Angels, Marden

I report to the members of the Parochial Church Council (the PCC) on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 18 to 24.

This report is made solely to the PCC, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I may state to the PCC those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the PCC for this report or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. The PCC consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the 2011 Act and that an independent examination is needed.

I report in respect of my examination of the financial statements of the PCC under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, I can confirm that no matters have come to my attention giving me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements covering the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008.

In connection with my examination, I have considered the impact of Covid-19 on the PCC's reserves and its ability to continue as a going concern. I am satisfied that the PCC can continue as a going concern, despite net assets on unrestricted funds amounting to £15,945 at 31 December 2020 being insufficient to meet the unpaid voluntary parish share contributions due to the Diocese of Canterbury for 2020 amounting to £25,484 because, after making due inquiries, the Parish Share is not a legally enforceable liability and is a voluntary contribution payable when funds permit.

Independent Examiner's report (continued)

I have no other concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Independent Examiner

17...*March*... 2021

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Incoming resources					
Voluntary income	2(a)	84,946	28,383	113,329	111,326
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	1,108	1,500	2,608	3,441
Income from investments	2(c)	-	2	2	7
Church activities	2(d)	12,957	-	12,957	19,240
Other incoming resources	2(e)	2,667	(374)	2,293	8,875
		101,678	29,511	131,189	142,889
Resources expended					
Fundraising activities	3(a)	90	-	90	77
Church activities:					
Diocesan parish share	3(b)	53,960	-	53,960	78,117
Church improvements		-	-	-	2,984
Other church activities	3(c)	42,474	19,268	61,742	69,643
		96,524	19,268	115,792	150,821
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources		5,154	10,243	15,397	(7,932)
Balance brought forward at start of the year		10,790	18,553	29,343	37,275
Total funds carried forward at end of the year		15,945	28,795	44,741	29,343

The notes on pages 20 to 24 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of assets and liabilities
at 31 December 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
Current assets			
Debtors	5	2,682	4,440
Cash at bank	6	47,846	31,298
		50,528	35,738
Creditors:			
Amounts falling due within one year	7	(5,787)	(6,395)
Net assets		44,741	29,343
Funds			
Unrestricted funds	4	15,945	10,789
Designated funds	4	28,796	18,554
Total funds		44,741	29,343

The notes on pages 20 to 24 form an integral part of these financial statements.

These financial statements on pages 18 to 24 were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 10th March 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:



The Rev'd Nicky Harvey
Chairman for 2020

Notes *(forming part of the financial statements)*

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2015) preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements are presented in sterling and rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

The primary objective of the charity is to promote the gospel of Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrine and practice of the Church of England. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognized at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The church is registered charity in England and Wales. The trustees are the members of the PCC

Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the PCC has a reasonable expectation that the Church has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future despite the net assets on unrestricted funds of £15,945 being insufficient to meet the unpaid voluntary parish share contributions due to the Diocese of Canterbury for 2020 amounting to £25,484, because the Parish Share is not a legally enforceable liability and is a voluntary contribution payable when funds permit. Therefore the PCC continues to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Funds accounting

Unrestricted funds are general funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and can be used by the PCC for general purposes.

Designated funds represent donations or grants received for specific future purposes. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given and any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year are carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Notes (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

The designated funds comprise donations and grants for the Heritage Fabric Fund and Living Memories.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognized when received. Tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognized when the incoming resource, to which it relates, is received. All other income is recognized when it is receivable.

Resources expended

The voluntary diocesan parish share is accounted for when due except where there is a strong possibility or no likelihood that the PCC will not have the funds to meet the payment and it is then accounted for on a receipts and payments basis. All other expenditure is generally recognized when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Current assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown in debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Short term deposits include cash held on deposit at the bank.

2. Incoming Resources

(a) Voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Planned giving	60,081	-	60,081	68,418
Collections at services	765	-	765	5,109
Gift day	500	-	500	400
Gift aid recovered	16,926	-	16,926	13,992
Donations	6,166	28,383	34,549	18,178
Legacies, grants and other income	508	-	508	5,229
	84,946	28,383	113,329	111,326

Notes (continued)

2. Incoming Resources (continued)

(b) Activities for generating funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Fundraising activities	1,108	1,500	2,608	3,441

(c) Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Interest income	-	2	2	7

(d) Church activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Fees from weddings, funerals etc.	2,829	-	2,829	9,601
Magazine income	10,128	-	10,128	9,639
	12,957	-	12,957	19,240

(e) Other incoming resources

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Vestry hall income	2,667	(374)	2,293	8,875

3. Resources expended

(a) Cost of generating funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Fundraising activities	90	-	90	77

Notes (continued)

3. Resources expended (continued)

(b) Parish Share

The Parish Share for 2020 excludes arrears of £25,484 (2019: £nil) which have not been accrued for as there is a strong probability that it will not be possible, to make the payment due to depleted funds and the unlikelihood of an upturn in future income. The Parish Share is not a legally enforceable liability and is a voluntary contribution payable when funds permit

(c) Other church activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Fees remitted to diocese	1,728	-	1,728	5,019
Church giving	-	19,168	19,168	8,543
Magazine expenses	3,412	-	3,412	4,610
Vestry hall expenses	2,902	-	2,902	4,882
Office expenses	8,477	-	8,477	11,836
Church utilities	10,972	-	10,972	14,027
Ministry expenses	14,983	-	14,983	17,480
Miscellaneous expenses	-	100	100	3,246
	42,474	19,268	61,742	69,643

4. Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2020 £
Debtors	2,682	-	2,682
Cash at bank and in hand	27,965	19,881	47,846
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(5,787)	-	(5,787)
Amounts due from unrestricted funds to designated funds	(8,915)	8,915	-
	15,945	28,796	44,741

Notes (continued)

5. Debtors

	2020	2019
	£	£
Gift aid receivable	2,682	4,440
	2,682	4,440

6. Cash at bank

	2020	2019
	£	£
Unrestricted funds	27,965	12,875
Designated funds	19,881	18,423
	47,846	31,298

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020	2019
	£	£
Deferred income from magazine advertising	5,087	5,395
Vestry Hall rents received in advance	-	500
Wedding deposits received in advance	700	400
	5,787	6,395

8. Designated funds

	2020
	£
Balance at 1 January 2020	18,553
Incoming resources	29,511
Resources expended	(19,268)
	28,796

Designated funds comprise:

	2020	2019
	£	£
Food Bank	8,915	-
Heritage fabric fund	17,944	16,443
Living memories	1,937	2,111
	28,796	18,554