

ST JOHN'S CHURCH HOVE

"Discovering and Sharing the Love of God"

**Parochial Church Council
Registered Charity No. 1146416**

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

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Vicar: Revd Dr Earl Collins

Independent Examiner: Ms Clare Osbond, FCIE
Silverdale Road, Hove, BN3 6FE

Bankers: Barclays Bank plc, 139-142 North Street, Brighton, BN1 1RU
The Central Board of Finance, Church of England Funds,
80 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6DZ

Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist, Hove for the year 1 January to 31 December 2020

Administrative Information

- The Parish Church of Hove: St John the Baptist is situated at the corner of Palmeira Square in Hove. The parish is part of the Deanery of Hove, the Archdeaconry of Brighton and Lewes and the Church of England Diocese of Chichester.
- The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St John the Baptist is registered with the Charity Commission as a charity (No 1146416). The correspondence address for the charity is The Church of St John the Baptist, The Vicarage, 119 Holland Road, Hove, BN3 1JS.

PCC Members

During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council;

Vicar: Revd Dr Earl Collins.

Church wardens: Mrs Mary Thomas (Lay Chair)
Ms Barbara Bush

Representatives on the Deanery Synod

Mrs Gillian Corps	Resigned July 2020
Mr Tom Savage	Until APCM 2022
Ms Barbara Bush	Until APCM 2023

Elected Members

Mr Trevor Beattie	Until APCM 2021
Mrs Julie Beattie	Until APCM 2023
Miss Lisa Godfrey	Until APCM 2022
Mr Chi Ho (Treasurer)	Until APCM 2022
Mr Alistair McNair	Resigned April 2020
Mr Tom Savage	Until APCM 2022
Ms Isla McFarlane	Until APCM 2021
Ms Sue Davidson	Until APCM 2023
Mr Andrew Maynard	Until APCM 2023
Mr John Browne	Until APCM 2023

Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England, and operates under the Parochial Church Powers Measure. The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission under the full title of “The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John the Baptist, Hove” (No 1146416).

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules. It consists of ex-officio members: namely the churchwardens, and representatives on the Deanery Synod. In addition, as the Electoral Roll is over 50 but not more than 100 there can be 9 elected members of the laity who each serve for a period of 3 years. St John’s has adopted a policy where one third of the elected members come up for re-election each year at the annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). PCC members are trustees of the charity. Attendance at PCC meetings in 2020 was 87%.

Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. The Standing Committee consists of the Priest in Charge, Churchwardens and other Church Officers (Secretary and Treasurer). This committee did not meet during 2020 with its full membership but monthly meetings continued between the vicar and churchwardens.

Building and Finance Committee

This is a sub-committee of the PCC which considers issues relevant to the maintenance of the building and the management of parish finances. It makes recommendations to the PCC for its consideration and comprises the Vicar, a churchwarden (Chair), PCC Secretary and Treasurer and three other parishioners.

Events Group

This is a sub-committee of the PCC which initiates and oversees a variety of events for the Church aimed at fund-raising. It makes recommendations to the PCC for its consideration and comprises a churchwarden and two other parishioners.

Risk Assessment

The PCC has ensured that the major risks to which the Church might be exposed (Governance, Operational, Financial, External/Environmental) have been identified by a risk analysis exercise. During 2020 the key elements within these areas were identified and mitigated as follows:

1. Governance: Lack of direction, strategy and forward planning

Mitigation: The Vicar and Churchwardens met as permitted by pandemic regulations during 2020, and when they could not, continued business on-line to ensure prompt and effective response to the changing national context as well as continuing Church business.

2. External/Environmental: Failure to respond appropriately to the COVID-19 pandemic. Inadequate, ineffective safeguarding arrangements for children, young people and vulnerable adults; reputational damage.

Mitigation: Following an early dedicated COVID-19 risk assessment, Government, Public Health England and Diocesan-compliant arrangements were implemented to safeguard parishioners and contractors.

A safeguarding policy (in the public domain) is in place and reviewed annually. Appointment of a Safeguarding Officer and attendance of all relevant church officials on a continuing programme of safeguarding training. Training has resulted in St John's being awarded SQP Level 1. Safeguarding is a standing discussion item at every PCC meeting.

Close working relationships with key occupants, the Cornerstone Community Centre, Hop 50+ and the Flower Stand, plus a programme of preventative maintenance, ensures that the internal and external fabric of the church building is fully maintained. Regular, professional maintenance of the garden is a visible sign to the community that we are a strong and caring community.

3. Operational: Parishioner and community dissatisfaction; failure to maintain key parish services and weekly opening hours.

Mitigation: A Complaints Policy is in place and reviewed annually. See Risk 2 above – alternative worship arrangements were implemented when forced to close during the pandemic. Contact was maintained with parishioners and worship material and other spiritual resources were sent out electronically and in print. A monthly e-bulletin was developed and circulated, signposting parishioners to the latest pandemic updates, wider support resources, and day to day church news. The external church noticeboards were stringently kept up to date, to ensure that anyone in the community wishing to attend had clear guidance on when the church was open and in what capacity.

4. Financial: Failure to generate sufficient income and maintain agreed level of reserves.

Mitigation: The PCC has met regularly in person, or electronically, throughout the year to make key decisions on services and budgetary issues. Closure for 24 weeks during the pandemic has impacted our income streams but the PCC has worked hard to look at all opportunities for savings, efficiencies and alternative funding streams. It has again increased the number of parishioners contributing through the Parish Giving scheme, direct debits and standing orders and introduced electronic giving, e.g., via Just Giving and the use of a QR code. Contributions continue to be received from other occupants towards the maintenance of the building and garden, and to utility bills. Applications were also made for grant funding to assist with repairs. Through these efforts and careful stewardship, the agreed Parish Share was paid and the reserve was maintained at the appropriate level.

Aims and Purposes

St John's PCC has the responsibility with the Vicar of promoting the Gospel according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England; and in promoting the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical within the parish.

To facilitate this work the PCC of St John's is also responsible for the maintenance of a large part of the church building, which is Grade 2 Listed. When planning our activities for the year, the Vicar and PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidelines on public benefit and, in particular, the guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

We try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship, prayer and discipleship
- Provision of pastoral care for people in the parish
- Missionary and outreach work

The Church's work is intrinsically of benefit to the public, as demonstrated by the following examples:

- The provision of space at much reduced rates within the church for the activities of a Centre and Café for older people, catering to the physical and mental wellbeing of its participants.
- Provision of a garden for the local community and allocated gardening space for projects run by the HOP50+ Centre for older people
- Provision of sizeable rent-free accommodation to the thriving, independently managed Cornerstone Community Centre.
- Opening Church whenever possible during the pandemic, for Private Prayer and Reflection: this saw a greater than usual proportion of non-church attenders, who valued the safe and silent space.

Objectives and Activities

Achievements and Performance

Church Attendance (*bracketed numbers relate to 2019*)

The Electoral Roll, as at 31 December 2020, stands at 75.

In 2020 church attendance was significantly and negatively impacted by COVID-related closures and capacity limitations. The average Sunday attendance was 38 (48). Normally these figures increase at the major church festivals, special services and baptisms. For example, our full range of Christmas services attracted large numbers, 343 in 2019. By contrast, in 2020, capacity restrictions meant that only a Christmas Day service could be held. Attendance at this was 29.

Review of the Year

A. Worship, Prayer and Discipleship

During 2020 the weekly pattern of worship was drastically affected by the limitations imposed on us by COVID-19. We employed alternative worship arrangements to allow us to continue as a prayerful, worshipping community. The year began normally with weekly services of Morning Prayer, Sung Eucharist and Compline running from January to mid-March. The church was then required to close until the end of July (first lockdown) during which time worship material was sent to parishioners electronically and by post. We re-opened on the 2nd August when services were restricted to two Said Sunday Eucharists to comply with COVID-19 requirements, particularly the limitations on capacity.

The church closed again in early November to early December (second lockdown) and alternative arrangements put in place for worship. Our full range of Christmas services and community engagement during the December re-opening was severely limited but Christmas Day was celebrated appropriately.

Our ability to minister to our parishioners through the milestones of Baptism, Marriage and Death continued albeit within the required capacity limits. Two children were baptised during the year.

B. Provision of Pastoral Care to people in the Parish

The clergy and PCC are aware of the difficulty of contacting many people in their homes, even when times are normal. Many of our parishioners are elderly or vulnerable, many live alone in flats, entry to which is either extremely difficult or indeed impossible. We are, therefore, very thankful that so many people are ministered to by the Hop50+ Older People's Centre and Café located in what was once the South aisle and church hall of St John's. Also, the Cornerstone Community Centre provides a safe environment for many local groups to pursue their activities and attend support groups. This year however their services were also constrained by the pandemic regulations. We worked closely with them in terms of maintaining health and safety requirements within the building, and on sharing thoughts and ideas on what was possible. Hop50+ for example managed for a short period to use the church garden to bring together small outdoor groups of their most vulnerable clients, to combat isolation and mental health issues. The church garden has proven a valuable resource in this respect, with the PCC welcoming the use of the garden by all clients of the Centres as well as residents from the wider local community.

Whilst being three quite separate organisations, we do work very well together in the one building, with a lot of good will and mutual cooperation and support. Volunteers from St John's occasionally help in Hop50+; other members of St John's fill places, also voluntarily, on the Board of Cornerstone.

The pastoral care team comprises the vicar and two lay officers, one of whom is able to administer home communion. In 2020 the team made 67 visits and over 100 phone calls. This invaluable service is welcomed by all.

C. Mission and Outreach

2020 has seen the final year of our most recent Mission Action Plan at St John the Baptist. And along with the many challenges of the pandemic, by the grace of God, it has delivered to us some new and invigorating opportunities. Never has the need been greater to support one another in the church, to focus in on our worship and prayer and to intensify our consideration of how we can best support the wider community, than at this difficult time.

The overall Mission of St John's for the last three years has been to Discover and Share the Love of God. In addressing this pragmatically we have planned, and now review, it in three parts: Open our Lives through Worship and Prayer; Share our Lives as a Christian Community; Work in Partnership with community groups to assist those in need.

Open our Lives through Worship and Prayer

We addressed the initial and changing regulations relating to COVID promptly and formally to provide safe modes of prayer and worship: this has involved a whole array of new methods of worship, from undertaking a detailed risk assessment to make the Church safe either for services, or for private prayer to assuring an effective track and trace service; training our stewards to manage safe sharing of the church space; providing and deploying a range of resources such as masks, gloves, surface cleaner; building an email mailing list to provide on-line contact, both worship and secular to support our congregation; increasing our pastoral calls across a wider group; ensuring notices outside the church are promptly changed with each new change. Particularly notable through this period have been the many sources shared between our congregation for prayer, hymns, and wider support that we alone were able to provide. During Easter and Christmas particularly, additional materials were provided to focus our Bible Study and reflection appropriately. Those joining the church during this time again commented on the quality of the welcome they received, even when the difficulties of that were so many. As each version of the regulations affected the services, they were promptly adapted to bring us together even if not in person, and when in person, with a priority on safety of our most vulnerable congregation.

Share our Lives as a Christian Community

During this year we have looked to the Diocese for guidance and for materials, and have been blessed that our vicar is uniquely placed in his role in Continuing Ministerial Development to develop both their resources and ours. Our Building and Finance Group have worked collaboratively to address some of the serious practical and financial challenges that a Grade 2 listed building presents and continues to do so. We have continued, in whatever form of service, to extend those contributing, through delivering Readings or Intercessions, and in discussing

changes and taking feedback. As we developed our on-line communications, we were able more quickly to link in with new visitors to the church, some of whom have already become regulars. We have shared in the form of an on-line Bulletin valuable signposts to services and support, mental health advice, and good news stories from around the community.

Work in Partnership with community groups to assist those in need

This has been a challenging year for our partners in the church, who also service our community, as their services too have been at times closed down altogether or severely constrained by the regulations. Earlier in the year, we undertook a sympathetic review of the lease agreements, that recognised the challenges they are facing. We have kept in close touch with what they are able to offer, offering support where possible. Particularly we are grateful to Cornerstone, who despite all, managed to donate the cost of our roof repairs this year. We agreed parking facilities for a film crew, that brought income into HOP50+. And we worked closely with the Flowerstand, a well-known focal point and service to the community, as they varied their goods to both meet community needs and ensure the survival of the business. Our key charitable giving is effected through the leases with Cornerstone and with HOP50+, recognising our shared mission to provide support across all groups in the community. The lease with HOP50+ on that basis is set at one tenth of the market rate: this currently equates to an annual contribution of £15,750. And for Cornerstone, only a notional annual rent is set, which we can only estimate as a roughly equivalent contribution to their community services by the church. We have continued to collect for Fareshare and held a particularly successful appeal at Christmas, resulting in a large donation of food and toiletries for distribution to those in need. In order to make as great a contribution to our Parish Share to the Diocese as possible, we have reviewed and trimmed our regular costs. And as we approached the year end, we had a wonderful response to a request for Christmas Events. This led to an on-line Carol Service, the raffle of an original art work and a lively on-line Christmas Quiz. All of these contributed significantly not only to the depleted church funds but to the morale and community spirit of our congregation.

Challenges for 2021

St John's faces many challenges in 2021, not least those relating to the financial and social impact of Coronavirus, i.e., improving income generation, both through increasing regular giving and through other sources – and addressing social isolation in the parish. Both of these activities rely on building our congregation and the support they offer to the church i.e. getting more people in, on the Electoral Roll, and the level of contribution to the work of the church they are willing to make.

As the church moves to re-opening, hopefully in 2021, more of the congregation are needed to engage actively in the maintenance and care of the church and its community. This both fully engages new members as they develop their understanding of our faith, whilst ensuring options for succession in years to come. In particular, as was flagged in last years' report, both churchwardens are due for replacement and clear progress is needed on this for the health of the church going forward.

The church must also address the need to:

- develop active prayer networks;
- improve its use of social media platforms;
support a virus recovery plan for the parish to include a thanksgiving service
and community outreach;
build strong links with the YMCA at St Patrick's
- continue and build on the strong relationships with Cornerstone and HOP50+
- develop a wider, sustainable fundraising strategy

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Income

- The total receipts on general unrestricted funds received were **£41,447** and are detailed in the Financial Statements. This represents a 0.03% decrease from the previous year (£41,461).
- Total receipts on designated funds for Church maintenance (stonework and quinquennial repairs) were **£2,820**.
- Planned Giving through standing orders and the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) increased by 21% to **£12,854** (2019: £10,611).
- During the COVID-19 pandemic, collections at services decreased significantly by 65% to **£3,043** (2019: £8,765) of which Gift Aid donations represented 28% (£855) as people have been unable to give in this way whilst the Church was closed.
- Since lockdown commenced, we have worked hard to encourage as many parishioners as possible to regularise their giving via the PGS or standing orders. We have also been encouraging online giving via the Church website/monthly bulletins as an alternative way to give for those who regularly donate by cash.
- St John's relies on the generosity of the congregation and the community to support its mission and ministry. The PCC was again very grateful to all who contributed financially to St John's during this difficult time through planned giving and large one-off donations.

Expenditure

- Total payments from general unrestricted funds were **£36,567** and are detailed in the Financial Statements. This represents a 3% increase from the previous year (£35,583).
- Total payments from designated funds for quinquennial repairs and garden improvements were £2,286.
- Net movement in funds on unrestricted (including designated) funds resulted in a surplus of **£5,413**.
- The largest expenditure of the PCC was the Parish Contribution to the Diocese to cover ministry costs at St John's. This amounted to **£19,343** but falls below the £46,318 that the Diocese has allocated to St John's. The balance of the costs of ministry is borne by the Diocese as a grant to the parish.
- Despite the Church being closed for 24 weeks, our expenditure has not substantially changed. We still need to support our mission, pay the insurance for the building, pay our regular bills, continue our outward giving and contribute towards our parish share which covers clergy costs across the Diocese.
- The closing balances in both unrestricted and restricted funds available to the PCC as at 31 December 2020 were **£52,949** and **£2,559** respectively.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance of general unrestricted funds which equates to approximately three months' worth of unrestricted payments to ensure continued financial security and to provide for contingencies. The cash balance of £34,726 held on unrestricted (general) funds at the year end, together with the amounts payable to and by the PCC, was in excess of this target.

Designated funds are sums of unrestricted money earmarked by the PCC for specific purposes. Designated funds in respect of stonework repairs, garden improvements, organ repairs and quinquennial repairs stand at £6,605, £619, £1,000 and £10,000 respectively. The PCC may decide to set aside additional sums from its unrestricted funds in order to meet the cost of other future Church repairs and maintenance or contingencies.

Signed on behalf of the PCC
on 18 April 2021



**Revd Dr Earl Collins - Vicar
Chair**

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST HOVE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Receipts and Payments Accounts

Receipts	Notes	Unrestricted		Restricted	Total	Total
		General Fund	Designated Fund		All Funds 2020	All Funds 2019
		£	£	£	£	£
<i>Voluntary Receipts</i>						
Planned Giving - Direct Debits		9,980	-	-	9,980	8,431
Planned Giving - Standing Orders		2,874	-	-	2,874	2,181
Collections at Services - Cash		2,188	-	-	2,188	5,311
Collections at Services - Gift Aid Envelopes		855	-	-	855	3,453
Sundry Donations and Appeals	3	3,478	600	-	4,078	1,753
Gift Aid recovered	4	5,069	-	-	5,069	5,053
Grants		-	-	-	-	-
Donations and legacies		-	-	-	-	5
		<u>24,445</u>	<u>600</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,045</u>	<u>26,187</u>
<i>Receipts from activities for generating funds</i>						
Trading Activities	5	552	-	-	552	1,397
		<u>552</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>552</u>	<u>1,397</u>
<i>Receipts from Church Activities</i>						
Rent from Church Lettings		656	-	-	656	1,187
Fees from Weddings & Funerals	6	631	-	-	631	909
Rent from Hop50+		1,750	-	-	1,750	1,750
Rent from The Flower Stand	7	9,600	-	-	9,600	6,500
Hop50+ Gas Bill		2,342	-	-	2,342	2,127
Cornerstone Community Centre Gas Bill		452	-	-	452	314
The Flower Stand Electricity Bill		9	-	-	9	87
VAT reclaims under LPoW	8	-	370	-	370	333
Contribution to Repairs from Tenants	7	948	1,850	-	2,798	1,088
		<u>16,388</u>	<u>2,220</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,608</u>	<u>14,295</u>
<i>Income from Investments</i>						
Bank interest		62	-	-	62	81
<i>Other incoming resources</i>						
Insurance claim		-	-	-	-	-
Total Receipts		<u>41,447</u>	<u>2,820</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>44,267</u>	<u>41,961</u>

Payments	Notes	Unrestricted		Restricted	Total	Total
		General	Designated		All Funds	All Funds
		Fund	Fund	Fund	2020	2019
		£	£	£	£	£
<i>Costs of generating Voluntary Income</i>						
Stewardship Costs		-	-	-	-	-
Expenses for fundraising		-	-	-	-	(469)
		-	-	-	-	(469)
<i>Church Activities</i>						
Missionary and Charitable Giving		-	-	-	-	(861)
Diocesan Parish Contribution		(19,343)	-	-	(19,343)	(18,000)
Clergy Expenses		-	-	-	-	-
Clergy Housing Costs (Utilities, Council Tax)		(4,482)	-	-	(4,482)	(1,659)
Deanery Synod Payment		(10)	-	-	(10)	(10)
Fees to Diocese		(1,012)	-	-	(1,012)	(266)
Church Insurance		(3,112)	-	-	(3,112)	(3,050)
Church Running Expenses (Utilities)		(3,306)	-	-	(3,306)	(4,006)
Church Maintenance		(3,136)	(2,220)	-	(5,356)	(3,261)
Upkeep of Services		(1,113)	-	-	(1,113)	(1,542)
Gardening		(668)	(66)	-	(733)	(1,708)
Mission & Hospitality		-	-	-	-	(738)
<i>Governance Costs</i>						
Independent Examination fee		(385)	-	-	(385)	(385)
		(36,567)	(2,286)	-	(38,853)	(35,487)
Total Payments		(36,567)	(2,286)	-	(38,853)	(35,956)
Excess of Receipts over Payments						
		4,879	534	-	5,413	6,005
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		4,879	534	-	5,413	6,005
Funds as at 1 January 2020		29,847	17,689	2,559	50,095	44,090
Funds as at 31 December 2020		34,726	18,223	2,559	55,508	50,095

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST HOVE
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	2020	2019
Monetary Assets	£	£
Current Account	44,344	38,931
CBF Deposit Fund	11,164	11,164
	55,508	50,095
Other Assets		
Debtors	1,419	2,244
	1,419	2,244
Total Assets	56,927	52,339
Liabilities		
Unpaid Diocesan fees	-	(304)
Other bills	-	(417)
	-	(721)
TOTAL ASSETS	56,927	51,618

MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

		Balance				Balance
		01/01/2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	31/12/2020
		£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds						
Sound System Fund	a	1,131	-	-	-	1,131
Garden Fund	b	1,428	-	-	-	1,428
		2,559	-	-	-	2,559
Unrestricted Funds						
General		29,847	41,447	(36,567)	-	34,726
Designated - Stonework	c	6,005	600	-	-	6,605
Designated - Garden	d	685	-	(66)	-	619
Designated - Organ	e	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Designated - Quinquennial	f	10,000	2,220	(2,220)	-	10,000
		47,536	44,267	(38,853)	-	52,949
Total Funds		50,095	44,267	(38,853)	-	55,508

- a - Restricted Fund - sums given by F. Mann and held on trust for church sound system / worship area
- b - Restricted Fund - sums held on trust for church garden
- c - Designated Fund - sums set aside for stonework repairs
- d - Designated Fund - sums set aside for garden improvements
- e - Designated Fund - sums set aside for organ repairs
- f - Designated Fund - sums set aside for quinquennial repairs

Notes

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, using the Receipts and Payments basis. It should be noted that the figures for 2019 have been restated where appropriate for comparison purposes.
2. The following assets are recognised but not valued in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities: moveable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust by the PCC which require a faculty for disposal.
3. Sundry donations/appeals have increased by 133% representing the generosity of parishioners and non-parishioners through large one-off contributions.
4. Gift Aid tax of £1,367 was received in respect of donations for the tax year 2019/20. A rebate of £1,306 was received via the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme for tax year 2019/20. A further sum of £2,396 was received during the year via the Parish Giving Scheme.
5. Income from trading activities has decreased by 60% and is in relation to various fundraising activities e.g. online quiz, Carol Service and easyfundraising.
6. Fees from weddings and funerals comprise of £22 and £609 respectively. This represents a 31% decrease from the previous year.
7. There were unpaid invoices at the end of the year due from The Flower Stand (£342) and Brighton & Hove City Council (£1,077).
8. A tax rebate of £370 was received from the Listed Places of Worship grant scheme in respect of VAT incurred in carrying out remedial repairs to the stairway roof.

This Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2020, including the notes, was approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf by



Revd Dr Earl Collins
Vicar

18th April 2021

**The Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts
Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist, Hove (Registered Charity No. 1146416)**

Independent Examiner's Report to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St John the Baptist, Hove

I report to the PCC on my examination of the accounts of the St John the Baptist, Hove ("the charity") for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner

The members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:-

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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

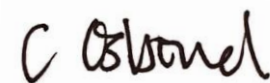
Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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

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

Signed



Clare Osbond FCIE

12 Silverdale Road, Hove, BN3 6FE

Date

