



CHRIST CHURCH WALSHAW

REPORTS OF CHURCH GROUPS FOR 2020/2021

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.

John 14: 1

Please have this report with you at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting which will be held on Thursday, 13 May 2021 at 7.30 p.m.

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Vicar

2020 was certainly an unusual year and for many one which brought much upset and sadness. So many people were poorly; many lost their jobs or went on to reduced incomes; many even lost loved ones in very distressing circumstances to the coronavirus.

The restrictions also brought lots of heartache and upset for those who had been planning weddings for 2020 and those who were hoping to be baptised in the year too; but, in the end, these life events have had to be postponed until 2021 or even 2022! Whilst funerals have continued, they were very different, what with the limit on numbers who could attend and no singing as, indeed, has been the case with all our services in church. Much of this continues today and we should continue to hold in prayer our family and friends, our community, our nation and people around the world.

The year started off with lots of excitement as we prepared for - and celebrated - our newly re-ordered building. If you remember we had a weekend of celebrations, open to the public on the Saturday and then on the Sunday we had Bishop David come along and help us celebrate with a service of Holy Communion.

In February we had *Flippin' Pancakes*, a pancake party which also raised some funds for Christians Against Poverty. We were also looking forward to our Tearfund *Faith at the Musicals* concert as well as the British Army Brass Band being with us. In March, we were fast heading towards Easter: holding an Ash Wednesday service in church and starting our Lent course at the Victoria Walshaw with around 20 people each week joining together to study the Book of Hebrews. We were really enjoying learning together for the first three weeks of the course and then IT hit!

The restrictions came in and then they were on and off, all meaning we missed celebrating Easter and having Remembrance Sunday in church but enabling at least some of us still to have our annual church meetings face to face, as well as reduced Harvest and Christmas celebrations in our beautiful building. Concerts were cancelled or postponed and the restrictions also meant my institution as Vicar in church in September was limited in the numbers who could attend, when I would have loved the whole church family to attend; so we shared it live online too.

For much of the year, however, we had no services in church, no prayer meetings, people working at home, schools closed and more. None the less, God enabled us to continue to 'be' and 'do' Church: we continued to be 'open for business but not business as usual'.

So we continued to pray: through our prayer chain, at home on our own using prayer booklets and resources online provided by the church, as well as on the telephone using Daily Prayer provided by the national Church. We prayed for the same things on the same days and, more than this, our community joined with us as prayer resources were shared via Face Book and Twitter and were received very enthusiastically by our neighbours. We prayed with others on the National Day of Prayer and throughout Lent. Towards the end of the year, Joanne started to help us pair up with others with Prayer Pals so that we could pray with others when we could and how we could, by telephone, online or even on a socially distanced walk. This year, 2021, we began our Tuesday evenings '10 minutes with God', short times of prayer online led by different members of our church family, which has around 40 people each week joining in!

We continued to worship together with services online, recorded initially and then a mixture of online live and in-church for those who were able to come. Within this, on a regular basis, we shared in Communion - Spiritual Communion while we couldn't meet and then a hybrid of Holy/Spiritual Communion when we could worship in church, so that those who were unable to attend could still participate fully. We managed to continue to share in the spiritual and actual breaking of bread!

Sharing our worship online meant that while we have been unable to go into Walshaw Hall over the last few months, we have been able to share our weekly worship with the residents online. We have also found that folk who never came to worship in church before the pandemic have started to join us regularly now online.

More than this, during these difficult times, we have been able to develop worship in new and exciting ways for children and young people - and their families - who we encouraged to use our website at school and

through the use of social media, including Toddler Worship Online with Wiggle; Play & Pray activities for young families; and Worship Videos online (for kids of any age) including songs we will all be very familiar with: Create in Me, My Lighthouse and more: all songs the children at our church school know.

During the year we found new ways of growing as disciples of Christ. While our sermons were a little shorter on recorded services and while home group couldn't meet, we started our 'Going Deeper' programme: weekly links to teaching from well-respected Christians from around the world as well as our Books of the Month, some brand new and some classics but new to us. Again these have been really well received and have covered a vast range of topics including the pandemic, corporate racism, the conflict in the Holy Land, pilgrimage and more.

In the lead-up to Christmas many of us followed an Advent course at home as we 'watched and waited' and during Lent of this year we followed a series of five lectures from Tim Keller on 'Being Human', as well as a series of reflections and times of prayer during Holy Week led by Joanne.

While we haven't been able to spend time with one another socially face-to-face, we have checked up on one another on the telephone, through our fast-developed pastoral scheme when the pandemic first struck, as well as informally too. We have also looked after one another practically including helping with the shopping when, for example, people were shielding and poorly.

Again technology has been so helpful, enabling our Walshaw Community Choir to continue to meet, even though they can't sing, to enjoy quizzes, chats and more on a weekly basis. This has been so important as the social side of the choir is just as important as the singing (if not more so).

While many of our regular mission activities have had to be suspended, we have been able to continue our part in God's mission in new and very exciting ways. So, we have been able to continue to reach out to children and young people and young families through Baby & Toddler Group Online and giving out craft activity bags to our tots too on a fortnightly basis for a period in 2020. We also shared Easter activity bags with children from church and our community in 2021.

Steph and I have been able to still engage with Christ Church Walshaw Primary School through recorded assemblies which have included songs, videos, prayers and a message. In September, we sent 'starter bags' in to school with a special message to those beginning school for the first time.

We have had 'Fun & Faith' links on our website for Children & Young people to have fun as they think about the things of God.

While we were unable to have our Carol Service and Christingle, we had instead our 'Star Festival' and 'Nativity Trail' through the village: both ways of sharing the Nativity story and the fact that #JesusIsTheStarOfChristmas in ways which were safe for all our community to join in with... and how they did! Participants included local businesses, primary and secondary schools and the initiative was adopted by other parishes in Bury too! We also encouraged our church family and community to join the diocesan Carol Service online when we were unable to have one in our church building.

Of course, where we could, we continued with our other current mission initiatives. So during 2020 we continued to support our mission partners in Bury and beyond, in prayer and financially, as well as Santiago through Compassion. As the needs of our local community increased in respect to food poverty, we were able to continue to collect for our local food bank Porch Boxes. More than this, we invited our community to join in; and 'join in' they did, dropping off donations at the vicarage each week. The response of our church family and our community has been and continues to be phenomenal and I would encourage you to keep it up.

So many people from our church family have contributed to our continuing ministry and mission during these difficult times. I am so grateful to you all for your partnership in ministry. Thank you to all of you.

However, we have not been on our own in all of this. God has been so faithful to us. He has enabled us to worship him and share in Holy Communion; He has provided us with ways for us to grow in Christ; He has enabled us to pray at home and with others in new ways; and we have been able to love and care for one

another - and members of our community - with His help too. He has also provided new and exciting ways for us to live out the vision for Christ Church Walshaw: to live and share the Good News of Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory.

Steve Openshaw

Parochial Church Council

It was inevitable that COVID 19 would have an impact on council's activities. None the less, since the last annual report in April 2020, council has met on six occasions, four of them on Zoom. As a consequence, a great deal of business has been effectively discharged. These included the meeting in February when, with a single item agenda, members of council produced a road-map to re-opening following the most recent lockdown.

The most important item on the Agenda was the Licensing Service held on 16 September. Whilst numbers attending were necessarily limited by then then-prevailing restrictions, it was a joyous occasion, overseen by Bishop Mark. The occasion was also important in consigning to history one awkward piece of nomenclature: "Priest-in-Charge" has been put to bed and favour of Vicar. This has come with a sense of relief all round as it secures the Revd Steve's status once and for all.

Whilst there was the Service of Celebration in January 2020 to mark completion of the Phase 1 Works to re-order the interior, work to sign off the project remains incomplete. Some snagging issues are still not wholly resolved and, at the time of writing, all the requisite paperwork has not yet been supplied. Further details appear in the report of the Building Projects Team where information about the proposed re-lighting of the church interior is also set out. For members of the team and of council – on whose agenda the works have been a near-fixture - this has been a source of frustration.

Having said that, there has been one unqualified success. Following research and a visit to an outfit in Blackburn, staging was ordered, delivered, assembled and installed. This will provide additional flexibility in services and – when it comes to it – other, externally generated events. For these last, a hiring policy has been approved.

As to personnel, council agreed unanimously to support two members of the fellowship – Jane Kenyon and Paul Rigby – in their undertaking the Foundations for Ministry course, training as Authorised Lay Ministers. Jane's specialism is in pastoral work whilst Paul's is in worship. Council approved a slew of Eucharistic Assistants, a routine but very important part of its annual administrative cycle.

Good management in meetings meant that time has been allocated efficiently and effectively to the necessary routines. Those flowing from the APCMs, held on 07 October because of the pandemic, were despatched in rapid order: the appointment of officers and their deputies, membership of committees, groups and teams. In addition, there have been some extremely important issues to address.

Amongst these, finance has been a concern. Giving has dropped enormously as the Treasurer's report, shown in the Notes to the *Financial Statement and Accounts*, demonstrates. The huge fall in income meant that council had to prioritise expenditure very carefully and that has had a significant and entirely negative impact on our ability to pay Parish Share and support our mission partners. Whilst there will be many churches in much the same position, it is essential that as the situation returns to what will necessarily be a new normal, the fellowship takes on board what is required for Christ Church to thrive.

There have also been hugely significant issues, externally generated, with which council has had to grapple. The first had been ongoing for some time: this was the proposal to abolish the existing area deaneries and replace them with larger deaneries overseen by a salaried Area Dean. Christ Church is now part of an area deanery stretching from Prestwich in the south to the southern boundary of Burnley in the north. Whilst contributions were invited to discussion of the proposals, it was patently a "done-deal", and so comments proffered by members of council were superfluous. It is fair to say that the appointment of our new Area Dean – the Revd Rachel Mann - has caused controversy.

So too has the diocesan document entitled *Living in Love & Faith*. This seeks to address, *inter alia*, issues of sexuality which have for so long proved difficult for the Church of England. The General Synod is expected to pronounce in 2022 but it seems inevitable that whatever is decided about, for example, same-sex marriages, will prove divisive both across and within churches.

Closer to home, the pandemic caused council to consider sustaining the live streaming of services in the long term and a working party has been established to consider how this might proceed. It was also agreed that the existing Mission Action Plan had reached its end-time and a meeting is planned when circumstances permit it to consider a new plan. Amongst other things, this will want to consider ideas to draw closer to like-minded fellowships in our area. Whilst this has for long been part of Christ Church's own agenda, it has been accelerated by the diocese's proposals for Mission Communities which seek to address the ongoing decline in the numbers of stipendiaries by sharing personnel and resources more effectively.

After what has been a difficult year, let us hope and pray that the coming twelve months will be just a mite less challenging for council!

Attendance during the past twelve months has been split between the "old" [shown with an *] and "new" as the APCMs at which new members of council were elected were delayed until 07 October.

Angela Ashworth 4/4, Alan Barnes* 5/6, Bill Clarke* 5/6, Diane Ewart-Jones* 2/2, Bernie Garnett 3/4, Nicola Gordon* 4/6, David Hemsall * 6/6, Jane Kenyon 4/4, Chris Lancashire 4/4, Joanne McKenzie 4/4, Steve Openshaw* 6/6, Anne Rigby* 1/2, Paul Rigby 4/4, Susan Schwarz 3/4, Pat White* 5/6.

David Hemsall

Audio-Visual Team

I'd like to express my thanks to everyone in the team who work to create and run PowerPoints for the services and operate the sound system. When church has been open during the past year, these people have continued to provide an invaluable service.

Once again I would like to ask for more help in both the sound and visual teams. We are in need of people joining us to help maintain cover each week without a few people becoming burnt out. Please do speak with me if you feel you are able to help in any way at all.

Helen Clark

Baby & Toddler Group

The last year or so certainly presented us with challenges! How could we continue to stay connected with young families when we were unable to meet on our usual Wednesday mornings, and when they were probably more in need of support and more than at any other time?

Thank you God for technology!

During the last twelve months or so we have shared with young families:

- 19 live Baby & Toddler Group sessions online: action stories, songs and more following the format of the last 15 minutes of our usual sessions in church
- 13 Wiggle Worship times: action Bible stories and songs plus prayers with Wiggle & Steph
- And numerous Play & Pray activity cards: online cards with links to Bible stories, like Noah and Joseph, as well as action faith songs too.

The take-up of these online activities has been tremendous, from families we already had contact with prior to the pandemic as well as with new families.

In addition over the last year, we have been so encouraged by the number of tots and their carers who have joined in with our various community activities and initiatives, many of them sending us pictures of themselves having a great time. These have included collecting activity bags for alumni Baby & Toddler

group tots, our Advent Star festival, our Nativity Trail around the village and, coming up to this Easter, collecting Easter activity bags.

Finally it's been lovely during the year to hear how the children and their carers have missed our church activities, as well as our all-age services and Children's Church so much. They're all looking forward to starting back as soon as they are able and, in some cases, with their new brothers and sisters who weren't even born before the pandemic. It's also been great to hear how so many of our tots from Baby & Toddler Group, now they are 'grown up', enjoy seeing Steve and me in our online assemblies at Christ Church CofE Primary School, coming home and telling their parents, "I saw Steph and Steve on telly!"

We are all really looking forward to things getting back to normal and developing new ways of staying connected with our alumni including through a new mid-week Family Service. Please hold this in your prayers.

Steph Openshaw

Building Projects Team

Whilst Covid 19 has had an impact on everyone, the team has continued to operate, albeit remotely and by email. Members have had five significant issues with which to deal.

First, there has been snagging issues flowing from the Phase 1 works, that is items requiring attention before the project could be finally signed off. Whilst there were relatively minor, getting them sorted took a great deal of time and persistence. It was only in February 2021, over a year since the Service of Celebration which marked the completion of the re-ordering, that the defects were made good. Having said that, some of the remedies applied may prove insubstantial but it is felt that these may well be addressed on a DIY basis.

Secondly, both the architect and contractor were slow to produce the necessary certifications and documentation for the Phase 1 works. At the time of writing, these remain incomplete: the Operating & Maintenance manual, for example, has yet to be approved by BPT. This last, as its title suggests, is essential.

Thirdly, as an add-on to the project to re-illuminate the church interior, the church architect was asked to provide a back-of-the-envelope costing to provide exterior lighting along the lines of the present illumination which provides limited flood-lighting to the east and west of the building, the former providing some illumination to the car-park. In response, the architect produced an off-the-shelf solution. This suggested the installation of 6 metre light lamp standards around the periphery of the roadway at a cost well in excess of £40,000. Consultations with St Paul's, Walkden where a similar set-up had been installed suggested very strongly that the installation there had proved costly to install, costly to maintain and costly to make good the several deficiencies. That being so, the team decided unanimously to abandon the scheme proposed as it represented very poor value for money, given the desire first to direct available funds to the interior re-lighting project.

Fourthly, what of the interior? The architect was asked informally to provide an estimate for the project: given the nature of the interior and his desire to "give a sense of theatre", he offered between £30-35,000. In February 2020, he was formally engaged to develop the project, having previously approached a design company, Concord-Sylvania. Communicating between the architect and BPT then became very sporadic: he was re- rather than pro-active, responding to prompts rather than initiating communication. He was twice reminded of the £30-35,000 figure which he had suggested and which CCW was in a position to fund. In his responses, it was clear that he was getting very little from the consultants he had engaged and in December 2020, he advised that he had dispensed with the firm's services, engaging a new outfit, Illuma, based in Derbyshire. Warden Pat hosted a visit by Illuma's representative and in February 2021, the architect relayed to BPT an outline design and a costing (of which, more in a moment). In barely two months, Illuma's involvement had moved from on-site visit to proposal.

Following up what the Convenor had termed the "erosion of confidence" amongst the team in an email to the architect, his line manager intervened. On 23 February, there was an uncomfortable three-way Zoom

meeting at which, without prior warning, the architect advised that the cost of the project would amount to £50,000 plus VAT, some of which might be recoverable. The Convenor played a very straight bat, saying that he would need to consult members of the BPT. His discomfort was considerable: amongst issues which it would be inappropriate to itemise here, it was clear that the architect had disregarded two reminders of what the team regarded as an affordable order of cost. Members of the team registered their views and, with the full backing of the PCC, it was decided that pending any positive come-back from the architect, the project would be put on hold for the present.

Fifthly, in his email setting up the 23 February Zoom meeting, the architect's line manager had written: "I can understand your concerns with regard to the slow progress of the lighting project. Whilst we have been reliant upon, and badly let down by, Concord lighting, we should have been more proactive in reviewing the situation with you.... Our intention has always been to provide a proposal that works for you and meets the requirement of your budget. Should you decide that you no longer wish for us to work for you in this capacity I would be disappointed but fully understand." Given what has transpired, therefore, there remains on the table a proposal to dispense with the services of the architect who was appointed in 2011 in open competition. The new council formed after the APCMs will be asked to decide, one way or the other, in the light of any further exchanges between the architect and BPT, bearing in mind that the church has to have an approved architect to meet diocesan requirements.

David Hempsall

Churches Together in Bury (CTB)

It has been a privilege to attend CTB meetings for several years now, and it continues to be a good forum for collaborative mission within the town. I attend each meeting to report on the CAP work I am involved in. There is space for one or two more representatives from Christ Church, should anyone want to come.

Membership is not compulsory, and many churches choose not to participate. Those who do however are part of an inter-denominational network wanting to work together to see Jesus made known to Bury residents.

Churches Together is not simply an informal discussion group but rather a properly constituted group with an annual meeting and elections. This year Nigel Thompson (Bury Christian Fellowship) has been Chairperson, with Ann Joyce (St John's, Birtle) being Secretary, and David Sutherland (Bury Christian Fellowship) being Treasurer. Meetings are held on Zoom on a bi-monthly basis.

A very significant development this year has been the increase in prayer taking place between churches. A fortnightly Zoom prayer meeting is held on Fridays at 7pm for 40 minutes, and these have been well attended. Sometimes 8 or 9 churches have been represented. Just recently we have been 'praying round the town', taking different postcode areas each time. Attendees have the opportunity of suggesting areas for prayer focus, and can lead if they would like to. I always find the meetings very encouraging, and come away feeling blessed to be part of such a diverse Christian community. These meetings are open to anyone, so please assign a few minutes on a Friday night to pray for the town and its residents.

The work of the Bury CAP Debt Centre was developed through meetings of Churches Together, and other significant mission projects are also given publicity and support. For example the excellent work based at The Manna House where hundreds of meals are provided each month for vulnerable people, as well as social support, or the excellent Trust House community centre in Whitefield, where Metro Christian Centre lead a team of volunteers doing similar work to the Manna House. Both projects provide plenty of opportunities to support those in need.

Another development this year has been the development of a CTB Facebook page, specifically to publicise mission activities, which churches can work together on. Please follow the page if you would like to keep in touch.

The meetings always include space for individual churches to share good things happening in their areas. This has revealed that there are some great things happening in Bury, and that many are committed to working together to see the kingdom of God built in our communities.

Do please contact me if you have any specific questions about Churches Together.

Gordon Clark

Churchyard

As might be expected, work done in the yard this year was limited. Camelot continued to visit and cut the grass in the graveyard, Garden of Remembrance and around the entrance so that all was kept tidy. We had to call in the tree surgeons to prune the ash tree adjacent to the houses on the north side as a number of branches had come down and it was overhanging the property. Beyond that, I did what I could to keep the brambles at bay and treat the remaining Japanese knotweed that persists in coming up. A "Thank you!" to John Clayton for sorting out the bins each week: it would be much easier if people used the correct bins for the green and general waste! A "Thank you!" too to the other nameless people who do bits and pieces in the yard, even if it's just a bit of litter picking.

Bill Clarke

Community Choir

As everyone will be aware, the Community Choir hasn't been able to meet together for the last year. We have been very fortunate that the choir's social committee has been very proactive in organising weekly Zoom meetings over this period. This has allowed a group of people to continue to meet together and they have enjoyed quiz and activity nights. At various times during this period Angela has reminded us of the value of the choir by sending videos of the choir singing our favourite songs.

We are all really looking forward to a time when we can meet again when we hope to renew old friendships and welcome new people. Community groups will be even more important as we come out of the pandemic and we know the choir will have a valuable part to play in the recovery.

Angela Ashworth and Helen Clark

Gift Aid Officer

As reported separately by the Treasurer in the *Financial Statement and Accounts* (see Note 1), the amount of Planned Giving on which tax could be claimed has declined to £27,419.87 (from £45,848.94 in 2019-2020). The tax claimed amounted to £6,854.97 (as against to £11,462.23 in 2019-2020).

The tax reclaimed from GASDS (Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme) amounts to £1,006.77, claimable on donations totalling £4027.09. All totals remain significantly below the figures from last year.

Diane Ewart-Jones

Safeguarding

Over the last year, the Safeguarding Team has not met as often as usual, due very largely to our not being in Church.

However, we have had an online meeting recently. One of the issues raised was the outside lighting, particularly to the back of the church where the car park is situated. It is our understanding that the Building Projects Team is looking into this and it is hoped that some of the money bequeathed to the Church may be utilised for this purpose.

A member of the Safeguarding Team asked if there were any funds available via the Diocese Safeguarding Team in relation to securing suitable exterior security lighting. I have subsequently made contact with the DCS to ask this question and I am awaiting its response.

We hope that once church returns to normal, Children's Church will have a register for all children attending which will include a record of parents and their contact numbers.

Having undertaken online training in regard to processing DBS check, I have been carrying out a number of DBS checks with new members of the PCC. These need to be fully processed.

We now have an agreed Safeguarding Policy in place in accordance with the Church of England's guidelines. The policy is scheduled for approval by the PCC on 4 May 2021, following its annual review and will be put to the APCMs for ratification on 13 May 2021.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church is committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Parish will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

This church appoints Jane Kenyon as the Parish Safeguarding Officer

Incumbent:

Churchwardens: (signed))

For the record, the PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Jane Kenyon



CHRIST CHURCH WALSHAW

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND ACCOUNTS OF THE PCC FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

**Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God;
trust also in me.**

John 14: 1

Please have this report with you at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting which will be held on Thursday, 13 May 2021 at 7.30 p.m.

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF CHRIST CHURCH WALSHAW

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Independent Examiner

As trustees of the charity, the members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 ("The 2011 Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of 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 trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matters have come to my attention

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep proper accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act); or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting recordshave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:


K. COLEMAN

Date: 16-04-2021.

Christ Church Walshaw - Accounts - 2020

	General Account (Unrestricted use)	Deposit Account (Designated & Restricted use)	Building Fund (Designated use)	Total
Opening Balance Jan 2020	47546	17902	8097	73545

Receipts				2019	Variance	Notes	
Tax efficient planned giving	25430		1396	26826	32898	-6072	
One off Gift Aid	355			355	12654	-12299	
Tax Recovered	12959			12959	10416	2543	
Other regular planned giving	1667			1667	1940	-273	
Collections of loose cash at services	1948			1948	3250	-1302	
All other giving	797			797	1484	-687	
Total giving	43156	0	1396	44552	62642	-18090	1
Legacies		50000		50000	11251	38749	2
Dividends & Interest	1505	36	5	1546	1549	-3	
Recurring Grants	50			50	6778	-6728	3
Non-recurring Grants	4			4	71500	-71496	
Listed Places of Worship Scheme	6127			6127	30375	-24248	4
Fees	961			961	2919	-1958	
Fund raising events	411			411	0	411	
Rental Income	32			32	125	-93	
Mums & Toddlers	398			398	674	-276	
Community Choir	800			800	500	300	
Leigh Chapel Trust				0	20000	-20000	
Total Income (excl. giving)	10288	50036	5	60329	145671	-85342	
Total Receipts	53444	50036	1401	104881	208313	-103432	
Transfers							
From Building Fund to General							
From General to Building Fund	354						
Total Receipts & Transfers	53444	50036	1755				

Christ Church Walshaw - Accounts - 2020

General Account	Deposit Account	Building Fund	Total
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Payments			2019	Variance	Notes
Overseas missions societies	1250	1250	1250	0	5
Christian Relief and Dev. Agencies	1850	1850	1368	482	
Home mission and other Church Soc.	1505	1505	1400	105	
Secular Charities	179	179	228	-49	
Parish Share/Quota	25000	25000	29066	-4066	6
Incumbent working expenses	1078	1078	1395	-317	
Salaries, wages & honoraria	3738	3738	4838	-1100	7
Parsonage	3355	3355	3255	100	8
Church running expenses	15351	15351	18521	-3170	9
Church maintenance	4371	4371	2756	1615	10
Upkeep of Services	1347	1347	864	483	11
Upkeep of churchyard	2195	2195	1764	431	12
Major Repairs & Improve.	30994	30994	200272	-169278	13
Support costs	312	312	407	-95	
Mums & Toddlers	99	99	93	6	
Parish Magazine		0	100	-100	
Church administration	1560	1560	761	799	14
Total Payments	94184	0	94184	268338	-174154
Transfers					
From Building Fund to General					
From General to Building Fund	354				
Total Payments & Transfers	94538	0	0		

Closing Balance Dec 2020	6452	67938	9852	84242
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Notes to accompany 2020 accounts

The layout of the accounts has been simplified this year as the vast bulk of the reordering works on the building had been completed. There was some work still to be completed but this is explained below.

Unrestricted – Funds that can be used for any purpose approved by the PCC.

Designated – Funds that have been allocated to a particular purpose by the PCC.

Restricted – Typically funds from a bequest or grant where there were instructions set on their use.

1. Giving.

It seems to be the same story every year now with the level of giving dropping. Obviously the closure and restricted use of the church building for services has reduced the numbers through the door and hence the giving via the plate. Thank you to all of you who have continued to give via bank transfers and I urge those who contribute via the plate to consider switching to a standing order. Our Gift Aid Officer, Diane Ewart-Jones, puts in an enormous amount of work to ensure that we claim back every penny we can from HMRC. We have a card reader and tablet so that people who no longer carry cash can continue to contribute via their card; either chip-and-pin or contactless. Also there are links to our "Give a Little" page from the church website.

2. Legacies.

We benefited from a gift from the estate of our good friend Keith Norton this year which we hope to use to continue work on improving the church building.

3. Recurring Grants.

We continue to receive a payment to maintain the Commonwealth War Graves.

4. Listed Places of Worship Scheme,

As Christ Church is a 2* listed building we are able to reclaim the VAT on some major works carried out on the building

5. Mission Partner Support and other donations

Musalaha	£1250 (2019 contribution)
Tearfund	£1850
Christians against poverty	£1250
Simeon Trustees	£175
Bishops Ordination Fund	£80
Bury Hospice	£182 (Christingle 2019)
British Legion Poppy Appeal	£17

The donations to Musalaha and the Bible Society were delayed in 2020 due to cash flow issues but we do intend to address this as soon as we can.

6. Parish Share

Sadly we were unable to pay the share in full in 2020 for the first time in a number of years. We had already doubts on whether we could meet the considerably higher assessment of £35,972 and with the impact of the falling income we were only able to pay £25,000 (plus £594.17 from the Encouragement scheme as we had paid in full in 2019). We will not be eligible for the Encouragement scheme in 2021 of course. The assessment for 2021 is even higher at £36,961.

7. Wages, salaries & honoraria

Gordon Clark's funded role assisting Rev Openshaw finished in January. There was a surplus of £3,267 remaining from the grant we received from the Diocese for this, and it was repaid to them.

8. Parsonage

This item covers the contributions the PCC makes to the cost of 37 Gisburn Drive for the council tax, water charges and ground rent..

9. Church running expenses

Insurance	£9113
Gas	£4787
Electricity	£1028
Telephone	£151
Water Plus	£273

The electricity contract comes to an end in March 2021 and a new contract has been agreed with Scottish Power. The telephone line into the church office has been ceased as it was rarely used.

10. Church Maintenance

Heating system service etc.	£705
Clock	£259
Organ	£156
Roof etc.	£2925
Fire extinguisher rentals	£259

11. Upkeep of services

Copyright & video licence	£614
Kitchen equipment	£318
PPE and other Covid materials	£191

12. Upkeep of churchyard

Tree pruning	£540
Mowing etc.	£1615

13. Major repairs & improvements

Purchase of flexible staging	£5997
Masonry repairs following removal of Drugasar heaters	£22,496

Reordering works	£2452
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There should be one final invoice payable to the builders for the kitchen etc. once the few outstanding snags are resolved.

14. Administration etc.

Photocopier purchase	£1200
(fully funded by grant received in 2019)	

W S Clarke

PCC Treasurer

January 2021

INVESTMENTS

Securities held on behalf of the PCC by the Manchester Diocesan Board of Finance.

Trust Title	Nominal Value	Cost Book Value	Income Received	Market Value	
				2020	2019
Mrs Leigh (deceased) Lady Chapel (CBF 1192F) Fixed interest	£1,448.00	£2,095.88	Paid into Lady Chapel deposit trust	£2,449.29	£2,367.05
Mrs Leigh (deceased) Lady Chapel (CBF 1215D) Deposit	£2,183.21	£2,183.21	Interest retained	£2,183.21	£2,093.84
M A Hibbert Trust (CBF 1451S) Investment fund	£2431.83	£27,836.28	£1,395.62 (paid into general account)	£49,722.90	£46,511.18
Constance Middleton Trust (CBF 1941D) Deposit	£19669.33	£19669.33	£109.48 (paid into general account)	£19,669.33	£19669.33

n.b. the funds within these trusts are all restricted and as such can only be used for the purposes designated at the time of establishment.

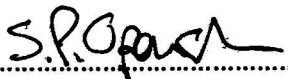
Liabilities

Nil

Accounts for the Financial Year ending 31 December 2020

Approved by the Parochial Church Council meeting held on : 1st May 2021

and signed on their behalf by :

 Chairman

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF CHRIST CHURCH WALSHAW

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Independent Examiner

As trustees of the charity, the members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 ("The 2011 Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

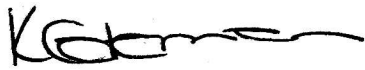
My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matters have come to my attention

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep proper accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act); or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting recordshave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:


K. COLEMAN.

Date: 16-04-2021.