

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF TILEHURST ST CATHERINE AND CALCOT ST BIRINUS

England & Wales · Charity number 1155524

Details

Other names PARISH OF ST CATHERINE OF SIENA & ST BIRINUS

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2014-01-28

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

Contact

Address St. Catherine Church
Wittenham Avenue
Tilehurst
Reading
RG31 5LN

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Activities

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

Activities: The PCC's charitable objects(Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church) equate to the advancement of religion, which is recognised as a charitable purpose having public benefit. All regular public worship is provided free of charge and open to all.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** Education/training, Disability, Religious Activities, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Reading
- West Berkshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£128,665	£126,023	-	-
2023-12-31	£113,844	£107,309	-	-
2022-12-31	£118,415	£115,372	-	-
2021-12-31	£105,593	£108,401	-	-
2020-12-31	£109,058	£111,287	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANTHONY RICHARD BARTLETT		2014-01-23
Caroline Heron		2020-10-11
Eladia Dominguez Robles		2019-04-07
Emma Claire Deacon		2021-04-18
HEATHER ELAINE ADDISON		2023-04-23
Hilary Smee		2025-05-11
JEAN ALMOND		2023-04-23
Lynn Stevens		2020-10-11
MICHAEL LESLIE HEATHER		2014-01-27
RICHARD CANNING		2017-04-23
Rev Jacqueline Fountain		2023-11-28
SONIA ARLENE LUDFORD		2014-01-23
STUART JOHN POORE		2017-04-23

Accounts

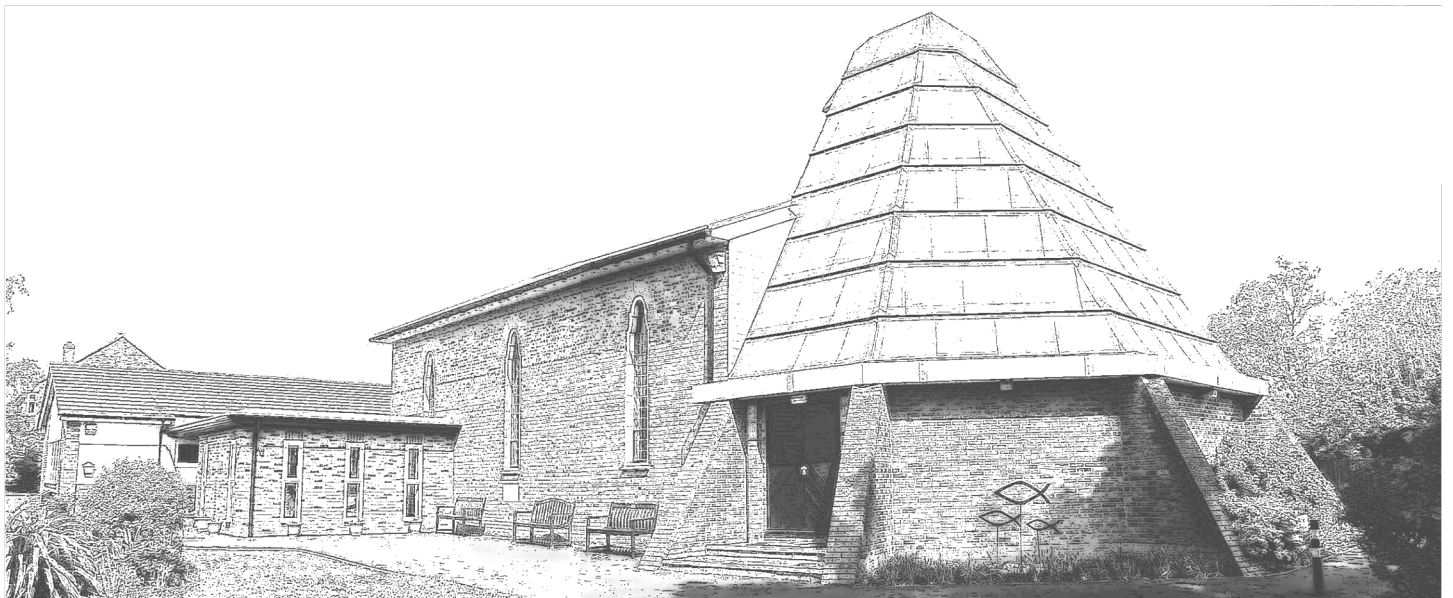
The Parish of Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

(Registered Charity 1155524)

for the year ended 31st December 2024

Vicar - Rev Jackie Fountain



Bank

Nat West Reading Oracle

Unit L11, The Oracle Shopping Centre, Reading, RG1 2AG

Independent Examiner

Mr David Marett FCA CTA

5 Jennets Close, Tutts Clump, RG7 6JZ

And minutes

Of the meeting of Parishioners held on 28th April 2024

Of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 28th April 2024

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Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

AIMS AND PURPOSE

Our parish purpose is 'To worship God and show Jesus' love makes a difference in reaching, serving and caring,

The PCC is responsible, together with the appointed vicar, for the vision and mission of our church. To do this we seek God's will, ensure we operate within a legal framework and take responsibility for the financial stability of the church, all under God's authority.

BACKGROUND

The parish looked forward to 2024 in excitement as the first year with Jackie Fountain, our new vicar – and it has indeed proved exciting seeing God at work. As different areas have been reviewed, some have undergone a level of change, some have continued, and new activities have been initiated. We know there is more to come, and we look forward to 2025, discerning the direction God is taking us and balancing the work that is to be done without overstressing our resources.

Our finances have been ably managed during 2024 by Sean East. Sean took on the role of treasurer as Joanne Freeman stepped down, after many years of faithful service. The PCC is thankful for both Joanne's and Sean's hard work.

WORSHIP

The PCC has long recognised that the service structure would benefit from review. During 2024 that review was conducted, taking into account the views of church members. As a result, the previous pattern has been replaced by one Sunday service. On two Sundays in the month the service includes Holy Communion. The Bishop's agreement to the reduction in the number of Sunday communion services was obtained. This provides the parish with increased missional opportunities and the style of the different leaders and preachers brings variation to the services.

The Sunday services have for the most part adopted themes, such as Exodus, Meals with Jesus and What is Church?

The Wednesday communion service has continued with some 12 regular attendees.

The Easter services included both a Good Friday family activity service which was attended by a number of families and a meditation service.

As in previous years, the July and August Sunday services were held outside, providing an opportunity to be more visible and accessible to the community and to allow worship to take place closer to nature. And the weather was kind to us in 2024!

Christmas was busy! The outdoor Carols under the Oak Tree continues to be popular with the local community- the starting time was brought forward to better suit family life. The services also included Nine Lessons and Carols, Christmas Day Communion service, Christingle and a Nativity Service held for the first time as a Christmas Eve afternoon service rather than as part of a Sunday morning service.

The Special services during the year included a Shoebox Appeal, a Leprosy Mission service, A Christian Aid service and a Harvest Festival, followed by a bring and share lunch and bread making competition.

The 2024 new ventures included an informal fun monthly St Cat's Lite service held on the first Saturday in the month for everyone, focussing on families. The first was held in October. Attendance has been encouraging, with families joining us who are unfamiliar with Sunday services. There has been the welcome addition of a worship service on the second Sunday evening in the month, providing the opportunity for more informal worship.

Friday Tots Praise came to a natural end in December as the numbers attending reduced with children

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Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

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moving on to nursery. It is recognised that there may be a time in the future that it is appropriate to resume.

All of these services were all possible thanks to the tremendous faithful support of the leadership team, the musicians and the Parish Administrator as well as those providing ancillary services such as welcoming, reading, leading intercessions, providing refreshments and manning the camera and AV desk. The PCC owes a big thank you to them all!

rites of passage

Three funerals were held in church, including that of Phil French, a long term church member whose absence is felt every Sunday morning service when the chair he usually occupied is empty. Three further crematorium only services also took place, including that of David Scott who had been an active member of the church.

The November confirmation service at St Barnabus, Emmer Green was a joyful occasion with four St Catherine's confirmation candidates, including two from our youth group.

Two baptisms took place as part of the Sunday morning service, rather than as a separate stand-alone service which facilitated welcoming those being baptised to God's family

Lifegroups & Study Groups

40-50 people have continued to meet regularly, either weekly or fortnightly, in Lifegroups which have provided valuable fellowship, mutual support and the opportunity to grow in faith. There are now 6 groups, following the closure of one group as the leader moved away from St Catherine's, and the members of the demised Lifegroup joining other groups. Each Lifegroup is assigned some non Lifegroup church members for pastoral care and it is intended to review ways of improving this operation going forward. During Lent, the Lifegroups' activities were further supplemented by a Lent course open to all.

A Youth Bible group has continued with a small faithful group, their studies including a Well Being and a Youth Alpha course.

Prayer

Prayer continues to be key as we seek to discern and be obedient to God's direction. Prayer is a key component of meetings and church services, in addition to specific prayer activities.

The prayer ministry team are available to individuals after the Sunday service. Weekly community prayers takes place every Thursday. The monthly early Saturday morning prayer session have continued, focussing on two church activities, one of the four supported missions, and a UK/global item.

The monthly Calcot prayer walk and litter pick has continued with a small number of faithful church members. Whilst a limited number support this activity it is seen as important as we continue to seek God's direction for the church's activities in Calcot.

Reaching Further into the Community

Outreach into our local schools has expanded during the year, with visits to Birch Copse Primary, Springfield and Little Heath School. Additionally Birch Copse has held Easter and Christmas services at St Catherine's and the Year 9s from Littleheath came in to explore what church is about. Working with Reach has been very helpful as we reach out and build relationships with the schools in our parish. We continue to welcome the local scouts group to their carol service with us.

The Holiday Club in August 2024 was a significant venture. Such an event had not been held at St Catherine's since 2019, and the church stepped out in faith to hold a 3 day event entitled 'Wonder Zone'. God proved faithful and there was amazement at the number of volunteers that stepped

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

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forward. 28 children attended, and had great fun exploring the wonderful world God has created in which we live. Activities included making rockets, understanding how the earth was created supported by the visual aid of exploding balloons, treasure hunts, games and much more besides.

THE CENTRE

The centre, including the café and church hall, continues to thrive as a place to share God's love and hospitality, all made possible by our hard-working centre manager, cafe manager, bookings manager and volunteers. The hall is even busier on Tuesday and Thursday mornings with the welcome noise of children as the Tots 0-5 group moved its operation from the Cornwell Centre to the Church Hall providing greater proximity to church resources and encouraging people to feel they are welcome and can belong in our building.

The café, managed by a café manager newly appointed at the start of the year, is welcomed by its users as a safe, friendly place to meet. Staffing the café has been challenging and more volunteers are always welcome.

The church hall facilities were improved by the building of attractive and serviceable large cupboards to replace the old ones that had seen better days and provided limited storage. Construction was managed by a faithful church member – the efforts of all involved are much appreciated!

Church hall bookings continued at a steady pace throughout the year.

ACTIVITIES

A wide range of activities, too many to be listed here, are organised which are appreciated by those that attend, whether regular church members or not. Tuesday Get Together and Friday Friends continues to be enjoyed by the older age group, whilst the popularity of Toddler 0-5s has continued and even increased, with the move from-the Cornwell Centre to the church hall in the autumn. Other activities include the Book Club, Mothers Union, Bowls, Eco pursuits and Crafty Space. The hardworking maintenance and gardening teams have continued to provide us all with a much loved and cared for space to enjoy.

HAVING FUN

Fun events open to the wider community took place during the year, also raising some funds. Great enjoyment was had at January's Ceilidh, irrespective of whether the dancers kept in step. The Spring and Christmas Fairs were as popular as ever.

INTO THE FUTURE

2024 has been a year of encouragement as we have seen God at work both in supporting us in our ongoing activities and challenging us to embark on new initiatives.

The PCC took some time out in September to look forwards to the future, and identified three priority areas for the year ahead:

- Prayer and worship- connecting to God. Listening to God.
- Raising the profile of St Catherines- not being hidden
- Reaching out to younger people, children and younger families (whilst valuing and caring for the current congregation)

We therefore look forward in anticipation to 2025 and implementing ways to develop those priorities, whilst we grow together as a church, deepening our faith.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

PCC Members

The names of the members of the Council who have served since the commencement of the 2024 financial year and until the date this report was approved are:

Ex officio members

Incumbent	Rev Jackie Fountain
Curate	Rev Carol Atkins (from Feb 2025)
LLM's	Mr Tony Bartlett (also elected as PCC secretary) Mr Mike Heather
Deanery Synod rep.	Mr Richard Canning
Churchwardens	Ms Caroline Heron Mrs Lynn Stevens (also Deanery Synod rep)

Elected Members

Mrs Heather Addison
Mrs Jean Almond
Mrs Ella Robles Canning (also Deanery Synod rep)
Mrs Carol Charles (from APCM 2024, resigned June 2024)
Mr Michael Charles (from APCM 2024, resigned June 2024)
Mrs Emma Deacon (re-elected APCM 2024)
Mrs Joanne Freeman (appointed as Treasurer by PCC until APCM 2024)
Mrs Sonia Ludford (re-elected APCM 2024, also Centre Manager)
Mr Stuart Poore (re-elected APCM 2024, also Parish Administrator)
Mrs Stephanie Walklate

Treasurer

Mr Sean East (appointed by PCC at APCM 2024)

Minute taker to the PCC

Mr Tony Bartlett

Bankers

Nat West Reading Oracle Branch, Unit L11, The Oracle Shopping Centre, Reading, RG1 2AG

Signed on behalf of the PCC

Vicar
Rev Jackie Fountain



Churchwarden
Ms Caroline Heron

C. Heron

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

The Financial Report for 2024

Receipts

In 2024 the planned giving was higher than 2023. Once again we received some generous donations through the plate and online. We did not have any special fundraising or stewardship campaigns but we did have the Summer Fete and Christmas Fair. More details on these are provided below.

Receipts church activities has increased by almost £4000 and this is thanks to the hard work of people getting more hall lettings and party bookings. Although we no longer have the pre-school we do have a number of regular hirers.

We would like to thank everyone for their generous giving throughout 2024. If however you feel you could give on a regular basis, if you don't already, our preferred method is via the Parish Giving Scheme. Please ask for details.

The fairs and fetes raised a total of £3530. This was over £500 more than last year, well done to all involved. We also had some other small sale of items or pop up events which added another £1040. I am still amazed at how many people give their time willingly to St. Catherine's. This is clearly a great help to the financial part of the church but is also good for the overall church community and for everyone involved.

Payments

In 2024 many items increased. The Parish Share was higher and we did not receive a discount as we now have a vicar. We now have an employed café manager once again. We also contribute to her pension. The cost of gas and electricity, along with other maintenance costs are higher.

We also had some larger unbudgeted expenses in the shape of a new printer (£5340), new hall cupboards (£2500) and car park painting to name a few.

We did not undertake any major building projects during 2024.

Missions Report

We paid £60 per month to each of our 4 nominated charities in 2024. These are Novi Most, CCA, The Children's Society and Leprosy Mission. In addition to this the PCC agrees to make up the payment to 6% of planned giving. Therefore an extra payment of £273 to each charity is due. This was paid in January 2025 but is noted in the liabilities for 2024 along with monies held for Ripple Effect and the collection from the Scouts carol service which again was sent to CCA in January 2025. The PCC has now agreed to increase the standing order to our four nominated charities to £70 per month from February 2025.

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End of Year Thoughts

You may notice a slightly different layout to the accounts this year. This is due to using the information from our finance package, My Fund Accounting rather than a number of spreadsheets that Joanne used previously. As you know this is my first year as treasurer and it has been a steep learning curve. Many thanks for the continued support from you all but especially Joanne.

We had a surplus at the end of the year of £2642.

We have been reliant however on the generosity of some large irregular donations. The Centre Lettings have been a great source of income. We did not do any extra fundraising on top of the annual fetes. The Parish Share figure has increased again for 2025.

St. Catherine's continues to just about cover its costs and in 2024 we did not need to use our reserves. However with increased costs we need to be mindful. We would prayerfully ask everyone to consider their monthly contribution and ask anyone with any fundraising ideas and enthusiasm to implement those ideas to come forward.

Sean East
Treasurer to the PCC

21st April 2025

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus Church, Tilehurst, Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024 which are set out on pages 9 to 13

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The church's trustees 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 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 the 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 management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with 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 accounting records in accordance with s. 130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met;or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



David Marett, FCA CTA
5 Jennets Close,
Tutts Clump,
RG7 6JZ
28th April 2025

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Sofa Separate Designated

For the period from 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	<i>Prior year total funds</i>
Receipts						
Planned giving	47,441	-	-	-	47,441	39,766
Collections and other giving	7,525	-	-	-	7,525	4,179
Other voluntary receipts	5,357	-	1,520	-	6,877	9,299
Gift Aid recovered	11,237	-	-	-	11,237	9,551
Other receipts	5,519	-	-	-	5,519	7,443
Receipts from church activities	3,547	44,939	1,580	-	50,066	46,240
Total income	80,626	44,939	3,100	-	128,665	116,478
Payments						
Missionary and Charitable Giving	3,249	-	881	-	4,130	4,145
Parish Share	61,782	-	-	-	61,782	54,428
Clergy and Staffing costs	1,451	-	15	-	1,466	4,977
Church Running Expenses	29,293	2,166	1,971	-	33,430	21,337
Hall Running Costs	280	11,386	-	-	11,666	12,115
Cafe Running Costs	-	13,549	-	-	13,549	12,699
Church Repairs & Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hall Repairs & Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Building work	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure	96,055	27,102	2,867	-	126,023	109,701
Net income/(expenditure) resources before transfer	-15,429	17,837	233	-	2,642	6,777
Transfers:						
Gross transfers between funds - in	1,198	-	-	-	1,198	39,163
Gross transfers between funds - out	-	-	-1,198	-	-1,198	-39,163
Other recognised gains / losses						
Gains/losses on investment assets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	-14,231	17,837	-964	-	2,642	6,777
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward	11,025	13,042	5,027	2,075	31,170	24,393
Total funds carried forward	-3,206	30,879	4,062	2,075	33,811	31,170

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Statements of Assets and Liabilities			
		2024	2023
		£	£
Assets			
Cash funds		33,811	31,170
Other monetary assets			
Parish Share rebate for previous year		1,730	1,515
Gift Aid recoverable for previous year		271	304
Centre rent due for previous year		4,715	3,523
		6,716	5,342
Liabilities			
Electricity and Gas		984	1,476
Select Waste Disposal		78	156
0 - 5 s rent		0	330
Missions giving due for previous year		1,092	304
Ripple Effect		675	414
Scouts Carol Service for CCA		90	0
		2,919	2,680

Notes

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Analysis of Receipts and Payments - Selected period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

Receipts

Planned giving	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total This year	Total Last year
0101012 - Parish Giving Scheme Gift Aided	-	-	-	-	-	31,182
0101013 - Parish Giving Scheme Non Gift Aided	-	-	-	-	-	3,855
0101014 - S/O Gift Aided	-	-	-	-	-	2,880
0101015 - S/O Non Gift Aided	-	-	-	-	-	1,850
0101018 - Parish Giving Scheme	42,761	-	-	-	42,761	-
0101019 - Standing Orders	4,680	-	-	-	4,680	-
Planned giving Totals	47,441	-	-	-	47,441	39,766
Collections and other giving						
0104002 - Plate	7,525	-	-	-	7,525	4,179
0105B11 - Tots Praise	-	-	-	-	-	-
Collections and other giving Totals	7,525	-	-	-	7,525	4,179
Other voluntary receipts						
0105B015 - Donations - just giving	-	-	-	-	-	5
0105B016 - Donations - Sumup	49	-	-	-	49	251
0105B12 - Donations	3,227	-	-	-	3,227	1,871
0105B13 - Donations Gift Aided	1,380	-	-	-	1,380	2,173
0105B17 - Donations - Amazon Europe	-	-	-	-	-	25
0203B01 - Coffee Money	564	-	-	-	564	484
0203B04 - Donations towards Charities	-	-	1,220	-	1,220	787
0203B20 - Donations to Audio Visual System	-	-	-	-	-	-
0203B24 - Donations towards Articles in Church	-	-	-	-	-	-
0203B39 - Donations towards Maintenance Reserves	-	-	300	-	300	300
0203B43 - Donations to Bishops Outreach Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-
0203B44 - donations towards garden furniture	-	-	-	-	-	-
0203B46 - Legacy received	-	-	-	-	-	-
0203B47 - Donation towards Tots Praise kids corner	-	-	-	-	-	-
0203B51 - cafe donation box	137	-	-	-	137	278
0203B56 - Lent Appeal for St Catherines	-	-	-	-	-	3,126
Other voluntary receipts Totals	5,357	-	1,520	-	6,877	9,299
Gift Aid recovered						
0102002 - Tax recovered PGS	9,895	-	-	-	9,895	7,795
0102003 - Tax recovered Non PGS	1,342	-	-	-	1,342	1,756
Gift Aid recovered Totals	11,237	-	-	-	11,237	9,551
Other receipts						
0203A02 - Fetes and Fairs	3,530	-	-	-	3,530	3,200
0203A03 - Special Events - quiz / raffles	1,017	-	-	-	1,017	1,669
0203A04 - Special Events - Pop up Shops	27	-	-	-	27	-
0203B45 - Donation towards Cornwell 0-5s group	-	-	-	-	-	-
0301001 - Bank & Building Soc Interest	576	-	-	-	576	26
0403A06 - credit re photocopying magazine	71	-	-	-	71	-
0403A10 - Magazine Advertising Income	290	-	-	-	290	310
0403A11 - charges re outside use of photocopier	8	-	-	-	8	8
0601008 - Refunds for locums from ODBF	-	-	-	-	-	2,230
Other receipts Totals	5,519	-	-	-	5,519	7,443
Receipts from church activities						
0105B10 - Parish Share Deanery rebate	-	1,515	-	-	1,515	-
0402A00 - Centre lettings	-	23,660	-	-	23,660	20,408
0403A05 - Magazine Sales	438	-	-	-	438	620
0404000 - Fees for Weddings and Funerals	454	-	1,580	-	2,034	864
0404002 - Holiday Club	217	-	-	-	217	-
0404006 - Youth Group	-	-	-	-	-	-
0404010 - Friday Friends	1,410	-	-	-	1,410	1,140
0404012 - St. Catherine 0 - 5 s	-	3,559	-	-	3,559	3,376
040413 - Tuesday Get Together	1,028	-	-	-	1,028	740
0405001 - Cafe sales	-	16,205	-	-	16,205	16,297
0601000 - Insurance Claims	-	-	-	-	-	1,018
0601006 - Refunds Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receipts from church activities Totals	3,547	44,939	1,580	-	50,066	46,240
Receipts Grand Totals	80,626	44,939	3,100	-	128,665	116,478

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Analysis of Receipts and Payments - Selected period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

Payments

Missionary and Charitable Giving	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total this year	Total last year
1001002 - Giving to Overseas Mission Societies	1,592	-	-	-	1,592	1,500
1002002 - Giving to Relief & Dev Agencies	-	-	667	-	667	1,076
1003002 - Giving to Home Missions	1,657	-	214	-	1,871	1,569
1004002 - Giving to Secular Charities	-	-	-	-	-	-
Missionary and Charitable Giving Totals	3,249	-	881	-	4,130	4,145
Parish Share						
2001012 - Ministry Parish Share etc	61,782	-	-	-	61,782	54,428
Parish Share Totals	61,782	-	-	-	61,782	54,428
Clergy and Staffing costs						
2002000 - Working Expenses of the Incumbent	166	-	-	-	166	324
2002003 - LLM's Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-
2002008 - Non Stip Minister	-	-	-	-	-	-
2002009 - Visiting Clergy	47	-	-	-	47	2,549
2002010 - Vergers fees	-	-	15	-	15	-
2002011 - Honorarium	1,200	-	-	-	1,200	1,200
2002012 - Costs of recruitment of new vicar	38	-	-	-	38	905
Clergy and Staffing costs Totals	1,451	-	15	-	1,466	4,977
Church Running Expenses						
2005005 - Church Running Expenses Electricity	4,286	-	-	-	4,286	3,691
2005006 - Church Running Expenses Gas	6,129	-	-	-	6,129	3,459
2005007 - Church Running Expense Waste Disposal	928	-	-	-	928	858
2005008 - Church Running Expenses - wifi / zoom	500	-	-	-	500	516
2005015 - Church Running Expenses Insurance	2,141	-	-	-	2,141	1,849
2005034 - Stationery	1,297	-	-	-	1,297	1,242
2005042 - Hospitality	88	-	-	-	88	24
2005052 - Equipment	5,738	-	-	-	5,738	65
2006000 - Church maintenance	4,301	-	-	-	4,301	2,821
2006006 - Music Licence's	-	-	-	-	-	537
2007002 - Upkeep of services	1,538	-	398	-	1,936	763
2007003 - Church Flowers	50	-	-	-	50	50
2007005 - Fees to ODBF	-	-	1,354	-	1,354	49
2008001 - Upkeep of Church Grounds	-	-	219	-	219	-
2009000 - Magazine Expenses	681	-	-	-	681	1,351
2017000 - Parish Training and Outreach	51	-	-	-	51	526
2017002 - Adult Education	-	-	-	-	-	-
2017004 - Youth Club Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	13
2017006 - Holiday Club	6	-	-	-	6	-
2017007 - CRB Checks	24	-	-	-	24	36
2017010 - Cornwell 0 - 5 s	-	2,166	-	-	2,166	2,631
2017011 - All Tots Praise	-	-	-	-	-	-
3000004 - Cost of Fetes and other events	114	-	-	-	114	377
3000005 - Bank Current A/C Charges	239	-	-	-	239	-
4000002 - Independant Examiner	120	-	-	-	120	120
4000003 - Administration	1,062	-	-	-	1,062	359
Church Running Expenses Totals	29,293	2,166	1,971	-	33,430	21,337
Hall Running Costs						
2010015 - Hall Running Cost - Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	4
2010020 - Hall Running Cost Maintenance, Repairs i	280	3,379	-	-	3,659	4,524
2010025 - Hall Rent Refund	-	562	-	-	562	630
2010030 - Hall Cleaner	-	6,225	-	-	6,225	5,660
2010035 - Hall Cleaning Materials	-	1,040	-	-	1,040	1,116
2010040 - Hall Booking Clerk	-	180	-	-	180	180
Hall Running Costs Totals	280	11,386	-	-	11,666	12,115
Cafe Running Costs						
2011001 - Cafe cost of food	-	3,317	-	-	3,317	3,637
2011002 - Cafe cost of drinks	-	353	-	-	353	322
2011003 - Cafe cost of other consumables	-	16	-	-	16	39
2011004 - Cafe Equipment costs	-	594	-	-	594	722
2011005 - Cafe Cleaner	-	135	-	-	135	525
2011010 - Cafe Manager Wages	-	8,932	-	-	8,932	7,166
2011011 - Repayment of Bakers/Soup makers	-	202	-	-	202	234
4000008 - incorrect use of business card	-	-	-	-	-	54
Cafe Running Costs Totals	-	13,549	-	-	13,549	12,699
Church Repairs & Maintenance						
2012005 - Major Repairs Installations	-	-	-	-	-	-
Church Repairs & Maintenance Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hall Repairs & Maintenance						
2013001 - Major Repairs to Hall	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hall Repairs & Maintenance Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Building work						
New Building work Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Payments Grand Totals	96,055	27,102	2,867	-	126,023	109,701

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

ACTUALS FOR 2024 AND BUDGETS FOR 2024 & 2025				
Income	Actual	Variance	Budget	Budget
	2024	2024	2024	2025
Cafe Sales	16,205	-795	17,000	18,000
Centre Lettings	23,660	3,660	20,000	20,000
Donations - Cafe box	137	-263	400	500
Donations - Coffee Money	564	64	500	500
Donations - general	4,607	3,107	1500	3,000
Donations - Sum Up	49	49	0	500
Interest from business savings accounts	576	576	0	130
Magazine Advertising income	298	-102	400	0
magazine credits	71	71	0	0
Non Vol Fetes and Fairs	3,530	530	3,000	3,500
Non Vol Friday Friends	1,410	410	1,000	1,250
Non Vol Holiday Club	217	217	0	250
Non Vol Magazine Sales	438	-362	800	0
Non Vol Net Fees	454	354	100	100
Non Vol Special Events	1,044	-956	2,000	3,000
Non Vol Toddlers	3,559	359	3,200	3,500
Non Vol Tuesday Get Together	1,028	328	700	1,000
Parish Share Rebate	1,515	1,515	0	500
Planned Giving Parish Giving Scheme	42,761	5,561	37,200	40,000
Planned Giving Standing Orders	4,680	-320	5000	4,600
Planned Giving Tax Rebate non PGS	1,342	-158	1,500	1,500
Planned Giving Tax Rebate PGS	9,895	1,495	8,400	9,500
Plate	7,525	5,025	2,500	3,500
Stewardship Campaign	0	-3,000	3,000	4,000
Income - totals	125,565	17,365	108,200	118,830

Notes to income

Non Vol Toddlers is St Catherine 0-5 now

There was not a Stewardship campaign in 2024 hence nil figure

Café sales slightly lower than budgeted but now a price increase

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

ACTUALS FOR 2024 AND BUDGETS FOR 2024 & 2025				
Expenditure	Actual	Variance	Budget	Budget
	2024	2024	2024	2025
Bank Charges	239	-239	0	700
Cafe Running Costs	13,549	1451	15,000	14,000
Church Administration	1,062	-662	400	500
Church Cost of Fund Raising	114	86	200	200
Church Equipment	5,738	-5,638	100	400
Church Flowers	50	0	50	100
Church Hospitality	88	12	100	120
Church Independent Examiner	120	0	120	120
Church Maintenance	4,301	-2,301	2,000	4,000
Church Stationery	1,297	203	1,500	1,000
Church Upkeep of Grounds	0	100	100	0
Church Upkeep of Services	1,538	-638	900	1,400
Hall Running Costs	11,570	-3,570	8,000	8,000
Honoraria	1,200	0	1,200	1,200
LLM expenses	0	150	150	0
Minister - recruitment costs of new vicar		38	-38	0
Minister - Visiting Clergy	47	-47	0	0
Minister Expenses	166	434	600	600
Missions - Home	1,657	-27	1,630	1,630
Missions - Missionary	1,592	8	1,600	1,600
Other - DBS checks	24	26	50	50
Other - Holiday Club	6	-6	0	200
Other - Magazine expenses	681	819	1,500	0
Other - Youth Group	0	50	50	300
Parish Share	61,782	218	62,000	66,200
St Catherine's 0-5	2166	334	2,500	1000
Training and Outreach	51	49	100	100
Utility - Electricity	4,286	1,714	6,000	5,700
Utility - Gas	6,129	-129	6,000	6,000
Utility - Insurance	2,141	-91	2,050	2,050
Utility - Waste Disposal	928	-128	800	800
Utility - Wifi and Zoom	500	-100	400	360
Vicars Discretionary	0	0	0	500
Expenditure - totals	123,061	-7,961	115,100	118,830
Overall - totals	2,505	9,405	-6,900	0

IMPORTANT - Only Transactions against budgets are included.

Thus the totals may not represent the overall income / expenditure

Notes to expenditure

Church equipment - a new printer/copier purchased but not budgeted for

Hall running cost - this includes the new hall storage cupboards, again not budgeted for.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus Minutes of Meeting of Parishioners – 28th April 2024

The meeting was held in St Catherine's Church at 11.30am

Present 30 parishioners

1. Rev Jackie Fountain welcomed everyone, explained that the meeting would be recorded for the benefit of those who were unable to attend and opening the meeting in prayer.
2. **Apologies for absence** had been received from: Chris Addison, Heather Addison, Joan Burbidge, Sheila Drew, Alan Holbeche, Bill Martin, Maureen Norman, Helen O'Sullivan, Nicola O'Sullivan, June Page, Hilary Smee.
3. **The minutes of the Parish Meeting** on 23rd April 2023 were approved, proposed Emma Deacon, seconded Pauline Lane. There were no matters arising.
4. **Election of Churchwardens.** Lynn Stevens and Caroline Heron had been nominated and seconded, there were no other nominations and were elected, all in favour.
5. **There was no other business** The meeting concluded and we moved on to the Annual Parochial Church meeting

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting – 28th April 2024

The meeting was held in St Catherine's Church immediately after the meeting for Parishioners

Present 30 Parishioners

1. **Caroline Heron opened the meeting in Prayer**
2. **Apologies for absence had been received from**

Chris Addison, Heather Addison, Joan Burbidge, Sheila Drew, Alan Holbeche, Bill Martin, Maureen Norman, Helen O'Sullivan, Nicola O'Sullivan, June Page, Hilary Smee..

3. **Minutes of the APCM held on 23rd April 2023**

Were approved, proposed Sue Burston, seconded Rebecca .

4. **Matters arising**

None.

5. **Churchwardens' report**

2023 was a year mostly without Jackie, what a year! God has been faithful throughout last year and we've seen him working through all the help that we have received from neighbouring clergy who helped us not only with the services.

Quite an achievement really that they managed to so order themselves that there wasn't one Sunday service in 2023 that we didn't have a clergy to take our Communion. We had tremendous support, in addition to that they did answer a lot of our questions about how to do things and we were really grateful for their patience in that.

Also, all the support that we've got from everybody in the church working together and I think all of us have grown in our faith and in our unity as a result of last year. Throughout the year we were involved in the recruitment of Jackie, so if you remember we started back having a listening exercise trying to discern amongst ourselves where God was leading us and what he wanted in terms of a new vicar.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting – 28th April 2024

(Continued from page 16)

We also went out into the community to get their views, so we pulled that all together into the church profile.

Then got through all the approval processes, then into the recruitment process, and it was really encouraging the way people got involved in that recruitment process. In the activities, and particularly involvement of Birch Copse school in that process so we were very fortunate with that.

We were thrilled to have Jackie appointed as our vicar and be able to welcome Jackie and Paul into the parish. So that was an amazing year for all of us, pulling together and growing together through last year. A lot of last year was maintaining things as they were, we kept the service formats as they were. We knew that change was probably needed but we left that until we had a vicar in place and could work together in that.

A huge range of activities which are reported in the book, masses of activities that people get involved in either to encourage one another or to serve our community. So we now look forward with excitement to what God has in store for us as we go into 2024 with Jackie at the helm, and we look forward although we don't know what God has in store we look forward to everything that he will guide us through.

Caroline Heron & Lynn Stevens

7. Vicar's address,

As Caroline said I wasn't here for most of 2023, but am looking forward to 2024. What Caroline said was a good reminder of God's faithfulness over the last year and as I got to know many of you here at St Catherine's it striking to hear of God's faithfulness over many years at this church and outreach here at this church and at Cornwell and at St Birinus.

There's a real desire to reach out to the community and serve people showing people god's love and care through the different times and seasons and ways that God has been at work. I've heard people talk about looking back with fondness times when there were 70 children in the Sunday school here, when a congregation was meeting at Cornwell and reaching out to that community.

At St Catherine's when there was a powerful experience of the holy spirit among people here at St Catherine's and many people coming to know God and there've also been some disappointments looking back on those times and missing what we were experiencing then. Can I encourage us rather to be asking God what time and season are we in now, how is God at work and where does he want to be leading us as we move forward.

We know that God has not finished, he has plans and purposes for us at St Catherine's and we need to make sure that the disappointments from the past don't stop us from trying new things or maybe re-visiting things we've tried in the past but in a different way as God leads us.

I've mentioned before, I think, that when Paul and I were preparing to come here we felt the God was saying to us that he will be at work and as a church congregation we need to be positioning ourselves to be ready for what God is going to do. What exactly does that look like and involve?

One example of positioning ourselves is that we set up the crafts and the children's table at the back of church on Sundays. Many Sundays at moment we don't have any children in church, but nonetheless we can be positioning ourselves so that when God does bring children and people of all ages, that they will feel welcomed and feel like they belong in this place.

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Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting – 28th April 2024

(Continued from page 17)

We probably need think about cleaning up the outdoor children play area so that when children do come along, they've got somewhere to go and play and enjoy and have fun being at church while the adults have refreshments. Along the way there will be changes as God does a new thing among us.

Change is not always easy, but we need to make room for God to work and to act among us. One thing which we do know is really important as we move forwards is unity.

We see time and time again in the Bible how important unity is to God. Jesus prayed for unity for the church that they might be one as he and the father are one so that the world might know that God sent Jesus. It's not just about us here for the sake of us, we also think about how that reaches out to other people in our community.

The Bible presents the picture of the church as a body with Christ as our head bringing our different gifts personalities and talents as we come together and use all of those together, and we see God's kingdom growing, and we see God being made known to people around us. Unity as we know isn't easy, and sometimes it takes a lot of work. Unity doesn't mean that we'll always agree with each other about everything, but we can still keep working on how together we can seek God's way forward in spite of our disagreements. We want to be united in Christ, especially as we seek God's way forward for us and that means looking beyond sometimes what I want as an individual.

So, what is it going to look like? I don't know, but what's important is that it's together that we're seeking God's vision, and we need each other. God has brought us together and we don't know exactly what it will look like, but maybe a few clues along the way.

Everybody I've spoken to here recognizes that we need to be reaching out to people of all ages including children and younger families. We have some wonderful mature and experienced Christians here with much wisdom and faithful service of God, but we also need to be inviting and welcoming young families, young people and children. We want Saint Catherine's to be a welcoming place to people of all ages, ethnicities and abilities, where everyone can know that they are loved and valued by God.

One of the ways that we're going to be doing that you might have heard mentioned, is by moving the 0-5s groups from meeting at the Cornwell centre to meeting at Saint Catherine's. This ministry has touched many lives over many years, and we see some real advantages in moving it to Catherine's building at this point. If people get used to coming in the building and can feel comfortable here and like they belong they're much more likely to come along to events that we run. To build relationships with people from here in the congregation also people who run the toddler group, I'm sure they won't mind me saying, are not as young as they used to be and we're hoping that running the groups here will also make it easier for more people to come along and help out and get involved with that ministry in different kind of roles.

Another example is that we have only as we know a few young people here at St Catherine's and we love having them here and are very grateful for the ways they join in and serve us here in our services. It's really important that we provide teaching for them and a place where they can get to know each other better, explore their faith and have a chance to experience God in their lives as well as invite their friends along to find out more about God. That's why we've been running Alpha this term and the young people have been enjoying it and learning a lot through it. They would like to carry on meeting together which is great.

At the moment that might not look like lot, maybe like 5 loaves and 2 fishes but look at what Jesus did with that. I've been praying about the way forward and that God will be bringing in more young

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting – 28th April 2024

(Continued from page 18)

people. In August we're going to run a three-day holiday club. I know you've run lots of holiday clubs in the past, but really Emma felt God saying we should be doing this again this summer, so we're praying that God will be using that and be work in it and through it as we build links with local children.

These new things don't mean that we don't value and recognise all the ways that God is already a work through the outreach which already exists and has been faithfully carried on over the years, we certainly do. A bit later in the year I would love for us as a church family to spend some time praying listening and talking about God's way forward as Caroline said I know you did some of during in the vacancy, but it would be good for us to continue to seek together God's way forward for all of us.

Jackie

5. Reports booklet

There were no questions

5. Treasurer's report

Joanne expressed thanks to Sean East who was taking over the treasurer role and Tony Bartlett who'd put the reports booklet together. She asked that we all support Sean as he takes over from her although she will be on hand to help.

The forecast deficit did not happen and in fact there was a surplus due to Lent appeal and people's generosity. Absence of vicar gave us a discount on the Parish Share, in 2025 we will pay the full amount.

8. Electoral roll

Stuart reported that the number had increase by 4 to 123, there wer 6 additions and two church members had died.

9. Election of PCC members.

The PCC had recommended, and the meeting needed to agree, that members who'd served their 3 years could stand again.

Purposed Sue Burston, Seconded Sean East—all in favour.

Michael Charles, Carol Charles, Emma Deacon (re-standing) Sonia Ludford (re-standing). All proposed & seconded, there were no other nominations so all were elected. Members of the PCC were asked to stand so that everyone could see who they were. Thanks were expressed to them and to Joanne Freeman who is stepping down.

10. Election of Deanery Synod members.

Currently serving a 3-year term are Richard Canning, Ella Canning & Lynn Stevens

11. Appointment of Independent examiner

David Marett is willing to continue; Proposed that he be appointed ,all in favour.

12. Any other business.

None

Lynn Stevens closed the meeting in prayer.

Accounts

The Parish of Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

(Registered Charity 1155524)

for the year ended 31st December 2023

**Vicar - Rev Jackie Fountain
(from 28th November 2023)**



Bank

Nat West Reading Oracle
Unit L11, The Oracle Shopping Centre, Reading, RG1 2AG

Independent Examiner

Mr David Marett FCA CTA
5 Jennets Close, Tutts Clump, RG7 6JZ

And minutes

Of the meeting of Parishioners held on 23rd April 2023
Of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 23rd April 2023

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Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

AIMS AND PURPOSE

Our parish purpose is 'To worship God and show Jesus' love makes a difference in reaching, serving and caring.'

The PCC is responsible, together with the appointed vicar, for the vision and mission of our church, To do this we seek God's will, ensure we operate within a legal framework and take responsibility for the financial stability of the church, all under God's authority.

BACKGROUND

During 2023, the parish was for the most part in vacancy following the retirement of the previous incumbent, Gill Rowell, on 30th November 2022. A significant activity, with the support of the diocese, was therefore the process to appoint a new vicar, including a listening exercise to discern what church members and the community were looking for, reassessing our vision, producing the parish profile, and advertising and interviewing. The parish were thrilled to welcome Jackie Fountain as the new vicar on November 28th 2023.

Thanks to the dedication and hard work of church members, together with the support of local clergy, the worship and activities at St Catherine's continued during the vacancy. Indeed many church members grew in their faith and stepped up to take on additional responsibilities.

WORSHIP

The PCC, whilst recognising that the service structure might benefit from a review, determined to continue with the existing pattern of Holy Communion, All Age Worship (followed by short spoken Communion), Family Communion and Word and Worship (followed by short spoken Communion) through the four Sundays in the month, with the opportunity to do something different on any fifth Sunday in the month. Any review of the service structure was left until after the appointment of the new vicar. Additionally, a weekly Wednesday Holy Communion service was held.

In 2023 the services largely followed the lectionary. This was all possible thanks to the tremendous support provided not only by our own leadership team but also by local clergy and musicians. Church members benefitted from a rich variety of teaching provided by the different clergy and lay preachers. Attendance at these services remained similar to 2022, with a small increase in numbers, and services continued to be live streamed for the benefit of those unable to attend in person.

During July and August, the Sunday services as in recent years were held outdoors under the Oak Tree. The theme of Kings was adopted, studying selected Kings from both the Old and New Testament. The disappointing weather rendered the holding of outdoor services a significant challenge, and many had to be held indoors.

The Easter Services included both a Good Friday family activity service and a meditation service.

Christmas was a busy time with not only a 10am Christmas Eve and Christmas Day service, but also a Christingle, community Carols under the Oak Tree attended by well over a hundred, 9 Lessons and Carols and a Nativity Service. Special services included a Shoebox Appeal, a Coronation service including a scouts parade, a Leprosy Mission service, a Harvest festival and a service based on Thy Kingdom Come material.

Friday Tots Praise has continued during term time thanks to our faithful volunteers.

rites of passage

Two funerals were held in church, including that of Beryl Nunn, a much-loved member of the congregation. No crematorium only services were held.

One marriage service of two church members took place in October.

Three baptisms took place.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

(Continued from page 3)

PRAYER

Prayer has continued to be a key activity as we seek to discern and follow God's direction. The following specific prayer activities have taken place, in addition to the inclusion of prayer in our services and meetings:

The prayer ministry team continued to offer prayer to individuals after the Sunday service

Weekly community prayer meetings take place every Thursday

A monthly early morning prayer meeting, started in 2022, continued to be held every 3rd Sunday in the month, each meeting focussing on two selected church activities, one of the four missions supported, and one UK/global topic

The monthly Calcot prayer walk and litter pick has been ongoing despite limited attendance as we continue to seek God's direction on our Calcot activities.

THE CENTRE

The centre, including the café and church hall are a great blessing and an amazing place to share God's love and hospitality both in and outside the worshipping community. They offer a place of safety and for friendships to thrive as well as a space for holding community events - all made possible by our hard working café manager, centre manager and volunteers. During the year, we were sad to see our café manager leave, resulting in a reduced café menu for a few months and more work for our hard-pressed volunteers! A new café manager was welcomed in September.

Church hall bookings remained steady and have in part mitigated the loss of income from the demise of the pre-school in December 2022.

LIFEGROUPS

The seven Lifegroups, coordinated by the Lifegroup co-ordinator and attended by some 50 people, have continued to meet regularly, either weekly or fortnightly, offering fellowship, mutual support and the opportunity to grow in faith. The weekly sermon notes produced by the Sunday preacher provides common discussion material for all groups. These groups have also provided a mechanism to provide pastoral care for those church members who do not attend a Lifegroup. We would love to see more people join these Lifegroups.

ACTIVITIES

The church fellowship organise a wide range of activities, much appreciated by those who attend – space does not allow them all to be listed. Tuesday Get Together and Friday Friends provides friendship for the older age group, whilst Toddlers 0-5s is for the younger age range. There are many other specific groups such as Book Club, Crafty Space, and Bowls, whilst the gardening and building maintenance teams do wonders in providing a well-kept welcoming space for us all. Sadly Pick N Mix closed in the autumn as some moved on, leaving too few for the viability of the group.

HAVING FUN

There was plenty of opportunity for the church membership and the community to have fun – with funds for the church raised at some events. The events included a celebration of the coronation in sunny weather with a wide range of fun activities such as consuming delicious homemade cakes, children's crafts and activities, quizzes, a treasure hunt, country dancing, selfie opportunities with a life-size King and Queen look alike as well as the unveiling of a crafted wooden throne complete with Stone of Scone! Other opportunities included a sell-out Quiz night, as well as the ever popular Spring and Autumn fairs.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

(Continued from page 4)

INTO THE FUTURE

As we look back on 2023, a year (less 2 days!) of vacancy, we are encouraged not only by the way God moulded us all into a team to work together to his glory, blessed by the support of some seventeen visiting clergy, and a church community that stepped up and worked together in love to keep the church not only going but moving forward but also by His bringing of our new vicar to us. And so we look forward in anticipation and excitement to see what God has in store for us in 2024 with Jackie Fountain, our new vicar, steering us as we go forward. We are hopeful that we will all grow in our faith and our outreach, and that God will continue to direct us as we reach out to our community with a focus on youth.

Lynn Stevens and Caroline Heron (Churchwardens)

February 2024

PCC Members

The names of the members of the Council who have served since the commencement of the 2023 financial year and until the date this report was approved are:

Ex officio members

Incumbent Rev Jackie Fountain (as from 28th November 2023)

LLM's Mr Tony Bartlett (also elected as PCC secretary)

Mr Mike Heather

Deanery Synod rep. Mr Richard Canning

Churchwardens Ms Caroline Heron

Mrs Lynn Stevens (also Deanery Synod rep)

Elected Members

Mrs Heather Addison (from 2023 APCM)

Mrs Jean Almond (from 2023 APCM)

Mrs Ella Robles Canning (also Deanery Synod rep)

Mrs Emma Deacon

Mrs Joanne Freeman (appointed as Treasurer by PCC)

Mrs Sonia Ludford (also Centre Manager)

Mr Stuart Poore (also Parish Administrator)

Mrs Stephanie Walklate

Mrs Katrina Yates (until APCM 2023)

Mr Richard Yates (resigned 1st November 2023)

Minute taker to the PCC

Mr Tony Bartlett

Bankers

Nat West Reading Oracle Branch, Unit L11, The Oracle Shopping Centre, Reading, RG1 2AG

Signed on behalf of the PCC

Vicar

Rev Jackie Fountain



Churchwarden

Ms Caroline Heron

C. Heron

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

The Financial Report for 2023

Receipts

In 2023 our planned giving was similar to that received in 2022. In Lent we had a special Lenten appeal for funds towards St Catherine's which raised £3,126, so thank you to everyone who so generously donated. However, it would be nice if we did not have to resort to special annual appeals for funds, so please can you all consider the amount of your regular giving to St Catherine's. We also received some generous one-off donations during the year, those that were put in the plate are recorded in the **Collections at services**, those that were online donations are included in **All other giving voluntary receipts**. The **All other giving ...** also includes the Lenten appeal funds.

In 2023 we held two fetes; Summer (£1,444) and Christmas (£1,540) – so £984 more than the budgeted amount. We also held two special events – an Italian evening (£868) and a quiz night (£801). These events not only provided some much-needed additional income but they were all very enjoyable and attracted people from outside the church community.

Unfortunately, in December 2022 St Catherine's Preschool had to close. The loss of this regular rent left a gap in our income. Despite the hard work that was put into getting new users of the centre during the day, the Centre lettings were £7,500 less in 2023 than they had been in 2022.

The miscellaneous refund of £1,018 related to insurance claims being made to repair both accessible toilets.

Payments

In 2023 the Diocese of Oxford introduced a 10% discount on the Parish Share for parishes in vacancy. This resulted in a total saving of £5,554 over the year.

We also had 7 weeks between our Café Managers which resulted in a saving of £1,000 in wages.

As expected, the cost for both electricity and gas were more than last year; in both cases by around £1,000.

Last year the maintenance costs were allocated to the church; this year it was decided that when the maintenance service affected both the church and the hall, such as work on the boiler, the cost would be split 50:50 between the church and the hall. Hence the increase in hall running costs.

During the first eleven months of 2023 we were in a vacancy. We were blessed with many visiting clergy over this period. Clergy with Permission to Officiate who took services were entitled to be paid £43 per service taken. The PCC pay this money straight after these services and then reclaim the money back from the Diocese monthly. All visiting clergy are entitled to claim travelling expenses which is paid by the PCC. There were also some costs associated with seeking a new vicar.

During the year the PCC decided to open two more bank accounts.

An Instant Access Business Reserve account with Nat West. This will enable the PCC to get interest on money not currently needed to pay the regular bills. The current balance is £5,000.

A 180 day investment account with United Trust Bank to hold money that will only be needed in an emergency. The current balance is £10,000.

End of year thoughts

The good news is that there was a surplus of £7,447 at the end of the year. But it must be remembered that without the Parish Share 10% discount from the Diocese of £5,554, the Parish Share rebate of £1,777, a saving of £1,000 in Café Manager wages and no Quinquennial costs we would have made a loss.

(Continued on page 7)

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

(Continued from page 6)

Pages 14 and 15 show the actual totals at 31st December 2023 alongside their budgeted totals. On the far-right hand side you will see the budget that has in faith been set for 2024. Please note the final two lines on page 14 in the section headed **RECEIPTS** - namely:- **'Fund Raising / Stewardship' (£3,000)** and **Reserves/Donations(£6,900)**. So, once again it is hoped that we will be able to have extra fund-raising events to help fill a predicted shortfall. However, after thoughtful consideration it was decided that asking for more than £3,000 in this way was not feasible and so felt the need to show that the only way we may be able to achieve a balance was to use our reserves. As a community we have either to increase our income or reduce our spend or use a combination of both, because if we do not our reserves will continually be depleted.

Of particular note requiring each of us to consider carefully if we need to take action is the Planned Giving figure at the top of page 9 which remains similar to that in 2022. This consists of a combination of giving using the Parish Giving scheme and by Standing Orders. Please, please can we all prayerfully consider what our monthly contribution to St Catherine's should be. This does of course include volunteering around the church thus saving us from needing to employ someone say to mow the lawns or tend the flowers or sort out any issues inside the buildings.

There are also plans for various fund raisers – please join in and help, if you have any ideas of any other fundraising ideas, please speak to one of the church wardens.

Finally, as this is my last APCM as Treasurer I would like to thank everyone who has helped me over the past 13 years with counting, banking, sorting out the Gift Aid claims, invoicing our hirers and generally being very supportive. I am sure that you will now support and help Sean East who has now taken over from me as Treasurer.

Reserves policy

Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance (ODBF) recommend that the PCC's reserves should be an amount equal to three months average spend. For us this would equate to £26,000. The current figure held is £15,000 – which equates to about one and three-quarter months cover.

If you have any questions on this report please get in touch with the Treasurer, preferably a couple of days before the APCM.

The following will help you understand Pages 9 to 15

Unrestricted funds contain money that the PCC can use for its general purposes.

Designated funds contain money from unrestricted funds that the PCC has chosen to put aside for a particular purpose. The PCC can also decide to return any or all of this money to unrestricted funds.

Restricted funds contain money that is received for a specific use such as donations to named charities.

Endowment funds contain money that is a special form of restricted funds; in our case it refers to the money the PCC received after St Birinus was sold and is expendable and can be used to fund activities relating to mission in Calcot such as the weekly taxi service to and from the 10.00 am service at St Catherine's when required.

The totals from the 2022 report are there for comparison purposes. The figures in the report are required to be shown to the nearest pound. Pages 9 & 10 are a legal requirement, all the other pages are provided to give more details.

(Continued on page 8)

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

(Continued from page 7)

Page 9 – Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

This page lists the receipts and payments for the year under categories that are required in the annual report to the Church of England. The fees for wedding and funerals, though they are not reported in this annual return do go through the PCC's bank account, hence the need for a separate line on this page so that the bank balances at the start and the end of the year balance correctly.

Page 10– Statements of Assets and Liabilities

Cash funds shows how the total funds of the PCC were held in our three Nat West bank accounts.

Other monetary assets are money due to the PCC from activities in 2023 but not received / banked until 2024.

Liabilities this is money in the PCC bank account for either, services they received in 2023 (such as gas) but will not pay for until 2024 or, money they received for other organisations such as charities, that will not be paid out until 2024.

Note 2 shows the movements in the Designated Maintenance Reserves and the various categories of restricted funds during the year.

Page 11 – Note 3 Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

Payments – note 3 d)

Church & Centre utility bills comprise of Electricity, Gas, Waste disposal and network costs.

Mission and evangelism consist of Tots Praise, DBS checks, 0 – 5 Toddlers, Training and Outreach.

Page 13

Mission Giving – note 3 f)

The PCC has agreed to support our four named charities by giving a regular monthly amount with any underpayment of the 6% commitment being paid out at the start of the following year.

Joanne Freeman
Treasurer to the PCC
6th February 2024

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Financial Statements for the Period Ended 31 December 2023

Receipts and Payment Accounts

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary receipts:						
Planned giving		39,766			39,766	39,069
Collections at services		4,179			4,179	2,564
All other giving/voluntary receipts	3 a)	8,149	1,150	0	9,299	12,025
Gift Aid recovered		9,551			9,551	8,736
		61,645	1,150	0	62,795	62,394
Activities for generating funds	3 b)	4,970	217		5,187	4,622
Investment income		26			26	0
Church activities	3 c)	44,818	1,018		45,836	51,399
		111,459	2,385	0	113,844	118,415
PAYMENTS						
Church activities						
Diocesan parish share		54,428			54,428	58,826
Clergy and staffing costs		2,596	38		2,634	2,625
Church running expenses	3 d)	20,127	261	523	20,911	25,687
Hall running costs		11,097	1,018		12,115	8,489
Café running costs		12,577	122		12,699	14,249
Mission giving and donations	3 f)	3,026	1,119		4,145	5,338
Costs of generating funds		161	216		377	158
		104,012	2,774	523	107,309	115,372
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 January		16,314	5,481	2,598	24,393	21,852
Funds transfers	2		-306			
Excess of receipts over payments as above		7,447	-389	-523	6,535	3,043
Fees - funerals and locums surplus / deficit see Note 3 e)			242		242	-502
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 December		24,067	5,028	2,075	31,170	24,393

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Statements of Assets and Liabilities

Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Assets					
Cash Funds					
Nat West Bank Accounts	17,267	2,928	975	21,170	24,393
Investments	6,800	2,100	1,100	10,000	0
	24,067	5,028	2,075	31,170	24,393
Other monetary assets					
Parish Share rebate for previous year	1,515			1,515	1,777
Cost of Locums during vacancy	0			0	166
Gift Aid recoverable for previous year	304			304	324
Hall rent due for previous year	3,523			3,523	2,419
	5,342	0	0	5,342	4,686
Liabilities					
Electricity and Gas	1,476			1,476	929
Optimal-test of fire alarm system				0	312
Select Waste Disposal	156			156	146
0 - 5s rent	330			330	129
Coffee money				0	306
Mission giving due for previous year	304			304	64
Ripple Effect		414		414	755
	2,266	414	0	2,680	2,641

Notes

- 1 The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis
- 2 The movements in designated and restricted funds during the year were:-

	Bal b/fwd 01/01/2023	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Bal c/fwd 31/12/2023
Designated					
Maintenance Reserves	11,215	1,777			12,992
Restricted					
Maintenance Reserves	1,800	300			2,100
Café	58	10	68		0
Cornwell 0 to 5 s	1,265		196		1,069
Donations to charities	1,125	786	1,119	-306	486
Specials	1,399	1,289	1,392		1,296
Totals without ODBF funds	5,647	2,385	2,775	-306	4,951
ODBF balancing figure	-166	2,634	2,392		76
	5,481	5,019	5,167	-306	5,027

ODBF - Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance

The donations to charities and specials funds are the result of donations given to specific appeals

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Note 3 Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Receipts					
a) All other giving/voluntary receipts					
Donations	8,149	1,150	0	9,299	12,025
	<u>8,149</u>	<u>1,150</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>9,299</u>	<u>12,025</u>
b) Activities for generating funds					
Parish magazine - advertising	317			317	73
Summer and Christmas fetes	2,984	217		3,201	3,735
Special events	1,669			1,669	814
	<u>4,970</u>	<u>217</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,187</u>	<u>4,622</u>
c) Church activities					
Fees for weddings and funerals	460			460	66
Parish magazine - sales	620			620	586
Centre lettings	20,408			20,408	27,975
Café income	16,297			16,297	15,756
Tuesday Get Together	740			740	502
Friday Friends	1,140			1,140	1,312
Cornwell 0 - 5 s	3,376			3,376	2,800
Parish Share rebate	1,777			1,777	1,783
Misc refunds		1,018		1,018	619
	<u>44,818</u>	<u>1,018</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>45,836</u>	<u>51,399</u>
Payments					
d) Church running expenses					
Centre utility bills	8,523			8,523	6,431
Insurance	1,849			1,849	1,691
Hospitality	24			24	95
Equipment	0	65		65	1,190
Magazine	1,352			1,352	1,339
Stationery	1,242			1,242	1,162
Centre maintenance	2,821			2,821	5,099
Upkeep of church grounds	0			0	3,462
Upkeep of services	1,351			1,351	1,180
Mission and evangelism costs	2,486	196	523	3,205	3,598
Administration	359			359	320
Independent Examiner	120			120	120
	<u>20,127</u>	<u>261</u>	<u>523</u>	<u>20,911</u>	<u>25,687</u>

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

Note 3

	2023	2022
	£	£
e) Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance (ODBF) fee workings		
Receipts		
Funeral fees received by PCC due to others	404	1,699
Locum service fees reimbursed by ODBF	<u>2,230</u>	<u>0</u>
	2,634	1,699
Payments		
funeral fees paid to ODBF	49	1,836
funeral expenses	126	199
wedding expenses	153	0
service fees paid to locums in vacancy	<u>2,064</u>	<u>166</u>
	2,392	2,201
surplus/deficit	242	-502

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

Note 3

f) Mission Giving

	2023 planned £	2023 extra £	2022 planned £	2022 extra £
Overseas Mission Societies				
Leprosy Mission	750.00		762.50	213.00
Novi Most	750.00		762.50	23.50
	1,500.00	0.00	1,525.00	236.50
Relief & Development Agencies				
Ukraine Relief Fund				588.60
Pakistan Flood Relief				390.50
Ripple Effect	1.00	755.00	16.50	683.50
Tear Fund		320.00		240.00
	1.00	1,075.00	16.50	1,902.60
Home Missions				
Berkshire Churches Trust	25.00		25.00	
CCA	750.00		762.50	23.50
Childrens Society	750.00	43.93	762.50	23.50
Faith				60.00
	1,525.00	43.93	1,550.00	107.00
Secular Charities				
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	3,026.00	1,118.93	3,091.50	2,246.10

NB 2022 Planned mission giving includes the £170 owed for 6% planned mission giving for 2021
2023 Planned mission giving includes the £120 owed for 6% planned mission giving for 2022

I have chosen to leave this page of the report showing the pence figures rather than rounding to the nearest pound. This is because most of the figures in 2022 end in 50p and rounding to the nearest pound makes nonsense of the figures.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

BUDGET AT 31 DECEMBER 2023 - 52 WEEKS

RECEIPTS	ACTUALS 2023 £	BUDGET 2023 £	VARIANCE 2023 £	BUDGET 2024 £
Voluntary receipts				
Parish Giving scheme GA	31,182	31,500	-318	33,600
Parish Giving scheme NGA	3,855	4,000	-145	3,600
Standing Orders Gift Aided	2,880	3,060	-180	3,000
Standing Orders Non Gift Aided	1,850	2,040	-190	2,000
Tax Rebate - PGS	7,795	7,930	-135	8,400
Tax Rebate - non PGS	1,755	770	985	1,500
Plate	4,179	2,000	2,179	2,500
General Donations	4,009	2,650	1,359	1,500
Coffee Money	484	0	484	500
Donations - SumUp	251	0	251	0
Café donation box	278	0	278	400
Total	58,518	53,950	4,568	57,000
Other receipts				
Magazine Advertising	317	400	-83	400
Fetes	2,984	2,000	984	3,000
Special events	1,669	1,000	669	2,000
Net Fees	460	100	360	100
Interest	26	0	26	0
0-5 s Toddlers	3,376	2,800	576	3,200
Tuesday Get Together	740	700	40	700
Friday Friends	1,140	1,000	140	1,000
Magazine Sales	620	800	-180	800
Centre Lettings	20,408	26,000	-5,592	20,000
Café Sales	16,297	16,000	297	17,000
Parish Share Rebate	1,777	0	1,777	0
Fund raising / Stewardship	3,127	3,320	-193	3,000
Reserves / Donations				6,900
Total	52,941	54,120	-1,179	58,100
TOTAL RECEIPTS	111,459	108,070	3,389	115,100

Excess of receipts over payments				
Church activities	-17,985	-28,610	10,625	-31,000
Other activities	25,432	28,610	-3,178	31,000
All activities	7,447	0	7,447	0
Hall	9,311	18,000	-8,689	12,000
Café	3,720	2,000	1,720	2,000

01/01/2023	balance of reserves	16,314	
end of period	plus profit/less deficit	24,067	

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

BUDGET AT 31 DECEMBER 2023 - 52 WEEKS

PAYMENTS	ACTUALS 2023	BUDGET 2023	VARIANCE 2023	BUDGET 2024
	£	£	£	£
Church running expenses				
Missions-missionary	1,500	1,590	-90	1,600
Missions-relief	1	0	1	0
Missions-home	1,525	1,620	-95	1,630
Missions-secular	0	0	0	0
Parish Share	54,428	56,000	-1,572	62,000
Minister expenses	286	550	-264	600
Visiting Clergy	206	0	206	0
Cost of New Vicar	904	0	904	0
LLM expenses	0	150	-150	150
Honoraria	1,200	1,200	0	1,200
Training Outreach	3	100	-97	100
Insurance	1,849	1,740	109	2,050
Church maintenance	2,821	2,260	561	2,000
Equipment	0	100	-100	100
Upkeep of services	1,301	900	401	900
Church flowers	50	50	0	50
Hospitality	24	100	-76	100
Upkeep of church grounds	0	100	-100	100
Stationery	1,242	1,200	42	1,500
Administration	359	200	159	400
cost of fetes	161	60	101	200
Independent Examination	120	120	0	120
Electricity	3,691	4,600	-909	6,000
Gas	3,458	8,700	-5,242	6,000
Waste Disposal	858	720	138	800
Wifi	516	500	16	400
Total	76,503	82,560	-6,057	88,000
Other costs				
0 - 5 Toddlers	2,435	2,200	235	2,500
Youth Group	12	50	-38	50
DBS checks	36	60	-24	50
Magazine	1,352	1,200	152	1,500
Hall running costs	11,097	8,000	3,097	8,000
Café running costs	12,577	14,000	-1,423	15,000
Total	27,509	25,510	1,999	27,100
TOTAL PAYMENTS	104,012	108,070	-4,058	115,100

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus Church, Tilehurst, Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023 which are set out on pages 9 to 13

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The church's trustees 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 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 the 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 management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with 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 accounting records in accordance with s. 130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met;or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



David Marett, FCA CTA

5 Jennets Close,

Tutts Clump,

RG7 6JZ

4th April 2024

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Minutes of Meeting of Parishioners – 23rd April 2023

The meeting was held in St Catherine's Church at 11.30am

Present 29 parishioners

1. Caroline Heron welcomed everyone and opening the meeting in prayer. She explained that as we are in an interregnum and without a vicar, she is chairing the meeting.
2. **Apologies for absence** had been received from: Rita Barrett, Ella Canning, Mary Hudson, Chris Jones, Sonia Ludford, Maureen Norman, Beryl Nunn, Stuart & Val Poore, David Stevens.
3. **The minutes of the Parish Meeting** on 8th May 2022 were approved, proposed Richard Canning, seconded Mike Heather. There were no matters arising.
4. **Election of Churchwardens.** Lynn Stevens outlined her experiences of her first year as Churchwarden. After Rev Gill retired, everyone had pulled together and played their part, it is love that draws us here. 2022 had been designated as a year of Prayer and we had endeavored bring prayer into all our activities. We have tried to reach out more to our local community with the amazing Jubilee Jamboree and this year's Coronation Celebrations to come. It has been a challenging year with the Parish Profile now put together but with ongoing challenges to find cover for weekly services.

With two nominations, both being willing to stand, and no last-minute nominations, Caroline Heron (proposed by Hilary Smee and Seconded by Chris Addison) and Lynn Stevens (proposed by Chris Addison and seconded by Evelyn Bartlett) were duly elected to serve as Churchwardens. Approved by all with applause.

5. **There was no other business** and Richard Yates closed the meeting with prayer.

The meeting concluded at 11.41am and we moved on to the Annual Parochial Church meeting

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting – 23rd April 2023

The meeting was held in St Catherine's Church immediately after the meeting for Parishioners
Present 29 Parishioners

1. Welcome & Prayer

By Lynn Stevens

2. Apologies for absence had been received from

Rita Barrett, Ella Canning, Mary Hudson, Chris Jones, Sonia Ludford, Maureen Norman, Beryl Nunn, Stuart & Val Poore, David Stevens.

3. Minutes of the APCM held on 8th May 2022

Were approved, proposed Richard Canning, seconded Sue Burston.

4. Matters arising

None.

5. Presentation of Annual Report and Financial Statements.

Joanne Freeman went through the report which had been previously distributed.

Pages 5, 6 & 7 were written to explain where the various figures came from, there were no questions. Joanne then went through the following pages:

Page 8; statement by David Marrett the independent examiner

Pages 9 & 10; these are a legal requirement with categories agreed by the Church of England and the Charity Commission. 'Assets' were monies due in 2022 but received in 2023 and 'Liabilities' were Gas and Electricity used but not yet paid for. There were no questions.

Page 11; breaks down income and expenditure into more detail. There were no questions

Page 12; sets out payment received in respect of fees due to the Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance for funerals etc. It was questioned why the figures do not balance; this was due to timing issues.

Page 13; missions giving, no questions.

Pages 14 & 15; the budget for 2023. This had been set at the end of November based on knowledge at that time and Joanne went through the various figures explaining the rationale. Closure of the St Catherine's pre-school will result in a substantial loss of income and in addition to funding new hirers for the Church Hall, several fundraising events will be held in 2023.

Fixed price contracts for Gas and Electricity will come to an end, repairs to the Boilers are needed. We do however, get a discount of £500 on the £62K Parish Share for every month we are without a vicar. The Lent appeal raised £3k and it is hoped that we can balance income and expenditure in 2023. Caroline Heron thanked Joanne on behalf of the Parish.

6. Presentation of the Annual Report by the PCC

Pages 1-4 of the booklet is a review of the year and Caroline highlighted a few things.

The monthly pattern of services had been retained, thanks to the Leaders & Preachers team and visiting clergy. Outreach services (outdoors in July & August weather permitting) and Carols Under the Oak Tree had been put on and attracted a large crowd. 2022 was a year of prayer and activities including Thursday Prayer meeting, MU Prayer chain, Prayer Ministry team, continued. There was a 24hour chain of prayer in September and a night vigil.

A 'Third Saturday of the Month' prayer meeting has been introduced, supported by a few people; more would be good. Also, the Calcot Prayer walk & Litter pick. Nurturing our faith; re-invigorating

(Continued on page 19)

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting – 23rd April 2023

(Continued from page 18)

and expanding the Lifegroups with Emma Deacon coordinating to give everyone the opportunity of joining one with all the benefits of sharing one's faith and encouraging one another. Outreach; café & Centre a central part of this, need to expand and reach out.

Caroline thanked everyone for what they do and pointed out the small green booklet detailing the activities. She highlighted two reports by Richard Canning; Deanery Synod and Buildings. In respect of the latter a huge debt of thanks is due to Richard and Chris Addison for all the work they do. The Quinquennial report suggested that insulating the Sanctuary would reduce heat loss. Caroline also thanked Peter Broomfield in respect of electrical work and advice. Hazel And the team who maintain the grounds.

7. Vicar's address, by Caroline Heron

2022 a year of huge change; Gill's departure the big event with an emotional service. She left us with a commission at that service from Philippians 4:8-9 which was 'Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.'

Last year Caroline described the role of the Churchwarden as like oil in a machine and 2022 was the same. She outlined progress in appointed a new vicar; at the 'Section 11' meeting she and Lynn Stevens were appointed as reps for the PCC at an interview, the Parish Profile had been written after a listening exercise among the congregation and a copy had gone to the Diocese for review. The 'section 12' meeting on 9th May is to review and approve it, the advertisement can then go out with interviews hoped for in mid-July, assuming a successful candidate has to give 3 months' notice we could be looking at a new incumbent October/November at the earliest.

8. Electoral roll

Stuart Poore, the Electoral Roll Officer, had reported in the reports booklet but was able to give updated figures. As at the date of the meeting there were 119 names on the role. Since last year 2 had died and 14 were added.

9. Election of PCC members.

Stuart Poore, Richard & Katrina Yates have completed their 3-year term but for continuity Stuart and Richard had agreed to stay on for another term. There were nominations for three new PCC members; Heather Addison, Jean Almond, and Ella Canning. All present were in favour.

10. Election of Deanery Synod members.

Lynn Stevens, Richard & Ella Canning will continue.

11. Appointment of Independent examiner

David Marett is willing to continue; Proposed that he be appointed by Chris Addison, seconded Sue Burston, all in favour.

12. Any other business.

None

The meeting closed at 12.22pm with closing Prayer by Mike Heather

Accounts

The Parish of Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

(Registered Charity 1155524)

for the year ended 31st December 2022

Vicar *(Until 30th November 2022)*

Rev Gill Rowell



Bank

Nat West Reading Oracle

Unit L11, The Oracle Shopping Centre, Reading, RG1 2AG

Independent Examiner

Mr David Marett FCA CTA

5 Jennets Close, Tutts Clump, RG7 6JZ

And minutes

Of the meeting of Parishioners held on 8th May 2022

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Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

PCC report on 2022 to the 2023 APCM

Aims and purpose

Our Parish purpose is "To worship God and show that Jesus' love makes a difference in reaching, serving and caring"

The PCC is responsible, together with the vicar, for the vision and mission of our church, pastoral, evangelistic and social and ecumenical. To do this we seek God's will, ensure we operate within a legal framework, and are responsible for the financial stability of the church too, all under the authority of God.

Our vicar, Rev Gill Rowell, decided to take retirement relocating nearer her daughters and grandchildren. So it was with regret, but gratitude for all she had brought to the Parish, that we held a special service and lunch on 27th November, attended by over 100 church members and people from the community, to celebrate her tenure and commission the PCC for the task ahead. Her official retirement was on 30th November.

Objectives and Activities

With the diminishing of the risk of the Covid pandemic we were able to use the Church and Hall to their full potential. This enabled our mid-week activities to grow and develop, with the return of almost all worshippers to in person worship. Any easing of precautions was approved by the PCC and church members continued to exercise caution if they felt unwell.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and Prayer

As well as Sunday worship in Church we have continued to 'Livestream' the 10.00am service and this has been appreciated by those unable to attend in person as well as others who are interested from outside the area. The regular pattern that covers the variety of 'styles' has been made known:

- First Sunday – Holy Communion, a traditional service
- Second Sunday – Family service followed by a short, spoken communion which the majority stay on for
- Third Sunday – Family Communion, a more informal service using Gluten-Free bread
- Fourth Sunday – Word and worship, followed by a short, spoken communion which the majority stay on for

Where there is a Fifth Sunday, we aim for something different, typically 'café style' with Hymns & Reading chosen by those attending with accompany testimonies.

Communion is offered in both kinds although many prefer to avoid the common cup, taking the bread only. Sermon study sheets are provided by the preacher and are used as a basis for discussion by the Life groups.

On Good Friday morning we held a family service and a quiet hour in the afternoon. For Pentecost an evening Songs of Praise. Harvest Festival on 25th September was planned by the Green Team and focussed on care of creation, It was followed by a bread-making competition and lunch. The youth Bible study group planned and led the Nativity service.

The 9.00am Wednesday communion has continued and is valued by the 8 or so who attend.

We have had special services for 2 of the 4 organisations we support: Leprosy Mission, Christingle (the Children's Society). Additionally, a service was held for the Shoebox Appeal (Samaritan's Purse).

We are hugely thankful for the preachers, leaders, intercessors, readers, musicians and the technical team who contribute to our services, as well as all those who help in other ways – welcomers, sidespeople, readers, intercessors, refreshments, AV desk and camera volunteers.

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During July and August, the Ten O'clock services were held in the church grounds and this informal setting made it more accessible for visitors to attend as well as being a witness to the neighbouring houses (who had all been pre-warned of our plans)

Carols under the Old Oak Tree was again very popular but with falling attendances at the 'Midnight Mass' in recent years, the increased laity workload with the vicar's departure and the expected difficulty in getting clergy to cover, it was decided not to hold one. We encouraged those who wished to take communion to go to St Michael's church, and 5 people attended. The Christmas Day service was not a communion service.

Thursday community prayer has continued throughout the year at church, and the MU prayer chain has interceded faithfully for those who have requested it.

In 2022 there were 103 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, a reduction of 1.

The average Sunday figures for October attendance was: 45 adults and 1 child under 16. . Home Communion resumed after Easter and the monthly communion service at York House (sheltered accommodation) resumed in October.

At the end of 2022 we estimated our "Worshipping Community" to be around 131 made up of 112 adults and 19 children and young adults

There were no marriage services this year but two wedding blessings. There were 4 baptisms in 2022. No Funeral services took place at St Catherine's, but 7 funerals have been conducted by our vicar and LLM at local crematoriums.

Tots Praise on Friday morning in the Church has an average attendance of 6 children and 8 Adults (including the small team who run it) and some stay on when the café has opened. Cornwell 0-5s at the Cornwell Centre runs on Tuesday for family groups and Thursdays for Childminders and each week in total over 30 adults and 50 children attend. The Youth Bible study and the Friday night Pick'n'Mix Youth Group continued. All these groups were able to run during term-time throughout the year.

St Catherine's Mother's Union met in Church with speakers, and a Christmas Carols and Reading service in December. The prayer chain for (requested) emergency prayers continued.

The Leaders & Preachers Action Group (LAPAG) met quarterly to plan services and to help us during the interregnum Rev Gill produced templates for each of the four regular Sunday services.

2022 had been designated as a year of prayer and to that end, on the third Saturday of the month we now hold a regular breakfast prayer meeting on the 3rd Saturday in the month which includes 2 St Catherine's activities, 1 of the 4 missions we support and 1 global matter. In September we held 24 hour chain of prayer, and a night of prayer was also held. We are encouraged to begin every church activity in prayer. A monthly Prayer walk in the Calcot area, usually attended by 6 people, has developed to include litter picking

Deanery Synod

At the 2022 APCM Richard and Ella Cannings and Lynn Stevens were appointed as our representatives on Deanery Synod and the minutes from those meetings are reported back to the PCC.

The Church Centre

Eve Combes our booking manager and Sonia Ludford Centre manager liaise with our hirers and there have been some new bookings. Unfortunately, the preschool that had been meeting in the Hall for some 56 years closed down in December due to financial and staffing issues. Whilst this represents a serious loss of income, there are new hirers taking some of their hours at our full commercial rates which will partially offset the loss and work continues to find new hirers.

Work revealed by the Quinquennial inspection was in line with our work plan and we are grateful to our Fabric and grounds team who have a carefully drawn up schedule of work some of which can be done by our volunteers and some requiring outside contractors. A small team keep the grounds in good order.

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Pastoral Care

Whilst there are many informal support networks though existing groups, it was felt that an expansion of the existing Life groups could cover every church member. An appeal for new leaders and hosts has expanded them so that there are now seven groups meeting at various days and times during the week and a co-ordinator oversees and arranges regular meeting for the leaders. In addition, these groups are being asked to take some responsibility for church members in their areas who are not in a Life group.

Mission and Evangelism

Café Siena has continued to open 10am-2pm thanks to our café manager Karen Patrick and a large number of volunteers both from within the church and outside who cook, serve, washup and find time to engage with the customers. In the early part of the year, we continued 'Friday deliveries' of a two-course hot meal, but these did not resume after the summer holidays as the majority felt safe to come to the café where we felt our resources should be concentrated.

With Tuesday Get Together and Friday Friends we have listed the café on a list of 'Warm Spaces' produced by Churches Together and we are grateful for the volunteers who organise and run these community activities. A very successful event was held to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with participation and attendance from the local community

RG31, the Parish Magazine, continues to be published four times a year in full colour and whilst the number of pre-paid subscribers has fallen, the number of copies printed has increased; individual copies are being sold or given away to visitors which we encourage. Visits by and to our local schools continued and we were able to once again host the 95th Reading Scout group's Carol service and host Birch Copse School's 2 carol Services.

Fundraising

During the year there was a Summer Fair, Bistro Evening, Ceilidh, Eco-sale and Christmas Fair which although involving much hard work were enjoyable social events as well as helping to ensure that for 2022 the church income covered expenditure.

Ecumenical relationships

We are an active part of Churches Together in Tilehurst and West Reading with ministers meeting regularly for prayer and fellowship. The ministers and lay reps meet twice a year to plan ecumenical events; Good Friday and Carol Singing where our music group lead. The annual service for the week of Prayer for Christian Unity was held at St Matthews Southcote.

Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Power Measure. It is a registered charity – No. 1155524. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). All those who attend the services and are members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and if they feel so called, to stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish, including how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. We are thankful for the services of our PCC Treasurer, Joanne Freeman, who infuses our financial considerations with vision and pastoral care.

The PCC met 7 times during the year with an additional extraordinary meeting following Gill's announcement that she was to retire. In addition to discussing matters relating to the life and vision of the Parish, the PCC seeks to ensure that best practice policies are adopted especially relating to health and safety, safeguarding, general data protection regulations (known as GDPR), employment practice and other legal requirements.

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A number of Action Groups, with particular responsibility for specific aspects of Parish life, are responsible to the PCC and report to it. In addition, there is a Standing Committee.

Since Gill Rowell's departure in November 2022, the churchwardens, Lynn Stevens and Caroline Heron, have taken responsibility for ensuring that worship, pastoral care and mission continues, supported by Mike Smith, Area Dean. The PCC and Liz Ratcliffe, Assistant Area Dean are also providing the churchwardens with active support, and local clergy presiding at Holy Communion Services. Following the diocese's decision that a new appointment will be made on a like for like basis with the previous appointment, The Church of England's process to appoint a new vicar is in progress.

Safeguarding

The Parish takes safeguarding seriously, and in compliance with Bishop's Council requirements, has published our Safeguarding Policy, and the Safeguarding Handbook, on our website, and continues the process of implementing best safeguarding practice throughout the life the church. In this respect the Diocesan 'Dashboard' keeps track of our progress. Hazel Newman, the Parish Safeguarding Officer is tasked with ensuring appropriate training is completed by all those serving in the Church, supported by Stuart Poore, and the vicar.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Parish is committed to ensuring that we maintain and follow GDPR guidance.

PCC Members

The names of the members of the Council who have served since the commencement of the 2022 financial year and until the date this report was approved are:

Ex officio members

Incumbent Rev Gill Rowell (until 30th November)

LLM's Mr Tony Bartlett (also elected to Deanery Synod until April 2022 & elected as PCC secretary)
Mr Mike Heather

Churchwardens

Mr Richard Canning (until APCM 2022)

Ms Caroline Heron

Mrs Lynn Stevens (from APCM 2022)

Elected Members

Mrs Ella Robles Canning (until APCM 2022))

Mrs Emma Deacon

Mrs Joanne Freeman (appointed as Treasurer by PCC)

Mrs Sonia Ludford (also Centre Manager)

Mr Stuart Poore (also Parish Administrator)

Mr Stephen Priter (until APCM 2022)

Mrs Lynn Stevens

Mrs Stephanie Walklate (from APCM 2022)

Mrs Katrina Yates

Mr Richard Yates

Minute taker to the PCC

Mr Tony Bartlett

Bankers

Nat West Reading Oracle Branch, Unit L11, The Oracle Shopping Centre, Reading, RG1 2AG

Signed on behalf of the PCC

Churchwarden

Ms Caroline Heron



Churchwarden

Mrs Lynn Stevens



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The Financial Report for 2022

In 2022 we began to learn to live with Covid with life returning to normal with the gradual reduction in the wearing of masks and social distancing measures. The figures in this report reflect this fact, so once again comparing the figures between two consecutive years is difficult as the circumstances were so different in these years.

Receipts

In 2022 we held three fetes, Summer (£1,341), ECO (£1,008) and Christmas (£1,387) rather than the normal two – this resulted in an extra £1,000 in income. Then we ended the year with a very enjoyable Ceilidh (£647), intended to be repeated in 2023. By the end of the year, all our regular activities were back working as normal following Covid resulting in near normal income.

Reading Deanery changed the way they allocate the Parish Share in 2021, hence the reason our Parish Share rebate for 2021 paid in 2022 was less than the previous year.

The Parish magazine advertising figure only includes money received for the 2022 RG31. We normally invoice our advertisers in November but this year we left the invoices until January, so all income for our 2023 RG31 will be received in 2023 and so will be in next year's accounts. Also, because Preschool had to close in December 2022, they paid us £1,558 before year end rather than waiting until January 2023, when they would normally have paid us.

Restricted Funds - during the year we received donations from the Oxford Diocese to help with our energy bills (£1,302) plus a further £150 towards some work done as part of a previous ECO audit. We also received a legacy (£500), part of which has been used to mend the stand for the Pascal Candle. Plus there were donations towards the cost of a tree planted at the Diamond Jubilee celebration, the new garden furniture and a much needed new mower to keep our lawns looking nice. In addition, the community of St Catherine's donated £818 as a farewell thank you gift to Gill when she retired at the end of November 2022.

Payments

During 2022 we continued to upgrade our audio-visual systems in church. We also had several issues with our boiler, hence a larger than expected spend for Church Maintenance. We continue to provide a free taxi for our Calcot worshippers to the 10am Sunday service. The cost is taken out of the Endowment Fund provided from the sale of St Birinus which will continue to fund this for the foreseeable future.

Our Quinquennial inspection, an audit of the church buildings done every five years, was carried out in May 2022. Normally our architect's fee for this service is invoiced by Reading Deanery in five yearly instalments but during lockdown these instalments were not invoiced. The Deanery has been sent the architect's invoice and we are still waiting for them to let us know how much we owe them.

End of year thoughts

The good news is that despite some unexpected costs there was a surplus of £3,930 at the end of the year. But it must be remembered that without the unexpected donation from the Diocese of £1,302, the Parish Share rebate of £1,753, Preschool's early payment of £1,558 and no Quinquennial costs we may have only broken even or worse.

Pages 14 and 15 show the actual totals at 31st December 2022 alongside their budgeted totals. On the far-right hand side you will see the budget that the PCC has in faith set for 2023. Please note the final line on page 14 in the section headed RECEIPTS - it is headed 'Fund Raising / Stewardship / Reserves' and has a figure against it of £3,320. It is a long time since the PCC has not set a balanced budget but after thoughtful consideration the PCC decided that bearing in mind the uncertainty of costs, especially energy costs, it would be wise not to increase any of the receipt items on page 14 or decrease any of the payment items on page 15 in order just to balance the figures.

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Since the PCC set this budget in November 2022 St Catherine's Preschool has had to close, in 2022 they contributed £13,765 to the hall rent receipts, so a big hole to fill. As a community we have to either increase our income or reduce our spend or use a combination of both to the sum of £3,320 + £13,765 during 2023, because if we don't our reserves will continually be depleted.

The figure in the accounts that is cause for concern is at the top of page 9 in the unrestricted column called Planned Giving. This consists of a combination of giving using the Parish Giving scheme and by Standing Orders. This is a reduction of £3,186 so a reduction of over 7% on last year's figure. Please, please can we all prayerfully consider what our monthly contribution to St Catherine's should be. This does of course include volunteering around the church thus saving us from needing to employ someone say to mow the lawns or tend the flowers or sort out any issues inside the buildings.

There are also plans afoot for various fund raising events – please join in and help, if you have any ideas of any other fundraising ideas, please speak to one of the church wardens.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has helped me over the past year with counting, banking, sorting out the Gift Aid claims, invoicing our hirers and generally being very supportive. At the APCM in 2024 I will be leaving the PCC having completed my 3 years. I will also stop being treasurer then too. So, if anyone would like to consider taking over from me in a year's time come and have a chat with me.

Reserves policy

Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance (ODBF) recommend that the PCC's reserves should be an amount equal to three months average spend. For us this would equate to £26,000. The current figure held is £13,000 – which equates to about one and a half months cover.

If you have any questions on this report please get in touch with the Treasurer, preferably a couple of days before the APCM.

The following will help you understand Pages 9 to 13

- **Unrestricted funds** contain money that the PCC can use for its general purposes.
- **Designated funds** contain money from unrestricted funds that the PCC has chosen to put aside for a particular purpose. The PCC can also decide to return any or all of this money to unrestricted funds.
- **Restricted funds** contain money that is received for a specific use such as donations to named charities.
- **Endowment funds** contain money that is a special form of restricted funds; in our case it refers to the money the PCC received after St Birinus was sold and is expendable and can be used to fund activities relating to mission in Calcot such as the weekly taxi service to and from the 10.00 am service at St Catherine's when required.

The totals from the 2021 report are there for comparison purposes. The figures in the report are required to be shown to the nearest pound. Pages 9 & 10 are a legal requirement, all the other pages are provided to give more details.

Page 9 – Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

This page lists the receipts and payments for the year under categories that are required in the annual report to the Church of England. The fees for wedding and funerals, though they are not reported in this annual return do go through the PCC's bank account, hence the need for a separate line on this page so that the bank balances at the start and the end of the year balance correctly.

Page 10 – Statements of Assets and Liabilities

Cash funds shows how the total funds of the PCC were split in the current bank account.

Other monetary assets are money due to the PCC from activities in 2022 but not received / banked until 2023.

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Liabilities this is money in the PCC bank account for either services they received in 2022 (such as gas) but will not pay for until 2023 or money they received for other organisations such as charities, that will not be paid out until 2023.

Note 2 shows the movements in the Designated Maintenance Reserves and the various categories of restricted funds during the year.

Page 11 – Note 3 Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

Payments – note 3 d)

Church & Centre utility bills comprise of Electricity, Gas, Waste disposal and network costs.

Mission and evangelism consist of Tots Praise, DBS checks, 0 – 5 Toddlers, Youth Group, Training and Outreach.

Page 13 – Note 3 Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

Mission Giving – note 3 f)

The PCC has agreed to support our four named charities by giving a regular monthly amount with any underpayment of the 6% commitment being paid out at the start of the following year.

Joanne Freeman Treasurer to the PCC 16th February 2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus Church, Tilehurst, Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022 which are set out on pages 9 to 13

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The church's trustees 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 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 the 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 management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with 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 accounting records in accordance with s. 130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met;or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



David Marett, FCA CTA
5 Jennets Close,
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20th March 2023

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus
Financial Statements for the Period Ended 31 December 2022

Receipts and Payment Accounts

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	TOTAL 2022	TOTAL 2021
		£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary receipts:						
Planned giving		39069			39069	42,255
Collections at services		2564			2564	966
All other giving/voluntary receipts	3 a)	2743	9,272	10	12025	9,943
Gift Aid recovered		8736			8736	9,257
		<u>53112</u>	<u>9,272</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>62394</u>	<u>62,422</u>
Activities for generating funds	3 b)	4622			4622	3,634
Investment income				0	0	0
Church activities	3 c)	50780	619		51399	35,171
Government Grant - CJRS			0		0	4,366
Total receipts		<u>108514</u>	<u>9,891</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>118415</u>	<u>105,593</u>
PAYMENTS						
Church activities						
Diocesan parish share		58826			58826	58,826
Clergy and staffing costs		1845	780		2625	6,527
Church running expenses	3 d)	18282	6,613	792	25687	18,990
Hall running costs		8489			8489	4,079
Café running costs		13919	330		14249	9,248
Mission giving and donations	3 f)	3092	2,246		5338	6,463
Costs of generating funds		131	27		158	60
Government Grant - CJRS			0		0	4,208
Total payments		<u>104584</u>	<u>9,996</u>	<u>792</u>	<u>115372</u>	<u>108,402</u>
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 January		12384	6,088	3,380	21852	24,548
Funds transfers	2	0				0
Excess of receipts over payments as above		3930	-105	-782	3043	-2,808
Fees - funerals and locums - surplus / deficit	3 e)		-502		-502	112
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 December		16314	5481	2598	24393	21,852

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Statements of Assets and Liabilities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	TOTAL 2022 £	TOTAL 2021 £
Cash Funds					
Bank Current account	16,314	5,481	2,598	24,393	21,852
	<u>16,314</u>	<u>5,481</u>	<u>2,598</u>	<u>24,393</u>	<u>21,852</u>
Other monetary assets					
Parish Share rebate for previous year	1,783			1,783	1,783
Cost of Locums during vacancy	166			166	0
Gift Aid recoverable for previous year	324			324	821
Hall rent due for previous year	2,419			2,419	4,120
	<u>4,692</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,692</u>	<u>6,724</u>
Liabilities					
Electricity and Gas	929			929	1,111
British Gas - repairs	0			0	311
Optimal-test of fire alarm system	312			312	0
Select - waste disposal	146			146	134
0 - 5s rent	129			129	129
Photocopying				0	134
Coffee money		306		306	96
Mission giving due for previous year		64		64	169
FAITH Christmas envelopes				0	30
Ripple Effect *		755		755	684
	<u>1,516</u>	<u>1,125</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,641</u>	<u>2,798</u>

* Ripple Effect - charity changed name, used to be known as Send a Cow

Notes

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis
- The movements in designated and restricted funds during the year were:-

	Bal b/fwd 01/01/2022	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Bal c/fwd 31/12/2022
Designated					
Maintenance Reserves	9,432	1,783			11,215
Restricted					
Maintenance Reserves	1,500	300			1,800
Café	388		330		58
Cornwell 0 to 5 s	1,413		148		1,265
Donations to charities	869	2,502	2,246		1,125
Specials	1,582	7,089	7,272		1,399
Totals without ODBF funds	<u>5,752</u>	<u>9,891</u>	<u>9,996</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,647</u>
3 e) ODBF balancing figure	<u>336</u>	<u>1,699</u>	<u>2,201</u>		<u>-166</u>
	<u>6,088</u>	<u>11,590</u>	<u>12,197</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,481</u>

ODBF - Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance

The donations to charities and specials funds are the result of donations given to specific appeals

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

Note 3

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	TOTAL 2022 £	TOTAL 2021 £
Receipts					
a) All other giving/voluntary receipts					
Donations	2,743	9,272	10	12,025	9,943
	<u>2,743</u>	<u>9,272</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>12,025</u>	<u>9,943</u>
b) Activities for generating funds					
Parish magazine - advertising	73			73	440
Summer , ECO and Christmas fetes	3735			3,735	2,685
Special events/pop up shops	814			814	509
	<u>4622</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,622</u>	<u>3,634</u>
c) Church activities					
Fees for weddings and funerals	66			66	334
Parish magazine - sales	586			586	707
Centre lettings	27975			27,975	19,697
Café income	15756			15,756	10,414
Tuesday Get Together	502			502	58
Friday Friends	1312			1,312	0
Cornwell 0 - 5 s	2800			2,800	861
Parish Share rebate	1783			1,783	3,100
Misc refunds		619		619	0
	<u>50780</u>	<u>619</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>51,399</u>	<u>35,171</u>
Payments					
d) Church running expenses					
Centre utility bills	5129	1,302		6,431	5,418
Insurance	1691			1,691	1,719
Hospitality	95			95	83
Equipment	0	1,190		1,190	1,577
Magazine	1339			1,339	1,131
Stationery	1162			1,162	875
Centre maintenance	4404	695		5,099	4,798
Upkeep of church grounds	358	3,104		3,462	191
Upkeep of services	1080	100		1,180	811
Mission and evangelism costs	2658	148	792	3,598	1,870
Administration	246	74		320	397
Independent Examiner	120			120	120
	<u>18282</u>	<u>6,613</u>	<u>792</u>	<u>25,687</u>	<u>18,990</u>

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

Note 3

	2022	2021
	£	£
e) Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance (ODBF) fee workings		
Receipts		
Funeral fees received by PCC	1,699	1,902
	<u>1,699</u>	<u>1,902</u>
Payments		
funeral fees paid to ODBF	1,836	1,530
funeral expenses	199	260
service fees paid to locums in	166	0
	<u>2,201</u>	<u>1,790</u>
surplus/deficit	-502	112

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

Note 3

f) Mission Giving

	2022	2022	2021	2021
	planned	extra	planned	extra
	£	£	£	£
Overseas Mission Societies				
Leprosy Mission	762.50	213.00	1,470.00	
Novi Most	762.50	23.50	1,470.00	
	<u>1,525.00</u>	<u>236.50</u>	<u>2,940.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Relief & Development Agencies				
Ukraine Relief Fund		588.60		
Pakistan Flood Relief		390.50		
Ripple Effect *	16.50	683.50		318.00
Tear Fund		240.00		240.00
	<u>16.50</u>	<u>1,902.60</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>558.00</u>
Home Missions				
Berkshire Churches Trust	25.00		25.00	
CCA	762.50	23.50	1,470.00	
Childrens Society	762.50	23.50	1,470.00	
Faith		60.00		
	<u>1,550.00</u>	<u>107.00</u>	<u>2,965.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Secular Charities				
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL	3,091.50	2,246.10	5,905.00	558.00

NB 2021 Planned mission giving includes the £3,000 planned mission giving for 2020

2022 Planned mission giving includes the £170 owed for 6% planned mission giving for 2021

* Ripple Effect - charity changed name, used to be known as Send a Cow

I have chosen to leave this page of the report showing the pence figures rather than rounding to the nearest pound. This is because many of the figures end in 50p and rounding to the nearest pound makes nonsense of the figures. So £762.50 + £762.50 = £1525 which means that the total given is £3,091.50 Where as £763 + £763 = £1526, one pound more than true, which would make the total shown as £3,094

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

BUDGET AT 31 DECEMBER 2022 - 52 WEEKS

RECEIPTS	ACTUALS	BUDGET	VARIANCE	BUDGET
	2022	2022	2022	2023
	£	£	£	£
Voluntary receipts				
Parish Giving Scheme Gift Aided	29910	33,000	-3,090	31,500
Parish Giving Scheme Non Gift Aided	4099	6,000	-1,901	4,000
Standing Orders Gift Aided	3060	3,000	60	3,060
Standing Orders non Gift Aided	2000	2,000	0	2,040
Plate	2556	500	2,056	2,000
Gift Aid recovered	8736	9,450	-714	8,700
Tots Praise	8	50	-42	0
General Donations	2743	1,800	943	2,650
Total	53112	55,800	-2,688	53,950
Other receipts				
Magazine Advertising	73	400	-327	400
Fetes	3735	2,000	1,735	2,000
Special Events/Pop up shops	814	200	614	1,000
Net Fees	66	150	-84	100
0-5 s Toddlers	2800	2,400	400	2,800
Holiday Club	0	750	-750	0
Youth Group	0	100	-100	0
Tuesday Get Together	502	0	502	700
Friday Friends	1312	500	812	1,000
Magazine Sales	586	800	-215	800
Centre Lettings	27975	25,000	2,975	26,000
Café Sales	15756	14,000	1,756	16,000
Parish Share rebate	1783	0	1,783	0
Fund Raising/Stewardship/Reserves				3,320
Total	55402	46,300	9,102	54,120
TOTAL RECEIPTS	108514	102,100	6,414	108,070
Excess of receipts over payments				
Church activities	-25262	-22,850	-2,412	-28,610
Other activities	29191	22,850	6,341	28,610
All activities	3930	0	3,930	0
Hall	19486	18,800	686	18,000
Café	1836	1,000	836	2,000

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

BUDGET AT 31 DECEMBER 2022 - 52 WEEKS

PAYMENTS	ACTUALS	BUDGET	VARIANCE	BUDGET
	2022	2022	2022	2023
	£	£	£	£
Church running expenses				
Parish Share	58,826	58,900	74	56,000
Minister expenses	645	765	120	550
LLM expenses	0	150	150	150
Honoraria	1,200	1,200	0	1,200
Children's Education	0	50	50	0
Tots Praise	28	0	-28	0
Adult Education	0	50	50	0
Training Outreach	167	200	33	100
Mission Giving	3,092	3,225	134	3,210
Insurance	1,691	1,800	109	1,740
Church maintenance	4,404	4,500	96	2,260
Equipment	0	100	100	100
Upkeep of services	1,030	750	-280	900
Church flowers	50	50	0	50
Hospitality	95	50	-45	100
Upkeep of church grounds	358	100	-258	100
Stationery	1,162	900	-262	1,200
Administration	246	200	-46	200
Cost of fetes	131	0	-131	60
Independent Examination	120	120	0	120
Electricity	1,937	2,300	363	4,600
Gas	1,903	2,000	97	8,700
Waste Disposal	804	740	-64	720
Network costs	485	500	15	500
Total	78,374	78,650	276	82,560
Other costs				
0 - 5 Toddlers	2,405	2,400	-5	2,200
Holiday Club	0	500	500	0
Youth Group	10	100	90	50
DBS checks	48	100	52	60
Magazine	1,339	1,150	-189	1,200
Hall running costs	8,489	6,200	-2,289	8,000
Café running costs	13,919	13,000	-919	14,000
	26,210	23,450	-2,760	25,510
TOTAL PAYMENTS	104,584	102,100	-2,484	108,070

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Minutes of Meeting of Parishioners – 8th May 2022

The meeting was held in St Catherine's Church at 11.35am

Present 36 parishioners plus Rev Gill Rowell

Rev Gill Rowell welcomed everyone to the meeting and prayed

Apologies for absence

Had been received from Cath Butcher, Sheila Bryant, Alan Holbeche, Helen O'Sullivan, Nicola O'Sullivan

Introduction to Lynn Stevens

Lynn outlined her Christian journey beginning with Baptism and Confirmation at St Mary's Purley and then to Tilehurst Free Church (later Reading Community Church and now The Gate) where she was involved in Mission, Children's and Youth work. She stressed that she was a good listener and that parishioners should not hesitate to go to her.

The role of Churchwarden

Caroline Heron gave the analogy of oil in the engine as she sees the work of a churchwarden. Oil make is possible for different components at different speeds to work together, whilst it is valuable and unseen it can also be messy! The churchwardens aim to help the church to run smoothly and to support Gill, the vicar. Caroline spoke of the challenges faced during the Pandemic and that the weekly meetings of the churchwardens with Gill to reflect and pray, as well as deal with practical matters were, invaluable. With restrictions easing she felt we have the wind in our sails to grow together and as individuals.

Election of Churchwardens

With two candidates and no last-minute nominations, Caroline Heron and Lynn Stevens were duly elected to serve as Churchwardens

Richard Canning, the outgoing Churchwarden prayed for Caroline and Lynn

The meeting concluded and we moved on to the Annual Parochial Church meeting

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting – 8th May 2022

The meeting was held in St Catherine's Church immediately after the meeting for Parishioners, Present 36 Parishioners and Rev Gill Rowell

Welcome & Prayer

Caroline Heron gave thanks asked for guidance and prayed that the meeting would be held in a spirit of peace, truth and love

Apologies for absence had been received from

Cath Butcher, Sheila Bryant, Alan Holbeche, Helen O'Sullivan, Nicola O'Sullivan

Minutes of the APCM held on 18th April 2021

Were approved

Matters arising

None

Presentation of Annual Report and Financial Statements

There were no questions on the reports and Joanne Freeman, treasurer, explained that for 2022 the PCC had agreed to aim for a balanced budget. She asked that wherever possible church members signed up for the Parish Giving Scheme with automatic inflationary increases but there were also other ways of giving; time, for example gardening or working in Café Siena.

Gill Rowell thanked Joanne for all her hard work and stressed that Joanne is not just looking after numbers on a spreadsheet but is committed to St Catherine's work and witness. Joanne had given notice that next year would be her last year as treasurer so the PCC would need to begin to look for a successor to work alongside Joanne.

Electoral roll

Stuart Poore, the Electoral Roll Officer, reported there were 107 on the roll with 3 new members added in 2021

Vicar's address

Rev Gill began by reminding us that for many years the Parish Purpose has been 'To worship God and show that Jesus makes a difference in Reaching, Serving and Caring'. When Gill came to St Catherine's she saw 'Healing, Hope and Hospitality' as core values. During lockdown the Strategy Action Team met by Zoom and went through the Parish Development tool to come up with a provisional statement of intent which is 'We are confident in our role in the community, known for our hospitality and our faith in Jesus'. That is where we want to be in 3-4 years' time.

Gill referred to her report in the Annual Report and Financial Statements booklet and briefly recapped on 2021, lockdowns, 3rd year of PMC (now ongoing but looking for people in the community to partnership with), Phil's 3rd & final year of curacy, Hybrid services, Bible studies & courses, outdoor services which attracted new people, merging 3 congregations with implications for leaders, singers, musicians; the way we do church, sermon study notes. Last year was a Bible learning focus and Café Siena came into its own as a place of belonging, weekly activities resumed in September.

To summarize 2021 was a year of Change, Challenge and Churning. Gill's forte is churning things up, not maintaining the status quo because we are all on a transformational journey.

There has been numerical growth both on a Sunday and helping in the café. We have come a long way since where we were in May 2021.

There was a pause for prayer and thanks for the sacrifices people had made.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

'Difficulties can be opportunities' – what can we expect in 2022? The new normal is that we will face uncertainty, unpredictability and disruption so how can Gill cast a vision when she can't see the way ahead? The answer is to put our confidence in God, herself, ourselves. Through prayer and the Bible we will learn our identity in Christ, this has been a challenge with three congregations coming together in 2021 but in 2022 we need to find our identity as one congregation. Lack of confidence is holding us back, people unsure of their abilities, qualities and ideas reluctant to use their God-given gifts and talents to rise to leadership. Gill recalled a verse of scripture that was important when she came to faith; Isaiah 41:10 'So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand'.

Two main focuses for 2022; the year of prayer and promotion of Lifegroups with the hope that everyone might join one but with that, pastoral care.

On prayer: Prayer ministry team equipped and functioning well, prayer before all church-led activities, more people to join the monthly Calcot prayer walks, Lent prayer daily online reflections, reminder on phones at 12noon to say Lord's Prayer, Wednesday prayer & fasting, praying for Ukraine on Saturdays, Saturday morning prayer meeting for PCC members, ten O'clock teaching series on prayer, Thy kingdom come Ascension to Pentecost with Prayer journals. Then for the future; monthly prayer meeting, half-night of prayer for Tilehurst, perhaps 24/7 Prayer in the Autumn. Willingness to be vulnerable, available, to grow in resilience, to be the change that we want to be and not leave it up to other people.

To continue with Bible courses, Eco church, Spiritual practices, all the things that go on throughout the week so that we are confident of our role in the community, our hospitality and our faith in Jesus. Ephesians 6:13 'Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.'

Election of PCC members

This year we lose Richard & Ella Canning and Stephen Priter. Stephanie Walklate (also Parish Giving Officer, café volunteer & MU secretary) has agreed to stand, proposed by Maureen Ward & seconded by Anne Soley. The opportunity was given for anyone else to stand but there were no volunteers. Gill prayed for Steph, Ella & Stephen.

Election of Deanery Synod members

Tony Bartlett is standing down; Richard & Ella Canning are willing to continue although no longer on PCC. There is one vacancy now.

Appointment of Independent examiner

David Marett is willing to continue and the meeting approved.

Any other business

Gill showed a quotation from St Catherine of Siena 'Don't make it necessary for me to complain about you to Christ crucified' said to pope Gregory 11th. Paddy Barrett asked who was on the PCC and was directed to the list in the Annual reports and Financial statement booklet. Beryl Nunn asked that something to be done in Calcot and Gill explained that the PMC outcome was to join with initiatives by the local community and so far, none had been identified, Lynn has ordered Hi-Vis jackets with St Catherine's on them for the monthly prayer walks.

Hilary Smee asked what was to follow PMC and Gill explained that 'Citizens UK' had appeared to be relevant and had gone on a training course, Gill briefly explained what they do but at this time didn't feel we have the time or energy to be more involved; it is essentially a campaigning organisation. Sheila Drew said that we need to Adjust, Accept, and Achieve at St Catherine's

The meeting closed at 12.35pm with a Closing Prayer by Lynn Stevens

Accounts

The Parish of Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

(Registered Charity 1155524)

for the year ended 31st December 2021

Vicar

Rev Gill Rowell

Curate

(1st January to 12th December)

Rev Phil Price



Bank

Nat West Reading Oracle

Unit L11, The Oracle Shopping Centre, Reading, RG1 2AG

Independent Examiner

Mr David Marett FCA CTA

5 Jennets Close, Tutts Clump, RG7 6JZ

And minutes

Of the meeting of Parishioners held on 18th April 2021

Of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 18th April 2021

Contents

Pages 1-5	Annual report
Page 6-8	Treasurer's financial review
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Page 14-15	Budget for 2022
Page 16	Independent Examiner Report
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Page 18-20	Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 18th April 2021

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

PCC REPORT TO THE APCM

Aims and purpose

Our Parish purpose is *“To worship God and show Jesus’ love makes a difference in reaching, serving and caring.”*

The PCC is responsible, together with the vicar, for the vision and mission of our church, pastoral, evangelistic and social and ecumenical. To do this we seek God’s will, ensure we operate within a legal framework, and are responsible for the financial stability of the church too, all under the authority of God.

Objectives and Activities

This year we completed our third year of Partnership in Missional Church (PMC) - a Church Mission Society and Oxford Diocese joint initiative - to realise God’s preferred and promised future for us, and seek to join in with what God is doing in our community. PMC is a process of becoming missional, that is, of changing the way we think about being and doing church in our community, with 6 spiritual practices which we are endeavouring to adopt. We were blessed this year to have Revd Phil Price serving as curate until his departure in December, and are grateful for his impact on a variety of initiatives within the Parish.

St Catherine’s is fortunate in having the resources of a well maintained and equipped building from which to carry out many mid-week activities; although the coronavirus pandemic restricted our physical activities considerably this year. However, when the building was used risk assessments and guidelines were implemented, and we are thankful to all those who helped with this. The church buildings and grounds are maintained to an excellent standard by faithful volunteers and our gardening team.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and Prayer

As soon as Christmas 2020 was over, we were into lockdown again and offered our pre-recorded online services once more delivered via the St Catherine’s Facebook page and website at 10.00 am, with the usual lay involvement and assisted by a great technical team, thanks in particular to Stuart Poore, David Stevens and Tony Bartlett. Services in church began again on Palm Sunday, and continued throughout the year. We had a period of offering “in person” services as well as pre-recorded services, and gradually transitioned into Livestreaming our services in church. During July and August we worshipped outdoors under the oak tree at 10.00 am on Sundays, and livestreamed these services too with the theme of the Fruit of the Spirit. Different visitors attended each week which was encouraging, and some have become regular worshippers. When we returned to the building in September we began our new single service – merging all previous congregations (which pre-Covid had met at 8.00, 9.15 and 11 am) continuing to livestream these for those still uneasy about meeting in person, or who were unable to join us in person. We endeavoured to offer a variety of different styles of worship, and this was a challenging time as everyone got used to worshipping in different ways. In keeping with Church of England requirements, communion was offered every Sunday, with a full communion service twice a month, and the other Sundays a short spoken communion after the morning service. A review of the new service format took place in December, through our magazine, RG31, and sheets were also available in Church. We began to offer “Sermon Study Sheets” for further study during the week; for individuals and lifegroups; these have been much appreciated.

A mid-week Holy Communion service was introduced at 9.00 am on Wednesdays.

We have implemented Covid-19 regulations as per the guidelines, the PCC making decisions on those factors which were optional. Since communion has been offered in the church, it has been in one kind, in keeping with CofE policy. As we returned to worship inside the building, in addition to sanitising and social distancing as appropriate, the PCC agreed that facemasks were to be worn whilst singing, except for those leading and singing from the front, and subsequently agreed they should be worn indoors

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

(apart from when eating or drinking) regardless of government legislation, in order to protect our community and reduce the transference of Covid, and in particular the Omicron variant, as much as possible.

We have had special services for the organisations we support: Leprosy Mission, Christian Aid, Novi Most International, the Shoebox Appeal (Samaritan's Purse), the Children's Society, as well as a Climate Sunday service. We are hugely thankful for the preachers, leaders, intercessors, readers, musicians and the technical team who contribute to our services, as well as all those who help in other ways – welcomers, sidespeople, refreshments, AV desk and camera volunteers. During Advent we offered online daily reflections at 5.30pm.

Thursday community prayer has continued throughout the year, either from home or at church, and the MU prayer chain has interceded faithfully for those who have requested it.

- In 2021 there were 108 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, two less than in 2020; Shirley Horsnell moved away, and another parishioner chose to worship at a different church.
- The average Sunday figures for October attendance was: 41 adults and 1 child under 16.
- At the end of 2021 we estimated our "Worshipping Community" to be around 131, which has increased significantly from last year's 65 (but remember we had two significant lockdowns in 2020!). Nonetheless, it is encouraging that the numbers are increasing in spite of, or because of, Covid – or because of the radical move to one service each Sunday. Within this wider community we estimate there were 9 new members over 18 which is most encouraging, although 9 previous members are no longer a part of the worshipping community, which is sad. We have 12 children; mostly due to including Tots Praise figures – although there is a core group, attendees are not consistent through the year.
- There were no marriage services this year.
- There were two baptisms in 2021.
- Two funeral services took place at St Catherine's, one memorial service, a service of remembrance, and 7 funerals have been conducted by our vicar and LLM at local crematoriums.

We were pleased to re-start Tots Praise in the Church, and Cornwell 0-5s at the Cornwell Centre. The Youth Bible study began during lockdown by Zoom, and transferred to the church when it was possible. The Friday night Youth Group was re-started under the name of Pick N Mix.

St Catherine's Mother's Union met, in small groups and gardens, and in Church as guidelines allowed, with speakers, and a Christmas Carols and Reading service in December. The prayer chain for (requested) emergency prayers continued.

At the beginning of the year we delivered online daily prayer at 10.00 am. During Lent we continued with online morning prayer using the Live Lent booklets focussing on Climate Change; and as a Parish we read Ruth Valerio's "Just Living" and ran a preaching series as well. The Parish participated in Thy Kingdom Come prayer, (between Ascension and Pentecost) online. During the summer we offered the opportunity once a week, online, to "Dwell in the Creed", seeking to explain some of the credal statements in an accessible way.

Church Hall

St Catherine's Pre-school (which is run independently of the church) hire the church hall for 30 hours Monday-Friday; except for a period when for financial reasons they had to cease offering the service on Fridays, reducing the hours to 27. The After-School club also met when guidelines allowed. Some groups were able to continue using the hall in line with guidance such as exercise classes, yoga, Alcoholics Anonymous and Karate, although other groups could not. Risk assessments were required from active groups in order to comply with relevant guidance regarding Covid. We are grateful to our bookings administrator, Eve Combes, and our Centre Manager, Sonia Ludford, for liaising with hall hirers and managing any issues.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Pastoral Care

All members of the church are involved in pastoral care in some way, through the relationships forged at church, Café, and lifegroups. We are particularly grateful to Sonia Ludford and Ella Canning who have ensured that those who have needed care have received it, and collected prescriptions and shopping for individuals, as well as visiting, as and when needed. We are so grateful to the many kindnesses offered by church members to one another, and to those in the community, often out of the limelight and motivated by Christ's love.

MISSION AND EVANGELISM

Café Siena

Café Siena is a flagship ministry of St Catherine's Church, serving the local community, with the aims of providing a space of hope, a Christ-centred meeting place, a friendly, safe and welcoming, opportunity, and a bridge between the church and the community. It is a ministry of the church, and runs with the help of a large band of volunteers, who bake cakes, wait on tables, assist with cooking, washing up, and cleaning. It is usually open on Thursday and Fridays for light refreshments and lunches (10 am – 2.00pm). This year volunteers from the community have been recruited, in keeping with "Safer Recruitment" guidelines, to enable it to continue, as our stalwart band of church volunteers has decreased during the past two years. We are grateful to have a highly committed professional Café Manager.

The Café has really come into its own this year and many from the community use its services regularly, some attending both days. "Friday Deliveries" continued as lockdown lifted, delivering lunches to those who are housebound, facilitated by volunteers, delivering not just food but love and care on the doorstep too.

Partnership for Missional Church (PMC)

The Partnership for Missional Church (PMC) met to pray and consider missional possibilities throughout the year, and some attended a reunion of all church cohorts. Whilst our vision is still to adopt the spiritual practices, it seems a natural progression to evolve into the core team for Citizens Reading – an alliance of organisations seeking social change through working together -although this will be very gradual.

Social Media

The St Catherine's website, and our Facebook page have been essential tools for communication, and facilitating worship when we could not meet, and we are grateful to Stuart Poore for maintaining these.

Midweek Activities

Friday Friends and Tuesday Get Together re-started in October, thanks to willing volunteers, and the leadership of Ella Canning. We are hugely grateful to Anne Soley, who, after many years of running Friday Friends with a faithful band of volunteers, felt the time had come to stand down.

Cornwell 0-5s, held in the Cornwell Centre, offers a secure place for pre-school children and their parents and carers two mornings a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays. This re-started in September, following government guidelines and limiting numbers who could attend – with a booking system, and we are grateful to Tony and Evelyn Bartlett, and their band of helpers, for offering this service to young families in the community.

Pick N Mix, our youth group, meets fortnightly, and although there were no meetings for the first part of the year, it began again with meetings outside in the summer, and was relaunched with a games evening in the Vicarage in September.

Relationships with Birch Copse and Springfield Primary Schools and Little Heath School continue in an albeit limited way. Thirty students from Little Heath school had a visit to St Catherine's in December, to learn about Christianity and Christmas, and the vicar spoke at the Harvest Festival at Birch Copse – the first assembly the children had had for a very long while, and the first time they were able to sing.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

A free taxi service for those in Calcot to join St Catherine's Church on a Sunday was reinstated when services were in the church.

RG31 the Parish magazine, was reviewed and rather than publishing monthly, it is now produced four times a year, in colour, delivered to those who subscribe, and copies are available in church.

We are grateful to Tony Bartlett for regularly producing and distributing the church Notices each week, and to Stuart Poore for publicity and advertising. This Christmas, leaflets were hand delivered to residents in Calcot outlining all our services; and 550 flyers were distributed to roads nearest to St Catherine's inviting residents to attend "Carols under the Virtual Oak Tree" on Christmas Eve. In the event, it poured with rain, but nonetheless around 60 brave souls came out to sing.

Fundraising

In July we had our first Eco-Sale, which despite mild rain, was successful both in the numbers of people who attended and the money raised. The Christmas Fair was well attended too. A planned Bistro evening was cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. The Vivace Voices kindly put on a Christmas concert for us with proceeds raised going to St Catherine's.

Curate

We were pleased to have Revd Phil Price complete his final year of curacy training and are grateful for all that he gave to the Parish during his time with us. His last Sunday was 12th December, and a farewell lunch was held with prayers for his new role as Priest in Charge of the Parishes of the Draycote and Leam Valley Benefices.

Volunteers

The PCC would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the many volunteers in the church who generously give of their time and talents to make things happen: including all those who serve on various church committees, who contribute in any way to our worshipful life, the church cleaners, the flower arrangers, those who help in the Café, the Lifegroup leaders, and all our mid-week activities. We appreciate all those who keep St Catherine's garden looking beautiful, and who ensure the church is well maintained, and appreciate and value our hard working and highly committed churchwardens, Richard Canning and Caroline Heron.

Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Power Measure. It is a registered charity – No. 1155524. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). All those who attend the services and are members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and if they feel so called, to stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish, including how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. We are thankful for the services of our PCC Treasurer, Joanne Freeman, who infuses our financial considerations with vision and pastoral care.

The PCC met 6 times during the year; the first four meetings by Zoom and the last two in person. We also had an Away Day the outcome of which was an Action Plan. In addition to discussing matters relating to the life and vision of the Parish, the PCC seeks to ensure that best practice policies are adopted especially relating to health and safety, safeguarding, general data protection regulations (known as GDPR), employment practice and other legal requirements. A number of Action Groups, with particular responsibility for specific aspects of Parish life, are responsible to the PCC and report to it. In addition there is a Standing Committee.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Safeguarding

The Parish takes safeguarding seriously, and in compliance with Bishop's Council requirements, has published our Safeguarding Policy, and the Safeguarding Handbook, on our website, and is in the process of implementing best safeguarding practice throughout the life the church. Hazel Newman, the Parish Safeguarding Officer is tasked with ensuring appropriate training is completed by all those serving in the Church, supported by Stuart Poore, and the vicar.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Parish is committed to ensuring that we maintain and follow GDPR guidance.

PCC Members

The names of the members of the Council who have served since the commencement of the 2021 financial year and until the date this report was approved are:

Ex officio members

Incumbent Rev Gill Rowell

Curate Rev Phil Price (until 12th December 2021)

LLM's Mr Tony Bartlett (also elected to Deanery Synod & elected as PCC secretary)
Mr Mike Heather

Churchwardens Mr Richard Canning (from APCM 2021) also co-opted to Deanery Synod
Mrs Caroline Heron (from APCM 2021)

Elected Members

Mrs Evelyn Bartlett (until APCM 2021)

Mrs Ella Robles Canning (also co-opted to Deanery Synod)

Mrs Emma Deacon (from APCM 2021)

Mrs Sheila Firth (until APCM 2021)

Mrs Joanne Freeman (appointed as Treasurer by PCC)

Mrs Sonia Ludford (also Centre Manager)

Mr Stuart Poore (also Parish Administrator)

Mr Stephen Priter

Mrs Lorraine Roberts (until APCM 2021)

Mrs Lynn Stevens

Mrs Katrina Yates

Mr Richard Yates

Minute taker to the PCC

Mr Tony Bartlett

Bankers

Nat West Reading Oracle Branch, Unit L11, The Oracle Shopping Centre, Reading, RG1 2AG

On the behalf of the PCC

Rev Gill Rowell

Vicar

Church Warden



C. Heron

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

The Financial Report for 2021

2021 was another strange year due to COVID 19 restrictions with lockdowns, mask wearing, social distancing and the gradual reintroduction of face-to-face life alongside the online one. Once again, without the help and support of our generous members we would not have been able to achieve all that we did, so many thanks to you all.

You will notice that some of the comparison figures between 2020 and 2021 differ more than normal. This is due to the different ways that we were able to use the site and hence receive / spend money during these years plus in 2020 we were able to use some special donations to buy a defibrillator, redecorate the church hall and refurbish the hall floor. If you would like to know more, please ask me.

Receipts

The online regular giving provided by the Parish Giving Scheme, standing orders and the JustGiving website has continued to provide £4,200 a month income. The Gift Aid recovered includes a monthly contribution from the Parish Giving donations and nine months (October 2020 to June 2021) of other Gift Aid claimed. The policy is now to make a six month claim for non-Parish Giving Gift Aid; the next claim is due to be made at the start of 2022. The collection plate was reintroduced in August, prior to that any money collected or given to the treasurer was counted as a donation rather a collection at a service. The restricted fund donations are made up of donations towards charities, the equipment to help with the live streaming, maintenance reserves plus Gift Aid due on donations made in 2020 for the new screens and the hall floor.

We were able to hold an Eco Sale, socially distanced, both in the church and outside, in July. It was a really good community event and it also raised a much needed £1,434. Unfortunately, the bistro evening that we had hoped for did not happen. However, in December we did manage to hold a Christmas Fair resulting in takings of £1,250 and the Vivace Voices held a fund-raising concert for us resulting in nearly £300.

We have been very fortunate in that the Pre-School, After School Club and Alcoholics Anonymous have been able to meet in our hall for most of the year despite the restrictions and so our hall income is better than it could have been. From September on more organisations began to feel safe to meet in our space, both the hall and the church, which is a great blessing for all of us. The 0 – 5 Toddlers also restarted in September, after so much time spent in lockdown the chance for the children to run around with others of their age and for the mums to meet up and socialise it is a very welcome place to be.

The café restarted this year towards the end of April and has seen several different arrangements. The Friday deliveries continue to a few of our customers and our outside space was used a great deal when the weather was good, with people returning indoors as the weather changed. Before lockdown more money was taken on a Thursday but now Friday is busier and taking more money.

The Governments Covid 19 Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) was used to help pay our café manager until May and our cleaner until August; which was when they were individually able to return to their normal hours of work.

Payments

The Parish Share remained at the same rate as in 2020; as we have been able to continue paying this by direct debit, we also get a 1% rebate given before the money is taken.

The increase in the Clergy and Staffing costs is due to two items – firstly, we now have a Parish Administrator and a Centre Manager, both of whom receive a monthly honorarium.

Also, once our curate Phil was able to visit us again at St Catherine's, we reimbursed him for his travel expenses and also a portion of his telephone costs.

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This year we have also used the Parish Share rebate for 2020 of £3,099 as a contribution towards Phil's accommodation costs for the period of March 2020 to mid-December 2021, when he left us.

The Church and Centre utility bills are for electricity, gas, waste disposal and network costs. The equipment cost from reserved funds was for all the pieces bought to help with the live streaming. Church maintenance consists of an annual service for the boiler, twice yearly checks on the alarm system, emergency lights and the café shutter, the annual service for the extinguishers and there has also been some work for our next Quinquennial inspection which cost £3,000.

During the year the lease that we had on our coffee machine in the café was completed and for one further payment we were able to purchase the machine.

The endowment fund expense of £804 this year has been for the taxi which continues to bring our Calcot members to the Sunday service when required.

This year, in addition to paying out on a monthly basis to our four chosen missions for 2021, we also paid out £3,000 as mission giving for 2020. Details of our mission giving is on page 13.

I was delighted that despite everything we managed to pay our full Parish Share and though we did end up with an annual deficit of £4,183, without the CJRS it would have been more like a deficit of £8,500.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who have helped me manage the church accounts; Steph with Gift Aid and the Parish Giving Scheme, Jean and Eve with the hall and magazine invoicing, the members of the Finance Action Group and those who help with the counting and banking of the church's monies.

Reserves policy

Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance (ODBF) recommend that the PCC's reserves should be an amount equal to three months average spend. For us this would equate to £24,000. The current figure held is £12,400 – which equates to about one and a half months cover.

If you have any questions on this report please get in touch with the Treasurer, preferably a couple of days before the APCM.

The following will help you understand Pages 9 to 15

Unrestricted funds contain money that the PCC can use for its general purposes.

Designated funds contain money from unrestricted funds that the PCC has chosen to put aside for a particular purpose. The PCC can also decide to return any or all of this money to unrestricted funds.

Restricted funds contain money that is received for a specific use such as donations to named charities.

Endowment funds contain money that is a special form of restricted funds; in our case it refers to the money the PCC received after St Birinus was sold and is expendable and can be used to fund activities relating to mission in Calcot such as the weekly taxi service to and from the 10.00 am service at St Catherine's when required.

The totals from the 2020 report are there for comparison purposes. The figures in the report are required to be shown to the nearest pound. Pages 9 & 10 are a legal requirement, all the other pages are provided to give more details.

Page 9 – Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

This page lists the receipts and payments for the year under categories that are required in the annual report to the Church of England. The fees for wedding and funerals, though they are not reported in this annual return do go through the PCC's bank account, hence the need for a separate line on this page so that the bank balances at the start and the end of the year balance correctly.

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Page 10 – Statements of Assets and Liabilities

Cash funds shows how the total funds of the PCC were split in the current bank account.

Other monetary assets is money due to the PCC from activities in 2021 but not received / banked until 2022.

Liabilities this is money in the PCC bank account for either services they received in 2021 (such as gas) but will not pay for until 2022 or money they received for other organisations such as charities, that will not be paid out until 2022.

Note 2 shows the movements in the Designated Maintenance Reserves and the various categories of restricted funds during the year.

Page 11 – Note 3 Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

Payments – note 3 d)

Church & Centre utility bills comprise of Electricity, Gas, Waste disposal and network costs.

Mission and evangelism consist of Tots Praise, DBS checks, 0 – 5 Toddlers, Training and Outreach.

Page 13 – Note 3 Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

Mission Giving – note 3 f)

Due to financial uncertainties re COVID-19, in 2020 no mission money from planned giving was paid out. In 2021 the PCC agreed that £3,000 should be paid out at the start of 2021 as planned giving for 2020. The PCC also agreed to support our four named charities by giving a regular monthly amount with any under payment of the 6% commitment being paid out at the start of 2022.

Joanne Freeman, Treasurer to the PCC, 7th February 2022

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Financial Statements for the Period Ended 31 December 2021

Receipts and Payment Accounts

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	TOTAL 2020 £
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary receipts:						
Planned giving		42,255			42,255	42,256
Collections at services		966			966	599
All other giving/voluntary receipts	3 a)	4,200	5,713	30	9,943	18,689
Gift Aid recovered		9,258			9,258	10,045
		<u>56,679</u>	<u>5,713</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>62,422</u>	<u>71,589</u>
Activities for generating funds	3 b)	3,634			3,634	1,227
Investment income				0	0	15
Church activities	3 c)	35,171	0		35,171	30,691
Government Grant - CJRS			4,366		4,366	5,536
Total receipts		95,484	10,079	30	105,593	109,058
PAYMENTS						
Church activities						
Diocesan parish share		58,826			58,826	59,966
Clergy and staffing costs		6,129	398		6,527	1,134
Church running expenses	3 d)	16,547	1,639	804	18,990	19,929
Hall running costs		4,079			4,079	11,993
Café running costs		8,121	1,127		9,248	8,963
Mission giving and donations	3 f)	5,905	558		6,463	3,600
Costs of generating funds		60	0		60	8
Government Grant - CJRS			4,208		4,208	5,694
Total payments		99,667	7,930	804	108,401	111,287
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 January		16,546	3,848	4,154	24,548	26,950
Funds transfers	2	21	-21		0	0
Excess of receipts over payments as above		-4,183	2,149	-774	-2,808	-2,229
Fees - funerals and locums - surplus / deficit						
	3 e)		112		112	-173
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 December		12,384	6,088	3,380	21,852	24,548

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Statements of Assets and Liabilities

Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	TOTAL 2020 £
Cash Funds					
Bank Current account	12,384	6,088	3,380	21,852	24,548
	<u>12,384</u>	<u>6,088</u>	<u>3,380</u>	<u>21,852</u>	<u>24,548</u>
Other monetary assets					
Parish Share rebate for previous year	1,783			1,783	3,100
Gift Aid recoverable for previous year	821			821	1,408
Hall rent due for previous year	4,120			4,120	1,565
	<u>6,724</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>6,724</u>	<u>6,073</u>
Liabilities					
Electricity and Gas	1,111			1,111	1,063
British Gas-repairs	311			311	0
0 - 5 s rent	129			129	0
Photocopying	134			134	0
Coffee money		96		96	0
Mission giving due for previous year	169			169	3,000
FAITH Christmas envelopes		30		30	0
Send a Cow		684		684	175
	<u>1,854</u>	<u>810</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,664</u>	<u>4,238</u>

Notes

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis
- The movements in designated and restricted funds during the year were:-

	Bal b/fwd 01/01/2021	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Bal c/fwd 31/12/2021
Designated					
Maintenance Reserves	12,432			-3,000	9,432
Restricted					
Maintenance Reserves	1,200	300			1,500
Café	1,014	500	1,127		387
Cornwell 0 to 5 s	1,481		68		1,413
Donations to charities	236	1,192	558		870
Specials	-149	3,721	1,969	-21	1,582
CJRS	-158	4,366	4,208		-0
Totals without ODBF funds	<u>3,624</u>	<u>10,079</u>	<u>7,930</u>	<u>-21</u>	<u>5,752</u>
ODBF balancing figure Note 3 e)	224	1,902	1,790		336
	<u>3,848</u>	<u>11,981</u>	<u>9,720</u>	<u>-21</u>	<u>6,088</u>

ODBF - Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance

The donations to charities and specials funds are the result of donations given to specific appeals

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Note 3 Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	TOTAL 2021	TOTAL 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts					
a) All other giving/voluntary receipts					
Donations	4,200	5,713	30	9,943	18,689
	<u>4,200</u>	<u>5,713</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>9,943</u>	<u>18,689</u>
b) Activities for generating funds					
Parish magazine - advertising	440			440	510
Summer and Christmas fetes	2,685			2,685	0
Special events/pop up shops	509			509	717
	<u>3,634</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,634</u>	<u>1,227</u>
c) Church activities					
Fees for weddings and funerals	334			334	460
Parish magazine - sales	707			707	570
Centre lettings	19,697			19,697	19,138
Café income	10,414			10,414	5,899
Tuesday Get Together	59			59	0
Friday Friends	0			0	425
Cornwell 0 - 5 s	861			861	970
Youth Group	0			0	74
Bookstall	0			0	19
Parish Share rebate	3,099			3,099	2,830
Misc refunds	0			0	306
	<u>35,171</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>35,171</u>	<u>30,691</u>
Payments					
d) Church running expenses					
Centre utility bills	5,418			5,418	5,767
Insurance	1,719			1,719	2,387
Calcot Rent	0			0	202
Hospitality	83			83	47
Equipment	6	1,571		1,577	3,112
Magazine	1,131			1,131	1,408
Stationery	875			875	1,161
Centre maintenance	4,798			4,798	2,196
Upkeep of church grounds	191			191	268
Upkeep of services	811			811	692
Mission and evangelism costs	998	68	804	1,870	2,248
Administration	397			397	321
Independent Examiner	120			120	120
	<u>16,547</u>	<u>1,639</u>	<u>804</u>	<u>18,990</u>	<u>19,929</u>

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Note 3 Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

	2021 £	2020 £
e) Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance (ODBF) fee workings		
Receipts		
Funeral fees received by PCC due to others	1,902	2,355
	<u>1,902</u>	<u>2,355</u>
Payments		
funeral fees paid to ODBF	1,530	2,278
funeral expenses	260	250
	<u>1,790</u>	<u>2,528</u>
surplus/deficit	112	-173

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Note 3 Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

f) Mission Giving

	2021 planned £	2021 extra £	2020 planned £	2020 extra £
Overseas Mission Societies				
Leprosy Mission	1,470		387	146
Novi Most	1,470			13
Wycliffe Bible Translators			4	431
	<u>2,940</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>391</u>	<u>590</u>
Relief & Development Agencies				
Send a Cow		318	386	694
Tear Fund		240		275
	<u>0</u>	<u>558</u>	<u>386</u>	<u>969</u>
Home Missions				
Berkshire Churches Trust	25		25	
CCA	1,470			
Childrens Society	1,470			
Faith			389	362
Livability			388	
	<u>2,965</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>802</u>	<u>362</u>
Secular Charities				
I Deacon			50	
L Stevens			50	
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	5,905	558	1,679	1,921

NB 2020 planned giving relates to mission giving from 2019 paid at the start of 2020

2021 planned giving includes the £3,000 planned mission giving for 2020

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

BUDGET AT 31 DECEMBER 2021 - 52 WEEKS

RECEIPTS	ACTUALS	BUDGET	VARIANCE	BUDGET
	2021	2021	2021	2022
	£	£	£	£
Voluntary receipts				
Parish Giving Scheme Gift Aided	31,838	32,400	-562	33,000
Parish Giving Scheme Non Gift Aided	5,627	8,400	-2,773	6,000
Standing Orders Gift Aided	2,990	2,950	40	3,000
Standing Orders non Gift Aided	1,800	1,750	50	2,000
Plate	956	50	906	500
Gift Aid recovered	9,258	9,300	-42	9,450
Tots Praise	10	50	-41	50
General Donations	2,470	1,550	920	1,800
Covid special donations	1,730	1,800	-70	0
General Donations Gift Aided	0	50	-50	0
Total	56,679	58,300	-1,621	55,800
Other receipts				
Magazine Advertising	440	480	-40	400
Fetes	2,685	2,000	685	2,000
Special Events/Pop up shops	509	1,000	-491	200
Net Fees	334	120	214	150
0-5 s Toddlers	861	100	761	2,400
Holiday Club	0	100	-100	750
Youth Group	0	50	-50	100
Tuesday Get Together	59	0	59	0
Friday Friends	0	100	-100	500
Magazine Sales	707	600	107	800
Centre Lettings	19,697	26,700	-7,003	25,000
Café Sales	10,414	10,500	-86	14,000
Parish Share Rebate	3,099	0	3,099	0
Misc.	0	50	0	0
Total	38,805	41,800	-2,944	46,300
TOTAL RECEIPTS	95,484	100,100	-4,566	102,100
Excess of receipts over payments				
Church activities	-28,760	-20,220		-22,850
Other activities	24,577	20,220		22,850
All activities	-4,183	0		0
Hall	15,618	19,000		18,800
Café	2,293	-1,800		1,000

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

BUDGET AT 31 DECEMBER 2021 - 52 WEEKS

PAYMENTS	ACTUALS	BUDGET	VARIANCE	BUDGET
	2021	2021	2021	2022
	£	£	£	£
Church running expenses				
Parish Share	58,826	60,000	1,174	58,900
Minister expenses	4,929	1,150	-3,779	765
LLM expenses	0	150	150	150
Honorarium	1,200	0	-1,200	1,200
Children's Education	0	50	50	50
Tots Praise	16	50	34	0
Adult Education	0	50	50	50
Training Outreach	84	100	16	200
Mission Giving	5,905	3,000	-2,905	3,225
Insurance	1,719	2,450	731	1,800
Church maintenance	4,798	2,250	-2,548	4,500
Equipment	6	170	164	100
Upkeep of services	811	600	-211	750
Church flowers	0	100	100	50
Hospitality	83	100	17	50
Upkeep of church grounds	191	100	-91	100
Stationery	875	1,310	435	900
Administration	397	1,300	904	200
Cost of fetes	60	0	-60	0
Independent Examination	120	120	0	120
Electricity	2,386	2,300	-86	2,300
Gas	2,119	2,190	71	2,000
Waste Disposal	613	720	107	740
Wifi	300	260	-40	500
Total	85,438	78,520	-6,918	78,650
Other costs				
0 - 5 Toddlers	802	100	-702	2,400
Holiday Club	0	100	100	500
Youth Group	0	50	50	100
DBS checks	96	50	-46	100
Magazine	1,131	1,280	149	1,150
Hall running costs	4,079	7,700	3,621	6,200
Café running costs	8,121	12,300	4,179	13,000
	14,229	21,580	7,351	23,450
TOTAL PAYMENTS	99,667	100,100	433	102,100

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus Church, Tilehurst, Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021 which are set out on pages 9 to 13

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The church's trustees 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 section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

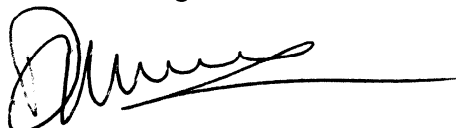
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with 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 accounting records in accordance with s. 130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met;or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



David Marett, FCA CTA
5 Jennets Close,
Tutts Clump,
RG7 6JZ
1st April 2022

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Minutes of Meeting of Parishioners – 18th April 2021 by zoom

The meeting was held at 11.15 am via Zoom with a group of 4 watching in at St Catherine's

Present: The Wardens, 45 adult and 2 under 16 parishioners.

1. Apologies for absence: Hilary Smee, June Page, Beryl Nunn, Roy Walklate and Moira Bristow.
2. Welcome and Prayer

Rev Gill Rowell opened the meeting with prayer for the Church Wardens, giving thanks for their huge contribution to the life of this Parish, especially during this strange and testing time. She gave thanks for both Richard and Caroline being willing to stand again and for the particular gifts each of them has. Gill prayed for blessing on them, for wisdom and guiding, for strength, boldness and courage for the future of the Parish.

3. Election of Churchwardens for the Parish

There were 2 nominations:

Name	Proposed	Seconded
Richard Canning	Heather Addison	Anne Soley
Caroline Heron	Anne Soley	Heather Addison

All were in favour and the Wardens duly elected.

4. Gill noted that Richard had completed his 3 year term as Church warden and thanked him for his willingness to stand again, in order to support and work with Caroline as a relatively new warden. She said that both are excellent wardens and are a great support to her in her ministry in the Parish.

A closing prayer will be offered at the end of the APCM meeting which follows.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 18th April 2021 by zoom immediately after the Annual Meeting for Parishioners.

Only members of the Electoral Roll were eligible to vote at the meeting.

Gill requested any items for any other business. No AOB items.

Gill noted that due to Covid 19, the delayed October APCM 2020 only covered 2019.

This APCM reflects on the whole of 2020. However, for the purpose of elections and serving on the PCC, the period from last October until today is taken as a year.

1. Welcome and Prayer

Gill opened the meeting with prayer asking for wisdom in our thinking, in our planning, faith to move mountains and our actions to be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. Ephesians 3:20

2. Apologies for absence: Hilary Smee, June Page, Beryl Nunn, Roy Walklate and Moira Bristow.

3. Acceptance of the Minutes of the previous meeting.

The minutes from the last APCM meeting on 11th October 2020 were unanimously accepted as a correct record of that meeting. The Financial Statements and Annual Report have been received.

4. Matters Arising. There were no matters arising.

5. 2020 Parish Review

The Parish Review had been circulated in advance of the meeting and there were no questions.

Despite being in lockdown for much of the year, there was much to report on parish activities in this period. Gill thanked Stuart for his role as Electoral Roll Officer. Sadly, we have lost one member, so our Electoral Roll number is now 108. Gill expressed her gratitude for everyone who has played a part in the life of St. Catherine's over this last year, in these strange and difficult times.

6. Presentation of Annual Report and Financial Statement.

Gill reminded us all of our Parish Purpose: "to worship God and show Jesus' love makes a difference in reaching, serving and caring." She recognised that 2020 had been a difficult year and with Covid 19 we had to change the way we did things. With God's providence, we have been blessed to have Phil here as Curate. Gill added that this year has been a different experience for all of us: we have all been in the same boat, but experiencing different storms.

The PCC has already approved the report and there were no questions or clarifications requested.

Financial statement: Joanne referred everyone to the Financial Review for 2020.

Despite lack of income from hall hirers due to the Lockdown, parish finances are not as bad as were projected at the beginning of the year, with a deficit of only £600. Outgoings had been reduced by careful housekeeping, with particular thanks to Richard Canning. There had been generous giving by individuals through extra donations, and a rebate from Reading Deanery against last year's Parish Share. Others, due to no plate giving had joined the PGS scheme or started direct debit payments.

Joanne explained briefly about the changes to Mission Giving – now 4 charities are being supported with monthly donations of £60, rather than lump sum payments at the end of the year. Other private charity donations are made by many individuals too. Joanne feels more optimistic about the next year but notes that she has budgeted for about £3,000 to be gained from fetes and other events, which, due to restrictions, may not take place. There were no questions about the Financial Statement.

The Annual Report was accepted by the meeting.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Gill thanked Joanne for her continued hard work with the Finances and also members of the Financial Action Group for their support. We are blessed to be in a giving Church. Thank you all!

7. Vicar's Address 2020

A Testing Time – Be Kind

Gill reflected that at 2019 APCM she had shared Psalm 89. "With my God I can scale a wall." It reminds us all that God is always with us and will help us with our difficulties, a good Scripture to take us into 2021. She felt that the year began with hope, but as we entered the third lockdown it was a testing time: we were all a bit tired, a bit irritable ...but carried on nonetheless! She thanked everyone for the part they have played.

With the successful vaccination programme, Gill felt moderately confident that we have just come out of our last lockdown. However, with restrictions planned to be lifted on 21 June, she is not entirely sure what that will mean: with regards to guidance on wearing facemasks and social distancing which might be around for a long time. Gill was hopeful that we will be able to resume singing in services but felt no assumptions can be made until we get nearer that date. There is a continuing need for us all to be flexible, adaptable and kind to one another.

Living in a Foreign Land

Gill compared our experiences to living in a foreign land, an alien place rather like the Israelites wandering in the wilderness. Lockdown, for some of the time, has been a time of wandering and uncertainty but we have had moments of joy and moments to thank God for. Gill again thanked everyone who had played their part during 2020 and what we, as a Church, had achieved.

So, as restrictions decrease, we can enter the Promised Land, like the Israelites did! However, that wasn't easy for them and it may not be for us - but Gill referred us again to 1 Joshua v9: "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." Gill and Phil had constructed a Route Map out of Lockdown, similar to the Government's Roadmap, but as we all know, just because things can happen does not mean they definitely will!

We are not acting in our own strength and Gill feels God is saying be cautious not to rush into activity as we make plans, all of which must be Covid and Safeguarding compliant, with Risk Assessments for all activities.

Having said that, Gill was pleased to announce that Café Siena was reopening on Thursday 20th May for lunches and refreshments every Thursday and Friday. There are plans for an outside café, "Cat's Cake Club" starting on Friday 30th April 2.30-4pm. Volunteers for this would be very welcome as the more helpers we have the less demanding it is for everyone. Please contact Sonia if you can help.

St Catherine's Church Census

Gill thanked everyone who completed the recent St Catherine's Church Census. This was circulated as widely as possible, via RG31, and notices, to ensure that everyone, of all ages and congregations, could share their views and priorities, giving everyone a voice. Gill welcomed all the feedback and said that it had been helpful to understand people's participation within the church and feelings regarding in-church services, online worship, and many other areas.

The census feedback is going to help us make prayerful, and practical decisions for the future. Gill presented some of the findings using graphics and thanked Phil for his help with this. Gill said that she would be sharing the results with the Leaders and Preachers Action Group (LAPAG) and then take any proposals to PCC before any changes were implemented. She asked that no assumptions should be made about any results at this stage.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Strategy Action Group

The Strategy Action Group (STAG) had met together by Zoom in December 2020 and January 2021 and after going through a process of appreciative enquiry, discussion and prayer we had agreed our core values, as well as an informal statement of intent. These were:

St Catherine's Core Values: Healing, Hope, Hospitality and Community

St Catherine's Statement of Intent: We are confident in our role in the community, known for our hospitality and our faith in Jesus.

Growth in discipleship, evangelism and prayer are all important, but prayer must be our priority as we move on and look outwards, intentionally building on the resources we have to build God's kingdom.

The Green Team

The momentum in our Green Agenda and the gaining of the Bronze Eco Award has been a surprising aspect this year, and our Lent focus on Climate Change very important - God is clearly at work in this.

8. Election of Parochial Church Council Members

Gill warmly thanked Evelyn Bartlett, Lorraine Roberts and Sheila Firth who have served their 3 years on the PCC and are standing down: their contributions are much appreciated and she is grateful for the time they were able to give.

Joanne Freeman and Sonia Ludford have also served three years but are standing again – Joanne because she is Treasurer and it is very helpful to have her on the PCC; and Sonia because she is Centre Manager.

There are now 5 vacancies on the PCC. As well as Joanne and Sonia, we are very pleased that Emma Deacon has agreed to stand. Members of the PCC are appointed for 3 years.

There were 3 nominations for the PCC

Sonia Ludford	Proposed	Heather Addison	Seconded	Caroline Heron
Joanne Freeman	Proposed	Hilary Smee	Seconded	Sonia Ludford
Emma Deacon	Proposed	Caroline Heron	Seconded	Heather Addison

As there were five vacancies, no election was necessary.

9. Election of Deanery Synod Members

Tony Bartlett, Richard Canning and Ella Robles-Canning all confirmed that they were willing to stand and as this fulfilled our quota of places, no election was necessary.

10. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Joanne confirmed that David Marett, who has been the Independent Examiner for 2020, is prepared to continue for the coming year.

11. There was no AOB.

12. Closing Prayer

Rev Phil Price closed the meeting by thanking God for sustaining us during the last year, through some high and low points. He committed 2021 to God and asked for wisdom and clarity; and that we would grow in our faith and in numbers.

Accounts

The Parish of Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

(Registered Charity 1155524)

for the year ended 31st December 2020

Vicar

Rev Gill Rowell

Curate

Rev Phil Price



Bank

Nat West Reading Oracle

Unit L11, The Oracle Shopping Centre, Reading, RG1 2AG

Independent Examiner

Mr David Marett FCA CTA

5 Jennets Close, Tutts Clump, RG7 6JZ

And minutes

Of the meeting of Parishioners held on 11th October 2020

Of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 11th October 2020

Contents

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Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Aims and purpose

Our Parish purpose is “To worship God and show Jesus’ love makes a difference in reaching, serving and caring.”

The PCC is responsible, together with the vicar, for the vision and mission of our church, pastoral, evangelistic and social and ecumenical. To do this we seek God’s will, ensure we operate within a legal framework, and are responsible for the financial stability of the church too, all under the authority of God.

Objectives and Activities

This year St Catherine’s entered its third year of Partnership in Missional Church (PMC) - a Church Mission Society and Oxford Diocese joint initiative - to realise God’s preferred and promised future for us, and seek to join in with what God is doing in our community. PMC is a process of becoming missional, that is, of changing the way we think about being and doing church in our community, with 6 spiritual practices which we are endeavouring to adopt. We have been blessed this year to have been given a Curate, Revd Phil Price, and are grateful for his impact on a variety of initiatives within the Parish.

St Catherine’s is fortunate in having the resources of a well maintained and equipped building from which to carry out many mid-week activities; although the Coronavirus pandemic restricted our physical activities considerably this year. However, when the building was used risk assessments and guidelines were implemented, and we are thankful to all those who helped with this. The church buildings are maintained to an excellent standard – and this year the hall was redecorated and the hall floor re-polished. A defibrillator has also been installed on the outside wall of the South entrance.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and Prayer

Our 8.00, 9.15 and 11 am services continued until the first lockdown began on 26th March 2020. As we could not meet physically in the church building, we launched our first online service on Facebook, and encouraged our church congregations to engage with us in this way. At the end of the year our “Facebook followers” numbered 255; a considerable increase from before lockdown, when the number was around 122.

In addition to a 10.00 am ON-LINE Sunday service, we introduced daily mid-week Morning Prayer at 10.00 am too, which was a valuable way of both worshipping and connecting with one another during this time. Easter was celebrated on-line with a special Messy Church service on Good Friday, and a 6.00 am “Spiritual Communion” as well as a 10.00 am celebration service. On 4th July restrictions were lifted, and to mark this significant day we offered two informal communion services which were well attended.

We met in church for Sunday Worship from mid-July until November, with strict social distance guidelines in place, and in compliance with Covid-19 regulations (no singing, facemasks, signing in and washing hands on entry, seats at least 1 m apart). On line services continued for those who could not attend in person. Due to restrictions, Christmas worship services (Carols, Youth Nativity, Christmas Day) were offered on-line, although the MU did manage to have their readings and carols in the church building, and we held a physical service of Midnight Communion at 11.30pm on Christmas Eve.

Throughout the year occasional online services focussed on some of the organisations we support: Leprosy Mission, Christian Aid, Novi Most International, the Shoebox Appeal (Samaritan’s Purse), the Children’s Society – and encouragement was given to give directly through online giving. In between lockdowns, church services were offered in the building, and during the second phase of easing of restrictions we were able to have ‘live’ musicians and singers, although the congregation were still not allowed to sing. Although restricted, these were encouraging times of worship together.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Sunday on-line worship services have continued throughout the year, delivered by different people every week and we are hugely thankful for the preachers, leaders, intercessors, readers, musicians and the technical team who have made it all happen. Morning midweek prayer has been a new feature of our worshipping life together, an anchor to sustain and strengthen us during the pandemic.

Although community prayer groups could not continue physically, individuals faithfully and regularly prayed in their homes at set times. A joint midweek prayer service alternating with St Joseph's Roman Catholic church ceased when the first lockdown began.

At the end of 2020 there were 109 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll.

Attendance figures for Sunday services are non-representative of our worshipping community – generally when the church was open, between 20-30 attended; viewing figures for our online services was usually around 30 “live” with around 60+ watching afterwards. Some online services had between 100-500+ views.

The Sunday figures of attendance submitted to the annual membership return gave averages for October as follows: for 63 adults and 6 children under 16.

The mid-week online morning prayer has a committed core of between 12-20 attenders “live”, and many more afterwards (50+)

There were no marriage services, or baptisms this year.

One funeral service has taken place at St Catherine's and 11 cremation services have been conducted by our vicar and LLM.

Our work with children and young people was greatly affected by the lockdown, although in the first quarter of the year Tots Praise, Cornwell 0-5s and the Youth Group were still meeting.

St Catherine's Mother's Union met, in small groups and gardens, when guidelines allowed, and the prayer chain for (requested) emergency prayers continued, but regular meetings were cancelled until December when a Carols and Readings service was held in church.

The Parish participated in Thy Kingdom Come prayer, (between Ascension and Pentecost) online. The Lent Course began in church, on Thursday afternoons and Sunday evenings, with around 13-15 attending each time, the theme of which were the 6 PMC spiritual practices – we called it “Dwelling Well” - but after 3 sessions was discontinued due to the lockdown. The course was completed in Advent, when the 3 remaining sessions were delivered online.

Church Hall

St Catherine's Pre-school (which is run independently of the church) usually hire the church hall for 30 hours Monday-Friday; but during the first lockdown they were not able to meet. During the second lockdown they stopped meeting on Fridays, and hours were reduced to 27. The After-School club also met when guidelines allowed. Some groups were able to continue using the hall in line with guidance such as exercise classes, yoga, Alcoholics Anonymous and Karate, although other groups such as the WI (two groups), and Brownies, could not. Risk assessments were required from active groups and rigorous attention was paid to cleaning between use.

After a decade of taking Hall Bookings, Sheila Drew our bookings clerk stood down; we are grateful for her many years of sterling service. During the interim period the churchwardens, and the new Centre Manager, handled booking enquiries, which were complicated due to the pandemic and our desire to adopt best practice with regard to the guidelines which evolved during this time. We are very pleased to announce a new bookings clerk has been appointed, Eve Combes.

Pastoral Care

As lockdown loomed, everyone on the electoral roll was placed in a Lifegroup (those already existing remained so, the others we called “Virtual Lifegroups”) with two leaders appointed to oversee pastoral care.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

The PCC appreciates the effort and care leaders invested in contacting those in their groups; and they were effective in keeping in touch with one another; nonetheless some groups worked much better than others. Weekly lockdown packs with printed material including reflections, prayers and activities were created to encourage those without internet.

A volunteer network was established to help with shopping and collecting prescriptions; and our thanks to Sonia Ludford who oversaw this, and to those who helped. At the start of lockdown food and provisions were gathered and delivered by Birch Copse School as a joint project with St Catherine's Church. Pastoral care has been limited by the lockdown but continues through telephone calls, prayer, and many acts of kindness, which have kept spirits up during a challenging year.

MISSION AND EVANGELISM

Café Siena

The café is a flagship ministry of St Catherine's Church, serving the local community, with the aims of providing a space of hope, a Christ-centred meeting place, a friendly, safe and welcoming, opportunity, and a bridge between the church and the community. It is a ministry of the church, and runs with the help of a large band of willing volunteers, who bake cakes, wait on tables, assist with cooking, washing up, and cleaning. It is usually open on Thursday and Fridays for light refreshments and lunches, and during the first part of the year, it was open on Wednesday mornings too. We are grateful to have a highly committed professional Café Manager.

The Café was opened after the first lockdown was eased, in compliance with regulations, and much appreciated by those who attended, as it enabled a space for some much-needed camaraderie and socialising, but was closed during the second lockdown. A "Friday Delivery" initiative meant we could deliver lunches to those who ordered them (20+) during this time, facilitated by a willing band of helpful volunteers, delivering not just food but love and care on the doorstep too.

Partnership for Missional Church (PMC)

Partnership for Missional Church (PMC) is gradually permeating church thinking, but this is a process, not a programme. During lockdown the Steering Team still attended PMC Cluster days to be encouraged, envisioned and equipped, and they met frequently to consider missional activity – working with people in the community, rather than doing things for them.

Social Media

The St Catherine's website, and our Facebook page have been crucial for keeping in touch with one another during the pandemic, and facilitating worship when we could not meet, and we are grateful to Stuart Poore for maintaining these.

In addition to worship, a variety of other videos produced in-house was offered: some to encourage spiritual growth, others for outreach, and others for fun, such as: Messy Church, Tots Praise, Cats Cartoon Club, Saturday Funday, Soul Music, Evening Prayer, BCP evening prayer, Bible readings (Mark's Gospel), Book at Bedtime. Facebook and Zoom have enabled us to easily produce these at very little cost, apart from the effort and time investment by all.

Midweek Activities

Friday Friends provides a weekly varied programme of activities for 25-30 older citizens, many of whom live alone; unable to meet since the first lockdown was imposed in March.

Tuesday Get Together, was launched for those who live locally to have coffee and a chat, and met for a few weeks in between lockdowns, but ceased due to restrictions.

Book Club meets monthly and met in Café Siena when it was open, and latterly by Zoom.

Ecumenical "Prayer on the Streets" was thwarted by the lockdown; in the first quarter of the year they met for prayer and preparation twice monthly. This ceased during lockdown.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Similarly, visits to Boxgrove House, for adults with special needs was necessarily curtailed this year.

Cornwell 0-5s, held in the Cornwell Centre, offers a secure place for pre-school children and their parents and carers two mornings a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays, after March this ceased.

Youth Group met fortnightly before lockdown, and was reinstated in the second half of the year, meeting outside when possible, and on Zoom when it was not.

Relationships with Birch Copse and Springfield Primary Schools and Little Heath School are still good but restrictions have limited interaction.

A free taxi service for those in Calcot to join St Catherine's Church on a Sunday was reinstated when services were in the church; but a monthly communion to York House, Calcot ceased due to restrictions.

Calcot Cuppa, part of our commitment to the PMC process, continued on Wednesday mornings at Highview, Calcot in order to meet people living in Calcot, but this ceased when the first lockdown was imposed.

RG31 the Parish magazine, used to be published monthly and distributed to many in the Parish. This year the publication was complicated by the lockdown as guidelines regarding paper handling meant we couldn't deliver; the magazine was reviewed and it was decided to publish quarterly magazines in full colour.

Special events are occasionally leafleted in the community – this Christmas we delivered 1600 Christmas cards in the Parish which also had invitations to attend the online "Carols under the Virtual Oak Tree".

Volunteers

The PCC would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the many volunteers in the church who generously give of their time and talents to make things happen: including all those who serve on various church committees, who contribute in any way to our worshipful life, the church cleaners, the flower arrangers, those who help in the Café, the Lifegroup leaders, and all our mid-week activities. We appreciate all those who keep St Catherine's garden looking beautiful, and who ensure the church is well maintained, and appreciate and value our hard working and highly committed churchwardens.

Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Power Measure. It is a registered charity – No. 1155524. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). All those who attend the services and are members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and if they feel so called, to stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish, including how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. We are thankful for the services of our PCC Treasurer, who infuses our financial considerations with vision and pastoral care.

The PCC met 5 times during the year; the first two meetings were in church, the other three were on Zoom. In addition to discussing matters relating to the life and vision of the Parish, it seeks to ensure that best practice policies are adopted especially relating to health and safety, safeguarding, general data protection regulations (known as GDPR), employment practice and other legal requirements. A number of Action Groups, with particular responsibility for specific aspects of Parish life, are responsible to the PCC and report to it. In addition, there is a Standing Committee.

This year we appointed a Centre Manager to oversee and develop the use and hire of the building, liaise with users, and facilitate communication. We also appointed a Parish Administrator to help with the smooth running of the office, communications and publicity – social media as well as leaflets, posters and publications.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Our Bookings Clerk handles hire of church space. These positions are voluntary, but a small monthly honorarium is paid to each to respect the essential nature of the roles in the effective running of the church centre. We employ a cleaner to ensure that the centre is offered to users in a clean and pleasant state.

Safeguarding

The Parish takes safeguarding seriously, and in compliance with Bishop's Council requirements, has published our Safeguarding Policy, and the Safeguarding Handbook, on our website, and is implementing best safeguarding practice throughout the life the church.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Parish is committed to ensuring that we maintain and follow GDPR guidance.

PCC Members

The names of the members of the Council who have served since the commencement of the 2020 financial year and until the date this report was approved are:

Ex officio members

Incumbent Rev Gill Rowell

Curate Rev Phil Price

LLM's Mr Tony Bartlett (also elected to Deanery Synod & elected as PCC secretary)
Mr Mike Heather

Churchwardens Mr Richard Canning (Subsequent to the meeting co-opted to Deanery Synod)
Mr Stuart Poore (until APCM 2020)
Mrs Caroline Heron (from APCM 2020)

Elected Members

Mrs Joanne Freeman (appointed as Treasurer by PCC)

Mrs Evelyn Bartlett

Mrs Ella Robles Canning (Subsequent to the meeting co-opted to Deanery Synod)

Mrs Jo Day (until APCM 2020)

Mrs Sheila Firth

Mrs Shirley Horsnell (until APCM 2020)

Mrs Sonia Ludford (appointed Centre Manager from APCM 2020)

Mr Stuart Poore (appointed Parish Administrator from APCM 2020)

Mrs Val Poore (until APCM 2020)

Mr Stephen Priter

Mrs Lorraine Roberts

Mrs Lynn Stevens (from APCM 2020)

Mrs Katrina Yates (from APCM 2020)

Mr Richard Yates (from APCM 2020)

Minute taker to the PCC

Mrs Jean Almond (until APCM 2020)

Mr Tony Bartlett (from APCM 2020)

Bankers

Nat West Reading Oracle Branch, Unit L11, The Oracle Shopping Centre,
Reading, RG1 2AG

On the behalf of the PCC

Rev Gill Rowell

Vicar



Mr Richard Canning
Church Warden



Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Financial Review for 2020

The year 2020 was a strange one with normal life until mid-March, then everything changed, everything stopped. From mid-March, the only income that the PCC was receiving was from online donations – a mixture of the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) and Standing Orders. It was fortunate that we had already decided to end the use of the envelope scheme, as even when church services resumed collections were not deemed safe. However, there was still some money leaving the account for regular items like the Parish Share, Insurance and Utilities.

Fortunately, there are many generous people at St Catherine's and as well as one-off donations many joined either the PGS or Standing Order scheme, whilst others managed to get cheques to the treasurer for donations that they would have normally placed in the plate at church. Contracts that we weren't using were stopped until they were needed again. The government started the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) that meant that whilst the hall cleaner and café manager were unable to work this funded 80% of their wages.

During lockdown the centre was split into two separate areas enabling the church and church hall to be used independently of each other. Items such as a digital thermometer and hand sanitizers were bought in order for the site to be made a COVID-19 safe area. Preschool were able to restart in June 2020 after the first lockdown, which provided some unexpected but welcome income. In September 2020 Preschool, Afterschool Club and other hall users who could legally and safely operate returned – plus a socially distanced version of the café returned with a reduced menu - providing even more unexpected but very welcome income.

After the second lockdown in November 2020 only Preschool, Afterschool Club and Alcoholics Anonymous were able to reopen. The café was also closed but did provide Friday Deliveries on pre-order. During the periods in 2020 when Sunday Services in the church building were held, from July to October plus December, there were no collections – so since mid-March most church related income has continued to be from online donations.

During the year, due to some generous donations from individuals in the church, we were able to buy a defibrillator, a monitor for the sanctuary so that the musicians and service leaders can see what the congregation is looking at and the materials for the outdoor Nativity Figure and also redecorate the hall and refurbish the hall floor.

We were blessed by Reading Deanery who decided to give us a Parish Share rebate for the previous year's Parish Share worth £2,800, and by the CJRS money from the government of £5,500 (to date) which helped us pay our two staff's wages.

I was delighted that despite everything we managed to pay our full Parish Share and though we did end up with an annual deficit of £600, without the help of the Reading Deanery and the CJRS it would have been more like a deficit of £9,000.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who have helped me manage the church accounts; Steph with Gift Aid and the Parish Giving Scheme, Jean, Sheila D and Eve with the hall and magazine invoicing, the members of the Finance Action Group and those who used to help with the counting and banking of the weekly moneys (when there was some)

Reserves policy

Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance (ODBF) recommend that the PCC's reserves should be an amount equal to three months average spend. For us this would equate to £23,000. The current figure held is £13,500 – which equates to less than two months cover.

If you have any questions on this report please get in touch with the Treasurer, preferably a couple of days before the APCM.

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

The following will help you understand Pages 9 to 13

Unrestricted funds contain money that the PCC can use for its general purposes.

Designated funds contain money from unrestricted funds that the PCC has chosen to put aside for a particular purpose. The PCC can also decide to return any or all of this money to unrestricted funds.

Restricted funds contain money that is received for a specific use such as donations to named charities.

Endowment funds contain money that is a special form of restricted funds; in our case it refers to the money the PCC received after St Birinus was sold and is expendable and can be used to fund activities relating to mission in Calcot such as the weekly taxi service to and from the 9.15/10.00 am service at St Catherine's and any expenses relating to Calcot Cuppa.

The totals from the 2019 report are there for comparison purposes. The figures in the report are required to be shown to the nearest pound. Pages 9 & 10 are a legal requirement, all the other pages are provided to give more details.

Page 9 – Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

This page lists the receipts and payments for the year under categories that are required in the annual report to the Church of England. The fees for wedding and funerals, though they are not reported in this annual return do go through the PCC's bank account, hence the need for a separate line on this page so that the bank balances at the start and the end of the year balance correctly.

Page 10 – Statements of Assets and Liabilities

Cash funds shows how the total funds of the PCC were split between the current bank accounts and the deposit account (which was closed at the end of 2019).

Other monetary assets is money due to the PCC from activities in 2020 but not received / banked until 2021.

Liabilities this is money in the PCC bank account for either services they received in 2020 (such as gas) but will not pay for until 2021 or money they received for other organisations such as charities, that will not be paid until 2021.

Note 2 shows the movements in the Designated Maintenance Reserves and the various categories of restricted funds during the year.

Page 11 – Note 3 Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

Payments – note 3 d)

Church & Centre utility bills comprise of Electricity, Gas, Waste disposal and Wi-Fi bills.

Mission and evangelism consist of Children's Education, Tots Praise, Messy Church, Youth Club, Holiday Club, DBS checks, 0 – 5 Toddlers, Adult Education, Training and Outreach.

Page 13– Note 3 Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

Mission Giving – note 3 f)

In 2019 only the amount relating to the first six months was paid out. The amount relating to the final six months in 2019 was paid out in 2020. Due to financial uncertainties re COVID-19, in 2020 no mission money from planned giving was paid out for 2020. In 2021 the PCC agreed that £3,000 should be paid out at the start of 2021 as planned giving for 2020.

Joanne Freeman - Treasurer

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus Church, Tilehurst, Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020 which are set out on pages 6 to 10

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The church's trustees 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 section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

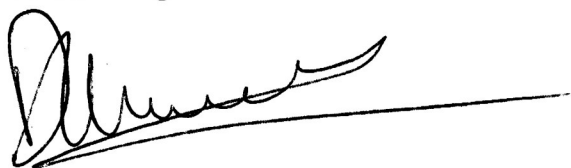
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with 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 accounting records in accordance with s. 130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met;or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



David Marett, FCA CTA
5 Jennets Close,
Tutts Clump,
RG7 6JZ
29th March 2021

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Financial Statements for the Period Ended 31 December 2020

Receipts and Payment Accounts

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	TOTAL 2020 £	TOTAL 2019 £
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary receipts:						
Planned giving		42,256			42,256	42,216
Collections at services		599			599	3,158
All other giving/voluntary receipts	3 a)	7,556	11,058	75	18,689	5,883
Gift Aid recovered		10,045			10,045	8,980
		<u>60,456</u>	<u>11,058</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>71,589</u>	<u>60,237</u>
Activities for generating funds	3 b)	1,227			1,227	5,421
Investment income				15	15	208
Church activities	3 c)	30,385	306		30,691	45,653
Government Grant - CJRS			5,536		5,536	0
Total receipts		<u>92,068</u>	<u>16,900</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>109,058</u>	<u>111,519</u>

PAYMENTS

Church activities						
Diocesan parish share		59,966			59,966	57,111
Clergy and staffing costs		1,130	4		1,134	1,164
Church running expenses	3 d)	16,739	2,600	590	19,929	24,110
Hall running costs		5,429	6,564		11,993	13,441
Café running costs		7,742	1,221		8,963	12,831
Mission giving and donations	3 f)	1,679	1,921		3,600	4,247
Costs of generating funds		8	0		8	73
Government Grant - CJRS			5,694		5,694	0
Total payments		<u>92,693</u>	<u>18,004</u>	<u>590</u>	<u>111,287</u>	<u>112,977</u>

Cash at bank and in hand at 1 January		17,158	5,138	4,654	26,950	28,655
Funds transfers	2	12	-12		0	0
Excess of receipts over payments as above		-625	-1,104	-500	-2,229	-1,458
Fees - funerals and locums - surplus/deficit	3 e)		-173		-173	-247
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 December		<u>16,545</u>	<u>3,849</u>	<u>4,154</u>	<u>24,548</u>	<u>26,950</u>

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Statements of Assets and Liabilities

Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	TOTAL 2020 £	TOTAL 2019 £
Cash Funds					
Bank Current account	16,545	3,849	4,154	24,548	14,995
Deposit funds	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>11,955</u>
	<u>16,545</u>	<u>3,849</u>	<u>4,154</u>	<u>24,548</u>	<u>26,950</u>
Other monetary assets					
Parish Share rebate for previous year	3,100			3,100	2,831
Gift Aid recoverable for previous year	325	1,083		1,408	1,391
Hall rent due for previous year	<u>1,565</u>			<u>1,565</u>	<u>5,191</u>
	<u>4,990</u>	<u>1,083</u>		<u>6,073</u>	<u>9,413</u>
Liabilities					
Electricity and Gas	1,063			1,063	1,578
Kitchen refurbishment				0	1,941
Photocopying				0	460
Coffee money - Sharon Nordley				0	300
Mission giving due for previous year	3,000			3,000	1,550
FAITH Christmas envelopes				0	283
Send a Cow		175		175	694
	<u>4,063</u>	<u>175</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,238</u>	<u>6,806</u>

Notes

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis
- The movements in designated and restricted funds during the year were:-

	Bal b/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Bal c/fwd
	01/01/2020				31/12/2020
Designated					
Maintenance Reserves	9,602	2,830			12,432
Restricted					
Maintenance Reserves	900	300			1,200
Café	385	1,850	1,221		1,014
Cornwell 0 to 5 s	1,561		80		1,481
Donations to charities	1,340	817	1,921		236
Specials	555	8,397	9,088	-12	-148
CJRS	0	5,536	5,694		-158
Totals without ODBF funds	<u>4,742</u>	<u>16,900</u>	<u>18,004</u>	<u>-12</u>	<u>3,625</u>
ODBF balancing figure Note 3 e)	<u>397</u>	<u>2,355</u>	<u>2,528</u>		<u>224</u>
	<u>5,139</u>	<u>19,255</u>	<u>20,532</u>	<u>-12</u>	<u>3,849</u>

ODBF - Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance

The donations to charities and specials funds are the result of donations given to specific appeals

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Note 3 Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	TOTAL 2020 £	TOTAL 2019 £
Receipts					
a) All other giving/voluntary receipts					
Donations	7,556	11,058	75	18,689	4883
Legacy	0			0	1000
	<u>7,556</u>	<u>11,058</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>18,689</u>	<u>5,883</u>
b) Activities for generating funds					
Parish magazine - advertising	510			510	1,205
Summer and Christmas fetes	0			0	3,102
Jumble sales	0			0	757
Special events/pop up shops	717			717	357
	<u>1,227</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,227</u>	<u>5,421</u>
c) Church activities					
Fees for weddings and funerals	460			460	1,536
Parish magazine - sales	570			570	815
Church Hall lettings	19,138			19,138	20,070
Café income	5,899			5,899	13,653
Friday Friends	425			425	1,344
Cornwell 0 - 5 s	970			970	3,034
Holiday Club	0			0	928
Youth Group	74			74	332
Bookstall	19			19	36
Parish Share rebate	2,830			2,830	2,828
Misc refunds	0	306		306	1,077
	<u>30,385</u>	<u>306</u>	<u></u>	<u>30,691</u>	<u>45,653</u>
Payments					
d) Church running expenses					
Church & Centre utility bills	5,767			5,767	5,692
Insurance	2,387			2,387	2,327
Cornwell Rent	0			0	1,066
Calcot Rent	0		202	202	98
Hospitality	47			47	562
Equipment	1,009	2,103		3,112	222
Bookstall	0	0		0	28
Parish magazine printing	1,408			1,408	1,919
Printing and stationery	1,161			1,161	2,031
Church & Centre maintenance	2,196			2,196	2,756
Upkeep of church grounds	188	80		268	562
Upkeep of services	692			692	1,007
Mission and evangelism costs	1,443	417	388	2,248	5,675
Administration	321			321	45
Independent Examiner	120			120	120
	<u>16,739</u>	<u>2,600</u>	<u>590</u>	<u>19,929</u>	<u>24,110</u>

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Note 3 Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

	2020	2019
	£	£
e) Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance (ODBF) fee workings		
Receipts		
Funeral fees received by PCC due to others	<u>2,355</u>	<u>2,532</u>
	2,355	2,532
Payments		
funeral fees paid to ODBF	2,278	2,449
funeral expenses	250	305
refund of fees due to other PCCs	<u>0</u>	<u>25</u>
	2,528	2,779
surplus/deficit	-173	-247

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Note 3 Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

f) Mission Giving

	2020 planned £	2020 extra £	2019 planned £	2019 extra £
Overseas Mission Societies				
Agape			100	
Leprosy Mission	387	146		262
Novi Most		13	320	111
USPG			320	
Wycliffe Bible Translators	4	431	102	288
	<u>391</u>	<u>590</u>	<u>842</u>	<u>661</u>
Relief & Development Agencies				
Christian Aid				278
Send a Cow	386	694	10	790
Shoe boxes			20	
Tear Fund		275		265
	<u>386</u>	<u>969</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>1,333</u>
Home Missions				
Berkshire Churches Trust	25		25	
CCA			320	
Faith	389	362		251
Helen & Douglas House			3	312
Livability	388			
Readifood			150	
	<u>802</u>	<u>362</u>	<u>498</u>	<u>563</u>
Secular Charities				
Duchess of Kent hospice			320	
I Deacon	50			
L Stevens	50			
	<u>100</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>320</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	1,679	1,921	1,690	2,557

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

BUDGET AT 31 DECEMBER 2020 -52 WEEKS

	ACTUALS 2020 £	BUDGET 2020 £	VARIANCE 2020 £	BUDGET 2021 £
RECEIPTS				
Voluntary receipts				
Parish Giving Scheme Gift Aided	29,721	28,000	1,721	32,400
Parish Giving Scheme Non Gift Aided	7,273	3,500	3,773	8,400
Standing Orders Gift Aided	3,175	4,400	-1,225	2,950
Standing Orders non Gift Aided	1,170	550	620	1,750
Envelopes Gift Aided	617	4,000	-3,383	0
Envelopes Non Gift Aided	300	2,000	-1,700	0
Plate	525	3,000	-2,475	50
Gift Aid recovered	10,045	9,500	545	9,300
Messy Church	30	100	-70	0
Tots Praise	44	150	-106	50
General Donations	2,881	600	2,281	1,550
Corona special donations	4,675	0	4,675	1,800
General Donations Gift Aided	0	200	-200	50
Total	60,456	56,000	4,456	58,300
Other receipts				
Magazine Advertising	510	900	-390	480
Fetes	0	3,000	-3,000	2,000
Special Events/Pop up shops	717	800	-83	1,000
Net Fees	460	1,000	-540	120
0-5 s Toddlers	970	3,000	-2,030	100
Holiday Club	0	1,000	-1,000	100
Youth Group	74	300	-226	50
Friday Friends	425	1,500	-1,075	100
Bookstall	19	50	-31	0
Magazine Sales	570	800	-230	600
Hall Lettings	19,138	24,000	-4,862	26,700
Café Sales	5,899	13,450	-7,551	10,500
Misc. refunds		0		50
Total	28,782	49,800	-21,018	41,800
TOTAL RECEIPTS	89,238	105,800	-16,562	100,100
Excess of receipts over payments				
Church activities	-16,529	-24,005		-20,220
Other activities	13,074	24,005		20,220
All activities	-3,455	0		0
Hall	13,709	17,130		19,000
Café	-1,843	0		-1,800

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

BUDGET AT 31 DECEMBER 2020 - 52 WEEKS

	ACTUALS 2020 £	BUDGET 2020 £	VARIANCE 2020 £	BUDGET 2021 £
PAYMENTS				
Church running expenses				
Parish Share	59,966	60,000	34	60,000
Minister expenses	1,130	900	-230	1,150
LLM expenses	0	200	200	150
Visiting clergy	0	50	50	0
Children's Education	0	30	30	50
Messy Church	0	30	30	0
Tots Praise	0	30	30	50
Adult Education	15	60	45	50
Training Outreach	299	500	201	100
Mission Giving	1,679	4,000	2,321	3,000
Giving envelopes	0	75	75	0
Insurance	2,387	2,500	113	2,450
Rent	0	0	0	0
Church maintenance	2,196	2,400	204	2,250
Equipment	1,009	100	-909	170
Upkeep of services	592	800	208	600
Church flowers	100	100	0	100
Hospitality	47	300	253	100
Upkeep of church grounds	188	100	-88	100
Stationery	1,161	2,200	1,039	1,310
Administration	321	100	-221	1,300
Cost of fetes	8	0	-8	0
Independent Examination	120	120	0	120
Electricity	2,405	2,000	-405	2,300
Gas	2,576	2,500	-76	2,190
Waste Disposal	536	650	114	720
Wifi	250	260	10	260
Total	76,985	80,005	3,020	78,520
Other costs				
0 - 5 Toddlers	970	2,355	1,385	100
Holiday Club	104	800	696	100
Youth Group	55	200	145	50
DBS checks	0	80	80	50
Magazine	1,408	2,000	592	1,280
Bookstall	0	40	40	0
Hall running costs	5,429	6,870	1,441	7,700
Café running costs	7,742	13,450	5,708	12,300
Total	15,708	25,795	10,087	21,580
TOTAL PAYMENTS	92,693	105,800	13,107	100,100

Parochial Church Council Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus

Minutes of Meeting of Parishioners – 11th October 2020

The meeting was held at 11.15 am via Zoom with a group of 6 watching in St Catherine's

Present: The Wardens, and 52 adult parishioners.

1. Rev Gill Rowell opened the meeting with prayer for the Church Wardens, giving thanks for their contribution to the Parish, especially during the current testing time. She gave thanks for Richard Canning as he continues in his role and for Stuart Poore for his huge contribution to the life of the Parish, as he steps down as Church Warden to work in other ways. Gill prayed for wisdom, strength, boldness and courage for the future of the Parish.
2. There was 1 apology for absence from June Page.
3. Election of Churchwardens for the Parish

There were 2 nominations:

Name	Proposed	Seconded
Richard Canning	Joanne Freeman	Valerie Poore
Caroline Heron	Jo Day	Jean Almond

All were in favour and the Wardens duly elected.

4. Gill offered prayer for both Richard and Caroline praying that they would work well together and with her. She gave thanks for the blessing that they are already to the parish and that they all would be diligent and compassionate in the year ahead. She prayed for Stuart too as he works in new ways and thanked God that both Richard and Stuart had fulfilled their Church Warden positions so faithfully and willingly over the past year.

Richard welcomed Caroline and looks forward to another year in office.

Caroline Heron asked for prayer and shared her hope that together we might grow as a church.

Gill thanked both for their willingness to stand.

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Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 11th October 2020 by zoom immediately after the Annual Meeting for Parishioners.

Only members of the Electoral Roll were eligible to vote at the meeting.

Gill requested any items for any other business.

Stuart, as Electoral Roll Officer, confirmed that there are 110 on roll with 23 non-resident.

David and Barbara Evans were welcomed as new roll members.

It was confirmed that Jane Stokes and Eve Combes are on Electoral Roll.

1. The meeting was opened with prayer led by Rev Phil Price: Thanks were offered to God for all He has done for us and prayer that He would be revealed to us through this meeting. We were all asked to hold before God the things we are struggling with and pray that God will help us work through them.
2. There was one apology for absence from June Page.
3. **Acceptance of the Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising** The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th April 2019 had been circulated prior to the start of the meeting. They were accepted as a true record.
4. There were no matters arising.

5. 2019 Parish Review

The reports in the Parish review had been incorporated in a booklet and circulated in advance. There were no questions on any of the reports.

Gill reminded us of our parish purpose: “to worship God and to show that Jesus’ love makes a difference in reaching, serving and caring.”

She said that 2019 was a very memorable year with Cornwell Community Church moving to St. Catherine’s for worship. There had been a period of adjustment and some challenges. It was also the second year of the Partners in Missional Church initiative which we were reminded was not about goals and targets but rather how we adapt to change and see where God is working in the world, not just the Church.

Other highlights for Gill were the Café coming into its own, the SHAPE course, the Community Harvest Festival Celebration and Carols under the old Oak tree. New groups like Tuesday Together and the Calcot Cuppa began as well as established groups and activities continuing to flourish.

Gill perceived a sea change, at the end of 2019, in how St Catherine’s was viewed by the community as relationships were extended and deepened.

She expressed her gratitude for all our efforts, whatever role or service we performed, in showing how Jesus changes lives for good. God is working in you and through you.

6. Presentation of Annual Report and Financial Statements.

This report had also been circulated in advance of the meeting and Joanne Freeman gave a short summary.

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In 2019 planned giving rose by about 3% and hall income increased due to new hirers, including After School Club for four days a week.

In addition to normal opening, the Café hosted a Bistro evening and two Christmas lunches for the WI and Church/café customers. In total, together with normal café sales, the café made a surplus of £1,000 during 2019.

Joanne thanked Karen and all the hardworking volunteers.

In 2019 the same Parish Share was paid but this will rise by £3,000 in 2020.

Other expenditure in 2019 included:

New red external noticeboards, Attended Card Reader, new table for café, refurbishment of hall kitchen which was largely funded by 2 legacies and contributions from church members towards mugs, glasses etc. The Children's Corner and 2 disabled parking signs had been funded through donations by groups and individuals.

The Calcot Fund had been used to pay for the hire of the Calcot Centre and the Calcot taxi service.

Joanne thanked everyone for their help.

Hilary Smee asked: What are the plans for Mission Giving this year?

Due to the present situation and Lockdown in March 2020, it was decided to pay our Parish Share in full and put "on hold" our Missions giving; planning to give a percentage of any surplus left at the end of the year. Individual giving had still continued through special services, with monies going direct to the charities we support including Christian Aid, Leprosy Mission, Send a Cow and Novi Most.

Gill said that the PCC had agreed to increase Missions Giving by 1% each year but Covid 19 had meant this was not possible. The Church of England recommends that 5% of person's income be given to Church and 5% to other charities.

Sheila Bryant asked: What is happening regarding Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes this year?

Joanne referred to her article in RG31- due to difficulties of collection and delivery of boxes during Covid 19, everyone should be encouraged to buy a box online.

The Annual Report was accepted by the meeting.

Joanne was warmly thanked for all the hard work that she puts into maintaining the accounts so efficiently.

7. Vicar's Address 2020

Gill thanked Sheila Drew for her faithful service as Hall Hire Bookings Clerk over the last ten years, and welcomed Eve Combes, who has offered to take up the role.

There has been one application for the post of Centre Manager and one for the post of Parish Administrator. The process of appointment is still on-going but she hopes both these roles will begin in November. Both roles will really help the smooth operation of hall and church use, the café, and develop our publicity within and outside the church, and hopefully enable better communications all round. The PCC had agreed a monthly honorarium for those appointed.

Gill drew our attention again to the verse from Joshua on our Notices each week.

Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

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Gill felt that this verse was hugely important when she chose it but especially so as 2020 has developed. She felt there had been a real sense of momentum within the parish and the calendar was already filling up with events e.g. Holiday Club, Tilehurst Garden Festival, a Body and Soul day, Bistro Nights and another SHAPE course, just to name some of them.

However, the impact of Covid 19 and the Lockdown meant that our physical meetings and worship stopped. So online worship and services were launched, as well as virtual Lifegroups and a volunteer scheme. Some things have restarted: it is fantastic to be able to worship "live" together once more masks and all and equally fantastic to have the Café open once more, albeit with a reduced menu, but still open. So important after months of not being able to meet. It was great that Tuesday get Together began but with the new rule of 6 it has had to stop. We don't know what the next few months will bring but we do know that the next few months will be challenging for us.

Gill asked us all to consider how we should respond or prepare in terms of our life as a church. She shared a picture of a very high wall which she saw in prayer, a wall which was reaching to the sky with characters climbing up. A verse from Psalm 18 v29 "with my God I can scale a wall" came to mind.

None of us know what the future holds and we are uncertain about what we may have lost: we don't know what might return - so we are in a "liminal space", a transitional time where all we can be sure of is that "we are here now". She asked everyone to consider, " **Where is God at work?**" because we know that He is always working for good in the world. Gill asked for people to respond to that question e.g. via e-mail. Once people can get into that way of thinking it will be easier to recognise people who would love to be part of the care and healing of the world.

Summing up and referring to Psalm 18 v29 once more, Gill said that we need not fear the future; but we do need to be willing to adapt, to be flexible, to acknowledge that things may never get back to the way they were before. Things will be different but it is all going to be OK. God is working for good in the world.

Bishop Stephen of Oxford has suggested we consider, following the governments Rule of 6; 6 things, but Gill wanted to focus on just 3.

7.1. We should now focus on 6 MONTHS TIME - Easter, rather than Christmas. Spring will bring better news after a difficult winter and this is good advice.

7.2. However, plans for Christmas are already happening, bearing in mind the limitations we are working within:

- Musicians and singers have begun rehearsing and recording lots of Christmas carols
- We are planning an online virtual Carols under the Old Oak tree for 20th December
- With the other Tilehurst churches we are planning THE BIG TILEHURST CAROL SINGALONG - Celebrating Christmas Together!
- Rev Liz Ratcliffe from St Michael's and St Catherine's are planning a Christmas Story Trail from St Catherine's to St Michael's,
- Phil has written a Nativity Play, and we are planning an online Christingle Service.
- We are going to have Christmas events but Christmas this year will be rather different! Gill asked us to focus on Bishop Stephen's wish to focus on Easter , a time of Resurrection and New Life.

7.3. To find 6 people to journey with, which Gill believes is the most significant suggestion of the 6. The Christian faith began with a small group of disciples.

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This is a time for us all to rediscover Church as a small group of six people who support one another; pray together (online or in one place); care for each other, serve together and explore everyday faith together. +Stephen points out that many seasons of renewal in the church have begun with the renewal of small communities: stories in Acts, early Franciscans; early Methodism; or the underground churches behind the Iron Curtain.

We already have Lifegroups/Virtual Lifegroups but they are not quite the same as a SPECIFIC SIX PEOPLE meeting regularly. Consideration would be given to see if it is feasible to see if we might facilitate groups of six **meeting together throughout the winter months.**

8. Election of Parochial Church Council Members

Gill thanked outgoing PCC members, Valerie Poore, Jo Day and Shirley Horsnell for their committed service.

And also for Shirley for her work as Electoral Roll Officer.

There were four new nominations for the PCC

Lynn Stevens **Proposed** Ella Canning **Seconded** Joanne Freeman

Stuart Poore **Proposed** Caroline O'Sullivan **Seconded** Mary Hudson

Katrina Yates **Proposed** Richard Canning **Seconded** Ella Canning

Richard Yates **Proposed** Ella Canning **Seconded** Richard Canning

As there were five vacancies, no election was necessary.

Katrina, Richard and Lynn introduced themselves on Zoom.

The Wardens and PCC members will be commissioned for service, on Sunday 18th October, at both the "live" service at St Catherine's and during our on-line worship.

9. Election of Deanery Synod Members

Tony Bartlett **Proposed** Stuart Poore **Seconded** Valerie Poore

Tony Bartlett was elected and will serve as a representative for a further year.

Two places remain unfilled: Synod is interesting as it is an opportunity to meet members of other churches and hear and input into what is going on in the Deanery. (Subsequent to this meeting Ella and Richard Canning have been co-opted to serve as Deanery Synod members in addition to Tony.)

10. Appointment of Independent Examiner

David Marett, who has been the Independent Examiner for 2019, is prepared to continue for the coming year.

11. Gill hoped that everyone felt the meeting was worthwhile and was encouraged.

Phil said a closing prayer and the meeting finished at 12.25pm

