

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST LUKE, COLCHESTER

England & Wales · Charity number 1159205

Details

Other names ST LUKE'S PCC, COLCHESTER

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2014-11-13

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

Contact

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Activities

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

Activities: ? Regular public worship open to all.? Pastoral work, including visiting the sick and the bereaved.? Teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups? Taking of religious assemblies in schools.? Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings? Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Essex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£158,081	£145,672	-	-
2023-12-31	£140,521	£142,848	-	-
2022-12-31	£145,453	£142,478	-	-
2021-12-31	£147,785	£133,881	-	-
2020-12-31	£138,559	£146,029	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Hannah Rosemary Cooper	Chair	2016-10-23
Adrian David Kevin Jones		2020-10-19
Anne Deborah Mayne		2022-05-08
Colin John Smith		2019-05-20
Diana Salome BENGÉ-ABBOTT		2014-11-13
Dr Mojisola Omolade Olose		2023-05-14
Gavin Duthie		2023-05-14
HUGH LESLIE THOMAS		2014-11-13
Ian Robert Duthie		2021-05-26
JULIA THOMAS		2021-05-26
Lynne Gettings		2016-04-17
Mark Benjamin Harris		2018-04-29
Olufunke Motunrayo Baruwa		2025-05-18
Rev Charlotte Rachel Day		2023-07-17
Rev Paul William Mann		2018-09-24
Rev Sarah Hayward		2023-01-23
Sarah Margaret Adcock		2020-10-19
Stephen Alan Cowell		2025-05-18
Tracey Linda Cowell		2024-05-12

Accounts



The Church of England in Highwoods
Two Churches. One Family.

St Luke's Church
Highwoods 

 ST MARK'S
COLCHESTER

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2024

Incumbent:

Revd Hannah Cooper

Bank:

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ

Registered Charity no:

1159205

Independent Examiner:

Simone Hilliard

Auditor and Accountant Simone Hilliard FCCA 17 Totham Hill Green Great Totham Maldon CM9 8DX

stlukescolchester.org.uk

stmarkscolchester.org.uk

Welcome to our 2024 Annual Report

Dear Church Member

I really enjoy the process of creating the yearly annual report (despite being an admin task!) It is a great opportunity to look backwards and review what happened in the previous year, although it is a little strange to be thinking about 2024 in the middle of 2025. Please note that the reports only refer to what happened during 2024 and not what has happened in the first part of 2025. This is our fourth time of creating an APCM which gives an overview of two churches located in the one parish of Highwoods.

In 2024 our PCC went away on an away day, funded by the Deanery MOF grant. This away day was really helpful, in that it focused our attention on what we do, and how well we do it. We looked at our 2022 vision, which looked similar to the grid below, but we have adapted the right hand side a little. Moving on from Creation Car and Youth, as very specific areas of work to broadening out our goals to be Equipping Our People and Engaging with Mission. I shared the below grid with the Parish at the last years APCM, I still think this is relevant today, and helpful to show what we are looking to do as a parish.



Please do keep reading this report.

Hannah

Parish Report

Food bank

In October 2022, we opened the Highwoods satellite Food bank. This is a parish opportunity, and it has been great to have volunteers from both St. Luke's and St. Mark's. The food bank runs every Monday morning, it is fully supported by the Main food bank located at Tollgate, Stanway. In January 2024, we moved sites to the Ark Methodist Church, to allow for a larger storage area and more flexibility in timing, we now run 9.30 -11.30 every Monday. Throughout 2024 our satellite food bank has increased in the number of people using it. We are grateful for the support that has been offered by both St. Luke's and St. Mark's in terms of volunteers and donations. During our harvest months, we received many donations from both churches, several schools and a nursery too. Please continue to pray for our team and for those in need who live within Highwoods.

Children's and Families work – Karen Cakebread

2024 was extremely exciting to see God at work!! There was a definite shift in my role as at least 90% is now focusing 'outward' and ministering to the needs of our community and more specifically, our local schools. We started a Chaplaincy Team and offer Playground Pastoring once a week at Brinkley Primary with members from St Mark's Church. This has enabled us to run a faith-based lunch club, mentor several children, invite families to Forest Church, and be a weekly 'presence' in the school. We continue to run a weekly lunch club at Highwoods Primary and are heavily involved in supporting their RE curriculum. It will be exciting and a real joy to see what God has in store over the coming years if this is just the beginning of something new!!

My role extended to cover both churches during 2024. It's been an adjustment but also a joy getting to know the children at St Marks and their own personal links into Brinkley Primary. Working out how to hold the children's work in both churches well and support the amazing existing teams is something that is becoming clearer over time.

Prayer Points:-

- 1) For a continued and deepening relationship with Brinkley Primary through this chaplaincy role and that Highwoods would one day have their own!!
- 2) For wisdom in supporting 2 churches and vision to see where God is heading
- 3) A prayer of thanks to you (the church) for recognising the importance of this role and the amazing opportunities it brings with regards to outreach and loving our local community

Youth Across the Parish

This has been a busy but productive year for the youth of the parish.

The young people of St Luke's continued to meet on Sunday mornings in the Oak Tree coffee house. Susie Sanderson has continued to lead the activities during the absence and subsequent resignation of Sammy, the parish youth worker. She has been supported in this endeavour by Lesley West, Stuart Angier, Kim Osborne, Guy Giraudeau, and latterly by Steve Cowell. During the year, the group looked at several challenging topics, utilising resources such as 'theGRID'.

On Thursday evenings (bi-weekly) United took place at the Highwoods Youth centre or, weather permitting, at the Highwoods Country Park during the youth centre refurbishment. This social event was open to all young people from both St Luke's and St Mark's, with a number from each church attending.

On the alternative Thursday evenings, the young people from St Mark's met at the Oak Tree coffee house for a fun and Bible focused hour. Unfortunately, a combination of people relocating outside of the area and an increase in external commitments resulted in attendance dwindling. Therefore, in September, the decision

was made to open this event to the young people from St Luke's in years 9 and above, as this reflected the existing St Mark's Age group. The Top Marks activity was run by Janet Jones, Carl Badger and Mike Fisher.

There were a limited number of opportunities for the combined group to meet before the end of the calendar year, but there are plans to continue this next year. During the year, we held social events at Easter, in the summer, and at Christmas, which were well attended. Thanks to Revd. Charley for supporting these activities and also the use of her home as a venue. Youngsters from both churches were invited to all of these events.

Several of the young people from both church communities attended the 'Parish Weekend Away' at Birch Hall adventures. We were blessed by having Joe Robbins (youth worker at Plume Avenue URC) with us. The young people enjoyed a combination of both Bible based and outdoor activities such as archery, wall climbing and canoeing.

September saw the youth heading up to Horstead for an away weekend. There were around 16 in attendance, ranging in age between 11 – 17. They had the opportunity to participate in various activities, including paddle boarding and raft making. The weather was kind (given the time of year), and although some got very wet in the water, it was fun and provided the opportunity for the young people to get to know each other and grow closer as a group. We were very blessed by Janine Wilde, who assisted the team by providing a number of 'God spots'. This gave the young people an opportunity to dig deeper into their faith and grow closer to their loving Heavenly Father.

Looking back over the year, we see that the number of youngsters has increased and we have been able to provide more youngsters with their own copy of the Bible. As the year draws to a close, the team is exploring the opportunities for the year ahead. Plans for a Youth Alpha are underway, to be run on a Thursday evening in the Oak Tree coffee house and open to all the young people in the parish. Plans are also being considered for our Sunday morning activities, and we are looking at what opportunities might exist for the Thursday evening slot once the Youth Alpha course is complete

Youth Mentoring

You may remember many years ago a dream to offer youth mentoring was seeded. A few began and one or two of those first pairings are still going to this day. During 2024, the hope and dream of offering each of our young people within both of our churches the opportunity of an adult Christian mentor has become much more of a reality. Many thanks to Anne Mayne who has taken on the majority of this additional work raising new adult mentors, safely recruiting them, training them and matching them to our young people who have agreed/asked for a mentor. The system isn't perfect, there is still more work to be done, and we are likely to need more adult mentors in the future. But we now have 10 youth matched and meeting regularly with adult youth mentors. Thank you to all those who have been involved in this great work.

Deaf Church Report to PCC about 2024

Colchester Deaf Church continues to meet monthly at the Oak Tree Coffee House on a Sunday afternoon. It is important for people to be able to worship God in sign language. Our topics during 2024 included Moses and God's rescue and provision for the people of Israel. The highlight of the year was a weekend away at the Pleshey retreat house with other Deaf Christians from across the diocese. Among the craft activities, we made two banners to be used in our churches (seen below) one of the Deaf Ministry logo, and one of a tree made with hands reaching out. Several of our members have had stays in hospital during the year, please pray for restored health.

Deaf Church Banners



Mission and Mercy 2024

Our Parish PCC and Finance Team oversee our finances. As a parish we give away 10% of everything that is given to the parish. There is a subcommittee commissioned by the PCC to choose who and how we give our money away. They bring their recommendations to the PCC, and the PCC gives authorisation for the money to spent. I am really grateful to the giving group for faithfully meeting, praying and deciding how to give away our money.

International

Nsambya School Uganda -Lap Top	£525.00
Vision for China	£400.00
Tear Fund (General)	£400.00
Tear Fund Middle East Appeal	£800.00
The Catherine Bullen Foundation Namibia	£400.00

Local/Colchester

Good News for Everyone (Gilberd/Trinity Bibles)	£300.00
CAP Colchester	£560.04
Beacon House	£1,040.04
CYO	£2,080.08
Tree Tops/ Livability	£300.00
Essex Intergration	£400.00

TOTAL	<u>£7,205.16</u>
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Safeguarding Report

With the publication of the Makin report and the subsequent resignation of the Archbishop of Canterbury in November 2024, safeguarding in the Church of England has (quite rightly) come under intense scrutiny. It remains a key priority.

As I wrote in the parish email sent in November, we all want our churches to be the safest place possible - safeguarding lies at the heart of our faith.

In our parish we are grateful to the safeguarding team in the diocese who provide advice on a range of issues on a regular basis. Whether it is a safeguarding concern, checking out we have everything in place that we should with e.g our parish weekend away or setting up the satellite Foodbank we act on the advice received. Safeguarding is an agenda item at every PCC meeting and there is a safeguarding element to every risk assessment undertaken.

As well as volunteers working with children, young people and vulnerable adults, all our Foodbank volunteers are now safely recruited. The safer recruitment process means volunteers complete an application form and provide 2 referees. Stef, our Administrator, ensures that references are followed up and the necessary DBS checks are in place. We currently have over 40 safely recruited volunteers in our parish.

All our volunteers working with children, young people and vulnerable adults and our Foodbank volunteers need to carry out safeguarding training in line with requirements by the diocese. Whilst there are still some gaps, we have made significant progress this year. **A massive thank you to all our volunteers** for giving of their time whether online or in attending the recent face-to-face training. As well as our Clergy, Karen as Children's and Families worker, our Licensed Lay Ministers, our Authorised Local Preachers and the Parish Safeguarding Officer are required to complete safeguarding leadership training - this is up to date.

Church suite is an invaluable online tool in many different ways. Over the past 12 months we have been using Churchsuite to create consent forms for our youth aligned with model forms on the diocesan safeguarding website. This is to support the youth leaders in their work. Thank you to Mark Russell for all his help with this.

A priority in the coming months will be to implement the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard. Watch this space!

If you have a concern about a child, young person or adult - however small it may seem, please speak to one of our Parish Safeguarding Officers: Janet Jones (St Mark's) or Lynne Gettings (St Luke's) or email: safeguarding@stlukescolchester.org.uk

Lynne Gettings

Parish Safeguarding Officer

St Luke's Church

Highwoods



As is usual for St. Luke's Jan 2024 began with a significant preaching sermon series. In 2022 it was Nehemiah and the theme was rebuilding the walls. In 2023 we focused at Isaiah 61 and we asked these questions: Who is He? Who are we? What is our story? And what is next? In 2024 we looked at 'Up, In and Out' Asking the question how are we worshipping our God? how are we looking after each other? and how are we looking outwards into our community?

During the summer of 2024 we said a fond farewell to Revd. Anna Davis, our curate, who worked both at St. Luke's and at Shrubend for the last year and a bit of her curacy. Again, St. Luke's has been able to be a gift and a place of healing. I am excited that Anna been appointed as incumbent of St. Stephen's and St. Margaret's in Colchester. I found it helpful to reflect on St. Luke's history, having being named St. Luke's, due to St. Luke's being a doctor, it's great to know that St. Luke's continues to be a place of healing.

Personally 2024 was a big year for me, I turned 40 in January, and was granted a sabbatical, which happens after every 10 years of ministry. This gave me 3 months to spend my time differently, seeking God's voice, visiting special places, and taking time for my family. I'm really thankful to St. Luke's, allowing me the space to be able to do this. I'm aware this created an additional burden for some covering the load while I was away. I wasn't sure what it would feel like returning back into parish having had 3 months off, but as I returned, it felt like I'd come home, and I realised how much I had missed my church families.

It was a great privilege to be part of the Colchester Priesting service and see our curate Charley Priested in September 2024. This has meant that Charley and I are now able to share in the communion commitments of the parish. It was great to have a St. Luke's band playing at the ordination service.

Looking out into our Community has been a theme, that has resonated throughout 2024 for St. Luke's. I've loved the opportunities we have had to prayer walk in the local area on Sundays. Going out into our community has become a great inter-generational activity.

Our toddler group 'First Steps' continues to meet every Wednesday morning, providing support for both local parents and local childminders. We now have a team of Chaplains who support this event weekly, specifically to engage in conversation and offer prayer if the need arises. This has been a great addition to an already brilliant team.

For Christmas 2024, St. Luke's MLT chose to give away 20 St. Luke's branded Tree decorations to the local businesses around Highwood Square, alongside a card letting them know of our love and prayers. This was something that I know the local businesses really appreciated.

For many years we have supported the work of Nsambya School, Orphanage and Clinic in Kampala. There are many in the congregation who sponsor individual children and more recently, following our visit in 2019, we have developed additional Hardship Funding which provides general support to any child within the school and a Teacher Fund, providing training and resources for the staff. We would love to provide additional support to the school. Please speak to Hannah, Jennifer Greenley, Jo Russell or Stef Jones if you would like more information.

Our vision at St. Luke's is summarised by the phrase:

Rooted in the Father's love

Growing in the power of the Spirit

Reaching out with the love of Jesus



St. Mark's continued into 2024 following our vision from 2022 of 'not just for Sundays' and for 'Every member to be a shining light in mission, fuelled by ministry and discipleship.' Many of the things that started in 2022 continued into 2024, which for a young and fragile church plant is really great news.

The BIG BREAKFAST which started in 2022 has continued to be a valued gathering every month. A great place to be church family together and invite those outside of the church to attend.

The biggest news during 2024 was the beginning of Chaplaincy that Karen and a team from St. Mark's have started. While I am disappointed that the promised building project has not started. I believe if we had not planted St. Mark's into Brinkley Grove Primary School, our Chaplaincy would never have been possible, so an opportunity was created. Karen writes:

We started a Chaplaincy Team and offer Playground Pastoring once a week at Brinkley Primary with members from St Marks Church. This has enabled us to run a faith based lunch club, mentor several children, invite families to Forest Church and be a weekly 'presence' in the school. It will be exciting and a real joy to see what God has instore over the coming years if this is just the beginning of something new!!

First Mark's, our Children's group have continued to meet during 2024, and we changed our format to allow the children to go out during the service, rather than meeting before the service. For most of the year the children have been doing a "walk through the bible", from Genesis onwards. Then more recently, some of the stories Jesus told. The usual number is 7 children, who all love to take part in the church sung worship, joyfully dancing, drumming and waving streamers. You can read more about Top Mark's (our youth) in the parish youth section.

The season of change that began in 2023 with the Smith family leaving, has settled into 2024, with everyone getting used my taking on a wider leadership role, and participating every other week. My sabbatical time off had an impact at St. Mark's too, leaving the team quite stretched particularly across the summer months, I am very grateful to the St. Mark's MLT who took on the additional work, and kept showing up even when this was tough.

In November, we celebrated St. Mark's 4th birthday with Cake Sunday and a St. Mark's lunch at the Oak Tree. This was a great time of fellowship and celebration.

Christmas, was another great success for St. Mark's the relationship with Brinkley grove primary school has really increased and developed, which meant we were again able give out an invitation to church for every child and member of staff combined with a candy cane. We were also able to give away 20 blessing boxes to families that were struggling at Brinkley Grove Primary School. We were invited to participate in Brinkley Grove's Christmas Fate, providing a free craft, carols and conversations.

St. Mark's Christmas meal was again a great success and really lovely to meet for a shared meal in the Oak Tree Coffee House.

**We are a joyful and friendly church where everybody is welcome 'just as you are'
to be part of the St Mark's family; a family where everybody is valued.
We aim to love without judgment, to serve without status,
and to see everyone transformed by God's love and truth.**

At the end of 2023, the council announced it would not be able to finance this community centre venture. We had hoped there may have been a way to relook at this, but a way forwards has not emerged. It was sadly decided in 2025, by the trustees of St. Mark's Community Centre Charitable Incorporated Organisation that we should close this CIO.

United Church – Revd Sarah Hayward

For those Gavin and Stacey fans out there, I begin by asking, "What's occurring?"

In 2019, Tim, Joel, David and Levi and I moved to Colchester so that I could take an SDF funded pioneer ministry role on the Severalls new housing estate, now known as Kingswood Heath. We also consider that Chesterwell new housing estate is part of our mission field, and the new road and school developments do now link the two sites.

We had no gathered community or team, and no building, or meeting places except for our home, and so "United church" began as an umbrella term for everything we were doing in the name of God's kingdom and church. My role as a school governor at Camulos Academy, and the two secondary school chaplaincies with CYO were also an expression of that role.

Our long term vision is to be significantly involved in the building of a new community centre that will serve our estate, and serve as a resource from which United church can serve, and gather for worship, and as such Tim has taken jobs in the local community, and developed significant relationships with the local councillors. Our initial aim was to build as many relationships as possible, and serve the estate with missional outreach activities (Cakes in the park being the notable regular feeding of the 5000 – not literally!), taking evangelism and discipleship opportunities on a one by one basis, and encouraging new converts to identify and look for creative ways to serve their own mission field. In reality this has taken the form of many 1:1 meetings, children's play groups, mums' meetings, Alpha courses, and messy churches. Over time, United church has also some expression of regular, gathered community – currently, an adult group that meets in our home on Wednesdays, an adult group that meets in another's home on Friday evenings, and a monthly all-age worship gathering on Sundays in our home. We also co-lead Kaleidoscope SEND church monthly, with St John's. Our SDF funding ran out in September 2024, and an independent review was authorised by Bishop Roger and carried out by Brendan Research in November 2024, to see if what we had built could indeed be called a church, and could warrant further support. The confidential report proved that our church is well respected by a large number of people in the community, with 200 participating in the review. It also met the criteria of "church" according to a number of different theories that it was measured against. Unfortunately however, there was still no further funding available for the church, or indeed for Sarah as a stipendiary minister living in a vicarage.

As such, I have now taken a full-time position as an NHS Trust chaplain so that I am paid by the NHS, but we continue to live in a church house, on a House for Duty agreement, in order to continue pioneering. This means I get to do the job of my dreams, and the foundations for United church can be built upon.

A pause for prayer:-

- to say thank you to God for having a vision and working it all out in the best possible way for everyone concerned, but especially for our three children in three different schools to feel secure and stay where they are.
- If you have done the Maths, this now means that I have two full time jobs in my name, and you may know I have been suffering with Long Covid; it took me about three years to recover, and recovery is not yet complete. I could only take the role on the evidence that I am getting better, and on the words I heard God say ahead of interview: "not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit", says the Lord."

And as Gavin and Stacey's Nessa would say, "where to now are we going?!"

We have lived with the possibility of needing to evacuate the church house without a role, job, income or home to go to, which has caused more than a few "OH's"; "I'm not gonna lie" (more Nessa quotes for those of you who don't know – "I KNOW"!)

As we were approaching the new year, with three of us and a dog all enduring another round of COVID in December 2024, God gave us a clear vision from the book of Zechariah in which Zechariah has a vision regarding the re-building of the Temple – not by might, nor by power, but by His Spirit. There are two key characters involved in the re-building; Zerubbabel who is in charge of governance and Joshua the High Priest. In Zechariah's vision they are both equally responsible and important in this re-building.

Tim Hayward, now cast in the role of Zerubbabel is stepping up to take a greater lead in the governance of our project, and reducing his hours elsewhere. This means that legally, I am still the named minister responsible, but I am delegating tasks around finance, admin and safeguarding to him.

We are lessening activities that require greater funding, such as the hire of premises for messy church, or "Around the Table" that met at Colchester Sports park, but continuing to find cost-effective ways of working with the community on our estate, until such time as the community centre is built. There is not room to explain how incredible it is that the community centre is actually going to be built this year, but suffice to say that it is answered prayer, and very much a calling upon Tim. I stepped down from my school chaplaincy roles, but have so far, managed to keep on with my school governor role, which is key to effective relationships between school, church and the community centre which will be built right outside.

Please pray for our family, and our estate and our church as we adapt to these changes, and for any and every obstacle to be removed so that this community centre can be built and a loving resource for the community can be established.

Please pray for the opportunities that multi-vocational ministry can bring. Lord God, may there be joined up thinking, and vision for hospital chaplaincy, community and community centre building, church building and estate ministry to enhance greater opportunities for your kingdom. Amen



2024 has been a more consistent trading year, with no Covid restrictions or changes to the Tesco café.

We are often reminded how much our customers love the personal connection offered at the Oak Tree, and there is often a comment about the positive atmosphere. This is a credit to our amazing team, who work tirelessly to maintain this atmosphere of welcome.

I am very grateful for our manger Karen, and assistant manager Sita, who continue to manage the Coffee House beautifully. Our other members of staff are so valuable, and our brilliant volunteers numbers have grown over 2024.

My fellow directors held the fort very well during my sabbatical from July – Oct, and Lorraine Mann agreed to make the move permanently to become the chair of the Oak Tree Coffee House, having held the role while I was off. I am really grateful to Lorraine for this, I will continue to be a director, but no longer hold as much responsibility.

The Oak Tree Chaplains continue to serve the Oak Tree on a Wednesday morning to sit and chat with our customers and team.

For more information you would be welcome to join the Oak Tree Coffee House's AGM taking place on Tuesday 17th June at 7.30pm.

Please can I invite you to continue praying for our wonderful Oak Tree, God has blessed us with this asset and we continue to want to use it to bring his glory. God was and always is good, He is our stronghold and it is for Him that The Oak Tree Coffee House exists.

Hannah

Chair of Oak Tree Coffee House (Until Oct 2024)

Parish of St Luke's Colchester – PCC Report for 2024

Introduction

St Luke's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent in promoting within the parish, the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It oversees and directs the mission and work of the church of St Luke's, Colchester, meeting at St John's & Highwoods Community Centre on Highwoods and St. Mark's meeting at Brinkley Grove Primary School. The report of the PCC which follows, along with the two church reports, illustrate how the PCC fulfils its obligations to benefit the public ~ mainly to the worshipping congregation and to the local community, but also beyond.

PCC Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Priest in Charge: The Revd. Hannah Cooper

Curate: Revd Charley Day

Curate: Revd Anna Davis (Until August 2024)

Pioneer Priest : Revd. Sarah Hayward

Associate Priest: Revd. Paul Mann

Church Wardens

Adrian Jones

Lynne Gettings

PCC Treasurer

Colin Smith

Licensed Lay Ministers

Diana Bengel-Abbott

Hugh Thomas (PTO)

Diocesan Synod Representatives

Julia Thomas

Deanery Synod Representatives

Adrian Jones

Hugh Thomas

Lynne Gettings

PCC Elected Members

Ian Duthie

Stuart Angier

Sarah Adcock

Anne Mayne

Moji Edun

Mark Harris

Gavin Duthie

Ordalia Sansford

Tracey Cowell

Standing Committee

Hannah Cooper

Lynne Gettings

Stuart Angier

Mark Haris

Adrian Jones

Colin Smith

PCC Committees

The PCC operates through a number of groups, which meet between the full meetings of the PCC:

Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to the directions given by the Council.

Finance Group

The general financial dimension of the work of St Luke's is accomplished by monitoring income and expenditure, setting budgets, maintaining financial controls and co-ordinating the annual accounts. This work is overseen on the PCC's behalf by the Finance Group, led by the PCC Treasurer.

Mission and Mercy Giving Away

The Mission and Mercy budget is apportioned to support mission and charities at home and abroad including regular reviews of the 'agencies' to which St Luke's PCC gives.

Ministry Leadership Team's

Both St. Luke's and St. Mark's have an Ministry Leadership Team, that meet regularly to work out the operational, pastoral and missional objectives of both churches.

Church Attendance

After the annual update of the Electoral Roll in 2024 there were 135 people on the Roll.

The average weekly attendance for our main morning service across the two churches, during October 2024 was 79 adults and 21 children . During the whole of 2024 there were no weddings, 1 Baptism and no Thanksgivings. There were 5 Funerals.

Church Property Report 2024

During 2024 there were two major purchases:

1. A laptop for St. Marks £426.54
2. A new Imac computer for St. Lukes £1849

PCC Review of the Year 2024

The PCC met 6 times during 2024. Alongside an away day in March 2024.

The PCC Finance Group met as necessary and reported back to the PCC, via the Treasurer.

The PCC Standing Committee did not meet formally during 2024, but Standing Committee members made urgent decisions on behalf of the PCC by e- mail on number of occasions.

In 2024, St Luke's PCC sought to advance the Christian faith and benefit the community in the following ways:

- A daily presence in the centre of our community - The Oak Tree Coffee House is renowned for great coffee, local and fairtrade produce and most importantly a safe place for local people to congregate where they know they will always find a friendly face to speak with. (The Oak Tree Coffee House is established under a separate legal entity, Highwoods Community Interest Company, in which St Luke's PCC is the majority shareholder.)
- Weekly Sunday public worship in two locations, including activities for children and young people.
- Weekly/fortnightly midweek groups to connect people in friendship while also giving them the opportunity to grow in faith and support one another.
- Weekly parent and toddler group.
- Monthly 'Forest, Families, Faith and Fun' service for families with primary aged children.
- Providing an e-mail-based prayer service for church members and others to share needs and concerns with church members, who then pray for the situations shared.
- Supporting our local schools by offering assemblies, lessons, church visits and financial support.
- Supporting Colchester Foodbank, by starting Highwoods Satellite Foodbank - which provides emergency food parcels to families and individuals in crisis.
- Engaging in wider structures of the church, especially our Deanery and its Synod.
- Giving away 10% of our parish annual income to local, national and international charities and ministries.
- Running a child sponsorship scheme for children attending Nsambya School in Kampala, Uganda.

Annual Deanery Synod Report 2024

Lay representatives plus clergy from all the Anglican churches in the Colchester Deanery meet three times a year, to hear what's going on in the Diocese and nationally, and to discuss and share ideas about how we can work together more effectively across Colchester. Please find below a short report on the Deanery Synod Meetings held during 2024.

13th March 2024 – At St. James The Great with St. Paul Church, Colchester

- Our speaker for this Synod was Sam Fowler, Director of Christian Youth Outreach (CYO). Lyne Gettings, Lay Chair, interviewed Sam about the work of CYO. During the interview Sam told us about the vision for CYO and how they want to work with churches in supporting them to carry out work in schools – local churches in local communities. Revd Hanna Copper, Assistant Area Dean, then spoke about a new chaplaincy service being implemented by St. Mark's Church with the help of CYO, at Brinkley Grove School, Colchester.
- This was followed with a Q&A session.

12th June 2024 – At St. Mary's Church, West Bergholt

- Our speaker for this Synod was Revd Canon Ian Hilton who introduced a new course, 'How To Pioneer'. Following the talk Revd Sarah Hayward, Revd Wendy Pagden and Revd Sue Howlett gave testimonies about pioneer ministry in their contexts.
- Synod was then presented with a proposal from the Deanery Standing and Pastoral Committee (DSPC), to develop ministry to children, young people and families and also for a Deanery Day to be held during 2025 to further develop a co-ordinated vision for mission in this area.

16th October 2024 – St. Peter's Church, Colchester

- Synod was joined by the bishop of Colchester, The Right Reverend Roger Morris. The format for this meeting was a Question and Answer Panel with each parish providing feedback on Parish Away Days which had taken place with funding from the Mission Opportunity Fund (MOF) for this year.

Parish of St. Luke's Highwoods
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2025

*Dear Church member,
We give a very warm invitation to share in our APCM and look forward to seeing you.*

AGENDA
Opening prayer & Worship

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

1. Welcome
2. Choosing of Churchwardens (2 for 1 year)

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. Elections

Elections for Parochial Church Council

Reports

2. Apologies for absence
3. Approval of minutes of 2023 APCM
4. Matters arising
5. Administrative Reports
 - a. Presentation of Electoral Roll
 - b. Financial Report
 - c. Church Property Report
 - d. Safeguarding Report
 - e. PCC report
 - f. Deanery Synod Report
6. St Luke's report
7. St Mark's Report
8. Appointment
 - a. Independent Examiner for 2025
9. Vision: Revd. Hannah Cooper
10. Any other business – please email 24 hours in advance

Blessing and Prayer

Minutes of St Luke's Church

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2024

Sunday 12th May 2024 7pm

St John's and Highwoods Community Centre

Opening Prayer & Worship

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

1. Welcome by Rev Hannah Cooper.

2. Election of Churchwardens (2 for 1 year)

Appointed:

Adrian Jones – proposed Ordelia Sansford, seconded Janet Jones

Lynne Gettings – proposed Diana Bengel-Abbott, seconded Walter Haag

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING Elections for Parochial Church Council

1. Elections for PCC

Thanks to Julia Thomas, Mark Harris and Ian Duthie for their service on PCC. Also, thanks to Ryan Huttley who has stepped down during his term.

Nominations for 4 PCC spaces:

Ian Duthie (3 years) - proposed by Adrian Jones seconded by Julia Thomas

Ordelia Sansford (1 year) - proposed by Adrian Jones seconded by Amy Duthie

Tracy Cowell (3 years) - proposed Lynne Gettings seconded by Dawn Lewis

Mark Harris (3 years) -proposed by Lynne Gettings, seconded by Diana Bengel-Abbott

Hannah led prayers for the appointees

Reports

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from:

Mark and Liz Harris

Ian Duthie

Dashka Grandtnerova

Tim Abbott

Sammy and Ryan Hutley
Mike and Helen Fisher

3. Approval of minutes of 2023 APCM

Formally approved. Proposed by Alan Wright seconded by Diana Benge- Abbott

4. Matters arising from last APCM

None

5. Administrative Reports

- a. Presentation of Electoral Roll - 131** Hannah thanked those who had signed up
- b. Financial Report** - no questions
- c. Church Property Report** – given verbally nothing added
- d. Safeguarding report** – no questions
- e. PCC Report** -no questions
- f. Deanery Synod Report**- No questions

Hannah wished it to be recorded in the minutes that our thanks are given to Jo Russell for all her work on the financial side. Gifts were given to Mark Russell to pass on to Jo.

6. St Luke's report

No questions

7. St Mark's Report

No questions.

Hannah paused to remember the late Michael Allen at this point for all his careful reading of the APCM documents over the years and his love details. Thanks for his life will be tomorrow 2.30pm, St John's Church.

8. Appointment

a. Independent Examiner for 2024

Simone Hillard was appointed last year by PCC, with permission of the APCM, who we paid, but this year we want to look into an alternative. Hannah asked APCM for permission for the PCC to appoint an Independent Examiner as yet unnamed.

Proposed by Hugh Thomas, Seconded by Adrian Jones

9. Vision: Revd. Hannah Cooper

Hannah shared a slide of the Vision: 2 churches one family Transformed by the Holy spirit. Generous in all we do. This had 4 parts:

Equipping our people
Loving our community
Engaging in Mission

The slide last year had young people and creation care.

Hannah explained that PCC felt this new Vision is appropriate for now, following the March PCC away day, with a professional facilitator. The question raised was What is the Parish being called into?

We want a vision for the parish even though each church may also have separate areas of focus.

We want to be more outward looking, To continue to do so.

We need to equip our people. We are all called and be equipped, but how can we encourage each person to step out of their comfort zone. Once equipped, going out and engaging in mission. Even though we are doing this already. To see more fruit, more people coming to follow Jesus.

At present, we have the Wednesday Toddler group, Brinkley Chaplaincy, Foodbank, Sanctuary housing and others -. places of mission. For our community to know we are here and we stand for something important. For people to find a different way in Jesus.

Hannah asked the APCM 2 questions to think about:

1 What do you find the most challenging about these 4 parts of the vision

2 What do you find the most exciting?

APCM broke into small conversations about our vision.

Feedback from congregation:

That ministry might not be what you think you are doing – Friends in Faith as an example

That people not coming forward to help particularly in children's ministry

Hannah Prayed thanks for all that has happened and for God's plan that goes forward well beyond what we can see. Praying revival on Highwoods, Colchester, UK.

Hannah asked if we can encourage 1 person to come to faith this year, how our numbers would increase. For God to give us courage to walk gently and carefully with a person to come to know Him.

10. Any other business

Church Warden Lynne thanked Leaders: Hannah. Paul. Charley, Anna, Sarah. Also our staff team (Karen & Stef) . They were prayed for by congregation for God to equip them.

Hannah Prayed for Julia & Graham Lewis.

Adrian fed back to APCM and gave thanks that St Marks still here still flourishing, thanks to all from St Lukes who have encouraged and supported St Mark's this year.

Blessing & Prayer - Hannah prayed and gave a closing Blessing.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm

Colchester St Luke's PCC

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year ended 31 Dec 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	YTD TOTAL 2024	TOTAL 2023
RECEIPTS					
Voluntary Receipts:					
Planned giving	£70,736.19			£70,736.19	£80,143.43
Stewardship	£990.00			£990.00	£1,115.00
Collections and other giving	£939.82			£939.82	£626.07
One off Gift	£1,600.00			£1,600.00	£1,250.00
Legacy		£10,000.00		£10,000.00	£0.00
GiftAid Income Tax recovered	£16,031.29			£16,031.29	£18,091.93
Sub Total	£90,297.30	£10,000.00	£0.00	£100,297.30	£101,226.43
Other voluntary receipts					
Special collections Note 7.1			£10,759.71	£10,759.71	£10,316.55
Donations & Grants(Restrict Note 7.2)			£37,796.20	£37,796.20	£22,214.42
Receipts from activities for generating funds					
Fund raising events Note 5	£3,350.65		£0.00	£3,350.65	£2,296.86
First Steps			£2,059.77	£2,059.77	£1,197.16
Receipts from Church activities					
Wedding fees	£216.00			£216.00	£156.00
Funeral fees	£1,426.00			£1,426.00	£1,085.00
Other Fees/income Note 5	£439.83	£0.00	£0.00	£439.83	£791.10
Receipts from investments					
Bank and deposit interest	£1,735.38			£1,735.38	£1,237.91
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£97,465.16	£10,000.00	£50,615.68	£158,080.84	£140,521.43
PAYMENTS					
Church activities inside the parish					
The Ministry	£1,985.88			£1,985.88	£2,884.96
Insurance Paid in Oct	£643.79			£643.79	£581.44
Church Services inc licence	£1,927.79			£1,927.79	£1,467.58
Donations and Grants Note 7.2			£36,369.94	£36,369.94	£22,779.19
Hire of Buildings - Community Ctr/Brinkley	£6,207.50			£6,207.50	£2,615.00
Hire of Buildings - Oak Tree	£222.66			£222.66	£434.12
Hire of Buildings-Bluebell/Ot New	£80.00			£80.00	£0.00
Training - Ministry & General	£142.00			£142.00	£0.00
Training - C & F	£95.00			£95.00	£40.00
Training - Admin	£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Training - Youthworker	£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Office costs inc. Bank Charges	£1,472.29			£1,472.29	£1,008.72
Uganda Bank charges	£75.00			£75.00	£100.00
Software - Churchsuite	£645.00			£645.00	£631.00
Staff & Pension	£11,999.84			£11,999.84	£27,849.89
Expenses - C & F	£206.50			£206.50	£257.24
Expenses - Admin	£304.99			£304.99	£300.00
Expenses - Youthworker	£0.00			£0.00	£61.25
Break Out/Youthwork Expenses	£0.00			£0.00	£438.16
Miscellaneous	£66.31			£66.31	£102.10
PA Note 6	£600.00	£999.00		£1,599.00	£0.00
Equipment Note 6	£300.00	£126.54		£426.54	£641.78
People in Need Note 6	£933.87			£933.87	£1,876.64
Keep Cups	£152.90			£152.90	£0.00
Funeral Fees	£1,552.00			£1,552.00	£1,025.00
Wedding Fees	£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Parish Mission	£870.81			£870.81	£964.40
C&F Ministry Midweek	£83.13			£83.13	£78.94
C&F Gforce+	£0.00			£0.00	£92.46
C&F First Roots	£9.23			£9.23	£81.13
C&F GForce	£151.66			£151.66	£90.67
C&F GForce takeaway	£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
C&F Schools	£171.16			£171.16	£127.72
Brinkley Grove Chaplaincy New	£45.08			£45.08	£0.00
Vicarage Office Redecoration	£600.00			£600.00	£0.00
Church activities outside the parish					
Diocesan Parish Share	£55,814.28	£0.00		£55,814.28	£54,256.92
Mission & Mercy	£7,205.16	£0.00		£7,205.16	£6,540.16
Special collections Note 7.1			£10,262.13	£10,262.13	£13,273.09
Members' Mission	£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Church Weekend - Assington	£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Church Weekend - Birch Hall Note 5	£2,083.90			£2,083.90	£2,248.86
Youth Events Note 5	£1,266.75			£1,266.75	£0.00
Cost of Generating Funds	£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£97,914.48	£1,125.54	£46,632.07	£145,672.09	£142,848.42
Revenue Surplus/(Deficit) for the period	-£449.32	£8,874.46	£3,983.61	£12,408.75	-£2,326.98
Transfer between funds	-£465.86	£1,556.64	-£1,090.78	£0.00	£0.00
Adjusted Surplus/(Deficit) for the period	-£915.18	£10,431.10	£2,892.83	£12,408.75	-£2,326.98
Unrestricted Funds Designated Funds Restricted Funds TOTAL					
Cash at bank and in hand at 31-Dec-23	£24,430.47	£18,643.62	£22,448.46	£65,522.55	
Adjusted Surplus/(Deficit) for the period	-£915.18	£10,431.10	£2,892.83	£12,408.75	
Cash at bank and in hand at 31-Dec-24	£23,515.29	£29,074.72	£25,341.29	£77,931.30	

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL
Assets				
Cash Funds (First Steps)	£0.00		£10.00	£10.00
Cash Funds (St Mark's Family Breakfasts)	£0.00		£68.59	£68.59
Bank Current Account	£5,436.31			£5,436.31
Bank Giving Account	£7,206.94			£7,206.94
Bank Reserve Account	£12,059.95	£29,074.72	£25,262.70	£66,397.37
Other monetary assets	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Total Assets	£24,703.20	£29,074.72	£25,341.29	£79,119.21
Liabilities				
Colchester Deanery	£1,187.91		£0.00	£1,187.91
Total Liabilities	£1,187.91	£0.00	£0.00	£1,187.91
Net Total Assets	£23,515.29	£29,074.72	£25,341.29	£77,931.30

Notes

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis overall. As an exception, the costs for PAYE, Employee NI, Employer NI and NEST Pension payments are accounted for on an accrued basis, in order to account for these liabilities in the period incurred (and to reconcile with our SAGE Payroll and SAGE accounting records). Similarly Statutory Maternity Pay to be reclaimed from HMRC is also accounted for on an accrued basis, in order to ensure the overall Parish financial reserves are not materially mis-represented.
- The following assets are recognised but not necessarily included in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities: moveable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on trust for the PCC which would require a faculty for disposal.
- The expenses paid to clergy may include a small immaterial proportion which relates to their function as PCC members. No other payments were made to PCC members.
- St Lukes PCC is the majority shareholder in Highwoods Community Interest Company, holding 91.3% of the share capital as at 31 December 2024. It is considered that there is no current market value for the shares.

5 Activities to generate funds	Receipts	Payments	Profit/Loss
Church Weekend (Ticket Sales)	£2,083.90	£2,083.90	£0.00
Youth Events	£1,266.75	£1,266.75	£0.00
Total	£3,350.65	£3,350.65	£0.00

6 SUMMARY OF FUNDS HELD	B/Fwd Jan 24	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	C/Fwd Dec 24
Unrestricted Funds					
General Fund	£24,430.47	£107,465.16	£97,914.48	£1,090.78	
General Fund to PIN				£1,238.32	
General Fund to Equipment				£318.32	
Total Unrestricted Funds	£24,430.47	£107,465.16	£97,914.48	£465.86	£33,515.29
Designated Funds					
People in Need (capped at £5,000)	£3,761.68		£0.00	£1,238.32	£5,000.00
Equipment (capped at £900)	£708.22		£126.54	£318.32	£900.00
PA	£2,555.72		£999.00	£0.00	£1,556.72
Parish Share	£10,418.00		£0.00	£0.00	£10,418.00
Oak Tree	£1,200.00			£0.00	£1,200.00
Total Designated Funds	£18,643.62	£0.00	£1,125.54	£1,556.64	£19,074.72

7.1 Restricted Funds - Special Collections

Uganda Fund	£3,013.71	£9,097.50	£9,043.00		£3,068.21
Community Coffee House	£6,417.69	£867.33	£700.00		£6,585.02
Munch Fund / Forest Church	£1,869.81	£0.00	£127.97		£1,741.84
Church Weekend Donations	£12.44	£794.88	£391.16		£416.16
Total Special Collections	£11,313.65	£10,759.71	£10,262.13	£0.00	£11,811.23

7.2 Restricted Funds - Donations and Grants

GForce Club Night/G Force+	£148.64	£0.00	£67.96		£80.68
PCC Away Day	£0.00	£959.58	£959.58		£0.00
Breakout	£23.40	£0.00	£0.00	£23.40	£0.00
Lockdown Support Fund	£30.08	£0.00	£0.00	£30.08	£0.00
Children's & Families SDF	£0.00	£17,650.70	£17,650.70	£0.00	£0.00
Highwoods Foodbank	£1,023.60	£1,938.51	£1,297.94	£0.00	£1,664.17
Easter Egg Hunt	£1.30	£186.74	£185.00		£3.04
Parish Christingle	£24.18	£0.00	£0.00		£24.18
Christmas Boxes	£40.26	£369.89	£383.66		£40.26
Church Birthday	£35.34	£0.00	£0.00		£35.34
Families, Faith & Fun	£69.43	£0.00	£69.43		£0.00
St Mark's Church Planting Fund	£7,420.67	£0.00	£682.14		£6,738.53
Diocese Church Plant Expenses	£147.11	£1,261.43	£1,114.32		£0.00
Diocese Plant Development Costs	£450.00	£3,384.00	£2,934.00		£0.00
St Mark's Church Family Breakfasts	£73.64	£823.00	£828.05		£68.59
PA	£0.00	£250.00	£250.00		£0.00
Men Behaving Boldly	£1,308.09	£0.00	£0.00		£1,308.09
People in Need	£0.00	£1,500.00	£1,530.08	£30.08	£0.00
Pioneer Ministry Expenses Grant	£325.84	£4,964.23	£4,964.23	£325.84	£0.00
Solid/Youth Events Fund	£792.59	£512.71	£297.63		£1,007.67
United Church	£0.00	£265.41	£0.00	£325.84	£591.25
Youthwork Fund	£99.85	£525.00	£0.00	£1,073.40	£1,698.25
Youthworker Fund	£273.16	£3,205.00	£1,337.38	£2,140.78	£0.00
Sub Total Donations and Grants	£11,012.44	£37,796.20	£34,552.10	£1,090.78	£13,165.76
First Steps	£122.37	£2,059.77	£1,817.84		£364.30
Total Donations and Grants	£11,134.81	£39,855.97	£36,369.94	£1,090.78	£13,530.06

8 Funds Summary	B/Fwd Jan 24	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	C/Pwd Dec 24
Total Special Collections	£11,313.65	£10,759.71	£10,262.13	£0.00	£11,811.23
Total Donations and Grants	£11,134.81	£39,855.97	£36,369.94	-£1,090.78	£13,530.06
SubTotal Restricted Funds	£22,448.46	£50,615.68	£46,632.07	-£1,090.78	£25,341.29
Total Unrestricted Funds	£24,430.47	£107,465.16	£97,914.48	-£465.86	£33,515.29
Total Designated Funds	£18,643.62	£0.00	£1,125.54	£1,556.64	£19,074.72
Total Funds	£65,522.55	£158,080.84	£145,672.09	£0.00	£77,931.30

Approved by the PCC on 14/5/2025 and signed on their behalf by:

H. COOPER Position Priest in charge

Laurie Position CHURCH WARDEN



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Luke,
Colchester

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1159205

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above
charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2024.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the
accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011
("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out
under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I
have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission
under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have
come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me
cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130
of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements
concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities
(Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement
that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter
considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed:

S R Hilliard

Date:

14 May 2025

Name:

Simone Hilliard

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

FCCA

Address:

17 Totham Hill Green

Great Totham, Maldon

CM9 8DX

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

None

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF ST LUKE, COLCHESTER**

STATEMENT OF PCC RESPONSIBILITIES

The PCC are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the PCC for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The PCC are responsible for keeping accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the PCC and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the PCC and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF
ST LUKE, COLCHESTER**

Registered Charity Number 1159205

Additional notes to the Financial Statements for the period ending 31st December
2024

Accounting Policies

As stated, these financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, using the Receipts & Payments (i.e. Cash) basis, including any uncleared bank payments made.

These accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of any church groups or activities that owe their major affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds – General & Designated

General Funds represent the funds of the St Luke's PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use, and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Designated Funds represent the funds that have been designated for a particular purpose by the PCC, but these funds are also unrestricted regards their usage. St Luke's currently operates five designated funds as follows:

People In Need Fund, where the PCC allocated £100 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC as and when individual situations of serious personal need arise –the fund is currently capped at £5000.

PA Fund, where the PCC allocated £50 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC to invest in new or replacement PA equipment.

Equipment Fund, where the PCC allocated £50 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC to invest in new or replacement general equipment – the fund is currently capped at £900.

Parish Share, where the PCC previously allocated £500.00 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC to support expected future increases in our Parish Share.

Oak Tree, where the PCC allocated £300 per month from September 2022 until December 2022 to assist the working capital requirements of The Oak Tree Coffee House if needed.

Funds - Restricted

Restricted funds are those funds that must be spent on restricted purposes. St Luke's PCC currently operates restricted funds as follows:

Uganda Fund - whereby these funds have either been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the activities of the Nsambya Full Gospel Mission Church and/or Children's School(s) and Orphanage(s) in Kampala, Uganda.

Community Coffee House - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Oak Tree Community Coffee House.

Munch Fund/Forest Church - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the work of the Munch Initiative and Forest Church.

Church Weekend Donations - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Parish weekend away.

Gforce Club Night - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the GForce Children's Ministry.

PCC Away Day - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the PCC Away Day.

Breakout - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Breakout Youth Ministry.

Lockdown Support Fund - whereby these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of providing food parcels to families in need within our parish.

Children & Families SDF - whereby these grant funds have been raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Children & Families Minister.

Highwoods Foodbank - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of establishing and supporting a foodbank on Highwoods.

Easter Egg Hunt - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the Children's Ministry Easter Egg Hunt.

Parish Christingle - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the Parish Christingle.

Christmas Boxes - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the Christmas Boxes providing Christmas gifts.

Church Birthday - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the St Luke's Church 30th birthday celebration.

Families, Faith and Fun - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Families, Faith and Fun service.

St Mark's Church Planting Fund - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the new Church Plant – now known as St Mark's.

Diocese Church Plant Expenses - whereby these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of supporting the Church Plant Expenses

Diocese Plant Development Costs - whereby these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of supporting the Church Plant Development Costs

St Mark's Church Family Breakfasts - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the St Mark's Church Family Breakfasts.

Men Behaving Boldly - where these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Men Behaving Boldly Missional Community.

PA - where these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the church PA requirements.

People in Need - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting people in need within our parish.

Pioneer Ministry Expenses Grant - whereby these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of supporting the Pioneer Ministry Expenses.

Solid Fund - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Children and Youth Ministry trip to the Solid Event.

Youthwork Fund - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the youthwork within the parish.

Youthworker Fund - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the employment of a Youthworker by St Luke's PCC.

First Steps - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the First Steps Group.

Receipts (Incoming Resources)

Planning Giving receipts and Collections & Other Giving receipts are both recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Income tax recovered (under Gift Aid) is also recognised only when received.

Income that is raised by any special events is accounted for gross, with any associated expenses being separately identified and disclosed - these are included under Note 5.

All other Income is also recognised only when received.

Expenditures (Resources Used)

Diocesan Quota - The Diocesan Quota or Parish Share is accounted for only when paid, but with any amounts still unpaid as at the 31st December being provided for as an operational liability, and shown as a Creditor in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

There is no outstanding amount payable with relation to the 2024 St Luke's Parish Share as at 31st December 2024.

Employment Costs - Salaries and associated PAYE and National Insurance costs payable to HMRC are accounted for only when paid, but with any amounts still unpaid as at 31st December being provided for as an operational liability, and shown as a Creditor in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

There are no amounts outstanding as at 31st December 2024.

Grants/Donations - Grants and donations made by the PCC are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded if the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

There are no such outstanding binding awards as at 31st December 2024.

Other Expense Items - All other expenditures are accounted for only when paid, unless any particular expense item incurred but not paid represents a material operational liability as at 31st December, and thus shown as a Creditor in the Balance Sheet.

Fixed Assets

Church Furnishings - Moveable Church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property, and are listed in the Church's Inventory.

For inalienable property that was already in existence as at the 1st October 2012, there is insufficient cost information available (such assets having been originally acquired by St John's PCC, Colchester), and thus are not valued in these accounts.

There have been no such items acquired in the period 1 January 2024 – 31st December 2024.

PA Equipment, Office Equipment & other Sundry Assets - Individual items with a purchase price of less than £1,500 are expensed in full at the time of original purchase.

Investments

General Investments – General investments held are valued at Market value as at 31st December 2024.

There are no general investments held as at 31st December 2024.

Subsidiary Companies – Investments in Subsidiary Companies are stated at cost less any provision necessary for permanent diminution in value.

St Luke's PCC holds 91.3% of the ordinary share equity of the Highwoods Community Interest Company (HCIC)

The PCC considers that the investment in HCIC has no realisable value at present and thus, whilst noted, is not shown as an asset within the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Current Assets

No debtor amounts are shown in respect of any fees or other amounts due at 31st December, as all income is accounted for only when received and there are no material amounts outstanding as at 31st December 2024.

End

Accounts



The Church of England in Highwoods
Two Churches. One Family.

St Luke's Church
Highwoods



ST MARK'S
COLCHESTER

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2023

Incumbent:

Revd Hannah Cooper

Bank:

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ

Registered Charity no:

1159205

Independent Examiner:

Simone Hilliard

Auditor and Accountant Simone Hilliard FCCA 17 Totham Hill Green Great Totham Maldon CM9 8DX

Welcome to our 2023 Annual Report

Dear Church Member

I really enjoy the process of creating the yearly annual report (despite being an admin task!) It is a great opportunity to look backwards and review what happened in the previous year, although it is a little strange to be thinking about 2023 in the middle of 2024. Please note that the reports only refer to what happened during 2023 and not what has happened in the first part of 2024. It's a little bit like Skiing, when you get to the bottom of a mountain, it's great to look back up and see how far you have come. This is our third time of creating an APCM which gives an overview of two churches located in the one parish of Highwoods.

Last year I shared this bible verse at our APCM

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 hand.'

The truth of this bible verse has held us well. I feel like both St. Luke's and St. Mark's have been upheld and strengthened by God, and that many of our individual members have grown in strength and ability.

Last year at our APCM we also said goodbye to the Smith family, this has been a huge change for St. Mark's and the second half of 2023 has been challenging. Wrestling with the question of leadership, of vision and our building venue. I'm pleased to say that it feels like St. Mark's is moving out of this more challenging time into a new season. An exciting season where God is on the move.

I think we have grown stronger as one parish, the pain of separation and feeling of separateness I hope has reduced and we are working well together as two churches, one parish.

Thank you to each and every member that has journeyed and worked to create two healthy churches and one parish.

Please do keep reading this report.

Hannah

Parish Report

Parish Weekend Away

In 2023, we moved our parish weekend away to a new venue, that is able to cater for a larger group of people. Birch Hall Adventure Centre was a great success, we were blessed to be led by Mones and Sally, who brought brilliant teaching, and hands on holy spirit experience. I'm really grateful for the opportunity for both churches to come together and do something different. Spending time together and building relationships is a key part of seeing our parish grow together and flourish.

Food bank

In October 2022 we opened the Highwoods satellite Food bank. This is a parish opportunity and it has been great to have volunteers from both St. Luke's and St. Mark's. The food bank runs every Monday in the blue bell centre community room, it is fully supported by the Main foodbank located at Tollgate, Stanway. During 2023 we opened every Monday from 9-11am. We are still hoping to eventually expand into opening twice a week, but that will be funding and volunteer dependant. It has been a great privilege to continue working with those in great need within Highwoods. In Jan 2024 we moved sites to the Ark Methodist Church, to allow for a larger storage area and more flexibility in timing and dates, we now run 9.30 -11.30 every Monday.

Children's and Families work

Karen, our Children's and families worker has continued to grow the ministry and make further connections with the community. In February this year, Brinkley Grove Primary School opened its doors for a Chaplain and a Chaplaincy Team to support the school. Every Tuesday (with members from St Marks) we visit the school to offer pastoral support, playground pastoring and Spiritual development. The school have been extremely welcoming and we hope to be running our first faith-based lunch club very soon! Our lunch time club at Highwoods is still ongoing and both schools are very open to RE workshops, BOUNCE (CYO Yr 6 transition course) and a Prayer Space in each!! Our weekly toddler group is thriving and has been a real blessing to those that attend. Our toddler group chaplains are really valued and its great being such a visual presence in the community supporting families when they really need it. Our monthly Family Service has gone outdoors as we now meet in the local country park. With a qualified forest schools leader, we are able to make fires and utilise resources we may not necessarily have. We've a nice mix of church to community families attending this monthly.

Mission and Mercy 2023

Our Parish PCC and Finance Team oversee our finances. As a parish we give away 10% of everything that is given to the parish. There is a subcommittee commissioned by the PCC to choose who and how we give our money away. They bring their recommendations to the PCC, and the PCC gives authorisation for the money to spent. I am really grateful to the giving group for faithfully meeting, praying and deciding how to give away our money.

United Church

The Hayward family moved to Colchester in 2019 in order to plant a brand new church on Kingswood Heath estate (next to the football stadium), and launched United church online and in their home in 2020. In 2022, they came under the umbrella of St Luke's church, and continued meeting in their home and in Colchester Sports park where they host Messy church, and in 2024, United church began regular meetings in Colchester Sports park fortnightly on Sunday afternoons. United church benefits from the oversight and accountability offered by St Luke's PCC, especially where finances, risk assessments and safeguarding are concerned, but would also like to say how important it has been to be welcomed, valued and recognised by the whole of St Lukes and St Mark's churches. It is really important to Sarah, Tim and their three children, to have a place where they can share ministry stories and celebrate what God is doing with other Christians through testimony, fellowship and prayer. This support is absolutely invaluable to pioneer ministers, so please do keep chatting with them and giving them space to share whenever you see them in St Lukes (and when they aren't here, they are not abandoning us, but busy working in their own pioneering context).

St Luke's Church Highwoods



As is usual for St. Luke's Jan 2023 began with a significant preaching sermon series. In 2022 it was Nehemiah was the bible story and the theme was rebuilding the walls. In 2023 we focused at Isaiah 61 and we asked these questions: Who is He? Who are we? What is our story? And what is next?

We continued to wrestle with these questions throughout 2023. The theme of being connected to our community shone through and has moved into 2024 too. We also noticed that all the pain of we saw outside that church, was also present inside the church and a more intentional support has been ploughed back into our pastoral care team. I am really grateful to Alan and Jenny Wright for stepping up to lead and co-ordinate our pastoral care team.

At the end of Jan 2023 we said a sad farewell to Revd. Lisselle as she moved on to explore living in Christian community in the South of the UK.

During 2023 we welcomed Sammy, our youth worker back from maternity leave but unfortunately Sammy was soon signed off sick, which eventually led to Sammy resigning in Feb 2024. In the interim, Janine Wilde wonderfully held our youth until we said goodbye to the Wilde Family in the summer of 2023. Since then a really good volunteer team have held our youth beautifully. I have loved the re-introduction of youth ministry Sundays.

Our discipleship groups have continued to play a large role in 2023. I have loved hearing how so many people have spoken so highly of their discipleship groups, and the support that has been given through this groups, finding new and innovative ways to stay connected, pray for each other and grow in faith. If you haven't yet found a home in a discipleship group yet, then please do get in contact with me (Hannah).

For many years we have supported the work of Nsambya School, Orphanage and Clinic in Kampala. There are many in the congregation who sponsor individual children and more recently, following our visit in 2019, we have developed additional Hardship Funding which provides general support to any child within the school and a Teacher Fund, providing training and resources for the staff. Uganda hasn't been a project we have been able to develop, but following Stef and Jennifer's visit in 2023 we are hoping to develop it further in 2024. We would love to provide additional support to the school. Please speak to Hannah, Jennifer Greenley, Jo Russell or Stef Jones if you would like more information.

Colchester Deaf Church continues to meet monthly at the Oak Tree Coffee House. The members love being able to worship God in sign language and to learn from the Bible of God's love for them. During 2023, we were able to join with other Deaf Christians across the diocese for a retreat day in Lent at Pleshey and to celebrate Christmas at our annual service when Deaf children from across Essex take part in the service in the cathedral. Diana continues to go to the Deaf lunch club to build relationships. Please pray for her as she continues with language study to be able to best communicate with the Deaf people she meets.

Our vision at St. Luke's is summarised by the phrase:

Rooted in the Father's love

Growing in the power of the Spirit

Reaching out with the love of Jesus

I am looking forward to seeing how this continues to play out within 2024 and beyond.



St. Mark's continued into 2023 following our vision from 2022 of 'not just for Sundays' and for 'Every member to be a shining light in mission, fuelled by ministry and discipleship.' Many of the things that started in 2022 continued into 2023, which for a young and fragile church plant is really great news.

The BIG BREAKFAST which started in 2022 has continued to be a valued gathering every month. A great place to be church family together and invite those outside of the church to attend.

Again we marked Good Friday with a time of reflection and prayer in Pencil Park (next to Rawlings Crescent). It was a lovely occasion to meet and really good to be a presence out in our community.

In May we had a very sad moment when we said Goodbye to the Smith family as they moved on to Chris' new appointment at Christ Church and St. Botolph's. When Chris and I began to plan the planting of St. Mark's many years ago, we knew at some point that he would eventually have to move on. Initially he was appointed as curate for 3 years – we managed to hold on to him for longer than usual, but at just shy of 5 years we had to say goodbye. Saying goodbye is never easy but it's particularly different when our church plant was so young and fragile.

As Chris moved on, I (Hannah) took leadership of St. Mark's alongside the brilliant MLT of St Mark's, this wasn't an easy season, as leadership changed in ways we hadn't been able to plan for this was difficult. No one particularly likes change and we were also mourning the loss of Chris, Emma and their children. It was really helpful to expand the MLT and include Stef Jones and Colin Smith. There was a continued question over our building. When we first planted into Brinkley, this was a temporary move while we waited for the St. Mark's community building to be built. Unfortunately, this new community building has been significantly delayed, which caused more uncertainty. We also said goodbye to a few significant members of St. Mark's. While this season was hard and difficult, there were many highs as well.

It was great to welcome Revd. Charley Day as curate to both St. Luke's and St. Mark's in July. In November we celebrated St. Mark's 3rd birthday with Cake Sunday and a St. Mark's lunch at the Oak Tree. We relooked at our vision and what are the best things we love about St. Mark's.

Christmas, was a great success for St. Mark's the relationship with Brinkley grove primary school has really increased and developed, which meant we were able to give out an invitation to church for every child combined with a candy cane, and we were also able to give away St. Mark's wooden angels to all the members of staff. We were also able to give away 10 blessing boxes to families that were struggling at Brinkley Grove Primary School.

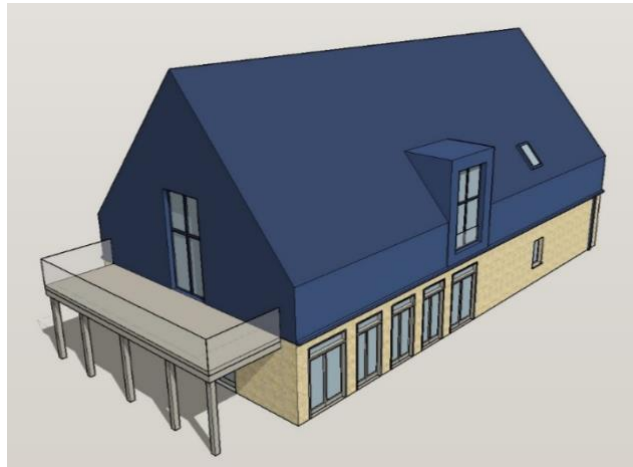
St. Mark's Christmas meal was again a great success and really lovely to meet in the Rover's Tye and leave them a gift of a St. Mark's wooden angel. We again witnessed to our local community with carol singing, mince pies and mulled wine on Pencil Park.

I am encouraged that through out 2023 many different people choose to step out of their comfort zones and try something different, from preaching, to leading the service, or prayers. St. mark's is a place where members are regularly looking to step out in faith and try something new.

**We are a joyful and friendly church where everybody is welcome 'just as you are'
to be part of the St Mark's family; a family where everybody is valued.
We aim to love without judgment, to serve without status,
and to see everyone transformed by God's love and truth.**

St Mark's

Community Centre



You will probably already know previously a small group of us have worked hard to help progress the St. Mark's community centre. We still have a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation), and a two of these trustees met a number of times with staff from the council concerning how the centre was to progress. 2023 was a year of highs and lows, at certain points it looked like the community centre would come back on track... Unfortunately, despite these few meetings no movement forwards has occurred and at the end of the 2023 the council announced it would not be able to finance this community centre venture.

It may seem that this is totally dead in the water, however we are looking to see if there might be another opportunity, in using the land, and funding the building with charitable funds instead of the council funds might be possible.

There is no guarantee this will be possible, but I do know if this is something that God wants to happen, with prayer, petition and perseverance it can be achieved. It is a shame it has not come about in the way in which we were hoping.

Note: St Mark's Community Centre Charitable Incorporated Organisation was formed in 2020 with 4 trustees representing the Parish of St Luke's, 2 trustees representing Highwoods Ward Council and 1 trustee representing Myland Community Council.



2023 has been yet another unusual trading year. It began slowly in Jan and trade gradually increased to levels similar to those before covid. Later in the year, Harris and Hole, the coffee shop in Tesco's closed and there was a period of refurbishment from September – November, with Tesco's own café opening in late November. This was an amazing blessing for the Oak Tree, as customer numbers and takings broke all previous records and meant that the Oak Tree has for the first time in a long time made a profit at the end of the year. We are incredibly grateful to our team at the Oak Tree who held the fort beautifully despite many incredibly busy and demanding shifts.

The Oak Tree Chaplains continue to serve the Oak Tree on a Wednesday morning to sit and chat with our customers and team.

An SOS team has been established at the Oak Tree during 2023, this is a Whatsapp group of helpful, and potentially available people who are happy to be on standby if extra help is needed for serving during the day. This can be to help cover absences or to help with a busy period of trade. If anyone would like to join this Whatsapp group please do speak to Lorraine Mann, or Karen our wonderful manger in the Oak Tree. Training is provided.

For more information you would be welcome to join the Oak Tree Coffee House's AGM taking place on Tuesday 11th June at 7.30pm.

Please can I invite you to continue praying for our wonderful Oak Tree, God has blessed us with this asset and we continue to want to use it to bring his glory. God was and always is good, He is our stronghold and it is for Him that The Oak Tree Coffee House exists.

Hannah
Chair of Oak Tree Coffee House

Parish of St. Luke's Highwoods

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2023

Dear Church member,

We give a very warm invitation to share in our APCM and look forward to seeing you.

AGENDA

Opening prayer & Worship

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Choosing of Churchwardens (2 for 1 year)**

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. Elections

Elections for Parochial Church Council

Reports

- 2. Apologies for absence**
- 3. Approval of minutes of 2022 APCM**
- 4. Matters arising**
- 5. Administrative Reports**

- a. Presentation of Electoral Roll**
- b. Financial Report**
- c. Church Property Report**
- d. Safeguarding Report**
- e. PCC report**
- f. Deanery Synod Report**

- 6. St Luke's report**
- 7. St Mark's Report**
- 8. Appointment**

- a. Independent Examiner for 2024**

- 9. Vision: Revd. Hannah Cooper**
- 10. Any other business – please email 24 hours in advance**

Blessing and Prayer

Parish of St Luke's Colchester – PCC Report for 2023

Introduction

St Luke's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent in promoting within the parish, the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It oversees and directs the mission and work of the church of St Luke's, Colchester, meeting at St John's & Highwoods Community Centre on Highwoods and St. Mark's meeting at Brinkley Grove Primary School. The report of the PCC which follows, along with the two church reports, illustrate how the PCC fulfils its obligations to benefit the public ~ mainly to the worshipping congregation and to the local community, but also beyond.

PCC Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Priest in Charge: The Revd. Hannah Cooper

Curate: Revd Chris. Smith (Until June 2023)

Curate: Revd Charley Day (From July 2023)

Curate: Revd Anna Davis (From May 2023)

Pioneer Priest : Revd. Sarah Hayward

Associate Priest: Revd. Paul Mann

PCC Elected Members

Church Wardens

Adrian Jones

Lynne Gettings

Ian Duthie

Julia Thomas

Stuart Angier

Sarah Adcock

Anne Mayne

Moji Edun

Ryan Huttley

Mark Harris

PCC Treasurer

Colin Smith

Licensed Lay Ministers

Diana Benge-Abbott

Hugh Thomas

Deanery Synod Representatives

Adrian Jones

Hugh Thomas

Lynne Gettings

Standing Committee

Hannah Cooper

Lynne Gettings

Stuart Angier

Mark Haris

Adrian Jones

Colin Smith

PCC Committees

The PCC operates through a number of groups, which meet between the full meetings of the PCC:

Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to the directions given by the Council.

Finance Group

The general financial dimension of the work of St Luke's is accomplished by monitoring income and expenditure, setting budgets, maintaining financial controls and co-ordinating the annual accounts. This work is overseen on the PCC's behalf by the Finance Group, led by the PCC Treasurer.

Mission and Mercy Giving Away

The Mission and Mercy budget is apportioned to support mission and charities at home and abroad including regular reviews of the 'agencies' to which St Luke's PCC gives.

Ministry Leadership Team's

Both St. Luke's and St. Mark's have an Ministry Leadership Team, that meet regularly to work out the operational, pastoral and missional objectives of both churches.

Church Attendance

After the annual update of the Electoral Roll in 2023 there were 131 people on the Roll, 64 of these being resident in the parish, 67 being non-resident.

The average weekly attendance for our main morning service, counted during October 2023 for St. Luke's was 82 people and For St Mark's was 25 people. During the whole of 2023 there were 1 Baptisms and no Thanksgivings. There were 3 Funerals.

Church Property Report

No additional items were purchased over the course of 2023

Safeguarding Report

Members of the Safeguarding Team in 2023:

Rev Hannah Cooper, Rev Chris Smith (until June 2003), Karen Cakebread – Children & Families Worker, Sammy Huttley - Youthworker , Hugh Thomas – Licensed Lay Minister , Stef Jones – Administrator/Lead DBS Recruiter, Lynne Gettings – Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO), Janet Jones – Assistant PSO (St Mark's)

The Safeguarding Team met twice in 2023.

The main focus of the work during 2023 was to put in place a safer recruitment process for our volunteers that was constant across the parish and we now have a central safer recruitment record.

Our priority for 2024 is ensuring all volunteers completed the necessary safe guarding training.

Over the course of the year the safeguarding team was involved in safeguarding training led by the diocese. Following completion, certificates are shared with the Parish Administrator. The nature of the training has been dependent upon roles in the church. Examples of safeguarding training have included: Safer recruitment, Compressed Leadership, Basic & Foundation safe guarding, Leadership Training & Domestic abuse

Safeguarding is an agenda item at every PCC meeting. The PCC has due regard to guidance issued by the House of Bishops on matters relating to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. The PCC reviewed and adopted the safeguarding policy at their meeting in September. The policy and the annual review follows the guidance from the diocese. A copy of the policy and key contacts is on display in both Churches .

All members of PCC are now required to have completed the following safeguarding training: Basic & foundation safe Guarding & Domestic abuse.

The Parish Administrator holds a record of PCC safeguarding certificates. The PCC uses the guidance and information in the Church of England Parish Safeguarding Handbook. The Priest in Charge and PSO liaise with the diocesan safeguarding team for advice and where safeguarding concerns have been raised.

Many thanks to the many volunteers across the parish working with children, young people and vulnerable adults who have been involved in the safer recruitment process and safeguarding training. We are grateful for all you do to ensure our churches are a safe place.

PCC Review of the Year 2023

The PCC met 6 times during 2023.

The PCC Finance Group met as necessary and reported back to the PCC, via the Treasurer.

The PCC Standing Committee did not meet formally during 2022, but Standing Committee members made urgent decisions on behalf of the PCC by e- mail on number of occasions.

In 2023, St Luke's PCC sought to advance the Christian faith and benefit the community in the following ways:

- A daily presence in the centre of our community - The Oak Tree Coffee House is renowned for great coffee, local and fairtrade produce and most importantly a safe place for local people to congregate where they know they will always find a friendly face to speak with. (The Oak Tree Coffee House is established under a separate legal entity, Highwoods Community Interest Company, in which St Luke's PCC is the majority shareholder.)
- Weekly Sunday public worship in two locations, including activities for children and young people.
- Weekly/fortnightly midweek groups to connect people in friendship while also giving them the opportunity to grow in faith and support one another.
- Weekly parent and toddler group.
- Monthly 'Families, Faith and Fun' service for families with primary aged children.
- Providing an e-mail-based prayer service for church members and others to share needs and concerns with church members, who then pray for the situations shared.
- Supporting our local schools by offering assemblies, lessons, church visits and financial support.
- Supporting Colchester Foodbank, by starting Highwoods Satellite Foodbank - which provides emergency food parcels to families and individuals in crisis.
- Engaging in wider structures of the church, especially our Deanery and its Synod.
- Giving away 10% of our parish annual income to local, national and international charities and ministries.
- Running a child sponsorship scheme for children attending Nsambya School in Kampala, Uganda.

Annual Deanery Synod Report 2023

Lay representatives plus clergy from all the Anglican churches in the Colchester Deanery meet three times a year, to hear what's going on in the Diocese and nationally, and to discuss and share ideas about how we can work together more effectively across Colchester. Please find below a short report on the Deanery Synod Meetings held during 2023.

15th March 2023 – At St. Botolph's Church, St. Botolph's Street, Colchester, CO2

- Our speaker for this Synod was Karen Loring from Night Stop Essex, a charity run by Korban which aims to prevent homelessness in 16–24-year-old age group. Karen talked about the charity and the work that it does here in Colchester.
- This was also the last Synod meeting of the triennium and the last Synod Meeting that Canon Roger Ennals was to reside as Lay Chair, following his decision to step down after 15 years of service. Revd Erwin Lammens, Area Dean, extended Synod's thanks to Roger for his service, commitment, and friendship to the Deanery.
- A welcome was extended to our new Deanery Treasurer – Adrian Jones, whom Revd Erwin Lammens also thanked for agreeing to take on the role.

5th July 2023 – At St. Matthew's Church, Harwich Road Colchester

- Prior to the main Synod meeting an election for the new Lay Chair took place. A nomination had been received for Lynne Gettings (St. Luke's Church, Highwoods), proposed by Diane Benge-Abbot (St. Luke's, Highwoods) and seconded by Martin Roscoe (Greenstead with St. Anne). No further nominations were made from the floor on the evening and Lynne Gettings was duly elected as the new Lay Chair for the Deanery of Colchester by a unanimous vote, with no abstentions or objections.
- DSPC members from the Houses of Laity and Clergy were elected by postal vote.
- The main Synod meeting then took place. Our speaker for this Synod was Beccy Hills, Diocesan Parish Giving Advisor for the Diocese of Chelmsford. Beccy spoke about her role and also gave an overview of the Parish Giving Scheme. Beccy also informed Synod that the Chelmsford Diocese are making a £1.25million investment in supporting the rollout and adoption of contactless financial giving by bank card, with the aim of having this in place in 2000 churches by the end of 2024.

12th October 2023 – St. Leonards Church, Lexden, Colchester

- Our speaker for this Synod was Revd Canon Pauline Scott who spoke about the Tendring Border Colchester Garden Community – a major new development which will be constructed in the area to the East of Colchester, between Colchester and Elmstead Market, comprising of between 7,500 and 9,000 homes.
- Following on from Revd Canon Pauline Scott's talk, there was a short introductory talk by Karen Clifton, the newly appointed Environmental Advocate for the Deanery of Colchester.

Minutes of St Luke's Church

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2023

Sunday 14th May 2023 7pm

St John's and Highwoods Community Centre

Opening Prayer & Worship

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

1. Welcome by Rev Hannah Cooper.

2. Election of Churchwardens (2 for 1 year)

Appointed:

Adrian Jones – proposed Mark Visagie, seconded Walter Haag
Lynne Gettings - proposed Ordella Sansford, seconded John Groslin

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING Elections for Parochial Church Council

1. Elections for PCC and Deanery Synod reps

Thanks to Ordella Sansford and Jennifer Greenley for their service on PCC.

Nominations for 3 PCC spaces:

Sarah Adcock - proposed Lynne Gettings seconded Karen Cakebread
Gavin Duthie - proposed Adrian Jones seconded Janet Jones
Moji Sola Olose - proposed Jennifer Greenley seconded Glenda Shereni

Nominations for 3 Deanery Synod reps:

Hugh Thomas -proposed Adrian Jones seconded Diana Benghe-Abbott
Lynne Gettings – proposed Karen Cakebread seconded Janine Wilde
Adrian Jones- proposed Ordella Sansford seconded John Groslin

Diana Benghe -Abbott was proposed to serve on PCC as the LLM position: proposed - Adrian Jones seconded Janine Wilde

Hannah led prayers for the appointees

Reports

2. Apologies for absence

Hugh and Julia Thomas

Tim Abbott
Graham Lewis

3. Approval of minutes of 2022 APCM

Formally approved. Proposed by Diana Benge- Abbott seconded by Charlie Day

4. Matters arising from last APCM

Michael Allen asked the question: Men Behaving Boldly - why is there an outstanding figure against it?

Hannah Cooper's reply: The money has not been spent. Mark and Hannah have decided to donate this to CVM and have a men's event with the rest, how much for each has yet to be decided.

On the **St Luke's report** Question about the attendance figure of 35 in October. Is that accurate?

Hannah Cooper's reply: This was incorrect as the figure should have been about 87. This year we will do the 2 churches separately.

5. Administrative Reports

a. Presentation of Electoral Roll - 141 Hannah thanked those who had signed up

b. Financial Report -no questions

c. Church Property Report - Hannah drew attention to the gift of a communion set to St Mark's church from All Saints Church Shrub End, for their 2nd birthday.

d. Safeguarding report – no questions

e. PCC Report -no questions

f. Deanery Synod Report- No questions

6. St Luke's report

No questions

7. St Mark's Report

Jenny McAlister asked what the funding gap was as it wasn't mentioned in the report – Answer given, about £1 million now.

8. Appointment

a. Independent Examiner for 2023

Sarah Large was appointed last year but is no longer able to do this, so a new one needs to be appointed. Hannah asked APCM if they gave permission for the PCC to choose a new independent examiner.

Proposed by Alan Wright seconded by Janine Wilde, APCM voted unanimously to give permission.

9. Vision: Revd. Hannah Cooper

Hannah reflected on the previous APCM where we were recovering from the effects of Covid. Then on the way forward for St Mark's Church and the transition on Chris leaving. Looking forward, we have the Parish Weekend away at the end of June -the theme is Being Transformed by the Holy Spirit. The speakers will be Mones and Sally. After the weekend, we will continue the theme as Hannah feels she is being challenged to do so much more with the Holy Spirit.

Hannah spoke about the Foobank. That she is now offering prayers for each client and shared some stories from that. Also prayers at Toddler group, for words and pictures for 5 different people with an amazing response.

Hannah prayed to ask the Holy spirit to encouraged us all to develop our spiritual gifts and to share pictures if we get them. For the Holy Spirit to challenge us to speak to others, to be bold and courageous. To use our spiritual gift.

10. Any other business

Church Wardens Lynne and Adrian thanked volunteers, our staff team (Karen, Sammy & Stef) & our clergy team (Hannah, Chris and Paul). Thanks to Janine for stepping in during Sammy's maternity leave. For all they do for us.

Lynne spoke about the St Luke's planting and how the prophecy about this has happened. She shared the verse:

2 Corinthians 4:7 "We have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us".

Thanks to all those involved in the St Mark's planting.

Lynne led prayers for all of this and allowed for open prayer. The following words were given to members of the congregation:

"St Mark's has been birthed, treasured and kept by God"

" Carry an easy yoke, for it's God's burden not yours. My yoke and burden is easy"

"God is a rich God, his resources is enough"

Lynne prayed committing St Luke's and St Mark's into God's care.

12. Blessing & Prayer - Hannah prayed and gave a closing Blessing.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm

Colchester St Luke's PCC

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year ended 31 Dec 2023

		Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	YTD TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2022
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary Receipts:						
Planned giving		£80,143.43			£80,143.43	£88,922.22
Stewardship		£1,115.00			£1,115.00	£600.00
Collections and other giving		£626.07			£626.07	£220.00
One off Gift		£1,250.00			£1,250.00	£1,899.99
Gift Aid Income Tax recovered		£18,091.93			£18,091.93	£19,805.04
Sub Total		£101,226.43	£0.00	£0.00	£101,226.43	£111,447.25
Other voluntary receipts						
Special collections	Note 7.1			£10,316.55	£10,316.55	£7,561.60
Donations & Grants (Restricted)	Note 7.2			£22,214.42	£22,214.42	£22,728.00
Receipts from activities for generating funds						
Fund raising events	Note 5	£2,296.86		£0.00	£2,296.86	£2,229.73
First Steps				£1,197.16	£1,197.16	£0.00
Receipts from Church activities						
Wedding fees		£156.00			£156.00	£96.00
Funeral fees		£1,085.00			£1,085.00	£460.00
Other Fees/Income	Note 5	£791.10	£0.00	£0.00	£791.10	£675.25
Receipts from investments						
Bank and deposit interest		£1,237.91			£1,237.91	£255.55
TOTAL RECEIPTS		£106,793.30	£0.00	£33,728.13	£140,521.43	£145,453.38
PAYMENTS						
Church activities inside the parish						
The Ministry		£2,884.96			£2,884.96	£2,707.13
Insurance	Paid in Oct	£581.44			£581.44	£574.08
Church Services Inc licence		£1,467.58			£1,467.58	£1,621.41
Donations and Grants	Note 7.2			£22,779.19	£22,779.19	£27,870.21
Hire of Buildings - Community Centre		£2,615.00			£2,615.00	£4,200.50
Hire of Buildings - Oak Tree		£434.12			£434.12	£713.29
HCIC Donations		£0.00			£0.00	£2,500.00
Training - Ministry & General		£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Training - C & F		£40.00			£40.00	£0.00
Training - Admin		£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Training - Youthworker		£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Office costs inc. Bank Charges		£1,008.72			£1,008.72	£1,440.92
Uganda Bank charges		£100.00			£100.00	£0.00
Software - Churchsuite		£631.00			£631.00	£546.00
Staff & Pension		£27,849.89		£0.00	£27,849.89	£26,608.92
Staff Adjustment (SMP offset error)		£0.00		£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Expenses - C & F		£257.24			£257.24	£254.71
Expenses - Admin		£300.00			£300.00	£325.00
Expenses - Youthworker		£61.25			£61.25	£190.26
Break Out/Youthwork Expenses		£438.16			£438.16	£178.51
Miscellaneous		£102.10			£102.10	£21.00
PA	Note 6	£0.00			£0.00	£117.16
Equipment	Note 6	£600.00	£41.78		£641.78	£38.98
People in Need	Note 6	£1,200.00	£676.64		£1,876.64	£267.60
Funeral Fees		£1,025.00			£1,025.00	£238.00
Wedding Fees		£0.00			£0.00	£48.00
Parish Mission		£964.40			£964.40	£1,020.44
C&F Ministry Midweek		£78.94			£78.94	£34.58
C&F Gforce+		£92.46			£92.46	£37.16
C&F First Roots		£81.13			£81.13	£23.54
C&F GForce		£90.67			£90.67	£129.54
C&F GForce takeaway		£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
C&F Schools		£127.72			£127.72	£81.39
Gilberd Chaplaincy		£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Church activities outside the parish						
Diocesan Parish Share		£54,256.92	£0.00		£54,256.92	£49,324.80
Mission & Mercy		£6,540.16	£0.00		£6,540.16	£8,195.12
Special collections	Note 7.1			£13,273.09	£13,273.09	£10,740.18
Members' Mission		£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Cost of Generating Funds	Note 5	£2,248.86			£2,248.86	£2,429.73
TOTAL PAYMENTS		£0.00	£106,077.72	£718.42	£36,052.28	£142,848.42
Revenue Surplus/(Deficit) for the period		£715.58	-£718.42	-£2,324.15	-£2,326.99	£2,975.22
Transfer between funds		-£600.00	£600.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Adjusted Surplus/(Deficit) for the period		£115.58	-£118.42	-£2,324.15	-£2,326.99	£2,975.22
Cash at bank and in hand at 31-Dec-22						
		Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL	
Cash at bank and in hand at	31-Dec-22	£24,314.89	£18,762.04	£24,772.61	£67,849.54	

Adjusted Surplus/(Deficit) for the period
Cash at bank and in hand at 31-Dec-23

£115.58	-£118.42	-£2,324.15	-£2,326.99
£24,430.47	£18,643.62	£22,448.46	£65,522.55

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL
Assets				
Cash Funds-collection	£0.00		£0.00	£0.00
Cash Funds (First Steps)	£0.00		£10.00	£10.00
Cash Funds (St Mark's Family Breakfasts)	£0.00		£73.64	£73.64
Bank Current Account	£4,290.36			£4,290.36
Bank Giving Account	£5,169.30			£5,169.30
Bank Reserve Account	£14,980.81	£18,643.62	£23,766.56	£57,353.53
Other monetary assets	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Total Assets	£24,430.47	£18,643.62	£23,850.20	£66,886.83
Liabilities				
Colchester Deanery	£0.00		£1,364.28	£1,364.28
Payments Issued not yet debited	£0.00			£0.00
Total Liabilities	£0.00	£0.00	£1,364.28	£1,364.28
Net Total Assets	£24,430.47	£18,643.62	£22,485.92	£65,522.55

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 overall. As an exception, the costs for PAYE, Employee NI, Employer NI and NEST Pension payments are accounted for on an accrued basis, in order to account for these liabilities in the period incurred (and to reconcile with our SAGE Payroll and SAGE accounting records). Similarly Statutory Maternity Pay to be reclaimed from HMRC is also accounted for on an accrued basis, in order to ensure the overall Parish financial reserves are not materially mis-represented.

2 The following assets are recognised but not necessarily included in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities: moveable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on trust for the PCC which would require a faculty for disposal.

3 The expenses paid to clergy may include a small immaterial proportion which relates to their function as PCC members. No other payments were made to PCC members.

4 St Lukes PCC is the majority shareholder in Highwoods Community Interest Company, holding 91.25% of the share capital as at 31 December 2023. It is considered that there is no current market value for the shares.

5 Activities to generate funds	Receipts	Payments	Profit/Loss
Church Weekend (Ticket Sales)	£2,248.86	£2,248.86	£0.00
Keep Cups	£48.00	£0.00	£48.00
Total	£2,296.86	£2,248.86	£48.00

6 SUMMARY OF FUNDS HELD	B/Fwd Jan 23	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	C/Fwd Dec 23
Unrestricted Funds					
General Fund	£24,314.89	£106,793.30	£106,077.72		
General Fund to YYAM				£0.00	
General Fund to PIN				£0.00	
General Fund to Equipment				£0.00	
General Fund to PA				-£600.00	
General Fund to Members Mission Fund				£0.00	
General Fund to Solid Fund				£0.00	
General Fund To Parish Share Fund				£0.00	
General Fund to Oak Tree				£0.00	
Keep Cup receipts to General				£0.00	
Total Unrestricted Funds	£24,314.89	£106,793.30	£106,077.72	-£600.00	£24,430.47
Designated Funds					
People In Need (capped at £5,000)	£4,438.32		£676.64	£0.00	£3,761.68
Equipment	£750.00		£41.78	£0.00	£708.22
PA	£1,955.72		£0.00	£600.00	£2,555.72
Parish Share	£10,418.00		£0.00	£0.00	£10,418.00
Oak Tree	£1,200.00			£0.00	£1,200.00
Total Designated Funds	£18,762.04	£0.00	£718.42	£600.00	£18,643.62

7.1 Restricted Funds - Special Collections

Uganda Fund	£2,812.21	£7,675.50	£7,474.00		£3,013.71
Community Coffee House	£9,308.08	£2,452.41	£5,342.80		£6,417.69
Munch Fund	£1,934.95	£0.00	£65.14		£1,869.81
Church Weekend Donations	£214.95	£188.64	£391.15		£12.44
Total Special Collections	£14,270.19	£10,316.55	£13,273.09	£0.00	£11,313.65

7.2 Restricted Funds - Donations and Grants

GForce Club Night	£148.64	£0.00	£0.00		£148.64
Breakout	£23.40	£0.00	£0.00		£23.40
Lockdown Support Fund	£30.08	£0.00	£0.00		£30.08
Highwoods Foodbank	£941.78	£222.88	£141.06	£0.00	£1,023.60
Easter Egg Hunt	£3.65	£177.65	£180.00		£1.30
Parish Christingle	£0.00	£24.18	£0.00		£24.18

Christmas Boxes	£0.00	£234.14	£274.40		-£40.26
Church Birthday	£35.34	£0.00	£0.00		£35.34
Families, Faith & Fun	£95.30	£84.40	£110.27		£69.43
St Mark's Church Planting Fund	£7,420.67	£0.00	£0.00		£7,420.67
Diocese Church Plant Expenses	£0.00	£1,811.48	£1,958.60		-£147.11
Diocese Plant Development Costs	£0.00	£4,140.00	£4,590.00		-£450.00
St Mark's Church Family Breakfasts	£39.00	£1,922.70	£1,888.08		£73.64
Men Behaving Boldly	£1,308.09	£0.00	£0.00		£1,308.09
People in Need	£0.00	£1,800.00	£1,800.00		£0.00
Pioneer Ministry Expenses Grant	£0.00	£1,897.21	£1,571.37		£325.84
Solid Fund	£0.00	£1,584.11	£791.52		£792.59
Youth Recovery Fund	£99.85	£0.00	£0.00		£99.85
Youthworker Fund SMP due	£0.00	£3,725.66	£0.00	-£3,725.66	£0.00
Youthworker Fund	£0.00	£4,590.00	£8,042.50	£3,725.66	£273.16
Sub Total-Donations and Grants	£10,145.80	£22,214.42	£21,347.78	£0.00	£11,012.44
First Steps	£356.62	£1,197.16	£1,431.41		£122.37
Total Donations and Grants	£10,502.42	£23,411.58	£22,779.19	£0.00	£11,134.81

8 Funds Summary	B/Fwd Jan 23	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	C/Fwd Dec 23
Total Special Collections	£14,270.19	£10,316.55	£13,273.09	£0.00	£11,313.65
Total Donations and Grants	£10,502.42	£23,411.58	£22,779.19	£0.00	£11,134.81
SubTotal Restricted Funds	£24,772.61	£33,728.13	£36,052.28	£0.00	£22,448.46
Total Unrestricted Funds	£24,314.89	£106,793.30	£106,077.72	-£600.00	£24,430.47
Total Designated Funds	£18,762.04	£0.00	£718.42	£600.00	£18,643.62
Total Funds	£67,849.54	£140,521.43	£142,848.42	£0.00	£65,522.55

Approved by the PCC on 11 MAY 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Lanning Position Church Warden

H. COOPER Position Priest in Charge

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Luke's Church Highwoods (charity number: 1159205)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

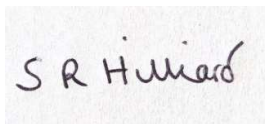
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "S R Hilliard", on a light-colored, slightly textured background.

Simone Hilliard FCCA
17 Totham Hill Green
Great Totham
Maldon
CM9 8DX

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF ST LUKE, COLCHESTER**

STATEMENT OF PCC RESPONSIBILITIES

The PCC are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the PCC for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The PCC are responsible for keeping accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the PCC and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the PCC and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF
ST LUKE, COLCHESTER**

Registered Charity Number 1159205

Additional notes to the Financial Statements for the period ending 31st December
2023

Accounting Policies

As stated, these financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, using the Receipts & Payments (i.e. Cash) basis, including any uncleared bank payments made.

These accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of any church groups or activities that owe their major affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds – General & Designated

General Funds represent the funds of the St Luke's PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use, and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Designated Funds represent the funds that have been designated for a particular purpose by the PCC, but these funds are also unrestricted regards their usage. St Luke's currently operates five designated funds as follows:

People In Need Fund, where the PCC allocated £100 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC as and when individual situations of serious personal need arise –the fund is currently capped at £5000.

PA Fund, where the PCC allocated £50 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC to invest in new or replacement PA equipment.

Equipment Fund, where the PCC allocated £50 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC to invest in new or replacement general equipment.

Parish Share, where the PCC previously allocated £500.00 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC to support expected future increases in our Parish Share.

Oak Tree, where the PCC allocated £300 per month from September 2022 until December 2022 to assist the working capital requirements of The Oak Tree Coffee House if needed.

Funds - Restricted

Restricted funds are those funds that must be spent on restricted purposes. St Luke's PCC currently operates restricted funds as follows:

Uganda Fund - whereby these funds have either been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the activities of the Nsambya Full Gospel Mission Church and/or Children's School(s) and Orphanage(s) in Kampala, Uganda.

Community Coffee House - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Oak Tree Community Coffee House.

Munch Fund - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the work of the Munch Initiative.

Church Weekend Donations - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Parish weekend away.

Gforce Club Night - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the GForce Children's Ministry.

Breakout - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Breakout Youth Ministry.

Lockdown Support Fund - whereby these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of providing food parcels to families in need within our parish.

Highwoods Foodbank - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of establishing and supporting a foodbank on Highwoods.

Easter Egg Hunt - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the Children's Ministry Easter Egg Hunt.

Parish Christingle - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the Parish Christingle.

Christmas Boxes - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the Christmas Boxes providing Christmas gifts.

Church Birthday - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the St Luke's Church 30th birthday celebration.

Families, Faith and Fun - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Families, Faith and Fun service.

St Mark's Church Planting Fund - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the new Church Plant – now known as St Mark's.

Diocese Church Plant Expenses - whereby these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of supporting the Church Plant Expenses

Diocese Plant Development Costs - whereby these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of supporting the Church Plant Development Costs

St Mark's Church Family Breakfasts - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the St Mark's Church Family Breakfasts.

Men Behaving Boldly - where these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Men Behaving Boldly Missional Community.

People in Need - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting people in need within our parish.

Pioneer Ministry Expenses Grant - whereby these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of supporting the Pioneer Ministry Expenses.

Solid Fund - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Children and Youth Ministry trip to the Solid Event.

Youth Recovery Fund - whereby these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of re-establishing the youthwork and supporting our young people after the pandemic.

Youthworker Fund SMP due – whereby the funds due from HMRC are specifically for the claim for the Statutory Maternity pay for the Youthworker.

Youthworker Fund - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the employment of a Youthworker by St Luke's PCC.

First Steps - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the First Steps Group.

Receipts (Incoming Resources)

Planning Giving receipts and Collections & Other Giving receipts are both recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Income tax recovered (under Gift Aid) is also recognised only when received.

Income that is raised by any special events is accounted for gross, with any associated expenses being separately identified and disclosed - these are included under Note 5.

All other Income is also recognised only when received.

Expenditures (Resources Used)

Diocesan Quota - The Diocesan Quota or Parish Share is accounted for only when paid, but with any amounts still unpaid as at the 31st December being provided for as an operational liability, and shown as a Creditor in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

There is no outstanding amount payable with relation to the 2023 St Luke's Parish Share as at 31st December 2023.

Employment Costs - Salaries and associated PAYE and National Insurance costs payable to HMRC are accounted for only when paid, but with any amounts still unpaid as at 31st December being provided for as an operational liability, and shown as a Creditor in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

There are no amounts outstanding as at 31st December 2023.

Grants/Donations - Grants and donations made by the PCC are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded if the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

There are no such outstanding binding awards as at 31st December 2023.

Other Expense Items - All other expenditures are accounted for only when paid, unless any particular expense item incurred but not paid represents a material operational liability as at 31st December, and thus shown as a Creditor in the Balance Sheet.

Fixed Assets

Church Furnishings - Moveable Church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property, and are listed in the Church's Inventory.

For inalienable property that was already in existence as at the 1st October 2012, there is insufficient cost information available (such assets having been originally acquired by St John's PCC, Colchester), and thus are not valued in these accounts.

There have been no such items acquired in the period 1 January 2023 – 31st December 2023.

PA Equipment, Office Equipment & other Sundry Assets - Individual items with a purchase price of less than £1,500 are expensed in full at the time of original purchase.

Investments

General Investments – General investments held are valued at Market value as at 31st December 2023.

There are no general investments held as at 31st December 2023.

Subsidiary Companies – Investments in Subsidiary Companies are stated at cost less any provision necessary for permanent diminution in value.

St Luke's PCC holds 91.25% of the ordinary share equity of the Highwoods Community Interest Company (HCIC)

The PCC considers that the investment in HCIC has no realisable value at present and thus, whilst noted, is not shown as an asset within the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Current Assets

No debtor amounts are shown in respect of any fees or other amounts due at 31st December, as all income is accounted for only when received and there are no material amounts outstanding as at 31st December 2023.

End

Accounts



The Church of England in Highwoods
Two Churches. One Family.

St Luke's Church
Highwoods 



Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2022

Incumbent:

Revd Hannah Cooper

Bank:

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ

Registered Charity no:

1159205

Independent Examiner:

Simone Hilliard

Auditor and Accountant Simone Hilliard FCCA 17 Totham Hill Green Great Totham Maldon CM9 8DX

Welcome to our 2022 Annual Report

Dear Church Member

I really enjoy the process of creating the yearly annual report (despite being an admin task!) It is a great opportunity to look backwards and review what happened in the previous year. It's a little bit like Skiing, when you get to the bottom of a mountain, it's great to look back up and see how far you have come. This is our second time of creating an APCM which gives an overview of two churches located in the one parish of Highwoods.

My welcome and review for the last couple of APCM reports have expressed the difficulties and tiredness of journeying through a global pandemic. This bible verse was used in both 2020 and 2021 annual review was

2 Corinthians 4:8-10

'We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.'

I'm pleased that, looking back on 2022, that bible verse doesn't feel it fits anymore. While 2022 still wasn't easy, it began to feel like an opportunity to begin to spread our wings and begin to flourish.

I googled the most shared and bookmarked bible verse for 2022 and it was this:

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 hand.'

I think over the course of 2022 we have seen the truth of this bible passage played out over our parish. We have no need to fear, we do not need to be dismayed for he is God and he has strengthened and helped us, he has upheld us with his righteous hand.

St Mark's grew from being a very fragile new start, to developing their identity and vision. New members who were not part of the original group from St. Luke's have joined St. Mark's. St Luke's acknowledged the pain of planting, and within that began to sense the moving of the spirit and a deepening of relationship and during 2022 St. Luke's began to grow again. As a parish we have become stronger at working together and demonstrating more of a family outlook, recognising points and seasons in the year where we can join together. St. Mark's inviting St. Luke's to worship with them on the first Sunday in January was an amazing way to kick off 2022. There is still work to be done and ways in which we can continue to develop together further, but I am incredibly proud of how each church has grown during 2022. Thank you to each and every member that has journeyed and worked to create two healthy churches and one parish.

Please do keep reading this report.

Hannah

Parish Report

Assington Weekend Away

During 2022 we were able to have our first parish weekend away at Assington, it was great to be do this again having paused for Covid. The opportunity to come together and worship as a parish in the beautiful setting of Assington was exactly what we needed. The weather was again kind to us and the Holy Spirit was on was the move. We focused on Creation Care, one of our parish areas of focus.

Food bank

In October 2022 I am really excited we finally opened the Highwoods satellite Food bank. This is a project that has been bubbly along for over 2 years and finally we got it started. A huge thank you to the community centre, and our local councillors who have helped to fund this great addition to the parish. This is a parish opportunity and it has been great to have volunteers from both St. Luke's and St. Mark's. The food bank runs every Monday in the blue bell centre community room, it is fully supported by the Main foodbank located at Tollgate, Stanway. Currently we open every Monday from 9-11am, we are hoping to eventually expand into opening twice a week, but that will be funding and volunteer dependant. It has been a great privilege to continue working with those in great need within Highwoods.

Mission and Mercy 2022

Our Parish PCC and Finance Team oversee our finances. As a parish we give away 10% of everything that is given to the parish. There is a subcommittee commissioned by the PCC to choose who and how we give our money away. They bring their recommendations to the PCC, and the PCC gives authorisation for the money to spent. I am really grateful to the giving group for faithfully meeting, praying and deciding how to give away our money. This is a list of all the charities we supported in 2022

St Luke's Mission & Mercy giving 2022

International

Ukraine	£929.96
Unicef	£400.00
Vision for China	£400.00
Tear Fund (General)	£400.00
Open Doors	£400.00
Friends International	£400.00

Local/Colchester

A ROCHA	£185.00
Good News for Everyone (Gilberd/Trinity Bibles)	£400.00
CAP Colchester	£560.04
Beacon House	£1,040.04
CYO	£2,080.08
Korban Project (Formerly Colchester Nightstop)	£470.00
Colchester Engagement (Night Shelter)	£300.00
Highwoods Foodbank	£230.00

TOTAL	£8,195.12
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St Luke's Church

Highwoods



Jan 2022 began at St. Luke's began with an important preaching sermon series, Nehemiah was the bible story and the theme was rebuilding the walls. We honestly looked at how we were feeling emerging out of the pandemic. Although we had planted St. Mark's over a year ago, the full enormity and grief wasn't really felt and acknowledged until this point. We began pressing in to what God wanted to say, and in expressing openly and honestly the sense of loss and grief, it really helped us to process and begin to heal.

In the summer it was time to say goodbye to our live streamed services, and focus on being together in person. Huge thanks to our tech team who took on the significant additional role during the pandemic.

In Oct 2022 St. Luke's celebrated our 30th Birthday in style, what a milestone in the life of church plant. It was great to worship together and be challenged afresh with a brilliant preach from Revd. Peter Cook, St. Luke's first vicar. It was really helpful to give a focus and question of what's next? Where is there fruit? And an encouragement to pray.

During 2022 we welcomed Sammy back from maternity leave, and said a huge thank you to Lisselle for holding a lot of the weight during her maternity leave. We also said goodbye again as Sammy started a second maternity leave in September. Janine Wilde has been overseeing our youth since November.

Karen our Children's and families worker has continued to grow the ministry and make connections with the community. Our Toddler group that meets Wednesday, welcomed chaplains into each session and I've been excited to see our church membership grow from the mums attending on a Wednesday. Karen is also working in both schools, providing assemblies and RE workshops. It was great to have the prayer space running again in Highwoods over the summer. Karen is beginning to work out how to hold the role of parish children's and families worker.

Our discipleship groups have played a large role in 2022. I have loved hearing how so many people have spoken so highly of their discipleship groups, and the support that has been given through this groups, finding new and innovative ways to stay connected, pray for each other and grow in faith. If you haven't yet found a home in a discipleship group yet, then please do get in contact with me (Hannah).

For many years we have supported the work of Nsambya School, Orphanage and Clinic in Kampala. There are many in the congregation who sponsor individual children and more recently, following our visit in 2019, we have developed additional Hardship Funding which provides general support to any child within the school and a Teacher Fund, providing training and resources for the staff. Uganda hasn't been a project we have been able to develop during 2022, partly because a visit hasn't been possible, and partly because we are very aware that finances have been incredibly tight for many. We would love to provide additional support, and will be looking to share more about the project during 2023. Please speak to Hannah, Jennifer Greenley, Jo Russell or Stef Jones if you would like more information.

We at St. Luke's are really pleased to be the umbrella organisation for the Deaf Church that meets monthly in the Oak Tree Coffee House. During 2022 we were able to meet with other deaf Christians from across the diocese, in April at a retreat day at Pleshey and in October for a residential weekend at Belsey Bridge. Diana has been able to join a monthly deaf club which is a great opportunity to support those beyond the church and invite them to worship with us, as in September when we remembered the late Queen. Our churchwarden David Spayne is a member of Diocesan and Deanery Synod, which means more people are aware of us and some of the communication needs.



St Mark's began 2022 with a freshly discerned vision based upon Acts 2:46-47 to be 'not just for Sundays' and for 'Every member to be a shining light in mission, fuelled by ministry and discipleship.' Fantastic, biblical words. But anyone can write a good strapline, so we needed to turn them into action.

We started BIG BREAKFAST, meeting monthly at the Premier Inn. As we don't have a building to gather in, it gives us additional space beyond Sunday morning to spend time together as church family and has been a great place of conversation and fun. And just as importantly, it also offers a friendly non-threatening space where we can invite friends, family, colleagues and neighbours to come and spend time with the church. The aim is that while many people might not say yes to an invitation to come to 'church', lots of people are happy to enjoy a good breakfast *with* the church, and in June, 11 of the 26 people at Big Breakfast were guests who are not yet part of the church family.

We started DEEPER, meeting fortnightly in the Oak Tree Coffee House. Sunday mornings are great, but there is only so much you can cover, so we wanted a space for the church family to go deeper in prayer, the Spirit and Scripture. Unlike a discipleship group, Deeper is more of a drop-in, so different people have been part of each gathering. These evenings have so far included things like practising using our Spiritual Gifts, discussing end times and considering the importance of 'meaning' in what we do with our time and lives.

As well as these regular gatherings, St Mark's also began a few annual traditions. We marked GOOD FRIDAY with a time of reflection and prayer in Pencil Park (next to Rawlings Crescent). The aim was to be out in the community, sharing food and witnessing, so when a group of youth in the park showed interest in what was going on, we were really pleased that they chose to join us as we prayed to mark Jesus' death at 3pm.

Another new (but hopefully annual!) tradition was our first CHRISTMAS MEAL together. The Premier Inn put aside a large dining room and 30 of us enjoyed lunch and a prolonged time to chat together and enjoy the lead-up to Christmas.

With all these new things happening, and concentrating on 'not just for Sundays', we didn't forget our Sundays and existing gatherings. We continued to invest in St Mark's children's group, youth group and adult discipleship groups so that small group time is as engaging as possible and draws as many people as possible. We also continued to encourage every member ministry, with an extended teaching series reminding us that the Christian life is for everyONE, everyDAY, everyWHERE. It's a huge goal, and by aiming for it we are seeing more and more members involved in church and community life.

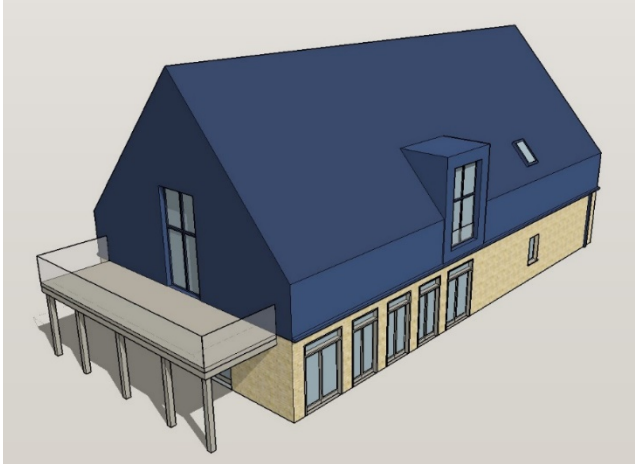
To check our progress, and to ensure we keep moving forward with the vision, St Mark's Ministry Leadership Team prepared a church-wide survey and took the results on an away day to listen to what God and church members were saying about St Mark's. This gave us a chance to review the vision, tweaking it slightly (see below), and it also gave us direction as we worked together to prepare for Chris and Emma moving on next year.

**We are a joyful and friendly church where everybody is welcome 'just as you are'
to be part of the St Mark's family; a family where everybody is valued.
We aim to love without judgment, to serve without status,
and to see everyone transformed by God's love and truth.**

Finally, at our 2nd Birthday Celebration – known lovingly as CAKE SUNDAY – we received some wonderful gifts. A St Mark's member handmade a tabletop cross, and our friends from Shrub End Parish presented us with beautiful communion cups.

St Mark's

Community Centre



Last year, we finally saw signs of movement in the long-held hope of a new community centre at the old rugby club site on Mill Road. And that hope continued into 2022.

We had established a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) to operate the centre, the trustees and councillors had agreed on a design, there was a publicly confirmed £1.8m capital budget, the public consultations had gone well and then the project stumbled.

There was a delay in getting the project out to tender. Meanwhile, construction costs skyrocketed. And to

make the perfect storm, there was a political issue with the new community centre at Stanway.

The trustees met each challenge as well as we could, and when asked to present our business case and plans to Colchester Borough Council's community team for scrutiny, we received positive feedback and assurance that the St Mark's CIO trustees were seen as a competent body. One hurdle overcome.

The remaining hurdle is cost, and we ended 2022 with a large financial gap between the £1.8m capital budget and the design seen above for a two-story, low-environmental impact building with plenty of hireable space and a community café.

We invite you to pray and to take every possible opportunity to encourage our elected representatives to go ahead and build this necessary community facility.

Note: St Mark's Community Centre Charitable Incorporated Organisation was formed in 2020 with 4 trustees representing the Parish of St Luke's, 2 trustees representing Highwoods Ward Council and 1 trustee representing Myland Community Council.



2022 has still not been an easy or normal trading year, at the beginning of the year our pre covid trade was still not back to usual. The cost of living crisis has hit the Oak Tree with noticeable effect, customers have chosen to come less often, to spend less and often to share meals. We like many other businesses have been hit with rapidly increasing stock prices, and hiked utility bills have been noticed.

Our annual figures for 2022 are not going to look good, and we are incredibly thankful to St. Luke's PCC for the additional injection of cash that was given at the end of 2022. This begins to paint a difficult financial picture, but all is not lost although this is a review of 2022, I can tell you that 2023 has started really well, and with the hard work of both the directors and the manager we are hoping to see a much better year for 2023.

In September we said a sad goodbye to our Susie as Oak Tree Manager as she ventured into a new career. The great news is that we appointed Karen Ward, our deputy manager as our new Manager. This has been a very good appointment, and at the very end of 2022 we appointed Sita Murugiah as our assistant manager, again this has been a very good appointment. The team have settled really well under the new management.

2022 has been another year of increasing the number of products made onsite, now the majority of our tray bakes and our big cakes are made on site. This has been great to see the team expanding their ability and skills.

The Oak Tree Chaplains have returned to the Oak Tree on a Wednesday morning to sit and chat with our customers and team.

During 2022 we bought some extra tables to bring us back up to pre covid capacity and some new very comfortable arm chairs, at the end of 2022 we also had a refresh of the paint.

For more information you would be welcome to join the Oak Tree Coffee House's AGM taking place on Thursday 15th June at 7.30pm.

Please can I invite you to continue praying for our wonderful Oak Tree, God has blessed us with this asset and we continue to want to use it to bring his glory. As Susie reminded us last year in her report. God was and always is good, He is our stronghold and it is for Him that The Oak Tree Coffee House exists.

Hannah
Chair of Oak Tree Coffee House

Parish of St. Luke's Highwoods

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2022

Dear Church member,

We give a very warm invitation to share in our APCM and look forward to seeing you.

AGENDA

Opening prayer & Worship

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Choosing of Churchwardens (2 for 1 year)**

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. Elections

Elections for Parochial Church Council

Elections for Deanery Synod reps

Reports

- 2. Apologies for absence**
- 3. Approval of minutes of 2022 APCM**
- 4. Matters arising**
- 5. Administrative Reports**

- a. Presentation of Electoral Roll**
- b. Financial Report**
- c. Church Property Report**
- d. Safeguarding Report**
- e. PCC report**
- f. Deanery Synod Report**

- 6. St Luke's report**
- 7. St Mark's Report**
- 8. Appointment**

- a. Independent Examiner for 2023**

- 9. Vision: Revd. Hannah Cooper**
- 10. Any other business – please email 24 hours in advance**

Blessing and Prayer

Minutes of APCM 2022

Opening Prayer & Worship

Welcome & prayer by Rev Chris Smith. Invitation to an extended time of praise.

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

1. Welcome by Rev Hannah Cooper. Psalm 127 v 1.

2. Choosing of Churchwardens (2 for 1 year)

Appointed:

Adrian Jones – proposed Gavin Duthie, seconded John Groslin
Lynne Gettings - proposed Adrian Jones, seconded Mark Russell

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING Elections for Parochial Church Council

1. Elections for PCC

Thanks to Mark Visagie (6 years), Stuart Angier (3 years), Nyene Motsi (3 years) for their service on PCC.

Nominations:

Anne Mayne - proposed Joanne Russell seconded Kim Osborne
Stuart Angier - proposed Hugh Thomas seconded Adrian Jones
Ryan Huttley - proposed Karen Cakebread seconded Lesley West
Ordelia Sansford - proposed Adrian Jones seconded Emma Smith

Following the meeting, a decision will be made as to who will serve for 1 year from the 4 appointees; the other 3 will serve for 3 years.

Diana Abbott was proposed to serve on PCC as the LLM position - proposed: Hugh Thomas, seconded: Susie Shepherd

2. Approval of PCC expansion. 1 additional place for 2023

Proposed - Fiona Malby
Seconded - Mark Harris

Unanimous

Reports

3. Apologies for absence

Anne Mason
Dee & Howard Gardner
Cathy & John Groslin

4. Approval of minutes of 2021 APCM

Formally approved.

5. Matters arising

N/A

6. Administrative Reports

a. Presentation of Electoral Roll - 137

b. Financial Report

Question: Men Behaving Boldly - why is there an outstanding figure against it? Hannah Cooper to get back to Michael Allen about this figure.

c. PCC Report

Question: Are we looking to re-instate Assistant Church Wardens.

Response: this is an ongoing piece of work.

d. Church Property Report

No questions

e. Deanery Synod Report

No questions

7. St Luke's report

Question about the attendance figure of 35 in October. Is that accurate?

Hannah Cooper to check the accuracy of that figure.

8. St Mark's Report

No questions

9. Appointment

a. Independent Examiner for 2022

Proposal Sarah Large

Unanimous.

10. Vision: Revd. Hannah Cooper & Rev Chris Smith

October 2016 - Hannah Cooper appointed as Priest in Charge of the Parish. Chris was later appointed as Church Planting Curate. Chris has fulfilled his brief in that he has facilitated the planting of St Mark's. Chris has now just one 1 year left in his role. This year is about working out how we will continue to be one parish, 2 churches with Hannah as Priest in Charge of the Parish.

As a parish we are:

2 distinct churches - each with their own vision. St Luke's purpose is to be rooted in the Father's love; grow in the power of the Spirit and reach out with the love of Jesus. St Luke's is looking to extend its community links. St Mark's was planted without a set vision on purpose - enabling those involved in the church plant to discern the vision. After a year, St Mark's spent time together as a church and time during a day away discerning vision. St Marks vision comes from Acts 2:46-47 for

St Mark's Church to be 'not just for Sundays' and for 'Every member to be a shining light in mission, fuelled by ministry and discipleship'.

Our parish vision priorities for 2022 as 2 churches, one family; transformed by the Holy Spirit are:

Generous in all we do

Youth focused

Loving our community

Caring for creation

There was a discussion in small groups about what stands out from those priorities. The following thoughts were shared:

Affirmation about the importance of young people

Generosity - the importance of giving of finance and time; bring everything you can; be generous in all you do; generosity can be apply it to the other quadrants

The importance of loving our community - particularly through the Oak Tree Coffee House.

Street Pastors - loving the wider community of Colchester

The challenge of what it really means to care for God's creation.

Generosity in all things - with thanks for generosity via social media & Zoom

Group chat. Which of the vision priorities do you feel called to?

Chris shared the importance of us all embracing the 4 quadrants

AOB - Church Wardens thanked volunteers, our staff team (Karen, Sammy & Deb) and our clergy team (Hannah, Chris, Paul & Lisselle). Prayers for our church.

11. Any other business – please email 24 hours in advance

Church Wardens thanked volunteers, our staff team (Karen, Sammy & Deb) & our clergy team (Hannah, Chris, Paul & Lisselle). This was followed by a time of prayer for leaders and our 2 churches.

12. Blessing & Prayer

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	YTD TOTAL 2022	TOTAL 2021
RECEIPTS					
Voluntary Receipts:					
Planned giving	£88,922.22			£88,922.22	£77,315.38
Stewardship	£600.00			£600.00	£1,200.00
Collections and other giving	£220.00			£220.00	£0.00
One off Gift	£1,899.99			£1,899.99	£1,643.62
GiftAid Income Tax recovered	£19,805.04			£19,805.04	£18,827.37
Sub Total	£111,447.25	£0.00	£0.00	£111,447.25	£98,986.37
Other voluntary receipts					
Special collections			£7,561.60	£7,561.60	£12,410.01
Donations & Grants(Restricted)			£22,728.00	£22,728.00	£34,592.74
Receipts from activities for generating funds					
Fund raising events	£2,229.73		£0.00	£2,229.73	£0.00
First Steps			£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Receipts from Church activities					
Wedding fees	£96.00			£96.00	£0.00
Funeral fees	£460.00			£460.00	£1,630.00
Other Fees/income	£675.25	£0.00	£0.00	£675.25	£161.57
Receipts from investments					
Bank and deposit interest	£255.55			£255.55	£5.01
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£115,163.78	£0.00	£30,289.60	£145,453.38	£147,785.70
PAYMENTS					
Church activities inside the parish					
The Ministry	£2,707.13			£2,707.13	£1,605.74
Insurance	£574.08			£574.08	£540.40
Church Services inc licence	£1,621.41			£1,621.41	£1,069.78
Donations and Grants			£27,870.21	£27,870.21	£24,218.99
Hire of Buildings - Community Centre	£4,200.50			£4,200.50	£4,547.39
Hire of Buildings - Oak Tree	£713.29			£713.29	
HCIC Donations	£2,500.00			£2,500.00	
Training - Ministry & General	£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Training - C & F	£0.00			£0.00	£60.00
Training - Admin	£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Training - Youthworker	£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Office costs inc. Bank Charges	£1,440.92			£1,440.92	£1,721.00
Software - Churchsuite	£546.00			£546.00	
Staff & Pension	£26,608.92			£26,608.92	£21,646.36
Staff Adjustment (SMP offset error)	£0.00			£0.00	£3,965.12
Expenses - C & F	£254.71			£254.71	£328.38
Expenses - Admin	£325.00			£325.00	£275.00
Expenses - Youthworker	£190.26			£190.26	£50.00
Break Out/Youthwork Expenses	£178.51			£178.51	£216.58
Miscellaneous	£21.00			£21.00	£4.97
PA	£117.16			£117.16	£450.18
Equipment	£38.98			£38.98	£400.00
People in Need	£267.60			£267.60	£320.83
Funeral Fees	£238.00			£238.00	£1,432.50
Wedding Fees	£48.00			£48.00	£0.00
Parish Mission	£1,020.44			£1,020.44	£438.69
C&F Ministry Midweek	£34.58			£34.58	£87.29
C&F Gforce+	£37.16			£37.16	£8.99
C&F First Roots	£23.54			£23.54	£9.34
C&F GForce	£129.54			£129.54	£178.99
C&F GForce takeaway	£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
C&F Schools	£81.39			£81.39	£33.74
Gilberd Chaplaincy	£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Church activities outside the parish					
Diocesan Parish Share	£49,324.80			£49,324.80	£50,600.44
Mission & Mercy	£8,195.12			£8,195.12	£8,655.16
Special collections			£10,740.18	£10,740.18	£11,015.57
Members' Mission	£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Church Weekend - Birch Hall	£200.00			£200.00	
Cost of Generating Funds	£2,229.73			£2,229.73	£0.00
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£103,867.77	£0.00	£38,610.39	£142,478.16	£133,881.43
Revenue Surplus/(Deficit) for the period	£11,296.01	£0.00	-£8,320.79	£2,975.22	£13,904.27
Transfer between funds	-£8,847.41	£8,847.41	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Members Mission			£0.00		
Mission & Mercy			£0.00		
Adjusted Surplus/(Deficit) for the period	£2,448.60	£8,847.41	-£8,320.79	£2,975.22	£13,904.27
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	TOTAL	

		Funds	Funds	Funds	
Cash at bank and in hand at	31-Dec-21	£21,866.29	£9,914.63	£33,093.40	£64,874.32
Adjusted Surplus/(Deficit) for the period		£2,448.60	£8,847.41	£-8,320.79	£2,975.22
Cash at bank and in hand at	31-Dec-22	£24,314.89	£18,762.04	£24,772.61	£67,849.54

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL
Assets				
Cash Funds-collection	£0.00		£0.00	£0.00
Cash Funds (First Steps)	£0.00		£316.94	£316.94
Cash Funds (St Mark's Family Breakfasts)	£0.00		£39.00	£39.00
SMP to be reclaimed from HMRC	£0.00		£2,924.02	£2,924.02
Bank Current Account	£4,785.81			£4,785.81
Bank Giving Account	£7,968.66			£7,968.66
Bank Reserve Account	£13,523.79	£18,762.04	£21,492.65	£53,778.48
Other monetary assets	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Total Assets	£26,278.26	£18,762.04	£24,772.61	£69,812.91
Liabilities				
PAYE/NI	£749.57			£749.57
Employee NI	£329.20			£329.20
Employer NI	£884.60			£884.60
Unpaid Cheques	£0.00			£0.00
Total Liabilities	£1,963.37	£0.00	£0.00	£1,963.37
Net Total Assets	£24,314.89	£18,762.04	£24,772.61	£67,849.54

Notes

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis overall. As an exception, the costs for PAYE, Employee NI, Employer NI and NEST Pension payments are accounted for on an accrued basis, in order to account for these liabilities in the period incurred (and to reconcile with our SAGE Payroll and SAGE accounting records). Similarly Statutory Maternity Pay to be reclaimed from HMRC is also accounted for on an accrued basis, in order to ensure the overall Parish financial reserves are not materially mis-represented.
- The following assets are recognised but not necessarily included in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities: moveable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on trust for the PCC which would require a faculty for disposal.
- The expenses paid to clergy may include a small immaterial proportion which relates to their function as PCC members. No other payments were made to PCC members.
- St Lukes PCC is the majority shareholder in Highwoods Community Interest Company, holding 90.8% of the share capital as at 31 December 2022. It is considered that there is no current market value for the shares.

5 Activities to generate funds

	Receipts	Payments	Profit/Loss
Church Weekend (Ticket Sales)	£2,229.73	£2,229.73	£0.00
Total	£2,229.73	£2,229.73	£0.00

6 SUMMARY OF FUNDS HELD

	B/Fwd Jan 22	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	C/Fwd December 22
Unrestricted Funds					
General Fund	£21,866.29	£115,163.78	£103,867.77		
General Fund to PIN				£-962.15	
General Fund to Equipment				£-202.42	
General Fund to PA				£-482.84	
General Fund To Parish Share Fund				£-6,000.00	
General Fund to Oak Tree				£-1,200.00	
Total Unrestricted Funds	£21,866.29	£115,163.78	£103,867.77	£-8,847.41	£24,314.89
Designated Funds					
People in Need	£3,476.17			£962.15	£4,438.32
Equipment - Balance Capped at £750 in 2022	£547.58			£202.42	£750.00
PA - Balance Capped at £2000 in 2022	£1,472.88			£482.84	£1,955.72
Parish Share	£4,418.00			£6,000.00	£10,418.00
Oak Tree	£0.00			£1,200.00	£1,200.00
Total Designated Funds	£9,914.63	£0.00	£0.00	£8,847.41	£18,762.04

7.1 Restricted Funds - Special Collections

Uganda Fund	£3,351.21	£6,616.00	£7,155.00		£2,812.21
Community Coffee House	£11,808.08	£0.00	£2,500.00		£9,308.08
Munch Fund	£2,289.48	£61.57	£416.10		£1,934.95
Church Weekend Donations	£0.00	£884.03	£669.08		£214.95
Total Special Collections	£17,448.77	£7,561.60	£10,740.18	£0.00	£14,270.19

7.2 Restricted Funds - Donations and Grants

GForce Club Night	£148.64	£0.00	£0.00		£148.64
Breakout	£0.00	£23.40	£0.00		£23.40
Lockdown Support Fund	£30.08	£0.00	£0.00		£30.08

Helping Hands Fund	£500.00	£0.00	£0.00	-£500.00	£0.00
Highwoods Foodbank	£322.12	£1,285.30	£1,165.64	£500.00	£941.78
Easter Egg Hunt	£0.00	£123.65	£120.00		£3.65
Church Birthday	£0.00	£305.52	£270.18		£35.34
Families, Faith & Fun	£77.04	£331.74	£313.48		£95.30
St Mark's Church Planting Fund	£7,321.98	£98.69	£0.00		£7,420.67
Diocese Church Plant Expenses	-£213.27	£2,917.51	£2,704.24		£0.00
Diocese Plant Development Costs	£540.00	£3,960.00	£4,500.00		£0.00
St Mark's Church Family Breakfasts	£0.00	£1,468.70	£1,429.70		£39.00
Men Behaving Boldly	£1,324.15	£430.44	£446.50		£1,308.09
People in Need	£0.00	£1,651.33	£1,651.33		£0.00
Solid Fund	£0.00	£873.39	£873.39		£0.00
Youth Recovery Fund	£0.00	£120.50	£20.65		£99.85
Youthworker Fund SMP due	£6,462.54	£3,083.42	£0.00	-£9,545.96	£0.00
Youthworker Fund	-£1,368.39	£4,560.00	£12,737.57	£9,545.96	£0.00
Sub Total-Donations and Grants	£15,144.89	£21,233.59	£26,232.68	£0.00	£10,145.80
First Steps	£499.74	£1,494.41	£1,637.53		£356.62
Total Donations and Grants	£15,644.63	£22,728.00	£27,870.21	£0.00	£10,502.42

8 Funds Summary	B/Fwd Jan 22	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	C/Fwd Dec 22
Total Special Collections	£17,448.77	£7,561.60	£10,740.18	£0.00	£14,270.19
Total Donations and Grants	£15,644.63	£22,728.00	£27,870.21	£0.00	£10,502.42
SubTotal Restricted Funds	£33,093.40	£30,289.60	£38,610.39	£0.00	£24,772.61
Total Unrestricted Funds	£21,866.29	£115,163.78	£103,867.77	-£8,847.41	£24,314.89
Total Designated Funds	£9,914.63	£0.00	£0.00	£8,847.41	£18,762.04
Total Funds	£64,874.32	£145,453.38	£142,478.16	£0.00	£67,849.54

4th May 2023
Approved by the PCC ~~standing Committee~~ and signed on their behalf by:

H. COOPER Position: Rev. Hannah Cooper - Priest in charge
V. GUNNING Position: Church Warden

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF ST LUKE, COLCHESTER**

STATEMENT OF PCC RESPONSIBILITIES

The PCC are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the PCC for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The PCC are responsible for keeping accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the PCC and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the PCC and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF
ST LUKE, COLCHESTER**

Registered Charity Number 1159205

Additional notes to the Financial Statements for the period ending 31st December 2022

Accounting Policies

As stated, these financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, using the Receipts & Payments (i.e. Cash) basis, including any uncleared bank payments made.

These accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of any church groups or activities that owe their major affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds – General & Designated

General Funds represent the funds of the St Luke's PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use, and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Designated Funds represent the funds that have been designated for a particular purpose by the PCC, but these funds are also unrestricted regards their usage. St Luke's currently operates five designated funds as follows:

People In Need Fund, where the PCC allocated £100 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC as and when individual situations of serious personal need arise – due to the current economic conditions the previous cap on the fund of £2000 has temporarily been removed.

PA Fund, where the PCC allocated £50 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC to invest in new or replacement PA equipment.

Equipment Fund, where the PCC allocated £50 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC to invest in new or replacement general equipment.

Parish Share, where the PCC allocated £500.00 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC to support expected future increases in our Parish Share.

Oak Tree, where the PCC allocated £300 per month commencing September 2022 to assist the working capital requirements of The Oak Tree Coffee House where needed.

Funds - Restricted

Restricted funds are those funds that must be spent on restricted purposes. St Luke's PCC currently operates restricted funds as follows:

Uganda Fund - whereby these funds have either been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the activities of the Nsambya Full Gospel Mission Church and/or Children's School(s) and Orphanage(s) in Kampala, Uganda.

Community Coffee House - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Oak Tree Community Coffee House.

Munch Fund - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the work of the Munch Initiative.

Church Weekend Donations - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Parish weekend away.

Gforce Club Night - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the GForce Children's Ministry.

Breakout - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Breakout Youth Ministry.

Lockdown Support Fund - whereby these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of providing food parcels to families in need within our parish.

Helping Hands Fund – whereby these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of providing support to those in need within our parish.

Highwoods Foodbank - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of establishing and supporting a foodbank on Highwoods.

Easter Egg Hunt - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the Children's Ministry Easter Egg Hunt.

Church Birthday - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the St Luke's Church 30th birthday celebration.

Families, Faith and Fun - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Families, Faith and Fun service.

St Mark's Church Planting Fund - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the new Church Plant – now known as St Mark's.

Diocese Church Plant Expenses - whereby these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of supporting the Church Plant Expenses

Diocese Plant Development Costs - whereby these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of supporting the Church Plant Development Costs

St Mark's Church Family Breakfasts - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the St Mark's Church Family Breakfasts.

Men Behaving Boldly - where these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Men Behaving Boldly Missional Community.

People in Need - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting people in need within our parish

Solid Fund - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Children and Youth Ministry trip to the Solid Event.

Youth Recovery Fund - whereby these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of re-establishing the youthwork and supporting our young people after the pandemic.

Youthworker Fund SMP due – whereby the funds due from HMRC are specifically for the claim for the Statutory Maternity pay for the Youthworker.

Youthworker Fund - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the employment of a Youthworker by St Luke's PCC.

First Steps - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the First Steps Group.

Receipts (Incoming Resources)

Planning Giving receipts and Collections & Other Giving receipts are both recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Income tax recovered (under Gift Aid) is also recognised only when received.

Income that is raised by any special events is accounted for gross, with any associated expenses being separately identified and disclosed - these are included under Note 5.

All other Income is also recognised only when received.

Expenditures (Resources Used)

Diocesan Quota - The Diocesan Quota or Parish Share is accounted for only when paid, but with any amounts still unpaid as at the 31st December being provided for as an operational liability, and shown as a Creditor in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

There is no outstanding amount payable with relation to the 2022 St Luke's Parish Share as at 31st December 2022.

Employment Costs - Salaries and associated PAYE and National Insurance costs payable to HMRC are accounted for only when paid, but with any amounts still unpaid as at 31st December being provided for as an operational liability, and shown as a Creditor in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities

There are no amounts outstanding as at 31st December 2022.

Grants/Donations - Grants and donations made by the PCC are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded if the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

There are no such outstanding binding awards as at 31st December 2022.

Other Expense Items - All other expenditures are accounted for only when paid, unless any particular expense item incurred but not paid represents a material operational liability as at 31st December, and thus shown as a Creditor in the Balance Sheet.

Fixed Assets

Church Furnishings - Moveable Church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property, and are listed in the Church's Inventory.

For inalienable property that was already in existence as at the 1st October 2012, there is insufficient cost information available (such assets having been originally acquired by St John's PCC, Colchester), and thus are not valued in these accounts.

There have been no such items acquired in the period 1 January 2022 – 31st December 2022.

PA Equipment, Office Equipment & other Sundry Assets - Individual items with a purchase price of less than £1,500 are expensed in full at the time of original purchase.

Investments

General Investments – General investments held are valued at Market value as at 31st December 2022

There are no general investments held as at 31st December 2022.

Subsidiary Companies – Investments in Subsidiary Companies are stated at cost less any provision necessary for permanent diminution in value.

St Luke's PCC holds 90.8% of the ordinary share equity of the Highwoods Community Interest Company (HCIC)

The PCC considers that the investment in HCIC has no realisable value at present and thus, whilst noted, is not shown as an asset within the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Current Assets

No debtor amounts are shown in respect of any fees or other amounts due at 31st

December, as all income is accounted for only when received and there are no

material amounts outstanding as at 31st December 2022.

End

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Luke's Church Highwoods (charity number: 1159205)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

S R Hilliard

Simone Hilliard FCCA
17 Totham Hill Green
Great Totham
Maldon
CM9 8DX

Parish of St Luke's Colchester – PCC Report for 2022

Introduction

St Luke's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent in promoting within the parish, the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It oversees and directs the mission and work of the church of St Luke's, Colchester, meeting at St John's & Highwoods Community Centre on Highwoods and St. Mark's meeting at Brinkley Grove Primary School. The report of the PCC which follows, along with the two church reports, illustrate how the PCC fulfils its obligations to benefit the public ~ mainly to the worshipping congregation and to the local community, but also beyond.

PCC Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Priest in Charge: The Revd. Hannah Cooper

Curate: Revd Chris. Smith

Curate: Revd Lisselle Clarke -Moisley

Curate: Revd Anne Mason (Shared with Gt. Horkesley, Boxted & Langham & West Bergholt)

Associate Priest: Revd. Paul Mann

PCC Elected Members

Church Wardens

Adrian Jones

Lynne Gettings

Ian Duthie

Julia Thomas

Stuart Angier

Jennifer Greenley

Anne Mayne

Ordelia Sansford

Ryan Huttley

Mark Harris

PCC Treasurer

Colin Smith

Licensed Lay Ministers

Diana Bengel-Abbott

Hugh Thomas

Deanery Synod Representatives

Adrian Jones

Hugh Thomas

Sarah Adcock

Standing Committee

Hannah Cooper

Lynne Gettings

Stuart Angier

Jennifer Greenley

Adrian Jones

Colin Smith

Chris Smith

PCC Committees

The PCC operates through a number of groups, which meet between the full meetings of the PCC:

Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to the directions given by the Council.

Finance Group

The general financial dimension of the work of St Luke's is accomplished by monitoring income and expenditure, setting budgets, maintaining financial controls and co-ordinating the annual accounts. This work is overseen on the PCC's behalf by the Finance Group, led by the PCC Treasurer.

Mission and Mercy Giving Away

The Mission and Mercy budget is apportioned to support mission and charities at home and abroad including regular reviews of the 'agencies' to which St Luke's PCC gives.

Ministry Leadership Team's

Both St. Luke's and St. Mark's have an Ministry Leadership Team, that meet regularly to work out the operational, pastoral and missional objectives of both churches.

Church Attendance

After the annual update of the Electoral Roll in 2022 there were 141 people on the Roll, 64 of these being resident in the parish, 77 being non-resident.

The average weekly attendance for our main morning service, counted during October 2022 for St. Luke's was 82 people and For St Mark's was 25 people. During the whole of 2022 there were 3 Baptisms and no Thanksgivings. There were 3 Funerals.

Church Property Report

The following items of communion ware for St Mark's Church were added to the Church Property Register in 2022:

Chalice and paten in golden brass, hammered 16 cm CL000959 – value £153 (Paid by St Mark's SDF Funds)

Ciborium in brass golden cup and silver base CL000957 – value £162 (Gift from All Saints, Shrub End)

Chalice and paten in brass with golden cup and silver base CL000955 - value £162 (Gift from All Saints, Shrub End)

Safeguarding Report

The Safeguarding Team met twice in 2022. We welcomed Janet Jones to the team in January as the Assistant Parish Safeguarding Officer (St Mark's).

Members of the Safeguarding Team in 2022:

Rev Hannah Cooper, Rev Chris Smith, Rev Lisselle Clarke-Moisley, Karen Cakebread – Children & Families Worker, Sammy Huttley - Youthworker , Hugh Thomas – Licensed Lay Minister , Deb Turner – Administrator/Lead DBS Recruiter, Lynne Gettings – Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO), Janet Jones – Assistant PSO (St Mark's)

Using the guidance from the diocese, the focus of our meetings was:

- Reviewing the DBS process
- Reviewing church policies - volunteering, recruitment, code of conduct - for PCC approval
- The safer recruitment of volunteers
- Safeguarding Training

Over the course of the year the safeguarding team was involved in safeguarding training led by the diocese. Following completion, certificates are shared with the Parish Administrator. The nature of the training has been dependent upon roles in the church. Examples of safeguarding training have included: Safer recruitment, Compressed Leadership, Basic & Foundation safe guarding, Leadership Training & Domestic abuse

Safeguarding is an agenda item at every PCC meeting. The PCC has due regard to guidance issued by the House of Bishops on matters relating to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

The PCC reviewed and adopted the safeguarding policy at their meeting in September. The policy and the annual review follows the guidance from the diocese. A copy of the policy and key contacts is on display in both Churches .

All members of PCC are now required to have completed the following safeguarding training: Basic & foundation safe Guarding & Domestic abuse.

The Parish Administrator holds a record of PCC safeguarding certificates. We are well on the way to ensuring all PCC members have completed all the required training.

The PCC uses the guidance and information in the Church of England Parish Safeguarding Handbook.

The Priest in Charge and PSO liaise with the diocesan safeguarding team for advice and where safeguarding concerns have been raised.

Many thanks to the many volunteers across the parish working with children, young people and vulnerable adults who have been involved in the safer recruitment process and safeguarding training. We are grateful for all you do to ensure our churches are a safe place.

PCC Review of the Year 2021

The PCC met 6 times during 2022.

The PCC Finance Group met as necessary and reported back to the PCC, via the Treasurer.

The PCC Standing Committee did not meet formally during 2022, but Standing Committee members made urgent decisions on behalf of the PCC by e- mail on number of occasions.

In 2022, St Luke's PCC sought to advance the Christian faith and benefit the community in the following ways:

- A daily presence in the centre of our community - The Oak Tree Coffee House is renowned for great coffee, local and fairtrade produce and most importantly a safe place for local people to congregate where they know they will always find a friendly face to speak with. (The Oak Tree Coffee House is established under a separate legal entity, Highwoods Community Interest Company, in which St Luke's PCC is the majority shareholder.)
- Weekly Sunday public worship in two locations, including activities for children and young people.
- Weekly/fortnightly midweek groups to connect people in friendship while also giving them the opportunity to grow in faith and support one another.
- Weekly parent and toddler group.
- Monthly 'Families, Faith and Fun' service for families with primary aged children.
- Providing an e-mail-based prayer service for church members and others to share needs and concerns with church members, who then pray for the situations shared.
- Supporting our local schools by offering assemblies, lessons, church visits and financial support.
- Supporting Colchester Foodbank, by starting Highwoods Satellite Foodbank - which provides emergency food parcels to families and individuals in crisis.
- Engaging in wider structures of the church, especially our Deanery and its Synod.
- Giving away 10% of our parish annual income to local, national and international charities and ministries.
- Running a child sponsorship scheme for children attending Nsambya School in Kampala, Uganda.

Annual Deanery Synod Report on 2022

Lay representatives plus clergy from all the Colchester Anglican churches meet three times a year, to hear what's going on in the Diocese and nationally, and to discuss and share ideas about how we can work together more effectively across Colchester.

16th March 2022 –

- There was no Deanery Synod meeting held in March this year as we were observing the lent sabbatical as requested by The Bishop of Chelmsford, Rt. Revd. Dr. Guli Francis-Dehqani.

15th June 2022 – At St. John's Church, St. John's Close, Colchester, CO4 0HP

- Synod was visited by The Bishop of Chelmsford, Rt. Revd. Dr. Guli Francis-Dehqani. She started off by offering thanks to Revd. Canon Paul Norrington for his service as Area Dean for the last 8 years. She also offered thanks to all clergy and lay people who serve in the deanery of Colchester. Bishop Guli then proceeded to tell us about her background and life. The Bishop's talk was followed by a brief Q&A session with questions posed from the floor.

12th October 2022 – At John Owen Barn, Fordham Hall, Church Road, Fordham CO6 3NL

- This Synod started at the slightly earlier time of 7:00pm, in order to facilitate the commissioning of our new Area Dean, Revd Erwin Lammens appointing of Assistant Area Dean, Revd Hannah Cooper, presided by The Venerable Ruth Patten, Archdeacon of Colchester.
- Synod was then addressed by Michaela Southworth, CEO, Diocese of Chelmsford. Her talk was partly about strategy and partly about the new Parish Share scheme. This was followed with a Q&A Session with questions posed from the floor. At the end of the meeting Revd. John Chandler presented the PCC's offers for the 2023 Parish Share, and explained about the next steps.

Accounts



The Church of England in Highwoods
Two Churches. One Family.

St Luke's Church
Highwoods 

 ST MARK'S
COLCHESTER

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2021

Incumbent:

Revd Hannah Cooper

Bank:

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ

Registered Charity no:

1159205

Independent Examiner:

Sarah Large BSc (Hons) CAT
4 St Clement Road Colchester CO4 0LN

Welcome to our 2021 Annual Report

Dear Church Member

It is great to take some time to review what happened during 2021. This document may look a little different to previous editions of our annual report, because we are moving from reporting on just one church to now reporting on a parish with two churches. The legal requirements to list the financial info, the church property and electoral numbers are all still here, but the sections on church life will look a little different.

St Luke's has always had Church Planting DNA, partly because we were a church plant ourselves nearly 30 years ago. When I was appointed in 2016, I was told: this church needs to plant. When Chris arrived with the title of Church Planting Curate, we sensed the time was coming and fast. So, in 2020, it wasn't really a huge surprise to find that St. Luke's was ready to plant. The timing was not perfect, very few of us had done this before. But the PCC had discerned it was time, and with the support of the Bishop and some funding in place from the Strategic Development Fund of the Church of England, we went for it on 8th November 2020.

St Mark's Church Plant began by meeting on Zoom, and six months later began to meet face-to-face in Brinkley Grove Primary School. Planting is an odd mixture of exciting and painful – it was certainly strange not seeing some of the old faces around at St Luke's when we returned to face-to-face services after the pandemic. But planting was also necessary, and we've already seen good fruit from it with people stepping up to fill the gaps that have been created, and with both churches adding to their numbers with people who had never been a part of the parish before the plant.

Looking back on 2021, my sense was that it was a time of journeying. We were journeying from meeting almost exclusively online, to beginning to meet in person, so we journeyed through how to meet safely in person. There was a journey for both churches in how they establish themselves as individual churches, but also how do we establish ourselves as a family, as a Parish that wants to work together.

2021's journey was not easy, there was some pain, and parts of it felt long. It is sad that not everyone has returned yet to worship, but with God as our solid base, we pressed through and as the bible verse we used for 2020's APCM sums up:

2 Corinthians 4:8-10

⁸ We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. ¹⁰ We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.'

My hope is that in 2022 we will continue to reveal the life of Jesus throughout our Parish.

Please do keep reading.

Hannah

Parish Report



One of the highlights of 2020 and 2021 was the establishment of Helping Hands, where members of the church went out to help with shopping lists, prescriptions and other requests. This has led to a stronger outward presence that means if our local councillor knows someone is in need, they will often ask us as a church to help.

Youth

Critical mass is always important when it comes to church groups, and this is especially true of youth. So, as well as having time with their respective churches, we very quickly put in place a group called United. A space where both St Luke's and St Mark's youth can meet together, have fun, and learn more about God.

In March 2021 our youth worker Sammy went on maternity leave, so I am very grateful to the youth team for keeping going – even when it wasn't easy. Our Thursday evening youth event United is now a really well attended group for both St Luke's and St Mark's young people.

Christian Community Groups

As we've been working out who we are as two churches, and then who we are as one connected parish, we've needed to do some work to establish groups that cross the boundaries of both churches. The result is the creation of groups we're calling 'Christian Community Groups'.

Friends in Faith

Born out of St Luke's Mature Oaks group, this was our first group to rebrand and move to being cross parish. It has thrived over the last year, meeting weekly in the Oak Tree for coffee on a Thursday, offering a Tuesday Bible study opportunity, and 3 prayer connection points a week. They have also grown in number which is a great recognition of all that has happened.

Men's Ministry

St Luke's Men's Ministry opened its doors to welcome, support and encourage men from both churches in Highwoods (and further afield as the groups took advantage of Zoom during the pandemic and beyond). Both Beer and Prayer and the Men's Breakfast continued without a break throughout the pandemic, and Men's Breakfast has enjoyed returning to the Balcerne Gate.

Mission and Mercy 2022

Another thing that we share is finance. Our Parish PCC and Finance Team oversee our finances. Something that St. Luke's has always done is give away 10% of everything that is given to the parish. This is no different now that we have two churches within that parish. There is a subcommittee commissioned by the PCC to choose who and how we give our money away. I am really grateful to the giving group for faithfully meeting, praying and deciding how to give away our money. This is a list of all the charities we supported in 2021

St Luke's Mission & Mercy giving 2021	
<u>International</u>	
Nsambya Church & Orphanage, Uganda	£1,000.00
Vision for China	£400.00
Bishop's Lent Appeal	£250.00
Tear Fund (General)	£400.00
Tear Fund (DRC)	£250.00
Barnabas Fund	£500.00
Save The Children	£500.00
Unicef	£240.00
Faith in Later Life	£200.00
<u>Local/Colchester</u>	
CAP Colchester	£560.04
Beacon House	£1,040.04
CYO	£2,080.08
Treetops/Liveability	£300.00
Night Shelter (Now Colchester Engagement)	£335.00
Street Pastors	£300.00
Sanctuary Housing (Highwoods)	£200.00
TOTAL	£8,555.16



Over the course of 2021, we have moved from weekly online services, filmed in advance and wonderfully put together, to beginning to meet outside in person, to then beginning to be able to return to weekly face-to-face services in July and offering Zoom to begin with weekly, and more recently, twice a month. Our Evening Services developed into a pattern of meeting 2 face-to-face and 2 online via Zoom. The 2021 online MMU Lent course fed into developing a monthly online service which has continued.

I am yet again so very grateful to our tech wonder men – Mark Russell and Tim Abbott. They have worked so hard to find the right solution and the quality is always amazing. Thank you!

I think it would be fair to say that each area of ministry, from discipleship groups, to children's ministry, to youth ministry, to pastoral care, to worship, to prayer, to Uganda and beyond has struggled during 2021. It has been a hard year, and even when we were able to begin gathering again from the summer onwards, gathering a team together has been difficult. But we have each persevered. It has been lovely watching as each ministry has slowly begun to function again.

Our discipleship groups have played a large role in 2021. I have loved hearing how so many people have spoken so highly of their discipleship groups, and the support that has given through this groups, finding new and innovative ways to stay connected, pray for each other and grow in faith. If you haven't yet found a home in a discipleship group yet then please do get in contact with me (Hannah).

One of the major highlights of 2021 has been developing the Family Faith and Fun Service with Karen. This is a service designed for primary school aged children, with their families. This has not only been a hit with our church families but also with members of our community, choosing to come and find out more about faith and have lots of fun.

For many years we have supported the work of Nsambya School, Orphanage and Clinic in Kampala. There are many in the congregation who sponsor individual children and more recently, following our visit in 2019, we have developed additional Hardship Funding which provides general support to any child within the school and a Teacher Fund, providing training and resources for the staff. Due to some changed circumstances the giving received for Uganda had reduced but the PCC agreed for 2021 that we could use our Mission and Mercy Fund to ensure the amount given for the Hardship and Teacher funding was maintained. Given the difficult circumstances in Uganda caused by the pandemic an additional gift was also provided from this fund. The allocation of funding from the Mission and Mercy Fund was a temporary solution agreed for 2021 only. At the end of the year, a number of children had completed their studies and therefore, with the agreement of the sponsors, we have been able to reallocate the donations received to the Hardship and Teacher Funds and are now able to sustain the amounts given to Nsambya school. However, we would love to provide additional support. Please speak to Hannah, Jennifer Greenley or Jo Russell if you would like more information.

We at St. Luke's are really pleased to be the umbrella organisation for the Deaf Church that meets monthly usually in the Oak Tree Coffee House. For Deaf Church, the first part of 2021 was meeting online, with prepared video services involving different people taking part. During Lent, we had a Zoom study group which developed into a fortnightly Bible study group on Zoom, which has continued and been a huge part of the growth of some of our members. For Holy Week, we created a service video looking at paintings with different people giving their own reflections. In the summer, we started meeting in the community centre to be well spaced out and then in the autumn, we moved back to the Oak Tree Coffee House. Our numbers grew in the Autumn, so we were between 8-12 people worshipping together.



St Mark's rolled into 2021 as a six week old church plant that met on Zoom for everything from the weekly Sunday gathering to discipleship, youth and children's groups. Sunday gatherings used the Zoom 'spotlight' feature to involve as many households as possible in worship, and the mid-week discipleship groups used screen sharing to watch the video material so they could enjoy the Talking Jesus course.

On Sunday 11th July, St Mark's Church met face-to-face for the first time and enjoyed worshipping together at Brinkley Grove Primary School. The under 10's children's group (First Marks) began meeting before the Family Gathering so that our youngest members receive engaging input before joining their families in worship. At the same time, the over 10's youth group (Top Marks) moved to a mid-week discipleship format to fit into the alternate weeks with the parish-wide United group.

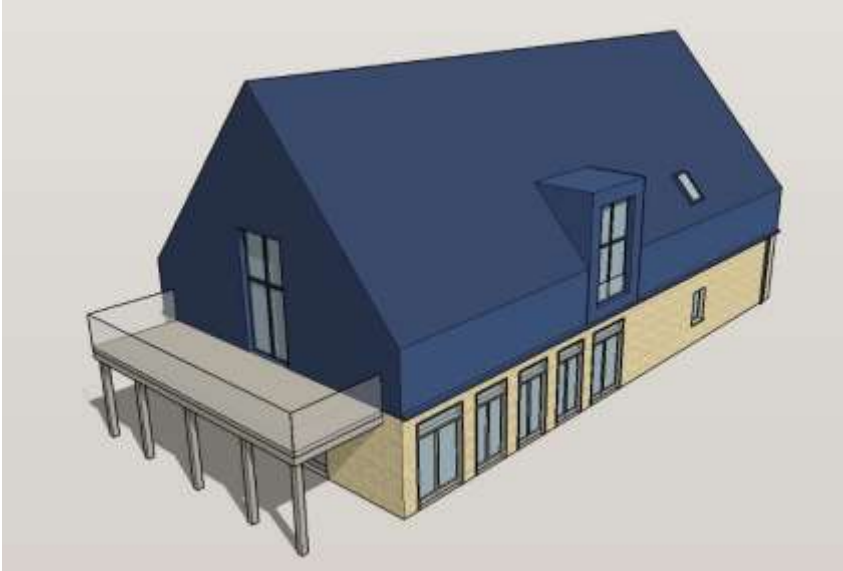
So that the new congregation and its leadership could discern a vision of their own, St Mark's was intentionally planted without a vision statement. In October, we began this work by spending a Sunday morning talking about and discerning vision together. The output was then shared with the church and taken on a Core Leadership Team away day to continue discerning a vision for the nearly year old church. The result was a vision based upon Acts 2:46-47 for St Mark's Church to be 'not just for Sundays' and for 'Every member to be a shining light in mission, fuelled by ministry and discipleship'.

During the summer, we enjoyed a monthly picnic in Pencil Park after our Family Gathering to give the church a chance to spend time together and to begin establishing a visible presence in the community. At Christmas we were able to take this further by hosting Christmas Carols in the Park. There was a great atmosphere, and we were encouraged that groups of people who were not members of the church family came along to sing, eat and drink.

There have been plenty of challenges, but it has been a good first year for St Mark's. We're looking forward to continuing to grow in both love and number during 2022.

St Mark's

Community Centre



We've all heard rumours about a potential new community centre at the Mill Road Rugby Club site for years, but 2021 was the year we finally saw signs of movement. After much wrangling by local councillors, the St Mark's Community Centre was listed as a capital funded project in the Colchester Borough Council budget.

With the help of Big Picture Charity Films, we created a promotional video for social media that highlighted the church's involvement (the church wants everyone to thrive, and to thrive people

need community space/facilities) and invited the community to engage in a public consultation.

With the public consultation complete, architects were appointed and the process of designing the building was overseen by Colchester Borough Council and the trustees of the St Mark's Community Centre CIO (A Charitable Incorporated Organisation was formed in 2020 with 4 trustees representing the Parish of St Luke's, 2 trustees representing Highwoods Ward Council and 1 trustee representing Myland Community Council.)

The resulting design is a two-story building that should have a low impact on the environment. It has been aligned to face an area of green space and has plenty of hireable space and a community I.

As we await planning permission, 2021 ended with the demolition of the old Rugby Club building ready to begin construction of the new community centre in 2022.



It was an interesting year trading in 2021. God was and always is good, He is our stronghold and it is for Him that The Oak Tree Coffee House exists. I love my job and I'm thankful for it.

During 2021 we were presented with the particular challenges of opening during COVID. The restrictions and guidelines continually changing allowed us to discover new ways of working, both individually and as a team. Here are some of the really good things that came out of that learning curve:

- The team discovered self-belief and realised that they could adapt how they work to better fit the needs of the business. This included:
 - Making our own sandwich fillings rather than buying in pre-made.
 - Cooking our own bacon rather than buying in previously cooked.
 - Cooking our own sausages rather than buying in previously cooked.

Now these may not seem huge goals to accomplish but, for my team to move their mind shift to even consider doing these was tremendous. There can be sometimes be a hesitancy to try what's unknown but, the team are doing well and we are consequently saving an awful lot of money whilst increasing the quality of the products we offer. I praise God for this shift.

- We also learnt that social distancing and required restrictions meant that we could return to work safely and well. All the reunions for our team and our customers was really quite something.
- We became closer as a team. It's really important to understand when I say team, I mean paid and volunteers alike. Each are important and vital to running the Coffee House.
- Despite losing 46.7% of our sales from pre-COVID (£87135) our net loss doesn't reflect this. In 2019 we took just over £187000, 2021 saw us hit £100832. Whilst we have a loss for last year, I am grateful it was not higher and comparative with the 46.7% loss in sales.

As always, The Oak Tree Coffee House is God's and we are simply stewards of it. I would ask that you would pray for the Directors and our team that we would be outstanding stewards of what we been trusted with. I would ask that you pray we will always do His will and seek to glorify Him in how we approach what we do. Most of my team are not believers, I would ask you to pray that we would be good examples to them and that conversations could be had.

Blessings,
Susie

**St Luke's Church
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2022**

Dear Church member,

We give a very warm invitation to share in our APCM and look forward to seeing you.

**AGENDA
Opening prayer & Worship**

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Choosing of Churchwardens (2 for 1 year)**

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

- 1. Elections**
Elections for Parochial Church Council
- 2. Approval of PCC expansion. 1 additional place for 2023**

Reports

- 3. Apologies for absence –**
- 4. Approval of minutes of 2021 APCM**
- 5. Matters arising**
- 6. Administrative Reports**
 - a. Presentation of Electoral Roll**
 - b. Financial Report**
 - c. PCC Report**
 - d. Church Property Report**
 - e. Deanery Synod Report**
- 7. St Luke's report**
- 8. St Mark's Report**
- 9. Appointment**
 - a. Independent Examiner for 2022**
- 10. Vision: Revd. Hannah Cooper**
- 11. Any other business – please email 24 hours in advance**
- 12. Blessing and Prayer**

St Luke's Church

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2021

Wednesday 26th May 2021 at 8pm on Zoom

Welcome, Opening prayer, reflection on the last year, songs of praise and Bible reading

Hannah Cooper and Chris Smith welcomed people to the meeting and reflected on the last year. The vision for last year was that we would be transformed by the love of God. This is the first APCM of one parish, but 2 churches.

Chris Smith said that 2020 was a challenging year and tragic for far too many people. During this difficult year, we were pleased to see St. Luke's reaching out to the community. Through online church, with engaging content. Through the Helping Hands team that shopped for food and medicine. Hampers were also given out to those struggling in the community.

Hannah Cooper reflected that St. Mark's has never met in person and yet it is solid and stable and meeting weekly, having only started last November. There hasn't been a flooding back to St Luke's, as all have stayed at St. Mark's. There has been an amazing uptake with joining the Discipleship groups and the vast majority of St. Mark's are now part of a discipleship group. Hannah has been hearing some of the feedback from those that have never been in a discipleship group before and they are enjoying it so much.

There were 3 worship songs, a Bible reading from Isaiah Chapter 6, and prayer was led by Pearson Nago.

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

3. Welcome

Hannah welcomed all to the meeting and thanked them for coming this evening.

4. Appointment of Scrutineers

Hannah confirmed that if there is any requirement for voting on this that herself and Deb Turner will do this.

5. Choosing of Churchwardens (2 for 1 year)

Mark Harris has been churchwarden for a number of years and has decided to step down this year. Hannah thanked Mark for everything he has done within the role. The role of churchwarden can weigh quite heavily, so thank you Mark.

Hannah confirmed that churchwardens need to be re-elected each year and they can do a maximum of 6 years.

Re-election of Lynne Gettings has been proposed by Jo Russell and seconded by Mark Visagie. Hannah thanked Lynne for being prepared to carry on as churchwarden.

New Churchwarden: Adrian Jones has been proposed by Jennifer Greenley and seconded by Hugh Thomas.

There will now be 1 churchwarden at St. Luke's and 1 churchwarden at St. Mark's. This is going to mean that we will need to rethink how we do things and redefine the churchwarden role as we move into this new season. Need to think about what it looks like to have 1 warden at each church.

Deputy Churchwarden role: Hannah suggested that we remove the role for a season. For many reasons, the role hasn't materialised, and this has got nothing to do with the people currently in the post. We may look to reinstate it at our next APCM.

As there are just 2 nominations for churchwardens and 2 vacancies, there is therefore no requirement for a vote. Hannah is delighted that Lynne and Adrian will be churchwardens.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

13. Elections

Elections for Parochial Church Council (3 members for 3 years)

There are 3 new members needed to join the PCC. At the last APCM, we decided it would be good to increase the number of PCC members, due to the increase in church membership. So, instead of appointing 1 person, we are appointing 3. Pearson Nago is stepping down and Hannah thanked him for all that he has brought to the PCC.

We have 3 nominations for 3 vacancies, so there was no requirement for a vote.

Mark Harris proposed by Simon Cooper and seconded by Lynne Gettings

Ian Duthie proposed by Adrian Jones and seconded by Jo Russell

Julia Thomas proposed by Petra Dean and seconded by Adrian Jones

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Elections for Deanery Synod (1 members for 2 years)

There has been 1 person who was elected last year, who has since stepped down. Because of this, this role will be for 2 years rather than the usual 3.

We have 1 nomination for 1 vacancy, so there was no requirement for a vote.

Hugh Thomas proposed by Diana Benge-Abbott and seconded by Adrian Jones

LLM: There has been a change in church representation rules and so for the first time, we will be electing Diana Benge-Abbott for 1 year to serve on the PCC.

Diana Benge-Abbott proposed by Hugh Thomas and seconded by Janine Wilde.

All in favour unanimously, with the exception of Diana Benge-Abbott, so she was not voting for herself.

Hannah said that if anyone is interested in the LLM role, then please speak to either Diana or Hugh, if you feel a calling into something like this. There is a selection process to go through, but it is a wonderful role with great training opportunities.

Reports

14. Apologies for absence –

Paul and Lucy Willer and Paul and Sarah Phillips.

15. Minutes of 2020 APCM

There were no changes to be made to the minutes of the 2020 APCM.

Hannah Cooper proposed that they are a true record of that meeting.

This was seconded by Avril Russell.

Agreed unanimously.

Lisselle Clarke-Moisley and Fiona Malby both abstained as they were not present at the 2020 APCM.

16. Matters arising

None

17. Administrative Reports

Hannah asked if anyone had any questions referring to any of the reports.

The Deaf Church report was queried as they were unsure how it fits in with St. Luke's. Hannah confirmed that Deaf Church moved under the banner of St. Luke's in Autumn 2019. A joint Christmas carol service was held to mark this change.

There is an amount of around £880 under Men Behaving Boldly that has been there for a while. It was confirmed that funds have built up as they have had nowhere to spend it, due to Covid. The intention is to use it to benefit people who can't afford to pay for breakfast etc. The men's group will continue to discuss and decide what to do with it.

St. Luke's supports Street Pastors, but there is nothing in the accounts to indicate any financial support. Hannah said that we need to rectify this, as we do want to support Street Pastors financially. We have a Giving Group and there may have been an oversight that Street Pastors haven't been donated to in the last year, as they have given to them previously. Hannah asked if members of the Giving Group who are present can take that back to the others for consideration.

a. **Presentation of Electoral Roll**

b. **Financial Report (including Independent Examiner's Report)**

c. **PCC Report**

d. **Church Property Report**

e. **Diocesan Synod Report**

f. **Deanery Synod Report**

18. Church life reports

Hannah highlighted that the idea of an APCM is that it details all the different things that happen in our church. Hannah encouraged people attending the APCM to look through the reports and to read about what goes on and to pray for the different groups and ministries.

19. Appointment

a. **Independent Examiner for 2020**

Our independent examiner for last year was Sarah Large. Sarah has said that she would be very happy to be the independent examiner again. Hannah extended her thanks to Sarah.

Proposed by Petra Dean

Seconded by Avril Russell

Agreed unanimously.

20. Vision: Revd Hannah Cooper

Our overarching vision from last year is that we want to be transformed through God's love, and this has not changed. However, this year, each church is going to need its own way of working out what that looks like. At St. Luke's, we set out four key areas as an outworking of this: prayer, youth, individual growth and community. St. Mark's, you know who you are and you know what you are and nobody is expecting you to be St. Luke's. We are looking forward to seeing you grow and seeing what your key areas are. We are one parish and two churches, but we are also connected wider as part of an MMU. We have had a number of times recently when we have met together as an MMU and we are looking forward to continuing that connection. Going forwards, we are looking to be a local church for local people. We also want to be a local church that is reaching out online. We have had to rethink how we do church since we have not been able to meet together in person. For St. Luke's it has been a weekly service on Facebook and we have had others join us and many of them don't live anywhere near us. The DNA of St. Luke's and now of St. Mark's is that we are a planting church. That DNA has remained with us. It may have taken us many years, but it has stayed with us. Hope is that the DNA has already planted itself in St. Mark's. Believe that God is at work and much is happening, and Hannah asked people to think and pray about 'What is your part in this?' Whether you are at St. Luke's or St. Mark's. Consider what your part is as we look forwards to the rest of 2021 and then into 2022.

21. Any other business

None.

22. Prayer & Blessing

Lynne Gettings said that through a very challenging year, God has been walking with us and He has been growing his church in terms of planting and also through our presence in and beyond the community, through our online presence. In this time of national crisis, we look to our leaders to guide us. We recognise and give thanks for our leadership, clergy team, staff team and Oak Tree team. Also give thanks for Tim and Mark as they have enabled our online presence in 2020.

Hannah Cooper finished the meeting with a blessing. Hannah thanked everyone for coming and being a part of this meeting, and for giving up their time.

Financial Report (incl. Ind. Exmr's Report) Accounts/Financial Statements 2021

Colchester St Luke's PCC

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year ended 31 Dec 2021

		Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	YTD TOTAL 2021	TOTAL 2020
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary Receipts:						
Planned giving		£77,315.38			£77,315.38	£79,379.70
Envelopes		£0.00			£0.00	£5.00
Stewardship		£1,200.00			£1,200.00	£1,800.00
Collections and other giving		£0.00			£0.00	£265.66
One off Gift		£1,643.62			£1,643.62	£1,641.39
GiftAid Income Tax recovered		£18,827.57			£18,827.57	£19,167.94
Sub Total		£98,986.57	£0.00	£0.00	£98,986.57	£102,259.69
Other voluntary receipts						
Special collections	Note 7.1			£12,410.01	£12,410.01	£16,353.69
Donations & Grants(Restricted)	Note 7.2			£34,592.74	£34,592.74	£16,609.76
Receipts from activities for generating Funds						
Fund raising events	Note 6	£0.00		£0.00	£0.00	£800.00
First Steps				£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Receipts from Church activities						
Wedding fees		£0.00			£0.00	£580.00
Funeral fees		£1,630.00			£1,630.00	£1,702.00
Other Fees/Income		£161.57	£0.00	£0.00	£161.57	£213.73
Receipts from Investments						
Bank and deposit interest		£5.01			£5.01	£39.96
TOTAL RECEIPTS		£100,782.95	£0.00	£47,002.75	£147,785.70	£138,558.83
PAYMENTS						
Church activities inside the parish						
The Ministry		£1,605.74			£1,605.74	£2,224.23
Insurance		£540.40			£540.40	£534.06
Church Services Inc licence		£1,069.78			£1,069.78	£1,275.90
Donations and Grants	Note 7.2			£24,218.99	£24,218.99	£15,240.49
Hire of Buildings		£4,547.39			£4,547.39	£5,072.57
Training - Ministry & General		£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Training - C & F		£60.00			£60.00	£274.00
Training - Admin		£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Training - Youthworker		£0.00			£0.00	£100.00
Account Fee - Bank Charges		£0.00			£0.00	£40.00
Office costs Inc. Software		£1,721.00			£1,721.00	£1,681.80
Staff & Pension		£25,611.48			£25,611.48	£31,495.72
Expenses - C & F		£328.38			£328.38	£341.85
Expenses - Admin		£275.00			£275.00	£225.00
Expenses - Youthworker		£50.00			£50.00	£300.00
Break Out/Youthwork Expenses		£216.58			£216.58	£52.00
Miscellaneous		£4.97			£4.97	£151.25
PA	Note 7	£450.18			£450.18	£278.57
Equipment	Note 7	£400.00			£400.00	£606.00
People In Need	Note 7	£320.83			£320.83	£0.00
Keep Cups		£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Funeral Fees		£1,432.50			£1,432.50	£2,035.00
Wedding Fees		£0.00			£0.00	£45.00
Parish Mission		£438.69			£438.69	£613.68
Flair		£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
C&F Ministry Midweek		£87.29			£87.29	£34.67
C&F Gforce+		£8.99			£8.99	£98.64
C&F First Roots		£9.34			£9.34	£16.30
C&F GForce		£178.99			£178.99	£38.25
C&F GForce takeaway		£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
C&F Schools		£39.74			£39.74	£45.70
Church activities outside the parish						
Diocesan Parish Share		£49,600.44	£1,000.00		£50,600.44	£49,618.80
Mission & Mercy		£8,655.16			£8,655.16	£9,904.50
Special collections	Note 7.1			£11,015.57	£11,015.57	£23,188.66
Members' Mission		£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Church Weekend		£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Cost of Generating Funds	Note 6	£0.00			£0.00	£496.00
TOTAL PAYMENTS		£97,646.87	£1,000.00	£35,234.56	£133,881.43	£146,028.64
Revenue Surplus/(Deficit) for the period		£3,136.08	-£1,000.00	£11,768.19	£13,904.27	-£7,469.81
Transfer between funds		-£3,937.99	£3,937.99	£0.00	£0.00	
Members Mission						
Mission & Mercy						
Adjusted Surplus/(Deficit) for the period		-£801.91	£2,937.99	£11,768.19	£13,904.27	-£7,469.81
Cash at bank and in hand at 31-Dec-20						
		£22,668.20	£6,976.64	£21,325.21	£50,970.05	
Adjusted Surplus/(Deficit) for the period		-£801.91	£2,937.99	£11,768.19	£13,904.27	
Cash at bank and in hand at 31-Dec-21		£21,866.29	£9,914.63	£33,093.40	£64,874.32	

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2021

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL
Assets				
Cash Funds-collection	£0.00			£0.00
Cash Funds (Envelopes)	£0.00			£0.00
Cash Funds (First Steps)	£0.00		£10.00	£10.00
Cash Funds (Beacon House)	£0.00		£0.00	£0.00
Cash Funds-Coffee House	£0.00		£0.00	£0.00
Bank Current Account	£2,035.59			£2,035.59
Bank Giving Account	£8,340.66			£8,340.66
Bank Reserve Account	£11,490.04	£9,914.63	£29,653.35	£51,058.02
Other monetary assets	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Net SMP to be reclaimed from HMRC	£0.00		£3,430.05	£3,430.05
Church Plant costs to repaid by Diocese			£0.00	£0.00
Total Assets	£21,866.29	£9,914.63	£33,093.40	£64,874.32
Liabilities				
PAYE/NI	£0.00		£0.00	£0.00
Employee NI	£0.00		£0.00	£0.00
Employer NI	£0.00		£0.00	£0.00
NEST Pension	£0.00		£0.00	£0.00
Unprocessed Payments	£0.00		£0.00	£0.00
Unpaid Cheques	£0.00		£0.00	£0.00
Total Liabilities				
	£21,866.29	£9,914.63	£33,093.40	£64,874.32
Net Total Assets				

Notes

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis overall. As an exception, the costs for PAYE, Employee NI, Employer NI and NEST Pension payments are accounted for on an accrued basis, in order to account for these liabilities in the period incurred (and to reconcile with our SAGE Payroll and SAGE accounting records). Similarly Statutory Maternity Pay to be reclaimed from HMRC and Church planting costs to be repaid by the Diocese are also accounted for on an accrued basis, in order to ensure the overall Parish financial reserves are not materially misrepresented.
- The following assets are recognised but not necessarily included in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities: moveable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on trust for the PCC which would require a faculty for disposal.
- The expenses paid to clergy may include a small immaterial proportion which relates to their function as PCC members. No other payments were made to PCC members.
- St Lukes PCC is the majority shareholder in Highwoods Community Interest Company, holding 90.6% of the share
- A Collection for Sammy Huttley was held-£960.41 was received and paid out- funds remaining are nil.

6 Activities to generate funds		Receipts	Payments	Profit/Loss
		£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
		£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Total				

7 SUMMARY OF FUNDS HELD	B/Fwd Jan 21	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	C/Fwd Dec 21
Unrestricted Funds					
General Fund	£22,668.20	£100,782.95	£97,646.87	£0.00	
General Fund to YYAM				-£879.17	
General Fund to PIN				-£200.00	
General Fund to Equipment				-£149.82	
General Fund to PA				£0.00	
General Fund to Members Mission Fund				£0.00	
General Fund to Solid Fund				-£2,709.00	
General Fund To Parish Share Fund				£0.00	
Keep Cup receipts to General					
Total Unrestricted Funds	£22,668.20	£100,782.95	£97,646.87	-£3,937.99	£21,866.29
Designated Funds					
People in Need	£2,597.00		£0.00	£879.17	£3,476.17
Equipment	£347.58		£0.00	£200.00	£547.58
PA	£1,323.06		£0.00	£149.82	£1,472.88
Parish Share	£2,709.00		£1,000.00	£2,709.00	£4,418.00
Keep Cups	£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Total Designated Funds	£6,976.64	£0.00	£1,000.00	£3,937.99	£9,914.63

People in Need: Each year we transfer £100 per month less the amount paid out from General funds
Total paid out = £320.83
Total transferred = £879.17

Equipment: Each year we transfer £50 per month less the amount paid out from General funds
Total paid out = £400
Total transferred = £200

PA: Each year we transfer £50 per month less the amount paid out from General funds
Total paid out = £450.18
Total transferred = £149.82

7.1 Restricted Funds - Special Collections

Uganda Fund	£2,943.96	£10,009.25	£9,602.00	£3,351.21
Community Coffee House	£11,807.32	£700.76	£700.00	£11,808.08
Munch Fund	£1,303.05	£1,700.00	£713.57	£2,289.48
Total Special Collections	£16,054.33	£12,410.01	£11,015.57	£0.00

7.2 Restricted Funds - Donations and Grants

GForce Club Night	£148.64	£0.00		£148.64
Lockdown Support Fund	£0.00	£1,475.00	£1,444.92	£30.08
Helping Hands Fund	£0.00	£500.00	£0.00	£500.00
Highwoods Foodbank	£0.00	£322.12	£0.00	£322.12
Families, Faith & Fun	£0.00	£77.04	£0.00	£77.04
St Mark's Church Planting Fund	£2,471.91	£5,769.91	£919.84	£7,321.98
Diocese Church Plant Expenses	£0.00	£679.82	£893.09	£213.27
Diocese Plant Development Costs	£0.00	£3,732.61	£3,192.61	£540.00
Furlough Claim-Admin Salary	£0.00	£312.87	£312.87	£0.00
PA	£0.00	£455.00	£455.00	£0.00
Men Behaving Boldly	£882.52	£1,699.40	£1,257.77	£1,324.15
People in Need	£626.89	£4,065.67	£4,692.56	£0.00
People in Need (Covid-19)	£341.12	£0.00	£341.12	£0.00
Youth Recovery Fund	£0.00	£250.00	£250.00	£0.00
Youthworker Fund	£0.00	£14,509.44	£9,415.29	£5,094.15
Sub Total-Donations and Grants	£4,471.08	£33,848.88	£23,175.07	£0.00
First Steps	£799.80	£743.86	£1,043.92	£499.74
Total Donations and Grants	£5,270.88	£34,592.74	£24,218.99	£0.00

8 Funds Summary	B/Fwd Jan 20	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	C/Fwd Dec 21
Total Special Collections	£16,054.33	£12,410.01	£11,015.57	£0.00	£17,448.77
Total Donations and Grants	£5,270.88	£34,592.74	£24,218.99	£0.00	£15,644.63
SubTotal Restricted Funds	£21,325.21	£47,002.75	£35,234.56	£0.00	£33,093.40
Total Unrestricted Funds	£22,668.20	£100,782.95	£97,646.87	£3,937.99	£21,866.29
Total Designated Funds	£6,976.64	£0.00	£1,000.00	£3,937.99	£9,914.63
Total Funds	£50,970.05	£147,785.70	£133,881.43	£0.00	£64,874.32

25th April 2022

Approved by the PCC on and signed on their behalf by:


 Position Priest in charge

 Position CHURCHWARDEN

Independent Examiner's report to the PCC Of St Luke's Church Highwoods

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2021 which are set out on the following pages.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



Sarah Large BSc (Hons) CAT
4 St Clement Road
Colchester
Essex CO4 0LN
6th March 2022

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF ST LUKE, COLCHESTER**

STATEMENT OF PCC RESPONSIBILITIES

The PCC are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the PCC for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The PCC are responsible for keeping accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the PCC and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the PCC and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF
ST LUKE, COLCHESTER
Registered Charity Number 1159205

Additional notes to the Financial Statements for the period ending 31st December 2021

Accounting Policies

As stated, these financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, using the Receipts & Payments (i.e. Cash) basis, including any uncleared bank payments made.

These accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of any church groups or activities that owe their major affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds – General & Designated

General Funds represent the funds of the St Luke's PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use, and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Designated Funds represent the funds that have been designated for a particular purpose by the PCC, but these funds are also unrestricted regards their usage. St Luke's currently operates four designated funds as follows:

People In Need Fund, where the PCC allocated £100 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC as and when individual situations of serious personal need arise – due to the current pandemic the previous cap on the fund of £2000 has temporarily been removed.

PA Fund, where the PCC allocated £50 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC to invest in new or replacement PA equipment.

Equipment Fund, where the PCC allocated £50 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC to invest in new or replacement general equipment.

Parish Share, where the PCC allocated £225.75 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC to support expected future increases in our Parish Share and/or to support an additional financial gift to the diocese given the current difficulties caused by the Covid 19 pandemic.

Funds - Restricted

Restricted funds are those funds that must be spent on restricted purposes. St Luke's PCC currently operates restricted funds as follows:

Uganda Fund - where these funds have either been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the activities of the Nsambya Full Gospel Mission Church and/or Children's School(s) and Orphanage(s) in Kampala, Uganda.

Community Coffee House - where these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Oak Tree Community Coffee House.

Munch Fund - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the work of the Munch Initiative.

Gforce Club Night - where these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the GForce Children's Ministry.

Lockdown Support Fund - where these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of providing food parcels to families in need within our parish.

Helping Hands Fund - where these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of providing support to those in need within our parish.

Highwoods Foodbank - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of establishing and supporting a foodbank on Highwoods.

Families, Faith and Fun - where these funds have been given specifically for the purpose of supporting the Families, Faith and Fun service.

St Mark's Church Planting Fund - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the new Church Plant – now known as St Mark's.

Diocese Church Plant Expenses - whereby these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of supporting the Church Plant Expenses

Diocese Plant Development Costs - whereby these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of supporting the Church Plant Development Costs

PA - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the costs of new PA equipment.

Men Behaving Boldly - where these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Men Behaving Boldly Missional Community.

People in Need - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting people in need within our parish

People in Need (Covid-19) - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting people in need specifically impacted by Covid-19 within our parish

Youth Recovery Fund - where these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of re-establishing the youthwork and supporting our young people after the pandemic.

Youthworker Fund - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the employment of a Youthworker by St Luke's PCC.

First Steps - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the First Steps Group.

Receipts (Incoming Resources)

Planning Giving receipts and Collections & Other Giving receipts are both recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Income tax recovered (under Gift Aid) is also recognised only when received.

Income that is raised by any special events is accounted for gross, with any associated expenses being separately identified and disclosed - these are included under Note 5.

All other Income is also recognised only when received.

Expenditures (Resources Used)

Diocesan Quota - The Diocesan Quota or Parish Share is accounted for only when paid, but with any amounts still unpaid as at the 31st December being provided for as an operational liability, and shown as a Creditor in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

There is no outstanding amount payable with relation to the 2021 St Luke's Parish Share as at 31st December 2021.

Employment Costs - Salaries and associated PAYE and National Insurance costs payable to HMRC are accounted for only when paid, but with any amounts still unpaid as at 31st December being provided for as an operational liability, and shown as a Creditor in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

There are no amounts outstanding as at 31st December 2021.

Grants/Donations - Grants and donations made by the PCC are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded if the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

There are no such outstanding binding awards as at 31st December 2021.

Other Expense Items - All other expenditures are accounted for only when paid, unless any particular expense item incurred but not paid represents a material operational liability as at 31st December, and thus shown as a Creditor in the Balance Sheet.

Fixed Assets

Church Furnishings - Moveable Church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property, and are listed in the Church's Inventory.

For inalienable property that was already in existence as at the 1st October 2012, there is insufficient cost information available (such assets having been originally acquired by St John's PCC, Colchester), and thus are not valued in these accounts.

There have been no such items acquired in the period 1 January 2021 – 31st December 2021.

PA Equipment, Office Equipment & other Sundry Assets - Individual items with a purchase price of less than £1,500 are expensed in full at the time of original purchase.

Investments

General Investments – General investments held are valued at Market value as at 31st December 2021

There are no general investments held as at 31st December 2021.

Subsidiary Companies – Investments in Subsidiary Companies are stated at cost less any provision necessary for permanent diminution in value.

St Luke's PCC holds 90.6% of the ordinary share equity of the Highwoods Community Interest Company (HCIC)

The PCC considers that the investment in HCIC has no realisable value at present and thus, whilst noted, is not shown as an asset within the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Current Assets

No debtor amounts are shown in respect of any fees or other amounts due at 31st

December, as all income is accounted for only when received and there are no material amounts outstanding as at 31st December 2021.

St Luke's Church, Colchester – PCC Report for 2021

Introduction

St Luke's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent in promoting within the parish, the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It oversees and directs the mission and work of the church of St Luke's, Colchester, meeting at St John's & Highwoods Community Centre on Highwoods and St. Mark's meeting at Brinkley Grove Primary School. The report of the PCC which follows, along with the two church reports, illustrate how the PCC fulfils its obligations to benefit the public ~ mainly to the worshipping congregation and to the local community, but also beyond.

PCC Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Priest in Charge: The Revd. Hannah Cooper

Curate: Revd Chris. Smith

Curate: Revd Lisselle Clarke -Moisley

Curate: Revd Anne Mason (Shared with Gt. Horkesley, Boxted & Langham & West Bergholt)

Associate Priest: Revd. Paul Mann

PCC Elected Members

Church Wardens

Adrian Jones
Lynne Gettings

Ian Duthie
Julia Thomas
Mark Visagie
Stuart Angier
Nyenye Motsi
Jennifer Greenley
Paul Philips (resigned Oct 2021)

PCC Treasurer

Colin Smith

Licensed Lay Ministers

Diana Benge-Abbott
Hugh Thomas

Deanery Synod Representatives

Adrian Jones
Hugh Thomas
Sarah Adcock

Standing Committee

Hannah Cooper
Lynne Gettings
Stuart Angier
Jennifer Greenley
Adrian Jones
Colin Smith
Chris Smith

PCC Committees

The PCC operates through a number of groups, which meet between the full meetings of the PCC:

Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to the directions given by the Council.

Finance Group

The general financial dimension of the work of St Luke's is accomplished by monitoring income and expenditure, setting budgets, maintaining financial controls and co-ordinating the annual accounts. This work is overseen on the PCC's behalf by the Finance Group, led by the PCC Treasurer.

Mission and Mercy Giving Away

The Mission and Mercy budget is apportioned to support mission and charities at home and abroad including regular reviews of the 'agencies' to which St Luke's gives.

Uganda Fund

This fund exists to support the Nsambya School, Orphanage and Clinic in Kampala, Uganda that St Luke's has links with, mainly through child sponsorship but also through occasional gifts for other purposes.

Church Attendance

After the annual update of the Electoral Roll in 2021 there were 140 people on the Roll, 63 of these being resident in the parish, 77 being non-resident.

The average weekly attendance for our main morning service, counted during October 2021, was 36. During the whole of 2021 there were no Baptisms or Thanksgivings. There were 7 Funerals.

PCC Review of the Year 2021

The PCC met 6 times during 2021.

The PCC Finance Group met as necessary and reported back to the PCC, via the Treasurer.

The PCC Standing Committee did not meet formally during 2021, but Standing Committee members made urgent decisions on behalf of the PCC by e- mail on number of occasions.

In 2021, St Luke's PCC sought to advance the Christian faith and benefit the community in the following ways:

- A daily presence in the centre of our community - The Oak Tree Coffee House is renowned for great coffee, local and fairtrade produce and most importantly a safe place for local people to congregate where they know they will always find a friendly face to speak with. (The Oak Tree Coffee House is established under a separate legal entity, Highwoods Community Interest Company, in which St Luke's PCC is the majority shareholder.)
- Weekly Sunday public worship in two locations, including activities for children and young people.
- Weekly/fortnightly midweek groups to connect people in friendship while also giving them the opportunity to grow in faith and support one another.
- Weekly parent and toddler group.
- Monthly men's breakfast at a local restaurant.
- Monthly 'Families, Faith and Fun' service for families with primary aged children.
- Providing an e-mail-based prayer service for church members and others to share needs and concerns with church members, who then pray for the situations shared.
- Supporting our local schools by offering assemblies, lessons, church visits and financial support.
- Supporting church members trained as Street Pastors who offer a listening ear, help and friendship to the youth culture in Colchester town centre on Friday and Saturday nights.
- Supporting Colchester Foodbank, which provides emergency food parcels to families and individuals in crisis and Beacon House, which supports people who are homeless, at risk of homelessness or in insecure accommodation in Colchester.
- Engaging in wider structures of the church, especially our Deanery and its Synod.
- Giving away 10% of our parish annual income to local, national and international charities and ministries.
- Running a child sponsorship scheme for children attending Nsambya School in Kampala, Uganda.

Church Property Report 2021

July

1 x Acer 24 inch monitor: £139.99

Black Magic Design Description: Video Mixer Model: ATEM Mini Pro Cost: £455

August

Cables:

HDMI Extender 10m £14.35

3.5mm to 2x 1/4 inch jack £15.99

3.5mm to 2 x female XLR £9.25

2x Micro HDMI to HDMI £25.98

Usb c to Usb C £6.99

Mini Display Port to HDMI £19.99

Apple Lightning to HDMI adapter £44.99

Total £137.54

September

Dell Inspiron 14 Laptop for St Mark's £601.14

Sennheiser XSW-D Radio Microphone for St Mark's £289

Bose S1 Pro portable PA system including travel bag for St Mark's £509.90

Deanery report

Lay representatives plus clergy from all the Colchester Anglican churches meet three times a year, to hear what's going on in the Diocese and nationally, and to discuss and share ideas about how we can work together more effectively across Colchester.

3rd March 2021 – Online (via Zoom)

Due to the restrictions in place because of the coronavirus pandemic the Synod meeting was conducted online via Zoom

- Emma Buchan, the project Director from Thy kingdom Come, gave an excellent talk. She started off by telling us all about her childhood in Copford and about growing up as a member of Marks Tey Church. In particular she told us about the children's ministry work. She then continued to tell us about her working career, firstly as an oil trader and then working at 'Thy Kingdom Come'. This was followed by a Q&A session.
- Mary Durlacher gave a report regarding General Synod which took place in February 2021. She explained that three presentations had been made on General Strategy, Safeguarding, and Housing all followed by Q&A sessions.

23rd June 2021 – Online (via Zoom)

- Revd Beverley Vincent, the Area Advocate for Living In Love and Faith gave a talk. Beverley began by giving a bit of background information about Living in Love and Faith (LLF). In February 2017 general synod debated the report 'Marriage and Same Sex Relationships. General Synod did not take note of that report but a few weeks later both the Archbishops of Canterbury and York called for the Church of England to have some serious discussion on this topic. Beverley then went on to give an excellent talk and presentation (please see the copy

of her slides from the evening, sent out with these minutes). Beverley's talk was followed by discussions using the breakout rooms function of Zoom and then a Q&A session.

- Adrian Jones (Highwoods and St. Luke's) was elected to serve on the Deanery Standing and Pastoral Committee.
- The Area Dean, Revd Canon Paul Norrington gave an update on deployment news and also an update on our Deanery Vision Plan.

13th October 2021 – Online via Zoom

- Revd. James Gilder, Diocesan Environment Officer gave a talk He explained that . General Synod is committed for the Church of England to become carbon neutral by 2030. He explained that this aim has been endorsed by the Diocese of Chelmsford.
- Testimonies from churches were shared: St John's (bronze eco award), St Leonard's Lexden (Doctor Bike, sewing repair course, sessions in eco issues for Junior church), Christ church (gardening, bird boxes, plants exchange), St Stephen's (Green Christian day conference, local Green Christian group and link with Brazil), St Andrew's Marks Tey (insulation, new boilers, LED).
- Congratulations were extended to all who were elected to general Synod:
 - Mary Durlacher
 - Revd Andy Sachs
 - Revd Sara Batts-Neale
 - Revd Mark Wallace

Accounts



**Annual Report
and Financial Statements
of the Parochial Church Council
for the year ended 31 December 2020**

Incumbent:

Revd Hannah Cooper

Bank:

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ

Registered Charity no:

1159205

Independent Examiner:

Sarah Large BSc (Hons) CAT
4 St Clement Road Colchester CO4 0LN

St Luke’s Church
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2021

Dear Church member,
We give a very warm invitation to share in our APCM and look forward to seeing you.

AGENDA

Welcome, Opening prayer, reflection on the last year, songs of praise and Bible reading

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Appointment of Scrutineers**
- 3. Choosing of Churchwardens (2 for 1 year)**

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

- 1. Elections**
Elections for Parochial Church Council (3 members for 3 years)

Elections for Deanery Synod (1 member for 2 years)

Reports

- 2. Apologies for absence –**
- 3. Minutes of 2020 APCM** pages 3 – 6
- 4. Matters arising**
- 5. Administrative Reports**
 - a. Presentation of Electoral Roll** page 18
 - b. Financial Report** pages 8-11
 - c. PCC Report** pages 17-18
 - d. Church Property Report** page 22
 - e. Diocesan Synod Report** page 22-23
 - f. Deanery Synod Report** page 23-24
- 6. Church life reports** pages 25-34
- 7. Appointment**
 - a. Independent Examiner for 2021**
- 8. Vision: Revd. Hannah Cooper**
- 9. Any other business – please email 24 hours in advance**
- 10. Prayer & Blessing**

St Luke's Church

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2020

Monday 19th October at 8pm on Zoom

Welcome, Opening prayer, bible reading and songs of praise

The Bible reading was Psalm 99 and the worship song was Our God Saves

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

1. Welcome

Hannah welcomed all to the meeting and thanked them for coming this evening.

2. Appointment of Scrutineers

Hannah confirmed that if there is any requirement for voting on this that herself and Deb Turner will do this.

3. Choosing of Churchwardens (2 for 1 year)

Lynne Gettings has been proposed by Mark Russell and seconded by Cathy Groslin
Mark Harris has been proposed by Jo Russell and seconded by Susie Shepherd.

As there are just 2 nominations for churchwardens and 2 vacancies, there is therefore no requirement for a vote. Hannah is delighted that Lynne and Mark will be joining us for a further year, and thanked them for all they have done so far and all they will be doing in the year to come.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. Elections

Elections for Parochial Church Council (2 members for 3 years)

Hannah confirmed that only those on the electoral roll would be able to vote, if it was required. There were 3 members that were nominated for the PCC role, but one of those people has asked to withdraw, which was Julia Thomas. Julia did not want to stand in the way of new people coming onto the PCC.

Jennifer Greenley was proposed by Jo Russell and seconded by Lynne Gettings.

Paul Philips was proposed by Sammy Huttley and seconded by Simon Cooper.

As there are now only 2 nominations for 2 vacancies, there is no requirement for a vote. Hannah thanked Jennifer and Paul for their nominations and stopped to pray for them as they begin their new roles on the PCC. Hannah also thanked those that were stepping down from the PCC and for all they have brought to it.

Hannah raised the issue of how many elected members there are on our PCC, as this needs to be in line with numbers on the electoral roll. It is the only place where we can extend and invite more members. This however won't come into effect immediately, it will be for 2021.

There are currently 6 elected members on the PCC which is quite low given the numbers on the electoral roll. Hannah doesn't want the PCC to become too big, but she is going to suggest at this APCM that we agree to extend our elected members by 2 more, so by 2021 there will be 8 elected members. In the interim period Hannah would like the PCC to work out how they would like to construct a healthy PCC with a workable number.

This was seconded by Mark Harris and agreed unanimously.

Elections for Deanery Synod (3 members for 3 years)

3 nominations have been received:

Adrian Jones. Proposed by Hugh Thomas and seconded by Petra Dean

Deborah Olawoye. Proposed by Jo Russell and seconded by Janet Jones

Sarah Adcock. Proposed by Jo Russell and seconded by Anne Mayne

As there are 3 vacancies and 3 nominations, there was no requirement for a vote. Hannah said that it is great to welcome them onto the PCC and also onto Deanery Synod. Hannah also thanked those who were stepping down from the Deanery Synod and for all they had brought to it.

Reports

2. Apologies for absence –

Apologies were received from Howard and Dee Gardener

3. Minutes of 2019 APCM

Corrections to be made to the minutes of the APCM 2019 meeting are as follows:

Page 4 says that Hugh Thomas goes monthly to preach at Wormingford, whereas it is actually a whole team that goes monthly, of which Hugh is part of.

Also on page 4, it describes the curate as being bouncy. Not quite sure what that means and the sentence will be removed.

Page 5 describes the LLM role as one that is open to anyone in the church. This should be amended to say that if anyone wants to consider the role, they can, but that it does take a lot of training and discernment.

Proposed corrections accepted by Mark Harris and seconded by Janet Jones.

There were 16 abstentions, due to people not being at the previous meeting.

4. Matters arising

None

5. Administrative Reports

a. Presentation of Electoral Roll

The electoral roll was sent this out earlier in the month. It was emailed out, and there were originally 146 people on the list. It contained one mistake, as an electoral roll is not allowed to include anyone that is ordained. Anne Mason is now ordained and so she is removed from the list. Tim Mason has also asked to be removed as they are more involved in the rural parishes. This makes it 144 on the electoral roll at St Luke's. Previously, the number was 127 so it is good to see an increase in numbers.

**b. Financial Report
(including Independent Examiner's Report)**

c. PCC Report

As a

further correction, Anne Mason was accidentally missed off the list of ministers under the PCC report and Church Life report. The Deputy Churchwardens should also have been included on the PCC report. These were simply mistakes that will be corrected.

d. Church Property Report

e. Diocesan Synod Report

f. Deanery Synod Report

6. LLM's Report

Do you remember those golden days of 2019, when Sunday morning began with the decision – “What shall I wear to church?”; maybe a hurried breakfast if you're like us, trying to squeeze in a few extra moments under the covers; what about starting the Sunday roast; and off to Highwoods?

What a changed landscape at present, but at least we are taking small steps back to meeting together, albeit in small, socially distanced, select groups.

Last Wednesday, I was reminded that, amongst all the negativity and gloom of our present situation, our God is very much alive and unfettered and is doing a new thing in and through his people. He is in control and has new things for us to do...

Our LLM task is to briefly look back to 2019 for a quick review of comings and goings, so here goes. Please forgive any errors or omissions from this list – please don't blame my co-LLM Diana!

- Colin Smith has been our illustrious Treasurer through the year, ably assisted by Jo Russell, Ian Duthie and Mark Hall.
- Sammy Huttley has been our Youth Leader.
- Karen Cakebread, our Families and Children Minister, and Hannah have led Munch.
- Thanks also to Anne Mayne and team, who were looking after the littlies in the creche on Sunday mornings.
- The chaplaincy at the Oak Tree Coffee House flourished up until lockdown, ministering to both staff and customers.
- We seem to have been growing priests since Hannah joined us, with Rev Chris Smith and Rev Anne Mason as our curates and Rev Paul Mann our Associate. In 2019 Janine Wild and Emma Smith embarked on the quest for ordination and are now on course.
- Anne continued to serve as Chaplain at The Gilbert School.
- Through the year a team supported the MMU, with monthly visits to Wormingford to lead a morning service there, whilst others were grafted to join Rev Mandy Elmes in her parishes of Gt Horkesley, Boxted with Langham, and West Bergholt. Following on from this, we now share our curate, Rev Anne with Mandy's parishes.
- Evening services were growing their own distinctive styles up until lockdown, and it has been encouraging to see them re-emerging since September, in reduced, safe form.
- Discipleship groups have grown, and, if anything, have become even more important during lockdown as the primary way to maintain some kind of personal contact beyond our Facebook services and the Zoom chat.

7. Church life reports

Hannah highlighted that the idea of an APCM is that it details all the different things that happen in our church. Hannah encouraged people attending the APCM to look through the reports and to read about what goes on. Some of the activities/ministries have been paused or changed due to Covid 19, but God is in control and where He wants us to move, we will flourish.

8. Appointments

a. Independent Examiner for 2020

Our independent examiner for last year was Sarah Large. Sarah has said that she would be very happy to be the independent examiner again. Hannah extended her thanks to Sarah.

Proposal accepted by Hugh Thomas

Seconded by Mark Harris

Agreed unanimously

9. Any other business

Lynne Gettings said that 2019 seems like a long time ago now but that we should stop and reflect and give God thanks for our leaders and staff: Hannah, Chris, Paul, Karen, Sammy, Guy and Susie at the Oak Tree. During 2019 we reflected and talked about growth but who could have seen the way that St Luke's has grown. It has grown through the online community, through the team of Helping Hands, through work in schools and through the planting of St Marks. Know that the leaders and staff would say its about the huge numbers of volunteers and we give thanks for all these people and for what is to come. Lynne thanked God for our leaders, staff team and volunteers and prayed that we commit afresh our work at this time. Lynne thanked God for all He has enabled us to do in this pandemic and that we trust God in the coming weeks and months.

10. Prayer & Blessing

Paul Mann finished the meeting with a blessing. Hannah thanked everyone for coming and being a part of this meeting and for giving up their time.

ST LUKE'S CHURCH REPORT

Welcome to Our 2020 Annual Report

2 Corinthians 4:8-10

⁸ We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. ¹⁰ We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.'

I feel this passage helps to sum up the year of 2020. We have been hard pressed, but not crushed, struck down but not destroyed. 2020 was an incredibly, very tough year, much of it spent under strict lock down restrictions. The pandemic has hit many elements of our life, restricting our movement, restricting our social contact, changing patterns for work, home schooling, and for some having to shield, has been a heavy burden to carry. The church, like everything else, has had its challenges. I smiled at the slogan 'The Church has left the building' but in reality, not being able to worship together in person has been really tough.

Not being able to sing together, not being able to meet in the Oak Tree, not being able to offer laying on of hands in prayer ministry, and not being able to offer a hug or hand on the shoulder for those who are suffering, has been so difficult. But, as reminded in the passage above, despite the hardships, Jesus is still Lord, Jesus has still risen and God is GOOD. We have rallied, we have done our best to still be church, even when we can't meet together for church.

There has been cause for celebration. This is the very first Annual report for the parish of Highwoods that now covers two churches in one parish! 2020 was also the year that, despite a global pandemic, we planted a brand-new church. Whoop Whoop! St. Mark's have spent their first 6 months meeting online via Zoom. Welcome members of both St. Luke's and St. Mark's.

It's now May 2021, and it feels like we've only just had our APCM which reviewed 2019 in October 2020, but it is good getting back into the rhythm of reviewing the previous year earlier in the year.

You might assume that, because of the pandemic, there hasn't been much going on within the Parish. While there has been some disruption and frustration, I hope the reports included will encourage you that plenty has continued and some new ministry has evolved. Please do read the whole document. Use it as an aid to pray and get excited for all that has happened, but also for all that will continue to happen over the next year.

As a family: myself, Simon and the kids really value the love and support that St. Luke's has continued to provide. We love being part of this wonderful fellowship.

Restrictions are beginning to ease, there is hope, but I feel there is still a long way to go – in this time of change and movement, I invite you to join me in prayer that God's glory and power may continue to break through.

Hannah

Revd. Hannah Cooper, Priest in Charge

Financial Report (including Independent Examiner's Report)

Independent Examiner's report to the PCC Of St Luke's Church Highwoods

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2020 which are set out on the following pages.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Sarah Large

Sarah Large BSc (Hons) CAT
4 St Clement Road
Colchester
Essex CO4 0LN
7th April 2021

Accounts/Financial Statements 2020

Colchester St Luke's PCC

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year ended 31 Dec 2020

		Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	YTD TOTAL 2020	TOTAL 2019
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary Receipts:						
Planned giving		£79,379.70			£79,379.70	£78,574.10
Envelopes		£5.00			£5.00	£1,180.00
Stewardship		£1,800.00			£1,800.00	£1,800.00
Collections and other giving		£265.66			£265.66	£1,143.14
One off Gift		£1,641.39			£1,641.39	£5,980.16
GiftAid Income Tax recovered		£19,167.94			£19,167.94	£19,055.88
Sub Total		£102,259.69	£0.00	£0.00	£102,259.69	£107,733.28
Other voluntary receipts						
Special collections	Note 6.1			£16,353.69	£16,353.69	£17,149.13
Donations (Restricted)	Note 6.2			£16,609.76	£16,609.76	£16,495.09
Receipts from activities for generating funds						
Fund raising events	Note 5	£800.00		£0.00	£800.00	£1,845.95
Receipts from Church activities						
Wedding fees		£580.00			£580.00	£690.00
Funeral fees		£1,702.00			£1,702.00	£1,310.00
Other Fees/income	Note 6	£213.73	£0.00	£0.00	£213.73	£1,063.02
Receipts from investments						
Bank and deposit interest		£39.96			£39.96	£83.53
TOTAL RECEIPTS		£105,595.38	£0.00	£32,963.45	£138,558.83	£146,370.00
PAYMENTS						
Church activities inside the parish						
The Ministry		£2,224.23			£2,224.23	£3,519.98
Insurance		£534.06			£534.06	£554.13
Church Services inc licence		£1,275.90			£1,275.90	£1,834.21
Donations and Grants	Note 6.2			£14,900.80	£14,900.80	£15,940.70
Hire of Buildings		£5,072.57			£5,072.57	£8,720.07
Training - Ministry & General		£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Training - C & F		£274.00			£274.00	£202.50
Training - Admin					£0.00	£0.00
Training - Youthworker		£100.00			£100.00	£200.00
Account Fee - Bank Charges		£40.00			£40.00	£60.00
Office costs inc. Software		£1,681.80			£1,681.80	£1,760.67
Staff & Pension		£31,495.72			£31,495.72	£34,175.15
Expenses - C & F		£341.85			£341.85	£292.08
Expenses - Admin		£225.00			£225.00	£0.00
Expenses - Youthworker		£300.00			£300.00	£300.00
Break Out/Xtra Time Expenses		£52.00			£52.00	£394.65
Gilberd Chaplaincy		£0.00			£0.00	£311.78
Miscellaneous		£151.25			£151.25	£379.86
PA	Note 6	£278.57	£0.00		£278.57	£896.77
Equipment	Note 6	£600.00	£6.00		£606.00	£841.56
People in Need	Note 6	£0.00	£0.00		£0.00	£1,220.00
Keep Cups		£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Funeral Fees		£2,035.00			£2,035.00	£496.00
Wedding Fees		£45.00			£45.00	£207.00
Parish Mission		£613.68			£613.68	£1,102.42
Flair		£0.00			£0.00	£133.96
C&F Ministry Midweek		£34.67			£34.67	£44.51
C&F Gforce+		£98.64			£98.64	£100.00
C&F First Roots		£16.30			£16.30	£36.53
C&F GForce		£38.25			£38.25	£177.19
C&F GForce takeaway		£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
C&F Schools		£45.70			£45.70	£0.00
Church activities outside the parish						
Diocesan Parish Share		£49,618.80			£49,618.80	£48,746.64
Mission & Mercy		£9,904.50			£9,904.50	£9,285.50
Special collections	Note 6.1			£23,528.35	£23,528.35	£14,956.41
Members' Mission		£0.00			£0.00	£105.81
Church Weekend		£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
Cost of Generating Funds	Note 5	£496.00			£496.00	£1,779.70
TOTAL PAYMENTS		£107,593.49	£6.00	£38,429.15	£146,028.64	£148,775.78
Revenue Surplus/(Deficit) for the period		-£1,998.11	-£6.00	-£5,465.70	-£7,469.81	-£2,405.78
Transfer between funds		-£1,155.43	£1,230.43	-£75.00	£0.00	-
Members Mission						
Mission & Mercy						
Adjusted Surplus/(Deficit) for the period		-£3,153.54	£1,224.43	-£5,540.70	-£7,469.81	-£2,405.78
Unrestricted Funds Designated Funds Restricted Funds TOTAL						
Cash at bank and in hand at 31-Dec-19		£25,821.74	£5,752.21	£26,865.91	£58,439.86	
Adjusted Surplus/(Deficit) for the period		-£3,153.54	£1,224.43	-£5,540.70	-£7,469.81	

Cash at bank and in hand at	31-Dec-20	£22,668.20	£6,976.64	£21,325.21	£50,970.05
Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2020					
Assets		Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL
Cash Funds (First Steps)		£0.00		£10.00	£10.00
Bank Current Account		£4,359.14			£4,359.14
Bank Giving Account		£7,886.45			£7,886.45
Bank Reserve Account		£10,422.61	£6,976.64	£21,315.21	£38,714.46
Other monetary assets		£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Total Assets		£22,668.20	£6,976.64	£21,325.21	£50,970.05
Liabilities					
Unprocessed Payments		£0.00			£0.00
Total Liabilities		£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Net Total Assets		£22,668.20	£6,976.64	£21,325.21	£50,970.05

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 overall. As an exception, the costs for PAYE, Employee NI, Employer NI and NEST Pension payments are accounted for on an accrued basis, in order to account for these liabilities in the period incurred (and to reconcile with our SAGE Payroll and SAGE accounting records).

2 The following assets are recognised but not necessarily included in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities: moveable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on trust for the PCC which would require a faculty for disposal.

3 The expenses paid to clergy may include a small immaterial proportion which relates to their function as PCC members. No other payments were made to PCC members.

4 St Lukes PCC is the majority shareholder in Highwoods Community Interest Company, holding 90.5% of the share capital at 31 December 2020. It is considered that there is no current market value for the shares.

5 Activities to generate funds	Receipts	Payments	Profit/Loss
Assington Camping	800.00	496.00	304.00
Church Weekend	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Mature Oaks	£0.00		£0.00
Keep Cups	£0.00		£0.00
Total	£800.00	£0.00	£304.00

6 SUMMARY OF FUNDS HELD	B/Fwd Jan 20	Receipts	Payments	Transfers C/Fwd December 20	
Unrestricted Funds					
General Fund	£25,821.74	£105,595.38	£107,593.49		
General Fund to YYAM				£0.00	
General Fund to PIN				-£1,200.00	
General Fund to Equipment				£0.00	
General Fund to PA				-£321.43	
General Fund to Members Mission Fund				£0.00	
General Fund to Solid Fund				£0.00	
General Fund To Parish Share Fund				-£2,709.00	
2016/17 Gift Allocation to General				£3,000.00	
Keep Cup receipts to General				£75.00	
Total Unrestricted Funds	£25,821.74	£105,595.38	£107,593.49	-£1,155.43	£22,668.20
Designated Funds					
People in Need	£1,397.00		£0.00	£1,200.00	£2,597.00
Equipment	£353.58		£6.00	£0.00	£347.58
PA	£1,001.63		£0.00	£321.43	£1,323.06
Parish Share	£0.00			£2,709.00	£2,709.00
Keep Cups	£0.00			£0.00	£0.00
2016/17 Gift - Deferred Giving	£3,000.00			-£3,000.00	£0.00
Total Designated Funds	£5,752.21	£0.00	£6.00	£1,230.43	£6,976.64

6.1 Restricted Funds - Special Collections

Uganda Fund	£3,577.71	£10,641.25	£11,275.00		£2,943.96
Community Coffee House	£17,469.88	£3,637.44	£9,300.00		£11,807.32
Munch Fund	£2,256.40	£0.00	£953.35		£1,303.05
Munch Grant Fund	£0.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00		£0.00
Keep Cups	£0.00	£75.00	£0.00	-£75.00	£0.00
Total Special Collections	£23,303.99	£16,353.69	£23,528.35	-£75.00	£16,054.33

6.2 Restricted Funds - Donations and Grants

Beacon House	£0.00	£82.22	£82.22		£0.00
Christmas Support Fund	£0.00	£750.00	£750.00		£0.00
Church Planting Fund	£0.00	£2,474.35	£2.44		£2,471.91
Diocese Church Plant Expenses	£0.00	£50.82	£50.82		£0.00
Diocese Plant Development Costs	£0.00	£345.83	£345.83		£0.00
First Steps	£156.12	£1,051.05	£407.37		£799.80
Gforce Club Night	£119.64	£29.00			£148.64
Men Behaving Boldly	£833.66	£48.86			£882.52

People in Need	£0.00	£4,203.59	£3,576.70		£626.89
People in Need (Covid-19)	£0.00	£3,131.54	£2,790.42		£341.12
Youthworker Fund	£2,452.50	£4,442.50	£6,895.00		£0.00
Total Donations and Grants	£3,561.92	£16,609.76	£14,900.80	£0.00	£5,270.88
Total Restricted Funds	£26,865.91	£32,963.45	£38,429.15	-£75.00	£21,325.21
Total Funds	£58,439.86	£138,558.83	£146,028.64	£0.00	£50,970.05

Approved by the standing committee on 11/05/2021.....and signed on their behalf by:

H. Cooper.....Position.... Priest in charge

B. Wynn.....Position.... Church warden

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF
ST LUKE, COLCHESTER**

Registered Charity Number 1159205

Additional notes to the Financial Statements for the period ending 31st December 2020

Accounting Policies

As stated, these financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, using the Receipts & Payments (i.e. Cash) basis, including any uncleared bank payments made.

These accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of any church groups or activities that owe their major affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds – General & Designated

General Funds represent the funds of the St Luke's PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use, and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Designated Funds represent the funds that have been designated for a particular purpose by the PCC, but these funds are also unrestricted regards their usage. St Luke's currently operates four designated funds as follows:

People In Need Fund, where the PCC allocated £100 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC as and when individual situations of serious personal need arise – due to the current pandemic the previous cap on the fund of £2000 has temporarily been removed.

PA Fund, where the PCC allocated £50 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC to invest in new or replacement PA equipment.

Equipment Fund, where the PCC allocated £50 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC to invest in new or replacement general equipment.

Parish Share, where the PCC allocated £225.75 per month from St Luke's general funds to this designated fund to provide a reserve for use by the PCC to support expected future increases in our Parish Share and/or to support an additional financial gift to the diocese given the current difficulties caused by the Covid 19 pandemic.

Funds - Restricted

Restricted funds are those funds that must be spent on restricted purposes. St Luke's currently operates restricted funds as follows:

Uganda Fund - where these funds have either been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the activities of the Nsambya Full Gospel Mission Church and/or Children's School(s) and Orphanage(s) in Kampala, Uganda.

Community Coffee House - where these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the Oak Tree Community Coffee House.

Munch Fund - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the work of the Munch Initiative.

Munch Grant Fund - whereby these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of supporting the work of the Munch Initiative.

Keep Cups – where these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of purchasing St Luke's Church "Keep-Cups"

Beacon House - where these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting Beacon House

Christmas Support Fund - where these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of providing a Christmas hamper to families in need within our parish.

Church Planting Fund - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the new Church Plant – now known as St Mark's.

Diocese Church Plant Expenses - whereby these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of supporting the Church Plant Expenses

Diocese Plant Development Costs - whereby these grant funds have been received specifically for the purpose of supporting the Church Plant Development Costs

First Steps - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the First Steps Group.

Gforce Club Night - where these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the St Luke's GForce Children's Ministry.

Men Behaving Boldly - where these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the St Luke's Men Behaving Boldly Missional Community.

People in Need - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting people in need.

People in Need (Covid-19) - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting people in need specifically impacted by Covid-19.

Youthworker Fund - whereby these funds have been given or otherwise raised specifically for the purpose of supporting the employment of a Youth Intern and/or Youthworker by St Luke's.

Receipts (Incoming Resources)

Planning Giving receipts and Collections & Other Giving receipts are both recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Income tax recovered (under Gift Aid) is also recognised only when received.

Income that is raised by any special events is accounted for gross, with any associated expenses being separately identified and disclosed - these are included under Note 5.

All other Income is also recognised only when received.

Expenditures (Resources Used)

Diocesan Quota - The Diocesan Quota or Parish Share is accounted for only when paid, but with any amounts still unpaid as at the 31st December being provided for an an operational liability, and shown as a Creditor in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

There is no outstanding amount payable with relation to the 2020 St Luke's Parish Share as at 31st December 2020.

Employment Costs - Salaries and associated PAYE and National Insurance costs payable to HMRC are accounted for only when paid, but with any amounts still unpaid as at 31st December being provided for as an operational liability, and shown as a Creditor in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

There are no amounts outstanding as at 31st December 2020.

Grants/Donations - Grants and donations made by the PCC are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded if the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

There are no such outstanding binding awards as at 31st December 2020.

Other Expense Items - All other expenditures are accounted for only when paid, unless any particular expense item incurred but not paid represents a material operational liability as at 31st December, and thus shown as a Creditor in the Balance Sheet.

Fixed Assets

Church Furnishings - Moveable Church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property, and are listed in the Church's Inventory.

For inalienable property that was already in existence as at the 1st October 2012, there is insufficient cost information available (such assets having been originally acquired by St John's PCC, Colchester), and thus are not valued in these accounts.

There have been no such items acquired in the period 1 January 2020 – 31st December 2020.

PA Equipment, Office Equipment & other Sundry Assets - Individual items with a purchase price of less than £1,500 are expensed in full at the time of original purchase.

Investments

General Investments – General investments held are valued at Market value as at 31st December 2020

There are no general investments held as at 31st December 2019.

Subsidiary Companies – Investments in Subsidiary Companies are stated at cost less any provision necessary for permanent diminution in value.

St Luke's PCC holds 90.5% of the ordinary share equity of the Highwoods Community Interest Company (HCIC)

The PCC considers that the investment in HCIC has no realisable value at present and thus, whilst noted, is not shown as an asset within the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Current Assets

No debtor amounts are shown in respect of any fees or other amounts due at 31st

December, as all income is accounted for only when received and there are no

material amounts outstanding as at 31st December 2020.

End

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF ST LUKE, COLCHESTER
STATEMENT OF PCC RESPONSIBILITIES

The PCC are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the PCC for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The PCC are responsible for keeping accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the PCC and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the PCC and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

St Luke's Church, Colchester – PCC Report for 2020

Introduction

St Luke's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent in promoting within the parish the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It oversees and directs the mission and work of the church of St Luke's, Colchester, meeting at St John's & Highwoods Community Centre on Highwoods. The report of the PCC which follows, along with the Church Life Reports of the various ministry streams of the church, illustrate how the PCC fulfils its obligations to benefit the public ~ mainly to the worshipping congregation and to the local community, but also beyond.

PCC Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Priest in Charge: The Revd. Hannah Cooper

Curate: Revd Chris. Smith

Curate: Revd Anne Mason (Shared with Gt. Horkesley, Boxted & Langham & West Bergholt)

Associate Priest: Revd. Paul Mann

Church Wardens

Mark Harris

Lynne Gettings

Deputy Church Wardens

Jennifer Greenley

Mark Visage

PCC Treasurer

Colin Smith

Licensed Lay Ministers

Diana Bengel-Abbott

Hugh Thomas

Deanery Synod Representatives

Adrian Jones

Deborah Olawoye

Sarah Adcock

PCC Elected Members

Pearson Nago

Mark Visagie

Stuart Angier

Nyenye Motsi

Jennifer Greenley

Paul Philips

Standing Committee

Hannah Cooper

Lynne Gettings

Stuart Angier

Mark Harris

Adrian Jones

Colin Smith

PCC Committees

The PCC operates through a number of groups, which meet between the full meetings of the PCC:

Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to the directions given by the Council.

Finance Group

The general financial dimension of the work of St Luke's is accomplished by monitoring income and expenditure, setting budgets, maintaining financial controls and co-ordinating the annual accounts. This work is overseen on the PCC's behalf by the Finance Group, led by the PCC Treasurer.

Mission and Mercy Giving Away

The Mission and Mercy budget is apportioned to support mission and charities at home and abroad including regular reviews of the 'agencies' to which St Luke's gives.

Uganda Fund

This fund exists to support the Nsambya School, Orphanage and Clinic in Kampala, Uganda that St Luke's has links with, mainly through child sponsorship but also through occasional gifts for other purposes.

Church Attendance

After the annual update of the Electoral Roll in 2020 there were 140 people on the Roll, 63 of these being resident in the parish, 77 being non-resident.

The average weekly attendance for our main online morning service, counted during October, was 70 computers. During the whole of 2020 there were no Baptisms or Thanksgivings. 1 wedding took place at St. Johns. There were 7 Funerals

Review of the Year 2020

The PCC met 6 times during 2020. The Finance Group met as necessary and reported back to the PCC, via the Treasurer. The Standing Committee did not meet formally during 2020, but Standing Committee members made urgent decisions on behalf of the PCC by e- mail, on a small number of occasions.

In 2020, St Luke's PCC sought to advance the Christian religion and benefit the public in the following ways:

- Weekly Sunday public worship services held at St. John's and Highwoods Community Centre, on Highwoods, including activities for children and young people, and monthly quiet Holy Communion services held at the Oak Tree Coffee House, until March 2020, when the pandemic meant we were no longer able to meet in person.
- From March 2020, we moved our main morning worship online and offered occasional face to face evening services when restrictions allowed.
- Our Midweek discipleship groups have continued to meet. These groups have enabled church members to grow in their faith, show friendship and support to one another, and to connect with members of the wider community.
- Running monthly Men's breakfasts at a local pub. Until March, when this moved online.
- Run a number of different children's and youth activities. From March 2020, these have mainly been via Zoom.
- Began a new service called Families Faith and Fun, designed for families with primary aged children, this has been a face-to-face service, held when restrictions allowed.
- Running a weekly term-time parent and toddler group, when restrictions allowed.
- Providing an e-mail-based 'PrayerNet', enabling church members and others the opportunity to share needs and concerns with church members, who then pray for the situations shared.
- Supporting church members trained as Street Pastors who offer a listening ear, help and friendship to the youth culture in Colchester town centre on Friday and Saturday nights. Again, the Street Pastors have had a very unusual year due to the pandemic.
- Supporting Colchester Foodbank, which provides emergency food parcels to families and individuals in crisis. Supporting Beacon House, which supports people who are homeless, at risk of homelessness or in insecure accommodation in Colchester.
- Giving 10% of our annual income away to a range of local, national and international charities and Christian ministries.
- Running a child sponsorship scheme for children attending Nsambya School in Kampala, Uganda.
- Running a community coffee shop - 'The Oak Tree Coffee House' - in Highwoods Shopping Centre. As well as being a pleasant venue in which local residents can enjoy a range of good quality beverages and snacks, and purchase local crafts and 'TraidCraft' products, the Oak Tree is also used as a meeting venue by St Luke's for various groups outside of business hours and is available for hire by other community groups. The Oak Tree has been established under

a separate legal entity, Highwoods Community Interest Company, in which St Luke's PCC is the majority shareholder.

- Set up the Oak Tree Chaplains, who offer a listening ear and an opportunity to talk at the Oak Tree Coffee House on a Wednesday morning. Since March, this hasn't been able to happen.
- Reports have been received from Deanery Synod.
- Links with schools in the parish have continued to develop, including being involved in assemblies (some online!), lessons (online!), church visits – which happened via a film, during home schooling. We have also been able to provide hampers, craft sets and financial assistance to families that the school has identified as struggling.
- We celebrated the priesting of our Curate Revd. Anne Mason.
- Planted a new Church, St. Mark's.

On behalf of the PCC

Revd. Hannah Cooper
Chair of PCC

Parish Response to Covid 2020

Since the pandemic and lock down hit in March 2020, the church has been reaching out to the local community. We quite quickly developed Helping Hands, a small team of people who were able and willing to commit to a weekly trip to Tesco, to retrieve shopping or prescriptions. This meant that there was one person available to go to Tesco each day of the week (excluding Sundays) this really helped those that were shielding and unable to get an online delivery. This group also collected food bank parcels. A special covid response People in Need stream of funding was also established to support those in our community who were really struggling.

This has been an amazing opportunity to reach out and meet new members of our community and it's through our Helping Hands that new members have joined our church.

During the pandemic we were able to offer free picnic lunches for kids in October half term at the Oak Tree, and then Essex County Council offered funding which has enabled us to offer hampers to the local schools. Each time we have provided 50 hampers, which have been given to Brinkley and Highwoods school to give out to their families that are most in need.

Thank you to all those who have volunteered and worked to make this happen.

Prayer points:

- Pray for all the connections that have been made, Lord give us creativity to use these connections wisely.
- Lord, continue to give us opportunities to work in our local community.

Revd Hannah Cooper

Our Church Planting DNA

In 1981, the then vicar of St. John's Church (Revd. Brian Nicholson) had a vision for a "Christian presence and community involvement on the new development on Highwoods". He saw that presence as being "in the form of a minister and involvement in a community building through which local Christians could minister to the varying needs of the Highwoods estate".

The vision started to become reality in February 1990, when 28 members of St. John's were commissioned to begin a monthly family service in Highwoods Primary School. 2 years later, weekly services began.

Meanwhile, a Resident's Association was set up to explore the possibility of building a community centre. On Palm Sunday 1998, the congregation processed in celebration from the Primary School to the newly-built Community Centre.

Even in these early days of the life of St. Luke's, there was a strong sense that planting was in its DNA - seeds of faith, born from prophetic prayer. Revd. Peter Cook was the Associate Minister at that time. He would regularly prayer walk in North Colchester along with Daphne Digweed, one of the original church planters and a Reader at St. Luke's. As part of one prayer walk Daphne planted acorns at the very spot where the new community centre is to be built at the site of the old rugby club. We didn't know this until very recently when Pete shared it with us. We were deeply moved to recognise that God's hand was on the planting of St. Mark's all those years ago.

At a PCC Away Day in January 2020 where the PCC was prayerfully reflecting on vision and priorities for St. Luke's, there was a strong desire from the PCC to plant a church. Bishop Roger joined the PCC meeting in February and the PCC communicated this to him. At that meeting Bishop Roger shared the plans for the refurbishment of the old rugby club, which was to become St. Mark's Community Centre. It was hoped that this might become the place of worship for the new church plant once the Community Centre was completed.

Within a month of the February PCC meeting, the country was in lockdown as a result of the pandemic. However, prayer, planning and commitment to the church plant continued throughout this time - even when we knew that face to face worship might not be possible.

Amazingly, against all the human odds, we commissioned 31 members of St Luke's Church in November 2020 via Zoom to plant St. Mark's Church. It was a wonderful celebration of God's people following him.

As we reflect on the planting of St. Luke's and the planting of St. Mark's, there are echoes in the journey. The timing, the detail, the leadership have been in God's hands as he has weaved the threads into place.

St. Mark's Church Plant – The Journey So Far

On Sunday 8th November 2020, 31 members of St. Luke's Church (20 adults and 11 children) were prayed for and sent out to establish a new worshipping community in the parish. This commissioning service was held using the Zoom video conferencing suite as the United Kingdom was in a national lockdown due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

St. Mark's Church met for the first time on Sunday, 15th November, with the Zoom platform enabling 'live' worship with the whole congregation invited to participate in and lead as much as possible. By the end of 2020, we saw our youngest and eldest members taking an active part in worship, and while it has been a struggle to not meet together, the new church is really getting to know each other.

As well as the whole church family service, children and youth have had their own Sunday gathering that combines fun, friendship, bible teaching and prayer. A few weeks in, and the young people were already beginning to value and own these groups.

With the younger members being well disciplined, the adults began to gather mid-week as one large group in preparation for the launch of three separate discipleship groups at the start of 2021. This mid-week gathering was a brilliant way to go deeper with each other, with God and in prayer.

None of us began 2020 expecting to be part of a new vibrant worshipping community by the end of the year, let alone that we would be doing so via some unheard-of video conferencing technology. Yet this is the journey we have been on, and God's goodness has got us this far.

Here's to a 2021 where we can get out in the community, share God's love and see His Kingdom expanded here in Highwoods.

Rev. Chris Smith
Church Plant Leader, St. Mark's Church

Church Property Report 2020

The only major item of expenditure in 2020, was £606 for the Laptop for our new Administrator.

Lynne Gettings and Mark Harris

Diocesan Synod Report for APCM – A year like no other – 2020

The opening Diocesan Synod of 2020 was scheduled to take place on 18th March, but could not take place as the Great Lockdown was upon us. In June, a Diocesan Synod was held, but was informal on Zoom as the legal niceties were as yet unclear.

As COVID-19 had forced us into meeting online, instead of face-to-face, so the legal measures were put in place to allow churches to function, particularly in the areas of governance. Our worship services had previously been given broad approval from the national church, as well as from the Diocese, but a "Bishop's Instrument" was still required to allow the proper functioning of Diocesan Synod, along with APCMs, Deanery Synods and PCCs to take place by electronic means... Consequently, Diocesan Synod convened for the first time this year in October 2020. The **Presidential Address** was very much a word in season, not least as Bishop Stephen had left for York, so that the link was given here for those who would wish to hear what Bishop Peter brought from "Barnabas and the Rule of 6."

<https://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/news/article/diocesan-synod-october-2020-presidential-address>

The business of the Diocesan Synod focussed on the ongoing work of the **Racial Justice Task Group**, with a verbal report from Bishops Peter and Roger. This group had been set up in response to the Black Lives Matter.

Other items discussed featured the **Stewardship Project**, where the working group were proposing to encourage three major themes:

- a. Promoting sacrificial giving as a part of our Christian discipleship.
- b. Refreshing our ecclesiology to renew our commitment to shared responsibility.
- c. Resourcing parishes to equip them with effective practical tools - especially the promotion of the Parish Giving Scheme.

The project would draw upon some of the key themes from the seasons of the liturgical year, starting from Kingdom Season - Anticipation, thanksgiving, through to Candlemas - Completion / looking forward/ expectation. Because of our current restrictions, much of this will be using digital media and online resources.

2021 Budget - A paper was brought that introduced the draft 2021 budget for the general fund.

Diocesan Environment Group - At the February meeting of General Synod, a motion was passed, committing the entire Church of England to achieving carbon neutrality by 2030. Each diocese is required to address the implications of this motion. During Lockdown, the DEG has been engaging with others across the diocese to formulate the right response to this motion within Chelmsford Diocese. The secondment of Revd James Gilder as Diocesan Environment Officer, has enabled a project plan to be drafted which aims to address the entire scope of the task, as set by the national Church. The plan aims to achieve very significant reductions in the carbon generated by the work of this diocese, in the most pragmatic way possible as a significant priority within the Fifth Mark of Mission.

[Information on what is expected of an Eco-Diocese can be found here - <https://ecochurch.arochoa.org.uk/denominational-awards/eco-diocese/>]

A month later, a further Diocesan Synod online meeting took place (on Saturday, 21st November).

The **Racial Justice Task Group** reported back the progress that had been made following October's meeting, including the National Task Group's discovery that little action had been taken in response to recommendations made since 1985 concerning racial justice.

A report entitled, "Reflections on 2020 from the Youth Synod" was submitted which spoke of:

- Different impacts which the pandemic and lockdown had had on young people, particularly the more vulnerable.
- Some members had lost contact with their Church, others were still engaged, although all found it difficult to have conversations from afar.
- One youth synod member commented that this is a time when we understand who we are.
- There were stresses with exams and school work, many had struggled to engage.
- In some cases, the distance has strengthened relationships with others.
- There are constant changes and most felt it was good to have structure to some extent.
- The Church can best engage with young people in these challenges.
- Their speaker shared personal experience of working with Ambulance Services and the impact the pandemic and lockdown had on mental health and the isolation some experienced, particularly people in care homes.

Further business covered the Deployment and Affordability of Stipendiary (paid) Incumbents, along with a proposal to change the representation of clergy and lay people at the forthcoming 2021 Diocesan Synod Elections.

Hugh Thomas
Diocesan Synod rep for Colchester Deanery

Deanery Synod Report 2020

Lay representatives plus clergy from all the Colchester Anglican churches meet three times a year, to hear what's going on in the Diocese and nationally, and to discuss and share ideas about how we can work together more effectively across Colchester.

11th February 2020 at St. Margaret's, Berechurch

- The Good News Story this month came from St. Stephens' Church and John Clifton gave an excellent presentation regarding the Eco Church Scheme which St. Stephens' had recently signed up to, and invited sister churches in the Deanery to do the same.

- Our area Dean, Reverend Canon Paul Norrington gave a presentation updating Synod members on the Deanery Vision Plan (DVP) which had been approved by the Deanery Standing and Pastoral Committee (DSPC) on 27th January 2020.
- Synod was informed that the DSPC had appointed John Chandler as Deanery Finance Officer.

25th June 2020 – Online via ‘Zoom’

- The Archdeacon of Colchester, Venerable Ruth Patten and Area Mission and Ministry Advisor, Reverend Phil Ritchie gave a presentation entitled ‘*Towards Financial Resilience*’, discussing the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our parishes. This was followed by a question and answer session.

1st December 2020

- At the time of writing of this report a further Deanery Synod is to be held on 1st December 2020. Again, due to current restrictions which are in place because of the COVID-19 pandemic, this Synod will be held online vis zoom. Further details will follow.

CHURCH LIFE REPORTS

Mission & Ministry – Colchester

Ministry Team 2020

We believe that every person who has been baptised into the body of Christ has been commissioned by Jesus for ministry in his church. This belief is lived out by encouraging and equipping every member of St Luke's Church to fulfil their part in Father God's mission of love to the whole of humanity.

Included in our ministry team are a team of paid and licensed staff who encourage and guide the ministry of St Luke's Church.

Paid Staff

Administrator	Deb Turner
Children's and Families Worker	Karen Cakebread
Youth Worker	Sammy Huttley

Licensed Staff

Priest-in-Charge	Revd. Hannah Cooper
Associate Priest	Revd. Paul Mann
Curate	Revd. Christopher Smith
Curate	Revd. Anne Mason
Licensed Lay Minister	Diana Benge-Abbott
Licensed Lay Minister	Hugh Thomas

At the beginning of 2021, we also welcomed Revd. Lisselle Clarke-Moisley as Curate at St. Luke's, which technically should wait till next year to report, but we are really pleased to have her!

Revd. Hannah Cooper

Evening Services 2020

During 2020, evening services are where most of our face-to-face services have happened. This is because from March 2020, our main morning service has stayed online – Facebook or YouTube. The community centre is too small to accommodate all of us together, due to social distancing requirements – we can accommodate 25 in the hall for a service and there have been many who would not have been able to attend due to shielding, so we made the decision to leave the main morning service online, and when the restrictions allowed, we met in small numbers for our evening services 3 times a month.

We developed a new evening service on the 1st Sunday of the month, a service devoted to prayer – which is now run by a small team. This service has always met on Zoom, as we felt it was important to provide something online alongside the face-to-face options.

During strict lock down, we also offered Revive on Zoom, where there was live worship, a sermon, and an opportunity for discussion in small break out rooms.

For all those that have been involved in the different types of evening services, thank you! It's not been easy working around the changing restrictions, but it has helped to encourage and bring hope.

Prayer points:

- That we would hear where God is leading us in terms of evening services
- That restrictions would allow more regular evening services

Revd. Hannah Cooper

Midweek Discipleship Groups 2020

Mid-week discipleship groups were launched during 2017, and have incorporated some of the continuing missional communities such as Men Behaving Boldly, Mum's the Word and Mature Oaks.

We encourage everyone within St. Luke's to belong to a mid-week group, either missional community or discipleship group. To give you a flavour:

During 2020 We have the following discipleship groups led by:

Tuesday

Jennifer Greenley

Sarah Adcock and Gillian Hobbs

Chris and Emma Smith (moved to church plant November 2020)

Wednesday

Janine Wilde & Dawn Lewis

Paul Mann & Susie Shepherd

Thursday

Hugh Thomas (Mature Oaks)

Diana Abbott / Mark Harris

Tim Ford and Diana (Thursday church)

Mark Russell (Men Behaving Boldly)

Friday

Susie Sanderson & Karen Cakebread (Mum's the Word)

Hugh Thomas & Adrian Jones

As with the whole 2020, some groups have found it easy to move online, others have struggled. Please pray for the leaders of each of these groups, and for the members that are meeting regularly to study the bible and pray together. If you are currently not within a missional community or a discipleship group, please do get in contact with me, and I can attempt to match your requirements with a group!

Revd. Hannah Cooper

Mature Oaks 2020

In the first two months of 2020 the pattern of meetings for Mature Oaks continued, with coffees shared with St. John's Church, Great Horkesley, along with the Happiness Course, interspersed with trips to the Rovers Tye and various charity tea rooms. Little did we think when we met in Brightlingsea on 12th March that we would be grounded the following week, and forced to go online. Up to then, Zoom had been some sort of ice lolly my grandchildren would want from the Ice Cream van: now it was to be our regular virtual meeting place!

Ever since, we have been meeting weekly on Thursdays for virtual coffee and godly chatter, and this has proved to be a huge support to us all through these difficult times. At the same time, a number of us also wanted to study the Bible together, so Tuesdays became the “Mature Plus Zoom Session.”

During the summer, we were able to break out into the Country Park twice for socially distanced masked interactions, whilst some of us managed to share a monthly communion service in October to December.

Back in April 2013, there had been a meeting held at the Oak Tree Coffee House, described as an “Acorn Plant” This had been in response to our church vision for “Growth.” At the time we recognised the need to strengthen pastoral care and ministry for older folk, and this grew into the Mature Oaks.

With the launch of St. Mark’s, we were encouraged to reassess our position. A survey showed that we wished to remain together, whilst also recognising that our membership was no longer restricted to “older folk.”. Our new pattern of meeting for virtual coffee on Zoom continued to serve our needs, with continuing mutual support for those of our number who do not have the internet.

In January 2021, Mature Oaks broadened its appeal to others and rebranded to form Friends In Faith. More of this next APCM!

Hugh Thomas

Oak Tree Coffee House 2020

Goodness, what a year we had!! Lockdown meant that for most of the year we were shut. The sadness at not being able to be with each other and serve our community was very difficult. For those that serve at the Oak Tree, we are a family and support each other. It was very upsetting to have to close for such a long time.

However, Father God is good and through the marvel of technology I was able to pester everyone and keep in contact. A huge thanks to the Directors for doing the same with the team. Communication matters so much and was a lifeline in those lonely times.

There has been much excitement about returning to work and we have been reunited with our community. It’s been wonderful.

I would ask that you pray for those that hold Leadership roles in the Oak Tree. That we would always listen first and react after. That we would always seek to be excellent stewards of what we’ve been trusted with. That the team would always know how valued they are and how integral they are. By far the biggest prayer: That Father God would always have His way and that He would reign in that place and in the heart of those that run it.

Susie

Men’s Ministry 2020

We are the Men’s group and during 2020 met on a regular basis, every fortnight for Beer and Prayer and monthly for Men’s Breakfast. All now on Zoom. It’s been great to meet, chat and pray. If you want to join us or want more info please just mail us at men@stlukescolchester.org.uk

Mark Russell

Colchester Deaf Church 2020

Colchester Deaf Church started meeting once a month in the Oak Tree Coffee House in October 2019. We enjoyed gatherings from January to March 2020, with numbers between 8 and 15. It was so special that we were able to meet in March, the week before lockdown began. We were able to start a WhatsApp group before being separated. Of the core 8 members, half of us do not have a computer, or access to the internet or to Facebook, so WhatsApp became an essential lifeline.

From May, we started filming ourselves signing the different parts of our services, and Tim Abbott edited them for us. These were shared on Facebook and WhatsApp. In the autumn, some of us were able to meet in the community centre, a much larger space so we could be well spaced out, with thanks to Churchwarden Mark Harris, and our new Churchwarden for Deaf Church, David Spayne, for making this possible.

In March 2020, in God's amazing timing, there were two new national initiatives. One was a new Facebook group, BSL Church Worship. All the various Deaf Churches around the country started posting their services, or individual Christians shared a signed song or "thought for the day". Whereas before, my Deaf brothers and sisters had access to church once a month, now they could go to 2 or 3 church services every Sunday!

The second was a new website called Christian BSL. This is a developing collection of signed prayers, bible readings, and a dictionary of Christian jargon. For Christmas, they created a carol service, presented by Deaf Christian leaders from around the country. This was published on YouTube and Facebook on the Saturday before Christmas, and amazingly the lockdown rules allowed us to gather at the community centre to watch it, joining with a thousand other people across the country, from Scotland to Cornwall. What a joy!

- Give thanks and praise for technology and for these two new ventures that have meant that Deaf Christians, normally so isolated, have been able to continue to grow in their faith and to feel part of a much larger Church.
- Please pray as we find new ways to be together in the future, especially for those without access to technology, and as we try to reach out to isolated Deaf people across our area.

Pray for all deaf and hard of hearing people, as we emerge wearing face masks; making communication that was already difficult and stressful, impossible. Please be patient, and take the initiative to find a way to communicate; maybe taking a step back and lowering your facemask so that someone can lipread you, or writing something down on paper or on your phone and showing it. In Mark 7, Jesus took a deaf man away from the crowd and showed him what he was doing, so that he could understand him. We need to learn from Jesus how to treat people with kindness and respect.

Diana Benge-Abbott

Children's Ministry (0-10yr olds) 2020

Highlights:

- Seeing our St. Luke's families sharing their faith together within their own homes. Witnessing them create their own rituals and ways of worshipping God together, which was unique to their family alone. Observing families growing together in faith, which has continued through the Family, Faith and Fun Services (where we can meet in person) once a month.
- Being able to continue to support out MUNCH families (now 15 in total) through the COVID epidemic. During this period of home schooling, shielding and isolation we have been able to offer pastoral care and practical support to all of our families and observe these families

supporting one another which was great. We provided ongoing parcels over the summer holidays and vouchers to visit the Oak Tree Coffee House for a substantial lunch together.

- Seeing my own daughter's confidence grow through the online Cakebread Productions and our church children who have added so much to our Sunday Services through leading, reading and being a part of our bigger online Sunday services.
- Creatively adapting the ways in which we could support our local schools by creating videos to supplement assemblies, RE topics and Church Visits.

Plans:

- To begin exploring and praying about the best way forward with regards to re-establishing Sunday and midweek children's groups, schools work and MUNCH over the summer as we gradually come out of lockdown.

Prayers:

- That God would continue to hold what the future of our Children's and Families Work might look like and that it would be His plans that unfold.
- I'd love to pray a prayer of thanks and blessing over Stef Jones and Cris Emmott who have amazingly supported me and the children's work over the last few years!! Their wisdom, sensitivity, fun and heart for the children will be missed as they both felt called to move onto St. Mark's. May God continue to bless them in whatever way they decide to continue their ministries, you both will be missed!
- So, in saying that, I pray that all the resources, support and volunteer help (that will be needed in regrowing our Children's Ministry Team, our kids' groups and all aspects of this role), would be sustainable and forthcoming as and when it is needed.

Karen Cakebread

Youth 2020

During 2020 our youth have been wonderfully led by Sammy, our youth worker, who is currently on Maternity leave, so I am writing the report for the APCM.

As with many of our ministries our youth haven't been able to meet very much in person, but I was excited to see how quickly Sammy and the youth team moved to provide resources that the youth could assess and engage in.

The youth have met weekly via zoom since last March, which is an amazing testament to both the young people's commitment and the commitment of our youth team.

I have loved how involved our youth have been in many of our online services, providing readings and prayers, and on occasion taking the whole lead of the service.

United

As St. Mark's was planted in November 2020, it was important that our youth had opportunities to continue meeting together – so United was started, giving opportunities for youth from both St. Luke's and St. Mark's to meet together.

Mentoring

During 2020 our mentoring programme began to build, we hope during 2021 we will be able to offer a mentor to each of our amazing young people.

Solid

Unfortunately, all of the summer youth gatherings like Solid were cancelled, due to the pandemic, so we weren't able to get involved in anything bigger. We hope this might be different for 2021.

Prayer points:

- To continue to pray for our amazing young people
- To give thanks for those who give up their time to encourage and teach our youth
- Wisdom to see how our youth can continue to be an integral part of the parish
- Opportunities to reach out and offer youth opportunities across the MMU

Revd. Hannah Cooper

Chaplaincy at The Gilberd 2020

As you may already know, Revd. Anne Mason has been the CYO chaplain in the Gilberd Secondary School since 2017. This was a three-way agreement between St. Luke's, CYO and the Gilberd School. Anne did an amazing job kick starting this role. She became well known to both staff and young people and became a most respected and sort after member of staff. As Anne began her curacy, we knew that this role wouldn't be something Anne would be able to maintain long term, and so in February 2020, Anne stepped down from the role. I'm really pleased that CYO has appointed a new chaplain for the Gilberd in September 2020: Revd. Sarah Haywood – who is also the pioneer minister in Myland Parish. While there is less direct contact between St. Luke's and the Gilberd I am really pleased this role has been filled by someone who is a key part of the North Colchester Family of Churches MMU (Mission and Ministry Unit).

Prayer points:

- Prayer for Sarah as she continues to develop her ministry at the Gilberd
- Prayer for the students – all have been affected by the national pandemic and home learning
- Prayer for the staff – as they continue to pick up the pieces both academically and pastorally

Revd. Hannah Cooper

Pastoral Care Team 2020

The Pastoral Care Team is connected into the overall ministry of St. Luke's through the Ministry Leadership Team.

The Pastoral Care Team seeks to oversee the pastoral care that is exercised within the fellowship of St. Luke's. This important ministry is undertaken **by our members for our members**. This is an important principle, as we are all part of this ministry: for every act of loving kindness that wells up from the compassion set within us is part of the fulfilment of St Paul's charge to the church in Rome when he writes about 'Love in Action' (see Romans 12:9-21).

The outworking of this has been providing practical care and support as we meet the short-term needs of folk within our fellowship. We continue to provide this care in accordance with appropriate guidelines, especially when this involves the needs of children and young people and those who are 'vulnerable adults'.

A small team has continued to meet regularly over the past 9 months (since our last APCM), to provide oversight of our pastoral care. In our meetings we both pray over and review our pastoral care provision. This is always undertaken in such a way that confidences are maintained and respected. Our main areas of focus have been:

- What pastoral care have we been able to offer?

- Have there been any ‘missed opportunities’?
- Where do we focus our effort in the future?

Our meetings have also included a review of the pastoral care that has been offered through the ‘St. Luke’s Helping Hands’ initiative, that has reached out to those who have needed support during the coronavirus pandemic.

Pastoral Care Team: Paul & Lorraine Mann, Hannah Cooper, Diana Bengel-Abbott, Karen Cakebread, Hugh Thomas and Jo Russell.

If you know of a pastoral need, please do ensure you pass this information on to a member of the pastoral team.

Prayer for 2021:

- That Father God would continue to guide and inspire all of us to look with care, concern and compassion on those around us as we emerge from the unprecedented time we have been living through.
- That we would continue to make a difference and be aware of the extant and emerging pastoral needs of both the congregation and the local community.

May Father God continue to bless us all in all we do.

Paul & Lorraine Mann – Pastoral Care Co-ordinators

Assington 2020

Unfortunately, we weren’t able to host our usual annual weekend at Assington away, due to the pandemic. We were incredibly grateful for the use of Assington Hall as a camping venue for families and friends of St. Luke’s. Thank you, Lucy and Paul, for hosting us.

Revd. Hannah Cooper

Prayer at St Luke’s 2020

“The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.” (Exodus 14:14)

This past year, with its challenges, frustrations and heartache, has been one which none of us could ever have foreseen and it has affected us all. Our church life, and how we do church, has also changed. Yet, in all of this, God remains constant. This passage reminds us that, even when things are difficult and God seems distant, He is always there and always for us. Sometimes the best thing to do is to be still and let God be God.

This report has been written to outline the ways that prayer has continued to play a central part in the life of St Luke’s:

- **Corporate Prayer:** One of the benefits about meeting remotely has been the way it has helped many people engage - often in much greater numbers than before. There has been a number of prayer meetings on different topics and it has been great to have restarted a regular monthly prayer meeting on the first Sunday of each month. This has involved listening to God and interceding on various issues locally and in the wider world.
- **Prayer events:** Covid restrictions have again put some of our regular events on hold. Nevertheless, we have continued with others - albeit in a different format; for example, a special live-streamed reflective service for Good Friday this year. Thy Kingdom Come in 2020 was also marked with a series of written reflections and a zoom prayer meeting.

- **Prayer net:** Prayer net has continued – communicating prayer requests for specific needs to those who are on the mailing list. It is always encouraging being able to pray both for those inside and outside the church and seeing answers to those prayers.
- **Praying for and supporting each other:** Although prayer ministry on Sundays has obviously been put on hold, supporting each other both practically and through prayer has remained essential; not least through the mid-week groups - some of which have developed very close relationships with each other through this time and deepened their prayer life too.

Please pray:

- Thanking God for having been with us in the past year (even at moments when we found His presence hard to see.)
- For our continued journey with prayer in St Luke's as lockdown restrictions start to ease - and how we might go from here.
- For all of us, both collectively and as individuals, that we may experience the power of prayer, be motivated to pray and see the difference it makes!

Sarah Adcock (prayer co-ordinator)

Worship Ministry 2020

It's been an unusual time for all of us learning how to adapt the way we express sung worship. There is something so very wonderful and powerful when Father God's children come together to lift their voices in praise to Him. To have had that taken away has only made me value it more. I'm looking forward to this season being over and a new one starting.

Coming before Him in worship, I would encourage us all to recognise He deserves our praise. That sung worship isn't about us but rather about the One who made us. It's one of the ways we say thank you. In all things, we need to think about what we are singing to Him and not just sing the words we see. He is worthy of it all.

Know who you are in Him and recognise that you have value, that you are on this Earth because He wanted it.

Susie

Mission & Ministry – Beyond Colchester

Uganda 2020

I have been keeping in contact with our friends in Uganda. Here is the latest message from Pastor Paul:

“Church is doing well and we pray for more of the presence of the Lord. The school is progressing, now being officially open. Careers for young people have been affected by the COVID lockdown. We have just done our PLE National Exams and awaiting results. The teachers are doing their best in such an environment. Please pray for us as many schools are struggling to meet their budgets (the funds sent by St Luke's help but we are seeing less children due to the current situation). Many teachers found other employment during school lockdown and I am afraid we may not get them back in the education sector. We are still having problems with the drainage and we need to build a church on higher ground. The plans have been submitted but not yet through to approval.”

The above message I received on 30th April. I know when I have been out there, I have seen the church flooded, the floor and the equipment ruined. I know the water can reach up to the windows. Thank you, to all those who give to Uganda, as without your help, they would struggle.

They do their best and most of the children are from the surrounding slum, and many parents cannot afford the fees. Pastor Paul has a kind heart and tries to accommodate many. At least those children get some education. Life is hard and even when many young people go on to High School, they cannot always find employment and remain in the slum.

A few years back, St Luke's contributed towards the fees for drawing up the plans for a new church. But things in Uganda move slowly and are always changing. It is good to know the plans have gone forward for approval. Please pray they go through without any more changes and hold ups. Pray also that Pastor Paul can get good teachers, the problem being he cannot pay what some schools pay their teachers (there is not a set scale, if there is, it cannot always be met). So many good teachers go to international schools in Kampala or to other districts outside the capital where the pay may be higher, depending on how they are funded. The system out there can be complicated. However, I have attended joint educational meetings and there is a desire and move to improve education within the country.

Finally, as you may or may not know Pastor Paul is head (like a bishop) of the Full Gospel Churches in Uganda and he is responsible for pastoring, teaching and encouraging over 1500 pastors throughout the country. So please pray for him as he also oversees the school. When you think about Uganda pray for his wife Joy who is often left alone as he travels the country.

Jennifer Greenley

Mission and Mercy 2020

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matt 6: 19-21)

As a church, we aim to give away 10% of our income each year to organisations and good causes outside of St Luke's. The Giving Group was set up to this end in order to discern prayerfully where this money should go. It meets several times a year, and for this financial year, it has comprised of Sarah Adcock, Michael Allen, Graham Stringer and Mark Visagie. We also try to have a St Luke's advocate for each organisation we support –someone who particularly has a heart for that work and will keep informed about what is happening. The group is accountable to the PCC, who have the final say on the recommendations made. Below is the table of our spending this current year and the groups we have given to. Sometimes our giving is influenced by an emergency we feel the need to respond to, but generally it is more planned and regular. We often focus on Christian organisations, but not exclusively. Within that, our giving tends to fall into one or more of the following categories:

- Organisations with a Colchester focus - e.g. Beacon House, Food Bank, Friends' International (ministering to overseas students at the university), CYO (schools' work) and CAP (Christians Against Poverty).
- Organisations where St Luke's members have a personal involvement. (e.g. Vision for China - which supports disadvantaged youngsters in China) and the Nsambya church and school in Uganda.
- Organisations which address a wider need nationally or internationally (such as Tearfund).

Additionally, we also have People in Need –a fund administered to assist those in need within our church and our local community.

If anyone wants to know more, please do talk to one of the group and do let us know of any causes or needs you feel we might want to support as a church.

Please pray:

- For generous giving!
- For wisdom for the giving group as it discerns where the money will be best used.
- For the charities and organisations which will receive our money –asking that God will use it mightily to really make a difference to people’s lives.

Our giving in 2020 was as follows:

International	
Vision for China	£400
Bishop’s Lent appeal	£500
Tear Fund (General)	£325
Tear Fund (Covid appeal)	£700
Tear Fund (South Sudan)	£400
Bible Society	£325
Care International (Yemen)	£400
NHS charities	£150
National	
Barnabas Fund	£325
Good News for Everyone	£325
Local/ Colchester	
CAP Colchester	£546.03
Beacon House	£1030.53
CYO	£2061.06
Treetops	£325
Friends International	£200
Colchester Food bank	£991.88
Essex Integration	£400
Sanctuary Housing (Highwoods)	£500
Total given	£9904.50

Sarah Adcock and Jo Russell, on behalf of the Giving Group