

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, EMBSAY WITH EASTBY

England & Wales · Charity number 1166269

Details

Other names ST MARY'S, EMBSAY WITH EASTBY

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2016-03-30

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

Contact

Address 21 Shires Lane
Embsay
Skipton
North Yorkshire
BD23 6SB

Phone 01756795625

Email embsaystmary2@gmail.com

Website <https://www.stmaryembsay.org.uk/>

Activities

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

Activities: St Mary's is a centre of worship for the villages of Embsay and Eastby. The members of St Mary's also lead and participate in a varied range of secular activities in the wider community. St Mary's church is a Grade 2 listed building and the maintenance and sharing of our heritage with local people and visitors is an active part of this charity's role.

Classification

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

Geography

- North Yorkshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£123,596	£131,956	-	-
2023-12-31	£70,321	£71,843	-	-
2022-12-31	£75,800	£72,842	-	-
2021-12-31	£78,606	£73,571	-	-
2020-12-31	£87,395	£89,040	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Revd Canon Marion Elisabeth Russell	Chair	2020-04-01
ANN RAWSON		2023-05-14
Andrea Swearman		2021-04-23
CHRISTINE MARY STEWART-JONES		2015-03-20
Christine Terry		2022-05-15
DAVID CHARLES JONES		2015-03-20
ELIZABETH MARY ROODHOUSE		2015-03-20
Helen Lesley Hargreaves		2023-05-14
Jenny Johnson		2019-05-16
Lesley Higson		2019-05-14
Peter Edwards		2021-04-23
Rev Tim Calow		2018-08-21
SIMON ROBERT SMITH		2015-03-20
Sarah Elizabeth Steeples		2024-04-29

Accounts



St Mary the Virgin, Embsay with Eastby



**Annual Trustees' Report, Financial Statement and Parish Reports
of**

**The Parochial Church Council
For the year ended 31st December 2024**

**The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Embsay with Eastby,
Kirk Lane, BD23 6SF**

Vicar

Revd Canon Marion Russell

Associate Priest

Revd Tim Calow

Banks:

Co-op

1 Balloon Street

Manchester

Santander

Bridle Road, Bootle Reg.

Independent Examiner:

Mr Richard Watson

Manby Castle House East

Embsay

Charity Number: 1166269

The Annual General Meeting for the Parish of St Mary the Virgin,

Embsay with Eastby

Sunday 27th April, 2025 at 11.15am

AGENDA:

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners

- 1) The appointment of the clerk
- 2) Chair's welcome and opening prayer
- 3) Apologies
- 4) Minutes of the previous meeting
- 5) The election of Churchwardens
- 6) Date of the next Annual Meeting of Parishioners

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

- 1) The appointment of the Clerk
- 2) Apologies
- 3) Minutes of the last Annual Parochial Church Meeting
- 4) Electoral Roll report
- 5) The Elections:
 - i) The election of the Parochial Church Council
- 6) The Annual Trustees Report:
 - a. Aims, Purposes, Objectives and Activities
 - b. Vicars report
 - c. Skipton Deanery Synod report
 - d. St Mary's Buildings, Fabric and Churchwardens report
 - e. Safeguarding report
 - f. The Financial Statements and Treasures report:
 - i) Presentation of the Examined Accounts
 - ii) Independent Examiner's Report
 - iii) Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2025
 - iv) Gift Aid Officer's Report
 - g. Church Governance, Structure and Management:
 - i) Standing Committee

- ii) Administration, Members of Parochial Church Council 2024/2025
- 7) The Parish Reports
- 8) Date of the next Annual Parochial Church Meeting
- 9) Any other business

The Annual General Meeting for the Parish of St Mary the Virgin,

Embsay with Eastby

Sunday 21st April, 2024 at 11am

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners: Sunday 21st April, 2024 at 11am

33 Parishioners attended in church and 2 via Zoom (remote online conferencing).

Revd Canon Marion Russell (MR) chaired the Meeting of Parishioners. She welcomed everyone.

1. Mary Dibb proposed and Christine Stewart Jones seconded Sue Stearn as Clerk, which was agreed unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.

2. MR led prayers.

3. **Apologies:** received from Lesley Higson, Revd Bob and Jill Mitchell, Pam Shackleton and David Strictland.

4. Simon Smith proposed and Christine Terry seconded the acceptance of the Minutes of the **Sunday 14th May, 2023** meeting and agreed unanimously by all who had been at that meeting.

5) The election of churchwardens:

One nomination was received.

Elizabeth Mary Roodhouse proposed by Laura Sebola to be Churchwarden, seconded by Lizzy Midgley and unanimously elected by those in church and on Zoom.

6) Date of the next Annual Meeting of Parishioners: **27th April, 2025**

The meeting closed at 11.12 am (Sue Stearn AMP Clerk)

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on Sunday 21st April, 2024 at 11am

Revd Canon Marion Russell chaired the APCM

33 Parishioners attended in church and 2 via Zoom (remote online conferencing)

1. **Appointment of the clerk:** Mary Dibb proposed and Christine Stewart Jones seconded Sue Stearn as Clerk, which was agreed unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.

2. **Apologies:** received from Lesley Higson, Revd Bob and Jill Mitchell, Pam Shackleton and David Strickland.

3. **Minutes of the APCM meeting held on Sunday 14th May, 2023**

Helen Hargreaves proposed, Ann Rawson seconded their acceptance and agreed unanimously by all who had been at that meeting.

4. **Electoral Roll report:** Sue Davies reported that there were 81 on the Electoral Roll at the time of the meeting with the following additions and deletions:

Additions: Sarah Steeples, Brian Harris, Elaine Clipson, Geraldine Kerslake and Rex Kerslake.

Deletions: Walter Slingsby, Jean Broughton, Kay Abell, who had all passed away, David Smith who had moved out of the area.

Marion thanked Sue Davies for her work as Electoral Roll Officer.

5. **The elections:**

i) **Election of the Parochial Church Council:** There were three vacancies all of three years following the end of the term of office for Samantha Patterson and Ann Rawson.

There was one nomination for the vacancies: Ann Rawson proposed by Jennifer Stearn and seconded by Helen Hargreaves, unanimously elected by those in church and on Zoom.

All the reports were in a printed booklet, copies of which were sent electronically to the congregation. Those without internet connection or upon request received printed copies. Copies of all reports are attached to these minutes. Minuted items under individual reports are those recorded at this APCM.

6. The Annual Trustees report for year ending 31st December, 2023

The Annual Trustees report for year ending December 2023 acceptance (page 8 – 19 of Annual Report booklet)

Liz Roodhouse proposed and Sue Davies seconded the acceptance of this report and agreed unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.

7. The Financial Statements;

Jenny Johnson said we had achieved our financial goals and paid our Share in full. She thanked everyone their support and asked if there were any questions or comments, none forth coming.

Peter Edwards thanked Jenny on behalf of everyone for the huge contribution as treasurer she makes to St Mary's.

i) Presentation of the examined financial reports and ii) Independent examiner's report

Proposal for acceptance of the 2023 accounts made by David Jones seconded by Andrea Swearman and agreed unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.

iii) Appointment of an Independent Examiner for 2024 accounts

Jenny Johnson proposed Richard Watson, Simon Smith seconded his appointment as the Independent Examiner. This was agreed unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.

Gift Aid Officer's report: No questions or comments.

8. The church building and churchyard: St Mary's Buildings and Fabric report:

Simon Smith Chair of Fabric Committee thanked everyone for their help over the year in life of St Mary's. No comments/questions on the report.

MR said that we need more people on the fabric committee; people can speak to her or Simon.

9) Safeguarding report January to December 2023: Andrea Swearman thanked MR and the PCC for all their support over the last year. No questions or comments on the report.

10) Skipton Deanery Synod report for 2023: no questions or comments.

Thanks to Peter Edwards, Helen Hargreaves and Lesley Higson for representing us over this last year on Deanery Synod.

11) Parish Reports for year 1st Jan to 31st Dec, 2023 (page 19 - 32):

MR said that there were wonderful things going on in the church and thanked everyone for their contribution to church and Community life.

No questions or comments on the following reports.

- **Embsay C of E (VC) Primary School; School Governor's report**
- **Hot Chocolate Club**
- **Smiley Faces**
- **Disability Report**
- **Eco-group report /Eco activities**
- **Carbon Zero at St Mary's report:**
- **Fairtrade at St Mary's report**
- **Fundraising Committee**
- **St Mary's Band report**
- **St Mary's Singing group report**

- **Skipton Churches Mothers' Union: Branch Leader's Report**
- **Village Institute Report**
- **Zoom Tuesday teas report**

12. Date of the next Annual Parochial Church Meeting: **27th April, 2025**

13. Any other business:

a. Peter Edwards thanked Marion for her leadership and Daphne Jepps said MR also gives much support to the village community. MR said it was a pleasure being here and appreciated the support and understanding she is given by St Mary's community for her dual role of Parish Priest and Clergy Development Officer.

The meeting closed at 11.30 am (Sue Stearn APCM Clerk).

Trustees' Annual Report for the year 1st Jan to 31st Dec, 2024

Approved by PCC on 19th March, 2025

Aims and Purposes

St Mary the Virgin, Embsay with Eastby, Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of working with our incumbent Reverend Canon Marion Russell in promoting the ecclesiastical parish in the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. We are also supported in our responsibilities by the Revd Tim Calow, St Mary's Associate Priest, by the Revd Bob Mitchell, retired Priest with Bishop's Permission to Officiate and by Lesley Higson, retired Licensed Lay Minister with Bishop's Permission to Officiate.

Our commitment and responsibilities are expressed in our parish statement of intent:

We, the community of St Mary's, aim to create a welcoming and inspiring place where people of every age can meet God, who we know as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and can recognise his presence in our lives and in one another. We

believe that we are loved and blessed by God, and that we have a responsibility to share our blessings with one another and with the wider community, of all faiths and none.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to nurturing faith, by enabling as many people as possible to worship at St Mary's and to become part of our church community, and to enable our worshipping community and other local people to live out their faith in day to day life. Using the gifts we are blessed with, we understand our calling to live out our faith, particularly in contributing to care for creation, the environment and social justice. In this we see a responsibility for sharing our gifts and knowledge within the diocese and beyond through our ecumenical links, in our local community and internationally.

The Vicar's report includes; developing worship, engaging with children and families. Community Involvement, Ecumenical links and developing spirituality.

In 2024 our regular worship on Sundays and mid-week continued with weekly Sunday and Tuesday services of Holy Communion, and All Age Worship first Sunday of the month, continuing with the valued 2023 addition of Evening Praise, a lay-led short informal monthly service on second Sundays. At Easter 2024 we resumed the full offering of the common cup for all communicants at Holy Communion. Smiley Faces Toddler Praise and Hot Chocolate Club on Fridays continue their contributions to introducing children to simple forms of worship and Bible stories.

Through an Archdeacon's Temporary Minor Reordering Licence, we have reintroduced the St Cuthbert's altar in the nave, with agreement to move the Christ the King altar from the chancel to the north aisle. This allows us to experiment over the next year (2025). We have settled into an experimental regular use of the high altar on second Sundays of the month.

We continued a second offering of the Living in Love and Faith (LLF) Course so that all members of PCC had participated, along with other members of the congregation. From this has emerged a monthly discussion group, in each other's homes, where we have explored other issues arising from LLF, and grown into exploring the diverse lives of individuals in our Biblical narratives. This included an open session in St Mary's in Advent, where the narratives of the named women in the genealogy of Jesus caused surprise and deep reflection, supported in thought-provoking consideration of 8 paintings of these women by local artist Shelagh Powell. For our Lent studies, we created time to listen to how God has worked in our own lives, in structured listening sessions with the themes of what has brought changes in our lives - a person/people; a place; an event or incident; the Bible, music, art or literature. A second monthly home group is emerging – God at Lunch, where we gather for lunch and then to explore a topic of our mutual choosing.

In July we held a farewell service (with permission from Bishop Nick for this to be Methodist Holy Communion) with the Revd Tracey Darling, Methodist Minister, who then moved to a new station as Circuit Superintendent and Minister in Devon. We welcomed The Revd Susan McIvor as Skipton Circuit Minister in September. As her remit is larger than Tracey's, Susan is unable to commit to sharing in leading worship with us; however that does not deter our local links and we continue with the Methodists in Embsay with our quarterly joint services. We also have quarterly fellowship-and-planning lunches, with clergy and lay members. This continues to sustain our shared work for Christian Aid, Lent Lunch events, Carols Round the Elm Tree and Remembrance Sunday. Revd Tim and I both participate in the bimonthly Skipton Ministers' lunch meetings for fellowship and shared developments.

Involvement with Children and Families continues with Smiley Faces Toddler Praise, Hot Chocolate Club and children in the All Age worship band. Four members of St Mary's are on the Embsay CE (VC) School Board of Governors, and clergy and lay visits to the school continue for collective worship and classroom involvement. School classes made visits to the church and

churchyard as part of the curriculum and to participate in the Churches Count on Nature (June), classes and whole school attended for various services – Ash Wednesday, Ascension Day, Pentecost, School Leavers, and Nativity. The planned Harvest Festival in church had to be transferred to the School Hall for practical reasons. The Children's Centre held their annual Nativity service in the Church as usual. St Mary's donated a personal copy of 'It's Your Move' to all Year 6 pupils, with the vicar exploring the booklet on a special class visit.

Wider involvement with the community was maintained through members' participation in village environmental Fairtrade and Good Neighbours social action. We openly offered the Church of England Lent booklets (Watch and Pray: Wisdom and hope for Lent and life) to the congregation and community, and the Pray your Part booklet of 21 days of prayers for the General Election in July, also with dedicated prayer times in church.

We completed our planned Carbon Net Zero target with the implementation of our eco heating in October - a work rightly detailed in a separate report. This has already made diocesan and national CofE impact.

Much more detail of our activities is celebrated in the many reports further on in this booklet.

I offer – and record here – my deep gratitude and thanks to everyone for participating in the seen and unseen work of St Mary's:

- sustaining the action and relationships of the church community;
- weekly worship in all its aspects;
- the fabric and buildings;
- fundraising;
- the rich range of activity for the environment and justice;
- in reaching out to the community in active involvement;

To everyone who contributes to the love and welcome of our church, to all members of the Church Council and officer holders; and to Tim, Bob and Lesley, my clerical and lay colleagues who hold the Bishop's licence to officiate in public

office in the Church of England – my heartfelt thanks to you all for your work and fellowship.

Revd Canon Marion Russell

Skipton Deanery report for 2024

The Synod met on three occasions: at Christ Church, Skipton, in March; at Burnsall in July and at Carleton in November. St Mary's lay representatives have been Lesley Higson, Helen Hargreaves and Peter Edwards. Sue Stearn completed her term as a member of Diocesan Synod and is no longer a Deanery Synod member. Revd Marion has held the role of Assistant Area Dean.

The business of Synod continued to focus on parish ministry and the investigation of a new framework for the role of Area Dean. The proposal would use funding from the Barnabas Project to enable a joint appointment of a half time area dean (without a particular parish responsibility) paired with a half time chaplaincy with Scargill Community. After consideration in depth, it became clear that the proposal would not be appropriate for Scargill at this time when there will be a period of significant staffing change. This was accepted with marked disappointment among synod members who had found the proposal exciting.

Synod will not lose sight of the aims of this work and the small working group which has been investigating these possibilities was charged to come up with alternatives for parish support in 2025.

Synod welcomed Bishop Anna to the November meeting where she outlined her vision for rural churches and presented as someone who had a thorough understanding of parish ministry, members found this most encouraging.

Lesley Higson, who is Deanery Treasurer, has investigated the historic deanery bank account and work to set up a new account, accessible to the current synod, is under way.

It was with mixed feelings that we heard that Area Dean James Theodosius would be taking on the role of Archdeacon of Richmond and Craven in April 2025. While his inspirational presence will be missed at deanery level, we welcome the appointment of an archdeacon who has a deep understanding of rural parish issues.

Lesley Higson, Helen Hargreaves and Peter Edwards on behalf of St Mary's Deanery Synod representatives

St Mary's Buildings, Fabric and Churchwardens Report for 2024

The main focus of attention at St Mary's this year, of course, has been the successful completion of the new electric heating system and all the associated works. Raising the money for the project and the subsequent management of the installation was a huge challenge spearheaded by Peter Edwards.

In the church yard and car park, we had to say goodbye to two young Ash trees suffering from Ash dieback and a very mature Sycamore on the churchyard boundary. The sycamore was probably 170 years old and contemporary with the church itself, but had become dangerous and was a concern to both ourselves and to John, June & Charlotte in the adjacent properties. The tree was subject to a tree preservation order and will be replaced with a suitable maple, hornbeam or whitebeam this winter.

The memorial garden space has been established by Tony, Sue & Jenny Stearn. The Faculty for lifting, turning and re-setting of leaning, fallen and half-covered gravestones was finally obtained from the Chancellor in September 2024. This work remains outstanding.

In addition to items of minor repair and routine maintenance, the eastern gable of the Chancel and associated coping stones were raked out and repointed under the supervision of our architect, to prevent rainwater ingress that had developed into the Chancel. This appears to have been successful, with the

Chancel walls and arch between the Chancel and Nave slowly drying out. We will continue to monitor the situation.

The Log Book, Terrier and Inventory are all up to date and the church plate is well maintained and in good condition.

We are very fortunate at St Mary's to have so many people who generously give of their time and skills to conserve and enhance the church building and churchyard. Their expertise and support is hugely appreciated as is the support of many within our local community who contributed to the Give to Go Green campaign.

A great big THANK YOU to you all.

*Simon Smith Chair of building and Fabric Committee and Liz Roodhouse
Churchwarden*

Safeguarding report for the year 2024

At St. Mary's we continue to review and embed good Safeguarding practices.

This year, we have been reviewing, adapting and updating our Safeguarding policies and procedures to make sure all areas of safeguarding within the church are fully up-to-date, documented and understood by all PCC members and those who volunteer with any activity with children and vulnerable adults.

Safeguarding Training is very important at St. Mary's and all PCC members and Children (including Vulnerable adults) Group Leaders and Volunteers undertake and this is regularly reviewed by the Parish Safeguarding Officer. I myself completed the Diocese of Leeds Safeguarding Leadership 2 training pathway in September.

In October we again allocated a Sunday service as Safeguarding Sunday, where supported by Marion, I gave a talk to help the congregation further understand how we can identify when individuals may be vulnerable and how we all have a

part to play in keeping everyone safe. Embedding good safeguarding procedures helps to keep everyone safe.

Safeguarding continues to play a vital role in protecting all who are involved in the range of church activities arranged by St. Mary's for children and adults.

Andrea Swearman, Parish Safeguarding Officer

Financial Review

(For full details of the 2024 accounts and Operating Reserve Policy see enclosed separate document)

Treasurer's report for the year 2024

During 2024, we once again managed to raise the necessary funds for the continued running and ministry of the church: a tremendous achievement, and all thanks to the generous regular donations from our kind-hearted and supportive parishioners and local community, new regular giving being set up throughout the year and through various fundraising activities (supported by our faithful and hard-working congregation and community). The fundraising events raised over £6,830 during the year: a fantastic feat, and a further increase on last year's amazing effort. Well done everyone. A huge thank you to everyone who was involved in helping St Mary's raise these essential funds. Everyone's help in accomplishing this is enormously appreciated.

For 2024, we were, again, able to pay the full amount of share requested for the year (and by the end of November - a whole month early) of £43,540, exceeding our revised share commitment of £39,000 by a huge £4,540 (and again without the need to resort to reserves to cover any deficit); a great achievement by everyone. Thank you. The revised share commitment for 2025 has been agreed upon at £40,000 and we should, hopefully, achieve this with everyone's continued efforts. We have also been able to cover all of our running costs for

the year despite the continued high costs in energy and overall increase in costs generally.

The Diocesan share for each parish is calculated by the application of a formula which, in our case, generates an anomalous, very high figure. This has been recognised by the Diocese resulting in the revised figures agreed upon for 2024 and 2025, mentioned above. The formula is still yet to be reviewed. The PCC made a submission to change the process and will continue to offer to work with the Diocese going forward. We have been grateful for the engagement with us of Diocesan finance staff through this process.

I would like to say an enormous thank you to everyone who has helped to support St Mary's, whether financially or in any other way, and continues to do so. Without you we would not be able to continue the vital support, service and ministry we offer our local and wider community.

St Mary's continues to be closely involved in the Parish Giving scheme with the Diocese of Leeds. The scheme continues to prove extremely beneficial to the fundraising for St Mary's, with new members continuing to join. This scheme continues to be very well received by our parishioners and supporters who have found it to be extremely easy and straight forward to set up and use.

St Mary's has a history of giving generously to charity and in total, since 2008, we have paid over £43,450 to various mission organisations and charities chosen by the congregation and the PCC (an average of over £2,550 per year). We were able to uphold our commitment to support local, national and international mission charities again this year, due to our very generous parishioners and community. We supported 11 mission charities during 2024, paying to them over £3,690 in total.

No Bursary Grants were made in 2024.

My thanks go to everyone at St Mary's for helping us achieve our financial goals in 2024 despite the continuing and changing challenges we all faced, and still

face today, and for your support in helping me in my role as Treasurer. And many thanks to Richard Watson for helping to check our accounts.

Jenny Johnson, Treasurer

Energy Foot printing Tool:

The Energy Foot printing Tool for the Church Buildings return for 2024, has been completed.

Jenny Johnson, Treasurer

Gift Aid Officer's Report

For 2024, we received a total of £9,936.35 through tax relief on gift aided donations to the Parish.

This amount comprises £7,238.37 from the Parish Giving Scheme, £2,697.98 from our regular gift aided donations (£1,695.15) and the small donations scheme (£1,002.15). The small donations scheme runs from April to April, so only about a third of that amount is attributable to donations received in 2024, although the refund is all received in that year.

Many thanks to all of who donate and gift aid those donations – you can see what a boost it gives to Parish funds when we can claim the tax back off that money.

My usual two requests are: first, if you give to the Church and pay tax, please consider gift-aiding that giving. Speak to me if you want to know how. Secondly, if you are gift-aiding your donations, please remind me if you no longer pay tax, so that I can remove you from the relevant schedules that I keep along with Jenny.

If anyone fancies having a go at claiming this money back and taking on this role, please let me know – it has become a lot easier than it used to be!

Justin Gartland Gift Aid officer

Church Governance, Structure and Management

PCC meetings were conducted in person during 2024/2025. Meetings were held either in the Methodist Chapel, St Mary's Church or The Vicarage. The full PCC has met on six occasions since the 2024 APCM and the average attendance was 79%.

The method of appointment of PCC members is as set out in the Church Representation Rules 2022 including recent updates by the General Synod. The membership of the PCC at St Mary's consists of the Vicar, Associate Priest, Retired Priest, Churchwardens, Treasurer, Deanery Synod representatives and Lay members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the parish. All those within our congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

Standing Committee

The Standing Committee consisting of PCC members, was formed with PCC approval on 29th April, 2024 following the APCM. The committee included Revd Canon Marion Russell, Revd Tim Calow, Liz Roodhouse (Churchwarden), Jenny Johnson (Treasurer), Helen Hargreaves, Christine Terry and Sue Stearn (to Clerk meetings as a non-Standing Committee member). Their main remit was to oversee finances and budget for the PCC and undertake tasks as delegated by the PCC.

The Committee has met twice since the APCM. The average attendance at the meetings was 91.5%.

Sue Stearn (PCC and Standing Committee Secretary)

Administrative information

The Church of St Mary the Virgin provides for the villages of Embsay and Eastby in the Skipton Deanery of Ripon Area within the Diocese of Leeds.

The PCC is a body corporate and a registered charity (No. 1166269).

The correspondence address is: The Vicarage, 21 Shires Lane, Embsay, Skipton BD23 6SB

Members of the Parochial Church Council in 2024/2025

Vicar (Chair)	Revd Canon Marion Russell	
Associate Priest	Revd Tim Calow	
Retired Priest	Revd Bob Mitchell (Co-opted PCC member on 21.04.2024)	
Churchwarden(s):	Liz Roodhouse (Joint Lay Vice Chair)	2024 -2025
Deanery Synod Reps	Lesley Higson	2023 - 2026
	Peter Edwards	2023 - 2026
	Helen Hargreaves	2023 - 2026
Treasurer (Elected member of PCC)	Jenny Johnson	2023 - 2026
Elected members	David Jones	2023 - 2026
	Simon Smith (Joint Lay Vice Chair)	2023 - 2026
	Christine Stewart-Jones	2023 - 2026
	Ann Rawson	2024 - 2027
	Christine Terry	2022 - 2025
	Andrea Swearman (Parish Safeguarding Officer)	2022 - 2025
Co-opted member to PCC on 29.04.2024:	Sarah Steeples	2024 – 2025

The PCC is clerked by Sue Stearn (Non PCC Member)

Parish Reports for year 1st Jan to 31st Dec, 2024;

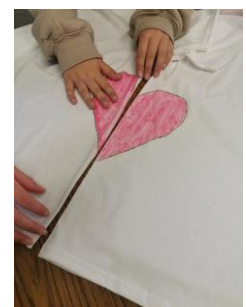
School Governor's 2024 Report

There have been changes to staff this year and we thank those who have left, as we welcomed those who have started and who are settling in well. Mrs Prest retired in July and Mr Tim Whitehead continued as Interim Associate Headteacher until the end of the year. The governing body has continued its regular visits and monitoring programme throughout the school year. The Curriculum has been the main focus around the school, as part of this, the school has been trialling a new phonics package, called 'Little Wandle' and also 'Twinkl'. We have also started discussions about new IT providers to the school and have settled on a local company who will be able to help us update and upgrade our systems and carry out CPD for all staff. Over the Summer holidays there was a series of maintenance and upgrades carried out on several areas around the school. We have been discussing marketing and promotion to market the school to new parents and potential pupils in the area, and the school has held two open days for prospective parents and children, which were positive and well attended, the school website is in the process of being updated and improved. The school had a SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) inspection in November 2024, the result was very positive; "Embsay Church of England VC Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school and is enabling pupils and adults to flourish." An OFSTED inspection is expected early in 2025.

Rev. Canon Marion Russell, Helen Ralph, Jennifer Stearn Foundation Governor's

Hot Chocolate Club report for 2024

Hot Chocolate Club is a youth group for Primary School children in years 4, 5 and 6. The group meets each Friday night in term time and has been in existence for several years,



originally through the Methodist Church, it is now facilitated by St Mary's Church.

Joanne Lloyd holds the position of leader, organising weekly activities, ably assisted by Peter Hargreaves and Roxanne Davies.

At the end of this year, there were 10 children on the register, after a good proportion of the children left for Secondary School in September.

Each week children take part in a different activity, as well as games and refreshments. We have made Christmas wreaths and bord feeders, been ten pin bowling, celebrated Easter & Mothering Sunday, had a beetle drive, baked buns, decorated biscuits and made pancakes. We try to get outside to Embsay Park, the woods and other outdoor spaces when the weather and light nights allow.



As we move into 2025, we have many more exciting activities planned, which the children are all very excited about!



Joanne Lloyd, Hot Chocolate Club leader

Report for Smiley Faces 2024

Smiley Faces is our group for babies, toddlers and pre-school children, their parents, grandparents and carers. We meet during term time on Friday afternoons in church from 1.30pm to 3.15pm. There are plenty of toys for the children to play with and always a craft table where the older children can be creative. The adults seem to enjoy this as much as the children in their care. Before and after the Bible story and a prayer towards the end of our time together there's dancing and a chance to run around.

As in previous years numbers varied from week to week but on average in 2024, we welcomed eleven children each week from nine families.

Being an Eco and Fairtrade Church craft activities have frequently been related to taking care of every aspect of God's creation. We created a banner to celebrate the Great Big Green Week in June with pictures of wildlife, real flowers and grasses, and the footprints of every child. At other times we made food for the birds, planted bulbs, made maps of the world with plants and animals found in the different continents, created grass caterpillars using old tights, birds from recycled cardboard, collages of the Fairtrade mark, which was celebrating its thirtieth anniversary in 2024, and much more.

We loved celebrating birthdays (there's always a cake with candles), Mothering Sunday, Easter, and Christmas and for the first time three of our older children took part in the Christingle service on Christmas Eve. Children who were once part of the Smiley Faces family read prayers and took an active role in that service. What thrills us is that children don't forget us when they move on and neither do their parents and carers.

It's wonderful to see adults enjoying the opportunity to chat and relax knowing that the three of us are happy to entertain the children and provide extra eyes to watch them as necessary. They showed their appreciation by helping clear away toys and on occasions washing up when Lesley was taking time out in the autumn term and Sue was visiting her son and daughter-in-law in New Zealand.

Jesus, made it clear that all children matter to God and even recommended to his disciples that to understand God's kingdom they needed to observe, learn from and imitate young children. Children are our future leaders and Sue, Lesley and I feel privileged to spend our Friday afternoons with them and their parents and carers. They make us smile and lift our spirits. To them the church is Smiley Faces, a place where they are happy and cared for.

Liz Roodhouse, Smiley Faces leader, Sue Davies and Lesley Higson.

Disability report for 2024

We continue to be a church with hearing loops and amplified equipment to help the deaf and hard of hearing.

We also continue to be connected to TORCH TRUST for blind and partially sighted people. I attend their events on line and they offer a great deal of social and practical welfare. Anyone interested in what they do and how they help churches can be found on their website at:

<https://torchtrust.org/sight-loss-friendly-church/>

Their podcasts which I attend when possible aims to answer questions about faith and church life in relation to sight loss.

We continue to provide access of course for people who require wheelchairs. I feel that we cover needs for most all disabilities which are to be commended.

Jane Eastwood Disability Secretary

Eco Group report for 2024

Having achieved the Gold Eco Church Award in May 2023, we continued to work on environmental projects in the church as well as encouraging others, churches, other organisations and individuals, to consider ecological issues.

The Eco Group in 2024 group comprised Mary Dibb, Lesley Higson, Daphne Jepps, Diana Linford, Liz Roodhouse and Sue Stearn. The vicar, Revd Canon Marion Russell, often attended or contributed to meetings.

We held 7 meetings in 2024, with the Group meeting's minutes always going to the PCC. We are always keen to welcome new members and suggestions!

Eco activities during 2024 included:

Continuing Eco work at St Mary's

- Eco Themes for each month continued, based on special 'days' in the calendar
- Seed swap, recycling, food bank collections, use of fairtrade products and fairtrade stalls, eco tips in the newsletter, all continued
- Recycling/ re-use: collections continue for postage stamps, coins, ink cartridges, pens and other stationery and pharmaceutical blister packs
- Pharmaceutical blister pack recycling continued via Tetracycle. We filled 4 boxes in 2024 as this scheme is valued by the wider community. These boxes have to be paid for (around £200 per box). We obtained sponsorship from Skipton Rotary for one box and paid for one box from our Environmental Action budget. We continue to seek sponsorship for these
- Recycled paper and 'eco coal' were bought in bulk
- Churchyard: a new memorial garden, including a bird bath, was established on the south side of the church, along with a new bog garden. More bulbs were planted: crocus and daffodils in the carpark and autumn crocus and snakeshead fritillaries around the main noticeboard in the churchyard
- Count on Nature (June) our 5th year, with several classes from the local primary school. Additionally, a moth trap was set up one evening in a neighbouring garden. We had support from local expert Judith Allinson who was able to help us to identify species of grasses, flowers and lichens, etc, in the churchyard. This was also mentioned by those leading Collective Worship in the school
- Creationtide 2024 (September) – again in 2024 all services in this season had an eco focus. The third Sunday service was designed and led by members of the Eco Group and was an interactive service in which the congregation were invited to participate

'Cut the Carbon' project

- Mainly completed by October 2024, when the new electric heating was switched on. This is the main part of our ambitious target, approved by

the PCC, to get to net carbon zero by 2025. Details elsewhere in the APCM booklet

- Carbon offsetting continued

Dissemination, support and outreach

- Diocesan 10-year anniversary booklet included an article about our eco work
- Eco Church Workshop: Sunday 12 May attended by 24 delegates from 17 churches; feedback from the afternoon was extremely positive
- Support for other churches: including a visit from Settle Methodists (January), the Dean of Ripon with a small group (February), Clergy Chapter meeting (March), Christians Aware (party staying at Parcevall Hall – July)
- The Group attended the Village Environment Group event (April), including showcasing the Seed Swap; a member of the Group attended the Skipton Eco Rotary Eco Day with a Fairtrade stall (April), a member of the Group who is a Reader preached at several other churches locally on eco themes, encouraging them to consider environmental issues and the Eco Church Award
- A member of the Group is now an Eco Church Assessor, and has carried out assessments of a number of churches' Gold Award applications
- Members of the group attended online webinars, including 'Can church land do anything for nature?' (June) and 2 Eco Church webinars (June and October)
- Marion Russell and a member of the Group spoke at the Rural Churches' Forum at Ripon Cathedral (June) on the subject of clergy and laity working together, including showing a video about the role of the Eco Group and the Parish Environment Officer at St Mary's
- Display at Ripon Cathedral in Creationtide (September – October) St Mary's work was the main focus of the exhibition and included our wall hangings. Copies of our Gold Eco Church and Net Zero Church booklets were also available
- A powerpoint has been made which includes all the panels on our Eco Church Gold Award wall hangings which can be used at events and talks

- The Group wrote to the retiring Diocesan Environment Officer, Jemima Parker, to thank her for all her support over the last few years (December)

We believe that St Mary's continues to be seen as a congregation with a real passion for addressing social justice and environmental concerns and action, within the parish, the diocese and more widely.

Diana Linford, Parish Environment Officer

St Mary's Carbon Zero Report for 2024

January 1st 2024 saw us with the necessary permissions, a technical specification and around half of the required funding secured. We were then successful with a major funding bid to North Yorkshire UK Shared Prosperity Fund, which brought our funding to the £55,000 projected total required. During February we finalised the specification and commissioned architects Knox McConnell to prepare the tender documents, which were issued with a closing date of March 22nd. Meanwhile we began negotiations with National PowerGrid for the upgrade to the electricity supply. In April we selected Baines Electrical of Skipton as the contractor for the heating works from a competitive field of three. We also agreed contracts with Northern PowerGrid, Baines Electrical and John Blades for the installation of the new supply, involving excavation in the churchyard. The exterior work was completed in the second week of October by which time the heating installation inside the church had been completed. October 10th was the first trial of the new heating which was well received by the congregation. We had achieved our aim of being net carbon zero for energy by 2025.

During the final months of 2024 we have been learning how to optimise the use of the new heating and investigating ways of controlling the pew heating which at times can be excessive. It is anticipated that early 2025 would see the trialling of some minor modifications which would address this.

It is too soon to be able to establish running costs for the new heating with any confidence. The capital cost of the project at £49,700 was securely within budget and leaves room for some small refinements as experience with the heating indicates would be worthwhile.

As part of our continuing commitment to disseminate valuable lessons which we have learned through the process of decarbonising our heating, our 'Cut the Carbon Case Study' is available to download from the church website.

We have established that the electric heating provides a noticeably improved heating experience, is generally more controllable which facilitates energy saving, and by purchasing green electricity through Green Journey we have reduced our carbon footprint for energy use to near zero.

Diana Linford, Lesley Higson, Peter Edwards, January 2025

Fairtrade at St Mary's 2024



2024 was a landmark year for Fair Trade as it marked 30 years since the Fairtrade mark was introduced. Working with Embsay School and the village Fairtrade group a celebration was planned with a special anniversary cake and event for parents and friends of the school in July. Artwork was on display, some of which was taken to the Yorkshire Fairtrade Conference in Ilkley.

The Fairtrade Foundation's theme for 2024 which is continuing in 2025 was 'Be the Change'. As a Fairtrade Church we use Fairtrade products wherever possible and integrate Fair Trade into the life of St Mary's in a variety of ways. The opportunities to purchase Fairtrade food and drink, and fairly traded gifts on a monthly basis after the Sunday morning service continued in 2024. Fair Trade was integrated into sermons and intercessions throughout the year and during Fairtrade Fortnight, which in 2024 was moved to September coinciding with Creationtide.

Fair Trade provided an opportunity for community engagement at church events. For example, the Lent Lunch and St Mary's Christmas Fair which together resulted in £500 of sales. Profits from sales throughout the year were passed on to the Fairtrade Foundation and Transform Trade, organisations supporting the work of Fair Trade nationally and internationally. A Fairtrade lucky dip run by St Mary's was popular at the Village Fete.

Two members of St Mary's are part of the village Fairtrade group helping to raise awareness within the community of the impact our choices have on people and the planet, and how Fair Trade is helping farmers who grow the food we love to eat and drink become more resilient to the climate crisis they are facing.

Supporting other churches, local businesses and Embsay School was a pleasure. St John's Methodist Church in Settle and Bolton Priory Church sourced Fairtrade chocolate, biscuits, and other items for their embryonic Fairtrade stalls. The two shelves in the village shop displaying a range Whitakers' Fairtrade chocolate and the espresso ground coffee beans used in the Cavendish Arms continued to be supplied via the church contact. The school sourced, with our help, all the children's presents from Father Christmas from Namaste, Skipton's Fairtrade business.

Thank you to Mary Dibb and Ann Lowe who helped with stalls in 2024 and all of you who have kept choosing and buying Fair Trade. Please don't stop. More sales means more benefits for producers who are themselves fighting for change and leading the campaign for climate justice. Remember environmental protection is ingrained in Fairtrade standards, including reducing greenhouse gas emissions, safeguarding forests and biodiversity.



Liz Roodhouse

Fundraising Committee report for 2024

We have continued to meet regularly throughout the year and aim to have a debrief meeting about a week after each event to discuss what did and did not work whilst it is still fresh in our minds.

2024 was a very successful year and we raised, after all expenses had been paid, £5,273.16

We held the following events:

19th January Family Beetle Drive and pie and pea supper

2nd March Big City Swing Band Concert

6th March Coffee morning held at Andrea Swearman's home

6th May Afternoon tea and cake

15th June Vicarage Garden Party- see note below

15th July Stall at the Village Fete

7th August Coffee morning at Ann Rawson's home

24th August Stall at Burnstall Fete

30th August Snake Davis Solo concert (proceeds for new electrical heating system)

14th September Ceilidh (half the profit from this was given to EEGN towards the purchase of the Methodist School room)

25th October Quiz and pie and pea supper

13th November Coffee morning at Eileen and Timothy Whitley's home

30th November Christmas Fair

We also assisted at the following:

16th March Lent Lunch in aid of Christian Aid (joint event with Methodists)

We have a schedule of events for 2025 and we are liaising with other organizations in the village to ensure our dates do not clash

Thank you everyone for your help and support at all these events. If anyone has any suggestions for future fundraising events please speak to one of the committee, we are always looking for new ideas.

With reference to the Vicarage Garden Party as you will remember the weather was really horrendous and we had to abandon the event and continue on the Sunday afternoon in the Church. At our debrief meeting we all agreed this is an important fundraising and outreach event and we wish to continue with this. However, for 2025 we have a backup plan, just in case of bad weather. This information will be made very clear on the posters and social media.

Ann, Chris, Helen, Liz and Pat

St Marys Band report for 2024

Once again St Marys band has had a good year, we were pleased to welcome Martin on Bass who has been with us a few months now and our young sax player who joined us in December. The band have had a quieter year events wise, but thoroughly enjoyed playing at the Winterburn Carol service once again. As always, access to music and inclusion is our aim, accommodating the availability and experience of all band members at practice and Sunday service. Thank you to Helen for taking the baton when I have been away. Several members of the band play in other ensembles, including the Community Orchestra, Milholme Rise Dixie Landers, Skipton Brass, Redhot Drop, Swing City and Park Avenue Jazz. Its great fun and fellowship to support these concerts whether indoors or outdoors! Our congregation are exceedingly supportive, very much so after service when we play through some of our repertoire. Music is good for the soul and the friendship and fun we have making music together is to be treasured.

Yvonne Cleminson Band Director

St Mary's Singing Group report for 2024

Nine of us now regularly sing in the Group at the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sunday morning Service of each month, in the choir stalls by the organ, round the piano or sat in the congregation, leading the singing. John very helpfully still sends out Youtube recordings, where possible, of the unfamiliar hymns a week or so before a Sunday service to help us learn the tunes. We continue to have a 30 minute rehearsal before a service. Thanks to John we have grown in confidence and at the Carol service in December we sang the Sussex carol by ourselves, standing as a group in front of the audience. It sounded lovely and we received many well deserved compliments. Many thanks, to John Midgley our regular organist, also to Yvonne Cleminson, Olav Rees and David Ralph (key board) who stand in when John is away.

Sue Stearn on behalf of the Singing Group

Annual Report 2024 for the Skipton Churches branch of the Mothers' Union

The first meeting of the year, following the international 'Wave of Prayer' session in January, was the branch AGM in February at which Jane Eastwood was re-appointed as Secretary, Shirley Moorhouse as Treasurer and I as branch leader.

In March we had a Lenten meditation using a few of the stories from Paula Gooder's book 'Women of Holy Week: A Journey in Nine Stories' which has beautiful illustrations by Ally Barrett. The members had access to the stories, with the illustrations, while they were read aloud and could also do some mindful colouring in while listening.

In April, a couple of us, plus a non-member friend, went to Blackburn Cathedral to see the wonderful 'Threads Through Creation' appliqued panels made by Jacqui Parkinson which had been the focus of a previous MU trip when they were displayed in our own Episcopal Area cathedral at Ripon. They were equally, if not even more, fabulous on a second viewing for me personally. In

May, Ann Busfield (from Holy Trinity) and I gave a talk about our visit to the Oberammergau Passion Play in 2010, outlining how the play originated, was scripted (which has changed over the years) and staged, all amply illustrated by a book Ann bought on the visit.

A speaker from 'Tools with a Mission' spoke to us in June about the work of this national organisation providing equipment and know-how to people in the developing world, to enable them to run small businesses. We collected £25 individually to support the organisation's work. July saw several of us finally able to make the postponed trip to Bradford Cathedral to study the textiles there and hear the fascinating stories behind some of them. Many thanks were due (and given) to the Cathedral staff, especially Maggie, for their involvement.

September's traditional 'start of the year' service was held at Holy Trinity as we are trying to involve all the five churches covered by the branch and their clergy. Revd James (Theodosius) led a very special service with a thought-provoking talk addressing the issue of the part women played in the life and work of Jesus.

October's planned speaker – Brigida from St Stephen's Church in Skipton - was postponed at the last minute as so few members were able to attend because of illness but she came in November and told us about the work done by the Emmaus group from St Stephen's and St Margaret Clitheroe Church at Threshfield in supporting bereaved people locally.

For December's meeting, we all brought a reading about Christmas which was significant to us, ranging from the sublime to the ridiculous, and enjoyed seasonal refreshments.

The Mothers' Union is involved with the 'Rise Up' campaign against domestic violence and posters, with tear-off slips giving a helpline number, have been made available to all the five churches to display in their toilets.

It has been lovely to welcome Jill as a member following her move from Wales, especially as illness and frailty have limited some members' ability to attend as many meetings as they would like. We normally meet in a member's home,

usually in Embsay, in the afternoon of the first Tuesday of most months and welcome visitors.

Lesley Higson, Branch Leader

Village Institute report 2024

The Village Institute has had a good year, with regular maintenance ongoing, as well as looking to upgrade the facilities and develop the institute. This year we became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The Institute continues to be busy with regular bookings, as well as events and one-off bookings. We have acquired new fire safety regulation door catches and the Embsay Players have installed a new lighting system that can be used in the hall.

Jennifer Stearn, elected member of Village Institute committee and representative of St. Mary's church

Zoom Tuesday Teas report 2024

We usually meet every Tuesday afternoon at 2.15 for an hour on Zoom but excluding the 1st Tuesday of the month (MU Meeting) Marcia, Daphne and Jane usually attend and occasionally Bridget. All are welcome.

Sylvia (Zoom Host)



We are a Fairtrade Church



Printed on recycled paper

St Mary's Church, Embsay with Eastby - Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

Receipts and Payments Account

	Unrestricted Funds Current Account	Unrestricted Funds Savings Account	Restricted Funds Savings Account	Restoration Account	Nominated Project Account	Bursary Account	Operating Reserves Account	Total 2024	Total 2023
RECEIPTS									
Voluntary Giving									
Regular Giving (see note 4a)	35,342.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	35,342.65	34,432.29
Collections at Services	3,508.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,508.96	2,818.61
All Other Giving & Voluntary Receipts	3,356.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,356.88	3,239.13
Gift Aid recovered	10,629.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,629.92	11,347.92
Legacies	0.00	0.00	620.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	620.32	551.40
Grants (including VAT recovered)	111.80	0.00	100.00	600.00	44,687.01	0.00	0.00	45,498.81	1,548.90
Total Voluntary Giving	52,950.21	0.00	720.32	600.00	44,687.01	0.00	0.00	98,957.54	53,938.25
Activities for Generating Funds									
Fundraising Activities (see note 4b)	6,731.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,498.63	0.00	0.00	12,229.69	6,085.19
Income from Investments									
Investment income	0.00	116.03	0.00	170.03	0.00	9.38	269.08	564.52	426.27
Church Activities									
Fees retained by PCC (funerals/weddings/etc)	7,626.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,626.55	3,524.00
Other Incoming Resources									
Other voluntary receipts (see note 4c)	2,617.70	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	4,217.70	6,347.46
TOTAL RECEIPTS	69,925.52	116.03	1,720.32	770.03	50,785.64	9.38	269.08	123,596.00	70,321.17
PAYMENTS									
Cost of Generating Funds									
Costs of Fundraising Activities (see note 5a)	1,557.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,557.90	437.04
Church Activities									
Mission giving & donations	3,691.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,691.15	3,194.62
Diocesan Parish Share Contribution	43,540.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	43,540.00	44,758.00
Salaries, wages & honoraria (see note 5b)	3,878.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,878.32	2,805.30
Clergy & staff expenses	499.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	499.87	442.08
Church Expenses									
Mission & evangelism costs (see note 5c)	1,460.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,460.29	962.93
Church running expenses (see note 5d)	10,723.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	90.00	0.00	0.00	10,813.96	8,500.07
Church utility bills	3,270.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,270.73	3,115.02
Major Capital Expenditure									
Major repairs	3,600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,600.00	1,314.00
Other Expenditure									
Other payments (see note 5e)	898.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	58,746.39	0.00	0.00	59,644.63	6,314.60
TOTAL PAYMENTS	73,120.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	58,836.39	0.00	0.00	131,956.85	71,843.66
Transfers into account	8,247.91	0.00	311.00	1,779.59	6,148.53	0.00	0.00	16,487.03	9,014.67
Transfers out of account	4,594.91	980.00	3,138.16	8,508.33	611.80	0.00	0.00	17,833.20	9,319.18
Transfer of Legacies to Restricted Account	0.00	0.00	374.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	374.15	551.40
Transfer of Grants to Restricted Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Difference	3,653.00	-980.00	-3,201.31	-6,728.74	5,536.73	0.00	0.00	-1,720.32	-855.91
Excess of Receipts over Payments	458.06	-863.97	-1,480.99	-5,958.71	-2,514.02	9.38	269.08	-10,081.17	-2,378.40
Balance brought forward 1st January 2024	2,066.94	1,056.20	5,300.39	20,140.69	4,186.07	892.46	5,069.52	38,712.27	41,090.67
Balance carried forward 31st December 2024	2,525.00	192.23	3,819.40	14,181.98	1,672.05	901.84	5,338.60	28,631.10	38,712.27
Statement of Assets									
Current Account	2,525.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,525.00	2,066.94
Operating Reserves Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,338.60	5,338.60	5,069.52
Restoration Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	14,181.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	14,181.98	20,140.69
PCC Nominated Project Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	619.92	0.00	0.00	619.92	4,186.07
Savings Account	0.00	192.23	3,819.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,011.63	6,356.59
Bursary Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	901.84	0.00	901.84	892.46
	2,525.00	192.23	3,819.40	14,181.98	1,672.05	901.84	5,338.60	28,631.10	38,712.27

The following notes form part of these financial statements

Approved by the PCC on:

And signed on their behalf by:

The Revd Canon Marion Russell

Mrs Jenny Johnson (PCC Treasurer)

19th March 2025

Marion Russell

J Johnson

St Mary's Church, Embsay with Eastby - Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

Notes

1 The Financial Statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Auditing Regulations using the Receipts and Payments basis.

2 The only fixed asset retained for use is the church car park. Other assets are listed in the church inventory.

3 The movements in funds (excluding Current Account) during the year were:

	Bal B/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfers In & Out Difference	Bal C/fwd
	£	£	£	£	£
Restoration Account	20,140.69	770.03	0.00	-6,728.74	14,181.98
Bursary Account	892.46	9.38	0.00	0.00	901.84
Savings Account (Restricted)	5,300.39	1,720.32	0.00	-3,201.31	3,819.40
Savings Account (Unrestricted)	1,056.20	116.03	0.00	-980.00	192.23
Operating Reserves	5,069.52	269.08	0.00	0.00	5,338.60
Nominated Project (currently 'Heating')	4,186.07	50,785.64	58,836.39	5,536.73	1,672.05

The Restoration Account represents accumulated donations, appeals, bequests and legacies for fabric maintenance (including churchyard), which can only be spent for that purpose.

The Bursary Account was set up as part of the 150th anniversary celebrations to grant bursaries to young people living in the parish for educational travel according to the Declaration of Trust for St Mary's Embsay with Eastby Fund for Young People.

The Savings Account was set up to retain funds that need to be held separate from the current account due to being specified for restricted or designated purposes.

The PCC Nominated Project Account holds the balance of income for current PCC nominated projects (currently the Heating project).

The Operating Reserves Account holds three months operating reserves money for the church.

4 Receipts Analysis			Unrestricted Account	Restoration Account	PCC Nominated Project Account	Bursary Account	Unrestricted Funds Savings Account	Restricted Funds Savings Account
			£	£	£	£	£	£
a. Regular Giving:								
	Tax efficient giving		35,097.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Non-tax efficient giving		245.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL		35,342.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
b. Fundraising Activities:								
	Car Park		24.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Beetle Drive Fundraising		508.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Swing City Fundraising		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Bookstall/Jigsaw Fundraising		85.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Coffee Morning Fundraising		432.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Churchyard Plants Fundraising		335.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Vicarage Tea Party Fundraising		884.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Celidh Fundraising		553.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Embsay Village Fete		31.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Snake Davies Fundraising		1,571.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Stained Glass Windows Fundraising		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Quiz Night Fundraising		704.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Burnsall Fete Fundraising		250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Eggs Fundraising		20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Christmas Fair Fundraising		1,332.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Heating Project Fundraising		0.00	0.00	5,498.63	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL		6,731.06	0.00	5,498.63	0.00	0.00	0.00
c. Other voluntary receipts:								
	Coffee Money		1,130.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Smiley Faces/Mothers Union		300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Collections for missions & charities		564.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Children's Services		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Churchyard Donations		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Gift Day		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Sundries		622.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Vicar's Extraordinary Expenses		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
	Contractor Refunds		0.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL		2,617.70	0.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00

5	Payments Analysis	Unrestricted Account	Restoration Account	PCC Nominated Project Account	Bursary Account	Unrestricted Funds Savings Account	Restricted Funds Savings Account
		£	£	£	£	£	£
a.	Costs of Fundraising Activities:						
	Beetle Drive	55.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Churchyard Plants	130.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Vicarage Tea Party	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Quiz Night	65.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Christmas Fair	85.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Snake Davies	1,092.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Ceilidh	130.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL	1,557.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
b.	Salaries, Wages & Honoraria:						
	Admin Assistant	1,670.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Wedding / funeral fees	2,208.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Honoraria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL	3,878.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
c.	Mission Evangelism Costs:						
	Children's Services	171.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Community Engagement	645.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Congregational Engagement	317.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Environmental Action	318.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Teaching Courses	8.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Bursary	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL	1,460.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
d.	Church Running Expenses:						
	Insurance	1,909.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Upkeep of services	1,925.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Upkeep of Churchyard	2,946.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Coffee Costs	335.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Organist	60.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Cleaner	125.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Minor Repairs & maintenance	2,603.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Stationery	767.63	0.00	90.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Subscriptions	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL	10,723.96	0.00	90.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

e. Other Payments:							
	Vicar's Extraordinary Expenses	348.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Hire/Rent Charges Paid	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Deanery Synod Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Other Sundries	539.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Consultation Fees	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Filming Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Project Equipment & Fitting Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Architect Expenses	0.00	0.00	1,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Event expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Heating Material Costs	0.00	0.00	4,449.60	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Publicity Costs	0.00	0.00	189.35	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Contractor Costs	0.00	0.00	52,757.44	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Project Involvement Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL	898.24	0.00	58,746.39	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	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.						

Manby Castle House East

Embsay

Skipton

BD23 6PH

17th March 2025

2024 Annual Financial Statements for the Church of St. Mary The Virgin Embsay with Eastby

I confirm that the above accounts have been examined and found to be correct and in accordance with the accounting records provided and information and explanations received.



Richard Watson FCA
Independent Examiner



Martin Russell
19th March 2025

Accounts

St Mary's Church, Embsey with Eastby - Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

Receipts and Payments Account

	Unrestricted Funds Current Account	Unrestricted Funds Savings Account	Restricted Funds Savings Account	Restoration Account	Nominated Project Account	Bursary Account	Operating Reserves Account	Total 2023	Total 2022
RECEIPTS									
Voluntary Giving									
Regular Giving (see note 4a)	34,432.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	34,432.29	32,912.81
Collections at Services	2,818.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,818.61	2,383.89
All Other Giving & Voluntary Receipts	2,389.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	850.00	0.00	0.00	3,239.13	2,133.20
Gift Aid recovered	11,347.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11,347.92	9,207.93
Legacies	0.00	0.00	551.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	551.40	500.00
Grants (including VAT recovered)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,548.90	0.00	0.00	1,548.90	19,111.38
Total Voluntary Giving	50,987.95	0.00	551.40	0.00	2,398.90	0.00	0.00	53,938.25	66,249.21
Activities for Generating Funds									
Fundraising Activities (see note 4b)	5,249.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	836.00	0.00	0.00	6,085.19	4,316.49
Income from Investments									
Investment income	0.00	73.25	0.00	187.40	0.00	8.19	157.43	426.27	94.49
Church Activities									
Fees retained by PCC (funerals/weddings/etc)	3,524.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,524.00	1,940.40
Other Incoming Resources									
Other voluntary receipts (see note 4c)	6,347.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,347.46	3,199.98
TOTAL RECEIPTS	66,108.60	73.25	551.40	187.40	3,234.90	8.19	157.43	70,321.17	75,800.57
PAYMENTS									
Cost of Generating Funds									
Costs of Fundraising Activities (see note 5a)	437.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	437.04	185.55
Church Activities									
Mission giving & donations	3,194.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,194.62	2,576.65
Diocesan Parish Share Contribution	44,758.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	44,758.00	39,650.00
Salaries, wages & honoraria (see note 5b)	2,805.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,805.30	1,330.40
Clergy & staff expenses	442.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	442.08	480.14
Church Expenses									
Mission & evangelism costs (see note 5c)	762.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	962.93	273.29
Church running expenses (see note 5d)	8,500.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,500.07	5,907.33
Church utility bills	3,115.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,115.02	3,133.26

Major Capital Expenditure											
Major repairs											
Other Expenditure											
Other payments (see note 5e)											
TOTAL PAYMENTS											
Transfers into account	5,310.14	0.00	3,704.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,314.00	2,996.38
Transfers out of account	4,009.04	0.00	2,628.20	0.00	2,681.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,014.67	2,902.66
Transfer of Legacies to Restricted Account	551.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,318.18	-2,902.66
Transfer of Grants to Restricted Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	551.40	0.00
Difference	749.70	0.00	1,076.33	-2,681.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-855.91	0.00
Excess of Receipts over Payments	-441.36	73.25	1,627.73	-2,494.54	-1,109.10	-191.81	157.43	-2,378.40			2,958.34
Balance brought forward 1st January 2023	2,508.30	982.95	3,672.66	22,635.23	5,295.17	1,084.27	4,912.09	41,090.67			38,132.33
Balance carried forward 31st December 2023	2,066.94	1,056.20	5,300.39	20,140.69	4,186.07	892.46	5,069.52	38,712.27			41,090.67
Statement of Assets											
Current Account	2,066.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,066.94			2,508.30
Operating Reserves Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,069.52	5,069.52			4,912.09
Restoration Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,140.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,140.69			22,635.23
PCC Nominated Project Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,186.07	0.00	0.00	4,186.07			5,295.17
Savings Account	0.00	1,056.20	5,300.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,356.59			4,655.61
Bursary Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	892.46	0.00	892.46			1,084.27
	2,066.94	1,056.20	5,300.39	20,140.69	4,186.07	892.46	5,069.52	38,712.27			41,090.67

Statement of Assets									
Current Account	2,066.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,066.94	2,508.30
Operating Reserves Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,069.52	4,912.09
Restoration Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,140.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,140.69	22,635.23
PCC Nominated Project Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,186.07	0.00	4,186.07	5,295.17
Savings Account	0.00	1,056.20	5,300.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,356.59	4,655.61
Bursary Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	892.46	892.46	1,084.27	41,080.67
	2,066.94	1,056.20	5,300.39	20,140.69	4,186.07	892.46	5,069.52	38,712.27	

11th March 2024

Marion Russell

The Revd Canon Marion Russell

J. Johnson

R.M.Watson FCA
Independent Examiner

St Mary's Church, Embsey with Eastby - Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023											
Notes											
1	The Financial Statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Auditing Regulations using the Receipts and Payments basis.										
2	The only fixed asset retained for use is the church car park. Other assets are listed in the church inventory.										
3	The movements in restricted funds during the year were:										
		Bal B/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfers In & Out Difference	Bal C/fwd					
		£	£	£	£	£					
	Restoration Account	22,635.23	187.40	0.00	-2,681.94	20,140.69					
	Bursary Account	1,084.27	8.19	200.00	0.00	892.46					
	Savings Account (Restricted)	3,672.66	551.40	0.00	1,076.33	5,300.39					
	Savings Account (Unrestricted)	982.95	73.25	0.00	0.00	1,056.20					
	Operating Reserves	4,912.09	157.43	0.00	0.00	5,069.52					
	Nominated Project	5,295.17	3,234.90	4,344.00	0.00	4,186.07					
	The <u>Restoration Account</u> represents accumulated donations, appeals, bequests and legacies for fabric maintenance, which can only be spent for that purpose.										
	The <u>Bursary Account</u> was set up as part of the 150th anniversary celebrations to grant bursaries to young people living in the parish for educational travel according to the Declaration of Trust for St Mary's Embsey with Eastby Fund for Young People.										
	The <u>Savings Account</u> was set up to retain funds that need to be held separate from the current account due to being specified for restricted or designated purposes.										
	The <u>PCC Nominated Project Account</u> holds the balance of income for current PCC nominated projects (currently the TCNCC project).										
	The <u>Operating Reserves Account</u> holds three months operating reserves money for the church.										
4	Receipts Analysis										
		Unrestricted Account	Restoration Account	PCC Nominated Project Account	Bursary Account	Unrestricted Funds Savings Account	Restricted Funds Savings Account	Total 2023	Total 2022		
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£		
a.	Regular Giving:										
	Tax efficient giving	33,707.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	33,707.29	31,914.81		
	Non-tax efficient giving	725.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	725.00	998.00		

[illegible]

Manby Castle House East

Embsay

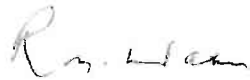
Skipton

BD23 6PH

5th March 2024

2023 Annual Financial Statements for the Church of St. Mary The Virgin Embsay with Eastby

I confirm that the above accounts have been examined and found to be correct and in accordance with the accounting records provided and information and explanations received.



Richard Watson FCA
Independent Examiner

St Mary the Virgin Embsay with Eastby Parochial Church Council

Operating Reserve Policy

The purpose of the Operating Policy for St Mary the Virgin Parochial Church Council (PCC) is to make sure that the mission, programmes, employment and ongoing operations of the Church remain stable. The Operating Reserve is intended to provide an internal source of funds for situations such as a sudden increase in expenses, a significant drop in a source of income, one-time unbudgeted expenses and unexpected large repair-bills. Operating Reserves are not intended to replace a permanent loss of funds or eliminate an ongoing budget gap. As and when the Operating Reserves are used, it is the aim of St Mary the Virgin's PCC for the reserves to be replenished on a schedule agreed by themselves.

Definitions and Goals

The Operating Reserve Fund is a designated fund set aside by action of the PCC. It is a dynamic fund and will be reviewed and adjusted in response to any internal and external changes as required.

The PCC aims to keep approximately three months of average Church operating costs in reserves as a minimum. The calculation of average monthly operating costs includes all recurring, predictable expenses such as salaries, utilities, charity payments, etc. Depreciation, in-kind, and other non-cash expenses are not included in the calculation. The amount of the Operating Reserve Fund will be reported to the PCC on a monthly basis and included in the regular and annual financial reports.

Accounting for Reserves

The Operating Reserve Fund will be recorded in the financial records as PCC-Designated Operating Reserve. It will be funded and available in cash. Operating Reserves will be kept in the Operating Reserves Fund account (Parish deposit account) of St Mary the Virgin's PCC.

Funding of Reserves

The PCC will aim to fund the Operating Reserve with surplus unrestricted operating funds where possible. The PCC may from time to time direct that a specific source of revenue be set aside for Operating Reserves. Examples may include one-time gifts or bequests, special grants or special appeals.

Use of Reserves

Use of Operating Reserves requires three steps:

- 1. Identification of appropriate use of reserve funds**
- 2. Authority to use operating reserves**
- 3. Reporting and monitoring**

1. Identification of appropriate use of reserve funds

The PCC will identify the need for access to reserve funds and confirm that the use is consistent with the purpose as described in this policy. This step will require analysis of the reason for the shortfall, the availability of any other sources of funds before using reserves and evaluation of the time period that the funds will be required and replenished.

2. Authority to use operating reserves

Authority for use of Operating Reserves lies with the PCC. The use of Operating Reserves will be reported to the PCC at a scheduled meeting, accompanied by the analysis and determination of the use of funds and a schedule for repayment.

3. Reporting and monitoring

The PCC is responsible for ensuring that the Operating Reserve Fund is maintained and used as described in this policy. Upon approval for the use of Operating Reserve funds, the Treasurer will maintain records for the use of funds and schedule for repayment with support from the PCC. The Treasurer will provide regular reports to the PCC of progress with regards to the repayment schedule.

Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years, at a minimum, by the PCC, or sooner if required by internal or external events or changes. Changes to the policy are to be agreed by the PCC.

Signed: Elizabeth M. Roodhouse (Chair)

Sue Stearn (PCC Secretary)

Dated: 18th March, 2022

Review due; March 2025

St Mary's Church, Embsey with Eastby - Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

Receipts and Payments Account

	Unrestricted Funds Current Account	Unrestricted Funds Savings Account	Restricted Funds Savings Account	Restoration Account	Nominated Project Account	Bursary Account	Operating Reserves Account	Total 2023	Total 2022
RECEIPTS									
Voluntary Giving									
Regular Giving (see note 4a)	34,432.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	34,432.29	32,912.81
Collections at Services	2,818.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,818.61	2,383.89
All Other Giving & Voluntary Receipts	2,389.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	850.00	0.00	0.00	3,239.13	2,133.20
Gift Aid recovered	11,347.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11,347.92	9,207.93
Legacies	0.00	0.00	551.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	551.40	500.00
Grants (including VAT recovered)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,548.90	0.00	0.00	1,548.90	19,111.38
Total Voluntary Giving	50,987.95	0.00	551.40	0.00	2,398.90	0.00	0.00	53,938.25	66,249.21
Activities for Generating Funds									
Fundraising Activities (see note 4b)	5,249.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	836.00	0.00	0.00	6,085.19	4,316.49
Income from Investments									
Investment income	0.00	73.25	0.00	187.40	0.00	8.19	157.43	426.27	94.49
Church Activities									
Fees retained by PCC (funerals/weddings/etc)	3,524.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,524.00	1,940.40
Other Incoming Resources									
Other voluntary receipts (see note 4c)	6,347.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,347.46	3,199.98
TOTAL RECEIPTS	66,108.60	73.25	551.40	187.40	3,234.90	8.19	157.43	70,321.17	75,800.57
PAYMENTS									
Cost of Generating Funds									
Costs of Fundraising Activities (see note 5a)	437.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	437.04	185.55
Church Activities									
Mission giving & donations	3,194.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,194.62	2,576.65
Diocesan Parish Share Contribution	44,758.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	44,758.00	39,650.00
Salaries, wages & honoraria (see note 5b)	2,805.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,805.30	1,330.40
Clergy & staff expenses	442.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	442.08	480.14
Church Expenses									
Mission & evangelism costs (see note 5c)	762.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	962.93	273.29
Church running expenses (see note 5d)	8,500.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,500.07	5,907.33
Church utility bills	3,115.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,115.02	3,133.26

Major Capital Expenditure										
Major repairs										
Other Expenditure										
Other payments (see note 5e)										
TOTAL PAYMENTS										
Transfers into account	1,314.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,314.00
Transfers out of account										
Transfer of Legacies to Restricted Account	4,009.04	0.00	3,704.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,014.57
Transfer of Grants to Restricted Account	551.40	0.00	2,628.20	2,681.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,319.18
Difference	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	551.40
	749.70	0.00	1,076.33	-2,681.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-855.91
Excess of Receipts over Payments	-441.36	73.25	1,627.73	-2,494.54	-1,109.10	-191.81	157.43	-2,378.40	2,958.34	2,958.34
Balance brought forward 1st January 2023	2,508.30	982.95	3,672.66	22,635.23	5,295.17	1,084.27	4,912.09	41,090.67	38,132.33	38,132.33
Balance carried forward 31st December 2023	2,066.94	1,056.20	5,300.39	20,140.69	4,186.07	892.46	5,069.52	38,712.27	41,090.67	41,090.67
Statement of Assets										
Current Account	2,066.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,066.94	2,508.30	2,508.30
Operating Reserves Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,069.52	4,912.09	4,912.09	4,912.09
Restoration Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,140.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,140.69	22,635.23	22,635.23
PCC Nominated Project Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,186.07	0.00	0.00	4,186.07	5,295.17	5,295.17
Savings Account	0.00	1,056.20	5,300.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,356.59	4,655.61	4,655.61
Bursary Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	892.46	0.00	892.46	1,084.27	1,084.27
	2,066.94	1,056.20	5,300.39	20,140.69	4,186.07	892.46	5,069.52	38,712.27	41,090.67	41,090.67

Statement of Assets									
Current Account	2,066.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,066.94
Operating Reserves Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Restoration Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,069.52	5,069.52
PCC Nominated Project Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,140.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,140.69
Savings Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,186.07	0.00	0.00	4,186.07
Bursary Account	0.00	1,056.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,356.59
	0.00	0.00	5,300.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	892.46	0.00	892.46
	2,066.94	1,056.20	5,300.39	20,140.69	4,186.07	892.46	5,069.52	38,712.27	41,090.67

11th March 2024

Marion Russell

Karen L. Carson
John Johnson

I confirm that the above accounts have been examined and found to be correct and in accordance with the accounting records and information and explanations received.

R.M. Watson FCA
Independent Examiner

St Mary's Church, Embsey with Eastby - Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023									
Notes									
1	The Financial Statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Auditing Regulations using the Receipts and Payments basis.								
2	The only fixed asset retained for use is the church car park. Other assets are listed in the church inventory.								
3	The movements in restricted funds during the year were:								
		Bal B/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfers In & Out Difference	Bal C/fwd			
		£	£	£	£	£			
	Restoration Account	22,635.23	187.40	0.00	-2,681.94	20,140.69			
	Bursary Account	1,084.27	8.19	200.00	0.00	892.46			
	Savings Account (Restricted)	3,672.66	551.40	0.00	1,076.33	5,300.39			
	Savings Account (Unrestricted)	982.95	73.25	0.00	0.00	1,056.20			
	Operating Reserves	4,912.09	157.43	0.00	0.00	5,069.52			
	Nominated Project	5,295.17	3,234.90	4,344.00	0.00	4,186.07			
	The <u>Restoration Account</u> represents accumulated donations, appeals, bequests and legacies for fabric maintenance, which can only be spent for that purpose.								
	The <u>Bursary Account</u> was set up as part of the 150th anniversary celebrations to grant bursaries to young people living in the parish for educational travel according to the Declaration of Trust for St Mary's Embsey with Eastby Fund for Young People.								
	The <u>Savings Account</u> was set up to retain funds that need to be held separate from the current account due to being specified for restricted or designated purposes.								
	The <u>PCC Nominated Project Account</u> holds the balance of income for current PCC nominated projects (currently the TCNCC project).								
	The <u>Operating Reserves Account</u> holds three months operating reserves money for the church.								
4	Receipts Analysis								
		Unrestricted Account	Restoration Account	PCC Nominated Project Account	Bursary Account	Unrestricted Funds Savings Account	Restricted Funds Savings Account	Total 2023	Total 2022
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
a.	Regular Giving:								
	Tax efficient giving	33,707.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	33,707.29	31,914.81
	Non-tax efficient giving	725.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	725.00	998.00

Manby Castle House East

Embsay

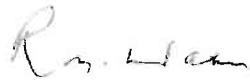
Skipton

BD23 6PH

5th March 2024

2023 Annual Financial Statements for the Church of St. Mary The Virgin Embsay with Eastby

I confirm that the above accounts have been examined and found to be correct and in accordance with the accounting records provided and information and explanations received.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R. Watson', is positioned above the printed name.

Richard Watson FCA
Independent Examiner

St Mary the Virgin Embsay with Eastby Parochial Church Council

Operating Reserve Policy

The purpose of the Operating Policy for St Mary the Virgin Parochial Church Council (PCC) is to make sure that the mission, programmes, employment and ongoing operations of the Church remain stable. The Operating Reserve is intended to provide an internal source of funds for situations such as a sudden increase in expenses, a significant drop in a source of income, one-time unbudgeted expenses and unexpected large repair-bills. Operating Reserves are not intended to replace a permanent loss of funds or eliminate an ongoing budget gap. As and when the Operating Reserves are used, it is the aim of St Mary the Virgin's PCC for the reserves to be replenished on a schedule agreed by themselves.

Definitions and Goals

The Operating Reserve Fund is a designated fund set aside by action of the PCC. It is a dynamic fund and will be reviewed and adjusted in response to any internal and external changes as required.

The PCC aims to keep approximately three months of average Church operating costs in reserves as a minimum. The calculation of average monthly operating costs includes all recurring, predictable expenses such as salaries, utilities, charity payments, etc. Depreciation, in-kind, and other non-cash expenses are not included in the calculation. The amount of the Operating Reserve Fund will be reported to the PCC on a monthly basis and included in the regular and annual financial reports.

Accounting for Reserves

The Operating Reserve Fund will be recorded in the financial records as PCC-Designated Operating Reserve. It will be funded and available in cash. Operating Reserves will be kept in the Operating Reserves Fund account (Parish deposit account) of St Mary the Virgin's PCC.

Funding of Reserves

The PCC will aim to fund the Operating Reserve with surplus unrestricted operating funds where possible. The PCC may from time to time direct that a specific source of revenue be set aside for Operating Reserves. Examples may include one-time gifts or bequests, special grants or special appeals.

Use of Reserves

Use of Operating Reserves requires three steps:

- 1. Identification of appropriate use of reserve funds**
- 2. Authority to use operating reserves**
- 3. Reporting and monitoring**

1. Identification of appropriate use of reserve funds

The PCC will identify the need for access to reserve funds and confirm that the use is consistent with the purpose as described in this policy. This step will require analysis of the reason for the shortfall, the availability of any other sources of funds before using reserves and evaluation of the time period that the funds will be required and replenished.

2. Authority to use operating reserves

Authority for use of Operating Reserves lies with the PCC. The use of Operating Reserves will be reported to the PCC at a scheduled meeting, accompanied by the analysis and determination of the use of funds and a schedule for repayment.

3. Reporting and monitoring

The PCC is responsible for ensuring that the Operating Reserve Fund is maintained and used as described in this policy. Upon approval for the use of Operating Reserve funds, the Treasurer will maintain records for the use of funds and schedule for repayment with support from the PCC. The Treasurer will provide regular reports to the PCC of progress with regards to the repayment schedule.

Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years, at a minimum, by the PCC, or sooner if required by internal or external events or changes. Changes to the policy are to be agreed by the PCC.

Signed: Elizabeth M. Roodhouse (Chair)
Sue Stearn (PCC Secretary)

Dated: 18th March, 2022

Review due; March 2025

Manby Castle House East

Embsay

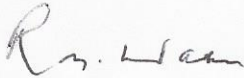
Skipton

BD23 6PH

5th March 2024

2023 Annual Financial Statements for the Church of St. Mary The Virgin Embsay with Eastby

I confirm that the above accounts have been examined and found to be correct and in accordance with the accounting records provided and information and explanations received.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R. Watson', is positioned above the printed name.

Richard Watson FCA
Independent Examiner

Accounts



St Mary the Virgin, Embsay with Eastby



**Annual Trustees' Report, Financial Statement and Parish Reports
of**

**The Parochial Church Council
For the year ended 31st December 2022**

**The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Embsay with Eastby,
Kirk Lane, BD23 6SF**

Vicar

Revd Canon Marion Russell

Associate Priest

Revd Tim Calow

Banks:

Co-op

1 Balloon Street

Manchester

Santander

Bridle Road, Bootle Reg.

Independent Examiner:

Mr Richard Watson

Manby Castle House East

Embsay

Charity Number 1166269

The Annual General Meeting for the Parish of St Mary the Virgin,

Embsay with Eastby

Sunday 14th May, 2023 at 11am

AGENDA

The Meeting of Parishioners

- 1) The appointment of the clerk
- 2) Chair's welcome and opening prayer
- 3) Apologies
- 4) Minutes of the previous meeting
- 5) The election of churchwardens

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

- 1) The appointment of the Clerk
- 2) Apologies
- 3) Minutes of the last Annual Parochial Church Meeting
- 4) Electoral Roll report
- 5) The Elections:
 - i) The election of the Parochial Church Council
 - ii) The election to Deanery Synod
- 6) The Annual Trustees Report:
 - 7) The Financial Statements:
 - i) Presentation of the Examined Accounts
 - ii) Independent Examiner's Report
 - iii) Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2023
 - iv) Gift Aid Officer's Report
 - 8) St Mary's Buildings and Fabric report
 - 9) Skipton Deanery Synod Report
- 10) The Parish Reports
 - 11) Date of the next Annual Parochial Church Meeting
 - 12) Any other business

The Annual Meetings for the Parish of St Mary the Virgin, Embsay with Eastby
Sunday 15th May, 2022 at 11am in church and via Zoom

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners

22 Parishioners attended in church and 2 via Zoom (remote online conferencing)

Revd Canon Marion Russell (MR) chaired the Meeting of Parishioners and welcomed everyone.

1. Peter Edwards proposed and Simon Smith seconded Sue Stearn as Clerk, which was agreed unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.
2. MR led prayers.
3. Apologies received from Pam Meakin, Daphne Jepps and Samantha Patterson
4. Jennifer Stearn proposed and Bridget Edwards seconded the acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th April, 2021 and agreed unanimously by all who had been at that meeting.
5. Election of Churchwardens; no candidates for the two vacancies. MR said that we were working hard to disseminate and delegate the practical role of the churchwarden and it would be a blessing to have a churchwarden to be the Bishops officer. Still no volunteers. MR to report to the Archdeacon that we have no church warden and will take advice. MR thanked all those who were taking the disseminated and delegated roles, it showed great team work.

Liz Roodhouse our current church warden, term of office ends on the 8th June, 2022. MR thanked her for the last six years and acknowledge the wonderful contribution she had made to the life of St Mary's.

The meeting closed at 11.10 (Sue Stearn AMP Clerk)

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Revd Canon Marion Russell chaired the APCM

22 Parishioners attended in church and 2 via Zoom (remote online conferencing)

1. **Appointment of the clerk;** Peter Edwards proposed and Simon Smith seconded Sue Stearn as Clerk, which was agreed unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.

2. **Apologies;** received from Pam Meakin, Daphne Jepps and Samantha Patterson

3. **Minutes of the 2021 meeting held on 18th April, 2021**

Simon Smith proposed, Andrea Swearman seconded their acceptance and agreed unanimously by all who had been at that meeting.

4. **Electoral Roll report:** Sue Davies reported that there were 79 on the roll at the time of the meeting with the following additions and deletions:

Additions: Pauline Davies, Alan Wheway and Lillian Wheway

Deletions: None

Marion thanked Sue Davies for her work as Electoral Roll Officer

5. **The elections:**

i) **Election of the Parochial Church Council.** There were three vacancies of two 3 year terms and one 2 year term following the end of the term of office, of Sylvia Hodgkinson and Carol Smith and the resignation of Sue Davies from the PCC. Sue will however continue to be electoral roll officer, member of fabric committee and carbon Zero group.

There were three nominations for the vacancies:

Andrea Swearman proposed by Jennifer Stearn and seconded by Sylvia Hodgkinson.

Christine Terry proposed by Daphne Jepps and seconded by Helen Ralph.

Samantha Patterson proposed by Liz Roodhouse and seconded by Jenny Johnson.

As there were 3 vacancies and 3 nominations this means that under the Church Representation Rules all three are accepted on to the PCC without

the need for voting. Those present indicated their unanimous acceptance of this.

MR thanked Sylvia, Carol and Sue for their time on the PCC. She also said that Liz Roodhouse had agreed to be co-opted onto the PCC which would need to formally approved this at next PCC meeting

All the reports were in a printed booklet, copies of which were sent electronically to the congregation. Those without internet connection or upon request received printed copies. Copies of all reports are attached to these minutes. Minuted items under individual reports are those recorded at this APCM.

6. The Annual Trustees report for year ending 31st December, 2021

MR said that the riches of St Mary's were amazing in terms of people's diverse gifts, energy to utilize those gifts, team work. She felt blessed by that team work which allowed her to take a Sabbatical in 2022, which though long in planning from May 2021 only came together at the last minute at end of December 2021. The Sabbatical was from 1st January to 31st March, 2022. She appreciated this meant a lot of work for the Liz; Churchwarden, PCC and Revd Tim Calow (Associate priest) and Revd Bob Mitchel (retired priest).

Peter Edwards said that on behalf of the congregation we very much appreciated the work that Tim and Bob do.

MR thanked everyone at St Mary's for all their work on different groups and the PCC.

No questions or comments on the Annual Trustees report including the Safeguarding Report.

Simon Smith proposed and Peter Edwards seconded the acceptance of this report and agreed unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.

7. The Financial Statements;

No questions or comments on the report. A big thank you to Jenny Johnson for all her hard work as Treasurer

i) Presentation of the examined reports and ii) Independent examiner's report

Proposal for acceptance of the 2021 accounts made by Bridget Edwards seconded by Lesley Higson and agreed unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.

iii) Appointment of an Independent Examiner for 2022 accounts

Simon Smith proposed David Charlton, Christine Terry seconded his appointment as the independent examiner. This was agreed unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.

iv) Gift Aid Officer's report: Justin said if you no longer pay tax please let him know. No other questions or comments on the report.

8. Churchwardens' Report: MR said Peter Edwards had been working with the fabric committee consisting of Simon Smith Deputy church warden and Sue Davies and Jennifer Stearn.

Peter Edwards thanked Tony Stearn and those that help in the maintenance of the churchyard.

9. Skipton Deanery Synod report: No questions or comments on the report.

10. Parish reports;

a. School Governors Report: No questions or comments on the report.

b. Tuesday Teas: No questions or comments on the report.

c. Band: No questions or comments on the report.

d. Choir: No questions or comments on the report.

e. Skipton Churches Mothers' Union: No questions or comments on the report.

f. Disability Report: No questions or comments on the report.

g. Village Institute report: No questions or comments on the report.

h. Food Bank report: No questions or comments on the report.

i. Smiley faces: No questions or comments on the report.

j. Fairtrade report: No questions or comments on the report.

k. Eco – Group report: No questions or comments on the report.

I. Towards Carbon Neutral Churches in Craven: No questions or comments on the report.

11. Date of the next APCM: Sunday 14th May, 2023

12. Any other business:

a. MR thanked all contributors to the Parish reports, which were lively and expressed love, faith and hope in all we do.

The meeting closed at 11.30 (Sue Stearn APCM Clerk)

Trustees' Annual Report for the year 1st Jan to 31st Dec, 2022

PCC approved by correspondence on 9th April, 2023

Aims and Purposes

St Mary the Virgin, Embsay with Eastby, Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of working with our incumbent Reverend Canon Marion Russell in promoting the ecclesiastical parish in the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. We are also supported in our responsibilities by St Mary's Associate Priest, The Revd Tim Calow, by The Revd Bob Mitchell, retired priest with Bishop's Permission to Officiate and Lesley Higson Licensed Lay Minister with Bishop's Permission to Officiate.

Our commitment and responsibilities are expressed in our parish statement of intent: We, the community of St Mary's, aim to create a welcoming and inspiring place where people of every age can meet God, who we know as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and can recognise his presence in our lives and in one another. We believe that we are loved and blessed by God, and that we have a responsibility to share our blessings with one another and with the wider community, of all faiths and none.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to nurturing faith, by enabling as many people as possible to worship at St Mary's and to become part of our church community, and to enable people to live out their faith in day to day life.

The PCC continues to look at how we can improve and maintain the church building and churchyard, which are the visible symbols of our presence in the community, how we develop worship for children and families, how we increase community involvement and ecumenical links, and how we develop our own spirituality as we try to enable ordinary people to live faithful, loving, and God-focussed lives.

Throughout 2022, the shape of our activities to address the objectives has continued and were made easier with the lifting of the Covid pandemic restrictions in England in early 2022.

Developing worship and engaging with children and families

January 2022 began with a quiet service of Morning Prayer on Sunday 2nd January instead of All Age Worship, and Canon Marion began her three month Sabbatical, comprising a long retreat, the Ignatian 30 Days Full Spiritual Exercises from January 3rd to February 8th, followed by a two week course and time of rest and refreshment with friends and family. Revd's Tim Calow and Bob Mitchell generously covered all the Sundays and Tuesdays while Marion was away, along with the All Age Worship Team who stimulated a lot of thought in February, March and April. Marion is deeply grateful to them all, and to the PCC and congregation for supporting her time on Sabbatical.

At the end of this year, we thanked The Rt Revd Dr Helen-Ann Hartley, Bishop of Ripon, for all her work in the Ripon Episcopal Area and with St Mary's when she made her farewells as Bishop of Ripon to the Diocese of Leeds, to become Bishop of Newcastle, the senior bishop in that diocese.

Worship has continued without disruption this year, with changing Covid-19 restrictions, rescinded in April 2022, with advice to continue circumspectly. Following PCC and church discussion in July, the Common Cup was reintroduced in

line with Church of England guidance, and allowing intincted wafers also to be offered. This has continued through the year.

All our Sunday services, midweek Holy Communion and special services are live streamed using Zoom, no longer with recordings being made. Zooming services remains our policy and is valued by those who cannot attend in person for long or short term reasons.

Community involvement and Ecumenical Links

Fifth Sundays remain joint services with the Methodist Community at St Mary's. We continue to work jointly for village activities, Remembrance Sunday, Carols Round the Elm Tree, Lent groups, Lent Lunch, School Collective Worship, and we hold PCC meetings in the Methodist premises.

Returning from the Clergy Conference (6-8th September), Marion and Tim heard the news that there was concern for the health of Her Majesty the Queen. The news of her death only hours later was marked in our parish and church in line with the Church of England's recommendations. The bell was tolled at midday Friday 9th and the Union Flag hoisted to half-mast; the bell was again tolled on Saturday 10th September to mark the accession of King Charles III and the flag at full mast for 24 hours, before returning to half-mast until after Her Late Majesty's funeral. We held a service of Prayer and Reflection on the evening of 9th September, included prayers of mourning on Sundays 11th and 18th, and used Holy Communion in the Time of Mourning for the Tuesday midweek, Laurel Croft and Home Communion services within that period. We also used the new hymn 'Tears and Celebration'. The bell was again tolled for Her Late Majesty's funeral on 19th September, and some members of the congregation joined the community provision to watch the funeral together on a big screen in the Methodist Chapel, kindly provided by Trevor Kent, David Allison and several members of Embsay with Eastby Good Neighbours (EEGN). A Book of Condolence was opened in St Mary's on 9th September, along with printed prayers for people to take with them, and provision to light a candle. Two classes from Embsay Primary School visited the church to add their names to the Book and the Book was taken into school for

other classes to add condolences as they wished once the Book was removed from public display. This Book will be archived in due course along with other material from the church.

Our involvement with Embsay School included Harvest celebration with KS1 and KS2 separately in the church with family and friends attending; Yr 2 visits; Count on Nature with Reception and Yr 5 participating in June; Ash Wednesday whole school service; Nativity service from Yr 2 in church in December; Yr 6 School Leavers service and celebration in July. Additionally Revd Tim, Peter Edwards, and Liz Roodhouse made regular contributions to Collective Worship. Canon Marion made visits to each class for questions, story-telling and prayer.

Smiley Faces Toddler Praise has begun to grow as families develop confidence to meet again in groups and welcome this support and fellowship with fun activities.

The Eco Group and Net Zero Group continue very actively, with reports which set out this crucial work in detail, bring change to us individually and as a community.

Developing spirituality

Through the year these additional activities have contributed to our developing spiritual understanding:

- Weekly **Lent** Groups, following the United Society Partners in the Gospel(USPG) 5-week study course called "Living Stones, Living Hope"
- Sermons in **Creationtide** including Peter Edwards and Diana Linford taking part on an interview 'sermon' format about our progress in becoming Carbon Net Zero and a sermon reflecting on the results from the church and community '**Count on Nature**' survey in June.
- **Thy Kingdom Come** materials and sermon series on The Lord's Prayer during Easter Season
- **Try Praying** jointly with Embsay Methodists – for ourselves and booklets for the community during the summer season. Over 100 booklets given away,

contributing to *Try Praying in the Dales* with many other churches in North Yorkshire.

- The Bible Course study group from autumn 2021 continued with a self-sustaining ecumenical group meeting monthly to explore the **book of Romans**.

Revd Canon Marion Russell

Skipton Deanery Synod report for 2022

There have been 3 meetings in the last year. The first meeting, held in Holy Trinity Skipton, was the AGM on 1st February 2022. Ed Williams was elected as Lay Chair and Skipton Deanery Rep on Diocesan Synod, Sue Stearn and Jane Way were elected as House of Laity representatives. There were no volunteers to be Deanery Synod Secretary so, at the second meeting on 17th May 2022, Revd Tom Lusty offered to do it for a year.

All three meetings focused on the importance of Lay members supporting the vicar in our Christian lives. At the second, held at Church House, Grassington, Revd Canon Dr James Theodosius, our Area Dean, invited Julia Robertson, Diocesan Lay Training Officer, to talk about the varied roles the Lay need to play and we discussed how much this happened in our various parishes.

At the next meeting Rev James invited Rev Jude Smith, Director of Church Revitalisation for Leeds Diocese, to talk about how that Diocese is trying to improve support structures for Parishes. The feedback was that the faculty application structure is definitely better but the clergy appointment structure needs work. Revd James emphasised the importance of better communication between Diocese, Deanery Synod and parishes.

Those who attended these meetings voiced their appreciation for the pro-active direction that the new Synod has taken as being very relevant to the needs of parishes today.

Bridget Edwards and Sue Stearn Deanery Synod representatives

The church building and churchyard:

St Mary's Buildings and Fabric Report for 2022

Apart from items of minor repair and routine maintenance, during 2022 the attention of the Buildings and Fabric Committee has been mainly focussed on applications to the Diocesan Advisory Committee for approval to go ahead with various miscellaneous projects.

We now have List A approval to repair/replace the flag pole bracket, provide netting to the tower louvres and clear birds' nest debris, etc., from the bell chamber.

We have List B approval for a new tower trap door, replacement ladders to the middle chamber and bell chamber of the tower, and the provision of a new notice board to the Lych Gate.

Contractors and tradesmen can now be engaged to go ahead with the various projects.

Lifting, turning and re-setting of various gravestones in the churchyard requires Faculty approval and a three-month period of notice has to be given before the faculty application can be made. This application was given an added dimension by the bough which fell into the churchyard during the gale last November, damaging five headstones. These have been added to the application and the families notified, where possible.

The proposal for a memorial garden has been referred for further consultation with the Archdeacon following queries raised by St Mary's appointed architect.

Scheduled work for 2023 includes the five yearly inspection of the churchyard trees by a professional Tree Surgeon/Arboriculturalist.

Simon Smith

Safeguarding report January to December 2022

All members of St Mary's PCC required the DBS checks renewing in 2022, these were carried out along with other Church members that have roles within the Church and Community involving children and vulnerable adults. They are now to be carried out every 3 years, (previously 5 years).

PCC Members have completed their online Basic & Foundation Safeguarding Training along with Domestic Abuse Awareness Training. All the members of St Mary's who undertake roles helping the Children's Groups have completed their Safeguarding Training on line.

We sought advice from the Diocese's Safeguarding Team on how to improve our practices in certain areas and they kindly gave us guidance to be followed for the future, the required safeguarding systems were implemented and continue to be used.

Annual Self Declaration forms for church members involved in various Church ministries were completed in 2022 and are required annually.

October 2022- Safeguarding Sunday was supported by St Mary's and Marion & myself gave an overview of why we need Safeguarding for Vulnerable children & adults in the Church, including reference to where we have our Safeguarding policy which is available to all to read in church and details of who to contact if a need arises.

St Mary's Embsay with Eastby continues to work and care in the Community and Safeguarding plays an important part in protecting all.

I am building on my experience and knowledge in Safeguarding through additional training and courses throughout 2022 & 2023 and will continue to be supported by Marion and the Diocese's Safeguarding Team in my Safeguarding Officer role for St Mary's.

Andrea Swearman, Parish Safeguarding Officer

Financial Review

(For full details of the 2022 accounts and Operating Reserve Policy see enclosed separate document)

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2022

2022 was a bit of a mixed year for everyone, including St Mary's Church, as we started to come out of the pandemic but then we went into, and are still in, a cost-of-living crisis which is affecting everyone and causing a new air of uncertainty. In spite of this, and once again with the generous regular donations from our kind-hearted parishioners and local community, and new regular giving being set up throughout the year, we managed to raise the necessary funds for the continued running and ministry of the church.

Our income for 2022 was helped significantly by our dedicated and hard-working supporters through various fundraising activities, raising over £3,600 during the year. An amazing achievement! Thank you to everyone who has been involved in helping St Mary's raise the necessary funds. Everyone's help in achieving this is deeply appreciated.

We have been able to cover all of our running costs for the year despite the increase in energy costs which started to affect us towards the end of 2022. We were able to pay the full amount of share requested for 2022, of £39,650, exceeding our revised target share payment of £36,000 by £3,650, and again without the need to resort to reserves to cover any deficit; a truly tremendous achievement by everyone. Thank you. The revised share target for 2023 has been agreed upon at £37,526 and we should, hopefully, achieve this with everyone's continued efforts.

The Diocesan share for each parish is calculated by the application of a formula which, in our case, generates an anomalous, very high figure. This has been recognised by the Diocese resulting in the revised figures agreed upon for 2022 and 2023, mentioned above. The formula was to be reviewed, but due to the pandemic this is still delayed. The PCC has made a submission to change the

process and will continue to offer to work with the Diocese on this in the future. We have been grateful for the engagement with us of Diocesan finance staff through this process.

I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has helped to support St Mary's, whether financially or in any other way, and continues to do so. Without you we would not be able to continue the vital support, service and ministry we offer our local and wider community.

St Mary's continues to be closely involved in the Parish Giving scheme with the Diocese of Leeds. The scheme has continued to prove extremely beneficial to the fundraising for St Mary's, with new members joining regularly. This scheme continues to be very well received by our parishioners and supporters who have found it to be extremely easy and straight forward to set up and use.

St Mary's has a history of giving generously to charity and in total, since 2008, we have paid over £36,500 to various charities chosen by the congregation and the PCC (a continued average of around £2,400 per year). We were able to uphold our commitment to support local, national and international charities again this year, due to our very generous parishioners and community. We supported 11 charities during 2022, paying to them over £2,500.

No Bursary Grants were paid in 2022.

My grateful thanks go to everyone at St Mary's for helping us achieve our financial goals in 2022 despite the continuing and changing challenges we all faced, and still face today, and for your support in helping me in my role as Treasurer. And many thanks to Richard Watson for helping to check our accounts.

Jenny Johnson, Treasurer

Energy Foot printing Tool:

The Energy Foot printing Tool for the Church Buildings return for 2022, has been completed.

Gift Aid Officer's Report

For 2022, we received a total of £9,528 through tax relief on gift aided donations to the Parish.

This amount comprises £6,391 from the Parish Giving Scheme, which is administered by the Gloucester Diocese and £3,137 from our regular gift aided donations (£1,786) and the small donations scheme (£1,350). I have rounded these figures. The small donations scheme runs from April to April, so only about a third of that amount is attributable to donations received in 2022, although the refund is all received in that year. I will be submitting a further claim for the balance of 2022 as soon after April 2023 as I can.

Many thanks to all of who donate and gift aid those donations – you can see what a boost it gives to Parish funds when we can claim the tax back off that money.

My usual two requests are: first, if you give to the Church and pay tax, please consider gift-aiding that giving. Speak to me if you want to know how. Secondly, if you are gift-aiding your donations, please remind me if you no longer pay tax, so that I can remove you from the relevant schedules that I keep along with Jenny.

Justin Gartland, Gift Aid Officer

Church governance, structure and management:

PCC meetings were conducted in person during 2022, occasionally one or two members attended meetings via Zoom. Meetings were held either in the Methodist Chapel or St Mary's Church. The full PCC has met on ten occasions since the 2022 APCM and the average attendance was 76%.

The method of appointment of PCC members is as set out in the Church Representation Rules 2020. The membership of the PCC at St Mary's consists of the Vicar, Associate Priest, Retired Priest, Churchwardens, Treasurer, Deanery Synod representatives and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the parish. All those within our

congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

Standing Committee:

The Standing Committee consisting of PCC members, was formed with PCC approval on 16th June, 2022 following the APCM. As no Churchwarden was elected in 2022, the committee included Revd Canon Marion Russell, Revd Tim Calow, Lesley Higson, Samantha Paterson, Jenny Johnson (Treasurer) and Sue Stearn (PCC and Standing Committee Secretary). Their main remit was to oversee finances and budget for the PCC and undertake tasks as delegated by the PCC.

The Committee met five times, four times in person though one of those times two members attended via Zoom. One meeting was totally via Zoom. The average attendance at meetings was 86%

Sue Stearn (PCC and Standing Committee Secretary)

Administrative information

The Church of St Mary the Virgin provides for the villages of Embsay and Eastby in the Skipton Deanery of Ripon Area within the Diocese of Leeds.

The PCC is a body corporate and a registered charity (No. 1166269)

The correspondence address is: The Vicarage, 21 Shires Lane, Embsay, Skipton BD23 6SB

Members of the Parochial Church Council in 2022

Vicar (Chair)	Revd Canon Marion Russell
Associate Priest	Revd Tim Calow
Retired Priest	Revd Bob Mitchell

Churchwarden(s):	Vacancy	
Deanery Synod Reps	Sue Stearn	2020 - 2023
	Bridget Edwards	2020 - 2023
Treasurer (Elected member of PCC)	Jenny Johnson	2020 - 2023
Elected members	David Jones	2020 - 2023
	Simon Smith (Lay Vice Chair)	2020 - 2023
	Christine Stewart-Jones	2020 - 2023
	Peter Edwards	2021 – 2024
	Lesley Higson	2021 - 2024
	Samantha Patterson (2yr term)	2022 – 2024
	Christine Terry	2022 - 2025
	Andrea Swearman (Parish Safeguarding officer)	2022 – 2025

Co-opted member: Liz Roodhouse 2022 - 2023

The PCC is clerked by Sue Stearn

Parish Reports for year 1st Jan to 31st Dec, 2022;

Embsay C of E (VC) Primary School; School Governor's report for 2022

As the school year goes from Autumn to summer, this report covers 2021/2022/2023

Currently there are four members of the church on the governing body. Canon Marion is ex-officio, Helen Ralph and Jennifer Stearn are Foundation governors and Revd. Tim is a co-opted member. The chair of governors is Matt Smales-Cresswell and the vice chair is Chris Atherton. The head teacher is Mrs Fiona Prest. There are seven classes with approximately 30 children per class.

Over this past year, the school has returned to normal teaching following the covid restrictions. The school is reconnecting with the church, and this includes nativity services, harvest festivals, leavers' service and the Ash Wednesday service all taking place in the church. Governors and other non-teaching visitors have been able to visit school again.

Collective Worship has returned, and the children enjoy being back together. Collective Worship has been supported by Revd Tim, Peter Edwards and Liz Roodhouse and Revd Tracey Darling. Canon Marion visits each class for a variety of types of relevant curriculum and spiritual input. The children have given positive feedback with regards these visits.

The governors and staff have also had training with regards Collective worship from the Diocese advisor. This training was very much appreciated by all attendees.

The government have set a target that all schools should become Academies by 2030. The governing body are investigating this.

There have been changes to the SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) criteria this year and the governors will be reviewing these changes; however, the school is not scheduled for a SIAMS inspection in the coming year.

Jennifer Stearn, Helen Ralph Foundation Governors and Revd Canon Marion Russell

Zoom Tuesday teas report for 2022

Tuesday Teas has taken place on Zoom for most Tuesdays in 2022 when 4 or occasionally 5 people have joined the session. It is open to everyone.

Sylvia Hodgkinson Zoom Host

St Mary's Band report 2022/2023

St Marys Band have once again had a busy year, As well as our AAW Sunday get together's, our second Music in the Meadow in July was a great success, with performances from our very own Ken Birch, The Milholme Dixie Landers and Craven Accordion Orchestra sing along. A special thank you must be made for the use of the field by kind permission of the Mason family and to all who helped support the event.

The carol service at Winterburn in December was great fun, with a reunion of past and present members. This year not too wet, not too cold, just right! I think we had a great time especially as our music was enjoyed so well, we played all our carol repertoire not just the planned carols! oops not quite true, I did leave the 12 days of Christmas at home, substituting 'While shepherds watched' to the On Embsay with Eastby Moor variation. And we had to stand in for the Vicar (not Marion) who could not attend. The mulled wine, mince pies and Christmas cake went down well.

The St Mays carol service was postponed from December to January due to the weather but was very much enjoyed by both band and congregation. It was great fun having John join us.

December also saw the Band host an open rehearsal evening with basket supper where we played our favourite music encouraged by an audience who sang in great voice.

We welcomed new members Helen and Tim, hoping they will continue to enjoy playing with us. Any secret musicians whether experienced or just starting to play /returning to play any instrument, who would like to try out a lively VERY welcoming UNCRITICAL group do let us know. We will be delighted to welcome you.

Martha needs a mention, not only for passing her grade 3 cello, taking part in a special cello workshop but has been offered a music scholarship to Bradford Girls Grammar school. Congratulations Martha.

Yvonne Cleminson, Band Director

St Mary's Singing group report for 2022

Following the ending of Covid restrictions, John Midgley asked for volunteers to join a singing group to lead the singing in Sunday services. The idea being to have a 30 minute rehearsal before a service. Eleven people came forward.

On Sunday 13th November, 2022, St Mary's singing group gathered together for the first time, to lead the singing in the Remembrance Day service. Regularly eight to nine of us sing most Sundays.

It is such a joy to be able to sing as group again.

If anyone would like to join us speak to John or Sue Stearn, no auditions, you do not have to read music, you just need a love of singing. John sends out Youtube recordings of some of the unknown hymns a week or so before a Sunday service to help us learn the tunes.

Many thanks too, to John Midgley our regular organist, also to Yvonne Cleminson and David Ralph (key board) who stand in when John is unable to play.

Sue Stearn, Singing Group member

Skipton Churches Mothers' Union: Branch Leader's Report for 2022

We began the year with the usual 'Wave of Prayer' in early January. In this, we find out more about the dioceses (in Africa and Solomon Islands) with which the Leeds Diocese Mothers' Union is linked and remember them – and the working of our organisation in the UK as well – in prayer.

At the AGM in February 2022, we were able to commit to sending £50 each to AFIA [The Away From It All scheme which runs 2 caravans at Primrose Valley on the east coast to provide free holiday accommodation for disadvantaged families] and the literacy work of the MU, from the money raised from our subs at meetings. The reduced number of monthly meetings in 2021 had limited fundraising, and hence the amount of available money to commit to MU projects, and so we put our heads together to think how we might raise some more.



The outcome of this was a – predominantly handicraft – stall at the Vicarage Garden Party in Embsay in the summer. This was a great success financially which made worthwhile the effort

put in to organising the stall and creating the items for sale. Ruth Garner and I (but mainly Ruth as her applique skills are more finely honed than mine!) wrestled some blue and white fabric from the Fent Shop into an eye-catching banner for over the top of the stall to emphasise the presence of our branch in the Skipton area. It wasn't the best of days, weather-wise, but several members staffed the stall, with Daphne keeping us well supplied with hot drinks. After we had made a donation to St Mary's for the opportunity of having the stall, we made £177 from the sales and generous donations.

There was an emphasis on using materials which members already had and producing items which were re-usable rather than all-too-easily disposable eg gift bags, washable wipes, pouches for a few tissues from a large box rather than using small, plastic-wrapped packets etc etc.



Ruth continued her production line into the autumn (despite time spent moving house) and sold more items, especially appliqued gift bags and aprons, amongst members in the run-up to Christmas. We are very grateful to Ruth for all her work and skill and also to a member of the St Mary's, Embsay with

Eastby congregation for a donation of more fabric to use.*

I led a Lent meditation at St Mary's, reflecting on the personal and societal effects of the pandemic over the previous 2 years. This was informed by Bishop Tom Wright's book: God and the Pandemic. It included reflecting on our own sense of 'exile' from our normal lives when we were in lockdown – and afterwards – and drew parallels between the Biblical narratives of God's peoples' exiles in Egypt and Babylon. As this was held in the wake of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, we reflected too on the harrowing experiences of those under attack and the exile of many of them from their homeland.

We had welcomed Muriel Thorp as a member of our branch following her move from Horsforth. At the June MU Diocesan Council meeting in June, I sought out the leader of Muriel's former branch to assure her that we had made Muriel and her husband, David, welcome. In the course of the conversation it transpired that some MU members – and a couple of other church members from Horsforth – were coming to Skipton for a day in August. We arranged to meet for lunch in Holy Trinity's Café and, having pushed together even more tables than we'd originally requested, those members who were able to attend had an excellent time with good food and good company.

We were pleased to welcome Revd Isobel Rathbone to lead our September Service of Welcome and Re-commitment at St Mary's. She is a retired priest ministering at Holy Trinity, Skipton and St Augustine's, Draughton and is their representative on the 'Towards Carbon Neutral Churches in Craven' group which involves 4 of the 5 possible churches covered by our 'Skipton Churches' MU branch. We officially welcomed Muriel into our branch, accompanied by her husband, David, during the service.

At October's, Daphne Jepps completed her narrative of life as 'the vicar's wife' in various parishes which has kept us amused and entertained over 3 meetings. Then, in November, three members managed to go to Ripon Cathedral to see the 'Threads of Creation' display, Jacqui Parkinson's 12 wonderful (literally!) needlework panels interpreting the story of God's creation of the world. We knew beforehand that the project had taken her 3 years to complete; when we saw it we were amazed that it had taken her only 3 years as it was so detailed and intricate. We were very grateful to Edward Scott for transporting us on the day.

At December's meeting, Sheila Scott, Daphne and I described the exhibition, with the aid of photographs and the booklet which accompanied it, for the members who had not been able to go on the visit. I fear that – despite our superlatives of description – we could not do it justice, but we did our best.

In the autumn we decided to hold our social meetings, for the foreseeable future, away from St Mary's Church in Embsay. The dark nights and cold weather make it

difficult for some members to feel safe, in getting from home into the church building, and comfortably warm once there - without expecting that church's members to provide far more heating than would be reasonable for the fee we paid. We are very grateful for St Mary's for their hospitality over the past few years and may return (if they will have us) in the future. Meanwhile, we have been grateful to Daphne and Sheila and Edward for the use of their homes for our meetings.

As branch leader, I have attended Episcopal Area localised meetings at Hellifield, organised by our Diocesan President, Margaret Crawford. In the run-up to Christmas, I joined with some members of the branch based in the Settle area in walking between Settle parish church and the marketplace to hold a short vigil as part of the 'No More 1 in 3' campaign against gender-based violence. The symbolic silence was maintained by all the participants but was somewhat side-lined by the fact that it coincided with the day of switching on Settle's Christmas lights, with accompanying singing. However, we did have a visible banner and presence and a few people asked about our event.

I also attended Diocesan Council meetings in Batley in June, at which we celebrated the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and in Idle in November. (Neither of these attendances was straightforward. In Batley we had been given permission to park in Tesco's car park so that we could go through the – 2 storey - supermarket to get to Batley Town Hall and I couldn't find my way out for quite a while. It's a big Tesco! In November I couldn't even find Idle itself - despite having travelled through several adjacent areas of Bradford - let alone the parish church once I finally found Idle. Fortunately, the first of 2023's meetings is at Christ Church in Skipton so I hope to get there without a navigator/companion!)

At the November meeting we heard the harrowing details of life in one of the inner-city benefices of Leeds from its parish priest. We were so moved that Margaret organised a collection of toiletries and similar items from the Ripon EA Mothers' Union branches. I managed to get this collection advertised at St Mary's as well as amongst the branch members and together we contributed over 60 items (some of which eg soap, toilet rolls were multi-packs). Once I'd got all these

over to Margaret at Ripon (which, it won't surprise you, again involved struggling to find a location!), she took 2 car loads to Leeds where they could go a little way towards providing a less-deprived life for the parishioners. We have received heartfelt thanks.

Throughout the year, I have continued to include the MU prayer for the day and remember the MU members and projects in the designated areas of the world when I lead St Mary's (EwE) Morning Prayer on Thursdays on Zoom.

It has been a privilege to serve as the branch's leader throughout 2022, ably assisted by Shirley Moorhouse and Jane Eastwood in their roles (as branch Treasurer and Secretary respectively), and supported by the branch members in all we have achieved.

The branch generally meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month, at present in the evening but this will be reviewed in 2023. New members are always most welcome; just contact me on email via your PCC Secretary or Parish Administrator. Membership is not a compulsory part of attending our meetings – visitors are equally welcome.

* As a result of the handicraft sales, our branch donation for 2022 was £250 to AFIA and £100 to the overseas work of MU.

Lesley Higson, Branch Leader

Disability Report for the year ending December 2022

I have very little to report this year. I have been invited to join an on line meeting with the Diocesan group and hope to join in that later in the year.

We are still members of the Torch organisation for those with sight difficulties. Their web site is available for anyone to visit at; <https://torchtrust.org/>

Jane Eastwood Disability Representative

Village Institute Report 2022

The village institute is back to running at full capacity after the last two years. Gloria Drury is the new caretaker/cleaner and her husband Jack our handy man.

The prices have been increased to help with increases in fuel and other costs. We now have a subcommittee to keep an eye on overall running costs.

Events at the institute have included; celebration party, the band Undercover played as a trio for the last time, Easter egg hunt from Preschool, Table top sale, Christmas fairs, wellbeing event, coffee mornings, pantomime, Platinum Jubilee celebration and funeral mourning.

Maintenance work has been carried out over the year; including decorating the entrance foyer and supper room, replacing door furniture. Outer doors, handrails, spouts and toilet windows have been repainted. Flags and bollards fixed/replaced and the post box mounted by the kitchen door. The Fire door in supper room was replaced due to a manufacturing fault. The large windows on south side of hall, kitchen door and window have been replaced with double glazing.

Jennifer Stearn, elected member of Village Institute committee and representative of St. Mary's church

Smiley Faces in 2022

Smiley Faces/Toddler Praise is our group for babies, toddlers and pre-school children, their parents, grandparents and carers. We meet during term time on Friday afternoons in church from 1.30pm to 3.15pm. The first two terms (from January to July) were quiet with five families joining us regularly but after the summer break, numbers began to increase. By December ten families were attending regularly and three others coming when they could.



On 3rd June, past and present Smiley Faces families were invited to a party to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. There were games, crafts and a picnic lunch in

church. Margaret Corr came and told us about what she remembered of being at the Coronation. She'd made a replica crown, the same weight as the one the Queen had worn and we were all surprised by its weight.

In August Glennis Hobbs, a former Methodist Children's Worker who was an integral member of the Smiley Faces team, moved to be near her daughter in Southwell, Nottinghamshire. After fifteen years, we couldn't let her go quietly so we had a party – yes we love parties! Glennis continues to keep in touch and is always interested in hearing news of the families. We still miss her.

When Sue Davies went to New Zealand to spend time with her son and daughter-in-law in October Lesley Higson came to help me and we're very pleased she's stayed. With increasing numbers, three adult helpers are needed.

There are many things that the children enjoy about Smiley Faces: the mini packs of jammy dodgers and party rings they get whilst the adults enjoy a hot drink; the craft activities which the parents seem to enjoy as much as their children; the running around after story time (walking, jumping and clapping for the Lord because He loves me!); birthdays when there's always a cake with candles to blow out. The adults enjoy the opportunity to chat and relax a little knowing that the three of us are happy to entertain the children and provide extra eyes to watch them as necessary.

Jesus made it clear that all children matter to God and even recommended to his disciples that to understand God's kingdom they needed to observe, learn from and imitate young children. Children are our future and Sue, Lesley and I feel privileged to spend our Friday afternoons with them and their parents and carers. They often make us smile and despite the cold church in the winter months, even with the heating and two portable heaters on, the warmth and friendship are palpable.



Liz Roodhouse, Smiley faces leader

Hot Chocolate Club in 2022



Hot Chocolate Club is a youth group for Primary School children in years 4, 5 and 6. The group meets each Friday night in term time and has been in existence for several years, originally organised through the Methodist Church and managed by Glennis Hobbs.

After a break during the pandemic, meetings started again in January 2022. When Glennis left Embsay for pastures new in the Summer of 2022 Joanne Lloyd took on the role of leader and is now ably assisted by Peter Hargreaves and Roxanne Davies. The responsibility for the group has also now moved to St Mary's Church.

At the end of this year, there were 20 children on the register. Each week there is a different activity, as well as games and refreshments. We have made bug hotels, been ten pin bowling, celebrated Easter, Mothering Sunday, the Platinum Jubilee, baked and made pancakes. We try to get outside to Embsay Park, the woods and other outdoor spaces when the weather and light nights allow.



As we move into 2023, we have many more exciting activities planned, including a trip to Coffee and Clay in Skipton which the children are all very excited about!

Joanne Lloyd, Hot Chocolate club leader

Fairtrade at St Mary's, 2022 report

As a Fairtrade Church we use Fairtrade products wherever possible and integrate Fairtrade into the life and work of St Mary's in a variety of ways. There are regular Fairtrade stalls after the Sunday morning service and during the summer months, two were held in the church car park so accessible for the village community and passers-by. The All Age Worship service during Fairtrade Fortnight had a Fairtrade theme and there were other times in the year when Fairtrade was integrated into sermons and intercessions. In May and June colourful knitted tree bands

displaying the Fairtrade mark were tied around the trunks of trees in the churchyard, so clearly visible to motorists and pedestrians.

As a Fairtrade Church, in a Fairtrade Village with close connections to the school, which is a Fair Achiever School, we work with the village Fairtrade group and the school to raise awareness of the impact our choices have on people and the planet, and how Fairtrade helps farmers and producers become more resilient to the climate crisis they are facing. In 2022 this involved collaborative initiatives; two coffee mornings held in the Village Institute Hall, a Swishing event and taking the Fairtrade stall to village events, e.g. the Village Show and the Classic Car Show at the Cavendish Arms.

The landlord at the Cavendish Arms sources all his espresso ground coffee via the church contact and served Fairtrade pancakes on Shrove Tuesday at lunch time and in the evening. The school sourced, with our help, all the children's presents from Father Christmas from Namaste, Skipton's Fair Trade business.

These initiatives have made it possible to raise money for the Fairtrade Foundation and Transform Trade, and by doing so support the work of Fairtrade nationally and internationally.

I'd like to thank Mary Dibb, Clare Dunn and Ann Lowe who helped with stalls at events and all of you who have kept choosing and buying Fairtrade. Please don't stop. Remember more sales means more benefits for producers who are themselves fighting for change and leading the campaign for climate justice. Remember also, environmental protection is ingrained in Fairtrade standards, including reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and safeguarding forests and biodiversity.

Liz Roodhouse

Eco-group report for the year to December 2022

St Mary's achieved the Silver Eco Church Award in November 2020 and throughout 2022 has continued to work on a number of initiatives to continue to

raise awareness of eco issues and to work towards gaining the Gold Eco Church Award.

The group comprises Mary Dibb, Lesley Higson, Daphne Jepps, Diana Linford, Liz Roodhouse and Sue Stearn. The vicar, Revd Canon Marion Russell often contributes to meetings.

We held 8 meetings in 2022, all online. We are always keen to welcome new members and suggestions!

Eco activities during 2022 include:

The congregation took part in a second eco-audit in January 2022, using the WWF online footprint calculator. This was a year on from our first eco-audit and individuals were invited to see if we had improved our personal our carbon footprints by making changes to our lifestyles.

We:

- ~ continued with eco themes for each month, with weekly eco tips in the newsletter and collated on the church website;

- ~ took, and continue to take, a leading role in the Towards Carbon Neutral Churches in Craven project (see separate report on this);

- ~ started a seed swap box in the church porch in spring 2022. Members of the congregation and wider community were invited to put spare seeds into an envelope with some information about them (name, suggested sowing dates, flowering/harvest dates) and swap them for some other seeds. We plan to continue this in 2023;

- ~ took part in the 'Letters for Creation' initiative from Christian Aid which invites people to share their views on climate change in a creative project. Children in Smiley Faces and the congregation at All Age Worship took part;

- ~ planted a crab apple tree, after consultation with a local tree expert, in the church car park verge. This was part of the celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and formed part of the 'Queen's Green Canopy'. We bought a plaque from the Aberfeldy workshop which has been installed by the tree and the tree is listed on the online map. We also facilitated the planting of a Queen's Canopy tree in the church car park by the local Women's Institute group.

Two planters were made and installed next to the church building, and planted with vegetables and herbs, with an encouragement for people to help themselves on a 'cut and come again' basis.

Members of the Eco Group invited Dr Judith Allinson, a local expert, to tell us about the lichens in the churchyard. We held a very interesting and informative afternoon in March 2022 looking at a lot of different lichens! This was followed by two workshops on churchyard lichens with Judith in May, which were well attended by members of the church and wider local community. A lichens quiz sheet has now been produced for visitors to the churchyard.

Churches Count on Nature (Tuesday 7 June 2022): a bio-count in the churchyard, including involvement by two classes from the village school and lots of individuals. Local expert Dr Judith Allinson came to help to identify species. A moth survey was also done by John Mason. All the details are on the church website. We plan to repeat this in 2023.

The church PCC agreed unanimously to a Carbon zero plan, for the church to reach net carbon zero by 2025 (see separate report), at the meeting in June 2022.

More recycling collections were set up in the church porch and therefore open to the wider community through 2022. We collected pens and other writing materials, and blister packs from medication. These are taken to local recycling collection points in Skipton and Keighley by members of the group on a regular basis. We plan to continue to expand our recycling as opportunity arises.

In Creationtide 2022 (1 September to 4 October), each Sunday service had an environmental focus. This included an interview between the vicar and two members of the Carbon Zero project about why we believe this initiative is important. The All-Age Worship service included an invitation to reflect on words and objects on a number of environmental themes and to contribute a reflection of our own thoughts on a water droplet. We also put up a display in church about our eco church work, biodiversity in the churchyard and carbon-zero project. The sermon on the last Sunday in September focussed on the Count on Nature results within a wider theme of caring for all of God's creation.

St Mary's took part in the Yorkshire Churches Day on 10 September 2022 and showcased our carbon zero and eco church work in an Eco Exhibition. Visitors

were also invited to use the guide to explore the lichens in the churchyard. The exhibition will continue throughout Creationtide 2022, until 4th October. It was featured in the Embsay and Eastby Post.

A hedgehog house was installed in a quiet place near the north wall in the churchyard. A hedgehog sign has been put up in the Vicarage garden.

We were invited to put up a display in Skipton library, from November 2022, to showcase the work of the Towards Carbon Neutral Churches in Craven group and also the work of the Eco Group, which benefits biodiversity. This display would subsequently tour other North Yorkshire libraries.

Support was given to other local churches in 2022 (Gargrave and Kelbrook) to encourage and support them to consider joining the Eco Church scheme and to consider working towards being net carbon zero.

Fairtrade tea and coffee continued to be served in church and at events and Fairtrade stalls were held regularly after the Sunday morning service. St Mary's hosted a social evening in the middle of Fairtrade Fortnight, including a Fairtrade quiz. Fairtrade 'bands' were put around trees in the churchyard, along the road, for World Fairtrade Day in May.

We believe that St Mary's is seen as a congregation with a real passion for addressing social justice and environmental concerns and action, both within the parish, diocese and more widely.

Lesley Higson, PCC Eco-champion and Diana Linford, Parish Environment Officer

TCNCC (Towards Carbon neutral Churches in Craven) Report for 2023 APCM's

Stage 2 of the Towards Carbon Neutral Churches in Craven (TCNCC) project has built successfully on the Stage 1 foundation. Whereas the feasibility study, which was the main outcome of the earlier stage, provided substantial information, quantitative evidence and general recommendations, Stage 2 has focussed on identifying a series of implementation steps which match the diversity of context, usage and available resources of each church. The outcomes have been a range of

practical steps towards carbon neutrality, both large and small which have grown out of an increasing involvement of the separate church communities. A major step in this was the identification for each church of whether their usage would justify a “whole-space” heating approach or whether a “person-focussed” installation would be more appropriate. In each case, chosen implementation had to be integrated with other factors of changing personnel, major fabric issues and available resources.

The TCNCC project team is proud to have completed Stage 2 on time and within budget

The story of this journey and its success is recounted in the video “Towards Carbon Neutral Churches in Craven – Part 2” <https://youtu.be/QJW-r1wCaLI>

Peter Edwards, Lesley Higson and Diana Linford

Carbon Zero at St Mary’s 2022 report

St Mary’s has continued with its steady progression towards becoming a carbon neutral church. 2022 saw the successful completion of Stage 1 of the TCNCC project and the first part of Stage 2, which focussed on implementation. The Carbon Zero Project group developed a detailed plan to implement the transition to electric heating by the end of 2025. Recommendations were presented to the PCC in November, which were duly adopted as PCC policy. An important part of that was the setting up of a trial for different forms of person-centred electric heating to run through the winter. The first sessions of the trial were completed successfully in December, with good-humoured, if chilly, co-operation from a wide selection of the church community.

The trial is planned to complete in March 2023, and generate a set of recommendations to the PCC. St Mary’s has been fortunate that almost the entire cost for the trial has been funded from the RCEF Stage 2 grant.

The Carbon Zero group has also investigated the installation of electric vehicle charging points in the church car park. This was supported by the Parish Council when it was presented at a meeting in May 2022. Quotations have been received from a potential installer as well as from Northern Power grid for the electricity supply. Plans are on hold, however, while the new North Yorkshire CC develops its policy for charging points.

And, alongside all of this we have enjoyed musical and social events which have spread the word and raised valuable funds. A big “thank you” to everybody who has contributed; to all group members for their various contributions during 2022 whether technical, musical, catering, organising, design and publishing, compiling documents, sitting in a freezing church evaluating feeble heating. We have had a good year with a lot of progress to show for it.

Peter Edwards, Diana Linford, Lesley Higson



St Mary's Church, Embsay with Eastby - Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

Receipts and Payments Account

	Unrestricted Funds Current Account	Unrestricted Funds Savings Account	Restricted Funds Savings Account	Restoration Account	Nominated Project Account	Bursary Account	Operating Reserves Account	Total 2022
RECEIPTS								
Voluntary Giving								
Regular Giving (see note 4a)	32,912.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	32,912.81
Collections at Services	2,383.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,383.89
All Other Giving & Voluntary Receipts	1,133.20	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,133.20
Gift Aid recovered	9,207.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,207.93
Legacies	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Grants (including VAT recovered)	0.00	0.00	1,250.00	0.00	17,861.38	0.00	0.00	19,111.38
Total Voluntary Giving	45,637.83	0.00	1,750.00	1,000.00	17,861.38	0.00	0.00	66,249.21
Activities for Generating Funds								
Fundraising Activities (see note 4b)	3,647.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	669.30	0.00	0.00	4,316.49
Income from Investments								
Investment income	0.00	2.95	0.00	21.55	0.00	0.92	69.07	94.49
Church Activities								
Fees retained by PCC (funerals/weddings/etc)	1,940.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,940.40
Other Incoming Resources								
Other voluntary receipts (see note 4c)	3,199.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,199.98
TOTAL RECEIPTS	54,425.40	2.95	1,750.00	1,021.55	18,530.68	0.92	69.07	75,800.57
PAYMENTS								
Cost of Generating Funds								
Costs of Fundraising Activities (see note 5a)	185.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	185.55
Church Activities								
Mission giving & donations	2,576.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,576.65
Diocesan Parish Share Contribution	39,650.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	39,650.00
Salaries, wages & honoraria (see note 5b)	1,330.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,330.40
Clergy & staff expenses	480.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	480.14
Church Expenses								
Mission & evangelism costs (see note 5c)	273.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	273.29
Church running expenses (see note 5d)	5,625.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	281.93	0.00	0.00	5,907.33
Church utility bills	3,133.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,133.26
Major Capital Expenditure								
Major repairs	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,996.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,996.38
Other Expenditure								
Other payments (see note 5e)	165.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	16,143.58	0.00	0.00	16,309.23
TOTAL PAYMENTS	53,420.34	0.00	0.00	2,996.38	16,425.51	0.00	0.00	72,842.23
Transfers into account	0.00	980.00	1,922.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,902.66
Transfers out of account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-2,902.66	-2,902.66
Transfer of Legacies to Restricted Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transfer of Grants to Restricted Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Difference								
Excess of Receipts over Payments	1,005.06	2.95	1,750.00	-1,974.83	2,105.17	0.92	69.07	2,958.34
Balance brought forward 1st January 2022	1,503.24	0.00	0.00	24,610.06	3,190.00	1,083.35	7,745.68	38,132.33
Balance carried forward 31st December 2022	2,508.30	982.95	3,672.66	22,635.23	5,295.17	1,084.27	4,912.09	41,090.67
Statement of Assets								
Current Account	2,508.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,508.30
Operating Reserves Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,912.09	4,912.09
Restoration Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	22,635.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	22,635.23
PCC Nominated Project Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,295.17	0.00	0.00	5,295.17
Savings Account	0.00	982.95	3,672.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,655.61
Bursary Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,084.27	0.00	1,084.27
	2,508.30	982.95	3,672.66	22,635.23	5,295.17	1,084.27	4,912.09	41,090.67

The following notes form part of these financial statements

Approved by the PCC on:

And signed on their behalf by:

The Revd Canon Marion Russell

Mrs Jenny Johnson (PCC Treasurer)

19th March 2023

Marion Russell

JR Johnson

19/03/2023

St Mary's Church, Embsay with Eastby - Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

Notes

- 1 The Financial Statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Auditing Regulations using the Receipts and Payments basis.
- 2 The only fixed asset retained for use is the church car park. Other assets are listed in the church inventory.
- 3 The movements in restricted funds during the year were:

	Bal B/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfers In & Out Difference	Bal C/fwd
	£	£	£	£	£
Restoration Account	24,610.06	1,021.55	2,996.38	0.00	22,635.23
Bursary Account	1,083.35	0.92	0.00	0.00	1,084.27
Savings Account	0.00	1,752.95	0.00	2,902.66	4,655.61
Operating Reserves	7,745.68	69.07	0.00	-2,902.66	4,912.09
Nominated Project (currently 'TCNCC')	3,190.00	18,530.68	16,425.51	0.00	5,295.17

The Restoration Account represents accumulated donations, appeals, bequests and legacies for fabric maintenance, which can only be spent for that purpose.

The Bursary Account was set up as part of the 150th anniversary celebrations to grant bursaries to young people living in the parish for educational travel according to the Declaration of Trust for St Mary's Embsay with Eastby Fund for Young People.

The Savings Account was set up to retain funds that need to be held separate from the current account due to being specified for restricted or designated purposes.

The PCC Nominated Project Account holds the balance of income for current PCC nominated projects (currently the TCNCC project).

The Operating Reserves Account holds three months operating reserves money for the church.

4 Receipts Analysis

	Unrestricted Account	Restoration Account	PCC Nominated Project Account	Bursary Account	Unrestricted Funds Savings Account	Restricted Funds Savings Account	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
a. Regular Giving:								
Tax efficient giving	31,914.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	31,914.81	29,557.37
Non-tax efficient giving	998.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	998.00	1,936.00
TOTAL	32,912.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	32,912.81	31,493.37
b. Fundraising Activities:								
Car Park	114.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	114.52	0.00
Platinum Jubilee Tree Fundraising	105.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	105.00	0.00
Jigsaw Stall Fundraising	646.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	646.00	0.00
Quiz Night Fundraising	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00
Plants Fundraising	33.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	33.00	0.00

Lichen Workshop Fundraising	70.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	70.00	0.00
Jubilee Afternoon Fundraising	153.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	153.00	0.00
Vicarge Tea Party Fundraising	844.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	844.11	1.00
Eggs Fundraising	58.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	58.00	2.00
Table Top Sale Fundraising	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	3.00
Xmas Fair Fundraising	1,373.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,373.56	857.15
TCNCC Fundraising	0.00	0.00	0.00	669.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	669.30	0.00
Fundraising 9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fundraising 10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,484.10
TOTAL	3,647.19	0.00	0.00	669.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,316.49	2,347.25

c. Other voluntary receipts:

Coffee Money	773.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	773.68	172.87
Thursday Teas	227.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	227.95	0.00
Smiley Faces/Mothers Union	245.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	245.00	70.00
Collections for missions & charities	1,761.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,761.65	543.17
Children's Services	90.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	90.00	150.00
Churchyard Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gift Day	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sundries	101.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	101.70	1,026.34
TOTAL	3,199.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,199.98	1,962.38

5 Payments Analysis

	Unrestricted Account	Restoration Account	PCC Nominated Project Account	Bursary Account	Unrestricted Funds Savings Account	Restricted Funds Savings Account	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
a. Costs of Fundraising Activities:								
Jubilee Tree Costs	112.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	112.75	0.00
Xmas Fair Costs	72.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	72.80	0.00
TCNCC Project Fundraising	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fundraising Costs 4	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fundraising Costs 5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fundraising Costs 6	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fundraising Costs 7	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fundraising Costs 8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fundraising Costs 9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fundraising Costs 10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	185.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	185.55	0.00
b. Salaries, Wages & Honoraria:								
Admin Assistant	927.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	927.40	1,440.00
Wedding / funeral fees	403.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	403.00	373.00
Honoraria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
TOTAL	1,330.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,330.40	2,113.00

c. Mission Evangelism Costs:										
Children's Services	169.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	169.29	74.05
Community Engagement	104.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	104.00	119.18
Teaching Courses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	54.90
TOTAL	273.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	273.29	248.13
d. Church Running Expenses:										
Insurance	1,669.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,669.29	1,590.32
Upkeep of services	1,019.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,019.01	855.19
Upkeep of Churchyard	406.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	406.22	36.00
Coffee Costs	236.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	236.89	65.00
Organist	176.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	176.00	26.00
Cleaner	125.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	125.00	110.00
Minor Repairs & maintenance	797.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	797.07	1,558.70
Printing, stationery & books	1,109.92	0.00	0.00	281.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,391.85	1,331.42
Subscriptions	86.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	86.00	50.00
TOTAL	5,625.40	0.00	0.00	281.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,907.33	5,622.63
e. Other Payments:										
Vicar's Extraordinary Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	77.34
Bank Charges	42.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	42.45	0.00
Other Sundries	123.20	0.00	0.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	143.20	76.57
Consultation Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,008.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,008.00	15,983.90
Filming Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	800.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	800.00	2,000.00
Project Equipment & Fitting Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,260.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,260.38	0.00
Architect Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,905.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,905.20	0.00
Event expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00
Project Involvement Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	750.00
TOTAL	165.65	0.00	0.00	16,143.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16,309.23	18,887.81

6 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.

Manby Castle House East

Embsay

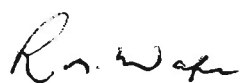
Skipton

BD23 6PH

13th March 2023

2022 Annual Financial Statements for the Church of St. Mary The Virgin Embsay with Eastby

I confirm that the above accounts have been examined and found to be correct and in accordance with the accounting records provided and information and explanations received.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Watson'.

Richard Watson FCA
Independent Examiner

St Mary the Virgin Parochial Church Council

Operating Reserve Policy

The purpose of the Operating Policy for St Mary the Virgin Parochial Church Council (PCC) is to make sure that the mission, programmes, employment and ongoing operations of the Church remain stable. The Operating Reserve is intended to provide an internal source of funds for situations such as a sudden increase in expenses, a significant drop in a source of income, one-time unbudgeted expenses and unexpected large repair-bills. Operating Reserves are not intended to replace a permanent loss of funds or eliminate an ongoing budget gap. As and when the Operating Reserves are used, it is the aim of St Mary the Virgin's PCC for the reserves to be replenished on a schedule agreed by themselves.

Definitions and Goals

The Operating Reserve Fund is a designated fund set aside by action of the PCC. It is a dynamic fund and will be reviewed and adjusted in response to any internal and external changes as required.

The PCC aims to keep approximately three months of average Church operating costs in reserves as a minimum. The calculation of average monthly operating costs includes all recurring, predictable expenses such as salaries, utilities, charity payments, etc. Depreciation, in-kind, and other non-cash expenses are not included in the calculation. The amount of the Operating Reserve Fund will be reported to the PCC on a monthly basis and included in the regular and annual financial reports.

Accounting for Reserves

The Operating Reserve Fund will be recorded in the financial records as PCC-Designated Operating Reserve. It will be funded and available in cash. Operating Reserves will be kept in the Operating Reserves Fund account (Parish deposit account) of St Mary the Virgin's PCC.

Funding of Reserves

The PCC will aim to fund the Operating Reserve with surplus unrestricted operating funds where possible. The PCC may from time to time direct that a specific source of revenue be set aside for Operating Reserves. Examples may include one-time gifts or bequests, special grants or special appeals.

Use of Reserves

Use of Operating Reserves requires three steps:

- 1. Identification of appropriate use of reserve funds**
- 2. Authority to use operating reserves**
- 3. Reporting and monitoring**

1. Identification of appropriate use of reserve funds

The PCC will identify the need for access to reserve funds and confirm that the use is consistent with the purpose as described in this policy. This step will require analysis of the reason for the shortfall, the availability of any other sources of funds before using reserves and evaluation of the time period that the funds will be required and replenished.

2. Authority to use operating reserves

Authority for use of Operating Reserves lies with the PCC. The use of Operating Reserves will be reported to the PCC at a scheduled meeting, accompanied by the analysis and determination of the use of funds and a schedule for repayment.

3. Reporting and monitoring

The PCC is responsible for ensuring that the Operating Reserve Fund is maintained and used as described in this policy. Upon approval for the use of Operating Reserve funds, the Treasurer will maintain records for the use of funds and schedule for repayment with support from the PCC. The Treasurer will provide regular reports to the PCC of progress with regards to the repayment schedule.

Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years, at a minimum, by the PCC, or sooner if required by internal or external events or changes. Changes to the policy are to be agreed by the PCC.

Signed:

Elizabeth M. Routhouse (Chair)

She Stearn (Secretary)

Dated: 18th March, 2022

Manby Castle House East

Embsay

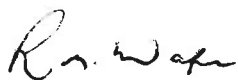
Skipton

BD23 6PH

13th March 2023

2022 Annual Financial Statements for the Church of St. Mary The Virgin Embsay with Eastby

I confirm that the above accounts have been examined and found to be correct and in accordance with the accounting records provided and information and explanations received.



Richard Watson FCA
Independent Examiner

Accounts



St Mary the Virgin, Embsay with Eastby



**Annual Trustees' Report, Financial Statement and Parish Reports
of**

**The Parochial Church Council
For the year ended 31st December 2021**

**The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Embsay with Eastby,
Kirk Lane, BD23 6SF**

Vicar

Revd Canon Marion Russell

Associate Priest

Revd Tim Calow

Banks:

HSBC

63 High Street

Skipton

Santander

Bridle Road, Bootle Reg.

Independent Examiner:

Mr David Charlton

6 St Mary's Green

Carleton

Charity Number 1166269

The Annual General Meeting for the Parish of St Mary the Virgin,

Embsay with Eastby

Sunday 15th May, 2022 at 11am

AGENDA

The Meeting of Parishioners

- 1) The appointment of the clerk
- 2) Chair's welcome and opening prayer
- 3) Apologies
- 4) Minutes of the previous meeting
- 5) The election of churchwardens

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

- 1) The appointment of the Clerk
- 2) Apologies
- 3) Minutes of the last Annual Parochial Church Meeting
- 4) Electoral Roll report
- 5) The Elections:
 - i) The election of the Parochial Church Council
- 6) The Annual Report
- 7) The Financial Statements:
 - i) Presentation of the Examined Accounts
 - ii) Independent Examiner's Report
 - iii) Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2022
 - iv) Gift Aid Officer's Report
- 8) Churchwardens' Report – St Mary's Buildings and Fabric report
- 9) Skipton Deanery Synod Report
- 10) The Parish Reports
- 11) Date of the next Annual Parochial Church Meeting
- 12) Any other business

The Annual Meetings for the Parish of St Mary the Virgin, Embsay with Eastby
Sunday 18th April, 2021 at 3pm in church and via Zoom from church, due to Covid
19 pandemic

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners

18 Parishioners attended in church and 11 via Zoom (remote online conferencing)

1. Revd Canon Marion Russell (MR) chaired the Meeting of Parishioners. She welcomed everyone.
2. Peter Edwards (PE) proposed and David Jones (DJ) seconded Sue Stearn as Clerk, which was agreed unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.
3. MR led prayers.
4. Apologies received from Pam Meakin, Andrea Swearman, Ann Shaw, Revd Bob and Mrs Jill Mitchell.
5. Simon Smith (SimonS) proposed and Liz Roodhouse (LR) seconded the acceptance of the Minutes of the 2020 meeting and agreed unanimously by all who had been at that meeting.
6. Marion expressed very, very grateful thanks to the church wardens Liz Roodhouse and Peter Edwards for their support, especially in this her first year, which has held complex circumstances for everyone. Liz Roodhouse has agreed to stand for another year and was proposed by Sue Davies, seconded by Mary Dibb and elected unanimously by those in church and on Zoom. After three years Peter Edwards has decided stand down and is not seeking re-election as Churchwarden. No one else has come forward to be elected as Churchwarden to replace him. Marion proposed the following way forward; to create a subcommittee for the maintenance of the church and fabric. Simon Smith, Jennifer Stearn and Sue Davies have agreed to form this committee and they would invite a fourth person to join them. Simon Smith has agreed to be a deputy Churchwarden. Also need to look at practicalities

of delegating some of Liz's role to others. In 2022 she will have completed six years as a Churchwarden and will also be standing down. So there will be a two vacancies for Churchwardens at next year's Annual Meeting.

Marion asked if anyone had any questions about the proposal, none forthcoming.

Unanimous agreement from those in church and on Zoom to explore Marion's proposal. LH suggested someone from new fabric and building committee could act as liaison between them and Eco group

The meeting closed at 15.16 (Sue Stearn AMP Clerk)

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Revd Canon Marion Russell chaired the APCM

18 Parishioners attended in church and 11 via Zoom (remote online conferencing)

1. Appointment of the clerk; PE proposed and DJ seconded Sue Stearn as Clerk, which was agreed unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.

2. Apologies received from Pam Meakin, Andrea Swearman, Ann Shaw, Revd Bob and Mrs Jill Mitchell.

3. Minutes of the 2020 meeting held on 27th September, 2020

Christine Stewart Jones proposed, Lesley Higson seconded their acceptance and agreed unanimously by all who had been at that meeting.

4. Electoral Roll report: Sue Davies reported that there were 75 on the roll at the time of the meeting with the following additions and deletions:

Additions: Dr Jacqueline Todd, Helen Hargreaves, Judith Ayrton

Deletions: Jack Oliver

Marion thanked Sue Davies for her work as Electoral Roll Officer

5. The elections:

i) **Election of the Parochial Church Council.** There were three vacancies following the end of the term of office, of Lesley Higson, Sue Davies, and one unfilled vacancy.

There were three nominations for the vacancies:

Lesley Higson had been proposed by Tony Stearn and seconded by Daphne Jepps, unanimously elected by those in church and on Zoom.

Sue Davies had been proposed by Liz Roodhouse and seconded by Jennifer Stearn, unanimously elected by those in church and on Zoom.

Peter Edwards had been proposed by Sue Stearn and seconded by Liz Roodhouse, unanimously elected by those in church and on Zoom.

All the reports were in a printed booklet, due to Covid 19, copies were posted, hand delivered and sent electronically to the congregation from March, 2021. Minuted items under individual reports are those recorded at this APCM.

6. The Annual Trustees report

No questions or comments on the report.

Sue Davies proposed and Shelagh Marshall seconded the acceptance of this report and agreed unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.

7. The Financial Statements;

Peter Edwards voiced thanks to Jenny Johnson for the huge amount of work in preparing the accounts, endorsed by Marion.

i) Presentation of the examined reports and ii) Independent examiner's report

Proposal for acceptance of the 2020 accounts made by David Jones, seconded by Bridget Edwards and agreed unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.

iii) Appointment of an Independent Examiner for 2021 accounts

Jenny Johnson proposed David Charlton, Peter Edwards seconded his appointment as the independent examiner. This was agreed unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.

iv) Gift Aid Officer's report: No questions or comments on the report.

8. Safeguarding report: Marion said that Andrea Swearman (AS) had agreed to be the new Parish Safeguarding officer and to be co-opted onto the PCC. Marion thanked Christine Stewart Jones (CSJ) for her hard work over the last eight years. CSJ will support AS, as she undergoes training for this role.

9. Churchwardens' report: No questions or comments on the report.

10. Skipton Deanery Synod report: No questions or comments on the report.

11. Parish reports;

a. **School Governors report:** No questions or comments on the report.

b. **Tuesday Teas:** Sylvia Hodgkinson said that before the March 2020 lockdown money raised was £200 for church and £100 for Mothers Union.

c. **Band:** No questions or comments on the report.

d. **Choir:** No questions or comments on the report.

e. **Skipton Churches Mothers' Union:** No questions or comments on the report.

f. **Disability report:** No questions or comments on the report.

g. **Village Institute report:** No questions or comments on the report.

h. **Food Bank report:** No questions or comments on the report.

i. **Smiley faces:** No questions or comments on the report.

j. **Fairtrade report:** No questions or comments on the report.

k. **Eco – Group report:** Marion said that the group been successful in St Mary's being awarded the silver Eco – Church award, now working towards the gold award.

'Towards Carbon Neutral Churches' in Craven project with five churches working together and St Mary's taking the lead, was being launched at a special service in Holy Trinity Skipton on 2nd May, 2021 in presence of Bishop Helen-Ann Hartley.

11. Date of the next APCM: Sunday 15th May, 2022

12. Any other business:

a. Simon Smith said that no Bursary payments had been made during 2020 and 2021 to date, due to the pandemic. Hopefully 2022 will be different.

b. Marion said all the reports were a rich part of St Mary's.

c. Peter Edwards thanked Marion for her contribution this year, done a fantastic job in very difficult times. Marion and Liz Roodhouse also thanked Peter for his three years as Churchwarden.

- d. Daphne Jepps expressed thanks to Tony Stearn for maintaining the churchyard.
- e. Chris Terry said thank you for making people feel safe in church, by ensuring Covid 19 regulations adhered too.
- f. **List of how we have developed our Spirituality during the pandemic;** In addition to this Marion would like to create a book of our Lockdown experiences, contributions welcome.

The meeting closed at 15.42 (Sue Stearn APCM Clerk)

Trustees' Report for 2021
PCC approved by correspondence by 20th April, 2022

Aims and Purposes

St Mary the Virgin, Embsay with Eastby, Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of working with our incumbent Reverend Canon Marion Russell in promoting the ecclesiastical parish in the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. We are also supported in our responsibilities by St Mary's Associate Priest, The Revd Tim Calow, and by The Revd Bob Mitchell, retired priest with Bishop's Permission to Officiate.

Our commitment and responsibilities are expressed in our parish statement of intent: We, the community of St Mary's, aim to create a welcoming and inspiring place where people of every age can meet God, who we know as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and can recognise his presence in our lives and in one another. We believe that we are loved and blessed by God, and that we have a responsibility to share our blessings with one another and with the wider community, of all faiths and none.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to nurturing faith, by enabling as many people as possible to worship at St Mary's and to become part of our church community, and to enable

people to live out their faith in day to day life. Our Plan for Growth remains an underpinning document, to give us an overview of how we improve and maintain the church building and churchyard, which are the visible symbols of our presence in the community, how we develop worship for children and families, how we increase community involvement and ecumenical links, and how we develop our own spirituality as we try to enable ordinary people to live faithful, loving, and God-focussed lives.

Throughout 2021, the shape of our activities to address the objectives has continued to adapt to the varying legal and advisory restrictions of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Vicar's report includes; developing worship, engaging with children and families. Community Involvement, Ecumenical links and developing spirituality.

Throughout 2021 we continued to adapt to the ever changing Covid 19 restrictions with a joyful heart to continue to worshipping God whatever the circumstances. Because of the sudden lockdown in January 2021, we made the painful decision to cease public worship in the church building for a limited time (remaining on Zoom), and resumed in February with additional care in our precautionary measures. On Easter day we rejoiced in being permitted to sing outside, with 2m spacing. Our final hymn of the service "Jesus Christ is risen today" was appreciatively heard by villagers. We continued this witness of singing a rousing final hymn outside, at the end of the service until the end of the year (with occasional wet-weather limitations); cantors sang for us within church, then gradually we were allowed to introduce congregational singing too.

During the year, communion was distributed in one kind only, from the summer onward with pre-intincted wafers. Gradually congregational singing of hymns was established. Face coverings continued to be worn for all services after the legal requirement ended, with a willingness to respect our need to feel safe as a whole community and accepting the inconvenience.

In the summer an informal shorter service was introduced for an experimental period, and as the format and differences in liturgy were appreciated, this is now part of our worship, normally on third Sundays. This gives an opportunity to be more flexible in shape and content, while still incorporating all key aspects of Holy Communion.

We have agreed that second and fourth Sundays will retain the familiar more formal structures, with an aim of returning to singing Eucharistic settings in due course. Fifth Sundays remain joint services with the Methodist Community. From September onwards these have been held only at St Mary's, following the final service in the Chapel, which is now closed as a place of worship, though it currently remains as a place for community use.

With baptisms and Harvest, our All Age Worship began again to draw in some families, as restrictions eased from July, and this delights us. Some families have other commitments on Sundays and so towards the end of the year we began discussions about informal 11-16's gatherings at the Vicarage, to begin after Canon Marion's sabbatical. We still have a prayerful eye on how we can continue to enrich our engagement with families and young people.

All our Sunday services, midweek Holy Communion and special services are live streamed using Zoom. This is now our policy and is expected to remain for the foreseeable future. Apart from All Age Worship, all Sunday services are recorded and made available via a circulated link to our wider community of St Mary's friends.

As well as special events and services detailed in other reports, we also held special services outdoors. Our Commemoration of the death of HRH Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, included contributions from local people who had their own memories of Prince Philip. We marked our Climate Sunday on 27th June in two ways, linking in with the Churches' national input to COP 26: i) held an outdoor service for Climate Sunday for the community ii) our own congregational service in the morning also launching the Towards Carbon Neutral Churches in Craven Feasibility Study at St Mary's.

On Saturday May 22nd Bishop Helen Ann, our bishop for the Ripon Episcopal Area, joined us for our celebrations marking 900 years since the founding of Embsay Priory. She led our pilgrimage from Embsay School through the village to pause with our pilgrimage words and places to hear more about the village and its faith expressions, before crossing the fields to the former site of Embsay Priory, for a short service of celebration and thanksgiving. It was a great privilege to be so kindly welcomed to this private garden for the service, and to be shown various artefacts and evidence of the early use of the site. Thank you to all who contributed so richly to this special day that was finally made possible by the easing of Covid restrictions only a few days before.

Archdeacon Jonathan formally installed Canon Marion as our Vicar on the 26th September, 2021, completing what couldn't been done at her service of Collation by Bishop Helen-Ann via Zoom on 30th March 2020, early in the first lockdown. Finally completed!

After a gap of two years, Carols round the Elm Tree were successfully held with over 200 villagers gathering to sing with the accompaniment of two brass players, and hospitality stalls from the Elm Tree Inn. Embsay Children's Centre recorded their nativity play in St Mary's as it was still not safe to invite parents to the event in the church, plans for Embsay School nativity plays to be recorded in St Mary's for parents sadly had to been laid aside because of a surge of cases at the school. St Mary's held its own nativity service on Christmas Eve. A real baby played baby Jesus and the families who attended, were very appreciative of the opportunity to attend a nativity in church.

Through the year these additional activities have contributed to our developing spiritual understanding:

- **Shrove Tuesday** Zoom Pancake Party and worship
- Weekly **Lent** Meditations using different forms of prayer

- Sermons in **Creationtide** and **Climate Sunday**, including Simon Jepps speaking to us on the eco issues of part of his specialist work.
- **Thy Kingdom Come** materials and sermon series on The Lord's Prayer
- **Try Praying** (sharing *Try Praying in the Dales* with many other churches in the area) jointly with Embsay Methodists – for ourselves and booklets for the community; 170 booklets given away.
- **The Bible Course** – 8 weekly sessions at the Vicarage in the autumn using the Bible Society material

Revd Canon Marion Russell

Church governance, structure and management in the Pandemic Restrictions

PCC meetings were conducted on Zoom during March, April and May 2021. Due to the easing of Covid restrictions we met for the first time face to face in the Vicarage garden, subsequent meetings were then held in the Methodist School Room. Those unable to attend these face to face meetings, joined via Zoom. The full PCC has met on nine occasions since 2020 APCM and the average attendance was 87%.

Despite the ongoing pandemic the structure, governance and management of the PCC has remained unaltered.

The method of appointment of PCC members is as set out in the Church Representation Rules. The membership of the PCC at St Mary's consists of the Vicar, Associate Priest, Retired Priest, Churchwardens, Treasurer, Deanery Synod representatives and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the parish. All those within our congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

The church building and churchyard:

St Mary's Buildings and Fabric report

During the first half of the year the following minor works were completed and are recorded in the Log Book:

- Beresford Roofing replaced a slipped slate on the South face of the nave;
- The boiler programmer was replaced with a like-for-like Horstman unit;
- Tom Cullingworth was commissioned to make a storage box for the entrance ramps. This was funded by a gift from Skipton Rotary in memory of Derek Abell;
- Fire extinguishers were serviced by Chubb Fire and Security;
- Malcolm Baines Electrical was commissioned to fit extension power outlets for the Zoom set-up. They also replaced one of the LED floods in the nave.

Following Peter Edwards stepping down as Church Warden in July 2021, it was resolved by the PCC to establish a Buildings and Fabric Sub-Committee to have general oversight of the buildings and fabric of the church and church yard to support the Church Warden and incumbent.

This was approved by the PCC on 16 July 2021 and the members of the Buildings and Fabric Sub-Committee comprise: Simon Smith, Sue Davies and Jennifer Stearn.

The remit of the Fabric Committee is:

- To report on buildings and fabric matters to the PCC
- To be the first point of contact for fabric issues
- To alert the Vicar to any relevant matters
- To oversee any fabric work and liaise with the work people on site
- To maintain the logbook with all works carried out, in conjunction with the Church Warden
- To prepare online faculty enquiries and required documents (including Lists A and B)

Since the establishment of the Buildings and Fabric Sub-Committee, minor works to the church organ, and internal and external lighting of the church have been carried out, a new gas meter fitted and gutters cleared of leaves, with further works to the church tower, lychgate, lychgate notice board and a memorial garden planned.

Peter Edwards, Simon Smith

Financial Review

(For full details of the 2021 accounts and Operating Reserve Policy see separate document)

Treasurer's report for the year 2021

2021 has again been a difficult and challenging year for everyone, including St Mary's Church, with the continuing pandemic and the ongoing uncertainty this has caused. Once more, with the generous regular donations from our kind-hearted parishioners and local community and new regular giving being set up throughout the year, we managed to raise the necessary funds for the continued running and ministry of the church. In periods when we were able to throughout the year, our dedicated and hard-working supporters boosted our income with various fundraising activities, raising over £2,300 during the year. A fabulous achievement! Thank you to everyone who has been involved in helping St Mary's get through this very difficult period from a financial point of view. Everyone's help in achieving this is very greatly appreciated.

We have been able to cover all of our running costs for the year, and were able to exceed (by £2,100), our revised target share payment of £35,000 for 2021 without the need to resort to reserves to cover any deficit; a tremendous achievement by everyone, especially with the continuing situation, so thank you. The revised share target for 2022 has been agreed upon at £36,000 and we should, hopefully, achieve this with everyone's continued efforts.

The Diocesan share for each parish is calculated by the application of a formula which, in our case, generates an anomalous, very high figure. This has been recognised by the Diocese resulting in the revised figures agreed upon for 2021 and 2022, mentioned above. The formula was to be reviewed, but due to the ongoing pandemic this has been delayed. The PCC has made a submission to change the process and will continue to offer to work with the Diocese on this in the future. We have been grateful for the engagement with us of Diocesan finance staff through this process.

I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has helped to support St Mary's, whether financially or in any other way, and continues to do so. Without you we would not be able to continue the vital support, service and ministry we offer our local and wider community.

St Mary's continues to be closely involved in the roll out of the Parish Giving scheme with the Diocese of Leeds. The scheme has continued to prove extremely beneficial to the fundraising for St Mary's in another year when we have been unable to hold many physical services where a significant amount of our donations are generated. This scheme continues to be very well received by our parishioners and supporters who have found it to be extremely easy and straight forward to set up and use. We continue to be delighted to be ambassadors for the scheme within the Diocese.

St Mary's has a history of giving generously to charity and in total, since 2008, we have paid over £34,000 to various charities chosen by the congregation and the PCC (a continued average of around £2,400 per year). With the ongoing pandemic, and because of it, we still felt it extremely important that we be able to uphold our commitment to support local, national and international charities this year, and again, due to our very generous parishioners and community, we were able to support 9 charities during 2021, paying to them over £2,500.

No Bursary Grants were paid in 2021.

My grateful thanks to everyone at St Mary's for helping us have a good year financially in 2021 despite the continuing challenges we all faced, and still face

today, and for your support in helping me in my role as Treasurer. And thanks again to David Charlton for helping to check our accounts.

Jenny Johnson, Treasurer

Energy Footprinting Tool

The Energy Footprinting Tool for Church Buildings return for 2021 has been completed. This is an important step in monitoring our progress towards our goal of being net carbon zero by 2030. This reading will provide us with a useful baseline.

Gift Aid Officer's report

This report covers the financial (and calendar) year of 2021.

For 2021, a very disturbed year for physical attendance in Church, which will have influenced the amount of small cash donations we have received, Gift Aid giving tax repayments amounted to £8,635. A very significant contribution to the Church's finances.

This was made up of £1,913 repayments claimed by me on regular Standing Order and envelope Gift Aided giving and £904 through the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS), again claimed by me. £5,818 was recovered through the Parish Giving Scheme overseen by Gloucester Diocese, where regular givers to St Mary's have their Gift Aided giving more regularly recovered.

Many thanks to all those giving to St Mary's over the year, in particular where Gift Aid declarations can be made allowing us to claim back tax. 'Money for Nowt' as I was told when I took this job on 14 years ago.

The usual reminder – if your tax status changes, please advise me or Jenny so that we can either add you to the Gift Aid recovery schedule, or take you off.

Justin Gartland Gift Aid Officer

Safeguarding report -January to December 2021

2021 saw the year start off again in Lockdown due to the Covid Pandemic and we continued with safeguarding the Church members as per the Government and Church of England guidelines, as this evolved throughout the year.

It also saw Christine Stewart-Jones retire from her role as St Mary's Safeguarding Officer and I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for time and commitment to Safeguarding in the Parish over the past years. As of May 2021 I took over the role of the Safeguarding Officer from Christine. Over the 7 - 8 months I was supported in my training and understanding of the role by Christine, Marion and Liz.

I undertook and passed the Basic & Foundation Levels of online Safeguarding Training in 2021 and will be continuing my learning by undertaking my 3rd Level of Safeguarding training shortly.

Only one DBS check was required and this was for myself, which was carried out via Christine. It is to be noted that DBS checks now need to be carried out every 3 years (previously 5 years).

Sought advice from the Diocese's Safeguarding Team on how to improve our practices in certain areas and they kindly gave us guidance to be followed for the future which has now been implemented.

Annual Self Declaration forms for church members involved in various Church ministries were completed in 2020, but did not get completed again until February 2022 due to Covid and changes in the Safeguarding role.

October 2021- Safeguarding Sunday was supported by St Mary's and Marion and myself gave an overview of why we need Safeguarding for Vulnerable children and adults in the Church and what role the Safeguarding Officer plays in St Mary's. I also gave a small introduction of myself to the congregation.

St Mary's Embsay with Eastby continues to work and care in the Community and Safeguarding plays an important part in protecting all.

I need to further my experience and knowledge in Safeguarding through additional training and courses throughout 2022, and will continue to be supported by Marion in my Safeguarding Officer role for St Mary's.

Andrea Swearman, Parish Safeguarding Officer

Administrative information

The Church of St Mary the Virgin provides for the villages of Embsay and Eastby in the Skipton Deanery of Ripon Area within the Diocese of Leeds.

The PCC is a body corporate and a registered charity (No. 1166269)

The correspondence address is: The Vicarage, 21 Shires Lane, Embsay, Skipton BD23 6SB

Members of the Parochial Church Council in 2021

Vicar (Chair)	Revd Canon Marion Russell	
Associate Priest	Revd Tim Calow	
Retired Priest	Revd Bob Mitchell	
Churchwarden(s):	Liz Roodhouse (Lay Vice Chair)	
Deanery Synod Reps	Sue Stearn	2020 - 2023
	Bridget Edwards	2020 - 2023
Treasurer	Jenny Johnson	2020 - 2023
Elected members	David Jones	2020 - 2023
	Simon Smith	2020 - 2023
	Christine Stewart-Jones	2020 - 2023
	Sylvia Hodgkinson	2019 - 2022
	Sue Davies	2021 - 2024
	Lesley Higson	2021 - 2024
	Carol Smith	2019 - 2022

Peter Edwards (churchwarden until July 2021) 2021 – 2024

Co-opted member: Andrea Swearman (Parish Safeguarding officer)

The PCC is clerked by Sue Stearn

Skipton Deanery Synod report for 2021

The Deanery Synod met for the first time since the first lockdown in March 2020, on 4th October, 2021 at Scargill House. Since our last meeting, Rev Ruth Harris had retired as Vicar of Christ Church and therefore as Area Dean and Rev Veronica James had retired from Holy Trinity Skipton. Rev James Theodosius was installed as Rector of Holy Trinity in September 2020 and became the new Area Dean in the summer of 2021. It was the first Skipton Deanery synod meeting for our own vicar, Rev Canon Marion Russell, who is now the Assistant Area Dean.

The meeting was in the form of an evening of reflection on “Lament and Hope” and had been really well planned by a team including all the above, Bishop Helen Ann and two resident ordained leaders from the community.

We were warmly greeted with cups of tea and coffee when we arrived, before gathering in the Chapel to start our reflection introduced by Rev James Theodosius. There were a mixture of songs, chants, readings and poetry before Bishop Helen Ann spoke about the difficult times we have been through, in our own individual ways and encouraged us to share some of our experiences in small groups. By then it was dark and we were led out to the lovely walled garden, by Phil and Mike from the Community to continue our reflection around a beautiful new sculpture called the Lamentation Wall. They led us from lamentation towards appreciating the beauty of creation and the hope and trust we have in God through more readings, prayers and songs. Finally we returned to the Chapel where we listened to two positive readings from Lamentations and Luke, and a final positive reflection from the Bishop on how this was also a time of sharing and building hope for the church, our church communities and parishes. It was a very special evening.

Bridget Edwards and Sue Stearn, Deanery Synod Representatives

Parish Reports:

Embsay C of E (VC) Primary School; School Governor's report for 2021

Throughout the pandemic the school has reacted to the changes in Covid restrictions. Whilst learning for a time was done online, staff have kept in regular contact with the children and parents.

The school regime has continued, with Covid measures and restrictions in place, but school continuing as normal as possible, measures, such as; Staggered start, end and lunch times, the bubble system to keep classes together and regular cleaning have been kept to try and keep infections and spread down. Collective worship has not been possible during the pandemic. However, Rev. Canon Marion did some vicar sessions with years 1 - 6 in the autumn term, rather than worship itself and she also spent time in the staffroom talking to staff following in person sessions.

The focus of the staff and headteacher is on wellbeing and making sure the pupils are happy being at school. In 2021, the governing body has welcomed another new member, Steven Hudson and we have continued to meet online, with one in person meeting in 2021, in line with restrictions. Due to the suspension of activities and visits, it has been hard, especially as a governing body to do a lot, but hopefully there are plans for visits and more work in 2022.

Jennifer Stearn and Helen Ralph Foundation Governors

Tuesday Teas- 2021 report

Since lockdown in 2020 Tuesday Teas has been shared on zoom. We have had a loyal following of between 2 and 5 people with occasional people visiting the website. Thank you to all who have shared in the zoom sessions and we will continue for the time being.

Sylvia Hodgkinson zoom host

St Mary's Band report 2022

2021 - 2022 has been an interesting year for the band. Lockdown releasing us, but care with Covid precautions still well in place. As usual it's great fun with the band, a super group of musicians and a privilege to play with.

July 2021, the Music in the Meadow event was a huge success, the band had been worked hard in rehearsals, but this paid off in our performance. New material had been arranged during lockdown and featured pieces such as 'Nights in White Satin', 'You'll Never Walk Alone' and 'Get Away From My Window'. December saw the band play with John for the carol service and Winterburn polytunnel. No band January, time off for good behaviour over New Year and then a performance at our Feb Fun event. We are very pleased to have Malcom back with the band, hopefully Stephanie, Lydia and Toby may be persuaded to join us again, and two new recruits Georgia and Martha will be trying us out. Anyone interested in playing with us. Any requests for pieces of music do let us know. Thank you to St Marys for all your support we couldn't do this without you.

Yvonne Cleminson

Choir 2021 Report

Covid restrictions continued into 2021 and we were not able to sing as a choir in St Mary's. The congregation continued to wear masks.

As restrictions started to ease, individual choir members, David Jones, Tim Calow and Sue, Tony and Jennifer Stearn as a family group started to act as cantors for the hymns. This meant singing at front of church without a mask, but socially distanced from the congregation. Such a joy to be able to sing without a mask.

Choir members were invited to join Holy Trinity Skipton choir for the Commissioning of the TCNCC service on 2nd May, the joint Advent Carol service on 28th November and Carols and Nine Lessons on 24th December. We were all socially distanced from each other, even so it was so good to be singing again with our friends and fellow singers.

We wish to say a big thank you to John Midgley our regular organist and Yvonne Cleminson, and Jennifer Stearn for standing in when John is unable to play.

Sue Stearn

Skipton Churches branch of the Mothers' Union: 2021 Report for APCMs

During another year of the pandemic causing difficulties for face-to-face meetings, we at least got better at meeting on Zoom! (See last year's report for an explanation.) We tended to avoid much long-term planning of meetings as we never knew whether or not we were going to be able to meet in person or not, making it difficult to organise 'external' speakers.

We don't normally have a meeting in January but we took part on Zoom in the worldwide MU 'Wave of Prayer', lighting candles and praying for each of our link dioceses – reminding ourselves of the international nature of the Mothers' Union. Our AGM in February had to be held that way too as we were still in the post-Christmas 2020 lockdown. From our surplus funds we sent £50 to each of the Mothers' Union AFIA scheme and the organisation's work in the field of female education in the developing world.

The Diocese of Leeds MU's 'Away From It All' (AFIA) scheme owns two caravans on the east coast of Yorkshire which provide a holiday base for families and other small groups - people who would really struggle to afford even a modest holiday. The accommodation is provided and, in cases of extra need, sometimes travel there can be subsidised too. The caravans have to be maintained to a good standard, incur pitch fees and utilities' costs each year and be replaced when they get too old – all of it supported by members.

We had a wonderful Lent Meditation on Zoom led by Revd Canon Dr James Theodosius of Holy Trinity. As for some of the other Zoom meetings, we were able to get written material to non-Zooming members so that they could join in individually at home. Again on Zoom, I gave a talk for the June meeting about Hilda of Whitby – a sort of follow-up to 2020's talk about Hildegard of Bingen. (Do

not be under any misapprehension that I am an expert on these – or any other – subjects but I managed to research their lives [even beyond the internet!] and distil the information. The Anglo-Saxon names of Hilda's contemporaries and relatives came close to defeating me: they nearly all start with A, E or O and look remarkably similar. What amazing women those two – and a few others in holy orders – were; far ahead of 'their' time and only fairly recently given the recognition they deserve!

Also in the summer, Brian Harris gave us a very informative talk on Zoom about the work of Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) which, purely coincidentally, is one of the international organisations which St Mary's at Embsay with Eastby chose to support with its charity donations in 2021. Although Brian is no longer directly involved with MAF himself, it was very interesting to hear of the humanitarian work which the organisation carries out, mainly in the developing world.

We were fortunate that we were able to meet in September in St Mary's, Embsay with Eastby for our annual commitment service, led by the vicar, Revd Canon Marion Russell. This is a really important part of our year, recalling that the Mothers' Union is truly a church-based organisation.

In October, we were pleased to welcome Josie Birley, the outgoing Ripon Area President, and Margaret Crawford, her successor. They were trying to get round as many branches in the Ripon Area as possible and it was good to be able to put names to faces and tell a few stories. Margaret was collecting our views about Mothers' Union – what needs to be retained and what needs to change – for work to be done during 2022, starting with the annual conference in early January at which Margaret would be one of our diocese's delegates. Unfortunately, the conference had to be cancelled, for the 2nd year running, because of the prevalence of the Omicron variant of the virus but the work on the results of the discussions will still take place.

We had some 'light entertainment' at the end of that meeting in the form of archived MU material from around the 1970s which had surfaced during a good sort out, by Sue and Jennifer Stearn and Revd Marion, of the Embsay Vicarage

filing cabinets. We were amused by the scenarios suggested for role play and as discussion stimuli for MU meetings. In some ways they were very much of their time eg 'Your son has returned from his first term at university looking and sounding like an Old Testament prophet and accusing you, his church-going parents, of supporting the Establishment rather than the Revolution of the true gospel message' (or words to that effect). In other ways, they reminded us that some issues are permanently part of the Church – and of society in general – even though the context may change from one generation to another!

November's meeting included a talk by member Daphne Jepps about the early years of her life as a vicar's wife – including interactions with Princess Diana's grandfather, Earl Spencer, in one of the early parishes. Unfortunately, December's meeting - with its usual planned Christmas craft activities – had to be cancelled at short notice as the weather was very bad, with snow forecast.

We normally meet at St Mary's in Embsay on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.30 pm for about an hour and a half. New members and visitors from any of the churches in Skipton itself and the villages of Embsay, Eastby and Carleton are always welcome and transport there and back can be provided if needed.

Lesley Higson, Branch Leader

Disability Report for the year ending December 2021

I would like to start this report with sincere thanks to Peter, Liz and Marion for the improvements in the sound system which have made hearing much easier for those of us who are deaf. It is hard to emphasise just how much this has meant to those of us who are hard of hearing.

Whilst I have been able to attend services via Zoom, I also thank them for this facility which has meant so much to be able to keep in touch during the long Covid

lockdown periods and subsequent times when new variants of the virus appeared suggesting further caution.

It has quite simply been a lifeline to all of us who use Zoom and help us to feel we are still part of the church community. Thank you sincerely to all concerned in making this possible.

I am so pleased also to be able to say that a small number of us meet every Tuesday for “Tuesday Teas” via Zoom. Whilst not strictly under the “disability” headline, I mention it because again I feel that this has been integral in supporting one another through the difficult times we have experienced and thereby good for our general welfare.

Anyone is welcome to join us from 2.00 pm Tuesday afternoons via Zoom with the code; 826 3468 7789, no password

Marion and I had a meeting to discuss the churches policy for the disabled. I ventured to say that with the new sound system and the ramp for wheelchairs with access for them to be seated at the front of the church we were doing very well.

Marion is very keen that we do not use the word “disabled” but make it clear that we are an “Accessible church to all” which entails that we have facilities for all disabled people.

She also mentioned hymn books with large print and the possibility of a screen, with the hymns written out in large print would help those who had diminished sight. I have not had a further update on this as yet and am sure this suggestion would go to the P.C.C after which it will be open for general discussion.

Further to consideration for those church members she obtained permission from the P.C.C for me to join a church organisation as the Disability Representative specifically to help them called “Torch Trust”. I followed up on this and we are now a member of this community.

I forward their quarterly emails to Marion and Sylvia and Jim Hodgkinson. If anyone knows of a member of our church that would benefit from this information

please do let me know.

Anyone is welcome to log on to this organisation at this address and let me have your thoughts, at the following address

<https://torchtrust.org/>

Marion and I will follow up with another meeting in due course.

Jane Eastwood Disability Representative

Village Institute Report

The village hall re-opened when restrictions allowed, with continued Covid 19 measures in place. Even with measures in place a number of new groups used the hall, as it was suitable to maintain social distancing when other centres were not yet open. Regular cleaning and cleaning from hall users, as well as regular sanitising of the hall ensured that we could do our best to protect all users.

Jennifer Stearn St Mary's Village Institute Committee Representative

Foodbank report

The need for the Skipton Foodbank continued throughout 2021 and the Pandemic. St. Mary's congregation have continued being generous in their giving and we have been to the foodbank every week, thank you to everyone who continues to support and donate to the foodbank.

Jennifer Stearn

Smiley Faces

Smiley Faces/Toddler Praise is our group for babies, toddlers and pre-school children; their parents, grandparents and carers. We meet on Friday afternoons in church from 1.30pm to 3.15pm but as in 2020 the pandemic made this impossible until restrictions began to ease. Once again we tried to keep in touch with families during the first six months of 2021 by remembering birthdays and providing little gifts at Easter.

Our first meeting back in church was on 10th September but we were able to enjoy the vicarage garden from 28th May when the weather was fine. Thank you Marion! A highlight for us all was when we looked across the road to the field opposite and saw one of Andrew Ayrton's Holstein cows with her newly born twin calves. That was on 2nd July; a few days earlier several huge Candelisa billboards had appeared and the field soon became a building site. The children were fascinated by the diggers and other big machinery that appeared, but the adults were saddened by the noise and loss of the green field.



The families with pre-school children were invited to visit the churchyard on 11th June for the Churches Count on Nature. One family of three children turned up after school and had a wonderful time counting bugs and identifying different types of grasses.

After such a long break by the time we began to meet in church again in September, many of the children we'd known since they were babies were in school and some families had made other arrangements on Friday afternoons. Apart from on the first Friday we met in September, when older children were attending school on a part-time basis, our numbers were low. It took a while to build up relationships again and re-establish the worship aspect; still developing at the end of the year when we had our Christmas party. The plus side to having only five or six children each week was that Friday afternoons were much more relaxed and Glennis Hobbs, Sue Davies and I were able to spend one to one time with the older children at the craft table, and had time to really get to know their mums, and sometimes grandmas.

The Great Big Green Week in September provoked some deep discussion in relation to lifestyles, with one mum commenting that all her children's Christmas presents would be second-hand. Perhaps a village toy library would be an idea to pursue?

In the past Smiley Faces has grown by word of mouth and by existing parents and carers introducing others to the group. We seem to have lost that momentum and thinking about how we can draw new families in is ongoing.

Liz Roodhouse.



Fairtrade at St Mary's

During 2021, and especially during Fairtrade Fortnight, the growing challenges that climate change brings to farmers and workers, in the communities that Fairtrade works with were highlighted.



Young people in particular were asked to create a vision for the world they want, for the planet and everything in it. At St Mary's this theme was integrated into the All Age Worship service on 6th March. Eco tips and suggestions shared in the weekly newsletter to the congregation were all related to Fairtrade in February.

Despite continued Covid restrictions Fairtrade stalls were held in the church car park, and when it became possible in church. The stall got out and about within the village too, appearing at the Village Fete in July, the Vintage Car Show at the Cavendish Arms in August, the coffee morning organised by the village Fairtrade group in the Village Institute Hall in September, and at St Mary's Christmas Fair in December. Fairtrade sales for 2021 totalled a magnificent £3,144.89. This figure included sales of 90kg of fairly traded Kilombero rice from Malawi; the successful 90kg challenge means that a young person is now in secondary school who would not have been otherwise – the extra money the farmers receive for the rice covers school fees, cost of school uniform, books and other personal student equipment for a year.

Being a Fairtrade Church, is not just about promoting and selling Fairtrade products, nor is it just about raising awareness of Fairtrade and social justice issues (Our Zoom Fairtrade quiz in March helped with the latter). We use Fairtrade brands whenever possible in church and if a suitable Fairtrade product is not available we use the Bio range of environmentally friendly cleaning products. This approach complements our journey to becoming a Gold Eco Church.

Fairtrade provides many opportunities to connect and engage with the local community, in particular Embsay School, the village Fairtrade group, Making Waves Community cafe and the Cavendish Arms, who purchase all the espresso coffee beans they use from me. Some examples have already been mentioned; here are some more.

- A member of the village Fairtrade group is a regular helper on the stall.
- Working in partnership with the WI and the village Fairtrade group a banner was purchased for the Great Big Green Week in September – it still hangs on the railings in Elm Tree Square and urges passers-by to “Act now! Protect our planet for the future”. The painted stones that were part of the display were recently moved to the base of the wall by the lych gate.
- Our partnership with Embsay School continues; I was asked once again to supply fairly traded Christmas gifts for all the children in school.
- Fairtrade is tackling the climate crisis and there was an opportunity to make people aware of the connection during the Great Big Green Week. Lesley Higson encouraged folk at St Mary’s, and members of the local community attending ‘Waste not Wednesday’ and ‘Takeaway Thursday’ events, to make moths out of plastic milk containers. Eventually the moths found their way into the “Moths to Flame” project in Glasgow’s Botanic Gardens for COP26. Earlier in July, after a special Climate Sunday service, members of the congregation, parish councillors and some parishioners created ‘Waves of Hope’ having thought about what they hoped for and how that might come to fruition. Subsequently the waves were displayed in church.
- At the request of Shona Watson, Chair of the Village Hall Management Committee, Fairtrade posters were supplied and displayed in the hall.

- All tea, coffee and sugar used in the Making Waves Community Café is Fairtrade, some of which is purchased from the church stall.

As consumers we choose the world we want by the choices we make every day. Thank you for choosing Fairtrade in 2021. By doing so you are providing the producers who grow and make the things we love greater security, enabling them to access training and invest in techniques and methods that combat, and build resilience towards climate change. You're also helping to build stronger communities and giving hope for the future.

Here's a quote from a Fairtrade cocoa farmer from Ghana speaking at COP26. "There is hope, but for hope to be achieved, action needs to be taken now."

Liz Roodhouse

Eco-group report for the year to December 2021

St Mary's achieved the Silver Eco Church Award in November 2020. Since then, the Group has been working on a number of initiatives to continue to raise awareness of eco issues and to work towards gaining the Gold Eco Church Award. This is a prestigious award and, at the time of writing (February 2022), only 24 churches in the UK have achieved it.

The group comprises Mary Dibb, Lesley Higson, Daphne Jepps, Diana Linford, Liz Roodhouse and Sue Stearn. We held 8 meetings in 2021, all online. We are always keen to welcome new members and suggestions!

Eco activities during 2021 include:

The congregation took part in an eco-audit in January 2021, using the WWF online footprint calculator, and held a discussion following the online service. This was intended to provide a baseline for us to analyse whether we as individuals are able to improve our carbon footprint by making changes to our lifestyles. We intend to revisit the survey in January 2022.

We had an Eco theme for each month, starting in January 2021, with weekly eco tips app in the newsletter. These are available on the church website.

We took, and continue to take, a leading role in the Towards Carbon Neutral Churches in Craven project (see separate report on this).

Environment Policy: passed unanimously by PCC (May 2021).

Diana Linford, Parish Environment Officer for St Mary's, attended a 7-week online training course for Parish Environment Officers in May and June 2021; and took part in a Diocesan video as part of the Diocese's resources on Saving Creation: Six Steps to Climate Zero.

Churches Count on Nature (Friday 11 June 2021): a bio count in the churchyard. A moth survey was also done by John Mason (135 species counted). We hope to repeat this with more participants in 2022.

Count on Nature results from 14 forms on 11.06.2021				
	South x 3	North x 3	East x 6	West x 2
Birds	0	5	7	2
Wild Flowers/plants	20	20	43	6
Insects/invertebrates	5	7	4	2
Trees	0	6	5	3
Butterflies	0	0	0	1
Grasses	9	12	12	6
Fungi/lichens	1	1	4	1
Traces of animals	2	1	2	0

Climate Sunday Services (Sun 27 June 2021), including a service in the afternoon held outside in the churchyard, attended by local councillors, as a launch for the TCNCC project and including an Act of Commitment by all present.

Wave of Hope, organised by Crack the Crisis (June 2021): as part of this participants decorated 'hands' made of recycled materials and to write a message of hope during the All Age Worship service in June and at the Climate Sunday Service.

Water butt installed in the churchyard, summer 2021.

Toilet twinning: both toilets are now twinned and money raised in the Music in the Meadow (July 2021) paid for taps and bins also to be twinned and raised the profile of this initiative.

Members of the village community took advantage of the 'sitooterie' in the Vicarage garden (summer 2021).

Visiting speaker: Simon Jepps spoke about the local flood alleviation tree planting scheme (Sunday 19 September, during the Big Green Week).

COP26 summit: (November 2021) about 50 moths were made on recycled plastic milk bottles, as a metaphor for our relationship with the Earth, as part of the Moths to a Flame project. Many of these were displayed at St Mary's before being sent to Glasgow as part of the exhibition in the botanic gardens to accompany the climate summit. We submitted a photo taken after the TCNCC launch service at Holy Trinity Skipton, for display at the Climate Coalition Stall in the COP26 summit arena.

Recycled crafts: Shirley Moorhouse made lots of items from recycled cards during 2021 which were sold for church funds.

We believe that we have continued to raise the profile of the parish as one with a real heart for addressing social justice and environmental concerns and action, both within the diocese and more widely.

Lesley Higson, PCC Eco-champion and Diana Linford, Parish Environment Officer

Towards Carbon-Neutral Churches in Craven report on 2021 for APCM

The Towards Carbon-Neutral Churches in Craven (TCNCC) group was formed in autumn 2020 to respond to the Church of England's declared aim of achieving carbon neutrality by 2030. It started with three members of St Mary's Church, Embsay with Eastby attending a webinar about funding for community projects, run by the Rural Communities Energy Fund (RCEF), in September 2020. More churches in the Craven area: All Saints Church, Burton-in Lonsdale, Holy Trinity Church, Skipton, St Augustine's Church, Draughton and St Mary's Church, Carleton,

joined shortly after, supported by their PCCs. This has enabled the project to encompass a wide range of types and ages of churches and both central and rural locations.

When 2021 started, the six original members of the group had little idea what the year had in store for them! Once we had heard that the bid for Stage 1 funding had been successful, one of the first steps was to prepare an invitation to tender for the consultancy work. Peter compiled the first draft, which was then refined in conjunction with St Mary's architect, Stephen McConnell with inputs from Martin Garner, Andrew Markham, Richard Neale and Helen Ralph from the various parishes in this process. They also helped us again in assessing the tenders that were received. Although the group members have a broad range of skills and professional experience (a range which has proved very useful), assessing tenders was so far beyond the comfort zones of some of the group that brains were actually hurting, in some cases, by the time the decision was made!

The process produced Locogen, based in Edinburgh, as the preferred candidate for the consulting engineers whose role was to produce recommendations for ways in which each church's carbon footprint could be significantly reduced. The first phase involved providing lots of data about church sizes, current fuel sources and amounts of fuel used etc. This led into a desk-top exercise by the engineers and a list of possible low-carbon technologies to consider in more detail.

Meanwhile, a service was held in early May to launch the project formally, linking with Climate Sunday and deeply rooting the project in the theology of Creation. Clergy and members of the group from the five parishes were involved in the service and our Area Bishop, Right Reverend Dr Helen-Ann Hartley, preached a thoughtful and challenging sermon. As a separate strand to the project had been developing organically in the group meetings – of aiming to collect and disseminate information and experience gained to other churches who would not have the benefit of a funded feasibility study - this service was filmed by Charlie Theodosius.

This filming aspect continued for several months, carried out by PMH Productions of Carleton. Events covered included the detailed site visits of the second phase of the feasibility study carried out by Locogen and a Climate Sunday service in one of the parishes (which involved commitment to the principles of the project by the local community too). There was also drone footage of the churches in their locations and interviews with group members plus Revd Canon Marion Russell, Vicar of Embsay with Eastby, and Revd Canon James Theodosius, Rector of Holy Trinity and St Augustine's, Susan Watkiss of Draughton and Dr Andy Sumnall, a member of the congregation at Holy Trinity.

All this enabled a fine 8-minute film explaining the project in its Church of England context to be available for viewing by the end of the year. The film has subtitles to aid people with hearing difficulties, in order to be more inclusive. Working closely with Jemima Parker, Diocesan Environmental Officer, a webinar was arranged for January 2022 to disseminate the results of the study to a wider audience than merely the five parishes.

The final report by Locogen was received towards the end of 2021, which had specific recommendations for each church with costings and energy profiles for suggested technologies. During the year, the group had been pleased to welcome Charlie Dobson of Skipton and Chris Weedon of Burton-in-Lonsdale to the group, bringing their analytical skills and sound guidance to the group's discussions, which proved very helpful in the detailed interrogation of the report. As a group, we proved very good at ferreting out the minutiae of the data and coming up with further questions to refer back to Locogen!

As part of connecting with our church and secular communities, displays have been mounted in all of the churches. These have set out the aims and context of the project and reported on its progress at different stages. The second one in 2021, in Holy Trinity Church, linked with the Great Big Green Week in September which was part of the run-up to the international COP 26 conference held in Glasgow in November. A leaflet was also produced, in hard copy and available online. The website of St Mary's, Embsay with Eastby, has hosted the link to the whole project.

At the end of the year, the group was preparing for the webinar scheduled for January 2022 and formulating a bid for Stage 2 funding from RCEF. There had been lots of meetings, almost exclusively on Zoom, and occasional visits to each other's churches. As we put in our leaflet and Diana said in the film, forming a group of several churches, rather than going it alone, has made all the difference. It has been very hard work and time-consuming in a way that none of us probably envisaged when we embarked on it, but it has been very rewarding and, we trust, worthwhile for our five churches and others to come.

Both within our own congregations and as an example to our secular communities, we feel that it is vital to address the climate emergency with our own buildings and resources. How can we be 'loving our neighbour' if we do not act to protect those most vulnerable to the effects of that emergency in whatever ways we can?

Lesley Higson pp TCNCC group

*(Catherine Birtwistle and Chris Weedon of All Saints Church, Burton-in Lonsdale,
Revd Isobel Rathbone and Charlie Dobson of Holy Trinity Church, Skipton, and St
Augustine's Church, Draughton
Sue Wrathmell of St Mary's Church, Carleton
Diana Linford, Peter Edwards and Lesley Higson of St Mary's Church, Embsay with
Eastby)*



St Mary's Church, Embsay with Eastby - Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Receipts and Payments Account

	Unrestricted Account	Restoration Account	Nominated Project Account	Bursary Account	Operating Reserves Account	Total 2021	Total 2020
RECEIPTS							
Voluntary Giving							
Tax Efficient Regular Giving	29,557.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29,557.37	26,343.83
Other Regular Giving	1,936.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,936.00	1,832.00
Collections at Services	2,598.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,598.41	2,509.73
All Other Giving & Voluntary Receipts	4,404.44	81.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,486.17	3,870.97
Gift Aid recovered	7,007.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,007.97	11,907.11
Legacies	0.00	893.95	504.00	0.00	0.00	1,397.95	0.00
Grants (including VAT recovered)	0.00	0.00	22,386.00	0.00	0.00	22,386.00	6,680.00
Total Voluntary Giving	45,504.19	975.68	22,890.00	0.00	0.00	69,369.87	53,143.64
Activities for Generating Funds							
Fundraising Activities (see note 4a)	2,281.25	0.00	60.00	0.00	0.00	2,341.25	3,326.01
Income from Investments							
Investment income	0.00	2.42	0.00	0.12	3.19	5.73	128.69
Church Activities							
Fees retained by PCC (funerals/weddings/etc)	3,004.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,004.40	831.50
Other Incoming Resources							
Other voluntary receipts (see note 4b)	1,962.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,962.38	1,320.60
Transfer in of funds from other church accounts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,922.66	1,922.66	28,644.41
TOTAL RECEIPTS	52,752.22	978.10	22,950.00	0.12	1,925.85	78,606.29	87,394.85
PAYMENTS							
Cost of Generating Funds							
Costs of Fundraising Activities	72.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	72.80	62.00
Church Activities							
Mission giving & donations	2,556.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,556.16	2,367.50
Diocesan Parish Share Contribution	37,100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	37,100.00	39,034.00
Salaries, wages & honoraria (see note 5a)	2,139.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,139.00	1,805.00
Clergy & staff expenses	1,176.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,176.16	1,682.57
Church Expenses							
Mission & evangelism costs (see note 5b)	248.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	248.13	0.00
Church running expenses (see note 5c)	4,215.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,215.21	6,929.94
Church utility bills	2,332.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,332.20	2,676.88
Major Capital Expenditure							
Major repairs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,617.88
Other Expenditure							
Other payments (see note 5d)	1,013.23	0.00	19,256.00	0.00	0.00	20,269.23	1,281.47
Transfer of funds to other church accounts	2,876.61	0.00	585.73	0.00	0.00	3,462.34	28,644.41
TOTAL PAYMENTS	53,729.50	0.00	19,841.73	0.00	0.00	73,571.23	89,101.65
Excess of Receipts over Payments	-977.28	978.10	3,108.27	0.12	1,925.85	5,035.06	-1,706.80
Balance brought forward 1st January	2,480.52	23,631.96	81.73	1,083.23	5,819.83	33,097.27	34,804.07
Balance carried forward 31st December	1,503.24	24,610.06	3,190.00	1,083.35	7,745.68	38,132.33	33,097.27
Statement of Assets							
HSBC Current Account	1,503.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,503.24	2,480.52
Operating Reserves Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,745.68	7,745.68	5,819.83
Restoration Fund	0.00	24,610.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	24,610.06	23,631.96
PCC Nominated Project Fund	0.00	0.00	3,190.00	0.00	0.00	3,190.00	81.73
Bursary Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,083.35	0.00	1,083.35	1,083.23
	1,503.24	24,610.06	3,190.00	1,083.35	7,745.68	38,132.33	33,097.27

The following notes form part of these financial statements

Approved by the PCC on:

18th March 2022

And signed on their behalf by:

Mrs Elizabeth Roodhouse (Churchwarden)

Elizabeth M. Roodhouse

Mrs Jenny Johnson (PCC Treasurer)

JR Johnson

St Mary's Church, Embsay with Eastby - Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Notes

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | The Financial Statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Auditing Regulations using the Receipts and Payments basis. |
| 2 | The only fixed asset retained for use is the church car park. Other assets are listed in the church inventory. |
| 3 | The movements in restricted funds during the year were: |

	Bal B/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Bal C/fwd
	£	£	£	£
Restoration Fund	23,631.96	978.10	0.00	24,610.06
Bursary Fund	1,083.23	0.12	0.00	1,083.35
Operating Reserves	5,819.83	1,925.85	0.00	7,745.68
Nominated Project (currently 'TCNCC')	81.73	22,950.00	19,841.73	3,190.00

The Restoration Account represents accumulated donations, appeals, bequests and legacies for fabric maintenance, which can only be spent for that purpose.

The Bursary Account was set up as part of the 150th anniversary celebrations to grant bursaries to young people living in the parish for educational travel according to the Declaration of Trust for St Mary's Embury with Eastby Fund for Young People.

The PCC Nominated Project Account holds the balance of income for current PCC nominated projects (currently the TCNCC project).

The Operating Reserves Account holds operating reserves money for the church.

4 Receipts Analysis			Unrestricted	Restoration	PCC Nominated	Bursary	Operating	Total	Total
			Funds	Fund	Project Fund	Fund	Reserves Fund	2021	2020
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£
a	Fundraising Activities:								
		Christmas Fair	857.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	857.15	0.00
		Eggs Fundraising	230.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	230.00	46.00
		Ladies Choir Rent	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00	0.00
		Sale of Wooden Crosses	66.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	66.00	0.00
		Lavendar Bag Sale	105.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	105.00	0.00
		Car Park	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	15.00
		Book Stall	425.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	425.00	291.50
		Plant Sales	528.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	528.10	293.01
		Other Fund Raising	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,680.50
		Millholme Dixie Jazz Band	0.00	0.00	60.00	0.00	0.00	60.00	0.00
			2,281.25	0.00	60.00	0.00	0.00	2,341.25	3,326.01
b	Other voluntary receipts:								
		Collections for missions & charities	543.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	543.17	132.50
		Gift Day	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	148.00
		Coffee Money	172.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	172.87	174.28
		Smiley Faces/Mothers Union	70.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	70.00	140.00
		Churchyard Activities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
		Sundries	238.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	238.00	41.01
		Children's Activities	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00
		Vicarage Utilities Refunds	788.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	788.34	674.81
			1,962.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,962.38	1,320.60
5 Payments Analysis			Unrestricted	Restoration	PCC Nominated	Bursary	Operating	Total	Total
			Funds	Fund	Project Fund	Fund	Reserves Fund	2021	2020
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£
a	Salaries, Wages & Honoraria:								
		Admin Assistant	1,440.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,440.00	1,440.00
		Honoraria	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00
		Organist	26.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	26.00	280.00
		Wedding & Funeral Fees	373.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	373.00	85.00
			2,139.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,139.00	1,805.00
b	Mission & Evangelism Costs:								
		Bursary Fund payments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Children's Services	74.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	74.05	0.00
		Community Engagement	119.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	119.18	0.00
		Teaching & Courses	54.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	54.90	0.00
			248.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	248.13	0.00
c	Church Running Expenses:								
		Insurance	1,590.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,590.32	1,570.10
		Minor repairs & maintenance	1,558.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,558.70	2,202.05
		Coffee	65.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	65.00	51.00
		Upkeep of Services	855.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	855.19	2,933.76
		Upkeep of Churchyard	36.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	36.00	73.03
		Churchyard Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Cleaner	110.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	110.00	100.00
			4,215.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,215.21	6,929.94
d	Other Expenditure:								
		Subscriptions	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	86.00
		Sundries	76.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	76.57	249.00
		Printing, Stationery, etc	809.32	0.00	522.10	0.00	0.00	1,331.42	946.47
		Vicar's Extraordinary Expenses	77.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	77.34	0.00
		Consultation Fees	0.00	0.00	15,983.90	0.00	0.00	15,983.90	0.00
		Filming Costs	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00
		Project Involvement Fee	0.00	0.00	750.00	0.00	0.00	750.00	0.00
			1,013.23	0.00	19,256.00	0.00	0.00	20,269.23	1,281.47

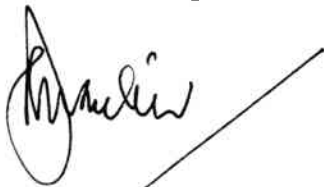
- | | |
|---|--|
| 6 | The expenses paid to clergy may include a small immaterial proportion, which relates to their function as PCC members. No other payments were made to PCC members. |
|---|--|

David Charlton, 6 St Mary's Green, Carleton, Skipton BD23 3DG
07860 383668 e-mail: davecharlton2002@hotmail.com

20 February 2022

**2021 Annual Financial Accounts for The Church of St.
Mary The Virgin Embsay with Eastby**

I confirm that the above accounts have been examined and confirmed correct according to the records provided and explanations given.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Charlton', with a long diagonal line extending from the end of the signature.

David Charlton
Independent Examiner

St Mary the Virgin Parochial Church Council

Operating Reserve Policy

This policy was approved by the PCC on 18th March, 2022 and signed on their behalf by Liz Roodhouse vice chair and Sue Stearn PCC secretary.

The purpose of the Operating Policy for St Mary the Virgin Parochial Church Council (PCC) is to make sure that the mission, programmes, employment and ongoing operations of the Church remain stable. The Operating Reserve is intended to provide an internal source of funds for situations such as a sudden increase in expenses, a significant drop in a source of income, one-time unbudgeted expenses and unexpected large repair-bills. Operating Reserves are not intended to replace a permanent loss of funds or eliminate an ongoing budget gap. As and when the Operating Reserves are used, it is the aim of St Mary the Virgin's PCC for the reserves to be replenished on a schedule agreed by themselves.

Definitions and Goals

The Operating Reserve Fund is a designated fund set aside by action of the PCC. It is a dynamic fund and will be reviewed and adjusted in response to any internal and external changes as required.

The PCC aims to keep approximately three months of average Church operating costs in reserves as a minimum. The calculation of average monthly operating costs includes all recurring, predictable expenses such as salaries, utilities, charity payments, etc. Depreciation, in-kind, and other non-cash expenses are not included in the calculation. The amount of the Operating Reserve Fund will be reported to the PCC on a monthly basis and included in the regular and annual financial reports.

Accounting for Reserves

The Operating Reserve Fund will be recorded in the financial records as PCC-Designated Operating Reserve. It will be funded and available in cash. Operating Reserves will be kept in the Operating Reserves Fund account (Parish deposit account) of St Mary the Virgin's PCC.

Funding of Reserves

The PCC will aim to fund the Operating Reserve with surplus unrestricted operating funds where possible. The PCC may from time to time direct that a specific source of revenue be set aside for Operating Reserves. Examples may include one-time gifts or bequests, special grants or special appeals.

Use of Reserves

Use of Operating Reserves requires three steps:

- 1. Identification of appropriate use of reserve funds**
- 2. Authority to use operating reserves**
- 3. Reporting and monitoring**

- 1. Identification of appropriate use of reserve funds**

The PCC will identify the need for access to reserve funds and confirm that the use is consistent with the purpose as described in this policy. This step will require analysis of the reason for the shortfall, the availability of any other sources of funds before using reserves and evaluation of the time period that the funds will be required and replenished.

2. Authority to use operating reserves

Authority for use of Operating Reserves lies with the PCC. The use of Operating Reserves will be reported to the PCC at a scheduled meeting, accompanied by the analysis and determination of the use of funds and a schedule for repayment.

3. Reporting and monitoring

The PCC is responsible for ensuring that the Operating Reserve Fund is maintained and used as described in this policy. Upon approval for the use of Operating Reserve funds, the Treasurer will maintain records for the use of funds and schedule for repayment with support from the PCC. The Treasurer will provide regular reports to the PCC of progress with regards to the repayment schedule.

Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years, at a minimum, by the PCC, or sooner if required by internal or external events or changes. Changes to the policy are to be agreed by the PCC.

Signed:

Elizabeth M. Roodhouse (Chair)

She Stearn (Secretary)

Dated: 18th March 2022

St Mary's Church, Embsay with Eastby - Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Receipts and Payments Account

	Unrestricted Account	Restoration Account	Nominated Project Account	Bursary Account	Operating Reserves Account	Total 2021	Total 2020
RECEIPTS							
Voluntary Giving							
Tax Efficient Regular Giving	29,557.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29,557.37	26,343.83
Other Regular Giving	1,936.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,936.00	1,832.00
Collections at Services	2,598.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,598.41	2,509.73
All Other Giving & Voluntary Receipts	4,404.44	81.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,486.17	3,870.97
Gift Aid recovered	7,007.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,007.97	11,907.11
Legacies	0.00	893.95	504.00	0.00	0.00	1,397.95	0.00
Grants (including VAT recovered)	0.00	0.00	22,386.00	0.00	0.00	22,386.00	6,680.00
Total Voluntary Giving	45,504.19	975.68	22,890.00	0.00	0.00	69,369.87	53,143.64
Activities for Generating Funds							
Fundraising Activities (see note 4a)	2,281.25	0.00	60.00	0.00	0.00	2,341.25	3,326.01
Income from Investments							
Investment income	0.00	2.42	0.00	0.12	3.19	5.73	128.69
Church Activities							
Fees retained by PCC (funerals/weddings/etc)	3,004.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,004.40	831.50
Other Incoming Resources							
Other voluntary receipts (see note 4b)	1,962.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,962.38	1,320.60
Transfer in of funds from other church accounts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,922.66	1,922.66	28,644.41
TOTAL RECEIPTS	52,752.22	978.10	22,950.00	0.12	1,925.85	78,606.29	87,394.85
PAYMENTS							
Cost of Generating Funds							
Costs of Fundraising Activities	72.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	72.80	62.00
Church Activities							
Mission giving & donations	2,556.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,556.16	2,367.50
Diocesan Parish Share Contribution	37,100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	37,100.00	39,034.00
Salaries, wages & honoraria (see note 5a)	2,139.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,139.00	1,805.00
Clergy & staff expenses	1,176.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,176.16	1,682.57
Church Expenses							
Mission & evangelism costs (see note 5b)	248.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	248.13	0.00
Church running expenses (see note 5c)	4,215.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,215.21	6,929.94
Church utility bills	2,332.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,332.20	2,676.88
Major Capital Expenditure							
Major repairs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,617.88
Other Expenditure							
Other payments (see note 5d)	1,013.23	0.00	19,256.00	0.00	0.00	20,269.23	1,281.47
Transfer of funds to other church accounts	2,876.61	0.00	585.73	0.00	0.00	3,462.34	28,644.41
TOTAL PAYMENTS	53,729.50	0.00	19,841.73	0.00	0.00	73,571.23	89,101.65
Excess of Receipts over Payments	-977.28	978.10	3,108.27	0.12	1,925.85	5,035.06	-1,706.80
Balance brought forward 1st January	2,480.52	23,631.96	81.73	1,083.23	5,819.83	33,097.27	34,804.07
Balance carried forward 31st December	1,503.24	24,610.06	3,190.00	1,083.35	7,745.68	38,132.33	33,097.27
Statement of Assets							
HSBC Current Account	1,503.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,503.24	2,480.52
Operating Reserves Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,745.68	7,745.68	5,819.83
Restoration Fund	0.00	24,610.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	24,610.06	23,631.96
PCC Nominated Project Fund	0.00	0.00	3,190.00	0.00	0.00	3,190.00	81.73
Bursary Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,083.35	0.00	1,083.35	1,083.23
	1,503.24	24,610.06	3,190.00	1,083.35	7,745.68	38,132.33	33,097.27

The following notes form part of these financial statements

Approved by the PCC on:

18th March 2022

And signed on their behalf by:

Mrs Elizabeth Roodhouse (Churchwarden)

Elizabeth M. Roodhouse

Mrs Jenny Johnson (PCC Treasurer)

JR Johnson

St Mary's Church, Embsay with Eastby - Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Notes

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | The Financial Statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Auditing Regulations using the Receipts and Payments basis. |
| 2 | The only fixed asset retained for use is the church car park. Other assets are listed in the church inventory. |
| 3 | The movements in restricted funds during the year were: |

	Bal B/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Bal C/fwd
	£	£	£	£
Restoration Fund	23,631.96	978.10	0.00	24,610.06
Bursary Fund	1,083.23	0.12	0.00	1,083.35
Operating Reserves	5,819.83	1,925.85	0.00	7,745.68
Nominated Project (currently 'TCNCC')	81.73	22,950.00	19,841.73	3,190.00

The Restoration Account represents accumulated donations, appeals, bequests and legacies for fabric maintenance, which can only be spent for that purpose.

The Bursary Account was set up as part of the 150th anniversary celebrations to grant bursaries to young people living in the parish for educational travel according to the Declaration of Trust for St Mary's Embury with Eastby Fund for Young People.

The PCC Nominated Project Account holds the balance of income for current PCC nominated projects (currently the TCNCC project).

The Operating Reserves Account holds operating reserves money for the church.

4 Receipts Analysis			Unrestricted	Restoration	PCC Nominated	Bursary	Operating	Total	Total
			Funds	Fund	Project Fund	Fund	Reserves Fund	2021	2020
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£
a	Fundraising Activities:								
		Christmas Fair	857.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	857.15	0.00
		Eggs Fundraising	230.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	230.00	46.00
		Ladies Choir Rent	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00	0.00
		Sale of Wooden Crosses	66.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	66.00	0.00
		Lavendar Bag Sale	105.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	105.00	0.00
		Car Park	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	15.00
		Book Stall	425.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	425.00	291.50
		Plant Sales	528.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	528.10	293.01
		Other Fund Raising	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,680.50
		Millholme Dixie Jazz Band	0.00	0.00	60.00	0.00	0.00	60.00	0.00
			2,281.25	0.00	60.00	0.00	0.00	2,341.25	3,326.01
b	Other voluntary receipts:								
		Collections for missions & charities	543.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	543.17	132.50
		Gift Day	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	148.00
		Coffee Money	172.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	172.87	174.28
		Smiley Faces/Mothers Union	70.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	70.00	140.00
		Churchyard Activities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
		Sundries	238.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	238.00	41.01
		Children's Activities	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00
		Vicarage Utilities Refunds	788.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	788.34	674.81
			1,962.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,962.38	1,320.60
5 Payments Analysis			Unrestricted	Restoration	PCC Nominated	Bursary	Operating	Total	Total
			Funds	Fund	Project Fund	Fund	Reserves Fund	2021	2020
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£
a	Salaries, Wages & Honoraria:								
		Admin Assistant	1,440.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,440.00	1,440.00
		Honoraria	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00
		Organist	26.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	26.00	280.00
		Wedding & Funeral Fees	373.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	373.00	85.00
			2,139.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,139.00	1,805.00
b	Mission & Evangelism Costs:								
		Bursary Fund payments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Children's Services	74.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	74.05	0.00
		Community Engagement	119.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	119.18	0.00
		Teaching & Courses	54.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	54.90	0.00
			248.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	248.13	0.00
c	Church Running Expenses:								
		Insurance	1,590.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,590.32	1,570.10
		Minor repairs & maintenance	1,558.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,558.70	2,202.05
		Coffee	65.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	65.00	51.00
		Upkeep of Services	855.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	855.19	2,933.76
		Upkeep of Churchyard	36.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	36.00	73.03
		Churchyard Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Cleaner	110.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	110.00	100.00
			4,215.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,215.21	6,929.94
d	Other Expenditure:								
		Subscriptions	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	86.00
		Sundries	76.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	76.57	249.00
		Printing, Stationery, etc	809.32	0.00	522.10	0.00	0.00	1,331.42	946.47
		Vicar's Extraordinary Expenses	77.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	77.34	0.00
		Consultation Fees	0.00	0.00	15,983.90	0.00	0.00	15,983.90	0.00
		Filming Costs	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00
		Project Involvement Fee	0.00	0.00	750.00	0.00	0.00	750.00	0.00
			1,013.23	0.00	19,256.00	0.00	0.00	20,269.23	1,281.47

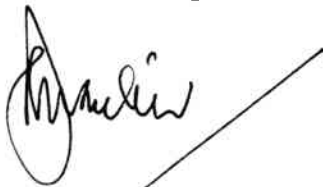
- | | |
|---|--|
| 6 | The expenses paid to clergy may include a small immaterial proportion, which relates to their function as PCC members. No other payments were made to PCC members. |
|---|--|

David Charlton, 6 St Mary's Green, Carleton, Skipton BD23 3DG
07860 383668 e-mail: davecharlton2002@hotmail.com

20 February 2022

**2021 Annual Financial Accounts for The Church of St.
Mary The Virgin Embsay with Eastby**

I confirm that the above accounts have been examined and confirmed correct according to the records provided and explanations given.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Charlton', with a long diagonal line extending from the end of the signature.

David Charlton
Independent Examiner

St Mary the Virgin Parochial Church Council

Operating Reserve Policy

This policy was approved by the PCC on 18th March, 2022 and signed on their behalf by Liz Roodhouse vice chair and Sue Stearn PCC secretary.

The purpose of the Operating Policy for St Mary the Virgin Parochial Church Council (PCC) is to make sure that the mission, programmes, employment and ongoing operations of the Church remain stable. The Operating Reserve is intended to provide an internal source of funds for situations such as a sudden increase in expenses, a significant drop in a source of income, one-time unbudgeted expenses and unexpected large repair-bills. Operating Reserves are not intended to replace a permanent loss of funds or eliminate an ongoing budget gap. As and when the Operating Reserves are used, it is the aim of St Mary the Virgin's PCC for the reserves to be replenished on a schedule agreed by themselves.

Definitions and Goals

The Operating Reserve Fund is a designated fund set aside by action of the PCC. It is a dynamic fund and will be reviewed and adjusted in response to any internal and external changes as required.

The PCC aims to keep approximately three months of average Church operating costs in reserves as a minimum. The calculation of average monthly operating costs includes all recurring, predictable expenses such as salaries, utilities, charity payments, etc. Depreciation, in-kind, and other non-cash expenses are not included in the calculation. The amount of the Operating Reserve Fund will be reported to the PCC on a monthly basis and included in the regular and annual financial reports.

Accounting for Reserves

The Operating Reserve Fund will be recorded in the financial records as PCC-Designated Operating Reserve. It will be funded and available in cash. Operating Reserves will be kept in the Operating Reserves Fund account (Parish deposit account) of St Mary the Virgin's PCC.

Funding of Reserves

The PCC will aim to fund the Operating Reserve with surplus unrestricted operating funds where possible. The PCC may from time to time direct that a specific source of revenue be set aside for Operating Reserves. Examples may include one-time gifts or bequests, special grants or special appeals.

Use of Reserves

Use of Operating Reserves requires three steps:

- 1. Identification of appropriate use of reserve funds**
- 2. Authority to use operating reserves**
- 3. Reporting and monitoring**

- 1. Identification of appropriate use of reserve funds**

The PCC will identify the need for access to reserve funds and confirm that the use is consistent with the purpose as described in this policy. This step will require analysis of the reason for the shortfall, the availability of any other sources of funds before using reserves and evaluation of the time period that the funds will be required and replenished.

2. Authority to use operating reserves

Authority for use of Operating Reserves lies with the PCC. The use of Operating Reserves will be reported to the PCC at a scheduled meeting, accompanied by the analysis and determination of the use of funds and a schedule for repayment.

3. Reporting and monitoring

The PCC is responsible for ensuring that the Operating Reserve Fund is maintained and used as described in this policy. Upon approval for the use of Operating Reserve funds, the Treasurer will maintain records for the use of funds and schedule for repayment with support from the PCC. The Treasurer will provide regular reports to the PCC of progress with regards to the repayment schedule.

Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years, at a minimum, by the PCC, or sooner if required by internal or external events or changes. Changes to the policy are to be agreed by the PCC.

Signed:

Elizabeth M. Roodhouse (Chair)

She Stearn (Secretary)

Dated: 18th March 2022

Accounts



St Mary the Virgin, Embsay with Eastby



**Annual Trustees' Report, Financial Statement and Parish Reports
of
The Parochial Church Council
For the year ended 31st December 2020**

**The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Embsay with Eastby,
Kirk Lane, BD23 6SF**

Vicar

Vacancy until 30th March, 2020

Revd Canon Marion Russell Vicar from 30th March, 2020

Associate Priest

Revd Tim Calow

Banks:

HSBC

63 High Street

Skipton

Santander

Bridle Road, Bootle Reg.

Independent Examiner:

Mr David Charlton

6 St Mary's Green

Carleton

Charity Number 1166269

The Annual General Meeting for the Parish of St Mary the Virgin,

Embsay with Eastby

Sunday 18th April, 2021 at 3.00 pm

AGENDA

The Meeting of Parishioners

- 1) The appointment of the clerk
- 2) Chair's welcome and opening prayer
- 3) Apologies
- 4) Minutes of the previous meeting
- 5) The election of churchwardens

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

- 1) The appointment of the Clerk
- 2) Apologies
- 3) Minutes of the last Annual Parochial Church Meeting
- 4) Electoral Roll report
- 5) The Elections:
 - i) The election of the Parochial Church Council
- 6) The Annual Report
- 7) The Financial Statements:
 - i) Presentation of the Examined Accounts
 - ii) Independent Examiner's Report
 - iii) Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2021
- iv) Gift Aid Officer's Report
- 8) Churchwardens' Report – Fabric, goods and ornaments
- 9) Skipton Deanery Synod Report
- 10) The Parish Reports
- 11) Date of the next Annual Parochial Church Meeting
- 12) Any other business

Church of St Mary the Virgin Embsay with Eastby

Annual Meetings Sunday 27th September 2020 3pm, in church and via Zoom due to Covid-19 pandemic

Minutes of Meeting of Parishioners

24 Parishioners attended in church and 7 via Zoom (remote online conferencing)

1. Revd Canon Marion Russell our new vicar chaired the Meeting of Parishioners. She welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayers.
2. Peter Edward proposed and Simon Smith seconded Sue Stearn as Clerk, which was agreed unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.
3. No apologies received
4. Simon Smith proposed and Sue Davies seconded the acceptance of the Minutes of the 2019 meeting and all those who had attended that meeting agreed with their acceptance.
5. Marion thanked the church wardens Liz Roodhouse and Peter Edwards. They have both agreed to stand again as wardens. Liz Roodhouse was proposed by Jennifer Stearn and seconded by Sue Davies. Peter Edwards was proposed by Tony Stearn and seconded by Marcia Wilkinson. Each was elected unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.

The meeting closed at 3.12pm (Sue Stearn AMP Clerk)

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Revd Canon Marion Russell our new vicar chaired the APCM

24 Parishioners attended in church and 7 via Zoom (remote online conferencing)

1. **Appointment of the clerk;** Peter Edwards proposed and Simon Smith seconded Sue Stearn as Clerk, which was agreed unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.

2. **Apologies** none received.

3. **Minutes of the 2019 meeting held on 28th April, 2019** Liz Roodhouse proposed, and Lesley Higson seconded their acceptance, they were agreed unanimously by all who had been at that meeting.

4. **Electoral Roll report:** Sue Davies reported that there were 74 on the roll at the time of the meeting with the following additions and deletions:

Additions: Vera Price, Chris Terry, Andrea Swearman, Louise Smith

Deletions: Mary Jones (deceased), Thomas Stewart, Victoria Madeley

Marion thanked Sue Davies for her work as Electoral Roll Officer

5. **The elections:**

i) **Election of the Parochial Church Council.** There were five vacancies following the end of the term of office, of Simon Smith, Christine-Stewart Jones, and David Jones, along with Jenny Johnson who was co-opted for the year 2019-20.

There were four nominations for the vacancies:

Simon Smith had been proposed by Sue Stearn and seconded by Peter Edwards, unanimously elected by those in church and on Zoom.

Christine-Stewart Jones had been proposed by Jennifer Stearn and seconded by Bridget Edwards, unanimously elected by those in church and on Zoom.

David Jones had been proposed by Tony Stearn and seconded by Bridget Edwards, unanimously elected by those in church and on Zoom.

Jenny Johnson had been proposed by Sue Stearn and seconded by Jill Mitchell, unanimously elected by those in church and on Zoom.

Helen Ralph, who was temporarily co-opted on to PCC during 2020 to help with setting up and using of Zoom for meetings and church services, sees the need for her co-option is fulfilled although she is very willing to be called upon for her advice again at any time when needed. Marion thanked her for all her technical input and other contributions to the church council during this time.

ii) **Election of Deanery Synod representatives.** There were three vacancies following the end of the term of office of Bridget Edwards and Sue Stearn. Two nominations for the vacancies:

Bridget Edwards had been proposed by Janet Smith and seconded by Daphne Jepps, unanimously elected by those in church and on Zoom.
Sue Stearn had been proposed by Susan Davies and seconded by Helen Ralph, unanimously elected by those in church and on Zoom.

Election of the Sidespersons: Due to the change in the Church Representation Rules 2020 this is now done by the PCC and was completed on 24th July, 2020

All the reports were in a printed booklet, due to Covid 19, copies were posted, hand delivered and sent electronically to the congregation from August, 2020. Copies of all reports are attached to these minutes. Minuted items under individual reports are those recorded at this APCM.

6. The Annual Trustees report

No questions or comments on the report.

Marion thanked everyone for the welcome she had received. She was delighted to be here and very much appreciated the team spirit of St Mary's and warmth of its welcome.

She thanked Revd Tim Calow, Liz Roodhouse and Peter Edwards for their report of 2019.

She also thanked Sue Stearn the PCC secretary for her work over the year.

7. The Financial Statements;

i) Presentation of the examined reports and ii) Independent examiner's report

Jenny Johnson said thank you to everyone for their help over the last year.

No questions or comments on the report.

Simon Smith asked that the congregation's thanks be minuted for all the work Jenny does as treasurer and preparing the accounts.

Proposal for acceptance of the 2019 accounts made by David Jones and seconded by Lesley Higson, agreed unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.

iii) Appointment of an Independent Examiner for 2020 accounts

Jenny Johnson proposed David Charlton and Tony Stearn seconded his appointment as the independent examiner. This was agreed unanimously by those in church and on Zoom.

iv) **Gift Aid Officer's report**

No questions or comments on the report.

Marion reported Justin Gartland was happy to continue as Gift aid officer and that he felt the Parish Giving Scheme was very good.

8. Churchwardens' Report – fabric, goods and ornaments

Peter Edwards explained that there was no separate report for 2019, as it had been a very busy year with the vacancy and window project. Instead this report has been included in the Annual Trustees Report. Shelagh Marshall asked if the maintenance of the church was able to continue with Covid-19 Pandemic, Peter said the report related to 2019, but yes the church was being maintained within Covid guidelines and regulations.

9. Skipton Deanery Synod report: No questions or comments on the report.

10. Parish reports

a. Safeguarding Report: No questions or comments on the report.

Marion thanked Christine Stewart – Jones (CSJ) for all her work as Safeguarding officer.

CSJ reiterated that if anyone had any concerns to ring or contact her, including if just needed to talk regarding the difficulty of living under the current conditions.

b. School Governors Report: Marion thanked Helen Ralph for her report. Current Foundation Governors are, Marion (ex-officio as vicar), Helen Ralph and Jennifer Stearn, Revd Tim Calow's role as substitute for the vicar during the vacancy ceased once Marion was in post and he is willing to continue giving his input as co-opted governor, still to be ratified at the next governors' meeting.

No questions or comments on the report.

- c. **Tuesday Teas:** No questions or comments on the report.
- d. **Band:** No questions or comments on the report.
- e. **Choir:** No questions or comments on the report.
- f. **Skipton Churches Mothers' Union:** No questions or comments on the report.
- g. **The environment group/Eco – Church:** No questions or comments on the report.
- h. **Disability Report(Jane Eastwood):** No questions or comments on the report.
- i. **Village Institute report:** No questions or comments on the report.
- j. **Smiley faces:** No questions or comments on the report.
- k. **Fair Trade report:** No questions or comments on the report.

11. **Date of the next APCM:** Sunday 18th April 2021

12. **Any other business:**

- a. Bursary Fund: Marion asked if anyone would like to take on the role of administering this fund. Simon Smith said he would undertake the role.
- b. Chris Terry said as a newcomer to the village she was pleased to read St Mary's annual report, which gave her a good feel about the church.
Marion said that the Parish reports showed a church very rich in activity and also work in the community.
- c. Shirley Moorhouse said thank you to Marion, Peter Edwards and Liz Roodhouse for everything they do.

Marion said a very big thank you to everyone for their support and help in the last six months, as we have lived with and continue to live with the effects of the Covid 19 Pandemic.

The meeting closed at 3.45pm (Sue Stearn APCM Clerk)

Trustees' Report for 2020
PCC approved by correspondence by 19th March, 2021

Aims and Purposes

St Mary the Virgin, Embsay with Eastby, Parochial Church Council (PCC) has in the past year fulfilled its responsibility of promoting the ecclesiastical parish in the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. At the beginning of the year from January to March in the remainder of the vacancy, this was in cooperation with The Revd Ruth Harris, the Area Dean of Skipton Deanery; this then continued with the new incumbent, The Revd Canon Marion Russell, who on 30th March was collated as Vicar of Embsay with Eastby and licensed as Area Clergy Development Officer, by the Bishop of Ripon, The Rt Revd Dr Helen-Ann Hartley. Because of the pandemic prohibition on worshipping in church buildings, this service was conducted on the digital platform Zoom, with a small online congregation. We are also supported in our responsibilities by St Mary's Associate Priest, The Revd Tim Calow, and by The Revd Bob Mitchell, retired priest with Bishop's Permission to Officiate.

Our commitment and responsibilities are expressed in our parish statement of intent: We, the community of St Mary's, aim to create a welcoming and inspiring place where people of every age can meet God, who we know as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and can recognise his presence in our lives and in one another. We believe that we are loved and blessed by God, and that we have a responsibility to share our blessings with one another and with the wider community, of all faiths and none.

Objectives and activities

The PCC is committed to nurturing faith, by enabling as many people as possible to worship at St Mary's and to become part of our church community, and to enable people to live out their faith in day to day life. In order to achieve this we have our Plan for Growth to give us an overview of how we improve and maintain the church building and churchyard, which are the visible symbols of our presence in the community, how we develop worship for children and families, how we increase community involvement and ecumenical links, and how we develop our own spirituality as we try to enable ordinary people to live faithful, loving, and God-focussed lives.

Since the end of March 2020, however, the shape of our activities to address the objectives has changed because of the varying legal and advisory restrictions of the Covid-19 pandemic measures in place through the remainder of 2020, and continuing into 2021.

A Worshipping Presence: Outline Dates of St Mary's Open and Closed, 2020

St Mary's has fully complied with the legal requirements and additional guidance for worship during the pandemic.

Public Worship	Private Prayer
Closed from 18 th March Sunday and Tuesday public worship provided on the Zoom digital platform from 7 th April	Closed from 24 March
	Open from 22 June to 23 rd Aug, Sunday and Wednesday afternoons only; supervised.
Open 6 th July for Tuesday Midweek Holy Communion services only	
	Open 24 th August for private prayer daily without supervision, additional measures in place.
Open 6 th Sept for all Holy Communion	Remaining Open

Services Sundays (additionally transmitted by Zoom) and Tuesdays.	
Open All Age Worship transmitted by Zoom with the band and a spaced congregation additionally in church: 4 October, 1 November, 6 December.	
Closed 5 th November - 2 nd December, only essential leaders in church for streaming	Open for private prayer as above, permission remained during the November lockdown
Open 6 th December to 4 th January for all Holy Communion Services Sundays (additionally transmitted by Zoom) and Tuesdays.	Remaining Open
Christmas Week was a seasonal break from daily Zoom offices, mid-week communion and church opening.	

All Sunday 9.30am services of Holy Communion throughout this period April to December have been recorded and made available for one week, thereafter for those who prefer to access them this way. Following safeguarding advice, All Age Worship has not been recorded.

As a church in the community we have made every effort to be supportive and accessible to the congregation and the local community. All this has been deeply appreciated.

We are grateful to those who offered their knowledge and digital skills initially to enable us to use Zoom as a digital platform; they and many other members of the congregation have continued generously contributing their energy, skills and time to develop its use, through which we have gathered for congregational worship, daily prayer and social activities. We are also thankful for all amongst us who have given their time, skills and pastoral care to maintain communication with those who don't access Zoom.

Church governance, structure and management in the Pandemic Restrictions

Our first planned church council meeting of 31st March welcoming Canon Marion was deferred to 4th April and transferred to Zoom, and the remaining church council meetings this year have been conducted on Zoom, with all resolutions

ratified by email correspondence. The full PCC has met on eleven occasions in 2020 and the average attendance was 88%.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) was deferred for all churches under permissions granted by The Rt Revd Nick Baines, Bishop of Leeds, our diocesan bishop. We were able to hold our APCM on 27th September, in church for the majority of those attending socially distanced under Tier 2 regulations, and with a small Zoom attendance participating.

Despite the pandemic the structure, governance and management of the PCC has remained unaltered, though zoom meetings and organising the APCM has had its challenges.

The method of appointment of PCC members is as set out in the Church Representation Rules. The membership of the PCC at St Mary's consists of the Vicar, Associate Priest, Retired Priest, Churchwardens, Treasurer, Deanery Synod representatives and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the parish. All those within our congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

The church building and churchyard

Maintenance is undertaken and checked on a regular basis, using the St Mary's Management and Maintenance Plan. The PCC is updated regularly through a "Fabric" item on the agenda.

Following the Quinquennial Inspection in 2019/20 there were a number of actions initiated. Covid-19 disruption caused a delay in the completion of some of these but the majority have now been satisfactorily concluded.

1. The cracking to plaster panels on the interior of the roof: completed in 2020.
2. Repairs to the rotted timberwork on the lych gate: this was begun in 2020 and the replacement timber installed. In the course of the work it was decided to

address some decay in the vertical corner pillars and work on that continues into 2021 in discussion with the architect and DAC.

Both the above items were referred through the Diocesan faculty system and authorised as List B repairs.

3. Some repointing was indicated by the inspection, as being required as part of the church maintenance to keep it in good order. Some of that was completed in 2020 and the work will continue over the quinquennium.

4. A full electrical survey was also carried out by Baines Electrical as part of the QI. The list of items requiring attention (none flagged as “critical”) was completed during 2020.

5. A check of the lightning conductor system was undertaken during 2020 and the system found to be in a good state.

6. The QI identified the security of the upper ladders in the tower as a matter for review. This has still to be addressed.

Routine items

The churchyard continues to be kept in excellent condition. It remains to be seen whether the Parish Council will continue to make a grant of £60 towards the maintenance of the churchyard.

The new cellar pump system which was installed in 2019 has continued to prove effective although concern remains that it operates at capacity during periods of exceptional and sustained rainfall. This needs to be regularly monitored.

Roof slates on the parts of the roof which were not included in the “A Roof for our Future” project continue to need re-fixing and the time is not very far off when the south face of the nave roof will need more systematic attention.

The Terrier and Log Book are up to date and the plate is in good order. The Inventory was not checked during 2020; the vacancy, the welcome arrival of Canon Marion and the restrictions of Covid-19 resulted in this being postponed until 2021.

The public notice-board was updated to include Canon Marion’s details.

The church audio system and online sharing of services

The audio system has been upgraded as the existing amplifier became faulty. A recycled and higher quality amplifier was installed together with additional headset microphones. This has restored the hearing loop system to functionality as well as significantly enhancing the sound volume and quality for all users.

In response to the restrictions imposed by Covid-19, a system of sharing services live from the church was developed using Zoom Meeting sharing software and an interface with the church audio system. Eventually, a system of two static cameras, and the church sound system, both linked to a laptop, provided connection to home-based worshippers. Wi-Fi connection to the internet is currently provided through a 4G phone link. The result has been that it is possible to hold services live which involve participation from people at home together with those in church.

Churchyard Research Group

The pandemic has prevented members of the Churchyard research group/ Embsay with Eastby research group from continuing their work at Coniston near Kettlewell, to help our friends at Holy Trinity Skipton and support a new project at Fewston Churchyard.

The Discovering England's Burial Space project run by the University of York (DEBS) website has now been completed. St Mary's original churchyard project team of 2015 has been acknowledged, especially for the work regarding RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging). There are photographs of some of the team on the website. Look at <http://www.debs.ac.uk/communitygroups.html>

<http://www.debs.ac.uk/rti.html> RTI Reflectance Transformation Imaging

http://www.debs.ac.uk/files/RTI_Guide_v3.pdf RTI guide written by team members

Sue and Jennifer Stearn are in process of checking the digital record of every surveyed grave plot in the churchyard, ready to be stored at the Archaeological Data Service at the University. This is a national data base for projects.

Developing worship and engaging with children and families

During the year in the church we conducted one baptism, and four funerals, one of which included a burial in the churchyard, another with the burial in a local woodland cemetery, and two being followed by cremation. One funeral was conducted at Waltonwrays Chapel.

The last Smiley Faces Toddler Praise was on 13th March prior to the first lockdown.

St Mary's has a core base of over 70 people in the worshipping community, with the suspended Smiley Faces not counted. Ability to join in public worship has varied through the pandemic conditions. During the Zoom-only period April-September, Sunday attendance ranged from 21 in holiday periods to 35 adults, with an average of 27.5. Children at monthly All Age Worship numbered 1-12, averaging 5.6. When the autumn in-church and zoom figures are combined, the average Sept-Oct was 36.2.

During 2020, 3 new members were added to the Electoral Roll, and 2 members died, resulting in a total of 73 at the end of the year.

Consultation and thinking about how to involve adults and children more fully into the life of St Mary's is ongoing. 2020 has added to the challenges, in particular keeping in touch with the young families whom we would normally have been seeing regularly at Smiley Faces. A member of our All Age Worship team, Julia Lovell, organised Christmas craft kits and advertised them on the Embsay Update Facebook page and there was enough interest for a second order. The Advent display of nativity/crib sets in church also attracted many families who were able to take away a free copy of the Bible Society's Christmas story, "It begins in Bethlehem." Several families also appreciated being able to sing carols in the churchyard on Christmas Eve and enjoyed the Christmas Memories display in church.

Community Involvement and Ecumenical links

Two large colourful banners have proclaimed our message of hope from the outer East wall of the church building. In the first lockdown ***Buildings closed - Hearts open***; since July ***We're open, loving living learning together***; both with additional information. A striking new pavement sign is put out when the church is open with the reverse advertising a service that day, an indicator valued by villagers.

The Tuesday Teas drop-in cafe in St Mary's quickly transferred to virtual teas on Zoom when the first lockdown began and this provides an opportunity for members of the congregation to socialise. Sadly the outreach element has gone for the time being.

The community café, 'Making Waves', hosted in the Methodist Chapel Hall, was a casualty of the pandemic. One of the last Monday morning sessions was the one at the beginning of March in Fairtrade Fortnight, when our Fairtrade stall made an appearance.

The Embsay with Eastby Village News, which was delivered to two thirds of the households in the villages, and had information about services and events every month, with a comment piece written by clergy from St Mary's and the Methodist minister, ceased publication after the March issue. However, one of our churchwardens, Liz Roodhouse, worked alongside the editor to produce a special Covid-19 edition of the News in July. A free copy of this was delivered to every household in the villages.

During 2020 the Embsay with Eastby Good Neighbours scheme; which is intended to provide assistance in a variety of ways for village residents, has gone from strength to strength, albeit in a more limited and different way. Four of the seven trustees are members of the congregation of St Mary's, and many of the volunteers are also linked to the church.

Plans for 19th September to celebrate the 900th anniversary of the founding of Embsay Priory (1120-21) had to be postponed because of another change in pandemic regulations, and are provisionally rearranged for 22nd May 2021.

Fundraising events with the community included Pig Racing in February, and outdoor stalls with precautions in the church car park for plants, books and toys. The Summer Fair in the Vicarage garden had to be cancelled. Meals and quizzes over Zoom links were held to maintain social contact between congregation, villagers and other friends, without fundraising.

St Mary's is part of Churches Together in Skipton and District; we share worship with Embsay Methodist Chapel on fifth Sundays of the month, and regular seasonal observances. The quarterly ecumenical lunch between churchwardens,

ministers and church and chapel representatives continues. Zoom has been used for these during restrictions.

Our ecumenical Remembrance Sunday service was transmitted from St Mary's to a Zoom congregation, followed by a sombre Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial, with key local representatives and a small well-spaced presence of villagers.

Sadly we were not able to do the two-parish pilgrimage with Bolton Priory this year.

St Mary's is a Fair-trade Church and our activities continue with the village. See separate report.

Our close links with Embsay C of E. Primary School have continued. See separate report.

Jennifer Stearn represents St Mary's Church on the Village Institute Committee. See separate report.

This year St Mary's gained the A Rocha UK Eco Church Silver Award and many other activities have been undertaken. See separate Eco Group Report.

Developing spirituality

From January to March, the routines and worship patterns continued well for the remainder of the vacancy under the able leadership of churchwardens Liz and Peter, and of Tim and Bob, associated clergy, who contributed effectively with spiritual leadership and guidance.

Canon Marion moved to the Vicarage and took up post at the end of March at the start of the first national Covid-19 pandemic lockdown, a rapidly changing and bewildering situation which required immediate responses in several ways. This was done with clear and collaborative leadership from the clergy-churchwardens team in its new format. Many nuances were discussed in shaping practicalities of worship, growing in understanding new technology, and finding new ways to continue pastoral and spiritual care. Twice-weekly email updates from Liz have kept people well informed, and along with the text of the sermon and other

encouraging input. Printed versions have been warmly received by those without internet access.

More of these pandemic changes and developments are given in at the end of this booklet. Although some of the events seem social, for many people different aspects of these assumed a rich spiritual dimension, as we quietly grappled with facing different realities for which we had no prior experience.

We have learned much this year, been blessed and protected in many ways, and are still learning to sustain each other in the continuing uncertainty of these times, at times experiencing the weariness that uncertainty and unfamiliarity can bring. We have had good caring support from Bishop Nick and all the diocesan senior staff. We continue to aim to live in ways that proclaim our church and homes as places of light, attentively praying for all who live and work in this parish, and engaging with The Archbishops' call to *Prayer for the Nation*.

"I will bless you...and you will be a blessing." (Genesis 12:2)

The Revd Canon Marion Russell, Vicar

Peter Edwards and Liz Roodhouse, Churchwardens

Sue Stearn, PCC Secretary

On behalf of the Trustees of St Mary' the Virgin, Embsay with Eastby

FINANCIAL REVIEW

(For full details of the 2020 accounts and Operating Reserve Policy see separate document)

Treasurer's report for the year 2020

2020 has been an extremely difficult and challenging year for everyone, including St Mary's Church. At the end of an excellent first financial quarter, where we raised 126% of the income we needed to cover our costs for that quarter, we were suddenly faced with financial uncertainty in having to cancel essential fundraising events in the short term and with having the ambiguity of future fundraising

events happening, due to the pandemic. Yet, with the generous regular donations from our kind-hearted parishioners and local community and new regular giving being set up throughout the year, even during the lockdowns (over the telephone, or by filling out a simple form and sending it off), we managed to raise the necessary funds for the continued running and ministry of the church.

This generous giving, coupled with some out of the box thinking in relation to fundraising by some very dedicated people, has helped St Mary's get through this very difficult period from a financial point of view. Everyone's help in achieving this is very greatly appreciated.

We have been able to cover all of our running costs (including significantly increased service costs due to the need to purchase the required equipment in order to run online services and meetings), and have been able to meet, and exceed (by £4,034), our revised target share payment of £35,000 for 2020 without the need to resort to reserves to cover any deficit; a tremendous achievement by everyone, especially with what was happening, so thank you. The revised share target for 2021 has been agreed upon at £35,000 (the same as for 2020) and we should, hopefully, achieve this with everyone's continued efforts.

The Diocesan share for each parish is calculated by the application of a formula which, in our case, generates an anomalous, very high figure. This has been recognised by the Diocese, resulting in the revised figure agreed upon for 2020 and 2021, mentioned above. The formula was to be reviewed, but due to the pandemic this has been delayed. The PCC has made a submission to the process and will continue to offer to contribute in future. We have been grateful for the engagement with us of Diocesan finance staff through this process.

I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has helped to support St Mary's, whether financially, or in any other way, and continues to do so. Without you we would not be able to continue the vital support, service and ministry we offer our local and wider community.

St Mary's continues to be closely involved in the roll out of the Parish Giving scheme with the Diocese of Leeds and is currently (at the time of writing this

report) piloting the new online sign-up process for this. The scheme has proved extremely beneficial to the fundraising for St Mary's, in a year where we have been unable to hold physical services where a significant amount of our donations are generated. This scheme has been very well received by our parishioners and supporters who have found it to be extremely easy and straight forward to set up and use. We continue to be delighted to be ambassadors for the scheme within the Diocese.

St Mary's has a history of giving generously to charity and in total, since 2008, we have paid over £31,000 to various charities chosen by the congregation (an average of around £2,400 per year). With the pandemic, and because of it, we felt it even more important that we be able to uphold our commitment to support local, national and international charities this year, and again, due to our very generous parishioners and community, we were able to support 8 charities during 2020 paying to them over £2,100.

No Bursary Grants were paid in 2020.

My grateful thanks to everyone at St Mary's for helping us have a good year financially in 2020 despite the extreme challenges we all faced, and still face today, and for your support in helping me in my role as Treasurer. And thanks again to David Charlton for being the Independent Examiner of our accounts.

Jenny Johnson, Treasurer

Gift aid officer's report

This report covers the financial (and calendar) year of 2020.

The pandemic has had an effect on giving as we have not been able to receive income from irregular church goers, or from events such as baptisms, weddings and funerals. The resulting amounts from which to seek a Gift Aid claim have also therefore reduced. For example, small donations under the GASDs scheme, which

sits alongside our claims on other giving was down from a total of £6,000 to £3,000 over the year compared to 2019.

I have yet to submit a claim for most of 2020, but have done so up to April, which included most of the non-pandemic part of the year. The post-April amounts in the report are therefore estimates of pending receipts. I'm normally pretty accurate in these estimates.

A significant number of our regular givers now utilise the Parish Giving Scheme run by the Gloucester Diocese. This has the benefit of regular monthly income from Gift Aid to our accounts. I do not have sight of this, but Jenny has advised that for 2020, this netted us £4,890 in Gift Aid refunds. Fantastic.

2020's received and estimated Gift Aid from the envelope scheme, regular giving and standing orders to St Mary's is £1,315, which will add to the £997 collected to April. Small donations (GASDs) will add £750 to the already collected £1,537, once I submit the claim for post April 2020 in 2021. Overall therefore, this will net us £4,599. Add this to the £4,890 Gift Aid refund under the Parish Giving Scheme and the contribution to our funds of this vital source of income - £9,489 is apparent, even in a tragic year such as the one just passed.

Justin Gartland – Gift Aid Officer

Safeguarding Report - January to December 2020

February was the beginning of a very difficult year for churches everywhere. The Covid-19 virus gradually spread throughout the world, affecting every aspect of our lives, including the closure of churches. Safeguarding advice to stay safe was issued by the Government. During this time, I received no direct concerns from our church community, but we are all aware throughout this pandemic, that domestic abuse, child neglect and mental health issues increased. I have been able to provide a list of emergency telephone numbers for people affected, and these have been added to our web site.

I also emailed the PCC and the wider community with posts sent to me by NYCC, which alerted us to, often unpleasant, scams or other incidents to be aware of locally.

DBS Checks were minimal. The Annual Self Declaration Forms were completed in March, as directed by the House of Bishops.

Embsay with Eastby continues to be a resourceful, energetic and caring community, even more so during the pandemic.

I am pleased to have taken on the role of Safeguarding Officer for the last 8 years. Thank you all for your support during this time, it has been invaluable.

I have now decided to step down, however I will remain a member of the PCC.

Christine Stewart-Jones, Parish Safeguarding Officer

Administrative information

The Church of St Mary the Virgin provides for the villages of Embsay and Eastby in the Skipton Deanery of Ripon Area within the Diocese of Leeds.

The PCC is a body corporate and a registered charity (No. 1166269)

The correspondence address is: The Vicarage, 21 Shires Lane, Embsay, Skipton BD23 6SB

Members of the Parochial Church Council in 2020

Vicar (Chair)	Revd Canon Marion Russell from 30th March, 2020	
Associate Priest	Revd Tim Calow	
Retired Priest	Revd Bob Mitchell	
Churchwardens:	Peter Edwards	
	Liz Roodhouse (Lay Vice Chair)	
Deanery Synod Reps	Sue Stearn	2020-2023
	Bridget Edwards	2020-2023
Treasurer	Jenny Johnson	2020-2023
Elected members	David Jones	2020-2023
	Simon Smith	2020-2023

Christine Stewart-Jones	2020-2023
Sylvia Hodgkinson	2019-2022
Sue Davies	2018-2021
Lesley Higson (2yr term)	2019-2021
Carol Smith	2019-2022

The PCC is clerked by Sue Stearn

Skipton Deanery Synod Report for 2020

Due to the Covid -19 pandemic there were no Deanery Synod meetings in 2020
Sue Stearn and Bridget Edwards, Deanery Synod Representatives

Embsay C of E (VC) Primary School; School Governor's report for 2020

The school year runs from September to July so 2020 covers part of two school years.

On the governing body at the beginning of 2020 there were three foundation governors; Helen Ralph and Jennifer Stearn as the regular governors and The Revd Tim Calow as the interim ex-officio governor during the period of vacancy. Once The Reverend Canon Marion Russell took her post as the Vicar on 30th March 2020, she became the ex-officio governor during the period when meetings were suspended. Her ex-officio role was ratified from September 2020 when the new round of Governing Body meetings recommenced and Tim was offered, and accepted, a role as a co-opted governor. Rachael Higgins and Matt Smales-Cresswell are now co-chairs and Chris Atherton has joined the governing body as the new parent governor.

The school had an OFSTED inspection in February of 2020 with an overall rating of GOOD. The report stated "The distinctly Christian ethos is welcoming".

The school was last inspected as part of SIAMS in May 2017 (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) when it was given an 'Outstanding' rating.

Helen Ralph visited the school early in 2020 to review the SIAMS objectives 'ensuring that the Christian distinctiveness is emphasised and diversity promoted'. There was good feedback on the Collective Worship for the early part of the year. The children were appreciating having the lay members (Peter Edwards and Liz Roodhouse) of the church taking the Collective Worship. There was positive feedback from the OFSTED report. Initial work had been started to have links with an inner city predominantly Muslim school. The HT had planned to join the church trip to Malawi in June of this year as part of the SIAMS objective. A SIAMS workshop for the governors was also planned in the first term of 2020. However, all of these were put on hold due to the Pandemic.

In March 2020 the school closed to the majority of pupils in line with government requirements. The school remained open for children of keyworker parents and vulnerable children. During this first lockdown there were approximately 19 children in school. Distance learning was introduced for all other children using various on-line resources. Teachers prepared work for the children and also marked the submissions back from the children. The teachers also kept in close contact with all children. The school partially re-opened in June with strict precautions in place and pupils and staff forming 'bubbles'. The school fully re-opened after the Summer Holidays but with restrictions. Outside visitors were kept to a minimum and therefore traditional Collective Worship with visiting church members was not possible. However, Peter Edwards, Liz Roodhouse, Tim Calow, Marion Russell and Tracey Darling (Methodist minister) have all contributed to the worship with Zoom sessions and recordings. Helen Ralph was able to visit the school on November 11th to play the Last Post (from a distance) in the school playground. As expected, due to the pandemic, there were no opportunities for Christmas services or nativity plays in the Church this year.

This has been an incredibly hard year for all members of school staff, especially those teaching both in school and online, as well as the various demands of social distancing guidelines and new cleaning regimes, but everyone has coped very well.

The Reverend Canon Marion Russell, Helen Ralph, Jennifer Stearn and Reverend Tim Calow

Tuesday Teas Report for 2020

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic Tuesday Teas has continued to be Zoomed since April 2020 and my thanks to the people who have joined us either physically in the first couple of months and virtually thereafter.

Sylvia Hodgkinson

St Mary's Band report 2020/21

This has been a very strange year for us all not just the Band. Lockdown has seen us learn new skills and move out of our comfort zone. The Band has continued, all be it in a slightly different way. The last full live band was March 20, when we had fun when all the birthdays were suddenly admitted to!

Just before lockdown in March, we very sadly lost Mary Jones who was a stalwart for the band from its very first inception as Jubilate to its current form. We will always remember her "no no no no's" when we got it badly and persistently wrong! Mary's friendship, patience and enjoyment in coaching our younger members, her gifts of produce from her garden and hens were enjoyed by all. I very much miss Mary and her friendship. I often wonder what she would have made of lockdown.

Then we had lockdown.

Helen very kindly made drapes for our music stands in the first lockdown which look fabulous and give a feeling of unity. Helen's comments were

The material is one of my old sheets

The supports are bamboo cut from the vicarage garden

The braid was from Marion's sewing box and the rest is on one of her chasubles.

The logo was designed and adapted from the church original logo by Sophie and Max, Diana and Alan's daughter and boyfriend. Our thanks to them.

We have zoom practices which are very strange as you play to a backing track rather than live. The feedback and lag on the internet make playing together in different rooms/houses impossible

It is not possible to hear what everyone is playing; however, I have every confidence we are not perfect! We could not have done this without the huge efforts of Peter, Diana and Helen. This has enabled the band to stay in touch with each other.

Helen and David have provided live music for services which has been very much appreciated. Band members have made recordings of themselves playing to the backing track provided by David or arranged via Finale. These individual recordings have been mastered to put together a combined track and played in AAW.

The Stearn family have kindly provided vocals.

This is a time-consuming process and we cannot do this for every piece of music, so we have evolved to a mix of band in a box, band engineered and vocal songs. It has been interesting, not always successful, but fun.

Thank you to Sue and Jennifer who have kept us on the straight and narrow with copyright and streaming issues. As a consequence, we have not been able to play all our favourites.

We continue to meet on zoom although not all members are able to do this. Those absent friends have been very much missed. We briefly got together in a very limited way October November December and January. We were delighted to have John Midgley join us to play for the carol service in December which we all thoroughly enjoyed, just in the nick of time then sadly back to lockdown. Here is to vaccines, release from lockdown and playing together once more as a full band

Yvonne and the Band.

Choir report for 2020

The pandemic has silenced our voices, except when restrictions have allowed a single cantor to sing at a service in church, thanks to David Jones, Revd Tim Calow and Helen Garbutt. At times Sue, Tony and Jennifer Stearn have also sung together in church, being from the same household. Many thanks to Helen Ralph for singing on zoom. The congregation however has not been allowed to sing in church. We all look forward to the time when we can sing together.

Sue, Tony and Jennifer Stearn

Skipton Churches Mothers' Union

For the Skipton Churches branch of the Mothers' Union (which covers the Anglican churches in Skipton and the villages of Carleton and Embsay with Eastby), 2020 started well with a Wave of Prayer meeting in January in which we prayed for the Mothers' Union throughout the world but with particular reference to the areas which are linked with our Leeds diocese. We managed to hold our regular monthly meetings at St Mary's in February (the AGM) and in March (a Lenten Meditation led by Catherine Gibson from Ilkley) but then came Lockdown 1 and our meetings had to alter, like so many other things last year!

We have managed to hold some of our meetings on Zoom but only about half our members are able to use this facility effectively so we have kept up contact by regular emails and by 'phoning some of the members during our Zoom sessions so that they can at least hear and be heard by the Zooming members. Initially our meetings were short - basically prayers then a social, catch-up session - as we were using the free (40 minute) version but then, towards the end of 2020, Canon Marion kindly offered us the use of St Mary's Zoom facility which Sylvia could host for us. This enabled us to have proper meetings at our usual time of 7.30 pm on the first Tuesday of the month. I gave a talk about Hildegard of Bingen, which wasn't very exciting visually but left us knowing a little more about that remarkable woman than we had before.

We had bought some more packs of books to give out to the remaining local primary schools for teachers to use with pupils who are experiencing problems such as a death in the family or family breakdown (having already distributed them to some of the local schools in a previous year). Unfortunately, since they didn't arrive until late March, we have not yet been able to distribute these in person because of Covid-19 security measures in schools and the fact that most of our members are in the older, more vulnerable group.

However, we did manage to distribute 'Little Bags of Love' (see photograph on back page) to parents / carers bringing children for their first day at the primary schools in Embsay and Carleton, where we were piloting this MU initiative. Each small paper bag contained a Fair Trade tea bag, a chocolate from Whitakers' fairly traded range (the donation of which was kindly organised for us by Liz Roodhouse), a pack of sustainably produced tissues - to mop up tears of sorrow or delight, depending on each recipient's feelings about the child starting full-time school! - and some little prayers on paper. Unfortunately, we weren't able to assemble these as a group, as we'd originally hoped, and so two of us sat at opposite ends of a table in my garden - on a dry but somewhat windy day! - putting all 50-odd of them together with sanitised hands and wearing masks. (We got a bit of our recommended exercise in chasing the prayers around the lawn.) After a few days' of sealed isolation, these were then delivered to the schools before the start of the autumn term. They seem to have been well received.

We always welcome non-members to our meetings and new members from the local churches would be especially welcome. Just contact me via the clergy if you are interested in knowing more. Like so many organisations, we look forward to more meetings 'in the real world' as 2021 progresses.

Lesley Higson (Leader of Skipton Churches Mothers' Union branch)

2020 Disability report

There will be a “disability” letter circulated from the Diocese which will give me more information about the past year in due course. I will take note from that for future reference for you all.

New much improved equipment has been put in place which has made a tremendous difference to me particularly and I know to others who sometimes struggle with hearing in the church.

We are only as good as our "devices" - if our devices fail then we are in trouble! This did happen to me for a time, fortunately the faulty equipment has now been sorted out by post and I have a new one. I do know of another member of the congregation who has this problem and all your input has helped there too. Asking members to make sure the microphone is in the right place before they read has also made a big difference.

The zoom services have been such a help to keep us in touch with everyone during lockdown, which has helped all of us I am sure not to feel so isolated during these strange times. I think this has been vital. Once again many thanks to everyone for setting that up and ensuring we have services.

The quality of sound does vary on these links and I have to say is sometimes very difficult but that is not a complaint.

We are very fortunate to have fantastic church wardens Liz and Peter and now Canon Marion with us who take account and notice and do all in their power to again help the deaf.

I apologise that this report is predominantly about the deaf and hard of hearing but due to the circumstances since March 2020 I have little else to report to the committee at this time.

Jane Eastwood Disability Representative

Village Institute Report

In the initial lockdown, whilst the hall was closed it was deep cleaned, sanitised and redecorated and maintenance was carried out. Later in the year, when the hall was allowed to open with strict restrictions in place; maximum 15 people, 2

metre distancing, sanitiser, ventilation and restricted room use. During this time, the institute was well attended by regular groups, as well as some new, the playgroup also used the hall for morning and after school club so that distancing could be maintained. A number of events had to be cancelled, especially around Christmas time, including the church Christmas fair. The restrictions and guidelines continue to be reviewed by the committee.

Jennifer Stearn St Mary's Village Institute Committee Representative

Food bank report

In 2020 we became an official collection point for the Skipton Food Bank, as well as regular donors. During the year, we have been taking donations to the food bank at least once a week. For the Christmas appeal, donations amounted to 16 bags on our final run, but there is still a great need for this service, as the regular notices in the updates show, so thank you to everyone for their continued support.

Jennifer Stearn

Smiley Faces



On 10th January, our first session of 2020, we were pleased to have 15 children and their parents and carers with us. There was as always a lot of fun and laughter which was tinged with concern and sadness because we all knew that Mary Jones was very poorly. For more than ten years she had delighted children and parents with her wonderfully creative birthday cakes and knitted cardigans for new babies. We all loved her. Mary died just a few weeks later and the Smiley Faces team were very privileged to be asked by Mary's family to take responsibility for the catering after her funeral.

On 13th March only a few families came along – the shadow of the coronavirus was making us all apprehensive. That was our last session and sadly we have not been able to meet since. Sue Davies, Glennis Hobbs, Ann Rawson and myself all miss it very much as do the families.

We have tried to keep in touch with the families, providing goody bags of resources and little gifts for Easter and Christmas, and sending birthday cards. Some of us were able to have a socially distanced get together in the Recreation Ground in August. The children enjoyed a treasure hunt and a game or two before rushing off to play on the equipment.

We pray that this vital work with our young families will be possible in 2021.

Liz Roodhouse

Fairtrade at St Mary's

In normal times there would be a Fairtrade stall after the Sunday service every 4 to 5 weeks, and the church stall would be taken to village events and further afield, but 2020 was far from normal. It was possible to celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight in All Age Worship in March and to take the stall to the community café and the Lent Lunch.

As restrictions began we were able to have stalls in the church car park and church porch. Sales from these totalled £1,073.80. In addition I have been able to continue to supply regular customers with their coffee, tea, rice, chocolate, biscuits, cereal bars to name the most popular. It's not quite click and collect, more text and doorstep delivery – my doorstep or theirs. These sales raised a further £465.

Of course being a Fairtrade church is not just about selling Fairtrade products but also about raising awareness of the issues, using Fairtrade products wherever possible in church and connecting with our wider community - Embsay Primary School and the Embsay with Eastby Fairtrade village group.

We have done this in a number of ways:

- A member of the village Fairtrade group helped with several stalls and the Fairtrade trail – Walk the Fairtrade Way – for two weeks at the end of the summer holidays, was a joint venture between St Mary's and the village Fairtrade group.
- The virtual Fairtrade dinner and quiz in November organised by St Mary's attracted 40 people, mostly from the local community but also from Scotland and Shropshire.
- Our Fairtrade partnership with Embsay School continued in 2020 when once again the school staff/PTA asked me to supply fairly traded Christmas gifts for all 236 children in school.

Thank you everyone for choosing Fairtrade in 2020. By doing so we are providing the producers that grow and make the things we love greater security, helping them to access training and invest in techniques and methods that combat climate change. We're also helping to build stronger communities and giving hope for the future, enabling them to make choices for themselves.

Liz Roodhouse

Eco-group report

At the start of 2020, the group – consisting of Mary Dibb, Lesley Higson, Daphne Jepps and Diana Linford – was collating all the responses to the paper version of the questions in the Eco-Church award scheme. Realising their ignorance of many specific details in areas of the church's life, the members had sought that information from the people who really knew what we were – and weren't – doing in the areas of social justice and environmental action. We were then awaiting Canon Marion's arrival for her input too.

Once the first lock-down started, there was a bit of a lull – possibly as a result of our all being out in our gardens, allotments and greenhouses planting things and/or enjoying walks in the sunshine. All of which sought to remind us of the beauty and wonder, but also the man-made fragility, of God's creation.

Once we had lots more information, Diana undertook to do all the online work on inputting our information, at which point things started to pick up pace. The

results indicated that we were well on the way to the Silver award and provided areas to work on which were addressed in the summer and autumn. People who receive the weekly updates will have been aware of the weekly eco-tips which is one of the resulting initiatives. Another was to plan monthly themes to implement during 2021.

The Silver Award was made in November 2020 and the group – with regular input from Canon Marion and Liz Roodhouse – is now working towards the Gold award. We feel that this process has both raised ongoing awareness of the issues in the congregation and contributed to a sense of us all still actively working together, despite the physical limitations on mixing that covered most of 2020. It has also raised the profile of the parish, as one with a real heart for addressing social justice and environmental concerns and action, within the diocese.

Diana was appointed as the parish's Environmental Officer (a new role which the diocese was keen to implement) in September 2020 and Lesley remains as the group's representative on the PCC.

One of the big parallel activities was when Jemima Parker, the Diocese of Leeds Environmental Officer, made us aware of a 'webinar' (an online seminar) to be held in September to provide information about funding for a feasibility study of energy-generating schemes in rural communities. Diana, Lesley and Peter Edwards attended and afterwards looked at each other and thought "We've got to go for it". To say that, like Topsy, the project has 'just grown' could be one of the understatements of 2020! None of us envisaged how 'big' a parallel activity it would become over the next few months, nor how steep the learning curve we had embarked upon.

After considering various possibilities for combining St Mary's with other entities locally, it was decided to form a group of 5 churches into the Towards Carbon-Neutral Churches in Craven project with Holy Trinity in Skipton, St Augustine's in Draughton, St Mary's in Carleton and All Saints' in Burton in Lonsdale. One intentional characteristic of this grouping of churches is the range of settings (town centre and villages both close to a town and very rural; within and outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park etc), sizes and architectural types of the church buildings and the range of possible technologies to be explored if funding is granted. This is important as one of the stated aims of the group is to provide a template and a knowledge-base for other churches to draw upon in planning their

journeys towards carbon neutrality, which the Church of England aims to achieve by 2030.

St Mary's, Embsay with Eastby, is leading the project, with Diana as Project Leader, and a strong and cohesive group of people representing all the churches has brought a wealth of varied expertise and skills together – former lives involving engineering, law, funding bids, project management and listed building conservation proving very helpful. (Post-script: the funding bid was submitted in February 2021.)

All in all, despite its restrictions, 2020 was a very active year for St Mary's in the field of issues concerned with the environment and how society and the Church face up to the challenges this creates. Our faith does challenge us to be good stewards of Creation: to repair, as far as possible, the damage caused in the past and to create a better world – as God intended – for our own and future generations.

Lesley Higson, PCC Eco-champion and Diana Linford, Parish Environment Officer

A glimpse of how we have developed our Spirituality during the Pandemic

It seems right to add a little more detail than the formal Trustees report. So much has happened, there have been so many changes to our lives and we've responded in so many ways. Each of the items below is additional to the formal report and too long for this annual document, so they are simply listed. Each has stories to tell and so perhaps another more detailed booklet of these stories and reflections will emerge. Please do let me know if you want to contribute! *Marion*

- Our homes being places of Sunday worship shared with others online bring different insights to our lives
- Palm crosses for villagers and congregation to collect from the vicarage gate.
- Holy Week meditations with Compline by Zoom, Compline then remaining an ongoing part for our regular Monday-Friday worship
- Easter Eve vigil with readings by Zoom and a vigil fire in the vicarage garden which was tended visibly during the vigil.
- Home-made Crosses in our windows and gardens at Easter, on Facebook.

- Vicarage Cross built in stages from Maundy Thursday to Easter Day, with daily changes becoming a sign of hope for the whole village, remaining with regular changes in the flowers through Pentecost till the church opened again for private prayers
- CofE booklets *Prayers for use in the coronavirus outbreak* available free for villagers and congregation to collect from the vicarage gate (100 offered and taken)
- Posters advertising local, ecumenical and national worship arrangement placed in parish and church notice boards and outside the vicarage
- Zoom chats as a whole congregation and in breakout rooms after services to continue fellowship and social interaction
- Open meeting on Zoom reflecting on “We’ve found new ways to be church, in fellowship, worship and service” from Bishop Nick’s letter to the churches
- Pandemicords created by school pupils, villagers and church members (total length 18m comprising about 100 individually named cords)
- Creationtide celebrated this year for the first time, with structured discussions after services which engaged congregation members about our responsibilities and ways to support each other in practical responses for looking after our world and local environment
- Bible Sunday celebrated, with congregation members contributing to the service and to a display board of verses of the Bible that have proved sustaining in times of difficulty
- Churchwardens commissioned and ‘sworn in’ with the congregation in a Sunday service instead of a special service with the archdeacon.
- Twice weekly update newsletters by email and printed copies, with that week’s sermon, news, a prayer and other thoughts or reflections
- Sermons posted on the website, and eco page created.
- Prayer group moved to Zoom
- New embroidered ‘Ordinary Time’ banner dedicated
- Advent groups following the diocesan course *Follow Don’t Wallow* based on Bishop Nick’s recent book *Freedom is Coming*

- Crib displays loaned by congregation and villagers - in church, Daily posting of photos of these on our church Facebook page and Embsay Update, the village Facebook page became a simple Advent calendar with gentle comments
- Simplified Carols and Readings in church and on zoom
- Carols in the churchyard, short hourly gatherings on Christmas Eve to sing!
- Learning to express our care for each other in new ways as required by the varying pandemic conditions.
- Integrating congregation in church and on Zoom to be one gathered people for worship together.
- We held *Daily Prayers for the Nation* through the November lockdown as requested by our Archbishops – prayer links and booklet available, and gathering on Zoom with prayers led by clergy, congregation members and ecumenical friends.



Mothers Union 'Little Bags of Love'

Distributed to parents and carers bringing children for their first day at the primary schools in Embsay and Carleton



St Mary's Financial Statement for year ending 31st December 2020 and Operating Reserve Policy

St Mary the Virgin Parochial Church Council Operating Reserve Policy

This policy was approved by the PCC on 20th March, 2019 and signed on their behalf by Liz Roodhouse vice chair and Sue Stearn PCC secretary.

The purpose of the Operating Policy for St Mary the Virgin Parochial Church Council (PCC) is to make sure that the mission, programmes, employment and ongoing operations of the Church remain stable. The Operating Reserve is intended to provide an internal source of funds for situations such as a sudden increase in expenses, a significant drop in a source of income, one-time unbudgeted expenses and unexpected large repair-bills. Operating Reserves are not intended to replace a permanent loss of funds or eliminate an ongoing budget gap. As and when the Operating Reserves are used, it is the aim of St Mary the Virgin's PCC for the reserves to be replenished on a schedule agreed by themselves.

Definitions and Goals:

The Operating Reserve Fund is a designated fund set aside by action of the PCC. It is a dynamic fund and will be reviewed and adjusted in response to any internal and external changes as required.

The PCC aims to keep approximately three months of average Church operating costs in reserves as a minimum. The calculation of average monthly operating costs includes all recurring, predictable expenses such as salaries, utilities, charity payments, etc. Depreciation, in-kind, and other non-cash expenses are not included in the calculation. The amount of the Operating Reserve Fund will be calculated each year after the approval of the annual budget, reported to the PCC and included in the regular financial reports.

Accounting for Reserves:

The Operating Reserve Fund will be recorded in the financial records as PCC-Designated Operating Reserve. It will be funded and available in cash. Operating Reserves will be kept in the Operating Reserves Fund account (Parish deposit account) of St Mary the Virgin's PCC.

Funding of Reserves:

The PCC will aim to fund the Operating Reserve with surplus unrestricted operating funds where possible. The PCC may from time to time direct that a specific source of revenue be set aside for Operating Reserves. Examples may include one-time gifts or bequests, special grants or special appeals.

Use of Reserves

Use of Operating Reserves requires three steps:

- 1. Identification of appropriate use of reserve funds**
- 2. Authority to use operating reserves**
- 3. Reporting and monitoring**

1. Identification of appropriate use of reserve funds

The PCC will identify the need for access to reserve funds and confirm that the use is consistent with the purpose as described in this policy. This step will require analysis of the reason for the shortfall, the availability of any other sources of funds before using reserves and evaluation of the time period that the funds will be required and replenished.

2. Authority to use operating reserves

Authority for use of Operating Reserves lies with the PCC. The use of Operating Reserves will be reported to the PCC at a scheduled meeting, accompanied by the analysis and determination of the use of funds and a schedule for repayment.

3. Reporting and monitoring

The PCC is responsible for ensuring that the Operating Reserve Fund is maintained and used as described in this policy. Upon approval for the use of Operating Reserve funds, the Treasurer will maintain records for the use of funds and schedule for repayment with support from the PCC. The Treasurer will provide regular reports to the PCC of progress with regards to the repayment schedule.

Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years, at a minimum, by the PCC, or sooner if required by internal or external events or changes. Changes to the policy are to be agreed by the PCC.

St Mary's Church, Embsay with Eastby - Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Receipts and Payments Account

	Unrestricted Account	Restoration Account	Nominated Project Account	Bursary Account	Operating Reserves Account	Total 2020	Total 2019
RECEIPTS							
Voluntary Giving							
Tax Efficient Planned Giving	26,343.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	26,343.83	23,435.25
Other Planned Giving	1,832.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,832.00	2,454.00
Collections at Services	2,509.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,509.73	3,396.15
All Other Giving	3,870.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,870.97	414.00
Gift Aid/VAT recovered	11,384.98	0.00	522.13	0.00	0.00	11,907.11	15,672.67
Legacies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	17,337.19
Grants	4,500.00	0.00	2,180.00	0.00	0.00	6,680.00	10,220.00
	50,441.51	0.00	2,702.13	0.00	0.00	53,143.64	72,929.26
Activities for Generating Funds							
Activities for generating funds (note 4b)	3,326.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,326.01	7,076.11
Income from Investments							
Investment income	0.00	100.14	0.00	3.94	24.61	128.69	214.01
Church Activities							
Fees retained by PCC (funerals/weddings)	831.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	831.50	3,162.80
Other Incoming Resources							
Other voluntary receipts (note 4a)	1,320.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,320.60	9,455.82
Transfer in of funds from Restoration Account	6,978.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,978.41	9,850.59
Transfer in of funds from Nominated Project Account	10,078.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,078.00	51,859.46
Transfer in of funds from Bursary Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transfer in of funds from Operating Reserves Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,337.19
Transfer in of funds from Unrestricted Funds	0.00	7,088.00	4,500.00	0.00	0.00	11,588.00	11,459.74
	72,976.03	7,188.14	7,202.13	3.94	24.61	87,394.85	178,344.98
Payments							
Church Activities	62.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	62.00	1,297.15
Diocesan Parish Share	39,034.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	39,034.00	35,000.00
Transfers to PCC Nominated Project Fund	4,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,500.00	51,859.46
Transfer to Unrestricted funds	0.00	6,978.41	10,078.00	0.00	0.00	17,056.41	84,590.52
Transfer to Restoration Fund	7,088.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,088.00	25,406.15
Other payments (note 5)	21,361.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	21,361.24	17,125.26
	72,045.24	6,978.41	10,078.00	0.00	0.00	89,039.65	215,278.54
Excess of Receipts over Payments	930.79	209.73	-2,875.87	3.94	24.61	-1,644.80	-36,933.56
Balance brought forward 1st January	1,549.73	23,422.23	2,957.60	1,079.29	5,795.22	34,804.07	71,737.63
Balance carried forward 31st December	2,480.52	23,631.96	81.73	1,083.23	5,819.83	33,159.27	34,804.07
Statement of Assets							
HSBC Current Account	2,480.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,480.52	1,549.73
Operating Reserves Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,819.83	5,819.83	5,795.22
Restoration Fund	0.00	23,631.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,631.96	23,422.23
PCC Nominated Project Fund	0.00	0.00	81.73	0.00	0.00	81.73	2,957.60
Bursary Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,083.23	0.00	1,083.23	1,079.29
	2,480.52	23,631.96	81.73	1,083.23	5,819.83	33,097.27	34,804.07

The following notes form part of these financial statements

Approved by the PCC on:

And signed on their behalf by:

The Revd Canon Marion Russell (Vicar)

Jenny Johnson (PCC Treasurer)

26th February 2021
 Marion Russell
 JR Johnson

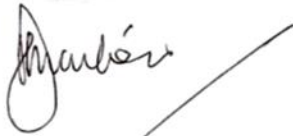
St Mary's Church, Embsay with Eastby - Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020							
Notes							
1	The Financial Statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Auditing Regulations using the Receipts and Payments basis.						
2	The only fixed asset retained for use is the church car park. Other assets are listed in the church inventory.						
3	The movements in other funds during the year were:						
		Bal B/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Bal C/fwd		
		£	£	£	£		
	Restoration Fund	23,422.23	7188.14	6978.41	23,631.96		
	Bursary Fund	1,079.29	3.94	0.00	1,083.23		
	Operating Reserves	5,795.22	24.61	0.00	5,819.83		
	Nominated Project (currently 'Windows')	2,957.60	7,202.13	10,078.00	81.73		
The Restoration Account (restricted) represents accumulated donations, appeals, bequests and legacies for fabric maintenance, which can only be spent for that purpose.							
The Bursary Account (restricted) was set up as part of the 150th anniversary celebrations to grant bursaries to young people living in the parish for educational travel according to the Declaration of Trust for St Mary's Embsay with Eastby Fund for Young People.							
The PCC Nominated Project Account holds the balance of income for current PCC nominated projects.							
The Operating Reserves Account (restricted) holds operating reserves money for the church.							
4	Receipts Analysis	Unrestricted Funds	Restoration Fund	PCC Nominated Project Fund	Bursary Fund	Total 2020	Total 2019
		£	£	£	£	£	£
	a. Other voluntary receipts:						
	Collections for missions & charities	132.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	132.50	985.14
	Gift Day	148.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	148.00	2,051.90
	Coffee Money	174.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	174.28	884.78
	Smiley Faces/Mothers Union	140.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	140.00	380.00
	Churchyard Activities	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	154.00
	Sundries	41.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	41.01	0.00
	Vicarage Utilities Refunds	674.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	674.81	0.00
		1,320.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	604.78	4,455.82
	b. Activities for generating funds:						
	Christmas Crafts	75.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	75.00	0.00
	Pig Race	1,140.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,140.50	0.00
	Windows Booklet	115.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	115.00	0.00
	Silent Auction	225.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	225.00	0.00
	Cake donations	27.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	27.00	0.00
	Jan Jam	502.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	502.00	0.00
	Lavendar Bag Sale	46.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	46.00	0.00
	Sponsored Steps	260.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	260.00	0.00
	Christmas Card Sales	133.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	133.00	712.00
	Car Park	15.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.00	0.00
	Community Café	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.00	30.00
	Cushions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	296.00
	Book Stall	291.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	291.50	0.00
	Plant Sales	293.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	293.01	0.00
	Tuesday Teas	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	700.00
	Other Fund Raising	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,338.11
		3,326.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,326.01	7,076.11
5	Payments Analysis	Unrestricted Funds	Restoration Fund	PCC Nominated Project Fund	Bursary Fund	Total 2020	Total 2019
		£	£	£	£	£	£
	Missionary & charitable giving	2367.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	2367.50	2,262.14
	Bursary Fund payments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Subscriptions	86.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	86.00	86.00
	Organist/Cleaner/Admin	1820.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1820.00	2,868.00
	Clergy expenses	1682.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	1682.57	394.64
	Phone/Printing/Stationery/Books	946.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	946.47	583.24
	Cost of services	2933.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	2933.76	398.36
	Church running expenses	4246.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	4246.98	4,742.34
	Upkeep of churchyard	73.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	73.03	425.60
	Buildings maintenance	6819.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	6819.93	4,427.94
	Fees	85.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	85.00	532.00
	Cost of coffee	51.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	51.00	151.00
	Sundries	249.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	249.00	254.00
		21361.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	21361.24	17,125.26
6	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.						

David Charlton, 6 St Mary's Green, Carleton, Skipton BD23 3DG
07860 383668 e-mail: davecharlton2002@hotmail.com

28 January 2021

**2020 Annual Financial Accounts for The Church of St.
Mary The Virgin Embsay with Eastby**

I confirm that the above accounts have been examined and confirmed correct according to the records provided and explanations given.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Charlton', with a long diagonal stroke extending from the end of the signature.

David Charlton
Independent Examiner

David Charlton, 6 St Mary's Green, Carleton, Skipton BD23 3DG
07860 383668 e-mail: davecharlton2002@hotmail.com

28 January 2021

**2020 Annual Financial Accounts for The Church of St.
Mary The Virgin Embsay with Eastby**

I confirm that the above accounts have been examined and
confirmed correct according to the records provided and
explanations given.



David Charlton
Independent Examiner