

**ST LAWRENCE CHURCH, BARNWOOD**  
**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

St Lawrence Church is situated in Church Lane, Barnwood. It is part of the Diocese of Gloucester within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Parish Office, 32 Church Lane, Barnwood, Gloucester, GL4 3JB.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission, registration number 1170167.

This report covers the period 1 January to 31 December 2020 which aligns with the church's financial year. However, election of officers and PCC members takes place at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, which normally takes place in April. In 2020 due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the APCM took place over Zoom on 30th September.

PCC members who have served from September 2020 until the date this report was approved are:

Incumbent:	Revd Rob Crofton
Associate Priest:	Revd Audrey Hayman
Readers:	Philip Jaekel, John Webster
Churchwardens:	Carole Jonah, Margaret Seyers
Deanery Synod Representatives:	Philip Jaekel (term ends 2023), Elizabeth Hinton (term ends 2021)
Secretary:	Kate Davies

Elected members (with year of required re-election in brackets):

Andrew Brown	elected 2016 re-elected 2019 (resigned 2021)
Frances Mulvey	elected 2016 re-elected 2019 (2022)
Robin Jones	elected 2017 re-elected 2020 (2023)
Jane Brown	elected 2018 (2021)
Andy Langley	elected 2019 (2022), Gift Aid Officer
Brian McBurnie	elected 2019 (2022)
Belinda Edge	elected 2020 (2023)
Janet Groves	elected 2020 (2023)
Bob Russell	elected 2020 (2023)

Non-elected officers, appointed by the PCC on 14-10-20

Kate Davies, Secretary  
Bob Hinton, Treasurer  
Bob Moss, Electoral Roll Officer

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **Structure, governance and management**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

St Lawrence PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical - in the ecclesiastical parish. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Parish Centre.

## **Membership and Attendance**

Membership of the Electoral roll changed very little this year. In April 2020 there were 92 names on the Electoral Roll (65 resident in the parish, 31 non-resident). In September 2020 there were 90 names on the Electoral Roll, 65 resident in the parish, 30 non-resident.

An average of 72 people watched our video services and 24 attended Sunday services included in the annual count taken in October. Special services in Advent and at Christmas could not take place in person but views of our special video services reached over 679 people.

## **Objectives and Activities for 2021-22**

Our aim in the year ahead is to grow in our vision "to know and share the love of Jesus".

To help us achieve this we will:

- Renew our pattern of services, to create more varied opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to encounter Jesus in worship
- Reach out with the message of Jesus, providing courses for people to explore the Christian faith and grow as disciples.
- Show the love of Jesus in action in our community, especially by increasing awareness of the climate and nature crisis and helping people to take practical action to care for God's creation.

## **PCC**

The PCC met 8 times in the year, mainly on Zoom. Each meeting included standing items such as team reports (including finance and buildings), safeguarding, reports on Deanery Synod and on Barnwood Primary School. In addition the PCC discussed matters including the establishment of a new Church Centre and Staff Management Committee, and the Church's role in hosting the FareShare project. There was a high level of focus on maintaining worship services (in person and online) throughout the pandemic as well as work to make our buildings "Covid-Secure".

## **Leadership and Administration**

The Vicar's Sounding Board group did not meet due to the pandemic although Rob continued to meet the churchwardens and deputy wardens online to discuss Covid-related and other matters and to receive support.

The PCC meets the requirements of the new General Data Protection Regulations and continues to be vigilant in assuring proper use of data. Email lists are used to contact various groups within the congregation in accordance with the PCC's legitimate purposes and the parish office is now using a cloud hosted, web-based church management system (Churchsuite) which is helping to streamline communications and to provide a weekly Vicar's Newsletter.

Gillian King stepped down as Churchwarden this year as she relocated to Scotland to begin a new life. She will be much missed as she has made a tremendous contribution to the life of St Lawrence. Margaret Seyers agreed to take on the role of warden to work alongside Carole Jonah and together with Assistant Warden, Bob Russell, they continued to support the vicar in these challenging times.

The PCC also owes special thanks to Angela Sturdy and Pat Barnes, Parish administrators. Sadly, we had to say goodbye to Pat as she felt the time had come to retire. Sally Jaekel has kept the Centre in excellent condition and has shouldered extra responsibility ensuring the centre is Covid-safe. Fred Broady, the church groundsman, has kept on top of the huge amount of work required to keep the churchyard looking



beautiful. PCC is very grateful to Andrew Brown, Buildings Team lead, who has ensured that all jobs, big and small, have been successfully completed. Andrew has now decided to step back from all these responsibilities and we are pleased that Janet Groves is now chairing the Buildings Team. Paul Black is acting on Health and Safety matters and has been a tower of strength during the pandemic, Bob Russell is taking on some responsibilities for churchyard matters and Andrew Sturdy along with Angela Sturdy is taking a lead role in maintaining the Parish centre.

## **PASTORAL CARE AND COMMUNICATION**

### **Pastoral Care Team**

In April 2020, a new pastoral care team was set up to respond to the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on the church community across the parish, when meeting for worship, prayer and fellowship was no longer possible and pastoral care would need to be organised in a different way.

The team of 12 members is led and coordinated by Jane Brown and consists of Clergy, Readers, wardens, and others already involved in pastoral care. Contact details are publicised in the weekly news so that people can get in touch if they would like support or prayers.

Pastoral visiting of people in their own homes was not possible last Spring, and whilst many people could keep in touch via their computer there were some who did not have this opportunity and could feel isolated from church life, missing worship and fellowship. Where this was the case a weekly Worship from Home service sheet and Vicar's message were hand delivered.

During the last year, many people have received regular pastoral support, through a telephone call, or doorstep visit when permissible, from a member of the team. Others have heard about the team and asked for prayers especially at times of illness, bereavement or worry. Where prayers are requested, whole team praying can be offered and further support given if required. In all contacts, members of the pastoral care team have offered a friendly voice, care and prayer and a connectedness to the St Lawrence church community.

### **Safeguarding**

Jane Brown was reappointed as Parish Safeguarding Officer for St Lawrence in 2020 and continues to act as key link between Gloucester Diocese and the parish concerning safeguarding matters.

Safeguarding is a standing agenda item at each PCC meeting and the Trustees are aware of their responsibilities as outlined in the Church of England and House of Bishops Parish Safeguarding Handbook. Disclosure and Barring checks and renewals for all relevant post holders and roles have been processed efficiently and policies renewed and signed off when due.

There has been a Church of England review of safeguarding training and to increase the level of consistency nationally a new online training programme has been implemented. This programme is now being accessed by those who are required to train or refresh according to the role or work they do for St Lawrence. Robust training will help to develop the culture of safeguarding in the church community. Jane has completed the Leadership level training.

### **Communications**

The pandemic and the lockdowns brought isolation and meant we quickly had to establish regular means of communication to keep people in touch with what was going on. We developed this on a number of fronts. Central to our strategy was the start of a '**Vicar's weekly email**', compiled by Rob and sent out from the Office on Thursday each week, using our new Churchsuite database of contacts. This has kept people up to date with what is happening in the life of the church, and also provided subjects for people's prayers. It has replaced for the time being the weekly 'notice sheets' in church. We also created a list of all church members who do not have easy access to the internet, and offered them to receive a **printed copy of the weekly email**. These have been hand-delivered, mainly by Sally Jaekel (our Church Centre Manager), but



also by volunteers Jane Brown (Pastoral Care Coordinator) and Elizabeth Hinton, along with the weekly 'Worship at Home' materials. In this way we have attained a regular weekly communication with everyone in our church family, including those who are physically unable to get out to church, which we had never managed before.

With the advent of the video services, the church **website** has been updated and used much more regularly, and we have created a St Lawrence **Youtube Channel** as a home for all our videos. In addition to the website, we publicise events on our **A Church Near You** page, the C of E's official 'shop window' for people looking for a service or event near them. And the church **Facebook page**, administered and kept up to date by Kate Davies, has a regular following and is another means of telling various communities about what is happening at St Lawrence. Various **WhatsApp** groups are used within the church for planning and keeping groups up to date, including a 'Families' WhatsApp group for those with younger families or grandchildren. Finally, one important means of communicating with the many who pass our Church buildings and grounds is our **noticeboards**, and Angela Sturdy has kept these up to date with the latest news about services etc.

## OUR WORSHIP AND DISCIPLESHIP

### Worship during Lockdown

Our life as a worshipping community was greatly marked by the effects of the pandemic and the three lockdowns. During the first lockdown (March-June 2020) we were not allowed to use our church building, and we quickly had to generate new ways of enabling people to worship in their homes and stay connected to one another. We began producing video services which were well received (many thanks to Robin Jones and Nina Crofton for their work on editing), we produced weekly printed 'Worship at Home' materials for those without access to the internet, and we established a weekly online 'Coffee' time via Zoom, for fellowship and conversation on a Sunday morning. In the autumn we began holding a weekly service of Holy Communion at 9.00am, but this was suspended again at the start of the third lockdown (January 2021) out of recognition for the seriousness of the Covid situation. At both Christmas and Easter we were able to provide a variety of services and ways for people to celebrate these major festivals, both online and in person. At Easter these included outdoor services for Good Friday and Easter day, which allowed people to gather and sing (singing has not been allowed in church throughout this period).

After Christmas we introduced a monthly 'All Age' video service, with more elements for families and children. It has been good for many of us to be able to return to church recently, and we look forward to welcoming everyone once the restrictions are lifted. I offer my sincere thanks to all the members of the Worship Team for their partnership in planning and leading our worship, and their hard work and many contributions this year (Rev. Audrey Hayman, Canon John Webster, Phil Jaekel, Kate Davies, Robin Jones, and churchwardens Margaret Seyers and Carole Jonah). *Rev. Rob Crofton*

### Church Choir

The beginning of 2020 started well for our Choir. After completing our special services for Christmas, we continued to sing regularly at our main 9:45am service. Unfortunately, with COVID-19 hitting us, we had to stop singing in our Church building. We have, however, kept singing independently of one another and have also joined a few Royal School of Church Music online events. Sadly, we lost Annabel Taylor on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2020. Annabel was a highly valued member of the Choir and had sung for many years including playing for occasional services such as Baptisms. Annabel is terribly missed by all of us and we look forward to the time when we can give her a truly musical send off – including many of her favourites from Don Besig. The Choir continue to be in contact with one another going into 2021, and are looking forward to returning to singing in our beautiful Church. *Robin Jones – Director of Music*



## **Bell Ringing**

We have all missed the sound of bell ringing during the last year. Bell ringing is a group activity and takes place in a small room where we stand elbow to elbow and the ventilation is limited, hence there has been little ringing since 23rd March 2020 due to the Coronavirus pandemic, 3 national lockdowns and various levels of restrictions between times. We did manage some ringing on 3 or 4 of the 8 bells in August and September following thorough risk assessments and the wielding of the tape measure to ensure social distancing between ringers. We also had to make use of hand sanitiser and wear masks whilst in the tower. We were only able to ring 4 bells when ringers from 2 families were available. In addition we were able to toll the tenor for Remembrance Day. Some of the band are making the most of being able to ring virtually using a ringing programme written for us due to the pandemic so we've been able to practise methods (or tunes) but we're hoping muscle memory will help with the real exercise of handling a rope when we are eventually invited back into the tower.

We look forward to calling the congregation to services again and hope that it won't be too long until we're all vaccinated and back at St Lawrence's.

*Frances Mulvey – Tower Captain*

## **Church Flowers**

Unfortunately, the Flower Team have not been able to arrange any flowers in the Church for the past year, except for Christmas. The Church was open for a short time over that period so that arrangers were able to decorate with Holly, Ivy and some silk flowers and a Christmas wreath. Sadly, Michael Gent died early this year from Covid. He was a very experienced and talented flower arranger and will be greatly missed, arranging at the Flower Festivals and his beautiful pedestal arrangements in the Chancel. Thank you to Robin Peacey for a donation in memory of Bridget, money to be used for any purpose connected with flowers for the Church. Looking forward to this year, we hope it won't be too long before our flower arrangers are able to bring some colour back into our lovely Church.

*June Edwards*

## **OUR CONTACTS WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY**

### **Barnwood Church of England Primary School**

Our close relationship with the school was maintained, although the opportunities for interaction were much reduced due to the pandemic. For most of the period Rob was not able to go into school to do assemblies, and our Open the Book team was suspended. We were also not able to host school services in church. We shared video services with the school, such as the ISingPop Christmas Celebration (280 views on Youtube) and our Climate Sunday service.

In May and June, we ran a nature art and writing competition for children at Barnwood C of E Primary School, celebrating British wildlife. This was a very appropriate theme for lockdown, and each child received an e-book with fun facts and a photo of 26 British animal and plant species, from Auks (like puffins) to Zebra spiders. The children were invited to choose one species, find another fascinating fact and create a picture of their plant or animal. We received a wonderful number of creative contributions, from painted newts and hedgehogs to collaged eider ducks and mistletoe. Each entrant received a prize, either a nature themed adventure novel or a craft set, and all entries can be admired at: [Barnwood C of E Primary School - Art Competition \(barnwoodprimary.co.uk\)](http://Barnwood C of E Primary School - Art Competition (barnwoodprimary.co.uk))

We had some lovely feedback from teachers and families in response to the competition; it was a welcome distraction and opportunity to be creative during lockdown. Rob went into the school just before Easter 2021 to deliver Fair Trade (Real) Easter eggs with mini-activity booklets about Easter. He went into each classroom to share about the Easter story and hand out the gifts, which were very generously sponsored by a congregation member. Many thanks!

*Rob and Petra Crofton*



## **Families and youth work**

### Explore Creation (for families) and the HUB youth group

#### *Communications and social media*

throughout the pandemic we have connected with families through the Explore Creation (closed) Facebook group and the HUB (closed) Facebook group. We have reached out with ideas for activities and (online) events, assured families of our prayers and invited the group members to get in touch if there was anything we could do for them, pastorally or practically. We have offered various self-guided nature-based art and outdoor activities, which were much appreciated.

#### *In person activities and contact*

Just before Christmas we invited everyone to take part in a socially distanced Christingle(-making) trail in the arboretum, which was well received. Despite the wind and drizzle we had some 8 families taking part. We offered an Easter trail for families on Holy Saturday (2021), again with staggered start times and well-spaced stations. About 120 people signed up (30 families) and we had some 30 spontaneous takers (people who happened to be in the park and arboretum that afternoon). This trail explained the story of Jesus from Palm Sunday until Easter Sunday, the origins of Easter and its traditions and challenged the children to answer questions, make little crafts, look out for signs of spring in the arboretum and hunt for plastic eggs, to be exchanged for chocolate ones. All in all we had a wonderful afternoon, with lots of conversations and opportunity to (re)connect with families.

In the lead-up to Christmas we visited each family connected to the church through services, Explore Creation, and baptism and wedding ministry. We gave them a FairTrade Advent calendar with the Christmas story explained, an invitation to Christmas services and a craft pack for the children. The HUB youth received a Fair Trade chocolate bar, a woodwork craft and some other Christmas crafts. This was a good opportunity to reconnect with all these families. This outreach was repeated just before Easter (2021), when we visited 30 families on their doorstep to give them a Real Easter egg (Fair Trade chocolate) for each child, and the invitation for our Easter services. Once again, we had wonderful conversations and many families came to one or more Easter events. We are very grateful to our anonymous donors who generously paid for the chocolate calendars and Easter eggs. Thank you!

We did QR trail in the park in September for the HUB youth group, with a picnic, talk and some ball games. We also managed to host two HUB sessions just before the lockdown in January, with fire building and barbecuing sausages and marshmallows over our individual fires. All COVID regulation were met, and we had a wonderful time with some 24 young people. During the first weekend of May we are resuming our HUB activities with (outdoor) wood whittling sessions and pizza. We are hoping to offer two more summer activities after May. We have split the group into two, so we can more easily work within the current COVID restrictions. We are very grateful to Steve Hutchinson from Scripture Union for giving his time and sharing his skills and wisdom with us in a volunteer capacity. Without him, an outdoor youth group such as the HUB would not be possible. Most of our children are currently in Y6 at Barnwood C of E primary school or are former pupils. The group is very committed and keen and parents have been incredibly supportive. We are looking forward to carrying on and expanding this valuable youth ministry in the coming months.

*Petra Crofton*

### **Fareshare, Barnwood**

After approximately 6 months the Barnwood Fareshare project has been operating from the St Lawrence Church Centre. Councillor David Brown with Lindsey Meek and myself meet every Tuesday morning to sort out non-perishable food stock, which David has collected from a local central distribution point. Food is donated by Super Markets, Manufacturers and DEFRA which is re-distributed to locations like St Lawrence. More recently, parents of pupils who attend Barnwood School, have donated food to Fareshare. Parishioners of St Lawrence have made donations. Once the food donations are sorted by type, food

parcels are created and currently delivered weekly to approximately 15 families locally. Recently, we have agreed that the St Lawrence Centre, after the pandemic, will also start to include the Hucclecote area.

*Paul Black*

### **Food Bank**

The 2020 certificate from Gloucester Foodbank gives the following information: the total weight of donations from St Lawrence Church during 2020 amounted to 454.7kg. This is compared to 815.75kg in 2019. Bearing in mind that the 2020 amount of 454.7kg only comprises donations brought into the office this is a very creditable amount and grateful thanks are due to those who contributed in this way.

In addition to food donations delivered directly to the church, many people have been donating in their local supermarkets or sending monetary donations to Gloucester Foodbank.

We would also like to thank Angela Sturdy for taking on the task of delivering the food donations from St Lawrence Church to Gloucester Foodbank on a regular basis.

*Jenny Moss*

### **Comfort and Joy – Christmas meals**

We were delighted to join with the Gloucester Diocese and the Long Table in providing a delicious cooked meal for people who needed a bit of extra love this Christmas. It could be grandparents who had to spend Christmas on their own, people in the community who we knew were vulnerable, parents with a newborn baby, or just a lovely Christmas offering of a meal, a gift from our church family.

We identified 48 neighbours and church family members who would benefit and be blessed by these meals. The Long Table meals were nutritious traditional Christmas meals suitable for meat-eaters, vegetarians, vegans and for those who needed gluten free meals, provided in containers which could be frozen, cooked in a microwave or cooked in an oven. We collected the meals from Long Table in Stroud which came in individual gift bags including place mats, party hats and Christmas cards.

Members of St Lawrence Church made and laminated book marks, cooked minced pies and shortbread, ordered books for children and adults from the J.John website and included these in the bags as a blessing from us in addition to what the Long Table provided. A small team of volunteers then delivered the meals during the week of Christmas.

It was a privilege to deliver the meals to people, especially neighbours who do not attend church. During this year of Covid and lockdowns it was wonderful to be able to come together as a church family to bless others.

*Carole Jonah*

### **THANK YOU**

The PCC's thanks go to everyone who has contributed to the running of every aspect of our Church life during this difficult year. This report is evidence of the great number of activities and events which have happened in and around the church despite the restrictions Covid has imposed. We are fortunate to enjoy the tireless work, positive support and generosity from so many volunteers, without whom our contribution to the community would be so much less. In the same way, the PCC acknowledges the work of each member of the Ministry Team who, together with our Vicar, provide the leadership for our worshipping life.



## **REPORT ON THE FABRIC, GOODS AND ORNAMENTS OF THE CHURCH 2020**

This report was made to the Parochial Church Council [PCC] under Section 50 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018 and has been approved for presentation to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

### **Background**

Ecclesiastical Exemption enables organisations like the C of E and other denominations to manage their own buildings without the need to obtain Listed Building Consent for routine repairs. This valuable concession is given on the basis that each diocese effectively manages its churches to a high standard in accordance with conservation best practice. In our case, we have the support of the Gloucester Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) made up of a panel of highly experienced church architects, structural engineers, and specialists in stained glass, pipe organs, church furnishings and the like. Part of the management process requires a five yearly (quinquennial) inspection of the church and the churchyard by an architect or surveyor with appropriate conservation qualifications. As well as routine maintenance, the architect will look at structural stability to ensure that pinnacles or parapets do not fall off the tower, that visitors can safely walk through the churchyard without tripping, that trees and boundaries are maintained, and the church contents are in good order. The resulting report is then used by our own 'Buildings Team' as the basis for its maintenance and repair programme over the ensuing five years, according to urgency.

### **Listed Building and Listed Monuments**

St Lawrence Church is a Grade II\* Listed Building (List Entry Number: 1271586), dating from around 1150. Its north aisle, arcading and lady chapel were added in the 13<sup>th</sup> Century and the tower is reputed to date from around 1514, attributed to Abbot Parker. Additional 'Listings' are given for two table tombs (1271587) near the north side of the tower and an early memorial (1419345) inscribed 'Elizabeth Bayliss 1635'. The Bayliss headstone is the earliest monument within the churchyard and is described as a rare example of a pre-1650 headstone. Exact details of the Listings can be found at [The List Search Results for Barnwood | Historic England](https://historicengland.org.uk/) (<https://historicengland.org.uk/>)

This report deals with the church and its contents, the surrounding churchyard, church field and the church centre for the year 2020.

### **Quinquennial Inspection (QI)**

- Jessica Holland BA(Hons) Dip Arch PhD AABC from the practice of Donald Insall Associates (Bath office) continues with ongoing projects. Jessica is a teaching fellow at Bath University and an advisor to Bristol DAC as well as listed for QI inspections in Gloucester Diocese.

Outstanding work from the 2016 QI, some of which is advisory, includes the eroding stonework around the south doorway of the church, repair of the north porch rainwater drainage and levelling of footpaths in the churchyard.

- Our next Quinquennial Inspection is due in 2021 and arrangements are in hand.

### **Church**

- There were no additions, removal or repairs to the church contents in 2020.
- Progress towards repair of the south doorway stonework has been hampered by the difficulty of finding suitable replacement sandstone for the badly deteriorating bluish coloured sandstone mouldings. The search is now over, settling on 'pennant' sandstone from one of the Forest of Dean quarries. The architect has been instructed to obtain tenders for the work required.



- **North Porch Rainwater Drainage**  
Investigation of a blocked drain serving the north porch in late 2019 discovered a major infestation of tree roots. Referral to Ecclesiastical Insurance gained some assistance through a specialist drainage investigation company and agreement that at least some of the damage was covered by the church insurance policy. Replacement of the fractured cast iron down pipe and the installation of a new drain and soakaway was completed in early 2020.
- **Fixed Electrical Wiring & Portable Appliance Testing.**  
The church wiring and portable electrical appliances were tested in November under our five-yearly programme and passed as satisfactory. Minor recommendations were dealt with by the Buildings Team.
- **Lightning Conductor**  
Inspected in March 2020 by our usual contractor and found to be in good working order. We have decided to drop the frequency of testing from 12 monthly to 30 months. This follows discussion with Ecclesiastical Insurance and will achieve some saving in costs.
- **Sanctus Bellcote**  
Occasional leakage from the Sanctus bellcote above the chancel arch was noted on at least two occasions in 2020 and has been reported to the architect. The problem seems to occur in heavy weather and is most likely due to breakdown of the pointing at the edge of the clay tiles. This will be further investigated in 2021 as part of the quinquennial inspection.

## **Churchyard & Church Field**

- **Clinch Memorials**  
Representations were received from the 'Clinch' family in early 2020 concerning two memorials temporarily relocated when the church centre was built in 2000. This was to clear a space for the builder's yard area, required for the storage of materials and plant while the construction work took place. However, over the course of a two-year construction project, the intended return of the memorials was overlooked by both the PCC and the Clinch family until very recently. On review of the construction records, the PCC readily agreed to honour the original undertaking and the memorials were returned to their original positions.
- **Trees & Hedges**  
The four exceptionally large oak trees in the north-west of the churchyard, the current area for burials, required attention to remove a significant accumulation of dead wood on safety grounds. Our usual tree surgeon, who has looked after the trees for many years, commented on the unexpected degree of die-back. Perhaps a sign of climate change? The work was completed after consultation with the local authority tree officer and approval by our archdeacon. The Church Lane hedge received its annual cut in late July, once bird nesting was over, and a dead silver birch removed from near the double gated Church Lane entrance in October.
- **Churchyard levelling** - excess spoil from new graves was used to level several depressions in the churchyard. Grass seed was sown after breaking down the very heavy clay subsoil. Fine summer weather and near drought conditions in June and July meant that occasional watering was required, though with a good result.
- **Winter flooding** has affected the north west of the churchyard for many years, especially after heavy winter rain. The occasional surface ponding usually drains away within a day or two. However, the PCC is starting to receive complaints from those tending graves due to a perceived increase in the amount of flooding, made worse by two consecutive very wet winters. The problem has now spread to incorporate part of the area reserved for the interment of ashes, especially the area in front of 'Kirsty's Bench'. Discussions have taken place with the families affected, our usual gravedigger, the DAC and one of the local monumental masons, for ideas on how the problem might be resolved. So far, no simple solution has come to light and further investigation will be required in 2021. One wonders if this is another example of climate change, predicted to increase the frequency and severity of flooding events.



- The well-used water butt collapsed in June due to a perished plinth and some settlement of the ground. Opportunity was taken to fit a long planned second water butt to deal with frequent running dry of water supplies in the summer months. Thanks have been received from several churchyard visitors.
- Churchyard Working Party – Cancelled due the Covid pandemic.
- Topple Testing - Deferred until 2021.  
The field was cut once, in June, with some patches left to encourage wildflowers and wildlife. Experimental sowing of yellow rattle in 2019 was mostly unsuccessful due to severe competition from the aggressive and dominant couch grass. Further trials are planned for 2021 with a wider range of wildflower seeds.

## **Church Centre**

- Routine maintenance for the centre ranges from blocked sinks and leaking toilets to replacement of batteries in the emergency lighting system as well as organising servicing of the fire extinguishers and the fire alarm. The building remains in generally excellent condition both in terms of structure and contents. Sally Jaekel keeps the interior to a remarkably high standard and must be congratulated for frequent compliments about the clean and tidy condition from the many visiting groups using the facility.
- While bookings have been reduced throughout 2020 due to the Covid pandemic, those that have continued – food parcel distribution, the AA support group and from time to time when permitted, exercise classes, have required enhanced cleaning in accordance with our own Covid protocols and the Government's 'Covid Secure' guidelines. Sally, Angela and Pat must be congratulated in running a tight ship in terms of our Covid precautions.

The condition of the bin store beneath the spiral fire escape steps is, however, a cause for concern due to continual water ingress. There is little that can be done to deal with the fundamental issue of no waterproofing beneath the steps, omitted from the original design. While not an immediate structural problem, it does prevent storage of anything other than the plastic waste bin.

- Passenger Lift  
Passenger lifts are expensive things to maintain! The regulations require us to have routine servicing every quarter (by Curti Lifts) plus separate half-yearly statutory inspection by an approved inspector, in our case by British Engineering. The latter has required the undertaking of a periodic (every ten years) 'rupture valve test' at a cost of about £1,200 plus VAT. This is the testing of a safety device that prevents the lift from crashing to the floor if the hydraulic lifting mechanism were to catastrophically fail. The work has been booked with PCC approval and should be completed in early 2021.
- A new external light (LED) was fitted to the church centre stair turret in November to deal with a dark patch in the courtyard, kindly funded by a parishioner. It operates on a dusk to dawn sensor and will provide all night illumination to at least part of the courtyard area.

## **Fixed Electrical Wiring & Portable Appliance Testing.**

Inspection of the fixed wiring and portable electrical appliances was undertaken in November under our five-yearly programme. While mainly in particularly good condition, problems were found with a disintegrated emergency light fitting, water logging of unused but 'live' wiring in the bin store and evidence of overheating affecting one of the circuit breakers. Two of the circuit breakers require replacement. The system is safe but further minor works are required in early 2021 before a test certificate can be issued.

## **Buildings Team**

In normal times, the Buildings Team meets quarterly to discuss and plan a maintenance programme for the premises and organise repair works. Unfortunately, the Covid-19 pandemic starting in March reduced our



meetings to once in January and again by video link in December. Planned working parties were cancelled and topple testing of the churchyard memorials deferred until later in 2021. That said, we have managed to make good progress in the year as per the above report and we are well placed for our 2021 Quinquennial Inspection.

Membership in 2020 comprised Andrew Brown as Chair and Secretary supported by Alan Seyers, Andrew Sturdy, John Holland, Brian McBurnie, Peter Walker and Bob Russell. Our wardens, Margaret and Gillian, attended as ex officio officers.

New volunteers are always welcome, especially those with practical skills and able to help with routine building maintenance or working in the churchyard. Please speak to any member of team if you can help in any way.

On a personal note, after several years of fascinating work and the forming of many friendships, the writer has decided to retire from the Buildings Team. This will be with effect from the end of January 2021 and is made possible by a very generous offer from Janet Groves, who has kindly agreed to take on the role of Chair. Moreover, plans are in place to reallocate specific work areas amongst team members to ensure a smooth transition, and whom I must thank most sincerely for their long and loyal support.

**BARNWOOD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

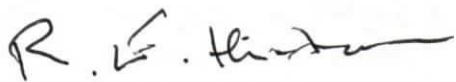
**Basis of Accounts**

The accounts for PCC of St Lawrence Church in the parish of Barnwood have been prepared on a "Receipts and Payments" basis using the "Cash Book" accounting program provided by the Gloucester Diocesan Board of Finance for this purpose. The Version Number is V5.2 - 2 issued December 2015.

The final accounts have been independently examined by Mr Andrew Matson.

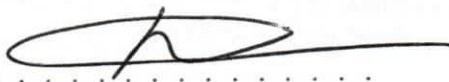
These accounts and their examination are, to the best of the PCC's knowledge, compliant with the requirements of the Charities Act 1993 and those of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), 2005 revisions.

Robert Hinton



(Treasurer)

Andrew Matson



(Independent Examiner)

Approved by members of the Parochial Church Council and signed on their behalf by:

Rob Crofton



(Vicar)

Margaret Seyers



(Church Warden)

**DATE:**

17<sup>th</sup> March 2021



## 1. Overview

The past year has been dominated by Covid 19 which has financially challenged many organisations. St Lawrence Church has been no exception.

**Table 1 – Receipts and Payments** shows all of the cash which passed through the PCC's accounts over the year separated into unrestricted, designated and restricted cash components by category together with a comparison with total income from 2019 and a summary of the PCC's financial balances at the end of the year.

The significant points to note are:

- a) The PCC carried forward into the year from 2019 total cash and investment assets of **£124,139**. This was divided into the usual three fund types.
- b) It received income across all activities of **£77,374**, (2019 - £111,149), a significant reduction compared to 2019 by 30%. The biggest hits on unrestricted cash were taken on hall lettings - down £11,500; annual fetes and events – down £6,500; and parochial fees – down £4,000.
- c) It spent **£102,765** (2019 – £112,968) a much smaller reduction of 10% compared with 2019 and mainly arising from reducing costs across-the-board and cutting out virtually all charitable donations including £2,000 to Barnwood School.
- d) Expenditure exceeded income to give a net deficit of **£25,391** (2019 - £1,819).
- e) Our investment portfolio grew in capital value by **£6,245**, and we finished the year with net cash and investment assets of **£104,993** to carry forward into 2021.

The PCC had anticipated much of this deficit in its R & P when it set its unrestricted budget for the year with a net deficit of around £11,000. In addition it expected the drawdown of Restricted funds of £2,100 from the LIFE initiative and a churchyard insurance claim, both received into the accounts the previous year (2019). The effective additional loss for 2020 compared to budget, and most likely due to Covid, was therefore around £12,000.

The decision to agree this deficit budget at the beginning of 2020 was not taken lightly by the PCC, but it was secure in the knowledge that it held more than sufficient available reserves (unrestricted and designated) of nearly £90,000 to meet such a shortfall. The PCC also anticipated a giving campaign during the year to shrink this shortfall.

A Pie Chart summary of the breakdown of income and expenditure is shown in **Figure 1**.

**Table 2 – Account balances** shows the PCC's portfolio of cash and investment assets along with their net growth and drawdown. Note that the opening and closing balances in the accounts show minor discrepancies in the R & P accounts due to rounding.

The significant points to note are:

- a) The majority of assets, £92,834 out of £104,990 (88%), are now maintained in professionally managed investment funds and these, historically, have shown significant capital growth and provided a good dividend income.
- b) Four funds have been drawn upon, including closure of one fund, to meet the deficit, these being from the general account, the Church Meadow Fund, the Reserve Account and the Church Music Fund.

## 2. Notes to the Accounts

Referring to Table 1

- (1) **Total giving (£40,377 + £12,026 = £52,403)** – this held up well overall during the Pandemic and the outturn was on budget forecast and only 3% short of 2019 levels. Much of the reason for this was the Gift Day, which raised £8,600 prior to GA tax reclaim. This compared favourably with the 2019 Gift Day which raised around half of that.

The Giving Campaign during the year only appeared to have a marginal impact on planned regular giving and of course. During the year there was a substantial drop-off in cash and envelopes from the usual church plate collections due to far fewer services and lower attendance levels. However, it may well have assisted with the Gift Day, the income from which compensated for this drop off.

The church plate collections and the envelope scheme now form a much smaller proportion of overall income as we strive to achieve as much of our regular income as possible via the Parish Giving Scheme or via standing orders which are less sensitive to short term fluctuations in service frequency and attendance levels.

- (2) **Income tax recovered (£8,573)** – this appears £4,000 short of the 2019 levels, but it is mainly due to delays in submitting some of the Gift Aid claims to HMRC for 2020 as well as the 3% reduction in income compared to 2019 and a lower proportion of Gift Aided donations. Back-dated GA claims are now being submitted and should pay out around £2,500 early in 2021.
- (3) **Hall lettings (£5,687)** – these were much reduced on 2019 levels due to a reduction in the need for off-site meeting facilities by the City and County Councils, the NHS and the Social Care sector. Clubs and societies (e.g. Yoga, baby massage, Probus and floristry classes) also cancelled the majority of their bookings just after the beginning of the pandemic and some credits will need to be issued in 2021.
- (4) **Fund raising events (£154)** – the only event that actually took place in 2020 was a Parish Breakfast in February.
- (5) **Interest and Dividends (£2,934)** – this was reduced marginally on 2019 levels as we drew down some of our reserves to fund the deficit. This is particularly significant with the sale of some of the Music Fund Shares with their much higher dividends compared to the interest rates on our cash accounts.
- (6) **Parochial Fees (£6,263)** – also much reduced compared to 2019 as only four weddings were held during the year, in other years we have held as many as 10. Funerals were also reduced as most people opted to use the Crematorium.
- (7) **Other income (£1,360)** – this was largely due to cash that passed through the PCC's accounts for restricted or designated use. Much of it arose from wedding fees that were paid back under "Other Costs", see (14) below.
- (8) **Donations and grants to charities (£555)** – these comprised only the restricted cash collected during the early part of the year at Sunday morning coffee gatherings for Christian Aid of £295, half of which was carried forward from 2019.



We also paid £260 for 52 meals to be delivered to people and families via the Long Table Appeal. A further £140 of collected cash is being carried over for future donation to the LTA. After careful consideration the PCC made the difficult decision that they could not afford to make their normal donation of £2,000 to Barnwood School, due to the impact that the Pandemic has had on church income during the year.

- (9) **Parish Share (£64,238)** - the PCC committed to this level of Parish Share at the commencement of 2020 and met that commitment in full. It accounted for over 90% of its income for the year.
- (10) **Church running expenses (£7,026)** – these appear 10% higher than 2019 despite using the church far less. They comprised:
  - The restricted component arose from spending the claim paid out by Ecclesiastical Insurance for repairs to the guttering on the porch in 2019. In addition, the restricted Warren bequest was used to fund the specifications to repair the South door stonework.
  - The designated component was the use of the dividends from the Music Fund to fund the Director of Music's stipend,
  - Unrestricted cash funded a fall arrester to facilitate escape from the tower and the electrical safety testing and maintenance of the fixed wiring, lightning conductors, portable appliances and the fire extinguishers.
- (11) **Churchyard maintenance (£1,734)** – this was primarily the costs of employing contractors to cut the boundary hedges, fell a large dead oak and flail church field. Andrew Brown maintained the churchyard machinery, but numerous spare parts were still required. The Groundsman's hourly payments are accounted under "Staff Costs" below. The restricted grant from the War Graves Commission, together with restricted dividends from the Churchyard fund were used to finance general churchyard work and fuel for the machinery as the actual graves required no specific maintenance.
- (12) **Cost of Raising Funds (£5,318)** – this is essentially the costs of running the Church Centre together with the very small costs of holding fund raising activities. Centre running costs included the general repairs and routine maintenance, energy, water, lift servicing, building insurance, fixed wiring and portable appliance testing, Covid PPE, etc. It was considerably less than 2019 as the Centre was used much less than usual. However, we can expect some larger lift maintenance costs in 2021.
- (13) **Administration costs (£16,851)** - these were largely the costs of paying staff together with all office costs for telecoms, printing, postage, etc. The advent of on-line communications and no requirement for staff to work outside their contracted hours helped to reduce these costs compared with 2019. The cost of paying staff for hours not worked under the terms and conditions of their contracts during Covid lockdowns was around £2,750.
- (14) **Other Costs (£3,901)** – apparently £1,000 higher than 2019, they comprised designated and some restricted cash which arose from the repayment of fees collected for services that did not take place, referred to under (7) above. The unrestricted element comprised primarily the Church insurance premium together

with some minor expenditure. The residual restricted element was the cash that passed through the accounts but was not part of routine church activities.

### 3. Cash and Investment Assets

Table 2 shows the cash and investments held by the PCC at the beginning and end of the year. Here are the main points:

- (1) **Total Assets valuation** - the year opened with a total asset and cash accounts valuation of **£124,139**. despite the losses in the receipts and payments accounts of **£25,391**, it closed with a valuation of only **£19,121** less at **£104,993**. This was due to the increase in the value of all the underlying investment accounts **by £6,245**.
- (2) **Church Meadow Fund** - the **£4,516** in this designated cash fund was drawn down, the account closed, and the cash redesignated by the PCC for unrestricted church use.
- (3) **Reserve Fund** - virtually all of the **£9,000** in this unrestricted account was drawn down and used for general church funds. A small cash balance of **£100** remains in the account with the intention to rebuild these cash reserves once the church's finances improve in future years.
- (4) **Warren Fund - £567** was drawn down from this restricted fund to finance the specification of repairs to the South Door stonework. The residual balance was **£5,132**.
- (5) **Music Fund - £10,000** was drawn down from this designated fund and the cash redesignated by the PCC for unrestricted church use. The residual balance, after the increases in its valuation, was **£65,808**.
- (6) **Capital Valuation** - all Investment Funds increased in value by around 6.5% due to prevailing market conditions and reduced the Church's overall loss from the £25,391 of the P and L account by **£6,245** to a figure of **£19,146**.
- (7) This portfolio of cash and investment assets also produced a total income of interest and dividends of **£2,934**. See Note 5 of Table 1. This, together with the capital gains of **£6,245** on our investments, gave an overall return of over 7.4% across our entire cash and investment portfolio of **£124,139** at the beginning of the year.

### 4. Additional Points to Note

- (1) **2020 Assistance from the Diocese** - the Diocese is well aware that many of its churches have faced, or soon will be facing financial difficulties from the effects of Covid 19, just as we are. To this end it is prepared to provide some additional funding to all churches which must be applied for during the first half of 2021.

Now that the full extent of these losses has been established, we will consider making such an application to try to replenish some of the funds we have had to spend during this year. However, one of the criteria for aiding PCCs will be the level



of reserves that are held, and we are still relatively well-endowed in this respect with our residual balance of over £70,000 of unrestricted and designated reserves.

- (2) **Energy usage** – unsurprisingly, due to extensive periods of shutdown during the year, both the church and church centre consumed considerably less energy. The comparative figures in kWh are:

	2020 (kWh)	2019 (kWh)	Decrease (%)
Church Gas	14,600	22,600	35
Centre Gas	18,500	30,000	48
Church Power	750	1,850	60
Centre Power	3,200	4,900	35

- (3) **Solar Panels** – these produced an income of £2,096 which was retained to pay off the solar panel loan to the Diocese. At this rate the 3% pa loan should be paid off by the end of next year (2022) and this income with RPI price escalation will flow into the PCC's accounts from 2023 onwards. Hopefully for the duration of the contract which is a further 13 years.

- (4) **Additional cash passing through church accounts** – we collected and passed through the following sums:

Statutory Fees for weddings and funerals passed to the Diocese	£1,024
Statutory Fees passed through to visiting ministers	£577
Non-Statutory fees passed through to vergers, bellringers, stonemason	£1,561

## 5. Budget for 2021

Following a year of such difficult financial times, the Finance Team has set a target budget for 2021 which is largely based on the 2019 outturn (and hence the 2020 budget forecast) as the 2020 outturn has been so heavily distorted by the effects of the Covid outbreak. The major variations from the original 2020 budget are:

### Income:

- **Hall lettings and Other church activities** (e.g. Monday Coffee Shop) to return slowly through the year but back to normal levels to start the winter season. Assume the total income to be around 2/3 of normal.
- **Fund-Raising** team to raise £2,000 target by the end of the year. The team is still to be appointed.
- **Giving** to include a 10% reduced Gift day compared to 2020, a target 5% increase in all planned giving, a return to normal levels by the end of the year of plate giving and the known increases and decreases in regular giving as communicated to the Treasurer to date.
- **Gift Aid** to follow these changes in giving.

- **Dividends and interest** to reduce by 20% from current and likely future draw-down of reserves.
- **Parochial fees** – return to 2019 levels of weddings and funerals.

## Expenditure

- **Barnwood school grant** – to resume at 2019 level of £2,000.
- **Parish share** – to be reduced by £9,000 from its 2020 level to £55,240 and to be financed by the Diocesan Stipendiary Fund.
- **Staff salaries** – no increase, although all salaries continue to be at least at the level of the Real Living Wage for 2021/22.
- **Maintenance costs** – increase by £1,000 on previous years as contractors will be required to undertake some of the work previously undertaken by Andrew Brown. A Quinquennial Inspection Report costing £700 will also be required in 2021.
- **Music** – Additional costs of £700 for organ maintenance as none carried out in 2020.
- **Flowers** – return to normal levels at a cost of £500 but financed largely by individual designated donations as needed.
- **Energy** – return to 2019 levels of consumption but with 23% increase in costs for three-year contract with new 100% green energy supplier.

## Resulting Budget

These changes produced a second unbalanced Receipts and Payments budget with an Income of around £90,5000 and total expenditure of around £97,600 and hence a forecast deficit of around £7,000 to be financed from some unrestricted cash remaining in the current account from 2020 and topped-up as necessary from further redesignation of a proportion of the Music Fund currently valued at nearly £66,000.

It is hoped, for the third year in a row, that there will be further capital growth of the PCC's investment funds, but this cannot be guaranteed.



**Table I - Barnwood PCC's Receipts and Payments Accounts - 2020**

	Notes	2020			2019	
		Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	TOTAL £	TOTAL £
<b>Receipts</b>						
Voluntary income:						
Planned giving	1	40,142	-	235	40,377	46,722
Collections, donations & other giving		10,733	-	1,293	12,026	9,434
Income tax recovered	2	8,573	-	-	8,573	12,605
Legacies		-	-	-	-	-
Activities for generating funds						
Magazine/Bookstall sales/Hall Lettings etc	3	5,687	-	-	5,687	17,136
Income from other Properties		-	-	-	-	-
Annual Fete/events	4	154	-	-	154	6,813
Investment income:						
Interest & dividends	5	71	2,076	787	2,934	3,033
Income from charitable activities:						
Parochial fees	6	6,263	-	-	6,263	10,047
Other incoming resources:						
Insurance claims		-	-	-	-	3,535
Gain on disposal of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	-
Loans received		-	-	-	-	-
Other	7	337	530	493	1,360	1,824
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>71,960</b>	<b>2,606</b>	<b>2,808</b>	<b>77,374</b>	<b>111,149</b>
<b>Payments</b>						
Charitable activities:						
Donations/Grants to charities	8	-	-	(555)	(555)	(3,744)
Mission & Evangelism inc Children's Work		(236)	-	(1,445)	(1,681)	(1,819)
Parish Share	9	(64,238)	-	-	(64,238)	(63,632)
Clergy expenses		(1,336)	-	-	(1,336)	(1,960)
Church running expenses	10	(3,584)	(1,982)	(1,460)	(7,026)	(6,539)
Churchyard maintenance	11	(1,190)	-	(544)	(1,734)	(5,373)
Cost of raising funds	12	(5,318)	-	-	(5,318)	(8,522)
Running costs:						
Support costs		(15)	-	(110)	(125)	-
Administration costs (inc. staff costs)	13	(16,662)	-	(189)	(16,851)	(18,426)
Other	14	(2,780)	(556)	(565)	(3,901)	(2,953)
Governance costs						
Major expenditure						
Repairs to church buildings		-	-	-	-	-
Repairs to other property		-	-	-	-	-
Capital purchases/additions		-	-	-	-	-
Loan repayments		-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>(95,359)</b>	<b>(2,538)</b>	<b>(4,868)</b>	<b>(102,765)</b>	<b>(112,968)</b>
<b>Net (outgoing)/ incoming resources</b>		<b>(23,399)</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>(2,060)</b>	<b>(25,391)</b>	<b>(1,819)</b>
Transfers between funds						
		17,574	(17,510)	(64)	(0)	-
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before gains						
		(5,825)	(17,442)	(2,124)	(25,391)	(1,819)
Gains on investment assets						
		-	4,526	1,719	6,245	15,118
Net movement in funds						
		(5,825)	(12,916)	(405)	(19,146)	13,299
Funds brought forward at 1 Jan 2020						
		10,204	79,187	34,748	124,139	110,840
Funds carried forward at 31 Dec 2020						
		4,379	66,271	34,343	104,993	124,139

**Table 2 - Barnwood PCC's Balances of Cash and Investment Accounts - 2020**

<b>Cash Accounts</b>	<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>Increase/ (Decrease)</b>	<b>Closing Balance</b>
Main General Account - NatWest - Unrstd, Rstd & Dsgntd	£8,336	(£1,413)	£6,923
Church Meadow - CBF fund - Designated	£4,516	(£4,516)	£0
Warren Fund CBF fund - Restricted	£5,696	(£564)	£5,132
Reserve Account - CBF - Unrestricted	£9,000	(£8,900)	£100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£27,548</b>	<b>(£15,393)</b>	<b>£12,155</b>

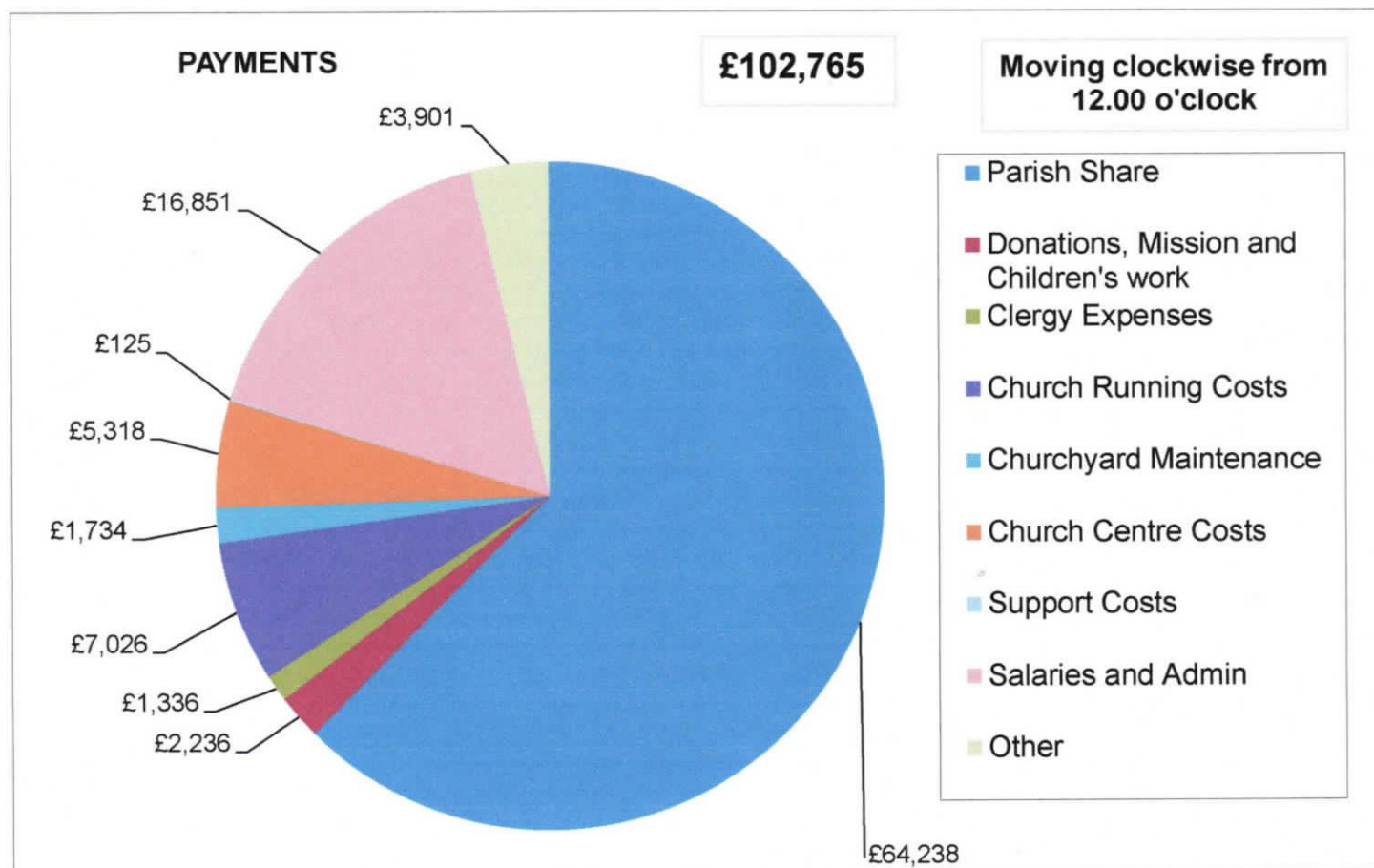
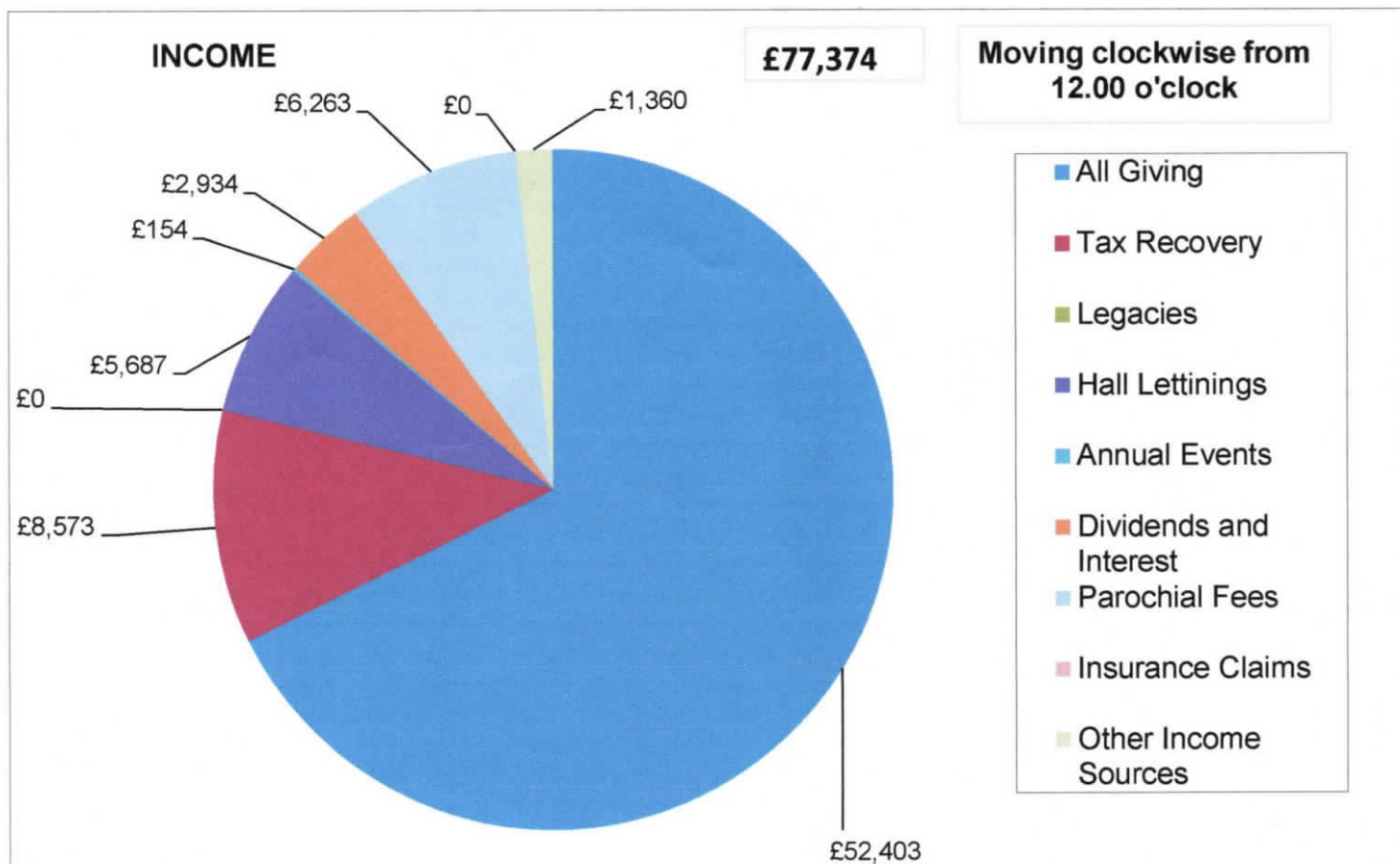
<b>Investment Assets</b>	<b>Opening Value</b>	<b>Increase/ (Decrease)</b>	<b>Closing Value</b>
Church Music Fund CBF 616108001S - Designated	£71,283	-£5,474	£65,808
Moulder Memorial CBF 116002040F - Restricted	£564	£20	£584
Moulder Graves CBF116002041F - Restricted	£281	£10	£291
Churchyard CBF 116002220S - Restricted	£20,140	£1,391	£21,530
Pepperill Bequest CBF 116002198S - Restricted	£1,836	£127	£1,963
Moulder Memorial (2) CBF 116002342S - Restricted	£2,180	£151	£2,331
Lemon-Priday CBF 116002426S - Restricted	£306	£21	£327
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£96,590</b>	<b>-£3,756</b>	<b>£92,834</b>

<b>Investment Breakdown</b>	<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>Increase/ (Decrease)</b>	<b>Closing Balance</b>
Unrestricted / Designated	£71,283	(£5,474)	£65,808
Restricted	£25,307	£1,719	£27,026
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£96,590</b>	<b>(£3,756)</b>	<b>£92,834</b>

<b>PCC Overall Assets and Cash position</b>	<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>Increase/ (Decrease)</b>	<b>Closing Balance</b>
Unrestricted / Designated	£89,390	(£18,826)	£70,564
Restricted	£34,748	(£323)	£34,425
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£124,138</b>	<b>(£19,148)</b>	<b>£104,990</b>



**FIG. 1 - ST LAWRENCE'S CHURCH RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS 2020**



**BARNWOOD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

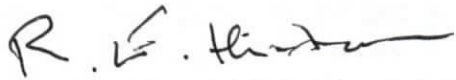
**Basis of Accounts**

The accounts for PCC of St Lawrence Church in the parish of Barnwood have been prepared on a "Receipts and Payments" basis using the "Cash Book" accounting program provided by the Gloucester Diocesan Board of Finance for this purpose. The Version Number is V5.2 - 2 issued December 2015.

The final accounts have been independently examined by Mr Andrew Matson.

These accounts and their examination are, to the best of the PCC's knowledge, compliant with the requirements of the Charities Act 1993 and those of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), 2005 revisions.

Robert Hinton



(Treasurer)

Andrew Matson



(Independent Examiner)

Approved by members of the Parochial Church Council and signed on their behalf by:

Rob Crofton



(Vicar)

Margaret Seyers



(Church Warden)

**DATE:**

17<sup>th</sup> March 2021