

St Mary's Church Ticehurst
Trustees Annual Report 2021

1. Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the Reverend Ashley Evans (incumbent) in:-

- promotion of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England.
- promoting in the parish the mission of the church, pastoral, social, ecumenical, environmental and evangelistic.
- practical support and care for all people in the parish irrespective of age, need and ability to pay.
- providing financial support to those in need and to other organisations with similar objectives.

2. What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives

We planned to do the following but COVID19 lockdown until 29th March made us organise as many of these communal activities that we could online from the Vicarage, the church and also by telephone contact. Whilst the church was opened for services from Maundy Thursday there were restrictions due to social distancing regulations and many people were uncertain about joining in gatherings.

To enable as many people as possible become part of our parish community:-

- teaching, baptism and nurturing new and existing believers
- keeping the church open during the daytime for the community to visit, use for prayer and meditation

To offer services of worship to God:-

- maintaining an overview of worship throughout the parish
- considering how services can involve the many groups that live within the parish
- putting faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament
- being as receptive as possible to those wanting baptism, weddings and funerals at St. Mary's.

To promote the Gospel and pray that the unchurched may find the fullness of life in Jesus Christ:-

- assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of and trust in Jesus
- holding courses to advance discipleship, theological understanding and education.
- establishing small groups at which we learn about the Bible and faith with study worship prayer and fellowship.
- witnessing the good news of Jesus Christ by pursuing the mission of God in its different forms

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To engage in Evangelism and Outreach to the parish

- reaching out to those who do not come to church at events such as a coffee morning, a picnic lunch to celebrate the Harvest and a Christmas Fayre.
- promoting Harvest Festival, providing refreshments and distributing food gifts to the local food bank.
- encouraging care for the environment, God's creation through our Eco Church status and initiatives
- reaching out to the community by advertising seasonal events and celebrations
- seeking to grow our church aimed especially at the younger generation and developing our links("Open the Book" assemblies and worship) with our village C of E primary school.

We provide a special building and churchyard for people to enjoy:-

- enabling an appreciation of church building in the history and archaeology of the area by being open from 8am until 4pm for everyone to use.

We provide tangible pastoral and financial support to the poor and needy:-

- providing pastoral care for people whether part of St. Mary's Church or not
- providing financial assistance to those in need in the parish
- spending the income of our parish trusts according to the objects established by their donors.

We consider the needs of people served by other charities and overseas:-

- giving grants to wider Christian charities
- giving grants to missionary organisations that show God's love in the poorest nations.

When planning our activities for the year the PCC and our incumbent have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, fully recognising its duty to have due regard to House of Bishop's guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

3. What we achieved and how the activities of the church affected the beneficiaries lives

Attendance at worship

Usually the church welcomes visitors from the parish as well as those coming from outside. This was not possible due to COVID 19 and lockdown for the first quarter of the year. When we were able to open the church we welcomed all who visited and we feel that this and attendance at worship (including regular online services) was a major demonstration of our activities providing spiritual and pastoral support to the community.

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The average regular weekly attendance counted for the diocese records during October 2021 was 57. The church was open for worship over Easter with a reduced congregation and the services over Christmas also were less well attended than before the pandemic although a Christingle service was held in our churchyard with almost 200 participating. A service of Remembrance was held around the War Memorial in the village followed by a service in church with a smaller congregation than usual.

Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers

- a small weekly group meet for study and prayer, online when necessary.
- from January we were not able to hold the church led assemblies at the village school following 'Open the Book', (a national Bible stories drama scheme run by the Bible Society). These recommenced in September and some sessions were broadcast live from the church to the school in December due to further outbreaks of COVID19. The Vicar led a weekly assembly on line until the summer vacation.

Evangelism and outreach

Because of lockdown our Vicar wrote to parishioners regularly as well as posting on Facebook and contributing to the very popular monthly village magazine. He and our Reader Mrs Penny Evans wrote to the community about the Christian season at hand or on current issues from a Christian perspective especially concerning the pandemic and the environment.

We held a Climate Sunday Service on 5th September and were able to plan for the Great Big Green Week activities which were taking place in from 18th to 26th September in communities around the UK to celebrate what we are doing to help nature and take action on climate change. Communities and business groups helped us to celebrate the week which included a Coffee and Conversation morning, a visit from our MP, a very popular Swap Shop and other well attended events throughout the week, ending with our Harvest Festival Service in church. Our new monthly Forest Church began on 19th September.

Provision of the church building and churchyard for people to enjoy.

Our church continues to be appreciated by our parishioners and many others as a space where life events are celebrated with joy and thanksgiving.

During 2021 we celebrated the baptism of fourteen infants and three adults, four weddings, we held eight funeral services and there were nine interment of ashes in our Garden of Remembrance .

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The church was regrettably unable to be left open during the daytime for the first three months of this year.

The churchyard has been enjoyed by those able to go out during the year. It is a well kept place by a group of volunteers who have adopted trees keeping brambles, ivy and weeds at bay and the grass in one area is controlled by a flock of sheep. Trees are replaced that die, the grass is mowed by the district council under contract and we have a volunteer who cares for the burial ground. We had formed an Eco Church Working Group to pursue the scheme run by A Rocha UK, a Christian charity with a remit to mobilise Christians and Churches to care for the environment. We have involved people from the village in our project to care for 'God's Acre' and have installed bat boxes, bird boxes and a bug hotel as well as a hedgehog home and an owl box in the churchyard. In addition we have pledged to move towards carbon net zero and in working towards the Eco Church Awards we received the Silver Award in 2020 and we submitted our application for the Gold Award in December this year.

Music is usually an important communal part of our worship but regrettably not possible during the first part of this year. We were able to hold a service of carols and readings during Advent which was attended by 67 people.

Spatial reordering of the church building and future projects.

We commissioned an Audio Visual company to instal a system in our church which will allow live streaming of any service, recording of special services such as weddings and will enable us and visiting speakers to make presentations projected onto a screen. The audio part has been completed and the remainder is on schedule to be completed early in 2022.

One project that will need to be considered is the very old heating system so that we can extend a warm welcome to visitors in a warmer church.

Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish

The Vicar has made hospital visits and home visits when he has been able. A churchwarden made a socially distanced visit to housebound people each day during Lent and much longer telephone calls to parishioners have also been a comfort to many over this very difficult year.

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Provision of tangible support to the poor and needy

The Church has supported Family Support Work Charity set up originally by the diocese and during the year we collect groceries, toiletries and clothing items for this charity. The Vicar is a founder member of The Ticehurst Community Network. In addition the Vicar is a committee member of the local GP Surgery's Patient Participation Group.

The PCC also made donations to Family Support Work, The Bible Society, The Church Missionary Society, A Rocha UK and Water Aid.

Mission Action Plan

All the above were considered in our mission action planning in October and November. The Plan was approved by the PCC and sent to the Diocese at the end of November.

Financial review

Incoming and outgoing resources

The total receipts were £348,836.42 and are detailed in the Financial Report. We have received some very generous bequests which greatly helped our income this year.

Sharing the Ministry costs of the Diocese of Chichester

The largest expenditure of the PCC was the sum of £50,000 paid to the diocese for our share of all churches' Parish Ministry Costs. This amount goes towards housing, stipend and pension costs of the clergy and a standard sum for diocesan central costs, clergy training and a contribution to general church funds.

Staff costs

The PCC paid for Book-keeping services, a Parish Administrator, occasional Clerical duty, and the expenses of an organist. Details are provided in the accounts.

Office costs.

These were just day to day running costs this year amounting to £2552.52

Trustee payments and expenses .

The PCC also supported the Vicarage by paying Council Tax, water charges, a share of the telephone bill and travelling expenses.

Repairs to the fabric of the church building.

A Quinquennial Inspection was undertaken and urgent items have been completed. We are scheduling further items that need attention.

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Structure, governance and management of the charity

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Mary the Virgin Ticehurst has been entered onto the Register of Charities, registered number 1180171. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Council(Powers) Measure 1956. During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Ex officio members

Incumbent	The Reverend Ashley Evans	Chairman
Reader	Mrs Penny Evans	
Warden	Mrs Judith Whiteman	
Warden	Mrs Marianne Barratt	

Elected Members

Mrs Marian Cook	Secretary
Mr Peter Reeves	
Mrs Sheila Minet	
Mrs Catherine Baigent	
Mrs Angela Howitt	
Mrs Jacky Ward	
Mrs Frances Harris	

Deanery Synod Representatives

Mrs Rosemary Hunneybell
Mrs Sheila Mackenzie
Mrs Judith Whiteman
Mrs Penny Evans

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of several ex officio members, (the incumbent, lay readers licensed to officiate in the church, the church wardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balanced of skills where possible.

This Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by the Reverend Ashley Evans, PCC Chairman

Signature..........Date.....14/10/22.....

Accounts

for the Parochial Church Council of

St Mary's Church, Ticehurst

for the year ended
31st December 2021

St Mary's Ticehurst
UK Balance Sheet - Standard
As of 31 December 2021

	Cash Accounting 31 Dec 19	Cash Accounting 31 Dec 20	Accrual Accounting 31 Dec 21	Notes
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Other Current Assets				
Gift Aid due			9,482.88	New section due to accrual accounting due on 2021 donations 889 56 Council Tax, 11,441 61 50% AVV installation
Prepayments			12,331.17	
Total Other Current Assets			21,814.05	
Funds				
Dora Luckin (Investment)	120,240.10	221,952.85	454,699.65	A
Fabric Fund (Investment)	4,205.89	4,495.12	5,138.17	B
Music Fund (Deposit)	1,844.33	1,852.15	1,853.12	C
Rule (Investment)	3,619.36	3,864.52	4,393.19	D
	129,909.68	232,164.64	466,084.13	
Cash at bank and in hand				
Current Account	750.00	500.00	500.00	E
Business Reserve	47,693.20	21,223.03	53,084.58	F
Cash	0.00	0.00	654.16	
Petty Cash (Vicarage)	150.77	49.39	49.39	G
	48,593.97	21,772.42	54,288.13	
Total Current Assets	178,503.65	253,937.06	542,186.31	
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable			721.00	
Other Current Liabilities				
Accruals			4,415.67	New section due to accrual accounting organist's Dec invoice and remainder of annual council tax bill
St Augustine's funeral fees			398.00	
Total Other Current Liabilities			4,813.67	
Total Current Liabilities			5,534.67	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			536,651.64	
Represented by:-				
Reserves				
Opening Funds	157,194.43	178,503.65	253,937.06	
Profit for the Year	21,309.22	75,433.41	282,714.58	
Closing funds	178,503.65	253,937.06	536,651.64	

costs incurred in 2021, not invoiced until 2022 - including statutory fees (£2407) and utility bills (£974)
St Augustine fees due to Diocese in 2022

St Mary's Ticehurst Profit Loss

January 2020 through December 2021

Ordinary Income/Expense	Cash Accounting		Accrual Accounting		Increase	Notes
	Jan - Dec 20	Jan - Dec 21	Jan - Dec 21	Jan - Dec 21		
Income						
Activities for Generating Funds	429.95	1,105.64	675.69			sales, fair/trade etc
Eco Church	1,460.00	1,122.23	-337.77			
Gift Aid	11,012.82	19,069.56	8,056.74			**2021 figure includes £3936 received in 2021 on 2020 donations and £9482 due on 2021 donations
Giving	38,216.45	38,226.90	10.45			
Income from Church Activities	120.00	180.00	60.00			field rental
Interest on Bank Acts & Trusts	49.88	6.22	-43.66			
Other Income	13,263.44	18,850.13	5,586.69			includes £586 Flinwell portion of costs, £6812 weddings/funerals, £3638 grant claiming VAT element of rainpods expenditure
Legacy	85,000.00	270,275.74	185,275.74			2 legacies
Total Income	149,552.54	348,836.42	199,283.88			
Expense						
Advertising & Promotion		110.00	110.00			
Bookkeeping Services	1,571.85	2,032.15	460.30			
Books & Music						
Subscriptions	24.00	0.00	-24.00			
Books & Music - Other	370.38	341.20	-29.18			
Total Books & Music	394.36	341.20	-53.18			
Charitable Grants & Donations	2,785.09	2,280.46	-504.63			
Church Building						
Churchyard Maintenance	1,100.50	1,354.25	253.75			
Churchyard Works	4,794.40	327.42	-4,466.98			
Cleaning Materials	65.98	13.71	-52.27			
Eco Church costs	418.02	1,138.20	720.18			offset by specific donations - see income line
Repairs and Maintenance	5,831.35	32,046.34	26,214.99			including rainwater goods, memorial repair, preliminary AV costs
Utilities	3,242.33	4,833.69	1,591.36			
Total Church Building	15,442.58	39,713.61	24,271.03			
Clergy & Other People's Expenses						
Bellringing Services	67.45	260.00	192.55			
Choir Charges		250.00	250.00			
Occasional Clerical Duty	113.22	105.80	-7.42			
Organist Expenses	2,010.00	2,648.75	638.75			
Parish Administrator	2,324.22	456.75	-1,867.47			stepped down from formal role during year
Training	56.80	30.00	-26.80			
Vergering	150.00	225.00	75.00			
Total Clergy & Other People's Expenses	4,721.69	3,976.30	-745.39			
Conferences & Meetings	0.00	28.70	28.70			hall hire for APCM
Cost of Raising Funds	0.00	81.80	81.80			
Equipment						
Equipment Repairs & Maintenance	7,264.47	562.52	-6,701.95			
Expensed Equipment	505.43	2,056.56	1,551.13			includes noticeboard and printer
Fire Equipment & Service	201.36		-201.36			
Organ Tuning & Maintenance	242.00	250.00	8.00			
Total Equipment	8,213.26	2,869.08	-5,344.18			
Gifts	152.49	26.49	-126.00			
Insurance Expense	4,715.56	4,720.74	5.18			
Management & Administration						
Bank Service Charges	0.09	7.24	7.15			Card Machine Fees
Consumables	276.59	131.03	-145.56			
DBS Checks etc	48.00	0.00	-48.00			
IT & Internet Expenses	1,143.17	868.96	-274.21			software licences, internet connection, website
Licences	276.90	191.06	-85.84			music

St Mary's Ticehurst
Profit Loss

January 2020 through December 2021

Postage and Delivery	157.48	280.89	123.41	
Printing		6.48	6.48	
Stationery	484.79	552.04	67.25	
Stationery (Printed)	88.87	214.82	125.95	
Website Maintenance	144.00	300.00	156.00	
Total Management & Administration	2,617.89	2,552.52	-65.37	includes £120 for 2020 invoiced and paid 2020 and £180 accrued at year end 2021
Membership Fees	115.00		-115.00	
Other Fees to Diocese				
Occasional Services	3,965.00	4,317.00	362.00	
Total Other Fees to Diocese	3,965.00	4,317.00	362.00	comprises £1910 paid for 2020 fees and £2407 accrued yr end as due on 2021 fees
Parish Contribution	46,680.00	50,000.00	3,320.00	
Professional Fees	294.00	0.00	-294.00	energy audit
Regular Church Costs				
Candles	39.29	153.82	114.53	
Communion Supplies	48.33	45.90	-2.43	
Flowers	30.00	248.64	218.64	
Total Regular Church Costs	117.62	448.36	330.74	
Service Expenses General				
Service Expenses	227.36	107.23	-120.13	
Total Service Expenses General	227.36	107.23	-120.13	
Vicar's Expenses	4,596.48	3,950.44	-646.04	
Total Expense	96,600.25	117,556.08	20,955.83	
Net Ordinary Income	52,952.29	231,280.34	178,328.05	
Other Income/Expense				
Other Income				
Bank Compensation	75.00		-75.00	
Increase in Investments	17,247.14	42,918.52	25,671.38	
Dividend	5,158.98	8,515.72	3,356.74	
Total Other Income	22,481.12	51,434.24	28,953.12	
Net Other Income	22,481.12	51,434.24	28,953.12	
Profit for the Year	76,433.41	282,714.58	207,281.17	

Report to Accompany Accounts for year ended 31 December 2021

As St Mary's income in 2021 exceeded the £250,000 maximum for the preparation of the accounts on a 'Cash' basis, the 2021 accounts have been prepared on an 'Accrual' basis; I have tried to highlight in the accounts where this change in reporting has had an impact on the figures.

Bequests

A total of £270,275 was received from two bequests in 2021.

The Field

The value of the field has historically not been included as an asset on the accounts. As at 23.02.2009 the field was valued at £40,000.00.

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Mary's Church, Ticehurst for the Year Ended 31st December, 2021

Section A

This is my report to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish (PCC) of St Mary, Ticehurst, on the annual report for the year ended 31st December 2021

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The PCC members are responsible for the preparation of the annual reports. The PCC members consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

1. examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
2. to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
3. to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- a. to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - b. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
- have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Examiner's signature

Examiner's name CAPITALS

Date

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

Examiner's address

J. L. Hastings
JOHN LAURENCE HASTINGS
5/5/2022
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