

**St Mary's Church Ticehurst**  
**Trustees Annual Report 2022**

**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 as COVID19 restrictions continued until 22nd February we organised as many of activities that we could online from the Vicarage, the church and also by telephone contact until that date. Whilst the church continued to remain open for prayer and for services there were still some restrictions and many people were still uncertain about joining in gatherings for some time after the date these restrictions were lifted.

**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 coffee mornings, The Platinum Jubilee celebrations for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, a 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**

The church welcomes visitors from the parish as well as those coming from outside and we feel that this and attendance at worship ( including regular online services) was a

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major demonstration of our activities providing spiritual and pastoral support to the community.

The average regular weekly attendance counted for the diocese records during October 2022 was 52. The congregation in church Easter was greater than last year but not so well attended as pre pandemic. A service of Remembrance held around the War Memorial in the village was well attended but the service in church that followed had a smaller congregation than usual. The services over Christmas were all well attended, back to pre pandemic levels.

**Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers**

- a small weekly group meet for study and prayer, online when necessary.
- During 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) but these were enacted in the church and broadcast live to the school until we were able to return when restrictions were lifted.

**Evangelism and outreach**

Our Vicar continued to write to parishioners with weekly notices and a monthly letter as well as posting on Facebook regularly 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 environment.

We again held a Climate Sunday Service on 4th September and were able to plan for the Great Big Green Week activities which were taking place in from 24 September to 2 October 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 well attended successful visit from our MP, a very popular Swap Shop and other well attended events throughout the week ending with a Pet Service in church with a great variety of friendly pets joining in.

In October we started to hold a Warm Welcome morning, open to all, one a week serving cake tea and coffee which has been very successful and attracting up to 45 attendees on Friday mornings.

**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.

## St Mary's Church Ticehurst Trustees Annual Report 2022

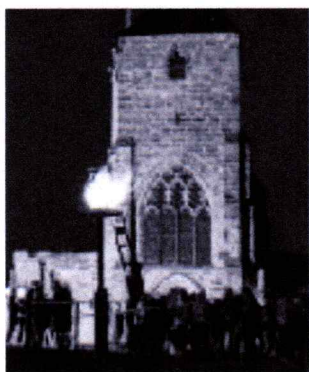
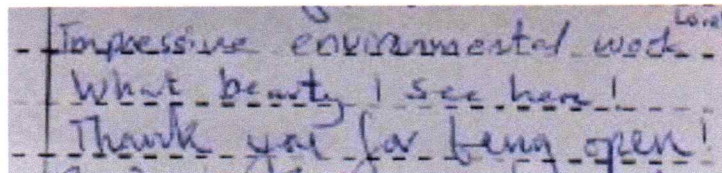
During 2022 we celebrated the baptism of eleven infants and two adults, three weddings, we held nine funeral services and there were 9 interment of ashes (mostly in our Garden of Remembrance ).

The church is open for visitors daily from 8am until 4pm

The churchyard has been enjoyed by many. It is a well kept place and volunteers have adopted trees

keeping brambles, ivy and weeds at bay The grass in one area of the closed churchyard( i.e no burials there now) is controlled by a flock of sheep and the rest of the grass area is mowed by the district council . We employ a gardener who cares for the new burial ground and the Garden of Remembrance.

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 were delighted to learn on 28 January 2022 that we were awarded the Gold Award. It was the first in our Diocese, the 16th in the C of E and the 24th in England and Wales combined. We held a party to celebrate this achievement in our churchyard in May to which our Bishop, congregation and villagers attended in spite of the rain.



For the Platinum Jubilee celebrations we lit our churchyard beacon on 2nd June, bell ringers rang the bells from 19.52 until 20.22 on that date and on Saturday 4 June we were greatly involved in the village celebrations by making 100 individual picnic teas, one for each primary school child who attended the event. In addition we held a Flower Festival in the church with a red white and blue theme and

some amazing arrangements which was visited by a great number of people.

We are pleased to begin in the Autumn hosting a weekly over 80's singing group in the church.



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**Music** is an important communal part of our worship and our choir robe for most services. A service of carols and readings during Advent was attended by 129 people. The choir sang the RSCM Platinum Jubilee Anthem ( Thomas Hewitt Jones) at a special Songs of Praise Service on 5 June attended by 85 people.

**Spatial reordering of the church building and future projects.**

We commissioned an Audio Visual company to instal a system in our church which allows 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 work was completed in July and has been very useful during family services.

We were pleased to be able to show the funeral of HM Queen Elizabeth II on the big screen to those in the village who wished to join us.

One project that still needs to be considered is the very old heating system ( the pipework) 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 during the year and a regular visit to the local Care Home with a short Holy Communion service. Telephone calls to parishioners have also been a comfort to many. This aspect of our ministry is getting back to normal.

**Provision of tangible support to the poor and needy**

The Church has supported Family Support Work Charity set up originally by our 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 Mission Society, A Rocha UK , Climate Stewards and World in Need

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**Mission Action Plan**

All the above were considered by our PCC in our mission action planning meeting in July.

**Financial review**

Incoming and outgoing resources

The total receipts were £270,278.40 and are detailed in the Financial Report.

**Reserves Policy**

Why we hold some money in reserve.

We are very pleased to have the money we have in reserve for the following reasons:-

1. Major building works following our last Quinquennial inspection.
2. Heating System review.
3. Reaching carbon net zero by 2030 as General Synod's decision in 2022.
4. Improvements such as replacement of all worship material on the accession of King Charles III.
5. Two major bequests we received last year were unrestricted.

All of these items contribute to benefit the public.

**Management of Risk**

The PCC has the ongoing task of reviewing major risks which impact on the work of the church. PAT testing is done yearly and Fire extinguishers are also checked each year. Lightning protection and electrical testing is undertaken regularly.

**The PCC consider the principal risks and uncertainties are:-**

- the requirement to find volunteers with the appropriate skills, time and commitment to support the daily running of the church
- Health and Safety Risk of trips in some areas of the uneven churchyard due to ant hills, and broken monuments. Whilst this area is fenced off and sheep graze in it, there are monuments which people visit but because permission is needed for access we are able to caution these visitors before access is given

**As for the Future**

The Coronation. This is covered earlier in the report

Open the Book - it is clear again just how much this is appreciated by the school and by the children.

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**Sharing the Ministry costs of the Diocese of Chichester**

The largest expenditure of the PCC was the sum of £55,500 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, 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 £2217.09

**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 have scheduled further items that need attention and will be going out to tender in the new year once the weather is warmer.

The chancel walls were decorated during the year, repairs to the roof were made and a burglar alarm was installed to the church roof to protect the lead.

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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**

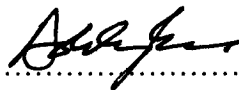
Incumbent	The Reverend Ashley Evans	Chairman
Reader	Mrs Penny Evans	
Warden	Mrs Judith Whiteman	
Warden	Miss Rosemary Hunneybell	

Elected Members	Mrs Marian Cook	Secretary
	Mr Peter Reeves	
	Mrs Marianne Barratt	
	Mrs Sheila Minet	
	Mrs Angela Howitt	
	Mrs Jacky Ward	
	Mrs Frances Harris	

Deanery Synod Representatives	Miss 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.....3/5/23.....



# Accounts

for the Parochial Church Council of

St Mary's Church, Ticehurst

for the year ended  
31<sup>st</sup> December 2022

**St Mary's Ticehurst**  
**UK Balance Sheet - Standard**  
As of 31 December 2022

	Cash Accounting 31 Dec 20	Accrual Accounting 31 Dec 21	Accrual Accounting 31 Dec 22	Notes
<b>ASSETS</b>				
<b>Current Assets</b>				
<b>Other Current Assets</b>				
Gift Aid due		9,482.88	8,051.74	due on 2022 donations
Prepayments		12,331.17	924.49	Council Tax
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>		<b>21,814.05</b>	<b>8,976.23</b>	
<b>Funds</b>				
Dora Luckin (Investment	221,952.85	454,699.65	214,657.07	A
Fabric Fund (Investment	4,495.12	5,138.17	4,533.32	B
Music Fund (Deposit)	1,852.15	1,853.12	1,877.49	C
Rule (Investment)	3,864.52	4,393.19	3,874.27	D
	<b>232,164.64</b>	<b>466,084.13</b>	<b>224,942.15</b>	
<b>Cash at bank and in hand</b>				
Current Account	500.00	500.00	500.00	E
Business Reserve	21,223.03	53,084.58	413,237.90	F
Cash	0.00	654.16	0.00	Collection and Numbered Envelopes Christmas week, not yet cleared in bank
Petty Cash (Vicarage)	49.39	49.39	49.39	
	<b>21,772.42</b>	<b>54,288.13</b>	<b>413,787.29</b>	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>253,937.06</b>	<b>542,186.31</b>	<b>647,705.67</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>				
Accounts Payable		721.00	493.58	H
				New section due to accrual accounting various December-dated invoices paid January 23
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>				
Accruals		4,415.67	3,497.31	2022-related costs, paid out in 2023: statutory fees due to Diocese £2720, Christingle collection due to Children Society £3263, website 234
St Aug - funeral fee holding		398.00	0.00	
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>		<b>4,813.67</b>	<b>3,497.31</b>	
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>5,534.67</b>	<b>3,990.89</b>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>536,651.64</b>	<b>643,714.78</b>	
<b>Represented by:-</b>				
<b>Reserves</b>				
Opening Funds	178,503.65	253,937.06	536,651.64	
Net Increase in Asset Value	75,433.41	282,714.58	107,063.14	
<b>Closing funds</b>	<b>253,937.06</b>	<b>536,651.64</b>	<b>643,714.78</b>	

# St Mary's Ticehurst

## Profit Loss

January 2021 through December 2022

	Accrual Accounting	Accrual Accounting	Increase/ Decrease	Notes
	Jan - Dec 21	Jan - Dec 22		
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Activities for Generating Funds	1,105.64	1,949.89	844.25	sales, fairtrade etc
Eco Church	1,122.23	0.00	-1,122.23	no longer defined separately
Gift Aid	19,069.56 **	8,210.23	-10,859.33	**2021 figure includes £9586 received in 2021 on 2020 donations and £9482 due on 2021 donations,
Giving	38,226.90	34,542.43	-3,684.47	
Income from Church Activities	180.00	208.00	28.00	field rental, hire of St Mary's Room
Interest on Bank Accts & Trusts	6.22	841.98	835.76	increase due to transfer of £200k from Dora Luckin Fund
Other Income	18,850.13	16,637.87	-2,212.26	includes £1617 Flimwell portion of costs, £9052 weddings/funerals, £355 grants
Legacy	270,275.74	207,888.00	-62,387.74	from 3 legacies
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>348,836.42</b>	<b>270,278.40</b>	<b>-78,558.02</b>	
<b>Expense</b>				
Advertising & Promotion	110.00	482.00	372.00	
Bookkeeping Services	2,032.15	1,729.25	-302.90	
Books & Music	341.20	105.46	-235.74	
Charitable Grants & Donations	2,280.46	3,850.04	1,569.58	
Church Building				
Churchyard Maintenance	1,354.25	1,825.57	471.32	
Churchyard Works	327.42	0.00	-327.42	
Cleaning	13.71	261.87	248.16	
Eco Church costs	1,138.20	311.20	-827.00	most costs no longer defined separately: carbon offset £226, Gold Award £85
Repairs and Maintenance	32,046.34	11,022.30	-21,024.04	including chancel repairs. storm damage, roof alarm, AV improvements
Utilities	4,833.69	4,267.16	-566.53	
<b>Total Church Building</b>	<b>39,713.61</b>	<b>17,688.10</b>	<b>-22,025.51</b>	
Clergy & Other People's Expenses				
Bellringing Services	260.00	0.00	-260.00	
Choir Charges	250.00	150.00	-100.00	
Occasional Clerical Duty	105.80	418.50	312.70	
Organist Expenses	2,648.75	2,880.00	231.25	
Parish Administrator	456.75	0.00	-456.75	vacant post
Training	30.00	45.98	15.98	
Vergering	225.00	325.00	100.00	
<b>Total Clergy &amp; Other People's Expenses</b>	<b>3,976.30</b>	<b>3,819.48</b>	<b>-156.82</b>	
Conferences & Meetings	28.70	210.38	181.68	hall hire for APCM
Cost of Raising Funds	81.80	0.00	-81.80	
Dues & Subscriptions		40.00	40.00	
Equipment				
Equipment Repairs & Maintenance	562.52	615.57	53.05	
Expensed Equipment	2,056.56	30,670.02	28,613.46	includes £30,310 AV costs
Fire Equipment & Service		279.12	279.12	
Organ Tuning & Maintenance	250.00	258.00	8.00	
<b>Total Equipment</b>	<b>2,869.08</b>	<b>31,822.71</b>	<b>28,953.63</b>	
Events	0.00	105.72	105.72	Jubilee
Furniture & Fixtures	0.00	1,225.50	1,225.50	wooden benches
Gifts	26.49	333.46	306.97	
Insurance Expense	4,720.74	4,307.96	-412.78	
Management & Administration				

# St Mary's Ticehurst

## Profit Loss

### January 2021 through December 2022

Bank Service Charges	7.24	355.90	348.66	<i>now charging for current account</i>
Consumables	131.03	179.43	48.40	
DBS Checks etc	0.00	44.00	44.00	
IT & Internet Expenses	868.96	721.38	-147.58	<i>software licences, internet connection, website</i>
Licences	191.06	328.39	137.33	<i>music</i>
Postage and Delivery	280.89	15.86	-265.03	
Printing	6.48	0.00	-6.48	
Stationery	552.04	161.54	-390.50	
Stationery (Printed)	214.82	176.75	-38.07	
Website Maintenance	300.00	233.84	-66.16	
<b>Total Management &amp; Administration</b>	<b>2,552.52</b>	<b>2,217.09</b>	<b>-335.43</b>	
<b>Other Fees to Diocese</b>				
Occasional Services	4,317.00	3,056.00	-1,261.00	<i>2021 figure includes overlap of move from cash accounting to accrual</i>
<b>Total Other Fees to Diocese</b>	<b>4,317.00</b>	<b>3,056.00</b>	<b>-1,261.00</b>	
<b>Parish Contribution</b>	<b>50,000.00</b>	<b>55,500.00</b>	<b>5,500.00</b>	
<b>Regular Church Costs</b>				
Candles	153.82	146.04	-7.78	
Communion Supplies	45.90	7.99	-37.91	
Flowers	248.64	1,367.19	1,118.55	<i>includes Flower Festival - approximately £1k of 2022 expenditure was covered by donations</i>
<b>Total Regular Church Costs</b>	<b>448.36</b>	<b>1,521.22</b>	<b>1,072.86</b>	
<b>Rent &amp; Rates</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3,293.02</b>	<b>3,293.02</b>	<i>no figure in 2021 accounts as fell between cash accounting and accrual</i>
<b>Service Expenses General</b>				
Children's Supplies		119.98	119.98	
Decorations (Christmas etc)		137.97	137.97	
Service Expenses	107.23	45.66	-61.57	
<b>Total Service Expenses General</b>	<b>107.23</b>	<b>303.61</b>	<b>196.38</b>	
<b>Vicar's Expenses</b>	<b>3,950.44</b>	<b>1,210.19</b>	<b>-2,740.25</b>	
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>117,556.08</b>	<b>132,821.19</b>	<b>15,265.11</b>	
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>231,280.34</b>	<b>137,457.21</b>	<b>-93,823.13</b>	
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>			<b>0.00</b>	
<b>Other Income</b>			<b>0.00</b>	
<b>Increase/Decrease in Investments</b>	<b>42,918.52</b>	<b>-41,166.35</b>	<b>-84,084.87</b>	
<b>Dividend</b>	<b>8,515.72</b>	<b>10,772.28</b>	<b>2,256.56</b>	
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>51,434.24</b>	<b>-30,394.07</b>	<b>-81,828.31</b>	
<b>Net Other Income/Expense</b>	<b>51,434.24</b>	<b>-30,394.07</b>	<b>-81,828.31</b>	
<b>Increase/Loss for the Year</b>	<b>282,714.58</b>	<b>107,063.14</b>	<b>-175,651.44</b>	

## **Report to Accompany Accounts for year ended 31 December 2022**

Having moved from cash to accrual accounting for the 2021 accounts, we have continued on this basis.

There are a few instances where the move from one system to the other distorts comparison between 2021 and 2022 figures. I have endeavoured to explain in the notes where this occurs.

### **Bequests**

A total of £207,888 was received from three bequests in 2022.

### **Funds**

There was a sharp fall in the value of shares held in the Investment Funds during 2022. In order to spread the risk to assets, the decision was made to sell shares to the value of £200k, which can then be seen in the Reserve Account balance at year-end.

### **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.

## Section A

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

**It is my responsibility to:**

- ### Basis of independent examiner's statement

**Independent  
examiner's statement**

\* Please delete the words in the (brackets) if they do not apply

**Examiner's signature**

**Examiner's name** CAPITALS

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Examiner's address**

John Laurence Hastings  
3/5/2023  
ICAEW.  
3, BEUL BRIDGE CLOSE,  
FIMWELL,  
WADTurst,  
EAST SUSSEX.  
INS 7NL.