

**The Ecumenical Church Council
of
Sturry and District United Church
within the parish of
Sturry with Fordwich and Westbere with Hersden
Charity Commission reg no: 1181753**

**Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

**The Ecumenical Church Council of Sturry
and District United Church**

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The Ecumenical Church Council of Sturry and District United Church

Joint Annual Report of the Ecumenical Church Council and of the Parochial Church Council for 2021.

This Annual Report, accompanying the parish and partnership annual accounts is compiled in line with the requirements of the Charities Act 2006, the requirements of the Charity Commission and the public benefit reporting requirements that now apply to all charities.

Following the formal adoption of the new constitution on 20 February 2013, the responsibilities and the membership of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of the Anglican Parish of Sturry with Fordwich and Westbere with Hersden and those of the Ecumenical Church Council (ECC) of Sturry and District United Church are inevitably closely linked, and accordingly the following is a joint report approved by both councils.

Administrative information

Sturry and District United Church is a joint Anglican-Methodist Church serving the above-named parish. The Local Ecumenical Partnership in this parish was set up in September 1970 and its Sponsoring Body is Churches Together in Kent. It meets in two parish buildings, St Nicholas' church in Sturry, and All Saints' church in Westbere, both Anglican-owned but the subject of sharing agreements signed in 1988. (The church building of St Mary the Virgin in Fordwich was declared redundant in 1996 and is vested in the Churches Conservation Trust.)

As an Anglican-Methodist partnership, Sturry and District United Church is part both of the Diocese of Canterbury and Deanery of Canterbury within the Church of England and also part of The South-East District and the Canterbury and East Kent Circuit of The Methodist Church. The correspondence address is:

C/O The ECC Secretary, 88, Sweechgate, Broad Oak, Canterbury, CT2 0QU

The Ecumenical Church Council which was set up alongside the new Parochial Church Council from 20 February 2013 fulfils within this parish and partnership the roles normally carried out by a Parochial Church Council and a Methodist Church Council, and is therefore a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006). Sturry and District United Church was registered as a charity in January 2019.

The Rector, when one is appointed, is officially recognised as an Authorised Minister within the Methodist Church and represents both denominations within the United Church. From September 2012 the Diocese of Canterbury reduced the post of Rector to three-quarters of full-time. In order for him not to be disadvantaged financially, and in order to maintain his stipend at 100%, the Circuit contributed 25% of his stipend, in return for which 25% of his time was allocated to work in the wider Circuit outside our five villages, principally with ministerial responsibilities at Herne Bay United Church (Methodist and URC)

There follows a list of members of the PCC and the ECC in the calendar year 2021, all of whom act as trustees of the charity:

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Joint Annual Report of the Ecumenical Church Council and of the Parochial Church Council for 2021 (continued)

(1) PCC members who served during the period 1 January – 31 December 2021 were:

Retired minister with Permission to Officiate The Revd Peter Freeman (*co-opted*)

<i>Churchwardens</i>	Mrs Anne Stevenson Mr Darren Delo
<i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod</i>	Mrs Georgina Glover Mrs Angela Pilgrim
<i>Elected members</i>	Mrs Jane Freeman Mr Paul Haines (lay vice-chair) Mr Gavin Kennett (secretary) Mr Martin Pilgrim. Mr David Stevenson Mrs Brenda Williams

(2) ECC members who served during the period 1 January – 31 December 2021 were:

Rector and Methodist Minister The Revd Peter Cornish (to May 2021)

Retired minister with Permission to Officiate The Revd Peter Freeman (*co-opted*)

(The Circuit Superintendent minister, together with other ministers who have pastoral responsibility within the circuit, and the Bishop of Dover or her appointed representative, may also attend meetings; but none of them did so in 2021.)

<i>Churchwardens</i>	Mr Darren Delo Mrs Anne Stevenson
<i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod</i>	Mrs Georgina Glover Mrs Angela Pilgrim
<i>Members of the Circuit Meeting</i>	Mrs Anne Stevenson (<i>as churchwarden</i>) Dr Liz Morrison (<i>as treasurer</i>) Mrs Angela Pilgrim (<i>ex officio as circuit steward</i>) Mr Martin Pilgrim (<i>elected</i>)
<i>Elected members</i>	Mrs Jane Freeman Mr Paul Haines (lay vice-chair) Mr Gavin Kennett (secretary) Mr David Stevenson Mrs Brenda Williams

PCC and ECC Dr Liz Morrison (Treasurer) is an officer of the PCC and ECC but not a voting member of either. She is a trustee of the Sturry and District United Church charity as are all other PCC and ECC members.

The Ecumenical Church Council of Sturry and District United Church

Joint Annual Report of the Ecumenical Church Council and of the Parochial Church Council for 2021 (continued)

Structure, governance and management

Since 20 February 2013 the method of appointment of PCC members and ECC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules of the Church of England, the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church and the constitution of the Sturry and District United Church within the parish of Sturry with Fordwich and Westbere with Hersden, with the exception that in this parish and partnership those whose names are on the Methodist membership list enjoy the same rights, privileges and responsibilities as those whose names are on the Anglican electoral roll.

There is no pre-determined 'quota' governing the balance between Anglican and Methodist members on the church councils; candidates are elected without regard to their formal denominational allegiance. All who attend worship regularly in our churches are invited to register on the electoral roll or Methodist membership list and stand for election to the PCC and ECC.

In 2007 a Joint Membership List was created, consisting of those who had registered on the electoral roll or Methodist membership list, and it is noteworthy that since that date all such church members have wished to regard themselves as joint members of both denominations. At the Joint Church Council (JCC) meeting of 30 March 2009 it was resolved that following the Annual General Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting the numbers reported to our parent denominations would each be one-half of the total figure for the Joint Membership List.

Under the new constitution which came into force from 20 February 2013, the maximum number of elected representatives on each of the PCC and the ECC is nine. Elected representatives are elected to serve for three years. At the end of their first period of three years they are eligible for election for a further three years, but after a service of six consecutive years there must be a gap of at least one year before they can stand again for election.

Objectives and activities

As laid down by the PCC (Powers) Measure 1956, the PCC and ECC of Sturry and District United Church have the responsibility of co-operating with the Anglican and Methodist minister(s) in promoting in the parish and partnership the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC also has maintenance responsibilities for the church buildings of St Nicholas, Sturry, and All Saints, Westbere, and the churchyard only (not the church building) of St Mary the Virgin, Fordwich, and also exercises functions with respect to the Church of England Primary School in the parish.

The business of the ECC and PCC was inevitably disrupted by the coronavirus pandemic from March 2020 but nevertheless the PCC and ECC met eight times during the year, either in person or remotely by Microsoft Teams, including a brief meeting after the 2021 AGM and APCM. The PCC and ECC generally have joint meetings, at which the business of each council is handled separately, and a similar principle applies with respect to the AGM and APCM. The Standing Committee met between meetings, and minutes of their deliberations were received by the full PCC and ECC and discussed where necessary.

The Ecumenical Church Council of Sturry and District United Church

Joint Annual Report of the Ecumenical Church Council and of the Parochial Church Council for 2021 (continued)

Achievements and performance

Worship

In the following three paragraphs, relevant figures for 2021 are inserted in italics and in brackets, for comparison.

At the time of the 2021 Annual General Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting, there were 48(48) members of the Joint Membership List. Accordingly, for the purposes of annual denominational returns, 24 (24) members of the electoral roll were reported to the Church of England and 24 (24) members on the membership list were reported to the Methodist Church.

Because of the pandemic, many members of the congregation continued to self-isolate at home, worshipping through the provision of printed or emailed worship resources, a live Zoom service held by the Methodist Circuit, pre-recorded services from other churches or broadcast worship on the BBC, having an effect on the number of regular worshippers actually attending church, but 2021-figures show an average of 25.

Subject to restrictions enforced during the pandemic, we aim to enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. In the service of Thanksgiving and Blessing for the Gift of a Child we thank God for the gift of children and ask God's blessing on them and on their parents; in baptism we give older children and adults, or parents and godparents on behalf of younger children, the opportunity to declare their loyalty to Christ and we ask God's blessing on their discipleship; in marriage public vows are exchanged with God's blessing; and through funeral services friends and family express their grief and give thanks for the life that is now complete in this world and commend the person into God's keeping. During the year we celebrated ten (five) baptisms of adults or children and two (*two*) marriages in the parish; and funerals were held by parish ministers for 7 (*16*) persons either in one of the church buildings, at a local cemetery or at a crematorium.

The ECC maintains an overview of worship within the parish and is committed to enabling as many people as would wish to worship within the church buildings of the parish and also, where appropriate, in their own home and to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. Our services and worship aim to put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. In line with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit to charities for the advancement of religion, we aim to enable people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel, and developing their knowledge of and trust in Jesus Christ. We try to provide pastoral care, primarily for those living within the five villages; we engage in outreach work within the villages that we serve; and we support in prayer and, when possible, in financial giving to Christian missionary work elsewhere in the UK and overseas.

As part of this work it is important that we maintain the church buildings at St Nicholas, Sturry, and All Saints, Westbere. The project to carry out urgent repairs and maintenance of Sturry church, largely funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund but supplemented by generous gifts from individuals in the community and a grant from the Friends of St Nicholas, was mostly completed a week before the lockdown of March 2020

The Ecumenical Church Council of Sturry and District United Church

Joint Annual Report of the Ecumenical Church Council and of the Parochial Church Council for 2021 (continued)

with improvements to the kitchen with new cooker, dishwasher and fridge being completed 2022 and we look forward to being able to benefit more from that in the future.

The kitchen work has already seen huge benefits for coffee mornings and Soup on Saturday as well as making the possibility of hiring the church building out

looking more attractive to outside users. The project also included significant expenditure on heritage and education objectives and on community engagement, and we are taking that forward whenever opportunities arise. In the autumn the church hosted a very popular and well attended book launch from a local historian. The proposed residential developments in Sturry, Broad Oak and Hersden are likely to produce a virtual doubling in population of the ecclesiastical parish over the coming years and it is important that we both prepare for that and that we can present St Nicholas' church as a base for Christian mission, as a venue for community events and as a celebration of our local history and heritage. On 17 December, as a concluding public event for the NLHF project 2021, Patrick McKeating, Head of History at JKS led an event in the church entitled "Over 1000 years of History on Your Doorstep". This made much use of the material curated during the NLHF project.

Martin Pilgrim is thanked for all his hard work in driving the project forwards in the difficult circumstances of the past couple of years

We are extremely grateful for work undertaken in maintaining and tidying the Milner Ground over the past year. Grounds staff of Junior King's School have continued to cut the grass, and both we and the village as a whole have benefited from the work of Community Payback who have (when circumstances have made it possible) continued their good work, so that the Milner Ground is tidy and attractive. We are very grateful also to those who ensure the regular cleaning of both Sturry and Westbere churches and to those who provide flowers.

We have been glad that a number of parishioners were again able on a rota basis to open the redundant church building of St Mary the Virgin, Fordwich, for prayer and visiting in daylight

hours in 2021 as circumstances permitted. Because of the pandemic it was only possible to open All Saints' church, Westbere, for visitors and the local community to a limited extent in 2021. At Sturry we were able to open St Nicholas' church for private prayer / visitors during the pandemic on Sundays and Wednesdays as restrictions allowed with the church staffed by volunteers. Later in the year we moved to leaving the church open and unstaffed after services on Sunday, on Wednesday following the weekly coffee morning and Thursdays when church is cleaned. It is clear that many residents and visitors appreciate this.

Sturry churchyard and the two churchyards at Westbere are closed and the responsibility for maintaining those falls accordingly to Sturry Parish Council and Westbere Parish Council respectively. Both of these in fact sub-contract the work to others and we are grateful for the tidy appearance that they ensure. We are appreciative also of the work of a number of volunteers who maintain the churchyard at Fordwich; Community Payback have helped here too.

The ECC is keen to offer a range of worship opportunities over the course of the year that different members of the regular congregations and the wider community find helpful and spiritually fulfilling, but inevitably the pandemic in 2020 -2021 had a major impact on regular worship. Numbers attending the early morning 8.00am service at Sturry had been falling through death and infirmity, and so that service was not restarted after the first lockdown. The same applied to services at Westbere. It has also been difficult to find people to lead services in the parish since the retirement of the last Rector in May 2021 so the decision was made not to re-open Westbere for regular Sunday worship, but services were held over the Christmas period. The weekly 9.30am service at Sturry remains at 10.00am which has been logistically easier for some of the congregation. We continue to aim for a balance between eucharistic and non-eucharistic worship, and the traditions of both of our parent denominations are honoured; Once opportunities permit, we look forward again to welcoming the uniformed organisations four or five times a year, and to welcoming the boarders and staff of the Junior King's School to share in our service at Sturry once or twice in every term. The monthly pattern of services within the parish and partnership will continue to be kept under review, taking into account changes in official restrictions, attendance figures and also issues of staffing. Although we no longer run a children's group parallel with our main service at Sturry, we provide facilities for young children and their parents in the church.

In today's world it is essential that all organisations keep the effectiveness of their communications under constant review. The key elements are the United Church's website, its Facebook page, and the monthly magazine *Link-Up* which is delivered to around 450 homes in our villages, with additional free copies available at venues such as schools, shops and the Hersden Community Centre.

In the second half of the year a pastoral committee was established. Their remit included the setting up and managing a system of pastoral visiting, drawing up a rota of welcomers for church services, to be responsible for welcome letters and information which can be given out to new residents in our areas, to keep a watch on the community events the church organises, to be aware when events need support and to suggest new events as appropriate. The committee also explored how the views of people in our villages as to what they would like to be involved with at our church could be gathered.

A major loss caused by the pandemic is that we have been obliged to pause special services and visits made by Sturry CE Primary School at Sturry church., We look forward to restarting links with Sturry Primary and Water Meadows Primary (ex-Hersden CP School) which had decreased over the years prior to the pandemic.

Similarly, we look forward to rebuilding the close links with the Junior King's School, in shared worship, in meeting regularly with the Headteacher and the school's Church Committee and in exploring how the school and the church can work in partnership with regard to maintaining and developing the Sturry church building.

We enjoy cordial relationships with Sturry Parish Council and are glad that Sturry Parish Council and the new Hersden Parish Council, as well as the uniformed organisations, normally share in the wreath-laying ceremonies on Remembrance Sunday. At our Blue Christmas Service, we remembered before the Lord those who have died in the last year. The service was much appreciated by those who attended.

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Safeguarding

Sturry and District United Church has agreed to follow the safeguarding policy of the Church of England, partly because the Rector and Methodist minister served as a member of the Diocese of Canterbury's Safeguarding Management group for over twenty years. Together with the Parish Safeguarding Officers the ECC discusses safeguarding on a regular basis. The parish's website has a link to safeguarding information on its home page, including contact details within the parish and at diocesan level for anyone who has a safeguarding concern. The ECC has complied with the duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

Ecumenical links

Sturry and District United Church plays a key role in Churches Together in Sturry and District, the other members being Broad Oak Chapel and the Roman Catholic parish of Hersden and Sturry. We work with them in the annual Christian Aid Week collections in May. We are also associate members of Christians Together in Canterbury.

Deanery Synod

In addition to the Rector and Methodist minister, two members represent the parish and partnership on the Canterbury Deanery Synod which provides an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the Church of England.

Circuit Meeting

Sturry and District United Church forms a part of the Canterbury and East Kent Circuit of The Methodist Church. The Circuit Meeting and regular meetings of the circuit ministers and the Circuit Leadership Team facilitate our collaboration in mission and ministry with other churches in the Circuit. One of our church members is a circuit steward and thus shares in meetings of the Circuit Leadership Team. In addition to her, our Anglican-Methodist partnership is represented at Circuit Meetings by the Rector and Methodist minister, a churchwarden, the treasurer and one other elected church member.

Events

We look forward to exploring how we can restart all our events within the confines of the pandemic guidelines bearing in mind that the kitchen will be developed later in 2021. In the past a weekly Coffee Morning in Sturry church, on Wednesdays, provided a warm welcome and meeting-place for the wider community, as well as raising funds for the parish; and a monthly 'Soup on Saturday' also provided a welcome opportunity for church members and others to meet. We look forward to being able to hold occasional social and fundraising events, although there are fewer church members able to share in the hard work that fetes, fairs and the like necessarily entail. Having a range of events hosted by the parish and by the Friends of St Nicholas helps to build community and raises funds for the ongoing ministry of the church and our running costs.

Financial review

We are grateful to those church members who reviewed their giving through the church over the year, and to all who have organised and supported fundraising events.

Details of our receipts and expenditure, including our parish share by which we contribute to ministry costs not only in this parish but in the wider churches, will be available in the financial accounts.

At the time of writing this report, the annual return to the Charity Commission for 2020, due on 31st October 2021, has not been made. The AGM is also not able to receive accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021 as they are not yet in a position to be independently examined. An ad-hoc group of the ECC is now working with advisers from the Methodist church to get the 2020 and 2021 accounts to a position where they can be independently examined.

Given the position of the accounts ye 31/12/20 and ye 31/12/21 accounts as detailed above, we have not been able finally to account for the NLHF project to NLHF because of the lack of financial information for the financial years 2020 and 2021; the report to NLHF was due by 31 December 2021 (the date already having been shifted several times before that).

We are very grateful for those who give generously both in terms of time and of money. The parish and partnership have developed a legacies policy and encourage church members and others to make a bequest in their wills to the work of the church in this parish, but inevitably the results of that work will not be seen (we hope!) until sometime into the future.

Reserves policy

The PCC has reviewed the church's needs for reserves in line with the Operational Guidance No 43 (Charity Income Reserves) issued by the Charity Commission. The income of the Parish, as well as its financial demands, are subject to fluctuation. Maintaining two listed buildings can be costly and in order to meet the cost of major repairs and other calls upon parish funds, the PCC consider it prudent to maintain substantial reserves.

Report approved by the Parochial Church Council and the Ecumenical Church Council on 1st May 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

AEM. Stevens
Churchwarden

The Ecumenical Church Council of Sturry and District United Church

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Ecumenical Church Council of Sturry and District United Church

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31 December 2021 which are set out on pages 10 to 14.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:


- Examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you as 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:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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.


CLAIRE DEAN FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
18/20 Canterbury Road
Whitstable
Kent
CT5 4GX

STURRY CHURCH

DETAILED ACCOUNTS TO 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Endowment	Total	2020
	General	Designated	NLHF	Other	Fund		Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS							
Planned giving	20636					20636	20491
Collections	699					699	1195
Junior Kings	5040					5040	5040
Donations	4456		100			4556	12015
Charity collections	310					310	113
VAT repaid	-					-	11757
Gift Aid	3173		2393			5566	(7913)
Fees	3472					3472	1836
Wedding deposits				2000		2000	1020
Diocesan fees	3688					3688	2858
Rent	-					-	300
Parish magazine	501					501	1299
Investment income	4057					4057	4166
Interest	52					52	108
	<u>46084</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2493</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>50577</u>	<u>54285</u>
EXPENSES							
Per attached schedule	33442	-	17568	750	-	51760	55645
	<u>33442</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17568</u>	<u>750</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51760</u>	<u>55645</u>
OTHER ITEMS							
Revaluation of Investments					13419	13419	8187
Inter fund transfers	(15075)		15075			-	-
	<u>(15075)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15075</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13419</u>	<u>13419</u>	<u>8187</u>
SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT)	<u>(2433)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1250</u>	<u>13419</u>	<u>12236</u>	<u>6827</u>

SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Endowment		
	General	Designated	NLHF	Other	Fund	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Ministry expenses	735					735	1455
Utilities and insurance	12633					12633	10058
Repairs and organ tuning	4011					4011	1378
Graveyard maintenance	1080					1080	360
Upkeep of services	1650					1650	524
Administration	407					407	459
Parish share							
Paid	10000					10000	10000
Accrual reversed	-					-	(26179)
Circuit assessment							
Accrual reversed	-					-	(9750)
Parish magazine	665					665	1224
Fee deposits repaid	-			750		750	1135
Fees to Diocese	660					660	
3252							
Gift to retiring clergy	1000					1000	-
Charity payments	601					601	99
Project expenses			17568			17538	61630
	<u>33442</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17568</u>	<u>750</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51760</u>	<u>55645</u>

STURRY CHURCH

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Endowment	Total	Total
	General	Designated	NLHF	Other	Fund		2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Investments					156493	156493	143074
Cash in hand	15					15	15
Lloyds current	22,903			10286		33189	34226
Lloyds magazine	434					434	630
CCLA deposit	12340	6967				19307	19266
Methodist Central	1421					1421	1412
Total Assets	<u>37113</u>	<u>6967</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10286</u>	<u>156493</u>	<u>210859</u>	<u>198623</u>
Fund Movement							
Balance at 1.1.21	39546	6967	-	9036	143074	198623	191796
Surplus/Deficit	(2433)	-	-	1250	13419	12236	6827
Balance at 31.12.21	<u>37113</u>	<u>6967</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10286</u>	<u>156493</u>	<u>210859</u>	<u>198623</u>

Analysis of Other Restricted Funds

Heating Fund	630	630
Organ Fund	380	380
Rector's Fund (W H Bird)	683	683
Sturry Church Fund	470	470
Wedding Deposits	4295	3045
Westbere Fabric Fund	3828	3828
	<u>10286</u>	<u>9036</u>

THE ECUMENICAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF STURRY AND DISTRICT UNITED CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 December 2021

1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards.

Basis of Accounting

The accounts for 2019 were prepared on the Accrual Basis as required by the Charity Commissioners based on the level of total revenue. The Trustees were satisfied that the revenue for the 2019 and for the foreseeable future (a minimum of three years) would permit them to produce the accounts on a Receipts and Payments Basis. Having considered this option they decided that it was preferable to change the basis of accounting to a Receipts and Payments Basis for the 2019 and future years.

A contributing factor to this decision concerns the significant creditors that were accrued at 31 December 2019 which have been established as not due and payable.

Funds

General funds represents the funds of the ECC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the ECC are also unrestricted.

The accounts include all transactions for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital resources

Collections are recognised when received on behalf of the ECC.

Planned giving receivable under covenant is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on covenants or gift aid donations is recognised when received.

Grants and legacies to the ECC are accounted for when received.

Funds raised by events are accounted for gross.

Sales of magazines from the church are accounted for gross.

Resources Expended

The Diocesan Quota or Parish Share is accounted for when paid.

STURRY CHURCH
COMMENTARY ON DETAILED ACCOUNTS
YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. It is believed that the donations of £4556 all relate to the general fund. A final review has checked that there are no donations attributable to the restricted funds.
2. The NLHF restricted fund was overspent during the year by £15,075. As a restricted fund cannot be overdrawn this amount was transferred from the general fund as shown on page 1, thus leaving the NLHF balance at zero at 31 December 2021. If in a future year the NLHF fund is adequately in surplus this transfer will be reversed.
3. The expenditure on Repairs and Organ Tuning of £4011 includes £2500 of roof work following the damage caused by lead theft in December 2001. This event was the subject of an insurance claim and the amount recovered will be included in the year of receipt.
4. The expense shown under Parish Share of £10000 was the amount paid in the year. This was less than the amount requested, a similar situation existed in previous years. This matter will be subject to discussion with the Diocese and any further payments will be shown in the accounts of the year when payment is made. A similar situation exists for the Methodist Circuit Assessment where nothing was paid in the year to 31 December 2021.
5. It is the intention to close the Lloyds Magazine account which is shown on page 3 at £434 and for the funds to be transferred to the current account.
6. A list of the Other Restricted Funds is shown on page 3. Some of these funds have been in existence for many years. It would be within the authority of the ECC to agree that the balances could be transferred to general funds if they are no longer required. Each fund should be considered individually, and due regard should be taken of both future needs and historical restrictions.
7. The Endowment Fund is shown on page 3 at £156493. There is uncertainty over how these monies can be used, and enquiries are continuing into the future possibilities for these funds.
8. The full accounts for the year to 31 December 2020 have been agreed and the Examiner's report received. These accounts have been filed with the Charities Commission.