



*"The Church in the Park"*

# Our Church in 2020

[www.elmdonchurch.org](http://www.elmdonchurch.org)  
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Produced by the Parochial Church Council for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting,  
to be held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021, 7.30pm on Zoom

**PLEASE EMAIL [rector@elmdonchurch.org](mailto:rector@elmdonchurch.org) FOR A ZOOM INVITATION**



# Church information

Address	Elmdon Church (also known as "the Church in the Park") Church Lane, Elmdon Park, Solihull B92 9EJ
Rector	Revd Toby Crowe Elmdon Rectory, 86 Tanhouse Farm Road, Solihull B92 9EY
Licensed Readers	Robert Dean, Richard Huss, Karen Matthews
Churchwardens	John Eyles, Morris Ross (until October 2020) Carol Janes, Paolo Mendonca (from October 2020)
Children & Families' Work	Kelly Purdy (until July 2020)

The business of the Church is carried out through the Parochial Church Council (PCC). This met four times in person during 2020: three regular meetings, plus one extraordinary meeting immediately after the APCM to appoint PCC officers. Further decisions were taken by email, in accordance with the provisions of the Church Representation Rules. The role of the PCC remains one of co-operating with the Rector in promoting the mission of the church: pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical.

## PCC members, 2020 - 21

Revd Toby Crowe	<i>Chair</i>
Carol Janes	Churchwarden, ex officio member
Paolo Mendonca	Churchwarden, ex officio member
Karen Matthews	Reader, ex officio member
Christine Arnsby	Deanery Synod, ex officio member
Cheryl Doyle	Deanery Synod, ex officio member
Jamie Rawson	Deanery Synod, ex officio member

### *Elected Members to serve until APCM in:*

<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2023</i>
Lesley Huss	Alan Doyle	Patricia Coleman-Taylor
Graham Smye	Anne Milne	Elizabeth Smye
Vacancy	Vacancy	Dave Monk

## Officers appointed by the PCC, 2020 - 2021

Safeguarding	Patricia Coleman-Taylor
PCC Treasurer	Alan Doyle
PCC Secretary	Carol Janes (until October 2020) Christine Arnsby (from October 2020)
Lay Vice-Chair	Graham Smye
Parish Identify Verifier	Lesley Huss
Electoral Roll Officer	Patricia Coleman-Taylor (until October 2020) Jamie Rawson (from October 2020)



# Introduction by the Rector

**“One thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus”** (Philippians 3:13 - 14).

This is my ninth and final introduction to one of these reports in Elmdon. There is a temptation to look back at the things we've shared during that time – and a report such as this must certainly look back over the last several months at least, even if (according to the usual and obvious ways of measuring) there's much that we haven't been able to do that we would otherwise have been wanting to see done and accomplished. So yes, let us look back.

But at least as importantly (for we are a resurrection people), we must always be looking forward as well, to the new things that the Lord will be doing among us as we wait for Jesus's glorious and promised return.

I truly believe that Elmdon Church is in a strong position to meet the challenges of the post-coronavirus world (and the vacancy!) head-on. But there will be challenges, too: big challenges. And they will require us – by which, of course, I mean they will require *you* – to work together in unity, peace and good order, for the sake of the Gospel.

I said in this preface last year that the earliest we would be able to go back to 'normal' would be the Easter just past, and that realistically we might not be able to restart many of our activities before this September. Even this, I said, might prove too soon – and this note of caution may yet prove to have been sensible. Some things probably won't start again for some time to come, and not just because of the pandemic: whether we're able to staff Acorns during the vacancy, for example, or the full range of children's groups we used to have on a Sunday remains to be seen.

But whatever you're doing in the next twelve months, and whatever the vacancy looks like, my prayer is that you will hold each other with kindness and understanding; that you will encourage one another in the ministry you share; and that, together, you will grow in the image and likeness of our Lord Jesus Christ.

There is a big work remaining in Elmdon. Our heavenly Father has chosen and called *you* to do it. I'm sorry that my role is now coming to an end, and I will continue to pray for you as I begin a ministry elsewhere. May you know His blessing, and then may you be His blessing, at the heart of the Elmdon community.

**“Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, that is how you should stand firm in the Lord, dear friends!”** (Philippians 4:1).

The best is still to come – praise the Lord! Stand firm and press on towards that goal with great unity and purpose, under the outstanding leadership that I know the churchwardens will provide. During the next twelve months they, and the team that they build around them, will be your leaders! Trust them!

The prize, when it comes, will be worth it, I promise. Thank you for all that we've shared along the way.

**Toby Crowe, Rector**



# Safeguarding

The Church of England requires its parish churches to adopt a number of processes and policies around safeguarding. This includes the appointment of a Safeguarding Coordinator and an individual with specific responsibility for safeguarding within the Parochial Church Council (PCC). In 2020 Elmdon had one individual with responsibility for both of these roles: Patricia Coleman-Taylor.

The safeguarding requirements are determined by the National Safeguarding Team who lead on these issues for the Church of England. The Diocese of Birmingham then provide guidance to each parish on how these are to be implemented.

The instructions from the National Safeguarding Team are made with the support and approval of the House of Bishops and are designed to make sure that parish churches understand and comply with increasingly complicated legal requirements whilst ensuring that the church properly fulfils its spiritual and moral obligations. The House of Bishop's guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults can be found under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

At Elmdon, the Parochial Church Council oversees the management of safeguarding children and vulnerable adults in the parish and determines how best to implement the requirements with consideration to the advice provided from the Diocese of Birmingham. The PCC approves and oversees all organised activities provided for children and vulnerable adults by Elmdon Church.

The PCC provides policies on Safeguarding and Domestic Violence which can be found on the Elmdon Church website and are displayed on the church noticeboard. In addition, safeguarding forms a standing item on every PCC agenda.

All staff and volunteers in roles which involve working with children or vulnerable adults are recruited according to the House of Bishops Safer Recruitment Practice Guidance. For those in eligible roles this includes us undertaking checks with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

Training for our clergy, staff and volunteers in safeguarding matters is mandated by national Church of England requirements. The level of training required depends on the role being performed. The management of safeguarding training for clergy and staff is the responsibility of the Diocese, but the responsibility for ensuring our volunteers are trained remains with the PCC.

The national and diocesan training available for staff and volunteers in 2020 was modular and included core and specialist modules (though in most cases only the core modules were relevant). For obvious reasons, this has all been online during the past year.

**Contact:** Patricia Coleman-Taylor, Safeguarding Co-ordinator

## Electoral Roll

The revised electoral roll was published on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2021, containing 94 names. We mourn the loss of Ros Johnson and Anne Salter, both of whom died in the early months of 2021.

**Contact:** Jamie Rawson



# THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

## Our church in 2020

In 2020 our work retained the three emphases of 'shaping' (growing in the likeness of Christ together), 'sharing' (telling the good news of God's kingdom together) and 'supporting' (sustaining our work and our witness together); but many of our usual activities were curtailed by the pandemic and resultant changes.

## Discipleship ('Shaping')

### **Preaching** *Co-ordinated by Toby Crowe*

Most of the year was spent looking at Revelation. We paused in August, however, to go through Paul's letter to Titus. In 2021 we have so far looked at parables in Matthew's gospel, and have just started to read the book of Amos together.

### **Children** *Co-ordinated in 2020 by Lesley Huss (school age) & Jean Eyles (toddlers & pre-schoolers)*

We worked hard to continue our children's discipleship as we moved in and out of lockdowns and restrictions over the course of the year. Material was available for children on our website during the first lockdown, and we ran Kids in Christ groups on Zoom for an experimental period during the summer. We have produced weekly videos for Acorns children for the past year, though these will come to an end in May 2021. From the autumn, we produced craft packs to fit in with the Sunday readings (these have also been posted online, and feedback indicates that they are well used – see quotations scattered throughout this report). Weekly Bible study sheets, which were initially aimed at older children and teenagers, have proved helpful to adults as well! We hope to restart in-person KiC groups as soon as it is practical and safe to do so, though we have lost many members of the team (for various reasons). In terms of leadership, we bid Jean farewell when she moved to the North East in December; and Lesley is now stepping down as Kids in Christ co-ordinator, though a potential replacement has been identified.

### **Bible study groups** *Co-ordinated by Toby Crowe*

The previous arrangements were suspended when the first lockdown arrived in March. Following several months of planning, our new Connect groups were launched in their place at the end of 2020. At the time of writing these are mostly still meeting online, though one has so far made the transition to meeting in person. We hope that others will soon follow. Please speak to Toby if you would like to join one.

### **1:1 discipleship** *Co-ordinated by Toby Crowe*

This is a key element of our discipleship work, but has been superseded in the last year by another urgent pastoral task: that of reaching out to those who have been isolating, or isolated. We have been visiting at least 25 people each week.

### **Prayer meeting** *Co-ordinated by Rob Dean*

We maintained a weekly prayer meeting throughout 2020, meeting on Zoom.

### **Prayer chain** *Co-ordinated by Jean Eyles*

This is a group which prays through urgent and emergency prayer requests, maybe once or twice per month. Please contact us at [prayer@elmdonchurch.org](mailto:prayer@elmdonchurch.org)



## **Eco-Church**

*Co-ordinated by Lesley Huss*

Stewardship of God's creation is a biblical responsibility on all people, in which the Church should be taking a lead (Genesis 1:28). We continue to pray that we might look after our site, buildings and people in a more caring manner; use fewer resources; pray more frequently for those suffering the effects of global warming; and worship the God who made all things – not only in our services, but also with every part of our lives.

## **Evangelism ('Sharing')**

Much of our usual work (eg. Christian 'basics' courses, Open Church, door-to-door visiting, Acorns, schools work, most of our weddings) went into abeyance during 2020. We look forward to starting these activities again when changing circumstances allow.

## **Christmas**

*Co-ordinated by Toby Crowe and Elizabeth Smye*

This looked somewhat different to normal, but we tried to provide activities fitted to our new circumstances! There were online services (eg. Christingle), an in-person (and socially-distanced) family service and a Christmas trail in the park. We distributed nearly 50 Christmas craft packs, and about the same number of Christmas angel knitting patterns.

## **Social media**

*Co-ordinated by Richard Huss and Emma Crowe*

This work really came into its own during 2020, with a particular focus on Facebook. Besides online services (live-streamed from our building since the summer), we provided weekly song compilations and videos for toddlers & pre-schoolers. Toby, our Rector, also led daily Bible reflections on several biblical books (Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges and the two books of Kings). This is an area to develop further as we begin to emerge from the pandemic and look for new ways of connecting with the communities that we are put here to serve.

## **LOOKING AHEAD...**

The future will doubtless hold great opportunities and great challenges. The coming of HS2 means that we will see many new residents moving in, some of whom will be looking for a gospel church to join. There will be Christians elsewhere in Solihull and East Birmingham who would also like to join such a church, but who do not know we are here: this is one reason why we need to build our social media profile. The sale of the Gaydon Road and Coppice Road sites will potentially release a large amount of capital for investment in kingdom work.

On the other hand, as we emerge from the pandemic, there will be an amount of rebuilding to be done – and, of course, we are about to enter a vacancy. It could easily be a year or more before a new Rector arrives, and we wait to see what responsibilities they might have for other churches besides our own.

But the PCC is committed to praying and working for a deeper discipleship and a more effective evangelism in Elmdon. We still long to see revival in this land, and why shouldn't it begin here?

***"Today the girls thought of things they could do as part of God's plan. They came up with ideas such as looking after others, being kind and sharing" – feedback from parents on our Sunday craft packs for younger (and older!) children***



# The work beyond Elmdon

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is committed to promoting the mission of the worldwide church, and has appointed a Mission Support Group (MSG) to help it in this work. MSG members are currently Rob Dean, Lesley & Richard Huss, Allan Jones and Elaine Malkin. These are our church's mission partners:

## **Pablo Madrid Aguilera (Crosslinks BEST Study Partner, Chile)**

During 2020, we started partnering with Pablo, a former youth leader now training to become a full-time pastor for his church. Chile's evangelical Christian population is small and there is a need for more church leaders who can preach God's word faithfully. Pablo is studying for a Bachelors in Theology until the end of 2022. We have committed to praying for him and supporting him financially for the duration of his course.

## **Gift and Kathryn Asiku (Wycliffe Bible Translators, Uganda)**

During 2020, Kathryn assisted in making information about Covid available in local languages, helped produce Bible study guides, and was involved in a project enabling the Ugandan Church to be more involved with Bible translation. Meanwhile Gift has been helping to progress the translation of the Old Testament in the Lugwere, Lunyole, Lugungu, Lubwisi and Aringa languages. Covid-19 has brought challenges – some distribution targets were not met due to travel restrictions, and for much of 2020 Kathryn and Gift were home-schooling not only their own two children, but also their nephews. But the year also brought opportunities. Families and small groups made greater use of the translated Scriptures while churches were closed. The Asikus themselves felt more connected to their supporting churches through being able to watch and participate in online services: they recorded the reading and prayers for us in Elmdon one week, and someone from Elmdon took part in one of their services in Entebbe via Zoom.

## **Foodbanks**

With an increasing number of people relying on foodbanks, we continued to collect donations of food for Helping Hands and took part in the #feedbirmingham project.

## **Send a Cow**

We also supported the Send a Cow charity, whose mission is to give communities and families in Africa the hope and the means to secure their own futures from the land.

As a church we look to develop **a partnership approach to mission**, working with individuals and organisations whom we can get to know, and with whom we can join as equal partners in God's work. This will include two-way communication and praying for each other. We are also looking at our own **financial giving**, with the PCC aiming to give 10% of its income to mission support. At the same time, anyone who would like to give specifically to the work of our mission partners is encouraged to speak to treasurer, Alan Doyle, or one of the MSG.

**Contact:** Richard and Lesley Huss

*"The boys liked learning about the parable of the sower" –  
feedback from parents on our Sunday craft packs for younger (and older!) children*



# Our mission in 2021

## "A season of rebuilding and of new life"

We have been living in strange times, but the purpose of everything we do remains the same: to grow in the image of Christ as we help other people to know and follow God more, in his Son, by the power of his Spirit.

### Prayer

#### ***'Seeking the Lord's will, together, praying for the lost'***

*While coronavirus restrictions last, we will continue to make prayer a central element of all our services and meetings; to hold our weekly prayer meeting, every Tuesday evening on Zoom; and to respond to specific requests through the prayer chain.*

*As we prepare for the future we will bring new people on to the intercessions and prayer ministry rotas and train them accordingly.*

*As we emerge from the restrictions we will re-establish a monthly prayer meeting in person and aspire to return to providing prayer ministry after our Sunday services.*

### Discipleship

#### ***'Growing in the likeness of Jesus, together'***

*While coronavirus restrictions last, we will continue to run Sunday services in person when safe to do so, and in any case will also provide live-streaming, DVDs & the phone line. We will increase the musical element in our services when appropriate (and expand our musical repertoire as we do so). We will provide materials (both at in-person services and at home) for children and young people (craft packs etc). We will continue to provide pastoral care and practical support, especially to those who are unable to go out.*

*As we prepare for the future, we will firmly establish our new Connect groups – online at first. We will aspire to bring new people on to the children's work rota and train them accordingly. We will continue to expand our musical provision through establishing a music planning team and bringing new people onto the vocals rota.*

*As we emerge from the restrictions, we will relaunch at least some of our children's groups on a Sunday morning and reintroduce sung worship, using new material which we have learned over the last year as well as some of what we used previously. We will move our Connect groups into meeting in person as appropriate. We will look for more intentional opportunities for 1:1 pastoral conversations.*



# **Evangelism**

## ***'Telling the good news of Jesus, together'***

*While coronavirus restrictions last, we will continue to provide appropriate evangelistic events when possible. We will continue to develop our use of social media as an evangelistic tool. We will continue to provide a weekly Acorns video for toddlers and their families while resources permit.*

*As we prepare for the future, we will plan for a fresh approach to Acorns when this can be re-started. We will review our 'big' evangelism events (eg. Good Friday), planning to recast these as necessary when resources allow.*

*As we emerge from the restrictions, we will explore future possibilities for a regular Open Church event. We will relaunch parish-visiting and schools work if we can. We will launch an evangelistic sewing & knitting group in our church building ('Knitting Together?').*

*NB. We are unlikely to be able to relaunch Acorns, Open Church or the lunch club at this stage.*

# **Buildings**

## ***'Making them fit for today's growing church'***

*While coronavirus restrictions last, we will continue to maintain our building in Elmdon Park and to keep our other buildings safe, pending disposal. We will continue to move towards disposal of both 1960s halls later in 2021.*

*As we emerge from the restrictions we will return to our development programme at "the Church in the Park", looking especially at downstairs lighting; sound desk and visuals (including a relocation of the organ console); replacement of the flat roofs; upstairs panelling (and sound-proofing?); internal and external signage and publicity boards.*

*We will also monitor use of the carpark.*

# **Money**

## ***'Giving to pay for the ministry of the Church, both here and elsewhere'***

*While coronavirus restrictions last, we will continue to pay our parish share on time and in full, monitoring the financial implications of the ongoing People & Places programme.*

*As we emerge from the restrictions we will investigate methods for receiving online payments, in conversation with Amanda Homer (the Diocesan Finance Manager).*

**We preach Christ crucified.  
Nobody and nothing but Him.**



# Hatchford Brook Churches Together (HBCT)

The churches represented, besides ourselves, are Lyndon Methodist Church; St Mary's, Hobs Moat; the Redeemed Christian Church of God; St Giles, Sheldon; St Thomas More and Sheldon Community Church.

The aim of HBCT is to be a visibly united witness of faith in Christ Jesus, but this was difficult in 2020, when every one of our meetings was cancelled!

**Contact:** Christine Arnsby

## OUR FINANCES

The PCC is responsible for the church's finances, though it delegates management of these to the PCC Treasurer, Alan Doyle.

Separate accounts relating to the defunct church halls were closed in 2020, and the funds transferred to the main current account (the exception being one account relating to Gaydon Road, the funds from which were transferred to the main reserves account). A fabric account for the parish is overseen by Alan Doyle.

### Income

Most of our income has previously come through stewardship (including direct debits), envelope-giving, cheques, standing orders, covenants, Gift Aid, plate collections and donations. Other sources of income have typically been wedding and funeral fees plus (in the past) legacies, the fun day and Christmas bazaars and social events.

There were no plate or envelope collections after March 2020, and most of the few weddings we had booked were cancelled.

While our Common Fund request in 2021 is the same as last year's, our costs will inevitably rise in the future, not least if we take seriously our commitment to giving 10% of our income away to our various mission partners.

We must therefore plan and budget for a continued increase in giving in the years ahead. This will ensure, not only our own financial viability, but also that we can bless other churches in more straitened situations and places. We pray for even more generosity from existing church members, and for many new people to join us as well, that they might become sacrificial givers in their turn.

### Fees paid for church work

In 2020, the church paid an organist's fee for weddings and funerals at which the organ was played. While no verger was contracted during the epidemic, track-and-trace measures were put in place and charged for. A sexton was also paid a fee for digging plots for the interment of cremated remains.

### Financial Reserves Policy

The Charity endeavours to maintain finances at an appropriate level to facilitate day-to-day activities and also to finance upkeep of our buildings



# OTHER INFORMATION

## Our buildings

We currently still have responsibility for three properties, but two of these closed for good in 2020. Our main building is in the middle of Elmdon Park and is known as “the Church in the Park”. The Sunday service is held here, as well as all baptisms, weddings, and funerals. We expect the other sites to be sold later this year. Until then, they remain vested in the Birmingham Diocesan Board of Trustees who hold property on behalf of (and acting in the interests of) Parochial Church Councils in the diocese. The Elmdon Parochial Church Council owns the properties themselves, and are the Managing Trustees.

## PCC membership

Under the Church Representation Rules, we are entitled to nine elected PCC members. An attempt at last year’s APCM to reduce this to six (as the Rules permit) was defeated, although only three people stood to fill the six vacancies.

In 2021, two members come to the end of their term but are eligible for re-election if they wish to stand. In addition one other member has signalled their intention to resign. With other existing vacancies, we therefore intend to elect five PCC members at the APCM.

Every year the PCC appoints a Standing Committee, which meets as necessary and reports to the next meeting of the PCC. Its members from October 2020 were Toby Crowe (Rector), Carol Janes (Churchwarden), Paolo Mendonca (Churchwarden), Christine Arnsby (Secretary) and Alan Doyle (Treasurer).

The members of the PCC are aware of the Charity Commission guidance on public benefits in ‘the Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit’ and have had regard to it in their administration of the PCC. The PCC believes that by promoting the work of the Church of England in the parish of Elmdon it provides a benefit to the public by:

- providing a facility for public worship and pastoral care both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church can offer; and
- promoting Christian values and services by members of the Church and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole

*“We have really enjoyed receiving the craft packs and sitting as a family to talk and complete the activities” – feedback from parents on our Sunday craft packs for younger (and older!) children*



# Annual Report of the Elmdon Parochial Church Council for 2020

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (THE PCC)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 which are set out on pages 13 to 23.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



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Jeremy Kitson FCA  
Prime Chartered Accountants  
Corner Oak  
1 Homer Road  
Solihull  
B91 3QG

Date: 27 May 2021 .....



**ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT - GENERAL FUND**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Notes	2020		2019	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>					
<i>Voluntary Receipts</i>					
Planned Giving	5	47,502		48,041	
Collections and Donations		<u>1,932</u>		<u>4,883</u>	
			49,434		52,924
<i>Receipts from Activities for generating funds</i>					
B'ham International Airport Grant		-		-	
Teas		-		656	
Sundry Income		<u>2,645</u>		<u>2,719</u>	
			2,645		3,375
<i>Receipts from Church Activities</i>					
VAT refund on building work		-		6,159	
Wedding and Funeral Fees		<u>6,166</u>		<u>1,427</u>	
			6,166		7,586
<i>Receipts from Investments</i>					
Investment Income	6		<u>1,013</u>		<u>989</u>
Total receipts			59,258		64,874
<b>Payments</b>					
<i>Church Activities</i>					
Apportionment	7	49,740		48,780	
Building repairs		2,601		1,660	
Charities	8	2,366		2,508	
Church running expenses		438		100	
Church and Churchyard	9	12,643		12,449	
Printing, postage and stationery		1,846		1,612	
Sundry Expenses	10	1,148		801	
VCC planning fees		<u>15,000</u>		-	
			85,782		67,910
<i>Governance costs</i>					
Accountancy			<u>1,680</u>		<u>1,656</u>
Total payments			87,462		69,566
Transfers to / (out of) general fund			38,525		3,000
<b>(Deficit)/Surplus of Receipts/Overpayments</b>			<u>10,321</u>		<u>(1,692)</u>
Bank Balances 1 January			<u>4,374</u>		<u>6,066</u>
Bank Balances 31 December			<u>14,695</u>		<u>4,374</u>



**ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT - RESTRICTED FUND**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Notes	2020		2019	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>					
<i>Voluntary Receipts</i>					
Collections and Donations		<u>2,132</u>		<u>19,039</u>	
			2,132		19,039
<i>Receipts from Activities for generating funds</i>					
Sundry Income		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>	
			-		-
<i>Receipts from Church Activities</i>					
Wedding and Funeral Fees		<u>5,043</u>		<u>1,203</u>	
			<u>5,043</u>		<u>1,203</u>
Total receipts			7,175		20,242
<b>Payments</b>					
<i>Church Activities</i>					
Church running expenses		4,829		1,592	
Church and Churchyard		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>	
Total payments			4,829		1,592
Transfer from general funds			(9,021)		-
<b>(Deficit)/Surplus of Receipts/Overpayments</b>			<u>(6,675)</u>		<u>(18,650)</u>
Bank Balances 1 January			<u>18,650</u>		<u>-</u>
Bank Balances 31 December			<u>11,975</u>		<u>18,650</u>



**ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT - DESIGNATED ACCOUNT**  
**- FABRIC FUND**

**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	2020	2019
	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>		
<i>Voluntary Receipts</i>		
Transfer from Funds	-	-
<i>Receipts from Church Activities</i>		
Weddings & Funeral Fees	84	643
<i>Receipts from Investments</i>		
Interest on CBF Appeals Fund	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>
Total receipts	90	653
<b>Payments</b>		
<i>Church Activities</i>		
Transfer between funds	-	-
Music Fund	-	299
Building Repairs	-	3,996
Wedding fees costs	-	183
Total payments	<u>-</u>	<u>4,478</u>
<b>(Deficit)/Surplus of receipts/overpayments</b>	<u>90</u>	<u>(3,825)</u>
Bank Balances 1 January	<u>1,578</u>	<u>5,403</u>
Bank Balances 31 December	<u>1,668</u>	<u>1,578</u>



**ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT - DESIGNATED ACCOUNT**  
**- VALLEY CHURCH CENTRE**

**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	2020	2019
	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>		
<i>Voluntary Receipts</i>		
Donations	-	-
<i>Receipts from Church Activities</i>		
Income from organisations	1,432	6,766
Outside Bookings	1,526	2,006
Miscellaneous	40	90
	-----	-----
	2,998	8,862
<i>Receipts from Investments</i>		
Bank Interest	4	8
	-----	-----
Total receipts	3,002	8,870
 <b>Payments</b>		
<i>Church Activities</i>		
Hall cleaning	640	2,050
Maintenance and repair	-	638
Light and Heat	880	2,639
Water	108	101
Insurance	473	1,005
Sundries	-	39
	-----	-----
Total payments	<u>2,101</u>	<u>6,472</u>
 Transfer between funds	(18,580)	(3,000)
 <b>Deficit of receipts over payments</b>	<u>(17,679)</u>	<u>(602)</u>
 Bank Balances 1 January	<u>17,679</u>	<u>18,281</u>
Bank Balances 31 December	<u>-</u>	<u>17,679</u>



**ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT - DESIGNATED ACCOUNT**  
**-ST STEPHENS HALL USERS**

**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	2020		2019	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>				
<i>Receipts from Church Activities</i>				
Rents	1,850		8,155	
Functions	-		285	
Grants and Donations	-		74	
	<u>1,850</u>		<u>8,514</u>	
 <i>Receipts from Investments</i>				
Interest Received		<u>7</u>		<u>16</u>
 Total receipts		1,857		8,530
 <b>Payments</b>				
<i>Church Activities</i>				
Insurance	2,466		2,905	
Water Rates	100		219	
Telephone	85		195	
Electricity	1,786		1,984	
Cleaning	416		1,352	
Fire Security	339		327	
Maintenance	1,348		506	
Sundry	<u>-</u>		<u>39</u>	
 Total payments		<u>6,540</u>		<u>7,527</u>
 Transfer between funds		(10,925)		-
 <b>(Deficit)/Surplus of receipts/overpayments</b>		<u>(15,608)</u>		<u>1,003</u>
 Bank Balances 1 January		<u>15,608</u>		<u>14,605</u>
 Bank Balances 31 December		<u>-</u>		<u>15,608</u>



**ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**CONSOLIDATED RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	General £	Designated £	Restricted	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
<b>Receipts</b>					
Planned Giving	47,502	-	-	47,502	48,041
Collections & Donations	1,932	-	2,132	4,064	23,922
Teas	-	-	-	-	656
Sundry Income	2,645	-	-	2,645	2,719
Wedding & Funeral Fees	6,166	84	5,043	11,293	3,273
Investment Income	1,013	17	-	1,030	1,022
VAT refund on Building Work	-	-	-	-	6,159
Income from Organisations	-	1,432	-	1,432	6,766
Outside Bookings	-	1,526	-	1,526	2,006
Miscellaneous	-	40	-	40	90
Rents	-	1,850	-	1,850	8,155
Functions	-	-	-	-	285
Grants & Donations	-	-	-	-	74
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b><u>59,258</u></b>	<b><u>4,949</u></b>	<b><u>7,175</u></b>	<b><u>71,382</u></b>	<b><u>103,168</u></b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Apportionment	49,740	-	-	49,740	48,780
Charities	2,366	-	-	2,366	2,508
Church Running Expenses	438	-	4,829	5,267	1,692
Church & Churchyard	12,643	-	-	12,643	12,449
Printing, Postage & Stationary	1,846	-	-	1,846	1,612
Sundry Expenses	1,148	-	-	1,148	1,361
Accountancy	1,680	-	-	1,680	1,656
Building Maintenance & Repairs	2,603	1,348	-	3,951	6,799
Cleaning	-	1,056	-	1,056	3,402
Light & Heat	-	2,666	-	2,666	4,623
Water	-	208	-	208	320
Insurance	-	2,939	-	2,939	3,910
Telephone	-	85	-	85	195
Fire Security	-	339	-	339	327
VCC planning fees	15,000	-	-	15,000	-
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b><u>87,464</u></b>	<b><u>8,641</u></b>	<b><u>4,829</u></b>	<b><u>100,934</u></b>	<b><u>89,634</u></b>



**ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**  
**AT 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>General</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Designated</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Funds</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Monetary Assets</b>				
CBF deposit fund	11,363	9,959	-	1,404
Bank current accounts	16,046	3,807	11,975	264
Bank deposit accounts	<u>929</u>	<u>929</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	28,338	14,695	11,975	1,668
<b>Investments (at valuation at year end)</b>				
CBF Share Portfolio	35,797	35,797	-	-
CBF Fixed Interest	<u>212</u>	<u>212</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>64,347</u>	<u>50,704</u>	<u>11,975</u>	<u>1,668</u>

**Other Assets**

**Properties vested in the Birmingham Diocesan Board of Trustees on behalf of the PCC:**  
St Stephens Church Centre and Valley Church Centre

**ANALYSIS OF DESIGNATED FUNDS**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Fabric</b>	<b>Valley</b>	<b>St Stephens</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>Hall Users</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>Centre</b>	<b>£</b>
CBF deposit fund	1,404	1,404	-	-
Bank current account	264	264	-	-
Bank deposit account	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>1,668</u>	<u>1,668</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

These Financial Statements were approved by the Parochial Church Council on

11/05/2021 and signed on behalf of the Council by:-

Toby Lough Chair

Paulo Yendonga Churchwarden

Carol Jones Churchwarden



**ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

## **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations issued in 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis, the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) and the Charities Act 2011.

### **Funds**

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any special restrictions regarding their use and are available for application to the general purposes of the PCC.

The accounts include monetary transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC can be held responsible. They do not include the accounts of other Church groups that owe an affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Subject to the above, receipts and payments include income as received and expenditure when irrevocably paid. Income Tax recoverable in respect of the year to 31 December is included in the receipts and payments accounts.

Non-monetary donations to the PCC are not included in the receipts and payments accounts, because they are incapable of being recorded at definite amounts. Where material, such items are referred to in the Annual Report.

### **Statement of Assets and Liabilities**

The following assets are recognised as being under the ownership of the PCC but are not included in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

- Movable church furnishings held by the church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal.
- Land and buildings held on behalf of the PCC.
- Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment where the PCC is free to dispose of such assets without faculty.
- Any other amounts owing to the PCC including church hall lettings and insurance claims.
- Legacies where formal notification of entitlement and amount has been received at 31 December by the PCC.
- Income Tax recoverable from HM Revenue & Customs in respect of Gift Aid donations received after 31 December in the year.

Opening and Closing bank balances are shown in the receipts and payments accounts.



**ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**2. DESIGNATED FUNDS**

The Fabric Fund is designated (i.e. to be used solely) for the purpose of maintaining and improving the parish church building.

The Valley Church Centre Funds are designated for the purpose of maintaining and running the Valley Church Centre situated at Gaydon Road, Solihull.

St Stephens Hall Users Fund is designated for the purpose of maintaining and running the St Stephens Church Centre situated at Coppice Road, Solihull.

**3. REMUNERATION**

No person connected with the Parochial Church Council has been paid or is due to be paid any remuneration or other benefits from the Funds of the PCC.

**4. TRANSACTIONS WITH CONNECTED PERSONS**

There have been no material transactions undertaken in the name of or on behalf of the Council in which any person connected with the Council has a material interest.

**5. PLANNED GIVING**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Gift aid receipts	27,682	30,392
Income tax recovered	5,452	8,466
Other giving	<u>14,368</u>	<u>9,183</u>
	<u>47,502</u>	<u>48,041</u>



**ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**6. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	2020	2019
	£	£
CBF Deposit account interest	7	8
CBF Dividends	953	926
Interest on Reserve fund	<u>53</u>	<u>55</u>
	<u>1,013</u>	<u>989</u>

**7. APPORTIONMENT**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Paid Direct	<u>49,740</u>	<u>48,780</u>

**8. CHARITIES**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Christian Relief, Development and Agencies	127	475
Churches overseas	2,005	2,033
Home Missions	<u>150</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>2,366</u>	<u>2,508</u>



**ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**9. CHURCH AND CHURCHYARD EXPENSES**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Maintenance and repairs	720	766
Water rates	183	460
Telephone	111	209
Light and heat	3,289	4,046
Insurance	2,907	2853
Sundries	4,437	3,934
Wine, candles etc	64	96
Curate's House Rent	-	-
Consumer unit test & certification	840	-
Christian Literature	92	10
Readers' Board	<u>-</u>	<u>75</u>
	<u>12,643</u>	<u>12,449</u>

**10. SUNDRY EXPENSES**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Fete floats	-	-
Other Sundry Expenses	<u>1,148</u>	<u>801</u>
	<u>1,148</u>	<u>801</u>



# The Fabric Report

From your Churchwardens in 2020: John Eyles & Morris Ross

Only routine maintenance tasks were carried out last year and, indeed, for several months we were not even able to access the building. Our portable appliance and fire equipment certification was, however, kept up to date; and the age of the bund on the fuel tank was established.

Outstanding tasks remain the commissioning of an asbestos survey (though no asbestos has been found so far) and the relocation of the organ console to a raised platform at the back of the nave downstairs. We have also identified the need for substantial (and fairly urgent) work on the roof.

## Deanery Synod 2020

A report from your representatives

Christine Arnsby, Cheryl Doyle and Jamie Rawson

The synod met only once, on 5th March, owing to coronavirus restrictions. This meeting, held at St Christopher's Church, Springfield, heard from Co-Area Dean Andrew Bullock about progress on the shape of new deaneries. It also received a resolution from St Peter's, Balsall Common: ***'that the Diocesan Board of Finance be asked to consider its investments to ensure they meet ethical and eco-friendly objectives and by implication at least to offer churches depositing funds with them the option to invest in a 'green fund'.*** This was adopted.

Beryl Moppett gave an update on Eco-Church across the Diocese, and said that the February diocesan synod had passed a motion urging that the Church of England be carbon neutral by 2045 (this was later amended by the General Synod to move the date forward to 2030). With regard to the previous item, she added that what had been known as the Ethical Investment Fund had now morphed into a Green Fund in support of moves towards becoming carbon neutral.

Revd Tom Thomas (Vicar of Springfield) then split the meeting into breakout groups to discuss what we would like to see in a new area dean. At the end, he drew the various thoughts together for submission to those involved in the interview process.

***"Today we had a discussion about what would make the world perfect... We talked about people who aren't as fortunate as us, and what we can do to help" – feedback from parents on our Sunday craft packs for younger (and older!) children***



# MINUTES OF THE 2020 ANNUAL MEETINGS

held in person on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at Elmdon Church, "the Church in the Park"

**Apologies** (14) were received from Emma Crowe, Jean Eyles, Lesley and Richard Huss, Sue Kimber, Pat Lyons, Dan & Miriam Mangles, Karen Matthews, Mary Reynolds, Helen and Richard Salt, Elizabeth Smye and Marilyn Walton.

## **Attendance** (13):

Christine Arnsby	Cheryl Doyle	Anne Milne
Sarah Baldwin	John Eyles	Jamie Rawson
Patricia Coleman-Taylor	Carol Janes	James Rusher
Toby Crowe (Chair)	Paolo Mendonca	Graham Smye
Alan Doyle	Karen Marlow-Tipple	

## **A ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS**

### **A1 Minutes of the previous Annual Meeting of Parishioners, held on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

Alan Doyle and John Eyles moved *that the previous minutes be adopted*. Agreed unanimously.

### **A2 Election of Church Wardens**

**Carol Janes** was nominated by Patricia Coleman-Taylor and Jamie Rawson.

**Paolo Mendonca** was nominated by Jamie Rawson and Richard Huss.

There were no other nominations. Carol and Paolo agreed to stand as wardens for the coming year and were therefore appointed.

### **A3 Thanks were expressed** to the outgoing wardens, John Eyles and Morris Ross.

## **B ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)**

### **B1 Bible study**

Toby Crowe read Ezra 3:1 - 8 and spoke of its relevance to our own situation. He then opened the meeting in prayer.

### **B2 Minutes of the previous meeting, 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

Carol Janes and Cheryl Doyle moved *that Jamie Rawson's name be added to the list of attendees and, this amendment made, that the previous minutes be adopted*. Agreed unanimously.

### **B3 Accounts and Financial Statements**

Alan Doyle (PCC Treasurer) answered a small number of questions.

### **B3 Electoral Roll Revision**

The new roll contained 88 names, though we felt that this would have been higher had we been seeing more people in person.

### **B4 PCC Report, including Safeguarding**

There were no questions.



**B5 Mission of the Church**

There were no questions.

**B6 Fabric Report**

Toby Crowe said that much clearing had been done. The building on Coppice Road was now empty, the building on Gaydon Road nearly so, and the space under the floor in our main building was substantially free. He said that the broadband upgrade should be completed soon. Thanks were expressed to the Covid-19 'team', who had worked diligently to make the building safe to meet in.

**B7 Deanery Synod**

Toby said that a new full-time Area Dean would be appointed soon.

**B8 Election of representatives to the Deanery Synod**

**Christine Arnsby** was nominated by Moyra Bate & Richard Salt. Agreed unanimously.

**Cheryl Doyle** was nominated by Alan Doyle & Anne Milne. Agreed unanimously.

**Jamie Rawson** was nominated by Lesley Huss & Carol Janes. Agreed unanimously.

**B9 Appointment of Readers as ex-officio PCC members**

Following last year's re-adoption of our long-standing policy that any Lay Reader who wished it should be invited to serve on the PCC, and Karen Matthews having expressed her willingness still to serve, it was noted that she would therefore remain a member of the Committee.

**B10 PCC membership**

Toby Crowe noted that Dave Kimber had passed away; that Richard Salt had completed his term of office; and that Alan Carter and David Cole had resigned their membership.

**B11 Election of representatives to the PCC for a three-year term**

**Patricia Coleman-Taylor** was nominated by Jamie Rawson and Richard Huss.

**Dave Monk** was nominated by Patricia Coleman-Taylor and Jamie Rawson.

**Elizabeth Smye** was nominated by Lesley Huss and Richard Huss.

There were no other nominations and all three were duly appointed.

**B12.1 PCC vacancies**

As there were three vacancies, and in line with our Electoral Roll numbers, Carol Janes and Christine Arnsby moved *that with effect from April 2021, elected members should be reduced from nine to six*. The motion was lost 2 - 7.

**B12.2 Cheryl Doyle and John Eyles then moved *that Graham Smye be appointed to the PCC, and as lay vice-chair, until the next annual meeting*. Agreed unanimously.**

**B13 Appointment of independent examiners**

Alan Doyle and Anne Milne moved *that Prime Chartered Accountants be appointed for 2021*. Agreed unanimously.

**B14 General questions**

The question was raised whether there would be an October attendance count. Toby said that he did not know but that, if there were, then we would fare better than many other churches. He said that around nearly 60 people were attending our socially-distanced services in person each week (as well as people watching online); and, because of the high proportion of our giving which was done remotely, that our income level was relatively strong.



# **Agenda for the Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)**

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021, 7.30pm on Zoom

## **Meeting of Parishioners**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the previous Meeting of Parishioners, Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020
3. Election of Churchwardens

## **Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)**

1. Bible study and opening prayer
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the previous Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020
4. Accounts and financial statements
5. Report on the revised Electoral Roll
6. PCC report: The Mission of the Church
7. Fabric report
8. Deanery Synod report
9. Appointment of such Readers as wish to become members of the PCC
10. Election of up to **four** lay representatives to the PCC
11. Appointment of independent examiner
12. Closing prayer

## **First meeting of the new Parochial Church Council (PCC)**

Election of:

1. Lay Vice Chair
2. Secretary
3. Treasurer
4. Electoral Roll Officer

Date of next regular PCC meeting: Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021



# **THE VACANCY...**

may last for a year or more.

## **Who's in charge?**

The churchwardens, in liaison with the Archdeacon and Area Dean. They may decide to commission a leadership team to support them.

## **Will there be any changes?**

A vacancy can be a time of growth (particularly if we're emerging from a pandemic!) but it's probably not the season for lots of bold new initiatives or fundamental changes.

## **How can I play my part?**

Pray for and support the churchwardens. Seek to move forward together as a church, and always in love.