

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HANBOROUGH

England & Wales · Charity number 1183002

Details

Other names HANBOROUGH PCC

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2019-04-16

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

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Activities

Objects: PROMOTING IN THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH THE WHOLE MISSION OF THE CHURCH.

Activities: Church

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Oxfordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£96,390	£98,680	-	-
2023-12-31	£113,636	£129,122	-	-
2022-12-31	£109,138	£99,304	-	-
2021-12-31	£110,806	£90,069	-	-
2020-12-31	£120,290	£132,811	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Revd Dr Stephen John Stewart	Chair	2021-03-10
CLIVE RICHARD BERRY		2018-04-16
Dr Pamela Mary Berry		2021-09-27
Dr Steven Allan Young		2018-04-16
Emma Clare Merry		2023-05-15
Wendy Suzanne Bayliss		2018-04-16

Accounts

Annual Report of the Hanborough PCC for 2024

1. RECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2023 TO 2024

Last year I spoke of the “wind of the Holy Spirit” bringing new things to our churches at Hanborough and Freeland. I echo the same for this last 12 months. The church is the body of Christ, where the Spirit-given gifts of all come together to glorify Christ and to build the kingdom of God. And it has been great to see many, including new people and new gifts, using a wonderfully wide variety of God-given talents to serve God and his people. In no particular order, we have seen gifts of administration, music, serving, preaching, service-leading, financial stewardship, event planning, inviting, teaching, hosting, praying, providing transport, pastoral care, buildings maintenance, and much more.

What I have seen emerging in so many over the last 12 months is an ever-growing heart to bring the good news of Jesus to our communities. This has been evident in everything from the development of the spire and path projects at St Peter and Paul, new musicians, people enquiring about authorised ministry and other servant leadership, evangelistic events from the Just for Starters course to the planning of Alpha and curry evenings with Christian talks, the launch of an event planning team, running school assemblies and other events for our local schoolchildren, taking funerals, visiting Freeland House, Bible Fun Clubs, choral Evensongs, administration for Sunday worship rotas, PCCs, Vision Group and Roundtables, social and evangelistic events, house group hosting, preaching series on Genesis (Joseph), Hebrews, Isaiah, 1 & 2 Timothy, and Mark's Gospel. To all of these we can add the beer festival, an extremely well attended series of Christmas services and other events, our outreach events at Halloween, the church cricket match in the summer, BeSpace school prayer event at St Mary's, and a great fun quiz at Christ Church in January, to name but some. We also have plans in place and funded to upgrade the west end back room at Christ Church, while at St Mary's the creation of a children's area among the pews has had a major impact on the parents who attend. Our First Steps baby and toddler group continues to thrive, thanks to a fantastic team.

Of course, 2024-25 has also been hallmarked by quite a number of our loved church family members moving away to different parts of the country. We miss them greatly, but it has been wonderful to see others step up to fill the gaps they have left. God has blessed us well in this, and actually when we look at the numbers over the last three or four years, our churches' attendances, despite many moving away, have actually remained consistent – and in parts grown.

We have been incredibly well served by our PCC members across the benefice and our churchwardens, Saskia Emma Merry and Steven Young at Hanborough, and I give great thanks to God for all of you. There remain some leadership and administrative gaps however, and one of my prayers for 2025 is that these might be filled. Administration may not be an “up the front” or glamorous ministry, but it is essential to the running of a healthy church. I would also like to give great thanks to our Associate Rector Mike and curate Heather whose wisdom, prayers, and above all devotion to the Lord has been

wonderful blessing not only to me personally, but to the benefice as a whole. We will miss both Heather and Mike greatly as they move on to pastures new this year. Let us be powerful in praying-in those whom God will raise up to co-serve in leadership in this benefice.

There is no true church without the Word of God in Scripture being faithfully preached week by week, and so I do want to offer a particular thank you to those who take on this “noble task” and do so with such conviction, faith and humility. And I repeat my thoughts from last year, that the only measure by which God assesses us is the heart inclined to Him. Not numbers, not finances, not the quality of our buildings, but the inclination of our hearts to Him. Numbers and finances and quality of buildings are important, but they must be nothing but a function of our love for Jesus Christ, for his people and for the world to see many saved by the blood of Christ.

Hanborough and Freeland is a wonderful place to serve, and I am confident that if we commit ourselves even more to prayer, to tithing, to serving, and to simply loving one another in Christ Jesus, we will continue to see our heavenly Father do great things among us by his Spirit through the good news of Jesus Christ.

Huge thanks to all of you who serve our loving God so faithfully, with such humility and with a heart of love for Jesus. Let our risen, loving God have the final word, from our series on Paul’s pastoral letters to Timothy:

Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus. ... Beyond all question, the mystery from which true godliness springs is great: He appeared in the flesh, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory (1 Timothy 3:13-16).

With my love and prayers for us all in Christ Jesus,
Steve

2. AIM AND PURPOSES

Hanborough PCC is responsible for working with the Rector to promote the ecclesiastical parish and the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It has met four times since the last APCM, with attendance ranging between 60% and 90%. Minutes or reports from Area Leads, committees and other meetings were received and responded to as necessary.

3. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship God in our Parish of Hanborough. The PCC has an overview of the worship throughout the parish. All services and worship in the parish seek to nurture faith through prayer, scripture, music and sacrament. This is done when planning activities for the year, having consideration for the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship, teaching and prayer

- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work through Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, as well as services for special occasions, special events and providing help to those in need.

We are grateful for all the services provided by our clergy (Steve, Mike and Heather) and our retired clergy. It is also good to have many other members of our churches taking leading roles. In order to facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of St. Peter and St. Paul Church in Church Hanborough, and Christ Church in Long Hanborough and this is ably overseen by our Churchwardens.

4. THE LIFE AND WORSHIP OF THE CHURCH:

4.1. Sunday services

In 2024-2025, we continued to enjoy a regular pattern of 10 AM services in all three churches across the benefice, with occasional joint or whole-Benefice services. We are grateful to our current 5-strong team of ordained clergy who lead most services, and it is a great blessing and testimony to “all-member” ministry and the biblical principle “priesthood of all believers” at Hanborough and Freeland that we also enjoy the enormously wide range of lay ministries which are a feature of our services. These include service leading, preaching, leading prayers, assisting at communion, Bible reading, children and youth work leaders, testimonies, musicianship, sidespersons, welcomers, people on audiovisual and other tech – and of course those who so graciously put the rotas of ministries together season-by-season. Thank you, everyone, for all the great and faithful work that you do.

We are also greatly blessed with a wide variety of musical gifts across the Benefice, enjoying everything from keyboards and organ to guitars, flutes, and cajon. The Benefice has developed over the years styles of worship driven not by a fixed ideal, but by the gifts which God has given the members. This means that today across the Benefice we have everything from band-led worship, to Eucharistic, to choral Evensong, prayer-focused café-style services, informal all-age, and seasonal carols traditional and modern. As I said to someone who asked me 20 years ago why we had drums in a service, “because we have a drummer”.

Although we try to provide a Sunday morning service at all three churches each week, our joint and whole-benefice services have been great and well attended. With Mike and Heather moving on this year, we may see more of these as resources are stretched. But we also need to be praying for God to raise up among us more men and women to lead and preach.

Enormous thanks to all who make our Sunday worship a blessing to each other and to our communities. And this year I want to give a special thank you to all who provide refreshments and washing up after services for that supremely important time of fellowship and welcome. Thank you all so much for all you do, with a quiet and generous servant heart

4.2. Area - Youth and children – Denise Ball and Mands Stewart

Children's Church, Christ Church

We have continued to run children's activities over the past year at the back of Christ Church, using the excellent craft provided from First Steps. With some families having moved away, this has suited us well. Over the next term we are looking forward to seeing the back room made fit for purpose so we can use it to provide better children's work.

4.3. Area – Home groups and small groups

Over the last year as a church community, we have facilitated several House Groups of various types and sizes across the three villages. These House Groups either meet in people's homes or online and are attended by members from all three of our churches. Over the last year the following House Groups have met as follows. ¹

- Pippa's Group (8pm Tuesday evening in Freeland).
- Feast Group (8pm Tuesday evening in Long Hanborough).
- Knights Johnston Group (8pm Wednesday evening in Long Hanborough).
- Online Group led by Pam Berry (7.30pm usually on a Wednesday evening).
- The Open House led by Mands Stewart (9.30 am Tuesday mornings, St Mary's Freeland).

Around fifty percent of our church community attend House Groups, with all of our House Groups drawing people from at least two and in some cases all three churches from across our Benefice and beyond. A typical House Group evening combines a mixture of catching up over coffee, studying the bible, and prayer, although each group does have its own flavour. Some focus on exegesis, others focus on prayer or sung worship.

As you can see from the above, there are a variety of House Groups attended by people from across the Benefice. Our vision for our House Groups is for them all to be a place of safety where we can study the Bible, pray, support one another, have fellowship and fun. All our groups are open to new members, of all ages from all of our churches and beyond. If anyone would like to join a group, please contact Rev Mike Madden.

4.4. Area – Benefice-Wide Social events

Emma Young organised a quiz night and supper for the whole benefice at Christ Church on 3 February 2024.

On 8 March 2024, we held "an Evening of Christian Poetry" at Christ Church. This was a lovely event, lit by candles, and enhanced by Simon Yates playing delightful music as people arrived. Participants signed on a list when they wanted to read, and 25 people

¹ [\[1\]](#) Please note most of our House Groups only meet formally during term time. The Knights Johnston House Group does not meet on the first Wednesday of each month to allow people to attend the Benefice prayer meeting, and the Madden House Group is no longer meeting.

read poetry ranging from Psalms to reflections on Gaza. It was very beautiful. We enjoyed hot drinks and cake. Thank you to everyone who came along and contributed. On 20 September 2024, I hosted a Benefice Ladies Night at my house. It was a lovely warm evening, and people ate and chatted inside and in the garden. Everyone brought food to share, and it was quite a feast. It was a good opportunity for friendship and fellowship, and we all met new people.

On Saturday 9 November 2024, Steve and Emma Young hosted “Baked Potatoes and Baked Beans”, an evening at their house in Cassington, where more than 30 people met, chatted, and shared food.

Unfortunately, I was taken ill in November with shingles and it has taken me a while to recover. I was not able to organise the Safari Drinks and Nibbles at New Year, and I have not felt energised enough to off anything new since. Hopefully that will change now.

Other events

There have been various successful events held across the Benefice which have developed the Church’s social cohesion and offered Outreach to the wider community. These have included Brick Church, held at St Mary’s, the Escape Room, held at Christ Church.

On 24th January Christ Church hosted an all-age quiz. With Becca and Eddie as excellent quiz masters, and a baked potato with chilli meal provided by various volunteers, it was a fun evening. There were 9 teams of 4-6 people; about half of the participants were not current members of Christ Church. The team of youngsters won, but as the prize was entry to the Beer Festival they kindly donated this to the runners up and were rewarded with chocolate instead.

Looking forward

I am planning to offer a walk around the Blenheim grounds one Sunday after church, but first the rain and then floods, then illness and other matters have blocked the dates I had in mind. It will happen!

I am also planning to suggest group attendance at a summer religious festival, and I am thinking about organising a Safari Supper evening in the autumn.

4.5. Area – Prayer – Mands Stewart and Nigel Knights Johnson

Last autumn we had a Children and Youth Prayer meeting and a Half Night of Prayer at Christ Church. This term we repeated both at St Mary’s Church. They were both great times of seeking the Lord and praying for God’s kingdom to come here on earth. We were encouraged by the words and pictures shared as God spoke to us. I’m looking forward to organising these two prayer events for the summer term at St Peter and St Paul Church. Then repeating the cycle for 2025/2026.

Open House Prayer Group: The Open House Prayer group continues to meet weekly where we enjoy fellowship, worship and praying for God’s love, mercy and grace to be poured out on Freeland and the surrounding villages. This term we have been seeking God and listening to what He is calling us to do next. This may mean changes which will hopefully make us stronger in prayer across the Benefice.

Prayer Ministry in the Benefice: this has been on hold for the moment as we seek the best way forward. Do pray for doors to be opened so prayer ministry teams can be set up and run across all three churches.

The monthly Meetings for Prayer on the first Wednesday evening of each month have continued successfully through the last year with a steady core of people attending, and occasionally a strong number of extra people able to come. The commitment to prayer, and enthusiasm to attend by those who do ensures a wonderful heavenly covering of all we seek to do in the Benefice.

4.6. Finances – Treasurer’s Report based on 2024 Accounts

The statement of financial activities on page two of the annual accounts (circulated separately) shows the total income in 2024 was £96,390 (2023 £113,636) a decrease of 15% (£17,246). The full breakdown of the incoming resources can be seen by looking at page 4. Giving received from bank, parish giving and tax recoveries in 2024 total £80,806 (2023 £84,487) which accounts for some of the decrease this year, as well as restricted donations and beer festival income in 2023 being higher. Fees received were also slightly down from £5181 in 2023 to £4420 in 2024.

Going back to page 2 the resources expended in 2024 are though also lower than in 2023 at £98,680 (2023 £129,122) meaning that the net result although a deficit is not as high a deficit as in 2023. The lower building, equipment and PCC event costs in 2024 contributing to the majority of this. Net result for the year is a deficit of £2,290 (2023 £15,486). Our total funds held at the end of 2024 are £90,851, the breakdown of which is shown on the balance sheet on page 3.

Page 5 shows where the missions and charities donations have been given totalling £7,548.

Page 6 shows how the restricted, designated and unrestricted funds are made up totalling £90,851, the split is as follows - Restricted Funds - £20,570 Designated Funds - £16,453 and Unrestricted Funds - £53,828.

I would like to register my thanks to the clergy and church wardens for their support to me in this role , also to Hazel Bowman who after over many years collating the envelope giving information has now stepped down from this role. Also, thanks to all who support the church in their giving.

4.7. Pastoral care in the parish – Rev. Heather Mc Culloch

The pastoral care team leaders for the Benefice remain as last year in St. Mary’s and Christ Church. The role of pastoral care team leader is fulfilled by the Clergy Team at St. Peter and St. Paul. The team leaders are listed in the Benefice News email and can be contacted at any time if someone has a concern. The team leaders are supported in their role by a wider team at each of our churches.

The pastoral care team help to ensure that members of our churches are supported appropriately as need arises and that the clergy are kept up to date so that no one is missed. Over the course of the last year this has included celebrating the safe arrival of some new babies and young children, along with condolences to those who have been bereaved. Meal’s rotas have been organised, and people have been visited or prayed for.

In addition to Clergy, some members of the pastoral team also make pastoral visits to people at home from time to time. In this case, an enhanced DBS and a risk assessment are required in addition to the Basic and Foundation, and Domestic Abuse levels of safeguarding training. Some of this training is still in progress.

The pastoral care team continue to develop this role and strengthen the pastoral care across our churches. **After I have left the Benefice this summer, overseeing the team will pass to Steve and Mike.**

4.8. Schools' work

Collective Worship: As a clergy team along with the Methodists and Catholics, we continue to provide weekly Christian Collective Worship in both schools based on the schools' theme for the term. We have continued to run seasonal services at Christmas, Easter, and Harvest for both primary schools, and host these in our churches.

BeSpace prayer spaces: We have worked with both our Primary Schools; Hanborough Manor and Freeland, to put on a week of prayer spaces facilitated by BeSpace. Both weeks were brilliant fun, and we had the help of many of the members of our churches to supervise the prayer spaces. Both schools were able to offer every child the opportunity to come into the prayer spaces and participate in all the activities.

Hanborough Manor School: Saskia Emma (Foundation Governor) and Nick Wood (Director Appointed Governor), both members of our churches, have been trying to support the school's desire to increase connections with the church.

4.9. Supporting Ecumenical Relationships

Anglican and Methodist ministers continued to enjoy good relationships, meeting from time to time, and work together with Father Martin from the Catholic Church. It was good for the local ministers to come together this year for the licensing of Rev Sue Jacobs as the new Methodist minister. Anglican, Methodist and Roman Catholic ministers work closely together to deliver collective worship assemblies across our schools. The service for Remembrance Sunday is shared, alternating between the Methodist and Anglican Church when the church welcomes the local uniformed organizations before processing to the War Memorial for the two-minutes silence and reading the names from the roll of those who have died in wars. Remembrance Sunday this year was attended by around 300 people. Anglican, Methodist and Roman Catholic ministers have also taken the opportunity to share lunch together this year, sharing thoughts and ideas for the area. Also, in our house and prayer groups, there are some members from other local churches.

4.10. Weddings, baptisms, and funerals

Christ Church:

Number of weddings in 2024: 0

Number of funeral services in 2024: 0

Number of memorial services in 2024: 0

Number of interments of ashes in 2024: 0

St Peter and St Paul:

Number of weddings in 2024: 1 (plus 1 marriage thanksgiving)

Number of funeral services in 2024: 6

Number of memorial services in 2024: 0

Number of interments of ashes in 2024: 1

In Hanborough parish in 2024, there were 2 weddings (down from 3 from last year), no baptisms and 7 funerals (down from 10 from last year), 1 memorial services and 3 interments of ashes taken. Each provides a not insignificant pastoral and mission opportunity. We are grateful to all the ministers across the Benefice who serve these occasional offices of weddings, baptisms and funerals.

4.11. Supporting mission in the U.K. and overseas

The Designated Mission and Charities Fund is calculated as 10% of the previous years unrestricted income under note 2a of the accounts. Of this money 80% is allocated equally between seven charities Church Missionary Society, Innovista, J Abu Bakker, Open Doors, Salvation Army, The Besom and The Porch. The remaining 20% is discussed and donated by the PCC.

MISSIONS AND CHARITIES	2024
WORLDWIDE	
Church Missionary Society	944
Innovista	944
J Abu Bakker Christian School India	944
Open Doors	944
NATIONAL	
Salvation Army	943
LOCAL	
The Besom	943
The Porch	943
Good News For Everyone	943
TOTAL	7,548

The Missions and Charities Designated Fund was £8,256, so 80% for the usual seven charities gave them £943.50 each and the balance of £1651 plus the £500 from 2023 carried forward meant that £2,151 was available for the PCC to decide upon the recipient(s) of which £943.50 was agreed to be given to Good News For Everyone. Total given in 2024 was £7,548. For 2025 the Mission Fund is calculated based on unrestricted income received in 2024 of £84,040 @ 10% = £8,404 of which 80% is allocated by quarterly pmt to the seven charities (£960.46 each) leaving £1,681 plus £1208 c/f from 2024 = £2,889 available to donate as PCC directs during 2025.

4.12. Structure, Governance and Management: Administrative Information

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parish and Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Description of role	Name
Incumbent (Rector):	Rev Steve Stewart
Associate Rector:	Rev Mike Madden
Curate	Rev Heather McCulloch
Elected members:	
Churchwardens:	Dr Steven Young and Ms Saskia Emma Merry
Representative on Deanery Synod:	Dr Steven Young
Elected Members:	Mrs Amanda Madden
	Mrs Gillian Hunt
	Mr Roger Parrott
	Mr Clive Berry
	Liv Singlehurst (co-opted)
Appointments by the PCC:	
Vice chair:	Rev Mike Madden
Treasurer:	Mrs Wendy Bayliss (co-opted)
Secretary:	Dr Pam Berry (co-opted)

4.13. Committees (Standing Committee, CCST / CCVG)

Standing Committee

The functions of the Standing Committee have been carried out by the clergy and wardens who have met around every 4 weeks. (Church Representation Rules M.31).

Christ Church Vision Group (CCVG).

This team, as a subcommittee of PCC, looks not only at the day-to-day practicalities (e.g., rotas, unlocking, audiovisual, music, hospitality) required for Christ Church for regular 10 AM Sunday services, but also the “vision ...and mission of needs of Christ Church in any given season”, and to “serve, help fulfil, and shape the mission and vision of Christ Church”. The vision group meets approximately monthly.

Round Tables

In 2023, groups similar to the CCVG were set up for both St Mary Freeland and for St Peter and St Paul Church Hanborough. These are known as “Roundtables” (RTs). Like the CCVG, these function as subcommittees of the PCC, to be a forum where members of

the local congregation meet with the clergy team for prayer, general communication, general admin, birth new initiatives, and promote good discipleship.

St Peter and St Paul (P&P-RT)

The P & P-RT for 2024 was made up of the Clergy Team plus three members of P&P (Nick Wood, Gill Hunt, Amanda Madden). It meets on a regular basis, to provide an informal framework for communication focussing on local issues relevant to P&P. This has included work on the building, operational and pastoral concerns, and exploring and developing P&P's mission in the parish of Hanborough.

4.14. PCC Meetings

Items for PCC discussion (many of which are covered more fully elsewhere in this report), have included: repair of the spire at St Peter and St Paul, repair of the lighting on the spire, better access to the church and the associated issues of lighting and lowering of the North porch, as well as the installation of WiFi to enable better control of the heating. For Christ Church, provision of space for children and youth work has been discussed and currently the area at the back of the church is being renovated for use as a multifunctional space for crèche and children's work and for prayer and fellowship.

4.15. Electoral Roll Report - Sinead Andrews

In 2024 there were 74 people on the electoral, but a number of people have moved away or are deceased, so for 2025 there are 36 people on the electoral roll including 10 new names.

4.16. Others who serve in various ministries

With the exception of our Rector, Rev. Steve Stewart, our Curate, Heather McCulloch, the Benefice Administrator and our organist and church cleaner, all the other people who minister and serve the churches, including our Associate Rector Rev. Mike Madden, work in a voluntary capacity. The PCC is very grateful to all these people who work in so many different ways to enable the mission of the church.

4.17. Churchwarden's Report 2024

The maintenance and upkeep of the church buildings may be the responsibility of the churchwardens but the many activities and tasks that are ongoing and necessary for our churches are carried out not just by us, but with the help of lots of people across the congregations. We as churchwardens are very grateful to everyone who contributes time and effort to keeping our churches in working order and presentable as living active spaces where people can encounter and worship God.

In the past year there has been a lot of activity to address the urgent need to repair the spire at St Peter and St Paul. An appeal for £350,000 was launched, and through the amazing generosity of the local community and God's gracious provision the target was quickly reached. A full project team has now been appointed with Peter Preston, our

church architect, as project manager, and preliminary work has begun. As the church has bats, this year will see an extensive programme of bat surveys (internal and external) through to the end of September; the resulting findings will determine the timing of the actual works on the spire in 2026.

Like many other major church projects, we have been negatively affected by recent changes to the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme (LPWGS), so the Securing the Future of St Peter and St Paul (SFSSPP) fundraising committee, of which we are both a part, is applying for additional funds to make up the tax shortfall.

And as we want to secure the future of St Peter and St Paul long term, the Friends are being relaunched. Nick Wood is the new chair of the Friends and Saskia Emma is on this committee. Look out for Friends events coming up from June 2025 onwards, starting with the patronal service on Sunday 29th June.

Improving accessibility for all is a vital part of our focus, and so work is afoot to improve the path at St Peter and St Paul, including adding bat-friendly low level lighting and trunking to enable broadband installation in the future (and to prevent any more cables being cut by over-enthusiastic mowing and strimming!)

Apart from the spire and path work, there are a number of other activities that have taken place in the last year. At St Peter and St Paul these include the replacement of some of the floorboards in the kitchen area, installation of wifi and changes to heating controls so as to be operated remotely. And over at Christ Church work on the back room is underway to make it into a more practical and comfortable space for nursing mothers and children's work. We are now looking at an external storage solution to enable the chancel to be cleared of extra chairs, First Steps equipment etc.

If there are things that require attention or that you may want to discuss about the churches in our parish, then please do talk to one of us.

4.18. Occasional Festivals

This year the joint Remembrance Sunday service with the Methodists was held at the Methodist church. A family carol service for the village and a Christingle Service was held at Christ Church. Exultate Justi have sung choral evensong and contributed to the Christmas service of Nine Lessons and Carols.

4.19. Church Flowers - Denise Parrott

It has been difficult at times for me in the past six months whilst I underwent treatment for cancer, but I have managed to arrange fresh flowers in the chancel and on the window sill throughout the year, with the help of Gill Hunt. Together, we have decorated the church for the main festivals of Easter, Harvest and Christmas, with contributions from other members of the congregation and Ann, my Flower Club Chair. Richard and Margaret Wilkins continue to do the Easter Garden and decorate the

Christmas tree in time for the Manor School Christmas service. Although we have no flowers during Lent and Advent, we do have an Advent candle ring of greenery. My thanks go out to everyone who has helped in any way, including my husband, Roger, who has done much of the fetching and carrying for me and always has the dustpan and brush in hand to ensure that the church is clean.

It would be so good to have other people taking a turn and you do not have to be a flower arranger as you only need to put a few flowers in a vase. Please contact me if you think you could help occasionally, especially at festivals, or give a donation towards the cost of the flowers.

4.20. Sacristan Report – Gillian Hunt and Pam Berry

Ss Peter and Paul

All is in good order at Ss Peter and Paul. The altar frontals, burse and veil are changed according to the liturgical season. All linen used at Holy Communion is washed and ironed after every use. The altar cloths from the three altars are usually laundered 3 times a year. All Holy Communion vessels are washed after use and stored in the locked cupboard in the vestry. All candles used at Christmas and on the altars are stored in the vestry.

Christ Church

As at Ss Peter and Paul all is in good order and the linen used at Holy Communion is washed and ironed after use. The cloths on the communion table are washed as necessary. All linen is stored in the vestry, as are the Holy Communion vessels and candles for Christmas.

4.21. Annual Safeguarding Report for the Benefice of Hanborough – Emma Young

It has been a good year for continuing with high levels of compliance with DBS certification and Safeguarding Training, especially online, across the Parish. I am particularly grateful for the speed with which people are renewing their DBS certification if needed, and for Colin Griffiths' (Freeland) invaluable work in processing the renewals very quickly.

The big change in the past year has been the new system rolled out by the Diocese for managing the DBS and Training status of people in different roles. Although it took some time to get the data from spreadsheets into the system, the overall impact is a much better and more secure storage of data, as well as a straightforward reporting system to see where updates are needed.

A reminder that anyone who has a role in church leadership, such as PCC or leading a housegroup, should expect to take part in Safeguarding Training, in the same way as all those who work with children and vulnerable adults expect to undergo a DBS check and training.

The PCC is committed to the Safeguarding Policy provided by the Diocese "Promoting a Safer Church". A copy of this is available from the Parish Safeguarding Officer at any time. The PCC has recently re-affirmed its commitment to the Safeguarding Action Plan, through which the various access of the policy are worked out and monitored.

In the Parish of Hanborough, the following DBS checks and training have been completed:

	Number of people with role requiring DBS/Training	Number of people up to date with DBS/Training
DBS Check	18	18
Safeguarding Training	23	23

The above numbers exclude members of the clergy, Licensed Lay Ministers and those with Permission to Officiate (as their checks and training are managed from the Diocese). They include anyone else living in Hanborough or mainly worshipping at Christ Church or St Peter and St Paul.

Please see below/over for details of which role in the Parish requires which training – please contact Emma Young if you realise that you need to complete further training.

Finally, I am pleased to confirm that there have been no reports of Safeguarding related incidents in the Parish. Thank you to everyone for rapid compliance. Pray that we continue to make the churches in Hanborough safe places for everyone.

4.22. Deanery Synod Annual Report 2024 – Stephanie Lacey

Deanery synod meetings

We have had three meetings since the last APCM. All of these meetings were preceded by a short act of worship, which helped us to focus on God's love and the work of the church in the deanery.

In July we met at Christ Church, Long Hanborough. On this occasion Revd Duncan Fraser and Revd Jane Wright spoke about the work in their respective parishes: Eynsham and Cassington, and the Barton Benefice. Melanie McGregor talked about a recently formed working group, which is looking into planning Pilgrim Paths around the deanery. She mentioned some of the paths that had already been devised.

In November we went to St Leonard's Church, Eynsham. Hannah Mann, the Diocesan Environment Officer, spoke about 'Creation care in our churches – the why, the what, and the how'. Revd Dr Andrew Atherston, our representative on the General Synod, reported back to us on the recent discussions, which included healthy working practices for clergy, safeguarding, transparency and trust, human identity, marriage, and issues related to 'living in love and faith'. Revd Oliver Petter presented the third in our series of updates from around the benefices and described what had been happening in the Yarnton benefice.

In March we met at St Mary's Church, Woodstock. Phil Evans spoke to us about 'Engaging with the world through Christian Aid'. This was followed by Revd Harriet

Orridge talking about work in the Steeple Aston, North Aston and Tackley benefice.
Melanie McGregor provided an update on the Pilgrim Paths initiative.

		Training Levels						
Role	DBS required	Basic	Foundation	Leadership	Permission to Officiate	PSO Induction	Domestic Abuse	Safer Recruitment and People Management
Parish Safeguarding Officer	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
PCC Member		X	X					
Churchwarden	X	X	X					
LLM	X	X	X	X			X	
Clergy team	X	X	X	X	X (if not eligible for Leadership)		X	X
Area Lead (not Children and Young People)		X	X					
Area Lead: Children and Young People	X	X	X					
Children and Young People's work	X	X	X					
Housegroup leaders		X	X					
DBS Verifier		X	X					X
Pastoral Visitors	X	X	X				X	
Bell Tower Captain	X	X	X					

The synod also unanimously passed this proposal to be sent forward to the Diocesan Synod.

'The Woodstock Deanery Synod would like to propose that in multi-parish benefices (three or more), where there is only one stipendiary priest, that the diocese funds additional administrative support so that the priest is freed to fulfil their missional objectives in relation to serving and caring for the people of God.'

Other meetings and services

There have been several deanery events at St Mary's in Woodstock. In the Autumn, Revd Steve Stewart from Hanborough spoke about his PHD thesis on 'the law of Moses in John's prologue: the Law as central to a Jewish fourth gospel.' He has now been awarded his doctorate.

Some of us also attended the Lamps performance in October entitled 'Salt and Light.'

There was a deanery Epiphany Carol Service in January.

In March three of our deanery benefices met together at St Mary's Church, Wootton for a confirmation service taken by Bishop Gavin.

Comings and goings

Two clergy appointments were made in the summer, with the priests taking up their posts in the Autumn. Revd Esther Lay is now the house for duty priest in the Wootton, Glympton and Kiddington benefice. Revd Sarah Bourne was installed as rector of the Woodstock and Bladon benefice. This means that we have no clergy vacancies at present.

Other things to mention

Several archdeaconry triennial inspections have been carried out during this period by Andrew and Steph, with Revd Jane Haslam, our Associate Archdeacon, joining them on the first day. Since then a new diocesan check list has been devised, which we will use in the future.

Two of our deanery laity have been elected to the diocesan synod. Maria Coonick (Duns Tew) joins Mike Holmes (Woodstock). Revd Harriet Orridge is our only clergy representative on the synod, although we are entitled to two.

Recently the deanery clergy have undertaken an audit of the work with children and young people across the deanery. This will form a basis for future work as well as providing an opportunity to share good practice.

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER :

1183002

RECTOR

REV. STEVE STEWART

TREASURER:

WENDY BAYLISS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:

ANDREW GOWER

BANKERS:

BARCLAYS BANK PLC
OXFORD CITY CENTRE

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 31ST DECEMBER 2024

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

		Unrestricted	Restricted/ Designated	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Voluntary income	2a	84,040	3,955	87,995	100,609
Activities for generating funds	2b	6,528	-	6,528	11,814
Investing activities		1,739	128	1,867	1,213
Total incoming resources		92,307	4,083	96,390	113,636
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Parish Share		50,045		50,045	48,120
Utilities	Peter & Paul	3,068		3,068	3,396
	Doctors Surgery			-	527
	Christ Church	2,036		2,036	2,438
Buildings costs	Peter & Paul		4,757	4,757	9,903
	Christ Church		2,786	2,786	5,146
Insurance	Peter & Paul	3,966		3,966	4,797
	Christ Church	1,117		1,117	940
Missions and charities	3	7,548		7,548	9,787
Gifts & Donations			1,626	1,626	401
Rector's expenses		2,056	768	2,824	3,693
Other ministers' expenses		1,349	800	2,149	1,731
				-	-
Stationery, Printing & Postage		1,177		1,177	1,109
Equipment				-	13,368
Young People's Ministry		146	620	766	593
Salaries	Organist			-	1,300
	Admin/Cleaner	5,859		5,859	4,818
Beer Festival		500		500	
Sundry expenses:	Fees	1,868		1,868	2,382
	Miscellaneous	5,983		5,983	5,437
	PCC events	404		404	8,477
	First Steps 2c		201	201	759
Total resources used		87,122	11,558	98,680	129,122
Net incoming (outgoing) resources		5,185 -	7,475 -	2,290	- 15,486
Funds at 1 January		58,643	34,498	93,141	108,627
Funds at 31 December	Transfer	- 10,000	10,000		
		53,828	37,023	90,851	93,141

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR TO 31ST DECEMBER 2024

BALANCE SHEET

		Unrestricted £	Restricted/ Designated £	2024 £	2023 £
Current assets					
	Central Board of Finance	243	20,445	20,688	19,644
	Debtors	10,957	110	11,067	21,544
	Bank balances	43,042	16,453	59,495	55,540
	Petty Cash		15	15	15
		<u>54,242</u>	<u>37,023</u>	<u>91,265</u>	<u>96,743</u>
Current liabilities					
	Creditors	- 414	- 414	- 414	- 3,602
		<u>53,828</u>	<u>37,023</u>	<u>90,851</u>	<u>93,141</u>

These accounts were approved by the P.C.C. on 17/03/25
for presentation to the A.P.C.M., and signed on its behalf by:



Rev Dr Steve Stewart

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 31ST DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the SORP 2015 on "Accounting and reporting by Charities" and the following are the accounting policies which have been applied in dealing with material items:-

(a) Donations and Charitable Grant income

Donated income without conditions attached, including that gifted under gift aid, is taken into account when received by the PCC. Income received in circumstances where a claim for repayment of tax has been or will be made to the HM Revenue & Customs is grossed up for the tax recoverable. Any amount of tax not yet reclaimed from HM Revenue & Customs is shown within the PCC's debtors.

(b) Restricted and unrestricted funds

Restricted funds are those received for use on specified purposes. Expenditure which meets those criteria is allocated to that fund. Unrestricted funds are those received or generated that can be used for the general purposes of the PCC.

(c) Income and other expenditure

Interest income is taken into account when receivable and expenditure when incurred by the PCC, regardless of when payment is made.

2. INCOMING RESOURCES

(a) Voluntary income

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Direct to bank	40,055	440	40,495	65,544
Envelopes	1,134		1,134	1,155
Collections and wall safes	702		702	1,019
Donations/Grants received	1,948	3,114	5,062	13,187
First Steps		291	291	761
Parish Giving Scheme	33,989		33,989	1,662
Tax recoveries	6,212	110	6,322	17,281
	<u>84,040</u>	<u>3,955</u>	<u>87,995</u>	<u>100,609</u>

(b) Activities for generating funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Church lettings & land	568		568	848
Fees	4,420		4,420	5,181
Beer Festival	1,540		1,540	5,785
	<u>6,528</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,528</u>	<u>11,814</u>

(c) First Steps breakdown

	2024	2023
Donations (in 2a above)	291	761
Expenses	<u>-201</u>	<u>- 759</u>
Net surplus (loss)	<u>90</u>	<u>2</u>

(d) Employee Emoluments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries	-	1,300
Wages	5,859	4,818
	<u>5,859</u>	<u>6,118</u>

Average No of employees:	2	2
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HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 31ST DECEMBER 2024

3. MISSIONS AND CHARITIES		2024	2023
		£	£
WORLDWIDE			
Church Mission Society		944	1,008
Innovista		944	1,008
J Abu Bakker Christian School India		944	1,008
Open Doors		944	1,008
Nepal (Restricted Fund) for surgery			1,469
Arise			1,264
NATIONAL			
Salvation Army		943	1,008
LOCAL			
The Besom		943	1,007
The Porch		943	1,007
Good News For Ever		943	
TOTAL		<u>7,548</u>	<u>9,787</u>

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 31ST DECEMBER 2024

4. DESIGNATED FUNDS, UNRESTRICTED FUNDS AND RESTRICTED FUNDS

Note	1 January 2024 £	Income £	Transfers £	Expenditure £	31 December 2024 £
Restricted Funds:					
Benchseat memorial	177			177	-
Churchyard	975	108			1,083
Ducker Bequest	266	14			280
First Steps	20	291		201	110
Holiday Club/Children Ministry	614	6		620	-
Lunch Club Funds	-	1,488			1,488
Ministry Fund	10,756	550		800	10,506
Nepal Fund	3,252				3,252
Rector's Discretionary Fund	4,619			768	3,851
Gifts & Donations	-	1,626		1,626	-
Total Restricted Funds	20,679	4,083	-	4,192	20,570
Designated Quinquennial Building Fund	13,819		10,000	7,366	16,453
Other unrestricted fund	58,643	92,307	-	87,122	53,828
Total Combined	93,141	96,390	-	98,680	90,851

The benchseat memorial is restricted funds from a legacy for the benchseat sited at Christ Church

The Churchyard Fund comprises capital of £500 & accumulated income after expenditures of £583 held in Trust by the Rector and Churchwardens. The accumulated income is to be used to keep the graveyard of Christ Church in good order and repair the graves and gravestones of F G and A Thompson, E H, A E and AL Jakeman and to keep the lettering thereon legible and to have the lettering recut from time to time.

The Ducker Bequest Fund is to be used for the Sanctuary at the Parish Church.

First Steps - Moneys held for the First Steps Mums and Toddlers group.

The Holiday Club Fund is to be used for children's ministry within the parish

The Ministry Fund is a restricted fund towards ministry and/or curate costs.

The Nepal fund is giving towards cost of surgery for children in Nepal

The Rector's Discretionary Fund is able to be used at the Rector's discretion to assist him in his work.

Gifts & Donations are restricted funds received towards gifts and donations to specific people & paid out in 2024

Designated Quinquennial Fund for annual building costs with an aim to build up the fund for future repairs.

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 31ST DECEMBER 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to Hanborough PCC

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on the previous pages.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of accounts; you 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
- * follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act : and
- * state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence which would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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
 - i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the 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.

A. S. Gower

A Gower

25/4/25

Dated

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 31ST DECEMBER 2024

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- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

A. S. Gower

A Gower

25/4/25

Dated

Accounts

Annual Report 2024 of the Hanborough PCC

1. RECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2023 TO 2024

Looking back on 2023-2024, the joy for me is not found in all the great events that we've done together – and there have been some excellent things – but in who we have been. The last 12 months have been a very special time of being church together, living as the people of God, loving one another in Christ, and being those “new creations” (2 Corinthians 5:17) in Christ which God has made us through the blood of his son Jesus.

This last year has felt like the wind of the Holy Spirit has brought something new and wonderful to our churches, sometimes but not always reflected in numbers, sometimes but not always reflected in finances, sometimes but not always reflected in events, but consistently reflected in Christlikeness to one another. And therefore I think we have the surest of foundations on which to be builders of God's kingdom in the year to come. Nonetheless, God does not bring change to us for nothing: we may need to brace ourselves for where the wind of the Holy Spirit blows in 2024-2025! As Christ said to Nicodemus:

The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit” (John 3:8).

And while all the glory for who we are must go to God, he works in us and through us and for us. So I wish to give great thanks to everyone in our church families across the benefice who has served so faithfully over this last year. And while the naming of one is not to undermine the servant-hearted ministry of all who are unnamed (your reward is in heaven!), I will say a special thank you to a few: our associate Rector Mike, offering wisdom, prayer, teaching and challenge in good measure to me in my call to servant leadership; Heather our curate so kind, wise and prayerful; our churchwardens across the benefice Colin, Saskia Emma and Steven so gifted, working so hard and with such grace; our PCC members who serve so diligently in leading our churches; our Area Leads over the last 12 months – Alice Harden (youth and children), Julian Soanes (facilities & communication), Steven Young (music); Mike Madden (small groups); Heather McCulloch (pastoral care); Mands Stewart (prayer), and now Laura Hutchins Payne (benefice social events), serving in varied but such important ways; Alongside these, I offer great thanks to those who serve faithfully on the Christ Church Vision Group and now on the Roundtable groups for St Peter and St Paul and for St Mary's.

And last but not least, those who lay the sure foundation of the biblical gospel of Christ crucified – those who preach the Bible across the benefice – without which and without whom there is no truth, no church, no mission.

Together, all of these equip our church well for teaching, discipling and mission in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And here are a few highlights of what's been happening in our churches over the last 12 months:

Continuing baptisms, weddings and funerals. Continued upgrading of audiovisual systems in our churches. Assemblies, prayer spaces and more in the schools, together with the “Prayer Shack” at Freeland, many visits from our schools to our church buildings. Regular Choral Evensong. The joy of seeing so many musicians helping us worship God in songs of praise. The incredible work of our treasurer Wendy Bayliss – treasurer now for both Hanborough and Freeland. Alpha course at the Rectory. Seeing hundreds of people come through our churches at a very wide range of Easter and Christmas events, and also our Light Events at the end of October. Our amazing “Celebration Sunday” in September. An evening of Christian poetry. Curry evenings. Quiz events. Mulled Wine and Nibbles at the Rectory. Working parties at the churches. Just a flavour the many events of the last 12 months.

Yet I will say once more: in the sight of God, “church” is not measured by the number of events we do, or even by the number of people who walk through the door, or how well-equipped, well-kept and beautiful our church buildings are. The Lord measures his church by what we are and what we have been to one another. God’s “meaningful metric” is our obedience to a commandment and commissions of the Gospels: the commandment to love one another; and the commission to make disciples:

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another”

(John 13:34-35)

“go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age” (Matt. 28:19-20).

Our mission is not to “do more” but to do this!

An old friend of mine from theological college, now a respected Bible scholar, historian and author, once said, “The gospel without love is no gospel at all. And love without the gospel is no love at all”. I think there is much wisdom in this. But in order to walk this path and be obedient to Christ command to love one another – and as he loved us – we must know what the love of Christ looks like. The love of Christ is rooted in forgiveness. In Christ, loving one another well is not measured first by a list of positive acts (“so-and-so did this good deed”), but by a list of forgiven failures. Among the believers in the kingdom of God, failure absolutely is an option, just as forgiveness of one another is not. This is the measure of whether God’s love is at work among us: that we forgive one another.

“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God” (Ephesians 4:32-5:2).

Above all events and acts, it is this forgiving of one another under the sure umbrella of the gospel of salvation, which has been my joy to see and experience at Hanborough and Freeland over the last 12 months. And this living out by you of the gospel faithfully preached means that I am convinced that the Holy Spirit – if we follow where he blows – has many blessings in store for us in the year to come.

With my prayers for us all, and with much love in Christ Jesus,
Steve

Rev Steve Stewart, Rector of Hanborough and Freeland, May 2024

2. AIM AND PURPOSES

Hanborough PCC is responsible for working with the Rector to promote the ecclesiastical parish and the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It has met four times since the last APCM, with attendance ranging between 80% and 100%. Minutes or reports from Area Leads, committees and other meetings were received and responded to as necessary.

3. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship Jesus in our Parish of Hanborough. The PCC has an overview of the worship throughout the parish. All services and worship in the parish seek to nurture faith through prayer, scripture, music and sacrament. This is done when planning activities for the year, having consideration for the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship, teaching and prayer
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work through Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, as well as services for special occasions and providing help to those in need.

We are grateful for all the services provided by our clergy (Steve, Mike and Heather) and our retired clergy. It is also good to have many other members of our churches taking leading roles. In order to facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of St. Peter and St. Paul Church in Church Hanborough, and Christ Church in Long Hanborough and this is ably organised by our Churchwardens.

4. THE LIFE AND WORSHIP OF THE CHURCH:

4.1. Sunday services

During 2023, we continued to enjoy a regular pattern of 10 AM services in all three churches across the benefice, with occasional joint services. Generally these are led by ordained clergy, but it is a wonderful thing at Hanborough and Freeland to also enjoy the enormously wide range of lay ministries which are a feature of our services. These include service leading, preaching, leading prayers, assisting at communion, Bible reading, children and youth work leaders, testimonies, musicianship, sidespersons, welcomers, people on audiovisual and other tech – and more.

Thank you, everyone, for all the great and faithful work that you do. One recognisable feature of Hanborough and Freeland is the broad range of worship styles we are able to enjoy because of the broad range of musical and other gifts given to us. Our services can range from band led worship, to Eucharistic, to choral Evensong. It is a wonderful thing that our styles of worship are not defined by trying to crowbar ourselves into some ideal, but because we have been blessed with such a variety of spiritual gifts.

Without faithful preaching of the gospel from the Bible, there is no real church, just an illusion of church. Throughout our Sunday services in 2023 to early 2024 we have been blessed by a very gifted preaching team, absolutely committed to preaching God's word faithfully. This team has led us through preaching series on the whole of 1 Corinthians, Psalms, 1 Peter and most recently the account of the life of Joseph from Genesis.

A particular blessing has been those times when our churches have joined together as brothers and sisters in Christ, prayed, sat under the Word of God, sung his praises and shared the Lord's supper together. May God bless us likewise in 2024.

4.2. Area - Youth and children

Children's groups have met at St Mary's in the Taunton room most term time Sunday mornings this year. There is a small and welcoming regular group of children and leaders. We enjoy having fun, caring for each other, being creative and learning a bit more about what God is like each week. The youth group meets in the Parvis most weeks and has been studying thematic topics chosen by the youth.

Both groups are now registering attendance on a church suite module (as of April 2024). Previously this was not reliably recorded. This software will be made available to the Christ Church team in the coming months.

Now there is a steadier provision of groups on a Sunday morning, the next step is to communicate this effectively.

We have a small number of (regular/occasional) younger children for whom the back of church is probably still an appropriate space. We have occasional visitors (and at joint services) who have children in the in-between stage where a pre-school/ early primary group might be more appropriate. The challenge is in finding an appropriate safe space and leaders for this irregular ministry.

Bible Fun club has met 4 times this year (summer holidays, light party, Christmas tree lighting, Good Friday). The events are very well run, invitational, gospel centred and well attended by local families. The nativity play performed at the Christmas Christingle service was also a highlight.

The benefice youth group held on a Sunday evening did not restart after the summer break as there was insufficient demand from the youth for it to be a viable group. It was felt that this group had served a good purpose allowing friendships to strengthen/reform after covid, and that it was ok to stop.

Christ Church Youth group are meeting in the Rectory on a Sunday morning. The children's group are meeting at the back of church when the team are able to run a session. Volunteers have done a great job of clearing the back of Christ Church and converting this to a suitable (but very small) space after the old surgery was no longer available to us.

The committed children and youth team do a wonderful job. More volunteers would be warmly welcomed to continue these ministries reliably and safely.

First Steps, Hanborough and Freeland Church's Baby and Toddler group takes place on a Wednesday morning at Christ Church and is run by a team from across the benefice. As well as free play and activities, refreshments and song time, each session includes a Bible story. It is been a joy to share Bible truths with the group each week and introduce songs such as "Great Big God" and "Who is the King of the Jungle". Themes we have explored this year through our story time and activities include "Jesus is our friend", "We are forgiven" and "Age doesn't matter".

First Steps has seen attendance continue to grow over the past year, so much so that we have now had to implement advance sign-up to limit the number of people in the building for everyone's comfort and safety.

It has been encouraging to see families from First Steps come along to other events run by Hanborough and Freeland churches, such as the Light Parties, Christmas Unwrapped, Carols on the Green and Christingle Services, and to also see a few come along to Sunday services. At the First Steps Christmas party, we handed out a book to each child to take home which explained the Nativity story and its relevance to us.

A huge thank you to the team that give up their time each week to make First Steps possible. Our volunteers go above and beyond, particularly when rising numbers has made sessions busier. As we look ahead, we will be looking to grow the team in order to be able to continue to serve the local community generously and safely. We are looking to explore options including bringing people on board to support with behind the scenes admin, preparing refreshments in advance, and set up and set down.

4.3. Area – Music

Music plays an important part in our worship services in the parish and it is wonderful that the musical gifts of many people in the parish/benefice are offered for singing and playing at both churches in the parish and at other events in the parish. Thanks to all the musicians who contribute to the music for worship in the parish/benefice.

4.4. Area – Home groups and small groups

Over the last year as church community, we have facilitated several House Groups of various types and sizes across the three villages. These House Groups either meet in people's homes or online and are attended by members from all three of our churches. Over the last year the House Groups have met as follows.

- The Harden Group (8pm Tuesday evening in Freeland).
- The Feast Group (8pm Tuesday evening in Long Hanborough).
- The Knights Johnson Group (8pm Wednesday evening in Long Hanborough).
- An Online Group led by Pam Berry (7.30pm usually meet on a Wednesday evening).
- The Madden Group (8pm Wednesday evenings in Freeland).
- The Open House led by Mands Stewart and Heather McCulloch (9.30 am Tuesday mornings, St Mary's Freeland).

Around fifty percent of our church community attend House Groups, with all of our House Groups drawing people from at least two and in some cases all three churches from across our Benefice and beyond. A typical House Group evening combines a mixture of catching up over coffee, studying the bible, and prayer, although each group does have its own flavour. Some focus on exegesis, others focus on prayer or sung worship. For example, one of our House Groups has been studying Paul's letter to the Ephesians and has now moved onto, Abraham, whereas another group has been studying the life Lydia in Acts.

As you can see from the above, there are a variety of House Groups attended by people from across the Benefice. Our vision for our House Groups is for them all to be a place of safety where we can study the bible, pray, support one another, have fellowship and fun. All our groups are open to new members, of all ages from all of our churches and beyond. If anyone would like to join a group, please contact Rev Mike Madden.

4.5. Area - Facilities and Communications

Communications

Web site access handed over to Saskia Emma Merry. I will be available for support as required for any maintenance.

Projects

- i. Christ Church, - No projects
- ii. Ss Peter & Paul – assist to set volume on microphones. Outstanding project for hearing loop. I am happy to complete this project once PCC has decided on replacement unit or on contractor fit.
- iii. Freeland – Replaced mix desk with old unit from Christ Church, re installed the projector and adapted the sound system for multimedia presentations. Clock maintenance and periodic reset.

4.6. Area – Benefice-Wide Social events

I (Laura Hutchins Payne) was formally appointed as Area Lead - Benefice-Wide Social Events for Hanborough and Freeland Benefice in December 2023. This appointment followed the success of the New Year's Eve Safari Drinks and Nibbles held on December 31st 2022, and the great success of Celebration Sunday, held on September 10, 2023. Since my appointment, I have organised New Year's Eve Safari Drinks and Nibbles on December 31st 2023. This was a very enjoyable evening, which started at Emma and Steve Young's house in Cassington, and then moved to Steven and my house in Long Hanborough. 14 members of the Benefice enjoyed our time together, chatting, eating, drinking and welcoming in the New Year with Big Ben, and a prayer from Andy Richens.

4.7. Area - Prayer in the churches

Prayer Ministry in the Benefice: The new guidelines for re-starting prayer ministry in the Benefice have been passed on to the clergy team. They are looking into the next steps for taking this forward. It will be great to see this happening in our Churches and pray it will bless many mightily.

Open House Prayer Group: The Open House Prayer group continues to meet weekly where we enjoy fellowship, worship and praying for God's love, mercy and grace to be

poured out on Freeland and the surrounding villages. We enjoyed a half night of prayer at St Mary's in late November and hope to organise some more of these in the future – four hours flew by.

Prayer Walking and Prayer Events: I'm prayerfully considering how we can develop prayer walking in the Benefice alongside more extended times of prayer and fasting across the Benefice.

Prayer and Praise Evenings: Last year we enjoyed two evenings of worship, prayer and reflection in a more informal atmosphere for the whole Benefice. They were well attended and it would be great to offer more in the future.

The Monthly Benefice Prayer Meeting has continued throughout the year. The number attending has reduced from the large numbers during COVID, to a smaller core of committed prayer/ intercessor warriors. For some reason the prayer seems to focus more directly on Parish needs, with less prayer for national and international issues. I personally see this as a slight concern and a bit narrow. However the commitment and vigour remain strong and each session passes incredibly quickly. It remains true, as mentioned last year, that after each session we come out tired but spiritually invigorated, and feeling as though we have been an important part of the spiritual battle against the devil's work.

4.8. Treasurer's Report based on 2023 Accounts

Looking at the statement of financial activities (circulated with this report) on page two of the annual accounts the total income for 2023 was £113,636 against £109,138 in 2022 which is 4% increase. The breakdown of the incoming resources can be seen on page 4. Restricted donations and the beer festival are the main reasons for the increase, as giving is down from £78,067 to £65,544. Fees received were slightly down from £6903 in 2022 to £5181.

Going back to page 2 the resources expended shows that much of the expenditure is comparable to 2022 with the parish share of £48,120 continuing to be by far the largest, most significant expenditure. The PA / AV equipment in both Christ Church and St Peter and St Paul churches have been replaced, hence the increase costs in the equipment line, additional building costs have also been incurred due to inspections carried out on the spire following the Quinquennial reports. PCC events are the other notable increase in expenditure against 2022 which includes Celebration Sunday, most of which was covered by donations and the Beer Festival costs. Total unrestricted expenditure is £96,785 and restricted/designated is £32,337 totalling £129,122 against the 2022 total of £99,304.

Net result is a deficit £15,486. Our total funds held at the end of 2023 are £93,141 the breakdown of which is shown on the balance sheet on page 3 .

Page 5 shows where the missions and charities donations have been made.

Page 6 shows how the restricted, designated and unrestricted funds are made up totalling £93,141 which are split as follows - Restricted Funds - £20,679 Designated Funds - £13,819 and Unrestricted Funds - £58,643.

Thank you to the clergy and church wardens for their support to me in this role, also to Hazel Bowman who continues to collate the envelope giving information and to all who support the church in their giving. Many of you have already changed to give through the Parish Giving Scheme, if you have not and would like more information on this please do ask me.

4.9. Freedom in Christ

This January we (Mands Stewart and Rev Heather McCulloch) ran two Freedom In Christ Courses for the Benefice, one on a Monday evening and one on a Wednesday afternoon. Both were well attended with over ten people on each course plus me and three facilitators. It was wonderful to run the Wed course jointly with Witney Community Church. The response from those attending has been overwhelmingly positive. Here are a few comments from our participants: 'this is some of the best Christian material I have ever come across; the FIC course is excellent and the spiritual world has been brought alive to me.' The Away day for the course was rather intense and less personal as there were a lot of us. Through the participants' feedback we can address this and should the course run again, look at how this can be adjusted.

4.10. Pastoral care in the parish

We now have pastoral care team leaders in St. Mary's and Christ Church, this role is fulfilled by the Clergy Team at St. Peter and St. Paul. The team leaders are listed in the Benefice News email and can be contacted at any time if someone has a concern. The team leaders are supported in their role by a wider team at each of our churches. The pastoral care team help to ensure that members of our churches are supported appropriately as need arises and that the clergy are kept up to date so that no one is missed.

Some members of the pastoral team may also make pastoral visits to people at home from time to time. In this case, an enhanced DBS and a risk assessment are required in addition to the Basic and Foundation levels of safeguarding training. Some of this training is still in progress.

The pastoral care team continue to develop this role and strengthen the pastoral care across our churches.

4.11. Schools' work

BeSpace prayer spaces: We have worked with both our Primary Schools; Hanborough Manor and Freeland, to put on a week of prayer spaces facilitated by BeSpace. Both weeks were brilliant fun, and we had the help of many of the members of our churches to supervise the prayer spaces. Both schools were able to offer every child the opportunity to come into the prayer spaces and participate in all the activities. Reports on these weeks are available.

Space Makers: Thanks to funding approved by both PCC's Heather was able to take one member of staff from each school to the Space Makers training day run by the Diocese down near Windsor. We had an excellent day and returned feeling inspired. Heather met

with the head teachers from both schools, and Heather along with Mandy Cripps and Lars Boardman have planned to run a joint training event in May for all the staff of both schools to learn how to use the Space Makers Contemplative Toolkit in the classroom.

Collective Worship: As a clergy team along with the Methodists and Catholics, we continue to provide weekly Christian Collective Worship in both schools based on the schools' theme for the term.

Freeland School: Since Mandy Cripps' appointment to the school, they have been strengthening the children's understanding of Spirituality and Christianity. Mandy has led a team from Freeland (members of our churches and other local Christians) to develop the Prayer Shack. This continues to be a wonderful resource for the children to come and have some space to connect with God at lunchtimes, for a week each term. Wonderfully, Matt Cripps has now been appointed Foundation Governor at Freeland.

Hanborough Manor School: Saskia Emma (Foundation Governor) and Nick Wood (Director Appointed Governor), both members of our churches, have been trying to support the school's desire to increase connections with the church. We have had conversations with the head teacher and members of staff, about the possibility of developing a Community Week, or an Arts Week with the school at St. Peter and St. Paul, support for the curriculum, and the use of the churchyard as an outdoor classroom space. These discussions are still at an early stage.

Seasonal Services: We have continued to run seasonal services at Christmas, Easter, and Harvest for Freeland Pre-School and both primary schools, along with hosting end of term Collective Worship in our Churches.

4.12. Supporting Ecumenical Relationships

Anglican and Methodist ministers continued to work closely together meeting regularly with Father Martin from the Catholic Church. Annually, the service for Remembrance Sunday is shared, alternating between the Methodist and Anglican Church when the church welcomes the local uniformed organizations before processing to the War Memorial for the two minutes silence. Remembrance Sunday this year was attended by over 300 people in all. Anglican, Methodist and Roman Catholic ministers have also taken the opportunity to share lunch together this year, sharing thoughts and ideas for the area. Also, in our house and prayer groups, there are some members from other local churches.

4.13. Weddings, baptisms, and funerals

Weddings, baptisms and funerals across the benefice for 2023 were as follows:

Christ Church:

Number of weddings in 2023: 1

Number of funeral services in 2023: 2

Number of memorial services in 2023: 0

Number of interments of ashes in 2023: 0

St Peter and St Paul:

Number of weddings in 2023: 2

Number of funeral services in 2023: 4

Number of memorial services in 2023: 0
 Number of interments of ashes in 2023: 0
St Mary the Virgin, Freeland:
 Number of weddings in 2023: 2 plus 1 Wedding blessing
 Number of funeral services in 2023: 4
 Number of memorial services in 2023: 1
 Number of interments of ashes in 2023: 3

In Hanborough parish in 2023, there were 3 weddings (down from 7 from last year), no baptisms and 10 funerals (down from 19 from last year), no memorial services and no interments of ashes taken. Each provides a not insignificant pastoral and mission opportunity. We are grateful to all the ministers across the Benefice who serve these occasional offices of weddings, baptisms and funerals.

4.14. Supporting mission in the U.K. and overseas

The Designated Mission and Charities Fund is calculated as 10% of the previous years unrestricted income under note 2a of the accounts. Of this money 80% is allocated equally between seven charities Church Mission Society, Innovista, J Abu Bakker, Open Doors, Salvation Army, The Besom and The Porch. The remaining 20% is discussed and donated by the PCC.

MISSIONS AND CHARITIES					2023
					£
WORLDWIDE					
	Church Mission Society				1,008.00
	Innovista				1,008.00
	J Abu Bakker Christian School India				1,008.00
	Open Doors				1,008.00
	Nepal (Restricted Fund) for surgery				1,469.00
	Arise				1,264.00
NATIONAL					
	Salvation Army				1,008.00
LOCAL					
	The Besom				1,007.00
	The Porch				1,007.00
TOTAL					
					9,787.00

In 2023 the Missions and Charities Designated Fund of £8820 split across the seven charities mentioned above being £7056, so £1008 was paid quarterly by standing order to each of them. The remaining 20% was £1764 of which £1264 was allocated to Arise for their conference fund to sponsor places for woman unable to pay. The remainder of £500 unspent is carried forward to 2024. From restricted funds we were able to fund a further surgery in Nepal costing £1469.

For 2024 the Missions and Charities Designated Fund is £8256, so 80% for the usual seven charities will mean they will receive £943.50 each and the balance of £1651 plus the £500 from 2023 carried forward means there is £2151 available for the PCC to decide upon the recipient(s) in due course.

4.15. **Structure, Governance and Management: Administrative Information**

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parish and Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Description of role	Name
Incumbent (Rector):	Rev Steve Stewart
Associate Rector:	Rev Mike Madden
Curate	Rev Heather McCulloch
Licensed Lay Minister:	Mr Clive Berry
Elected members:	
Churchwardens:	Dr Steven Young and Ms Saskia Emma Merry
Representative on Deanery Synod:	Dr Steven Young
Elected Members:	Mrs Amanda Madden
	Mr Clive Berry
	Mr Simon Gundry *
Appointments by the PCC:	
Vice chair:	Rev Mike Madden
Treasurer:	Mrs Wendy Bayliss (co-opted)
Secretary:	Dr Pam Berry (co-opted)

*Resigned March 2024, due to moving away

4.16. **Report on Standing Committee, Roundtables, and Christ Church Vision Group i) Standing Committee.**

- i. The functions of the Standing Committee have been carried out by the clergy and wardens who have met around every 4 weeks. (Church Representation Rules M.31).

- ii. *Christ Church Vision Group (CCVG).*

This team, as a subcommittee of PCC, looks not only at the day-to-day practicalities (e.g., rotas, unlocking, audiovisual, music, hospitality) required for Christ Church for regular 10 AM Sunday services, but also the “vision ...and mission of needs of Christ Church in any given season”, and to “serve, help fulfil, and shape the mission and vision of Christ Church”. The vision group meets approximately monthly.

- iii. Round Tables

In 2023, groups similar to the CCVG were set up for both St Mary Freeland and for St Peter and St Paul Church Hanborough. These are known as “Roundtables” (RTs). Like the CCVG, these function as subcommittees of the PCC, to be a forum where members of

the local congregation meet with the clergy team for prayer, general communication, general admin, birth new initiatives, and promote good discipleship.

St Peter and St Paul (P&P-RT)

The P & P-RT is made up of the Clergy Team plus three members of P&P (Nick Wood, Gill Hunt, Amanda Madden). It has begun to meet on a regular basis, to provide an informal framework for communication focussing on local issues relevant to P&P. This has included work on the building, operational and pastoral concerns, and more recently exploring and developing P&Ps mission in the parish of Hanborough.

St Mary the Virgin (SMV-RT)

The SMV-RT is made up of the Clergy Team plus three members of St Mary's. (Matt Cripps, Denise Ball, and Julian Soanes). It has begun to meet on a regular basis, to provide an informal framework for communication focussing on local issues relevant to St Mary's. The current focus is on exploring and developing St Mary's mission to the village of Freeland.

4.17. PCC Meetings

Items for PCC discussion (many of which are covered more fully elsewhere in this report), have included: state of the spire at St Peter and St Paul and different repair options, the condition of the floorboards in the kitchen and better access to the church, especially for those with mobility issues. For Christ Church, provision of space for children and youth work once we do not have access to the old Surgery and especially the possible development of a small multifunctional crèche/prayer and fellowship and area at the back of the church. For each church, we discussed the improvement in / replacement of the sound systems.

4.18. Electoral Roll Report

There are 74 people on it. 3 additions from last year, 1 removal.

4.19. Others who serve in various ministries

With the exception of our Rector, Rev. Steve Stewart, our Curate, Heather McCulloch, the Benefice Administrator and our organist and church cleaners, all the other people who minister and serve the churches, including our Associate Rector Rev. Mike Madden, work in a voluntary capacity. The PCC is very grateful to all these people who work in so many different ways to enable the mission of the church.

4.20. Churchwarden's Report

As new church wardens we have been learning about the many routine things that need to happen for the upkeep of and running of our church buildings (boiler servicing, fire extinguishers, PAT testing, opening of buildings, putting out the bins). Thanks to all those who do many unseen things to keep our churches working, and to all who came along to help with the working parties. Thanks also to previous church wardens for the excellent handover sessions.

It is very helpful that members of the congregation from both churches have been happy to contact us as church wardens, alerting us to things that need attention (e.g. broken kettles, light bulbs that need replacing) as well as offering many other helpful suggestions about things that could be improved. Please do continue to reach out if there are things you want to discuss about either church.

New fire safety signage has been put up at St Peter and St Paul, and we are looking into commissioning fire safety reports for all three churches in the benefice. New sound systems have been installed in both churches to replace aging (and broken) equipment. A tarpaulin was fitted in the bell tower at St Peter and St Paul to divert rainwater and is working well. An additional double electric socket was fitted in kitchen area at St Peter and St Paul.

Future work under considering includes improving the space we have at Christ Church for children's work. The floorboards in the kitchen area at St Peter and St Paul are shortly to be replaced, and the accessible path project is in the pre-app stage.

Apart from Sunday morning services, a range of other activities continue in our churches: the First Steps baby and toddler group meets each week during term at Christ Church, the BeSpace prayer space was hosted at St Peter and St Paul in January, and discussions have taken place with Hanborough Manor School about a possible "eco" project in the churchyard in the summer.

4.21. Occasional Festivals

This year the joint Remembrance Sunday service with the Methodists was held at St. Peter and St. Paul, Church Hanborough. A carol service for the village, "Christmas Unwrapped" was held at Christ Church and another one around the Christmas tree in Hurdeswell. There was also a Christingle Service at Christ Church.

4.22. Church Flowers St Peter and St Paul

I (Denise Parrott) have continued to ensure that flowers are provided on a weekly basis throughout the year, apart from Lent and Advent when, traditionally, we do not have flowers in church. I would particularly like to thank Gill Hunt who is always there to help out, particularly at special festivals and when I am away on holiday. My thanks also go to Richard and Margaret Wilkins who kindly do the Easter Garden and source and decorate the Christmas Tree and to others who may not think they contribute a great deal but little things all add to the overall appearance. I must not leave out thanks to Roger, my husband, who comes down to church with me and follows behind with the dustpan and brush!

I am always grateful for any donations to the cost of providing flowers, particularly at Easter when I try to purchase Easter Lilies and I thank those people who have given generously over the years. It would be so nice to see more people coming forward to help.

You don't have to be a flower arranger as just a vase of flowers in the window is quite sufficient but it does make our church look welcoming to the many visitors that call in.

4.23. Sacristan Report

At both churches, all is in good order, with all altar frontals in good repair. These are changed according to the liturgical season.

St. Peter and St. Paul, Church Hanborough

The Holy Communion vessels are always sterilized after use and stowed away in the locked cupboard of the vestry. The used altar linen is washed and ironed after every use. The 3 large altar cloths are laundered at least three times every year.

During the year the use of Holy Communion wafers were replaced with a gluten free roll. This negated the use of separate gluten free wafers. Holy Communion wine was purchased during the year. Candles used at Christmas are now safely stowed in the locked vestry in accordance with Fire Precautions.

Christ Church , Long Hanborough

All the Holy Communion vessels are thoroughly washed after each use before being stored in a locked cupboard in the vestry. All altar linen is washed and ironed regularly and cloths used for communion are washed after each use. A gluten-free roll is used for Communion.

4.24. Annual Safeguarding Report for the Benefice of Hanborough

It has been a good year for continuing with high levels of compliance with DBS certification and Safeguarding Training, especially online, across the Parish. I am particularly grateful for the speed with which people are renewing their DBS certification if needed, and for Colin Griffiths' (Freeland) invaluable work in processing the renewals very quickly.

The formalizing of Pastoral Care to include visiting in homes has increased the number of people needing to undergo the DBS checks and Safeguarding Training. This is not yet complete but the Pastoral Care leads are aware of the requirements for anyone visiting a vulnerable person at home to have received the appropriate training and background checks.

A reminder that anyone who has a role in church leadership, such as PCC or leading a housegroup, should expect to take part in Safeguarding Training, in the same way as all those who work with children and vulnerable adults expect to undergo a DBS check and training.

The PCC is committed to the Safeguarding Policy provided by the Diocese "Promoting a Safer Church". A copy of this is available from the Parish Safeguarding Officer at any time. The PCC has recently re-affirmed its commitment to the Safeguarding Action Plan, through which the various access of the policy are worked out and monitored.

In the Parish of Hanborough, the following DBS checks and training have been completed:

	Number of people with role requiring DBS/Training	Number of people up to date with DBS/Training
DBS Check	22	18

Safeguarding Training	27	22

The above numbers exclude members of the clergy, Licensed Lay Ministers and those with Permission to Officiate (as their checks and training are managed from the Diocese). They include anyone else living in Hanborough or mainly worshipping at Christ Church or St Peter and St Paul.

The Diocese is rolling out a new platform to enable PSOs to keep track of volunteers' DBS status and training requirements. It is similar to the Dashboard used for managing tasks related to policies and other aspects of safeguarding. It is therefore likely that the PSO will be contacting people over the next few months if we find that we are missing details such as DBS certificate numbers.

Please see below for details of which role in the Parish requires which training – please contact Emma Young if you realise that you need to complete further training.

	Training Levels							
Role	DBS required	Basic	Foundation	Leadership	Permission to Officiate	PSO induction	Domestic Abuse	Safer Recruitment and People Management
Parish Safeguarding Officer	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
PCC Member		X	X					
Churchwarden	X	X	X					
LLM	X	X	X	X			X	
Clergy team	X	X	X	X	X (if not eligible for Leadership)		X	X
Area Lead (not Children and Young People)		X	X					
Area Lead: Children and Young People	X	X	X					
Children and Young People's work	X	X	X					
Housegroup leaders		X	X					
DBS Verifier		X	X					X

4.25.

Pastoral Visitors	X	X	X				X	
Bell Tower Captain	X	X	X					

4.26. Deanery Synod Annual Report 2023

Area Dean: Revd Jeremy Auld (until December 2023)
 Revd Dr Andrew Bunch (from January 2024)
Lay Chair: Stephanie Lacey
Secretary: Maria Coonick
Treasurer: Mike Sinfield

Deanery synod meetings

We had three meetings in 2023. All of these meetings were preceded by a short act of worship, which helped us to focus on God's love and the work of the church in the deanery. In March we met at St James the Great In Stonesfield and our Parish Development Adviser, Revd Charles Chadwick, ran a workshop on planning our Mission Action Plan. In June we met at St Leonard's in Eynsham, when Revd Canon Sally Welch spoke to us about pilgrim paths and the possibility of benefices creating their own paths for visitors and inhabitants. In November, we welcomed Karen Fairfax-Cholmeley to St Mary Magdalene, Woodstock. She spoke about Kairos Palestine and each deanery representative was asked to discuss their work with their PCC and decide whether to support the Carlisle proposal before the March deanery meeting. In March 2024 we are meeting at Steeple Aston and John Orridge, the diocesan director of finance, will talk about his strategy and answer questions. Treasurers will also be invited to this meeting.

Comings and goings

We are very pleased to report that our former Area Dean, David Tyler, has been appointed as our new Archdeacon. His collation was at Christ Church on Saturday 18 March at the 6.00pm Evensong service. David was formerly acting archdeacon, having been Assistant Archdeacon to Judy French before then. The deanery welcomed David at a special Evensong on Sunday 30 April. At the end of 2023 David was joined by Revd Preb Jane Haslam, who is our new Associate Archdeacon.

Our Area Dean, Revd Jeremy Auld, left the diocese at the end of 2023 to take up the chaplaincy of Nice and Vence in the South of France. We wish him and Christine many sun filled days! The deanery wished him farewell at our November meeting and presented him with a cheque to reflect our thanks for all his work. At an Epiphany carol service in Woodstock, Bishop Gavin licensed Canon Dr Andrew Bunch as our new Area Dean. Andrew retired to Long Hanborough a few years ago after serving at St Giles and St Margaret's churches in Oxford for many years.

In the summer of 2023 we made appointments to our two vacant benefices. Revd John Reader was appointed to Wootton, Glympton and Kiddington, but very sadly he died suddenly in October. So that benefice is once again in vacancy. Revd Harriet Orridge was appointed to Steeple Aston, North Aston and Tackley and has also kindly agreed to serve on the diocesan synod as one of our two deanery clergy representatives, replacing Revd Marcus Green. Now that Jeremy has left, we have another clergy vacancy on the diocesan synod. Our lay representative on the diocesan synod is Mike Holmes (Woodstock), there is currently a vacancy for another lay representative.

We also welcomed Melanie McGregor as our new Church Inspections Treasurer following the retirement of Ian Hale. We were pleased to present a small gift of thanks to Ian at our March meeting.

2023 was the year in which elections took place for lay deanery synod representatives. Some people were re-elected and some new representatives were voted on to the synod.

Other things to mention

Deanery synod reps, clergy and church officers had the opportunity to meet together in a social setting on two occasions during the year. In January at a Winter Bash in Duns Tew we had a late celebration of Burns Night. We had a successful Summer drinks party at the rectory garden in Woodstock, with its wonderful view over Blenheim Palace.

Stephanie Lacey February 2024
Woodstock Deanery Lay Chair

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER :

1183002

RECTOR

REV. STEVE STEWART

TREASURER:

WENDY BAYLISS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:

ANDREW GOWER

BANKERS:

BARCLAYS BANK PLC
OXFORD CITY CENTRE

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

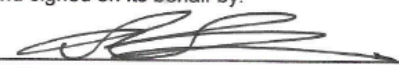
		Unrestricted £	Restricted/ Designated £	2023 £	2022 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Voluntary income	2a	82,560	18,049	100,609	99,369
Activities for generating funds	2b	11,814	-	11,814	9,393
Investing activities		1,169	44	1,213	376
Total incoming resources		95,543	18,093	113,636	109,138
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Parish Share		48,120		48,120	46,270
Utilities	Peter & Paul	3,396		3,396	2,977
	Doctors Surgery	527		527	
	Christ Church	2,438		2,438	2,772
Buildings costs	Peter & Paul		9,903	9,903	6,270
	Christ Church		5,146	5,146	857
Insurance	Peter & Paul	4,797		4,797	3,595
	Christ Church	940		940	876
Missions and charities	3	8,318	1,469	9,787	11,507
Gifts & Donations		90	311	401	1,885
Rector's expenses		2,393	1,300	3,693	2,399
Other ministers' expenses		1,231	500	1,731	1,090
				-	-
Stationery, Printing & Postage		1,109		1,109	910
Equipment		3,368	10,000	13,368	457
Young People's Ministry			593	593	649
Salaries	Organist	1,300		1,300	1,300
	Admin	4,818		4,818	4,433
Copyright licence fee				-	614
Sundry expenses:	Fees	2,382		2,382	3,579
	Miscellaneous	5,242	195	5,437	5,715
	PCC events	6,316	2,161	8,477	210
	First Steps 2c		759	759	939
Total resources used		96,785	32,337	129,122	99,304
Net incoming (outgoing) resources		- 1,242	- 14,244	- 15,486	9,834
Funds at 1 January		69,885	38,742	108,627	98,793
Funds at 31 December	Transfer	- 10,000	10,000		
		58,643	34,498	93,141	108,627

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

BALANCE SHEET

	Unrestricted	Restricted/D	2023	2022
	£	esignated	£	£
Current assets				
Central Board of Finance	9,919	9,725	19,644	19,035
Debtors	18,850	2,694	21,544	15,998
Bank balances	33,476	22,064	55,540	77,967
Petty Cash		15	15	13
	<u>62,245</u>	<u>34,498</u>	<u>96,743</u>	<u>113,013</u>
Current liabilities				
Creditors	- 3,602	-	3,602	- 4,386
	<u>58,643</u>	<u>34,498</u>	<u>93,141</u>	<u>108,627</u>

These accounts were approved by the P.C.C. on 18-3-2024
for presentation to the A.P.C.M., and signed on its behalf by:



REV STEVE STEWART

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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(a) Donations and Charitable Grant income

Donated income without conditions attached, including that gifted under gift aid, is taken into account when received by the PCC. Income received in circumstances where a claim for repayment of tax has been or will be made to the HM Revenue & Customs is grossed up for the tax recoverable. Any amount of tax not yet reclaimed from HM Revenue & Customs is shown within the PCC's debtors.

(b) Restricted and unrestricted funds

Restricted funds are those received for use on specified purposes. Expenditure which meets those criteria is allocated to that fund. Unrestricted funds are those received or generated that can be used for the general purposes of the PCC.

(c) Income and other expenditure

Interest income is taken into account when receivable and expenditure when incurred by the PCC, regardless of when payment is made.

2. INCOMING RESOURCES

(a) Voluntary income

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Direct to bank	63,204	2,340	65,544	78,067
Envelopes	1,155		1,155	1,529
Collections and wall safes	1,019		1,019	1,088
Donations/Grants received	933	12,254	13,187	1,960
First Steps		761	761	847
Parish Giving Scheme	1,662		1,662	
Tax recoveries	14,587	2,694	17,281	15,878
	<u>82,560</u>	<u>18,049</u>	<u>100,609</u>	<u>99,369</u>

(b) Activities for generating funds

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Church lettings & land	848		848	930
Fees	5,181		5,181	6,903
Beer Festival	5,785		5,785	1,560
	<u>11,814</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,814</u>	<u>9,393</u>

(c) First Steps breakdown

	2023	2022
Donations (in 2a above)	761	847
Tax recovery (in 2a above)		110
Expenses	<u>-759</u>	<u>-</u>
Net surplus (loss)	<u>2</u>	<u>18</u>

(d) Employee Emoluments

	2023 £	2022 £
Salaries	1,300	1,300
Wages	4,818	4,433
	<u>6,118</u>	<u>5,733</u>
Average No of employees:	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

3. MISSIONS AND CHARITIES		2023	2022
		£	£
WORLDWIDE			
	Church Mission Society	1,008	1,074
	Innovista	1,008	1,074
	J Abu Bakker Christian School India	1,008	1,074
	Open Doors	1,008	1,074
	James Berry (Fund now closed)		2,113
	Nepal (Restricted Fund) for surgery	1,469	
	Arise	1,264	879
	Pakistan Flood Relief		1,000
NATIONAL			
	Salvation Army	1,008	1,073
LOCAL			
	The Besom	1,007	1,073
	The Porch	1,007	1,073
TOTAL		9,787	11,507

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

4. DESIGNATED FUNDS, UNRESTRICTED FUNDS AND RESTRICTED FUNDS

Note	1 January 2023 £	Income £	Transfers £	Expenditure £	31 December 2023 £
Restricted Funds:					
Benchseat memorial	372			195	177
Churchyard	928	47			975
Ducker Bequest	258	8			266
First Steps	18	761		759	20
Holiday Club/Children Ministry	1,177	30		593	614
Ministry Fund	8,331	2,925		500	10,756
Nepal Fund	4,721			1,469	3,252
Rector's Discretionary Fund	5,919			1,300	4,619
Christ Church Building Fund	-	10,000		10,000	-
Celebration Sunday	-	2,161		2,161	-
Gifts & Donations	-	311		311	-
Total Restricted Funds	21,724	16,243	-	17,288	20,679
Designated Quinquennial Building Fund	17,018	1,850	10,000	15,049	13,819
Other unrestricted fund	69,885	95,542	-	96,784	58,643
Total Combined	108,627	113,635	-	129,121	93,141

The benchseat memorial is restricted funds from a legacy for the benchseat sited at Christ Church

The Churchyard Fund comprises capital of £500 & accumulated income after expenditures of £475 held in Trust by the Rector and Churchwardens. The accumulated income is to be used to keep the graveyard of Christ Church in good order and repair the graves and gravestones of F G and A Thompson, E H, A E and AL Jakeman and to keep the lettering thereon legible and to have the lettering recut from time to time.

The Ducker Bequest Fund is to be used for the Sanctuary at the Parish Church.

First Steps - Moneys held for the First Steps Mums and Toddlers group.

The Holiday Club Fund is to be used for children's ministry within the parish

The Ministry Fund is a restricted fund towards ministry and/or curate costs.

The Nepal fund is giving towards cost of surgery for children in Nepal

The Rector's Discretionary Fund is able to be used at the Rector's discretion to assist him in his work.

The Christ Church building fund is monies received toward building costs/PA at this church

Celebration Sunday - gifts given specifically towards Celebration Sunday expenses

Gifts & Donations are restricted funds received towards gifts and donations to specific people & paid out in 2023

Designated Quinquennial Fund for annual building costs with an aim to build up the fund for future repairs.

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Independent Examiner's Report to Hanborough PCC

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on the previous pages.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of accounts; you 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
- * follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act : and
- * state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

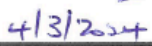
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission . An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence which would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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
 - i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the 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.

	A Gower
	Dated

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER :

1183002

RECTOR

REV. STEVE STEWART

TREASURER:

WENDY BAYLISS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:

ANDREW GOWER

BANKERS:

BARCLAYS BANK PLC
OXFORD CITY CENTRE

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

		Unrestricted £	Restricted/ Designated £	2023 £	2022 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Voluntary income	2a	82,560	18,049	100,609	99,369
Activities for generating funds	2b	11,814	-	11,814	9,393
Investing activities		1,169	44	1,213	376
Total incoming resources		95,543	18,093	113,636	109,138
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Parish Share		48,120		48,120	46,270
Utilities	Peter & Paul	3,396		3,396	2,977
	Doctors Surgery	527		527	
	Christ Church	2,438		2,438	2,772
Buildings costs	Peter & Paul		9,903	9,903	6,270
	Christ Church		5,146	5,146	857
Insurance	Peter & Paul	4,797		4,797	3,595
	Christ Church	940		940	876
Missions and charities	3	8,318	1,469	9,787	11,507
Gifts & Donations		90	311	401	1,885
Rector's expenses		2,393	1,300	3,693	2,399
Other ministers' expenses		1,231	500	1,731	1,090
				-	-
Stationery, Printing & Postage		1,109		1,109	910
Equipment		3,368	10,000	13,368	457
Young People's Ministry			593	593	649
Salaries	Organist	1,300		1,300	1,300
	Admin	4,818		4,818	4,433
Copyright licence fee				-	614
Sundry expenses:	Fees	2,382		2,382	3,579
	Miscellaneous	5,242	195	5,437	5,715
	PCC events	6,316	2,161	8,477	210
	First Steps 2c		759	759	939
Total resources used		96,785	32,337	129,122	99,304
Net incoming (outgoing) resources		- 1,242	- 14,244	- 15,486	9,834
Funds at 1 January		69,885	38,742	108,627	98,793
Funds at 31 December	Transfer	- 10,000	10,000		
		58,643	34,498	93,141	108,627

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

BALANCE SHEET

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Expenses	<u>-759</u>	<u>- 939</u>
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HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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**HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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A Gower



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ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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REV STEVE STEWART

Accounts

Annual Report of the Hanborough PCC 2023

1. RECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2022 TO 2023

2022-2023 has been the year in which we experienced the full annual cycle of in-person worship in our churches since Covid brought the shutting of our buildings for worship. As I look back on this year, and all the changes and challenges we have faced together, the thing which has struck me most is the outstanding kindness, grace, simple hard work, patience and joy of so many in our churches. And there is left a feeling in my heart of great hope for our Benefice – not for a moment to undermine or dismiss the struggles we have faced, and as builders together of the kingdom of God will continue to face – but I hope in what God is doing in answer to the prayers of so many. This hope for me has resonances with what Paul says in Romans 13:12: “the night is nearly over; the day is almost here”. I want to thank all of you who have worked so hard, so selflessly and with such Godly grace as partners in the gospel and “fellow workers in Christ Jesus”. One of the joys and blessings of working at Hanborough and Freeland is also sharing clergy ministry with others, and I want to thank Mike Madden – now Associate Rector – and Heather McCulloch, our curate since the summer, for their fellowship, prayer, wisdom, support and encouragement of me and to all across our Benefice.

As well as thanking our Mike and Heather, my thanks rightly goes also to our churchwardens for all of their hard work, lovingkindness and support. Our churchwardens are a very important and outstanding asset to the life of our churches, and I give great thanks for all they have done. I also want to give great thanks to our Area Leads: Alice Harden (youth and children); Julian Soanes (facilities and communication projects); Steven Young (music); Mike Madden (small groups); Heather McCulloch (pastoral care); and now Mands Stewart (prayer). Their oversight of different areas of church life has been a real blessing to us all.

Here is a flavour of what's been happening in our churches over the last 12 months: Continuing baptisms, weddings and funerals. Upgrading of audiovisual systems in our churches. A new carpet at Christ Church. Very encouraging growth in house group attendance. Continuing preaching team sessions with our excellent team of preachers and teachers of God's word. Continuing assemblies in the schools of the Benefice, together with the “Prayer Shack” at Freeland; continuing use of the old doctor's surgery for youth and children's work at Christ Church, and encouraging growth in youth and children's work at St Mary's, many visits from our schools to our church buildings, and the launch of a regular youth social in the Benefice. Continuing our series of traditional Choral Evensong, including both St Peter and St Paul and St Mary's. The joy of seeing so many musicians helping us worship God in songs of praise Sunday to Sunday and beyond. The incredible work of our treasurers Wendy Bayliss and Melanie McGregor. Alpha course at the Rectory. Huge numbers attending on Remembrance Sunday. Visits from missionary speakers to our services and other events. Regular prayer sessions for the Ukraine following the Russian invasion. Prayer walks and socials afterwards. Seeing hundreds of people come through our churches at a very wide range of Christmas events, and also our Light Events at the end of October. And so many enjoyable social

events, including Shrove Tuesday pancake socials, beer and curry evenings, Alpha away day, quiz evenings, excellent Limelight Drama group productions, celebrations and service for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the ordination of Heather McCulloch at Christ Church Cathedral Oxford. Tea and Cake at the Rectory, Mulled Wine and Nibbles at the Rectory, and even working parties at the churches (hard work but still social!). Many from our churches involved in the wonderful Hanborough fireworks. And, most lately, the Beer Festival at St Peter and St Paul which made well over £2500 for the Benefice and saw over 700 people come through the doors on the day! This is indeed just a flavour – much more happens in our churches both formally and informally within our fellowship.

Of course, we cannot forget in our memories of 2022 the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and it was a very special thing to be able to hold the service of praise and thanksgiving attended by so many in our local community to remember Her Majesty and give thanks to God for her life and reign.

Behind this long list of things is of course a long list of people: dear brothers and sisters in Christ devoted to humbly serving the Lord and each other in love. Thank you, every single one of you, for all that you have done and continue to do to bless us at Hanborough and Freeland.

Thanks to my dear children, who are so patient with a dad whose busyness so often divides his time and not always well. Thanks to my amazing wife Mands, who is a supporting rock, a woman of deep faith and love for the Lord, who loves, encourages, corrects and so often teaches me when I have ears to listen! Remember my family too in your prayers, please.

And finally, as we work our way through 1 Corinthians together across the Benefice, perhaps this word which is spoken to me is a word in season from the Lord to us all: Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love (1 Corinthians 16:13-14). Do this, and who knows what wonders and blessings God has in store for us in the year to come!

With my prayers for us all, and with much love in Christ Jesus,
Steve

Rev Steve Stewart, Rector of Hanborough and Freeland, May 2023

2. AIM AND PURPOSES

Hanborough PCC is responsible for working with the Rector to promote the ecclesiastical parish and the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It has met four times since the last APCM, with attendance ranging between 72% and 100%. Minutes from the committees, and reports of other meetings were received and responded to as necessary.

3. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship Jesus in our Parish of Hanborough. The PCC has an overview of the worship throughout the parish.

All services and worship in the parish seek to nurture faith through prayer, scripture, music and sacrament. This is done when planning activities for the year, having consideration for the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship, teaching and prayer
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work through Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, as well as services for special occasions and providing help to those in need.

We are grateful for all the services provided by our clergy (Steve, Mike and Heather) and our retired clergy. It is also good to have many other members of our churches taking leading roles. In order to facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of St. Peter and St. Paul Church in Church Hanborough, and Christ Church in Long Hanborough.

4. THE LIFE AND WORSHIP OF THE CHURCH:

4.1. Sunday services

One of the key changes in 2022 regarding our service patterns since lockdown has been the arrival of Rev Heather McCulloch as our curate to complement the work of all others who lead worship services at Hanborough and Freeland – both clergy and laity. We continue to enjoy also our Whole-Benefice worship services which remain well-attended. It is wonderful to have such a broad variety of preachers at Hanborough and Freeland (over a dozen at the last count), who proclaim God's word so faithfully Sunday by Sunday.

Hanborough and Freeland is blessed with a great number of gifted musicians (both vocalists and instrumentalists) to lead praise in our services. Of course, worship services do not happen simply because there is somebody there to lead and preach, but also because of the work of many in the background from youth and children's work to audiovisual set up, Bible readers, intercessors, and many more ministries besides, and we give great thanks to God for each one of you.

2022 saw the end of the 8:30 AM worship services at St Mary's, but we are pleased to say that we have also seen accompanying growth in the 10 AM services at St Mary's. Heather's arrival has meant that we have also been able to (for the most part) resource three communions per month at St Peter and St Paul, while the ministry of many at Christ Church in resourcing Sunday by Sunday 10 AM worship services.

4.2. Area - Youth and children

First Steps, Hanborough and Freeland Church's Baby and Toddler group, has now been operating in its current format at Christ Church for a year. The group takes place on a Wednesday morning and is run by a team from across the Benefice. As well as free play and activities, refreshments and song time, each session includes a Bible story. First Steps has seen numbers increase significantly over the past year. The average attendance in 2023 so far has been 26 children (18 families/childminders) per week compared to 17 children (13 families/childminders) per week in 2022.

It has been encouraging to see families from First Steps come along to other events run by Hanborough and Freeland Churches, such as the Light Parties and Carols on the Green, and to also see a few come along to Sunday services. At the First Steps Christmas party, we handed out a book to each child to take home which explained the Nativity story and its relevance to us.

Youth and Children's groups continued to run weekly in the surgery through the spring and summer term of 2022. From Autumn 2022 some families from Freeland committed to St Mary's church resulting in a change in requirements for the provision at Christ Church. Youth sessions have continued to run weekly as required, emphasis of children's ministry has shifted to the creche. A local team has formed to pray for and provide for this age group.

Partly in response to the shift in where people attend church and to allow friendships to develop across the churches, two Benefice wide initiatives have started approximately on a fortnightly and half termly basis. "Youth time" (now renamed Hitchhikers), a Sunday evening time of games, fellowship, snacks and a short Bible thought which has proved hugely popular for those at secondary school. "Monday Mischief", a tea time group for primary school aged children to include games, Bible teaching and sharing a meal together.

The back of Christ Church has been adapted to be more welcoming to parents and their young children in the services.

A light party was hosted at Christ Church to provide a positive witness to the community on Halloween. Thanks to the volunteers who organised a very well-received event and who provided a positive alternative to many of the Halloween customs.

4.3 Area – Music

Music for services in the parish has continued this year. There are organists for the services at Ss. Peter and Paul, Church Hanborough and musicians for the worship band at Christ Church. The rota for Church Hanborough is coordinated by Steven Young and musicians at Christ Church are organised by Simon Yates. The occasional choir for choral evensong, Exultate Justi is run by Sinead and Matt Andrews and evensong happens in both Ss. Peter and Paul and at St. Mary's in Freeland. Musicians from across the parish (and Benefice) contributed to music for Carols on the Green and Christmas Unwrapped, as well as to Benefice services on 5th Sundays through the year.

Thanks to all the musicians who contribute to the music for worship in the parish/Benefice.

Sing a new song to the Lord, play skilfully and shout for joy!

4.4 Area – Facilities and Communications projects

Communications – the website is up to date and I (Julian) will be looking to do a refresh of the site in the summer. It would be great to have new pictures especially of people within all our Churches rather than buildings. I try and scan the Church Suite diary for

external events for the what's on page, but if anyone has a specific event, they want posting, then please feel free to message me.

Projects – there have been no requests for projects from the Hanborough parish.

4.5 Area – Home groups and small groups

We currently host several home groups of various types and sizes across the three villages, which meet in people's homes and online and are attended by members from all three of our churches.. The following is a brief description of the groups that currently meet across our Benefice.

The Harden home group has continued to meet weekly during term time on Tuesday evenings to share fellowship, study God's Word and to pray for one another and the wider community. The group meets in person, rotating around group members houses as people wish and as is practical. Study series in the last year have included Mark, 1 Samuel and Psalms.

Rob and Alison Feast coordinate a home group of eleven people which meets on a Tuesday evening at 8pm. The evening begins with time to catch up over coffee, cake and biscuits, before looking at God's word and concluding with a time of prayer. They are currently looking at 'Embracing Justice', the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent book for 2022 and prior to that the group looked at John Mark Comer's series on the Sabbath.

Nigel and Sarah Knights Johnson's home group meets on Wednesday evenings at 8pm at various locations, three times a month for Bible study, prayer, coffee and tea and chat. The group are currently studying Proverbs and enjoying it. All is going well, though meeting up has been slightly disrupted for various reasons lately. The group enjoys the presence of little Nancy very much when Nelli and Benjamin are able to come!

Pam Berry hosts an online home group that currently consists of six members and meets fortnightly online via Zoom for an hour of Bible study, closing with prayer for one another. It focuses primarily on exegesis and has recently studied Hebrews and Lamentations.

Mike and Mandy Madden lead a home group that meets on alternate Wednesday nights at 8pm in members' homes in either Freeland or Church Hanborough. The group are currently studying Hebrews, aspire to be a place where members can study the Bible, pray, worship, support one another, reach out to others and eat cake!

The Open House Group is a new initiative started by Mandy Stewart and Heather McCulloch. It currently meets at 10.30am on Tuesdays in the Taunton Room at St Marys. It is open to anyone and everyone with a focus on prayer and discipleship. Over the months the group has quietly grown in both numbers and its heart for prayer.

As you can see from the above, there are a variety of home groups attended by people from across the Benefice. Our vision for our home groups is for them all to be a place of safety where we can study the Bible, pray, support one another, have fellowship and

fun. All our groups are open to new members, from all of our churches and beyond. If anyone would like to join a group, please contact Rev Mike Madden.

4.6 Prayer in the churches

The monthly Benefice prayer meetings have continued apace and regularly. There has been no month so far when the meeting has not happened. The numbers attending has diminished somewhat markedly in the last six months especially and it appears that some former 'regulars', and most 'irregulars' no longer attend, but the sense of powerful intercession continues.

The Open House Prayer Group started in September, meeting weekly in the Taunton Rm, at St Mary's Church. We have grown to eleven people who have a heart for Freeland and the surrounding villages. We enjoy fellowship, worship and praying for God's love, mercy and grace to be poured out on Freeland and the surrounding villages. We are also currently working through The Calvary Rd by Roy Hession.

In the summer we had three prayer walks to pray for Freeland, Long Hanborough and Church Hanborough. It was great to be able to pray for our Churches, pubs, schools, GP surgery, playgrounds and houses that we walked past, particularly asking for God's Kingdom to come here on earth.

It has been a privilege to meet via Zoom and pray for the Alpha course as it has been running week by week. We also had a few more people praying from their homes. Thank you to all those faithful prayer warriors who prayed.

4.7 Finances – Treasurer's Report

In the year to 31st December 2022 total income was £109,138 which is 1.5% down on the previous year, but, even with increased expenditure of £99,304, still resulted in an increase of funds of £9,834. The surplus is split with £13,271 more held in unrestricted funds and £3,437 less in the restricted funds. Unrestricted income was £97,934 against £97,325 in 2021, so a slight increase of £609. Unrestricted expenditure of £84,663 was slightly higher than 2021 which was £82,195.

Restricted income received was £11,204 which included monies in from insurance towards the cost of the works at St Peter and St Paul. The PCC designated fund to build up monies to help offset current and future building costs called the Quinquennial Fund has increased this year to £17,018. A full breakdown of income and expenditure for the restricted funds held is shown under note 4. Much of the expenditure is comparable to previous year with the parish share of £46,270 (slightly less than previous year) continuing to be by far the largest, most significant expenditure, and the second being our donations to missions and charities £9,394 from unrestricted and £2,113 to James Berry from the restricted fund which is now closed. Building costs were slightly higher than in the previous year. A full breakdown of the missions and charities donations is found under note 3. Note 4 shows the breakdown of our total funds at the end of 2022 totalling £108,627 which are split as follows - Restricted Funds - £21,724 Designated Funds - £17,018 and Unrestricted Funds - £69,885.

As usual I would like to thank you to everyone who gives so generously with special thanks to Hazel Bowman and Clive Berry for their assistance in financial matters and to Andrew Gower for carrying out the Independent Audit of the Accounts.

4.8 Alpha course

We have just concluded 10 weeks of Alpha in person in Hanborough (open to the whole Benefice). The final meeting was on Monday 20th March. We plan to have a reunion meal in a month or so and to invite the guests to try out some of our Home Groups, please look out for them and make them feel welcome. We had three guests who have journeyed together with our team of four. Each has made steps on their own personal journey towards Jesus. They have clearly appreciated the course and have talked of those they would like to bring to the next course. The Holy Spirit evening had a significant impact on them.

4.9 Pastoral care in the parish

Having finalised the role description for pastoral care, my (Heather McCulloch) next steps will include identifying a small number of people in each congregation to act as church pastors. These people will help identify needs, for example that someone has not been in church for a while, or there has been a significant family event, or sickness etc. The intention is to help the clergy team make sure that people are not slipping through the net unseen and that we are able to visit people, pray with them, or highlight needs to their home group leaders.

Pastoral care is part of what we all do naturally, and the everyday work of the clergy team regularly involves pastoral care. Pastoral care is not something that one person 'does' for everyone else, but my hope in overseeing it, is to help us all to think about how we can have helpful conversations and pray with others. Good pastoral care involves knowing when and how to signpost people to further help appropriately, as well as an awareness of safeguarding issues. These are things I want to gently inform or remind all of us of so that we feel equipped to love and serve one another well. I have had limited time to develop teams due to other parish commitments, but have begun to meet with some individuals. This will be on-going and develop further after Easter.

4.10 School's work

The Rector continues to prepare the rotas for local clergy to maintain a week-by-week pattern of services in both Hanborough Manor School and Freeland School. As well as providing assemblies, the Benefice engages with the schools through regular services, visits and festivals.

The "Prayer Shack" at Freeland school continues under the leadership of Mandy Cripps. One area in which it would be great to see further involvement from Hanborough and Freeland Benefice is provision of school governors to both Freeland and Hanborough Manor schools.

4.11 Supporting Ecumenical Relationships

Anglican and Methodist ministers continued to work closely together meeting regularly with Father Martin from the Catholic Church. Annually, the service for Remembrance Sunday is shared, alternating between the Methodist and Anglican Church when the church welcomes the local uniformed organizations before processing to the War Memorial for the two minutes silence. Remembrance Sunday this year was attended by some 300 people in all. Both the Platinum Jubilee and the funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II also provided opportunity for ecumenical work. Also Carols on the Green were organised jointly.

Anglican, Methodist and Roman Catholic ministers have also taken the opportunity to share lunch together on a couple of occasions this year, sharing thoughts and ideas for the area. Also, in our house and prayer groups, there are some members from other local churches.

4.12 Weddings, baptisms, and funerals

Since the coronavirus pandemic, we have begun to see a rise in the number of weddings and funerals being taken in the Benefice.

In Hanborough parish in 2022, there were 7 weddings (up on just 2 from last year), 2 baptisms and 19 funerals (up on 7 from last year), 1 memorial service and 2 interments of ashes taken. Each provides a not insignificant pastoral and mission opportunity. We are grateful to all the ministers across the Benefice who serve these occasional offices of weddings, baptisms and funerals.

4.13 Supporting mission in the U.K. and overseas

The Designated Mission and Charities Fund is calculated as 10% of the previous years unrestricted income under note 2a of the accounts. Of this money 80% is allocated equally between seven charities Church Mission Society, Innovista, J Abu Bakker, Open Doors, Salvation Army, The Besom and The Porch. The remaining 20% is discussed and donated by the PCC.

3. MISSIONS AND CHARITIES				2022		2021	
				£		£	
WORLDWIDE							
	Church Mission Society			1,074		883	
	Innovista			1,074		883	
	J Abu Bakker Christian School India			1,074		883	
	Open Doors			1,074		883	
	James Berry (Fund now closed)			2,113		6,000	
	TAFTEE					2,795	
	Arise			879			
	Pakistan Flood Relief			1,000			
NATIONAL							
	Salvation Army			1,073		883	
LOCAL							
	The Besom			1,073		884	
	The Porch			1,073		884	
TOTAL				11,507		14,978	

In 2022 the Missions and Charities Designated Fund was £9394 – 80% split across the seven charities mentioned above being £7515, so £268.40 paid each quarter by standing order to each of them. The remaining 20% of £1879 was allocated to Pakistan Flood Relief of £1000 and £879 to Arise for their conference fund to sponsor a place for woman unable to pay. The remainder of the restricted fund for the work of James Berry of £2113 was sent and this restricted fund is now closed.

Going forward in 2023 the Missions and Charities Designated Fund is £8818 , so 80% for the usual seven charities will mean they will receive £1008 each and the balance of £1763 is available for the PCC to decide upon the recipient(s) in due course.

4.14 Structure, Governance and Management: Administrative Information

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parish and Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Description of role	Name
Incumbent (Rector):	Rev Steve Stewart
Associate Rector:	Rev Mike Madden
Curate (from September 2022)	Rev Heather McCulloch
Licensed Lay Minister:	Mr Clive Berry
Elected members:	
Churchwarden:	Mr Clive Berry
Representative on Deanery Synod:	Mr Steven Young
Elected Members:	Mrs Amanda Madden
	Mrs Liz Whittle
	Mr Richard Wilkins
	Mr Tom Harden
	Mr Simon Gundry
Appointments by the PCC:	
Vice chair:	Rev Mike Madden
Treasurer:	Mrs Wendy Bayliss (co-opted)
Secretary:	Mrs Pam Berry (co-opted)

4.15 Committees

- i) Standing Committee – The functions of the Standing Committee have been carried out by the clergy and wardens who have met every 3-4 weeks. (Church Representation Rules M.31).
- ii) Christ Church Serving Team– this team was set up in June 2021 in order to ensure that the practicalities (e.g., rotas, unlocking, audiovisual, music, hospitality) required for reopening Christ Church for regular 10 AM Sunday worship were catered for. This team met monthly and proved a great blessing to the development of Sunday worship at Christ Church. In summer of 2022 the Christ Church Serving Team was superseded by the Christ Church Vision Group, which covered the same areas of practical church life, but also took on the role given it by the PCC to look at the “vision ...and mission of needs of Christ Church in any given season”, and to “serve, help fulfil, and shape the mission and vision of Christ Church”.

4.16 PCC Meetings

Items for PCC discussion (many of which are covered more fully elsewhere in this report), have included: the results of the questionnaire on patterns of services and response to them, maintenance of and repairs to St. Peter and St. Paul, enhancing the infrastructure for services at Christ Church and youth work provision and space once we do not have access to the old Surgery.

4.17 Electoral Roll Report

There are 73 people on the Electoral Roll, with two additions from last year and nine removals.

4.18 Others who serve in various ministries

With the exception of our Rector, Rev. Steve Stewart, our Curate, Heather McCulloch, the Benefice Administrator and our organist and church cleaners, all the other people who minister and serve the churches, including our Associate Rector Rev. Mike Madden, work in a voluntary capacity. The PCC is very grateful to all these people who work in so many different ways to enable the mission of the church.

4.19 Churchwarden's report

St Peter and St Paul

Services at St Peter and St Paul have continued at 10am every Sunday. Initially there were two services of Holy Communion and two services of Morning Prayer per month. From September 2022, the pattern of services has changed to three services of Holy Communion and one Service of the Word per month. Although small, attendance is slowly growing. Christmas was celebrated with a midnight service of communion on Christmas Eve and communion with carols on Christmas Day. The Church Hanborough Beer Festival took place at St Peter and St Paul in February 2023 and was a great success.

Both churches have had a Quinquennial Inspection, with the reports showing relatively minor items need attention at Christ Church and potentially more significant ones at St. Peter and St. Paul. During the last year at St. Peter and St. Paul, heating work and repair of the floor has been completed with the costs covered by our insurance and the contingency building fund. The 5 year Electrical inspection has taken place and all remedial work completed. Other essential maintenance has included servicing the boiler and the lightning conductor and clearing the gutters.

Christ Church

At Christ Church services have continued to be held weekly at 10 a.m., with Communion once a month. There have also been two lunches, one to learn about the work of Innovista and the other to hear about the Christ Church Vision Group has been discussing and to get feedback on this and other ideas for going forward.

Broadband has been installed and the audio visual equipment upgraded to improve the sound system and projection facilities. To address the flooring problems carpet tiles have been laid. These have been appreciated by many, including First Steps. A faculty for an external power supply socket for use for outside activities such as the light party and Christmas lights is being applied for.

4.20 Occasional Festivals

A Service of Prayer and Praise upon the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was held at St. Peter and St. Paul. Also, a book of condolence was made available for people to sign. This year the joint Remembrance Sunday service was held at the Methodist Church, Long Hanborough. A carol service for the village, "Christmas Unwrapped" was held at Christ Church. Also, in conjunction with the Methodists, we held a carol service round the Christmas tree in Hurdeswell.

4.21 Church Flowers

It has very much been a one/two-man band for the flower arranging at St Peter and Paul as I (Denise Parrott) have tried to keep fresh flowers in the church, when appropriate in the church calendar. A big thank you to Gill Hunt who has stepped in when I was not available. Thank you also to other members of the congregation who have helped out at festival times.

I was asked to do a flower arrangement, on behalf of the Benefice, at the Methodist Church celebration of HM Queen Elizabeth's 70 years on the throne in June. I also arranged flowers in the Parish Church for the special service, following the death of HM Queen Elizabeth in September. Thank you for the generous donation given towards the flowers.

We were not asked to arrange any wedding flowers in church in 2022, but I was asked to do a pedestal arrangement for the memorial service of Christopher Aitchison. If you would like to help out with flowers at any time, please do not hesitate to contact me (Denise Parrott) on 01993881192.

4.22 Sacristans Report

St. Peter and St. Paul

Covid 19 is still around so care is taken to ensure that all the Holy Communion vessels are sterilized after each use before being carefully stored away. All Holy Communion altar linen is washed and ironed after every use and altar cloths are washed and ironed regularly. All altar linen is in good repair. Altar frontals are changed according to the liturgical season and all are in good repair.

Holy Communion wafers, both gluten and gluten free wafers and the Priest's wafers are obtained from the Community of St Clare, Freeland and hopefully sufficient Holy Communion wine for the year is already purchased.

Christ Church

All the Holy Communion vessels are thoroughly washed after each use before being carefully stored away. All Holy Communion altar linen and altar cloths are washed and ironed regularly. All altar linen is in good repair. Altar frontals are changed according to the liturgical season and all are in good repair. A gluten-free roll is used for Communion.

4.23 Annual Safeguarding Report for the Benefice of Hanborough

An important change is taking place across the Church of England, and impacting our own Benefice. The issue of Safeguarding is no longer an ad hoc matter left to Sunday

School teachers and concerned parents; it has now become an issue at the centre of church activities, and needs to be a part of everything we do as a body of believers here in Hanborough and Freeland. Through Safeguarding we are seeking to ensure that everyone who comes into contact with the church is valued and cared for, and those who are vulnerable for whatever reason are protected from risk of abuse. This means that anyone who has a role in church leadership, such as PCC or leading a home group, should expect to take part in Safeguarding Training, in the same way as all those who work with children and vulnerable adults expect to undergo a DBS check and training.

The PCC is committed to the Safeguarding Policy provided by the Diocese “Promoting a Safer Church”. A copy of this is available from the Parish Safeguarding Officer at any time. The PCC has recently re-affirmed its commitment to the Safeguarding Action Plan, through which the various aspects of the policy are worked out and monitored. In the Parish of Hanborough, the following DBS checks and training have been completed:

	Number of people with role requiring DBS/Training	Number of people complying
DBS Check	17	17
Safeguarding Training	25	20

The above numbers exclude members of the clergy, Licensed Lay Ministers and those with Permission to Officiate (as their checks and training is managed from the Diocese). They include anyone else living in Hanborough or mainly worshipping at Christ Church or St Peter and St Paul.

Compliance means that someone has had a DBS check and correct level of training within last three years. Reasons for non-compliance are usually because the process is underway, and can take time to complete. Those with overall leadership of any Children and Young People’s work are notified who is fully compliant.

DBS checks are required by anyone volunteering or working with children, young people and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding Training is required by these people and members of PCC, Churchwardens, Housegroup Leaders, Area Leads, and anyone else regularly upfront in church.

4.24 Deanery Synod Annual Report 2022 – Stephanie Lacey, Deanery Synod Lay Chair *Deanery synod meetings*

We have had three meetings of the synod since the last APCM. All of these meetings were preceded by a short act of worship, which helped us to focus on God’s love and the work of the church in the deanery. In June Revd Jeremy Auld presented Bishop Steven’s address on climate change, given at the Diocesan Synod earlier in the month. We also had an update from Revd Dr Andrew Atherstone on General Synod matters. In November we welcomed Matt Bodinham, the chaplaincy team leader at the Marlborough CE School, Woodstock. Matt spoke about his work in the school. Currently this is partly funded by a diocesan grant, which will run out this year. We were asked

whether any parishes who send students to the Marlborough School would think about contributing to financing this post. In March we met at Stonesfield where Charles Chadwick, our Parish Development Adviser, led small groups in discussing the key issues that should be included in our deanery mission action plan. This is due to be presented to the Mission and Pastoral Committee this summer.

Comings and goings

In September, Judy French, our Archdeacon retired and some of us attended her farewell service in Dorchester Abbey. We are very pleased to report that our former Area Dean, David Tyler, has been appointed as our new Archdeacon. His collation was at Christ Church on Saturday 18 March at the 6.00pm Evensong service. David was formerly acting Archdeacon, having been Assistant Archdeacon to Judy French before then.

Other matters

We still have two Benefices in vacancy: Steeple Aston, North Aston and Tackley, and Wootton, Glympton and Kiddington. These posts are being advertised currently and we hope to appoint before Easter. We had a successful Winter Bash in January when Deanery Synod reps and church officers had the opportunity to meet together to celebrate Burns night. Deanery Synod reps are due for re-election this year.

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER :

1183002

RECTOR

REV. STEVE STEWART

TREASURER:

WENDY BAYLISS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:

ANDREW GOWER

BANKERS:

BARCLAYS BANK PLC
OXFORD CITY CENTRE

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

		Unrestricted	Restricted/ Designate	2022	2021
		£	d £	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Voluntary income	2a	88,180	11,189	99,369	107,424
Activities for generating funds	2b	9,393	-	9,393	3,367
Investing activities		361	15	376	15
Total incoming resources		97,934	11,204	109,138	110,806
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Parish Share		46,270		46,270	47,361
Utilities	Peter & Paul	2,977		2,977	3,749
	Christ Church	2,772		2,772	1,617
Buildings costs	Peter & Paul		6,270	6,270	5,098
	Christ Church		857	857	836
Insurance	Peter & Paul	3,595		3,595	3,373
	Christ Church	876		876	978
Missions and charities	3	9,394	2,113	11,507	14,978
Gifts & Donations			1,885	1,885	1,641
Rector's expenses		2,099	300	2,399	1,985
Other ministers' expenses		1,090		1,090	338
				-	-
Stationery, Printing & Postage		910		910	369
Equipment		457		457	358
Young People's Ministry			649	649	576
Salaries	Organist	1,300		1,300	-
	Admin	4,433		4,433	2,249
Copyright licence fee		614		614	585
Sundry expenses:	Fees	3,579		3,579	1,253
	Miscellaneous	4,087	1,628	5,715	2,559
	PCC events	210		210	166
	First Steps 2c		939	939	-
Total resources used		84,663	14,641	99,304	90,069
Net incoming (outgoing) resources		13,271	- 3,437	9,834	20,737
Funds at 1 January		66,614	32,179	98,793	78,056
Funds at 31 December		79,885	28,742	108,627	98,793

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

BALANCE SHEET

	Unrestricted	Restricted/ Designated	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Current assets				
Central Board of Finance	17,570	1,465	19,035	18,788
Debtors	15,146	852	15,998	15,709
Bank balances	51,378	26,589	77,967	66,084
Petty Cash		13	13	-
	<u>84,094</u>	<u>28,919</u>	<u>113,013</u>	<u>100,581</u>
Current liabilities				
Creditors	- 4,209	- 177	- 4,386	- 1,788
	<u>79,885</u>	<u>28,742</u>	<u>108,627</u>	<u>98,793</u>

These accounts were approved by the P.C.C. on
for presentation to the A.P.C.M., and signed on its behalf by:



REV. S. STEWART 27-3-2023

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the SORP 2015 on "Accounting and reporting by Charities" and the following are the accounting policies which have been applied in dealing with material items:-

(a) Donations and Charitable Grant income

Donated income without conditions attached, including that gifted under gift aid, is taken into account when received by the PCC. Income received in circumstances where a claim for repayment of tax has been or will be made to the HM Revenue & Customs is grossed up for the tax recoverable. Any amount of tax not yet reclaimed from HM Revenue & Customs is shown within the PCC's debtors.

(b) Restricted and unrestricted funds

Restricted funds are those received for use on specified purposes. Expenditure which meets those criteria is allocated to that fund. Unrestricted funds are those received or generated that can be used for the general purposes of the PCC.

(c) Income and other expenditure

Interest income is taken into account when receivable and expenditure when incurred by the PCC, regardless of when payment is made.

2. INCOMING RESOURCES

(a) Voluntary income

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Direct to bank	68,457	9,610	78,067	84,317
Envelopes	1,529		1,529	837
Collections and wall safes	1,088		1,088	900
Donations/Grants received	1,960		1,960	353
First Steps		847	847	4,000
Tax recoveries	15,146	732	15,878	17,017
	<u>88,180</u>	<u>11,189</u>	<u>99,369</u>	<u>107,424</u>

(b) Activities for generating funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Church lettings & land	930		930	400
Fees	6,903		6,903	2,967
Beer Festival	1,560		1,560	-
	<u>9,393</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,393</u>	<u>3,367</u>

(c) First Steps breakdown

	2022	2021
Donations (in 2a above)	847	
Tax recovery (in 2a above)	110	
Expenses	-939	
Net surplus (loss)	<u>18</u>	<u>-</u>

(d) Employee Emoluments

	2022	2021
	£	£
Salaries	1,300	
Wages	4,433	2,249
	<u>5,733</u>	<u>2,249</u>
Average No of employees:	2	2

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

3. MISSIONS AND CHARITIES		2022	2021
		£	£
WORLDWIDE			
	Church Mission Society	1,074	883
	Innovista	1,074	883
	J Abu Bakker Christian School India	1,074	883
	Open Doors	1,074	883
	James Berry (Fund now closed)	2,113	6,000
	TAFTEE		2,795
	Arise	879	
	Pakistan Flood Relief	1,000	
NATIONAL			
	Salvation Army	1,073	883
LOCAL			
	The Besom	1,073	884
	The Porch	1,073	884
TOTAL		11,507	14,978

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

4. DESIGNATED FUNDS, UNRESTRICTED FUNDS AND RESTRICTED FUNDS

Note	1 January 2022	Income	Transfers	Expenditure	31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds:					
Benchseat memorial	2,000			1,628	372
Churchyard	903	25			928
Ducker Bequest	254	4			258
First Steps	-	957		939	18
Holiday Club/Children Ministry	1,825	1		649	1,177
James Berry	1,063	1,050		2,113	-
Ministry Fund	5,344	2,987			8,331
Nepal Fund	4,721				4,721
Rector's Discretionary Fund	6,069	150		300	5,919
St Peter & Pauls Building Fund	-	4,145		4,145	-
Gifts & Donations	-	1,885		1,885	-
Total Restricted Funds	22,179	11,204	-	11,659	21,724
Designated Quinquennial Building Fund	10,000		10,000	2,982	17,018
Other unrestricted fund	66,614	97,934	- 10,000	84,663	69,885
Total Combined	98,793	109,138	-	99,304	108,627

The benchseat memorial is restricted funds from a legacy for the benchseat sited at Christ Church

The Churchyard Fund comprises capital of £500 & accumulated income after expenditures of £428 held in Trust by the Rector and Churchwardens. The accumulated income is to be used to keep the graveyard of Christ Church in good order and repair the graves and gravestones of F G and A Thompson, E H, A E and AL Jakeman and to keep the lettering thereon legible and to have the lettering recut from time to time.

The Ducker Bequest Fund is to be used for the Sanctuary at the Parish Church.

The Holiday Club Fund is to be used for children's ministry within the parish

The James Berry Fund is a restricted fund of donations given to support James - now closed

The Ministry Fund is a restricted fund towards ministry and/or curate costs.

The Nepal fund is giving towards cost of an operation for a young girl in Nepal.

The Rector's Discretionary Fund is able to be used at the Rector's discretion to assist him in his work.

The St Peter & St Paul building fund is monies received toward building costs at this church inc insurance claim

Gifts & Donations are restricted funds received towards gifts and donations to specific people & paid out in 2022.

Designated Quinquennial Fund for annual building costs with an aim to build up the fund for future repairs.

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Independent Examiner's Report to Hanborough PCC

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on the previous pages.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of accounts; you 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
- * follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act : and
- * state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence which would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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
 - i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the 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.

A.S. Gower

A Gower

14/03/222.

Dated

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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A.S. Gower

A Gower

14/03/222.

Dated

Accounts

Annual Report of the Hanborough PCC for 2021 to 2022

1. Rector's Report for 2021-2022

2021 began with the arrival of a new Rector for Hanborough and Freeland! Due to the coronavirus pandemic, our churches remained open for prayer but closed for Sunday worship until the end of June 2021. This delay until the end of June was prompted by the pandemic, but also came at the end of a long process of review and consultation among the clergy, wardens, our Bishop, the PCC members, and other members of the church family. At the end of this consultation, it was agreed by the PCC to reopen all three churches in the benefice with a regular pattern of 10 AM Sunday services at each location, plus a traditional whole-Benefice 8:30 AM Communion on the first and third Sundays located at St Mary's. The plan was always to review this after around six months, and the church leadership are currently in the process of undertaking that review.

As with any new thing in the life of the church family and our worship, new pattern of services has presented challenges ranging from the practicalities of staffing through to struggles for some in adopting non-Eucharistic services. I want to take this opportunity to thank all of those who have worked so hard, and with such good grace, Christ-like gentleness, humility, and patience to provide regular worship for our churches. The challenges aside, it has been a wonderful thing for me to see the rise of lay leadership in the church. Over the last nine months or so, we have had a team of around 24 service leaders and preachers serving in the Benefice. Little of all that has taken place in the Benefice during 2021-2022 (a reminder below) could have taken place without the outstanding fellowship, skills, wisdom and devotion of our curate Mike Madden.

I want to pay tribute to our churchwardens for all of their hard work, grace and fellowship. That work, at times far from easy, has been both pastoral and practical and undertaken with a servant heart. In 2021, Matt and Steve stepped down after serving with such Godly grace and skill for which we are enormously thankful, and we welcomed Jenny Royal and Roger Faulkner as new churchwardens, who along with Clive and Claire have done an amazing job. At St Mary's, Roger and Claire have dealt superbly with everything from moth larvae and fly infestations through to issues with the brick/pipework, while at St Peter and St Paul, Jenny has had to deal with radiator re-installations and the installation of replacement flooring due to water leaks! Quite a baptism for all our wardens. I would also like to offer enormous thanks to Louise, our Benefice Administrator who stepped down from the role in 2021, and whose service to the Benefice was outstanding.

So much has happened 2021-2022, but here is just a flavour of a few things...

A continuing pattern of baptisms, weddings and funerals following the reopening of our buildings. The appointment of a new Benefice Administrator in Leonie Townsend. Zoom socials, including a quiz and breakout rooms for coffee after services. The appointment of new Area Leads for the Benefice: Alice Harden (youth and children); Julian Soanes (facilities & communication projects); Steven Young (music); and Mike Madden (small groups) – each of whom is doing a brilliant job. New musicians beginning their ministry, from organists and pianists to guitarists and percussionists. The appointment of Colin

Griffiths as our new Verifier for Safeguarding. Relaunching a series of traditional Evensongs at St Peter and St Paul with our occasional choir Exsultate Justi. The launch of regular Preaching Team training sessions – essential to the vitality and Biblical focus of our preaching. A full range of regular weekly assemblies restored at both Freeland and Hanborough Manor School. The “Prayer Shack” reinstated at Freeland School. New home groups being launched. The continuing submission by the clergy of articles to the Hanborough Herald and Freeland Grapevine magazines. Plans for new audiovisual installations, underway at Christ Church, and with some new equipment installed at St Mary’s. The appointment of the new architect (Peter Preston) for the Benefice. Continuing great work from our treasurers, Wendy and Melanie. The extraordinary divinely serendipitous provision of the old doctors’ surgery at Long Hanborough for youth and children’s work. A wide range of social events, from pancake evenings to quizzes, to a superbly well attended Pentecost walk. The relaunch of men’s social events, attended by large numbers of men. The announcement that we will be receiving a new curate, Heather McCulloch in September 2022. The launch of our new Benefice website hfchurch.org.uk. Growth in a youth and children’s work, including great fun social events at the Rectory. Not only the launch of a new Alpha Course, but its integration into baptism preparation. Very encouragingly attended “Light Event” on 31st October. A Remembrance Sunday service and act of remembrance, adapted at the last minute to be outdoors, attended by some 300 people. A great series of Christmas events, despite the rise of the Omicron variant (and indeed adapted brilliantly for that reason) including outdoor carols, walk-through Christingle, “Christmas Unwrapped”, Nine Lessons Nine Carols, and Midnight and Christmas Day services. Opening Christ Church for prayer for the situation in the Ukraine.

All of the above is by no means an exhaustive list of everything that has happened. But it has happened as a consequence of the enormous selfless Christ-centred humble work of each one of you. There is no question that in changing our service patterns, coming out of Covid, looking at new leadership structures, and all that we have been through, that there will be hard times and bumps on the road behind us and ahead of us. But it is through these things that we truly discover who we are in Christ, the concrete reality of our fellowship in Him as brothers and sisters, the adopted children of God our heavenly Father. To all who have remained incredibly resilient in Christ and devoted in love for one another through all that we have been through, I want to thank and encourage you. I am convinced that if we love one another well, seeking with our whole heart the mission of the kingdom of God to grow his Church, pray for the Holy Spirit to fill us with the love and power of Christ, then exciting and wonderful things will lie ahead for this Benefice – even as we are beginning to see.

As I thank you and bless you for all that you have done, are doing, and will continue to do for the glory of Christ and the love of his people, may we, as Paul encourages the Philippians, “Whatever happens, conduct [ourselves] in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. ...stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel” (Philippians 1:27).

Thanks to my children, whose dad spends too much time at the screen, in the form, and at the book (and, from their perspective, other people), but loves them and is very proud

of them. And last of all, thanks to my amazing wife Mands, without whom whatever I do would be either be all the more difficult or not possible at all. Remember them too in your prayers, please.

“You are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it” (1 Corinthians 12:27)
With my prayers for us all, and with much love in Christ Jesus,

Steve

Rev Steve Stewart, Rector of Hanborough and Freeland, May 2022

2. Aims and purposes

Hanborough PCC is responsible for working with the Rector to promote the ecclesiastical parish and the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It has met three times since the last APCM, with attendance ranging between 80% and 100%. Minutes from the committees, and reports of other meetings were received and responded to as necessary.

3. Objectives and activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our Parish of Hanborough. The PCC has an overview of the worship throughout the parish and, from time to time, may make suggestions on how services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship reflect faith through prayer, scripture, music and sacrament. This is done when planning activities for the year, having consideration for the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer: learning about the Gospel; developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus
- Provision of Pastoral Care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work: Occasional Offices – Baptism services, Weddings and Funerals.

In order to facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of St. Peter and St. Paul Church in Church Hanborough, and Christ Church in Long Hanborough. A part time secretary helps the Rector for 6 hours a week in term time.

We are grateful for all the services provided by our Clergy (Steve and Mike) and Licensed Minister Team. It is also good to have many other members of our churches taking leading roles.

4. The Life and Worship of the Church

4.1. Sunday services

Regarding Sunday services, 2021 was very much a year of two halves: the first a united Benefice service on Zoom, the second 10 AM Sunday services across the three churches. As the churches were reopened for Sunday morning worship on 27 June 2021, and with 1.2 licensed clergy, rather than the 3.2 licensed clergy prior to lockdown, staffing this new rota of Sunday services proved challenging (and continues to be challenging) – and

meant the introduction of non-Eucharistic Sunday morning worship every other Sunday at St. Peter and St. Paul. Change is very often challenging, and the parish is currently in the process of reviewing these patterns. Nonetheless, we have seen encouraging growth, and the stepping forward of many into lay ministry is to be celebrated and given thanks for. We have also enjoyed the ministry of increasing numbers of musicians across the Benefice, which is a great blessing, and we hope ensures good provision of worship music into the future.

4.2. Area - Youth and children

Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Psalms 23:6

Children's and Youth work continued during lockdowns in early 2021. Zoe Dobson delivered bible activity packs to primary aged children and offered a fortnightly Zoom meet. Youth met over and then in person in gardens as restrictions relaxed.

We were able to meet in person from June 2021 and have been enjoying the use of the Old Doctor's Surgery building in Long Hanborough (opposite Christ Church) as a base for Sunday morning sessions. The provision of this building has been a great blessing to the Church, especially as we have been able to run several groups in the one building. The young people have really valued a space that is "their own". As we are expecting the building to be knocked down at some point in the near future, we have been able to decorate the building ourselves!

There has been an increase in numbers of children and young people attending over this year due to new families to the area and families trying us out. It should be noted though that not all children and young people who were previously regulars have returned.

i) Christ Church

We are so grateful to the volunteers who run the exciting Sunday morning sessions. We seek to develop personal faith, nurture a relationship with God and understand biblical truths and stories in our modern times. A few long standing servants in this ministry have already or are about to step down. We pay tribute to the work of Zoe Dobson, Susan Sugden, Amanda Ford and Theo Vaney. A key prayer is to see growth in the number of volunteers on a Sunday morning, which will enable significantly more to be done with the young people. The past few months have seen a need to provide a more regular crèche.

We also pray for more young people to be part of the church – one perhaps surprising fact is as things stand at the end of the academic year there will be no children from Hanborough Manor School attending on Sunday morning at Christ Church.

In the autumn the youth enjoyed an online social hosted by Open Doors youth. We hope to provide a fuller youth social calendar in the coming year.

A Friday after school youth club was piloted in October, November and December to provide youth with a safe social space to (re)connect in a relaxed environment.

ii) St Peter and St Paul

Bible based activity booklets have been provided for families at St. Peter and St. Paul.

There have been several post lockdown Christenings at St Peter and St Paul, and St Marys. Testimonies have been shared at these services and we pray for fruit.

iii) Other Groups and activities

Joy Yates has taken on leading the Hanborough and Freeland Church Baby and Toddler group. It has moved from St Mary's to Christ Church and restarted for the new year in Christ Church and subsequently relaunched after half term with the new name "First Steps". Since January, we've seen 20 families come through the door, of which 9 were new to the group this year. Numbers vary week-to-week but 13 families came the week before half term. The move to Christ Church means there is more space for the children to play, we don't currently need to limit the number that can attend each week and we have been able to introduce some new toys/activities in an effort to provide something that will appeal to every child between 0-4yrs. This group presents a tremendous opportunity for the church as it is the only toddler group within Long Hanborough as pre-existing groups have not restarted post Covid. Numbers have grown and we are excited to see how God will use this group to grow His kingdom.

A light party was run this year for the first time since the pandemic started. Mands Stewart led a team to put on this inclusive event. Over 80 children attended the light party.

Currently in person children's and youth work is limited to Christ Church. With more young people and volunteers we hope that this work could be expanded in the Benefice.

We look ahead to the coming year with so much to be grateful for. With the freedom to meet and to meet in person. For the ways we are seeing God build his kingdom here.

"Let your kingdom come, let your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven" (Matt. 6:10, ESV).

4.3. Area – Music

As Covid-19 lockdown restrictions were eased and services in our churches started up again, music and singing in the churches of the parish also restarted. Hanborough parish is blessed with many people with musical gifts. Thanks to all who contribute to the music and worship within our churches. Apart from Sunday morning services, some other music activities in the parish included the following: Exsultate Justi provided a choir for occasional evensong services at St. Peter and St. Paul. Christ Church musicians provided music for Carols on the Green in Long Hanborough.

4.4. Area – Facilities and Communications Projects

i) Hanborough Freeland Church Website

The new website went live in November 2021. The old website URL directs to this site and the old site is now archived. Since November we have had 1053 site visits of which 598 were from new people and 455 were repeat visits. The average time people spend on the site is 4m 21s. (which for an info site is pretty good). We had the most traffic when we launched and just before Christmas.

The site is now one of the ways people can contact the administrator and Clergy for weddings, funerals and general information. This uses a contact form which links directly to Steve and Leonie. We have had 15 people so far connect using this method.

Key enhancements since launch

- We have linked the ChurchSuite calendar directly to the site. This will update automatically as new events are entered.
- We have added a specific page for Alpha with its own contact form. This will remain on the site permanently to explain what Alpha is and will be adjusted when we run the course with specific dates and locations
- We have updated the safeguarding page with the help of Susan and Gill.
- We have added a new page for the relaunched toddler group (with new logo) and this page will be updated directly by Joy Yates.
- We have created a password protected page for Small Group leaders which will have ideas and shared resources
- We have now established a plan for the What's On page – events for everyone (church family, visitors, locals) will appear with a graphic and explanation. Advent, Christmas and Easter services will be shared roughly a month beforehand. Events for just church family will appear in the calendar with more info in the notices and on the new and existing Facebook pages (Amanda Stewart is looking after this)
- We have a link now from the site to the Facebook page.
- We have a QR code to put on posters to link from phone to the mobile site

Website next planned enhancements

We are going to look at the mobile site and make some improvements on format and the key messages we show. From the statistics we can see that nearly 50% of our visitors use mobile phone..

ii) Email Addresses

We now have implemented the new email addresses from the website xx@HFChurch.org.uk, the @hanboroughparish.co.uk extension will continue to work.

iii) Screens for Christ Church

I have looked at the screens for Christ Church and wiring and passed on some ideas. The CCST and Simon Yates is now looking at more options.

iii) Photocopier

Photocopier we are looking at options for the new photocopier with Wendy Bayliss. Once we have requirements we can look at suitable product.

4.5. Area – Home groups and small groups

We currently host several small groups of various types and sizes across the three villages, which meet in people's homes, as well as online. The following is a brief description of the small groups that currently meet across our Benefice.

The Harden Home group has continued to meet and grow. Meeting during term time on Tuesday evenings to share fellowship, study God's Word and to pray for one another and the wider community. When possible, the group meets in person, although it has also used Zoom to allow individuals to participate when isolating, or as a whole group during lockdowns. Recent studies have included the Book of Acts, Daniel and Mark's Gospel.

Rob and Alison Feast co-ordinate a home group, of eight people, which meets at different members' homes on a Tuesday evening at 8pm. A typical evening begins with coffee and cake/biscuits, followed by a bible study and finishing with a time of prayer. We have most recently been studying the book of James. Prior to that we used the Big Church Read to read and discuss Jeff Lucas' book, "Singing in Babylon: Finding Purpose in Life's Second Choices" .

Paul and Sarah Lindon's home group meets on Wednesday evenings at 8pm at various locations, three times a month for Bible study, prayer, coffee and tea and chat. The group provides support and encouragement to each other, allowing members to share on a deeper level than might be possible on Sunday mornings alone. Allowing members to share the ups and downs of life together.

Pam Berry hosts an online group that currently consists of three members and meets fortnightly online via Zoom for an hour of Bible study, closing with prayer for one another. The group has been working through Paul's letters.

In March 2022 we took the step of forming a new small group that is currently facilitated by Mike Madden. It meets on alternate Wednesday nights at 8pm in members' homes in either Freeland or Church Hanborough. The group are just embarking on a study of the Book of Acts, and it aspires to be a place where members can study the Bible, pray, worship, support one another and reach out to the other.

A ladies Lunchtime Bible Study Group meets between 12.45 - 2 pm, in Long Hanborough, with coffee and tea served from 12.45 pm. After a short Bible study, time is allowed for people to pray together before finishing by 2 pm so that those who are on a tight schedule may leave promptly. The recent changes in patterns of work have meant that more people are able to attend at lunchtime. The group are currently exploring the best day to meet during the week, which is yet to be confirmed.

As you can see from the above, there is a variety of small groups attended by people from across the Benefice. Our vision for each of our small groups is for them all to be a place of safety where we can study the bible, pray, support one another, have fellowship and fun, while always remaining open to new people joining. If anyone would like to attend one of our home groups, please contact Rev Mike Madden.

4.6. Prayer in the churches

St. Peter and St. Paul, Church Hanborough and St Mary's, Freeland have been open daily for private prayer, with an opportunity to write prayer requests that can then be incorporated into Sunday intercessions. Leaflets are available for guidance for prayer, reading the Bible and Christianity. A weekly prayer meeting for the Ukrainian situation has been started.

4.7. Monthly prayer

The Monthly Benefice Prayer Meeting has continued throughout the year except in August and September. In these 2 months, instead Mands Stewart organised Prayer Walks around the Parish. In October Mike Madden kindly led the Meeting. Usually between 8 and 14 take part. We are very aware that it is sometimes hard work, but there is always a marvellous spirit of dependence on God, and awareness of the spiritual need in the Christian world, which sees us through. After each session we come out tired but spiritually invigorated, and feeling as though what we have done is an important part of the spiritual battle.

4.8. Finances

In the year to 31st December 2021 total income was £110,806 which is 7.8% down on the previous year, but with significantly less total expenditure of £90,069 has resulted in an increase of funds of £20,737. The surplus is split with £15,130 more held in unrestricted funds and £5607 more in restricted funds.

Unrestricted income was £97,325 against £82,303 in 2020 showing an upturn following opening our churches once more and increased giving. We also received a legacy of £1000.

Unrestricted expenditure of £82,195 was 8.6% lower than 2020 which was £90,088 so this too helped in increasing our surplus of unrestricted funds. Restricted income received was £13,481 which includes £3000 from a legacy, £1000 of this was for Lunch Club which was sent to them and a further £2000 is to be used towards costs of a Memorial Benchseat at Christ Church. The PCC have also set up a designated fund to build up monies to help offset current and future building costs called the Quinquennial Fund and have transferred £10,000 into this fund. A full breakdown of income and expenditure for the restricted funds held is shown under note 4.

Much of the expenditure is comparable to previous year with the parish share of £47,361 continuing to be by far the largest, most significant expenditure, and the second being our donations to missions and charities £8,978 from unrestricted and £6,000 to James Berry (to support his work with Operation Mobilisation) from restricted funds. Building costs being significantly lower than in the previous year. A full breakdown of the missions and charities donations is found under note 3.

Note 4 shows the breakdown of our total funds at the end of 2021 totalling £98,792 which are split as follows - Restricted Funds - £22,179, Designated Funds - £10,000 and Unrestricted Funds - £66,613.

As usual I would like to thank you to everyone who gives so generously with special thanks to Hazel Bowman, Paul Amos and Clive Berry for their assistance in financial matters and Andrew Gower for carrying out the Independent Audit of the Accounts.

4.9. Christian basics courses

An Alpha course is held at the beginning of each year and is an important part of our outreach. The Alpha course has proved to be an incredibly successful way of leading people to Christ, as well as building long-term relationships in the context of a small group. In 2022 we ran a successful Alpha course led by Jonathan and Amanda Ford and Fiona McGrady.

4.10. Pastoral care in the parish

Perhaps more than any other area of church life, Covid lockdown militated against the very substance of pastoral care: simply being present with those in greatest need. Technology mitigated at least some of the detrimental effects on pastoral care, but it has been encouraging to see how well the pre-existing connections and relationships in the Benefice have meant that the clergy have been kept very aware of key pastoral needs, including poor health and bereavement. Coming out of lockdown has provided the Rector and many others with much opportunity to restore a pattern of pastoral visiting across the Benefice, and it remains a priority.

We still hope to appoint an Area Lead for Pastoral Care in the Benefice, and the introduction of ChurchSuite may be a very helpful component in providing well-organised, focused pastoral care.

4.11 School's work

While in lockdown, the Rector and other local clergy were able to do assemblies on Zoom, and it was a joy when the schools reopened to be able to do assemblies in person. As well as providing assemblies, and other contact with the schools such as regular services at festivals, the Rector currently coordinates a rota of local clergy so that together we can provide weekly assemblies to the primary schools in the Benefice.

It has also been a joy to see the "Prayer Shack" at Hanborough Manor School restarted under the leadership of Mandy Cripps.

The Rector is currently in the process of speaking with one of our church family members to become a governor at Hanborough Manor School.

4.12. Supporting Ecumenical Relationships

Anglican and Methodist ministers continued to work closely together meeting regularly with Father Martin from the Catholic Church. Annually the service for Remembrance Sunday is shared, alternating between the Methodist and Anglican Church when the church welcomes the local uniformed organizations before processing to the War Memorial for the two minutes silence. Due to the pandemic, Remembrance Sunday this year was reorganised at the last minute to be held in the open air, and attended by some 200-300 people in all. The Rector also had opportunity recently to lead, preach and lead worship at the Sunday morning worship at the Methodist Church.

The Women's World Day of Prayer is a service planned jointly and attended by members of all churches.

Ecumenical ties are also maintained informally through friendships and social events, as well as the more formal projects.

4.13. Weddings, baptisms, and funerals – SS

The coronavirus pandemic had a significant impact on the number of occasional offices conducted in the Benefice. In Hanborough parish in 2021, there were 2 weddings, 7 baptisms and 7 funerals taken.

With limited clergy, it is good stewardship of the PCC as charitable trustees to recognise that occasional offices – important as they are both in themselves and as an opportunity for serving and mission – can take up a very significant amount of clergy resources. We are therefore grateful and thankful to our Benefice Administrator, clergy and others who help share the workload.

4.14. Prayer for the villages

We regularly pray for the villages in our intercessions. The Churches in Hanborough have a Bible verse and a list of the streets for which will be praying in the Hanborough Herald which it is delivered each month to every house in the village. These streets also are listed in the weekly notices and each street has been prayed for as part of the Prayer Walks (see 4.7).

4.15. Supporting mission in the U.K. and overseas

3. MISSIONS AND CHARITIES				2021		2020
				£		£
WORLDWIDE						
	Church Mission Society			883		1,000
	Innovista			883		1,000
	J Abu Bakker Christian School India			883		1,000
	Open Doors			883		1,000
	James Berry			6,000		11,250
	TAFTEE			2,795		
	Mothers Union - Gambia					500
NATIONAL						
	Salvation Army			883		1,000
LOCAL						
	The Besom			884		1,000
	The Porch			884		1,000
TOTAL				14,978		18,750

The Designated Mission and Charities Fund is calculated as 10% of the previous years unrestricted income under note 2a of the accounts. Of this money 80% is allocated equally between seven charities Church Mission Society, Innovista, J Abu Bakker, Open Doors, Salvation Army, The Besom and The Porch. The remaining 20% is discussed and donated by the PCC.

In 2021 the Missions and Charities designated fund was £8978 (£1248 c/f from previous year). £6183 was split between the seven charities we regularly support via quarterly standing orders. The balance of £2795 was sent to TAFTEE, as detailed in the above table from the Annual Accounts.

Restricted funds of £6,000 were sent to James Berry to support his work with Operation Mobilisation.

In 2022 the Missions and Charities Designated Fund is £9394 – 80% will be split across the seven charities mentioned above being £7515, so £268.40 paid each quarter by standing order to each of them. The remaining 20% of £1879 is available for the PCC to decide upon the recipient(s) in due course.

4.16. Structure, Governance and Management: Administrative Information

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parish and Parochial Church Meeting (APPCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. During the year the following served as ex-officio members of the PCC:

Description of role	Name
Incumbent (Rector):	Rev Steve Stewart
Curate:	Rev Mike Madden
Licensed Lay Minister:	Mr Clive Berry
Elected members:	
Churchwardens:	Mrs Jenny Royal
	Mr Clive Berry
Representative on Deanery Synod:	Mr Steven Young
Elected Members:	Ms Naomi Allen (resigned, moved away)
	Mrs Denise Parrott
	Mr Richard Wilkins
	Mr Tom Harden
	Mrs Liz Whittle
	Mr Simon Gundry (replaced Naomi Allen)
Appointments by the PCC:	
Vice chair:	Mr Clive Berry
Treasurer:	Mrs Wendy Bayliss (co-opted)
Secretary:	Mrs Pam Berry (co-opted)

4.17 Committees

i) Standing Committee – The functions of the Standing Committee have been carried out by the clergy and wardens who have met every 2-3 weeks. (Church Representation Rules M.31).

ii) Christ Church Serving Team – this team was set up in June 2021 in order to ensure that the practicalities (e.g., rotas, unlocking, audiovisual, music, hospitality) required for reopening Christ Church for regular 10 AM Sunday worship were catered for. This team currently meets monthly and has proved a great blessing to the development of Sunday worship at Christ Church.

4.18. PCC Meetings

Items for PCC discussion have included: the patterns of services, repairs to St. Peter and St. Paul, Digital Church, and youth work provision once we do not have access to the Old Surgery.

4.19. Electoral Roll Report

There are 76 people on the Electoral Roll. There are no additions from last year, but five removals.

4.20. Others who serve in various ministries

With the exception of our Rector Rev. Steve Stewart, the Benefice Administrator and our organist and church cleaners, all the other people who minister and serve the churches, including our curate Rev. Mike Madden, work in a voluntary capacity. The PCC is very grateful to all these people who work in so many different ways to enable the mission of the church.

4.21. Churchwarden's Report, including on Fabric, Goods and Ornaments

Both St Peter and St Paul and Christ Church reopened for services on 27th June 2021, strictly following government guidelines in terms of Covid 19 regulations. Attendance was restricted at first through a pre booking system, masks and sanitiser were used, no singing allowed and disposable paper orders of service where electronic aids were not available. Gradually, as restrictions have eased, both churches have been able to introduce Bibles, hymn books, coffee and refreshments etc and have recently re-introduced the common cup, with services now resembling how we perhaps remembered them pre-Covid.

Both churches are now up to date in terms of annual services, safety checks and maintenance although both are scheduled to have a quinquennial inspection this year, St. Peter and St. Paul will also require a 5 year electrical inspection in the summer. St. Peter and St. Paul had a water leak at the end of August and this has been a complicated and lengthy process to repair: requiring two List B permissions, and the requirement to appoint an architect to provide the DAC with reports. Having considered a number of people, the PCC have appointed Peter Preston from Manifest and his involvement with the churches to date has been helpful and we are confident that this will be a good appointment. Whilst the pipework has been repaired and the heating working over the

winter, there is still work to be done on the floor sub-base and the replacement of like for like oak floorboards. Asbestos tests have been completed with negative results. Ecclesiastical Insurance will pay for all of the work except the replacement of the corroded pipework, and the loss adjuster has visited and has given permission for the further work to be completed and claimed for. No other major works have been done or found needed, although we did find some wet rot under rubber back carpets in the church but have caught this in time before the wooden floor has been permanently damaged. The architect asks the PCC to ensure that no plastic or waterproof backing is ever used that can trap moisture under a floor covering! The Benefice had an inspection by the Area Dean, on behalf of the Archdeacon, in December 2021 but we have yet to have the feedback from that.

Christ Church problems have been relatively minor, but have included a faulty cistern in the toilet adjacent to the kitchen which has now been fixed. There are also outstanding problems with floor tiles, some loose and some broken. These issues are in hand, but not yet resolved.

4.22. Occasional Festivals

This year we were able to celebrate many of the festivals in person, including the Crib Service, while the joint Remembrance Sunday service was held outside the Pavilion, Long Hanborough. Also, in conjunction with the Parish Council, who kindly provided mulled wine and mince pies, we held a carol service round the Christmas tree in Hurdeswell.

4.23. Church Flowers

2021 has been yet another difficult year and we continued to use silk flowers in church for some of the time. However, with the kind help of Gillian Hunt, we were able to decorate St Peter & Paul for Harvest and continued fresh flowers until Advent. Gillian and I (Denise Parrott) arranged fresh flowers at Christmas and have continued to maintain them throughout January and February until Lent. We look forward to decorating for Easter with traditional Easter Lilies.

We only had two weddings in 2021 and I stepped in at last minute to arrange the flowers for one wedding when the bride's florist was taken ill. If you are planning a wedding, it helps if I know, well in advance, the date and your arrangements for flowers.

Once again, I am putting out a plea for people to come forward to assist us. You do not have to be a flower arranger, just the desire to help occasionally. Please ring me on 01993 881192 if you are interested.

4.24. Sacristan Report

During the year the Covid-19 remained prevalent in the UK. Some church services took place both in St. Peter and St. Paul and Christ Church. Altar frontals were changed to the appropriate liturgical colour. In both churches, the communion vessels were laid up in the vestry ready to be transferred to position before the start of the service.

All Holy Communion vessels were sterilized before and after use. Linen was washed and ironed after use before being replaced in the vestry whilst observing strict Covid rules. Holy Communion wafers were obtained from the Community of St Clare in Freeland. Sufficient Holy Communion Wine was already purchased.

The Holy Communion vessels and linen and altar frontals are all in good repair but it would be lovely to have a new purple altar frontal and lectern drop for use in Christ Church, Long Hanborough.

4.25. Annual Safeguarding Report for the Benefice of Hanborough

In early January 2021 we welcomed Rev Steve Stewart as Rector of the Benefice of Hanborough and Freeland. He assumed the role of Recruiter. In July Louise Parker left the role of Verifier and Colin Griffiths was appointed as her replacement. Gillian Hunt continued as Parish Safeguarding Officer. At Diocesan Church House changes also took place. Richard Woodley, Diocesan Safeguarding Officer left the role at the end of December.

Many activities continued online because the Corona Virus Covid-19 was still prevalent. Despite this fact, people were both able and encouraged to renew their DBS certificates and training was available to be completed online. In Hanborough, 8 people renewed their DBS. The training modules provided by The Church of England through their Safeguarding Training Portal also changed. What had been C0 became Basic Awareness, C1 Foundation and C3 Leadership. All people obtaining a DBS were asked to complete the Basic level of training and then where appropriate the Foundation level. Certain roles also required people to complete the Leadership training. This was delivered in person with follow up training on-line. All Hanborough PCC members were asked to complete Basic level training because the PCC, which has charitable status, is responsible for administering Children and Young Peoples' activities. The PCC voted not to obtain DBS certificates for each member as it was not compulsory for them to do so.

DBS certificates which had lasted for 5 years will gradually be phased out, so that they will need to be renewed every 3 years in line with training. This is already happening.

In September, the two combined PCCs held an on-line meeting where they discussed the findings of the 3 reports which the Oxford Diocese had issued. The three separate cases, Parishes of Stowe and Maids Moreton report following the abuse and death of Peter Farquhar, the investigation into and findings of child abuse by the then Rt Reverend Peter Ball and the independent report and tribunal findings of the case concerning Rev Tim Davis who was found guilty of exercising spiritual abuse and authority over a person then aged 15-16 all provide salutary lessons.

In 2020, the two PCCs began a time of reflection on their Safeguarding procedures. This formed the basis of an Action Plan which in turn has been translated into a Parish Dashboard. Over the year, the two PCCs have been able to progress to level 3 having fulfilled all the necessary criteria. In future this will prove to be both helpful and beneficial as it will automatically alert the Rector and/or the PSO when something needs attention.

I would like to thank Rev Steve and Colin for their support and diligence and to all who offer their services throughout the benefice. It is my hope that all parents and or guardians will continue to monitor their young people. It is a really difficult time for young people who can so easily be duped. Notices are displayed at all three church

buildings giving details of safeguarding helplines, as well as them being available on the Church Suite. Details are also available for contacting all Safeguarding Personnel at Oxford Diocesan Church House.

4.26. Deanery Synod Annual Report 2021

Like 2020, 2021 was a very strange year. Zoom services and virtual meetings became commonplace across the Deanery. During the year, some services and gatherings were in church buildings but, generally speaking, life in the parishes has changed.

The synod met three times during the year, twice on Zoom and once at St Mary Magdalene Church, Woodstock. All of the meetings began with an act of worship that helped us to focus on God and his work in our Deanery. At our first meeting the main topic was the parish share for 2022, more of that later. At our June meeting, Ollie Shaw, the youth worker at St Leonard's, Eynsham, spoke to the synod about 'reaching out to young people after coronavirus'. Members found this an interesting and encouraging presentation. In November, Jeremy Auld gave a presentation on 'Living in love and faith' in the hope that people would be encouraged to look at the materials, maybe join a study group and respond to the bishops' request to engage in the discernment process about the way forward. We also looked at the list of ten things that the diocese could do to make it easier for parishes to concentrate their efforts on spreading the news of God's love, rather than things like form filling. All Deanery synod members were asked to consult with their parishes and the list sent to Bishop Gavin early in 2022 was a collation of these responses.

In relation to the parish share an amendment was agreed to the way in which the parish share is allocated between the benefices in the Deanery from 2022 onwards in order to change the effect that the high community profile score system has particularly on the rural parishes in the Deanery. It is anticipated that the allocation method may need amending again from 2023 as a revised diocesan scheme may be in place by then. During the year Deanery Mission grants were approved to Woodstock, the Barton benefice and the Wootton benefice.

There have been some comings and goings in our Deanery. Bishop Gavin, the new Bishop of Dorchester moved into the Deanery at the beginning of the year. Steve Stewart was instituted as Rector of the Hanborough and Freeland churches in January and Ralph Williamson was instituted as Rector of Stonesfield and Combe in May.

In June, Anthony Watkinson stepped down as Deanery synod secretary, and we would like to record our thanks to him for all his hard work. Maria Coonick was co-opted onto the synod as our new secretary at that point. 2021 was also the year that marked a change in our diocesan synod representatives. Reverend Jeremy Auld (Woodstock & Bladon) and Reverend Marcus Green (Steeple Aston, North Aston & Tackley) kindly agreed to represent the clergy, Marcus carrying on from the previous synod and Jeremy filling the gap left by David Tyler. Ollie Shaw (Eynsham) and Mike Holmes (Woodstock) agreed to represent the laity. Our thanks to Steve Young (Hanborough) and Susan Small (Steeple Barton) who preceded them.

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER :

1183002

RECTOR

REV. STEVE STEWART

TREASURER:

WENDY BAYLISS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:

ANDREW GOWER

BANKERS:

BARCLAYS BANK PLC
OXFORD CITY CENTRE

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

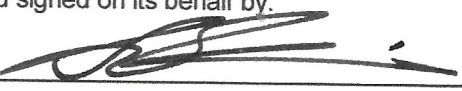
INCOMING RESOURCES	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 £	2020 £
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Voluntary income	2a	93,943	13,481	107,424	115,268
Activities for generating funds	2b	3,367	-	3,367	4,913
Investing activities		15		15	109
Total incoming resources		97,325	13,481	110,806	120,290
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Parish Share		47,361		47,361	48,735
Utilities	Peter & Paul Christ Church	3,749 1,617		3,749 1,617	3,556 1,879
Buildings costs	Peter & Paul Christ Church Manor School	4,824 836	274	5,098 836 -	25,505 509 232
Insurance	Peter & Paul Christ Church	3,373 978		3,373 978	3,330 1,036
Missions and charities	3	8,978	6,000	14,978	18,750
Gifts & Donations		1	1,580	1,581	2,402
Rector's expenses		1,965	20	1,985	479
Curates' rent and insurance				-	14,690
Other ministers' expenses		338		338	3,535
				-	
Stationery, Printing & Postage		369		369	243
Equipment		358		358	
Young People's Ministry		576		576	418
Salaries	Organist Admin Wages	- 2,249		- 2,249 -	1,300 1,493 1,300
Copyright licence fee		585		585	643
Sundry expenses:	Fees	1,253		1,253	1,521
	Miscellaneous	2,559		2,559	1,060
	LLMs' fees			-	
	Religious education prize	60		60	60
	PCC events see also 2b	166		166	135
	Holiday Bible Club 2c	-		-	-
Total resources used		82,195	7,874	90,069	132,811
Net incoming (outgoing) resources		15,130	5,607	20,737	- 12,521
Funds at 1 January		61,483	16,572	78,055	90,576
Funds at 31 December		76,613	22,179	98,792	78,055

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

BALANCE SHEET

	Unrestricted £	Restricted / Designated £	2021 £	2020 £
Current assets				
Central Board of Finance	17,343	1,444	18,787	18,778
Debtors	14,983	726	15,709	15,506
Bank balances	46,075	20,009	66,084	44,178
Petty Cash			-	681
	<u>78,401</u>	<u>22,179</u>	<u>100,580</u>	<u>79,143</u>
Current liabilities				
Creditors	- 1,788	-	1,788	- 1,088
	<u>76,613</u>	<u>22,179</u>	<u>98,792</u>	<u>78,055</u>

These accounts were approved by the P.C.C. on 14th, March 2022
for presentation to the A.P.C.M., and signed on its behalf by:



REV. STEVE STEWART

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the SORP 2015 on "Accounting and reporting by Charities" and the following are the accounting policies which have been applied in dealing with material items:-

(a) Donations and Charitable Grant income

Donated income without conditions attached, including that gifted under gift aid, is taken into account when received by the PCC. Income received in circumstances where a claim for repayment of tax has been or will be made to the HM Revenue & Customs is grossed up for the tax recoverable. Any amount of tax not yet reclaimed from HM Revenue & Customs is shown within the PCC's debtors.

(b) Restricted and unrestricted funds

Restricted funds are those received for use on specified purposes. Expenditure which meets those criteria is allocated to that fund. Unrestricted funds are those received or generated that can be used for the general purposes of the PCC.

(c) Income and other expenditure

Interest income is taken into account when receivable and expenditure when incurred by the PCC, regardless of when payment is made.

2. INCOMING RESOURCES

(a) Voluntary income

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 £	2020 £
Direct to bank	74,562	9,755	84,317	82,725
Envelopes	837		837	1,083
Collections and wall safes	900		900	827
Donations/Grants received	353		353	9,161
Legacy	1,000	3,000	4,000	2,000
VAT Refunds			-	5,038
Tax recoveries	16,291	726	17,017	14,434
	<u>93,943</u>	<u>13,481</u>	<u>107,424</u>	<u>115,268</u>

(b) Activities for generating funds

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 £	2020 £
Church lettings & land	400		400	1,345
Fees	2,967		2,967	3,568
	<u>3,367</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,367</u>	<u>4,913</u>

(c) Holiday Bible Club breakdown

	2021	2020
Donations (in 2a above)		
Amounts collected (in 2b above)		
Tax recovery (in 2a above)		
Interest (incl in investing activities figure)		
Expenses		
Net surplus (loss) for 2020	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

(d) Employee Emoluments

	2021 £	2020 £
Salaries		1,300
Wages	2,249	1,493
	<u>2,249</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>2</u>	<u>2,793</u>
Average No of employees:	2	2

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

3. MISSIONS AND CHARITIES

		2021 £	2020 £
WORLDWIDE			
	Church Mission Society	883	1,000
	Innovista	883	1,000
	J Abu Bakker Christian School India	883	1,000
	Open Doors	883	1,000
	James Berry	6,000	11,250
	TAFTEE	2,795	
	Mothers Union - Gambia		500
NATIONAL			
	Salvation Army	883	1,000
LOCAL			
	The Besom	884	1,000
	The Porch	884	1,000
TOTAL		14,978	18,750

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

4. DESIGNATED FUNDS, UNRESTRICTED FUNDS AND RESTRICTED FUNDS

Note	1 January 2021 £	Income £	Transfers £	Expenditure £	31 December 2021 £
Restricted Funds:					
Benchseat memorial	-	2,000			2,000
Churchyard	888	15			903
Ducker Bequest	254				254
Holiday Club	1,825				1,825
James Berry	1,950	5,112		6,000	1,062
Lunch Club	-	1,000		1,000	-
Ministry Fund	696	4,649			5,345
Nativity Set Fund	9			9	-
Nepal Fund	4,721				4,721
Organ Fund	140			140	-
Rector's Discretionary Fund	6,089			20	6,069
St Peter & Pauls Building Fund	-	125		125	-
Gifts & Donations	-	580		580	-
Total Restricted Funds	16,572	13,481	-	7,874	22,179
Designated Quinquennial Building Fund	-		10,000		10,000
Other unrestricted fund	61,483	97,325	10,000	82,195	66,613
Total Combined	78,055	110,806	-	90,069	98,792

The benchseat memorial is restricted funds from a legacy towards a benchseat to be sited at Christ Church

The Churchyard Fund comprises capital of £500 & accumulated income after expenditures of £403 held in Trust by the Rector and Churchwardens. The accumulated income is to be used to keep the graveyard of Christ Church in good order and repair the graves and gravestones of F G and A Thompson, E H, A E and AL Jakeman and to keep the lettering thereon legible and to have the lettering recut from time to time.

The Ducker Bequest Fund is to be used for the Sanctuary at the Parish Church.

The Holiday Club Fund is to be used for children's ministry within the parish

The James Berry Fund is a restricted fund of donations given to support James.

The Lunch Club was funds given as part of a legacy to be sent to them.

The Ministry Fund is a restricted fund towards ministry and/or curate costs. Deductions are receipts plus 1/3 of brought forward figure being lower or equal to actual costs.

The Nativity Fund is restricted money given toward purchase of a new Nativity Set

The Nepal fund is giving towards cost of an operation for a young girl in Nepal.

The Organ Fund is to be used towards the upkeep of the organ.

The Rector's Discretionary Fund is able to be used at the Rector's discretion to assist him in his work.

The St Peter & St Paul building fund is monies received toward building costs at this church

Gifts & Donations are restricted funds received towards gifts and donations to specific people & paid out in 2021.

Designated Quinquennial Fund for annual building costs with an aim to build up the fund for future repairs.

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Independent Examiner's Report to Hanborough PCC

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on the previous pages.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of accounts; you 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
- * follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act : and
- * state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence which would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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
i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the 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.

A. S. Gower

A Gower

20th February 2022.

Dated

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Independent Examiner's Report to Hanborough PCC

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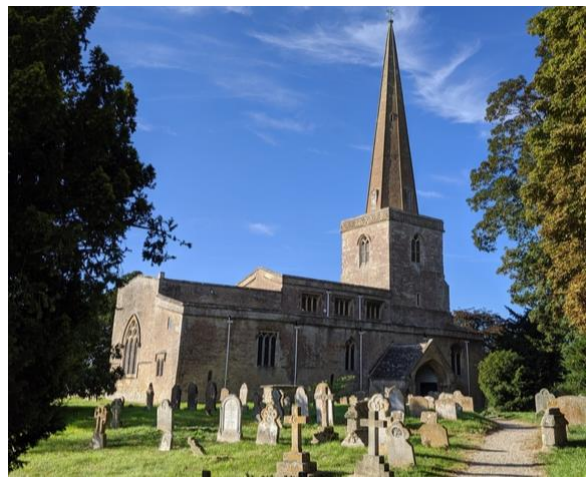
A. S. Gower A Gower

29th February 2022. Dated

Accounts

Hanborough Parish

**(Christ Church – Long Hanborough and
St Peter & St Paul Church Hanborough)**



**REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR 2020 ON
MONDAY 5TH JULY 2021 VIA ZOOM AND THE
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st
DECEMBER 2020**

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1. RECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2020 TO 2021

It goes without saying that 2020 and the first half of 2021 have been a period like no other in living memory for the world and the Church. My family and I arrived in Hanborough and Freeland on 6 January 2021 at the very peak of the third wave of coronavirus infections in the UK. However, it is a testimony to the hope in Christ of Christians in general, and the body of Christ in particular in this Benefice, that what I found upon my arrival were countless loving servants of Christ – brothers and sisters in the Lord who welcomed me and my family into their hearts and, in most recent times, your homes! The Benefice comprises churches of different liturgies, varying traditions and distinct buildings – but what is held *in common* in the Benefice is where the love and resilience of the faithful has come to the fore, and taken us through this pandemic: humble, servant-hearted obedience to Christ's command for us to love one another, much prayer, and the faithful proclamation of the gospel in sound biblical preaching and teaching.

There can be no question that many have missed in-person worship, myself included (for, with the exception of Easter Day, as I write I have not yet experienced an in-buildings service in my own benefice!), but 2020 saw the rise of Zoom worship, and it is heartwarming to see so many still attending some 17 months on. It is not only coronavirus that has changed the shape of the parish since the start of 2020: following the previous Rector David Tyler's move, we have seen both Rev Sue Spankie and the Rev Emma Hopegood-Jones both finding new appointments. And here my thanks go not only to David, Sue and Emma for helping prepare me for my arrival, but in particular to our curate Rev Mike Madden for his wisdom and help as an outstanding colleague.

In addition to Mike, Hanborough and Freeland have been blessed with a superb team of churchwardens in Matt Andrews, Clive Berry, Steve Mellin and Claire Soanes. Godly colleagues all, they have brought an extraordinary range of gifts and worked so hard not only to "keep things going", but to firm the foundations of a benefice set for mission and growth. I am deeply thankful to all our churchwardens, and to all those in our church family who have worked tirelessly and faithfully in often very difficult circumstances throughout 2020 and into 2021.

It would be easy to see the pandemic only in terms of crisis, but God speaks into all things, and the most important task for the Benefice is to listen to, hear, and respond rightly to what our heavenly Father has been telling us as our churches have been forced into lockdown.

I think that the things which God has been saying to us at Hanborough and Freeland can be laid out in 9 principles, which I first communicated towards the end of March 2021:

"...whatever happens each thing we do will be:

1. Christ-centred
2. Biblically-driven
3. Church family-loving
4. Prayer-surrounded
5. Mission-focused
6. Lockdown-learned
7. Benefice-orientated
8. Realistically-grounded
9. Gifts-defined"

One of the great learnings of Zoom collective worship at Hanborough and Freeland has been the opportunity for the different churches in the Benefice to worship together on Sunday mornings as one body. And in this season of listening and prayer, the clergy, the wardens, the PCCs, in consultation with the Bishop, have been led to introducing significant changes to the patterns of worship across the Benefice.

Many months in prayer in preparation have put us on the starting line of a season in which, to the best of our ability and resources, the plan is to have 10 AM services every week at all three church buildings. Above all, the purpose of this change is, whilst giving great thanks the things of the past, to make the Benefice as fit as we can be for mission and growth into the future: for faithful biblical teaching, with the cross and resurrection of Jesus at its heart; being transformed into the likeness of Christ; loving one another as brothers and sisters in Him; exhibiting the fruit of the Holy Spirit; ministering the gifts of the Spirit; and welcoming and loving each newcomer into the church family. Change can be very difficult for many for church is more than a club or society, more than a charity, more than simply a like-minded group of people – for many, church is (quite rightly) the place of hope, home, help and haven. And for this reason, I want to extend a very particular thank you to those who have struggled most with the announcement and implementation of change: for your humility, patience, good grace, selflessness, kindness and love. *"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another"* (John 13:35). As His disciples indeed, in this you have done great things for the kingdom of God here in Hanborough and Freeland.

To these ends, and with our current configuration of clergy, the call went out to the laity of the parish to think and pray about how they might serve in order to make the new patterns of worship happen. I am delighted and encouraged to say that the list of those who have come forward to lead and/or to preach in the Benefice now numbers 21. Filling our rotas and doing all the practical things to make this happen will not always be easy. As even the most elementary student of the book of Acts will quickly learn, building God's kingdom is messy, dangerous and full of risk. There will be mistakes, gaps and stumbling blocks on the road ahead. But as a colleague of mine, now a bishop in the province of York, once said to me: "you discover the most about a church family and where they are in Christ when things go wrong". 2021 will be a journey of much discovery!

And what of my priorities for the Benefice for 2021? They are many, and I highlight but a few here. We have already seen the appointment of "Area Leads" for areas of Benefice life such as Children & Youth Work and Music. I hope to see the announcement of more Area Leads in the months ahead, each being a person who serves and nurtures a particular part of the life of the church, and acts as a focal point for me as Rector to provide prayer, information, needs and pastoral care, and who will report on that area of church life to the PCCs. We noted above the number serving in terms of leading and preaching, and I will be looking to build up and train our preaching team for the future. House groups are an essential part of a healthy church, fit for mission, and we will be looking to grow these right across the Benefice. Finances are a perennial challenge, and although so far in 2021 there are some encouraging signs of increased giving, there is still much to be done. I hope in the next year to be encouraging tithing (the giving of 10% of one's income) as a biblical, normative part of the self-sacrificial life of the Christian – something we have done as a family for many years, and which has brought us nothing but blessing. Exemplary and effective Safeguarding will remain a top priority. I would also like to grow the number of social events, not only to unify us in Christ, but to be a place of welcome for newcomers. Running Christian basics courses and finding effective ways of

introducing new people to come along to these, will be essential if we are to see the churches grow. This list is far from exhaustive, and we know that all areas of church life, from children and youth to pastoral care, prayer, leadership training and so much more, must be treasured and encouraged for mission to flourish.

To all those who have held offices in the church, who have served, prayed, given and encouraged over this last year, know that I am deeply thankful for and built up by each one of you. I have been here less than six months and you have already taught me a great deal: "*good deeds are obvious, and even those that are not obvious cannot remain hidden forever*" (1 Timothy 5:25), so "*let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven*" (Matthew 5:16). There is much light in Hanborough and Freeland – praise be to God! Thank you for bringing me here.

Finally, I want to thank my wonderful children for loving their eccentric and often frustrating, but very proud dad, and my lovely (not to mention patient!) wife, Mands, who is a refreshing and vital source to me of inspiration, love, and the modelling of a Godly life.

(Rev Steve Stewart)

2. AIM AND PURPOSES

Hanborough's PCC had the responsibility of working with the wardens and clergy team during the interregnum and more recently (since January 2021) with the new Rector, Rev Steve Stewart, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC met four times as the PCC during the year with an attendance total of between 80-100% of those elected to office. Minutes from the committees, and reports of other meetings were received and responded to as necessary.

The PCC had an income of £131,945 in the year and is still eligible for independent examination. Qualifying for Charitable status, the PCC has the responsibility of ensuring that it fulfils its commitments.

3. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our Parish of Hanborough. The PCC has an overview of the worship throughout the parish and, from time to time, may make suggestions on how services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship reflect faith through prayer, scripture, music and sacrament. This is done when planning activities for the year having consideration for the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and in particular the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer: learning about the Gospel; developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus
- Provision of Pastoral Care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work: Occasional Offices – Baptism services, Weddings and Funerals.

In order to facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of Ss Peter and Paul Church in Church Hanborough, and Christ Church in Long Hanborough. A part time secretary helps the Rector for 6 hours a week in term time.

We are grateful for all the services provided by our Clergy (Steve and Mike) and Licensed Minister Team. It is also good to have many other members of our churches taking leading roles.

4. WORSHIP AND PRAYER

5.1 Sunday services

With only a few exceptions, since March 2020, services took place live on Zoom. The option to go for live rather than pre-recorded services has proved to be a good one, and provided the following advantages: despite being on screen, the service has had a "live" feel to it; preaching on the same Bible text gave the opportunity for the whole Benefice to hear the same sermon each week; while "breakout room" coffee groups after each Sunday 10 AM Zoom service meant that fellowship in relationships across the Benefice have been built up – something

treasured by many members of the Hanborough and Freeland church family; worshipping all together has helped us focus on the things in Christ which matter most – the gospel of Christ crucified and risen, our adoption in Him, our unity in Him, and his call for us to love one another. In recent months, it has been a joy to see and hear our own musicians producing pre-recorded parts of the songs, then edited together so we could all join in on Sunday morning Zoom services. It has been good also to see that for those who do not have access to the technology, both services and sermons are printed and delivered each Sunday.

Special thanks go to all those who have used their technical skills to host the Zoom services, and to those who have printed and delivered hardcopies around the Benefice. A great example of the body of Christ working together with all the different Spirit-given gifts and skills.

5.2 Area - Youth and children

The youth have continued to meet throughout the pandemic either on Zoom or in person as the rules have allowed. Throughout all the uncertainties that the past year has thrown up, we have explored God's unchanging character, through the OT covenant promises. We have also spent time understanding prayer more deeply and have completed a Christianity Explored course, which ended with a few weeks of meeting in person in the sunshine! We've played games via Zoom, made cakes in person and look forward to a summer social barbecue at the Rectory.

The church has faithfully provided a children's craft activity each week as part of the Benefice online service. Children have also been supported by Zoe Dobson who has sent out activities throughout the year for the children to do with their parents, including a memorable series looking at Christians who acted in their lives by faith, from Florence Nightingale to Eric Liddell. As Zoe steps back from running the Children's and Youth work for the past 20 years, we are so grateful to Zoe for her servant heartedness. We look at the fruit of the work and see so many young people who have grown up in the church here who are now working for Christ both here and abroad.

Following a time of such uncertainty in the World around, we look forward to a time when the children can meet again together, to learn and laugh together. We are delighted that we can use the Old Doctor's Surgery in Long Hanborough for children's activities in the coming months. We continue to pray for them that they know God's grace and mercy and His love for each of us. *(Alice Harden, Area Lead, Youth and Children)*

5.3 Area - Music

Music happened in the parish as normal until lockdown restrictions began in March. For Zoom services, recorded music was "broadcast" from Zoom host screen sharing. When lockdown restrictions were reduced and some in-person services were held, recorded music again was used as congregational singing was not allowed. At Peter & Paul, Margaret Wilkins also attended to play the organ. The occasional choir, Exultate Justi, produced a virtual recording of the canticles for the Evensong Short Service by Orlando Gibbons and recorded music for the benefice carol service. Musicians in the benefice are looking forward to playing together to worship God when we are able to in 2021. *(Steve Young, Area Lead)*

5.4 Prayer in the churches

When our church buildings were not affected by the pandemic restrictions, our church buildings were open every day, and were always available for personal prayer. Visitors would often comment on their delight at finding the church open and welcoming. Leaflets are available for guidance for prayer, reading the Bible and Christianity. Details of contact names are displayed on the external and internal notice boards. During the pandemic our churches were initially completely closed, however when the pandemic restrictions were lifted slightly, we were able to open St Peter and St Paul in Church Hanborough and St Mary's at Freeland for private prayer.

5.5 Monthly prayer

Prior the pandemic these monthly times of prayer took place on the first Sunday of each month lasting around one hour. They would start with praise and confession, followed by extempore prayer, and conclude with the Evening Collect, attended by 8 – 16 people. We have sought to make this important time of prayer central to the Benefice's ethos, praying for local community needs, parish needs (often suggested by the Rector) as well national and international issues as appropriate. During the pandemic, this monthly time of prayer, moved online, which actually resulted in more people attending from a broader cross section of the Benefice. However, we did need to adapt our approach slightly, using PowerPoint Slides to help us all concentrate on the different areas we wanted to pray through. More recently we have been considering whether it is time to return to 'in-person' prayer meetings, even if it means meeting in a garden. *(Nigel Knights Johnston)*

5.6 Supporting Ecumenical Relationships

Anglican and Methodist ministers continued to work closely together meeting regularly with Father Martin from the Catholic Church. The Methodist/Anglican Church Councils met once in 2019. The service to sign the Renewal of the Covenant between the Methodist and Anglican Church in Hanborough was held in the Methodist Church, Long Hanborough at 6pm on Sunday 25th October (at Hanborough Methodist Church), in person in social distanced fashion.

Annually the service for Remembrance Sunday is shared, alternating between the Methodist and Anglican Church when the church welcomes the local uniformed organizations before processing to the War Memorial for the two minutes silence. Remembrance Sunday this year was marked in 2020 by a zoom service on the 8th of November, with a low-key act of remembrance at the War Memorial.

The Women's World Day of Prayer is a service planned jointly and attended by members of all churches. Roads in the villages are prayed for each week on a monthly rota basis and Freeland village as a whole is included in one month. We continue to work with the Methodist church to co-ordinate Christian Aid week collections. The Street Warden Scheme, sharing with the Methodist Church, continues to be helpful providing a Welcome Pack (containing current news of the churches as well as the Hanborough Herald for the month) to anyone who moves into the village, including the new housing estates.

6 PASTORAL CARE IN THE PARISH

6.1 Home groups

We currently host a number of small groups as a parish, of various types and sizes in people's homes in the villages, which are briefly described below:

The Harden Home group has continued to meet and grow during the pandemic, either on Zoom, in person and in hybrid versions as the changing rules have allowed. Throughout this time, we have learnt to patiently serve one another to seek to understand God's plans for our lives and to know Him more deeply through studying His Word. We have finished studies in John's gospel, the book of Jonah and begun a new series in Acts. We have also enjoyed fellowship and the power of seeing prayers answered in what has been both a period of time during the pandemic of both dark and light.

Rob and Alison Feast co-ordinate a home group, of six people, which have been using the Big Church Read to look at Jeff Lucas' book, "Singing in Babylon: Finding Purpose in Life's Second Choices" and are currently reading and discussing "Why Worship?" by Nick Drake, Tim Hughes and Lisa Hoeksma. During the pandemic restrictions, the group has met via Zoom.

Paul and Sarah Lindon's home group meets on Wednesday evenings, and has continued to meet in accordance with the relevant pandemic restrictions either online or in varying groups of six in gardens during the pandemic, with the aid of garden fire-pits for which they are most thankful. Home group evenings typically involve a mixture of Bible study and fellowship.

Sarah Lindon also hosts a ladies' lunchtime group currently consisting of three to five ladies who meet for Bible study, prayer and discussion, at 1pm on Mondays. While numbers have been lower due to homeschooling and work commitments the group have continued to support one another in prayer via email. While Zoom has worked, everyone appreciated meeting in person again earlier this year under a gazebo in Amanda Ford's beautiful garden.

Prior to the pandemic the Exegesis Group had continued to meet roughly every six weeks to undertake careful, analytical study of biblical passages undertaken in order to produce useful interpretations of those passages. While the group did stop meeting during the pandemic various discussions have continued via email.

If anyone would like to attend one of our home groups, please contact Rev Steve Stewart.

6.2 Pastoral care in the parish

A great challenge of lockdown has been offering one another pastoral care. Perhaps more than any other area of church life, lockdown militates against the very substance of pastoral care: simply being *present* with those in greatest need. Nonetheless, once again the technology – from telephone to computer – or even rediscovering the power of the simple letter, has mitigated at least some of the detrimental effect on pastoral care of isolation, inability to access everything from nursing homes and hospitals through to even funerals and private homes. It has been encouraging to see how well the pre-existing connections and relationships in the Benefice have meant that the clergy have been kept very aware of key pastoral needs, including poor health and bereavement.

It is hoped over the next 12 months to appoint an Area Lead for Pastoral Care in the Benefice, a key part of whose role will be to both keep track of pastoral needs, and endeavour to see that those church family members called specifically to pastoral ministry are organised to provide appropriate pastoral care – and to identify those who may fall outside of the usual church family networks such as House groups, etc.

6.3 Weddings, baptisms and funerals

The coronavirus pandemic has had a huge impact on a number of occasional offices conducted in the benefice. In Hanborough parish, there have been only 2 weddings, 2 baptisms and 7 funerals taken in 2020 and no weddings, no baptisms and 3 funerals until the end of June 2021.

With limited clergy, following the departure of Rev Sue Spankie and our curate Rev Emma Hopegood-Jones, it is good stewardship of the PCC as charitable trustees to recognise that occasional offices – important as they are both in themselves and as an opportunity for serving and mission – can take up a very significant amount of clergy resources. We are therefore grateful and thankful to our Benefice administrator, clergy and others who help share the workload.

7 MISSION

7.1 School's work

Prior to the pandemic the clergy team made frequent visits to The Manor School and a team of Methodists, Roman Catholics and Anglicans helped with assemblies on Thursdays. However, with the pandemic restrictions in place the clergy team provided a series of assemblies recorded on video for use by the school.

7.2 Prayer for the villages

The parish has continued to pray for the villages. For example, each month a Bible reading is provided for inclusion in the Hanborough Herald and parts of the village are printed for focus for prayer in the community and are included in Intercessions on Sunday. (The Hanborough Herald is delivered to every house in the Hanborough's). Specific church news is published in the quarterly Parish News which goes to any household requesting it. Currently 250 copies are produced and delivered. During 'normal times' at Christmas, a special card is published which gives details of all the Christmas services in both the Anglican and Methodist churches and this goes to every household in the Hanborough's. Books for Prayer Requests are available in both churches. The prayer requests are included in the Intercessions during the service on Sunday. The website (www.hanboroughparish.org.uk) has been developed and gives news of events as well as service details.

7.3 Supporting mission in the U.K. and overseas

Each year the PCC give away 10% of their previous year's unrestricted income to specific Missions and Charities. The recipients are listed in the accounts in note 3. Members of the congregations support the work of BESOM, a locally based Christian charity working with those in need. News of some of the Missions and Charities supported by Hanborough is available at the back of both Christ Church and Ss Peter and Paul.

7.4 Hanborough Manor C of E Primary School

We are grateful for the commitment of the Governors and the role they and others play in upholding the Christian values within the school. Weekly acts of worship and celebratory services have continued, in different formats, throughout the various levels of lockdown at Hanborough Manor school. It has been a challenge and a blessing to be able to walk with them in this way as we adapted the various media, we could use to engage with the school.

7.5 Alpha courses

An Alpha course is held at the beginning of each year and is an important part of our outreach. The Alpha course has proved to be an incredibly successful way of leading people to Christ, as well as building long-term relationships in the context of a small group. In 2020 we ran a successful Alpha course that started with face-to-face meetings and ended up being run online due to the pandemic restrictions.

8 CHURCH OPERATIONS

8.1 Structure, Governance and Management: Administrative Information

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parish and Parochial Church Meeting (APPCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. During the year the following served as ex-officio members of the PCC:

Description of role	Name
Incumbent (Rector and Area Dean)	Revd Canon David Tyler (Until February 2020)
Incumbent (Rector):	Rev Steve Stewart (From January 2021)
Associate Vicar:	Rev Sue Spankie (Until January 2021)
Curate:	Rev Hopegood Jones (Until December 2020)
Curate:	Rev Mike Madden
Licensed Lay Ministers:	Mr Clive Berry
And as elected members:	
Churchwardens	Dr Matthew Andrews
	Mr Clive Berry
Representatives on Deanery Synod:	Mrs Liz Whittle (Lay Deanery Chair),
	Mr Steven Young
Elected Members:	Naomi Allen
	Mrs Denise Parrott
	Deborah Balding Brittain (Resigned 24/5/21)
	Richard Wilkins
	Mr Tom Harden
Appointments by the PCC: Vice chair:	
Vice chair	Mr Clive Berry
Treasurer:	Mrs Wendy Bayliss (co-opted)
Secretary:	Rev Mike Madden from November 2020
Lay Pastoral Assistant:	

8.2 Committees

The PCC operates through a number of committees

Standing Committee – The functions of the Standing Committee have been carried out by the clergy and wardens who have met every 2-3 weeks. (Church Representation Rules M.31).

Fabric and Finance (F&F) Committee – The parish no longer operates with a Fabric and Finance Committee. Instead, the task of ensuring that the best possible material and financial resources are available for the work of the parish falls to the Churchwardens supported by the PCC and other parishioners. The PCC directly assists the Treasurer in financial planning and control, discussing and agreeing our own parochial giving, ensuring the effective maintenance and management of all parish buildings and land (including churchyards, though these are managed and maintained by the Council), and supporting the churchwardens as necessary in their duties with regard to parish property.

Whilst the PCC seeks ways of reaching out to the community it also ensures that the maintenance of the church buildings is secured to enable the buildings to be used with safety, comfort and convenience. Ramped access is available at all our places of worship and pathways are maintained to assist access for wheelchair users, though this relies on support from the Council. A basic First Aid kit and a book for recording any injuries are available in both churches. The PCC continues to work with the Parish Council to ensure the safety of gravestones in the churchyards, resting any considered unsafe. During the year routine checks were carried out on fire extinguishers, bells and lightning conductors. The central heating boiler in Ss Peter and Paul was replaced in 2019.

Quinquennial inspections were carried out on Christ Church and Ss Peter and Paul during 2017. These inspections identified various items in need of repair during the subsequent five years. Deanery Synod was attended by the three elected members of Hanborough as well as the Rev David Tyler and other members of the clergy team. Reports, including from General and Diocesan Synods, are discussed where appropriate. News is exchanged between Parishes in the Deanery and the Deanery business is discussed.

Following a risk management report undertaken in February 2019 by the church's insurers, Ecclesiastical, we were required to carry out extensive work to repair the north parapet at Peter and Paul. This was due to concerns that flaking and crumbling stone could pose a significant hazard to individuals and fabric. After some delay due to winter and the COVID-19 pandemic, work started in late July and finished in early October 2020. Some other essential works were carried out at the same time to parts of the east end.

8.3 PCC Meetings

The full PCC met 4 times during the year with an average attendance level of 80-100%. Due to government restrictions these were, held via a Zoom. The pandemic obviously dominated discussions during the year as we tried to balance maintaining as much of our usual activities as possible with keeping everyone safe.

8.4 Parish statistics

Parish of Hanborough: Electoral Roll Report 2021

Electoral Roll - 81 Parishioners at the time of the 2020 APCM.

The current revision of the Electoral Roll shows that there have been no additions and 5 people have been removed so that the total on the ***Roll as at 21st June 2021 is 76.***

(Sinead Andrews, Electoral Roll Officer)

8.5 Finances – Treasurer’s Report based on 2020 Accounts paperwork

In the year to 31st December 2020 total income was £120,290 8.8% down and the total expenditure £132,811 which resulted in a deficit of funds of £12,521. The deficit is split with £7,785 less held in unrestricted funds and £4,736 less in restricted funds. There was not unexpectedly a decrease in funds received, but expenditure was similar to 2019.

Unrestricted income was £82,303 against £96,099 in 2019, reflecting the effect of Covid 19 because there were very few church collections after March, no wall safe monies, reduced gift aid envelopes & less rents received. We did receive an unexpected legacy of £2000.

Unrestricted expenditure of £90,088 was in fact slightly lower than 2019 which was £90,631 so this helped to offset the downturn in monies received.

Restricted income received was £37,987. All the restricted funds for St P&P building works have been utilised this year to cover the works on the parapet with a further £6,870 taken from unrestricted funds to cover total costs of £25,505 against £17,295 in 2019. Going forward the PCC is considering setting up a designated fund to build up monies to help offset future building costs. The curate’s house was handed back in December 2020 and so the cost in the accounts of £14,690 will not be in 2021. A breakdown of income and expenditure for all the restricted funds held is shown under note 4.

Much of the expenditure is comparable to the previous year with the parish share of £48,735 continuing to be by far the largest, most significant expenditure, with the St Peter & Paul’s building costs second, the third being our donations to missions and charities £7500n from unrestricted and £11,500 to James Berry from restricted funds. A full breakdown of these donations is found under note 3.

Note 4 shows the breakdown of our total funds at the end of 2020 totalling £78,055 which are split as follows - Restricted Funds - £16,572 Unrestricted Funds - £61,483.

Thank you to everyone who gives so generously and following the appeal our monthly giving direct to the bank has increased which is fantastic news going forward. Special thanks to Hazel Bowman, Paul Amos, Clive Berry and Matt Andrews for their assistance in financial matters and Andrew Gower for carrying out the Independent Audit of the Accounts. *(Wendy Bayliss)*

8.6 Others who serve in various ministries

With the exception of our Rector Rev Steve Stewart, the Benefice Administrator and our organist and church cleaner, all the other people who minister and serve the churches, including our curate Rev Mike Madden, work in a voluntary capacity. The PCC is very grateful to all who help to maintain our church buildings in many other voluntary and practical ways

which is a thank you to almost every single member of the church family. The biblically authentic hallmark of “every member ministry” is well lived out in the Benefice of Hanborough and Freeland.

8.7 Churchwarden’s Report 2021

Since the church building was either totally or partially closed for most of 2020, there’s not a great deal to report. We took steps to follow all the regulatory guidance required because of the Coronavirus pandemic and reorganised the church interior to meet the new needs. We produced risk assessments and action plans; removed all bibles, hymn books, prayer books, leaflets, children’s toys, books, and all other loose paperwork; put up signs and a hand sanitiser station; sourced hand sanitiser, rubber gloves, and face masks. This did enable both churches to be open for a period for church services when government restrictions allowed.

8.8 Occasional Festivals

While many of the festivals we normally celebrate as a Parish were constrained by pandemic restrictions, in many cases we were able to continue with equivalents via Zoom or when the regulations allowed, Covid safe formats. For example, this last year saw our normal Christingle service and crib services take place via Zoom, although we did manage to gather around the Christmas tree in Long Hanborough for carols just before Christmas.

8.9 Church Flowers

2020 really has been a strange year with all the restrictions, which means I have very little to report. We are looking forward to getting back into our churches and arranging our flowers again as they always look welcoming. We are very short of people to arrange fresh flowers and therefore we are continuing to use silk flowers. We would welcome help from anyone, so do not be shy in coming forward. (*Denise Parrott*)

8.10 Sacristan Report for the year ending December 31st2020

During the year the Corona Virus Covid-19 was prevalent in the UK so regular church services in both SS Peter and Paul and Christ Church (Long Hanborough), were mostly suspended from March until August and then again in November. When they took place the altar frontals were changed to the appropriate liturgical colour. In SS Peter and Paul, the communion vessels were laid up in the vestry ready for transfer to the altar before the start of the service. All vessels were sterilized before and after use. Linen was washed and ironed before being replaced in the vestry observing strict Covid rules. Holy Communion wafers were obtained from the Community of St Clare in Freeland. Sufficient Holy Communion Wine was already purchased. The Holy Communion vessels and linen and altar frontals are all in good repair, but it would be lovely to have a new purple altar frontal and lectern drop for use in Christ Church, Long Hanborough. (*Gillian Hunt*)

8.11 Annual Safeguarding Report for the Benefice of Hanborough

In February 2019, Rev Canon David Tyler (Rector) left the benefice of Hanborough and Freeland. In the interregnum, Rev Susan Spankie, Associate Vicar, was appointed as the recruiter for all our DBS checks. In April, Stuart Nimmo, Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, left and he was replaced in July by Richard Woodley. Mrs Louise Parker continues as Verifier and I, Gillian Hunt, am the Parish Safeguarding Officer. During 2020, a pandemic, Corona virus Covid-19, was problematic. Between March and 1st August no face-to-face meetings could take place

and Sunday worship in church was suspended and again in November. Some services were held again during December. When services (including occasional offices) took place it was with extra vigilance and numbers attending any service in church were restricted to 30. All moveable chairs and any possible loose fittings including cushions, kneelers, hymn and service books were moved and covered inside the buildings. Professional cleaning took place between services. Hand wash was available at the entrances to the buildings and paper towels were supplied at the sinks.

In Hanborough during the year five people had their DBS certificates renewed and two people were DBS checked for the first time when face to face meeting was permitted.

With Zoom being used to facilitate meeting for church worship, a policies for its use both for Sunday services and for meeting with young people were developed.

In March, Articles of Enquiry required PCCs to adopt a Parish Safeguarding Action Plan. The PCC looked at any gaps on it and adopted a Diocesan Policy for Recruiting ex-offenders and formulated a Zoom policy. It highlighted the need for Safeguarding Training for all PCC members and churchwardens.

Any person holding a DBS certificate and who needed to update their training was able to complete it through online training. Training at Level C0 was undertaken by any member of the PCC who needed it and at C2 for Churchwardens.

In October the Archbishop of Canterbury published the "Independent Inquiry Child Sexual Abuse, The Anglican Church, Investigation Report". This pertained to the investigation into, and findings of, child abuse by the then Right Reverend Peter Ball. A second report "The Independent Safeguarding Review: lessons learnt from events in the Parishes of Stowe and Maids Moreton, 2012-2019" covered the issues connected with the abuse and death of Peter Farquhar. The Oxford Diocese published an Independent report and tribunal findings of the case concerning Rev Tim Davis who in December 2017 was found guilty of exercising abuse of spiritual power and authority over a person then aged 15-16. The PCC will fully discuss these report's recommendations in 2021 with the new Rector. I attended an Arch deanery "Zoom" meeting in November. *(Gillian Hunt, Safeguarding Officer)*

9 DEANERY SYNOD ANNUAL REPORT 2020

It is perhaps a vast understatement to say that 2020 has been an unusual year. Nonetheless the work of the deanery has continued, and God's work has been upheld in this corner of Oxfordshire. At the beginning of the year, we welcomed our new Area Dean, Jeremy Auld, who is chair of the synod and rector of Woodstock and Bladon. We have only had two deanery synod meetings this year. (The summer meeting was cancelled because of lockdown). Our March meeting was at St Leonard's in Eynsham and the November one took place via zoom. In our March meeting, the first deanery synod of Jeremy's time with us, the opening act of worship was based on Taizé and Iona prayers and was compelling and engaging. Amanda Gafford spoke about "Meeting dementia with a positive attitude". She spoke about her work with people living with dementia and left us with some useful insights and information. We did

not have a speaker at the November meeting and much of the meeting was taken up with discussion about the parish share. The parish share allocation between benefices was discussed at length with particular reference to the Community Profile Score element and changes were agreed in the method of allocation that will be used at deanery level from 2022 onwards.

As a consequence of lockdown, the diocese gave extensions so that the APCMs could be delayed. Consequently, the new parish reps were elected at different times, but most were in place by the November synod.

In 2020 two of our benefices were coping with vacancies, Stonesfield & Combe and Hanborough & Freeland. New priests are taking up their appointments in 2021. Our area bishop, Colin Fletcher, retired in the Autumn after 20 years as Bishop of Dorchester. Our Deanery hosted two services to mark his retirement, an in-person service in St Mary Magdalene's Church in Woodstock for the Deanery Chapter and a Deanery Synod service of Evening Prayer on Zoom in which the neighbouring deaneries of Chipping Norton and Witney also participated. Our lay chair, Liz Whittle, who has worked so hard for the deanery synod, has also stood down this year after two terms. We owe her a great vote of thanks and are very appreciative of all that she has done for us over the years. Stephanie Lacey from the Barton Benefice will take over as lay chair in 2021. *(Steve Young)*

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER :

1183002

RECTOR

REV. DAVID TYLER (To Feb 2020)

TREASURER:

WENDY BAYLISS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:

ANDREW GOWER

BANKERS:

BARCLAYS BANK PLC
OXFORD CITY CENTRE

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

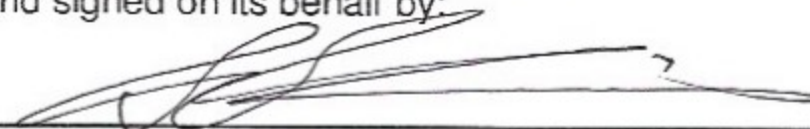
INCOMING RESOURCES	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 £	2019 £
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Voluntary income	2a	77,287	37,981	115,268	123,325
Activities for generating funds	2b	4,913	-	4,913	8,401
Investing activities		103	6	109	219
Total incoming resources		82,303	37,987	120,290	131,945
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Parish Share		48,735		48,735	48,223
Utilities	Peter & Paul Christ Church	3,556 1,879		3,556 1,879	2,348 2,084
Buildings costs	Peter & Paul P&P Spire Work Christ Church Manor School	6,870 509 232	18,635	25,505 - 509 232	17,295 389 1,650 63
Insurance	Peter & Paul Christ Church	3,330 1,036		3,330 1,036	3,191 949
Missions and charities	3	7,500	11,250	18,750	8,394
Gifts & Donations		30	2,372	2,402	7,891
Rector's expenses		479		479	1,117
Curates' rent and insurance		4,274	10,416	14,690	16,200
Other ministers' expenses		3,535		3,535	4,865
Stationery, Printing & Postage		243		243	928
Equipment		-		-	3,286
Young People's Ministry		418		418	799
Salaries	Organist Admin Wages	1,300 1,493 1,300		1,300 1,493 1,300	1,300 1,207 758
Copyright licence fee		643		643	464
Sundry expenses:	Fees Miscellaneous LLMs' fees Religious education prize Manor School rent PCC events see also 2b Holiday Bible Club 2c	1,521 1,060 - 60 - 85 -		1,521 1,060 - 60 - 135 -	- 1,147 30 60 1,400 5,001 521
Total resources used		90,088	42,723	132,811	131,560
Net incoming (outgoing) resources		- 7,785 -	4,736 -	12,521	385
Funds at 1 January		69,268	21,308	90,576	90,191
Funds at 31 December		61,483	16,572	78,055	90,576

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

BALANCE SHEET

	Unrestricted £	Restricted / Designated £	2020 £	2019 £
Current assets				
Central Board of Finance	17,528	1,250	18,778	18,698
Debtors	11,203	4,303	15,506	15,411
Bank balances	33,159	11,019	44,178	59,606
Petty Cash	681		681	
	<u>62,571</u>	<u>16,572</u>	<u>79,143</u>	<u>93,715</u>
Current liabilities				
Creditors	- 1,088	-	1,088	- 3,139
	<u>61,483</u>	<u>16,572</u>	<u>78,055</u>	<u>90,576</u>

These accounts were approved by the P.C.C. on 8/3/2021
for presentation to the A.P.C.M., and signed on its behalf by:



HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the SORP 2015 on "Accounting and reporting by Charities" and the following are the accounting policies which have been applied in dealing with material items:-

(a) Donations and Charitable Grant income

Donated income without conditions attached, including that gifted under gift aid, is taken into account when received by the PCC. Income received in circumstances where a claim for repayment of tax has been or will be made to the HM Revenue & Customs is grossed up for the tax recoverable. Any amount of tax not yet reclaimed from HM Revenue & Customs is shown within the PCC's debtors.

(b) Restricted and unrestricted funds

Restricted funds are those received for use on specified purposes. Expenditure which meets those criteria is allocated to that fund. Unrestricted funds are those received or generated that can be used for the general purposes of the PCC.

(c) Income and other expenditure

Interest income is taken into account when receivable and expenditure when incurred by the PCC, regardless of when payment is made.

2. INCOMING RESOURCES

(a) Voluntary income

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 £	2019 £
Direct to bank	61,485	21,240	82,725	89,498
Envelopes	1,083		1,083	2,143
Collections and wall safes	827		827	3,868
Donations/Grants received		9,161	9,161	10,783
Legacy	2,000		2,000	
VAT Refunds		5,038	5,038	1,873
Tax recoveries	11,892	2,542	14,434	15,160
	<u>77,287</u>	<u>37,981</u>	<u>115,268</u>	<u>123,325</u>

(b) Activities for generating funds

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 £	2019 £
Church lettings & land	1,345		1,345	3,885
Fees	3,568		3,568	3,251
Gershwin Concert			-	1,265
	<u>4,913</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,913</u>	<u>8,401</u>

(c) Holiday Bible Club breakdown

	2020	2019
Donations (in 2a above)	-	730
Amounts collected (in 2b above)		
Tax recovery (in 2a above)		
Interest (incl in investing activities figure)		
Expenses		- 521
Net surplus (loss) for 2020	<u>-</u>	<u>209</u>

(d) Employee Emoluments

	2020 £	2019 £
Salaries	1,300	-
Wages	1,493	758
Employers National Insurance	-	-
Pension costs	-	-
	<u>2,793</u>	<u>758</u>

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Average No of employees:

2

1

3. MISSIONS AND CHARITIES

		2020 £	2019 £
WORLDWIDE			
	Church Mission Society	1,000	959
	Innovista	1,000	959
	J Abu Bakker Christian School India	1,000	960
	Open Doors	1,000	1,686
	James Berry	11,250	850
	BMS		100
	Mothers Union - Gambia	500	
NATIONAL			
	Salvation Army	1,000	960
LOCAL			
	The Besom	1,000	960
	The Porch	1,000	960
TOTAL		<u><u>18,750</u></u>	<u><u>8,394</u></u>

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

4. DESIGNATED FUNDS, UNRESTRICTED FUNDS AND RESTRICTED FUNDS

Note	1 January 2020 £	Income £	Transfers £	Expenditure £	31 December 2020 £
Restricted Funds:					
Churchyard	869	19			888
Ducker Bequest	252	2			254
Holiday Club	1,825				1,825
James Berry	25	13,175		11,250	1,950
Ministry Fund	1,045	10,067		10,416	696
Nativity Set Fund	9				9
Nepal Fund	-	5,480		759	4,721
Organ Fund	140				140
Rector's Discretionary Fund	6,171			82	6,089
St Peter & Pauls Building Fund	10,972	7,663		18,635	-
Rectors Leaving Refreshments	-	50		50	-
Gifts & Donations	-	1,531		1,531	-
Total Restricted Funds	21,308	37,987	-	42,723	16,572
Other unrestricted fund	69,268	82,303		90,088	61,483
Total Unrestricted Funds	69,268	82,303	-	90,088	61,483
Total Combined	90,576	120,290	-	132,811	78,055

The Churchyard Fund comprises capital of £500 and accumulated income after previous expenditures of £388 held in Trust by the Rector and Churchwardens. The accumulated income is to be used to keep the graveyard of Christ Church in good order and repair the graves and gravestones of F G and A Thompson, E H, A E and AL Jakeman and to keep the lettering thereon legible and to have the lettering recut from time to time.

The Ducker Bequest Fund is to be used for the Sanctuary at the Parish Church.

The Holiday Club Fund is to be used for children's ministry within the parish

The James Berry Fund is a restricted fund of donations given to support James.

The Nativity Fund is restricted money given toward purchase of a new Nativity Set

The Nepal fund is giving towards cost of an operation for a young girl in Nepal.

The Ministry Fund is a restricted fund towards ministry and/or curate costs. Deductions are receipts plus 1/3 of brought forward figure being lower or equal to actual costs.

The Organ Fund is to be used towards the upkeep of the organ.

The Rector's Discretionary Fund is able to be used at the Rector's discretion to assist him in his work.

The St Peter & St Paul building fund is monies received toward building costs at this church

Rectors Leaving Refreshments was a restricted donation received and used in 2020 towards to costs of the Rector's leaving party.

Gifts & Donations were restricted funds received towards gifts and donations paid out in 2020.

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Independent Examiner's Report to Hanborough PCC

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on the previous pages.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of accounts; you 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
- * follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act ; and
- * state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence which would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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
i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the 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.

A. S. Gower A Gower
18th February 2021 Dated

HANBOROUGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on the previous pages.

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18th February 2021 Dated