

Annual PCC report 2022

The church of St Mary the Virgin, Alveley, is a Grade II* listed building within the village conservation area. The church dates back to 1140 and is of considerable architectural beauty and historical interest. The United Benefice consists of the churches of St Mary the Virgin, Alveley, and St Andrew, Quatt. It is in the Bridgnorth Deanery within the Diocese of Hereford and situated in the county of Shropshire.

The address for correspondence is:

David & Jackie Hampson, [REDACTED]

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Members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) are either ex-officio (Clergy, Readers, Church Wardens, Deanery Synod Representatives, Alveley Old Chapel Manager) – the latter because Alveley Old Chapel is under the ownership and jurisdiction of the church. Others are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with Church Representative Rules.

During 2022 the following have served as PCC members:

<u>Incumbent:</u>	Vacant
<u>Retired Clergy:</u>	Rev Dr Wendy Rylance
<u>Reader:</u>	Mrs Sue Chidwick
<u>Church Wardens:</u>	Mr Peter Fry Mrs Jenny Sirrell
<u>Deanery Synod Reps:</u>	Mrs Kirsty Ritzenthaler (Safeguarding Officer) Vacancy Vacancy
<u>Alveley Old Chapel Manager</u>	JL/MM (caretaker manager)
<u>Elected Members:</u>	Mr Dale Chidwick (Deputy Churchwarden / Electoral Roll Officer) Mrs Julie Fry Mr David Hampson (Joint PCC Secretary) Mrs Jackie Hampson (Joint PCC Secretary) Mrs Anne Simms (PCC Treasurer/Gift Aid Officer) Mrs Penny Jenkins Mr Colin Taylor Prof Paul Rylance Mrs Carol Wall (Deputy Churchwarden)

Aims and Purposes of the PCC: St Mary's PCC has the responsibility for co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It is now a Registered Charity.

Considerable work has been put in throughout 2022 by the PCC and others to ensure the successful appointment of our new vicar, Rev Jon Aldwinkle.

During 2022 our Retired Clergy, Rev Dr Wendy Rylance, has taken services at both Alveley and Quatt and for this we are extremely grateful to her. We are also grateful to Reader Sue

Chidwick and others who have stepped forward to lead and take part in Sunday services so that worship can take place in church each Sunday.

Following the Covid19 restrictions we have been able to reinstate the popular Wednesday Holy Communion, 20/20/20 and Family Services along with refreshment provision.

Objectives and Activities: The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship and become part of the parish community of Alveley. To facilitate this work it is important to maintain the fabric of the church. The Quinquennial Report highlighted various issues to be addressed and these continue to be attended to by the Churchwardens. This year has continued to be challenging and demanding on all levels.

Safeguarding: To ensure that all are cared for safely, we have a Safeguarding Officer, Mrs Kirsty Ritzenthaler, and any concerns over personal welfare and safety should be addressed to her.

Pastoral Care and Visiting: this has been restricted by the absence of a vicar, though members of the PCC have visited some homes in the village.

Prayer Ministry: praying with and for people at any time. People in need are considered at each PCC.

Worship and Music: Our music group plays frequently at services. Full congregational hymn singing, choir and the playing of the organ has resumed.

Children and Youth: Sunshine corner, our parent, carer, baby and toddler group continues on Monday mornings and it is hoped to reintroduce Messy Church and Youth Club provision. The Open the Book sessions at Alveley Primary School have also resumed.

Small groups: held in homes, draw adults to explore the Christian faith and lead them to learn more from Bible study and discussion.

Men's outreach: "Breakfast in the Old Chapel" a meal and an outside speaker to present men with the message of Christ outside the church has unfortunately not yet resumed after Covid19.

Alveley Old Chapel: a church-owned and governed establishment in the redundant Methodist Chapel which continues to grow in strength and popularity with the whole village. Coffee, tea, cakes and light lunches are available on three days a week and there is a lovely garden to sit in on sunny days.

Unfortunately, JL, the AOC manager has been unable to continue due to other commitments and thankfully MM has stepped in as caretaker manager.

AOC supports itself financially and a system of joint accounting with church has been established so that the Treasurer can easily oversee finances. A joint Management Committee has been established, consisting of Jenny Sirrell, Kirsty Ritzenthaler, SP and AL. We are very grateful to the team of volunteers who work so hard for its success. Other village organisations (Chapel Crafters, Music Club, Alveley Singers) and the Be Cafe have used this as a venue as well and other social events have been held here. The PCC has held its meetings here and the Parish Administrator has used the office facilities. AOC is also available for private hire.

This has become a wonderful use of a redundant building and we continue to be grateful for the generous legacy which enabled the Chapel to be purchased by the church, thus providing the whole community with hospitality and fellowship and a continuity of life for a much-loved building. Plaques recording the legacy and giving the mission statement are on display

New Life Nepal: We continue to support this charitable trust along with supporters in Thame, Tupsley, and another parish in Hereford diocese. We receive regular news and updates at PCC meetings. We are endeavouring to strengthen the link with NLN and regular meetings are held with representatives of the supporting parishes. Penny Jenkins has continued to maintain our contact with the trust and we thank her for this, although the main management is based in Thame,

Church Attendance: The Electoral Roll is currently 83, entitling us to 3 Deanery Synod representatives. Church services averaged around 36. We continue to work with and share events at St Andrew's, Quatt.

Fundraising and Social Events: We are very grateful to those in the congregation who have arranged to make their offering by Direct Debit thereby ensuring a regular income from these sources which has helped enormously in ensuring regular income.

Unfortunately, no additional fundraising has been arranged this year.

Many members of the congregation and PCC have continued to help with ongoing practical tasks of maintenance and caring and we would again like to take this opportunity to thank **everyone** who plays a part in our church life. Without everyone's efforts in countless ways, our church would not be the spiritual, caring and loving community it is, seeking to make God's kingdom here in Alveley. Thank you so much to you all for all that you do, especially during these difficult times.

David & Jackie Hampson May 2023

St Mary's Financial Review for Year Ended 31/12/22

Financial Review

Total receipts on unrestricted funds amounted to £66,478 of which £41,962 related to unrestricted voluntary donations. Restricted donations were also received and are detailed in the Financial Statements. The freehold property, Alveley Old Chapel, continues to be used primarily as a tea room.

The planned giving through banker's orders unfortunately decreased during 2022 by 27%, primarily due to certain contributors leaving the area, together with the sad passing of others.

Total income, excluding legacy, increased by 1% compared to last year, due primarily to Alveley Old Chapel finally reopening for the whole year, along with a slight increase in church fees from weddings and funerals.

Unfortunately, the church was without an incumbent for the entire year and the wardens were therefore unable to commit to any additional services / events, so no additional fund-raising events were organised.

We were very grateful for £51,770 of bequests received, including £48,395 received from Jean Link's estate. This is a restricted legacy. £57,423 was spent from unrestricted funds to provide the Christian ministry from St Mary's Church, including the £40,000 contribution to the diocesan parish share, unchanged from 2021, that largely provides the stipends and housing for the clergy.

Even though we had reduced clergy expenses in 2022, overall unrestricted costs still represented an increase of 6% compared to 2021 due to increased church running costs caused by increased fuel costs and repairs, such as remedial tree-work. In addition Chapel running costs.

The net result for the year was an excess of payments over receipts of £5,629 on unrestricted funds, compared to an excess of receipts over payments of £2,658 in 2021. The balances carried forward at 31st December 2022 on unrestricted funds totalled £140,903, of which £13,232 relates to the Chapel bank.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds which equates to at least three months of 'usual' unrestricted payments. Currently there is nobody salaried in the church accounts, and the Chapel bank balance is still sufficient to cover the manager's salary. We also maintain a higher reserves figure to cover anything urgent that may come up on the church's quinquennial review, which looks at the condition of the buildings, as suggested by the Church of England guidance on reserves.

Anne Simms

Treasurer

May-23

St Mary The Virgin
Alveley Parochial Church Council
Receipts and Payments Account
For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted			Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2022	2021
	Funds			Funds	Funds	Funds	Total Funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts								
Voluntary receipts								
Planned giving				29,585	-	-	29,585	40,368
Collections				7,455	-	-	7,455	5,547
All other giving / voluntary receipts				3,813	440	48,395	52,648	2,052
Gift Aid recovered					-	-	-	-
Activities for generating funds				669	-	-	669	361
				<u>41,522</u>	<u>440</u>	<u>48,395</u>	<u>90,357</u>	<u>48,328</u>
Investment income				777	2	16	795	575
Church activities				12,855	-	-	12,855	10,884
Other income				-	-	-	-	-
Sales				-	10,882	-	10,882	3,127
Total receipts				<u>55,154</u>	<u>11,324</u>	<u>48,411</u>	<u>114,889</u>	<u>62,914</u>
Payments								
Church activities								
Parish share				40,000	-	-	40,000	40,000
Clergy running expenses				25	-	-	25	1,925
Church running expenses				17,278	-	-	17,278	12,155
Chapel running expenses				-	14,684	-	14,684	6,015
Mission giving and donations				-	-	1,853	1,853	-
				<u>57,303</u>	<u>14,684</u>	<u>1,853</u>	<u>73,840</u>	<u>60,095</u>
Cost of generating funds				120	-	-	120	110
Total payments				<u>57,423</u>	<u>14,684</u>	<u>1,853</u>	<u>73,960</u>	<u>60,205</u>
Excess of receipts over payments				(2,269)	(3,360)	46,558	40,929	2,709
Funds brought forward at 1 January 2022				129,084	17,448	3,072	149,604	146,895
Transfers between funds in the year	6			(2,160)	2,160	-	-	-
Funds carried forward at 31 December 2022				<u>124,655</u>	<u>16,248</u>	<u>49,630</u>	<u>190,533</u>	<u>149,604</u>

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St Mary The Virgin
Alveley Parochial Church Council
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

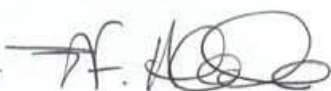
		Unrestricted Designated funds	Unrestricted General fund	Restricted	Total 2022	2021
		£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets						
Buildings	3	-	69,622	-	69,622	69,622
Current Assets						
Debtors		-	-	-	-	-
Bank and cash		16,248	48,336	48,805	113,389	71,438
CBF accounts		-	9,974	825	10,799	10,711
		16,248	58,310	49,630	124,188	82,149
Current Liabilities						
Other creditors		-	3,277	-	3,277	2,167
Net current assets		16,248	55,033	49,630	120,911	79,982
Total assets less current liabilities		16,248	124,655	49,630	190,533	149,604

Movement on Funds

		Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance carried forward 31/12/2022
		£	£	£	£	£
Restricted	4					
Nepal New Life		1,848	5	(1,853)	-	-
Church Roof		371	-	-	-	371
Fabric Fund		853	11	-	-	864
St Marys (Link bequest)		-	48,395	-	-	48,395
		3,072	48,411	(1,853)	-	49,630
Designated	5					
Sunday School		856	-	-	-	856
Sunshine corner		-	-	-	-	-
Choir		-	-	-	2,160	2,160
Friends fund		-	-	-	-	-
The Old Chapel		16,592	11,324	(14,684)	-	13,232
		17,448	11,324	(14,684)	2,160	16,248
General		129,084	55,154	(57,423)	(2,160)	124,655
Total		149,604	114,889	(73,960)	-	190,533

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 4th May 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

Rev J Aldwinkle - Chair



NOTES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

- 1 The financial statements of the Parochial Church Council have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Charities Act 2011 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

- 2 The accounts include Alveley Old Chapel. Although the day to day running is under the control of a manager who maintains its financial records, the ultimate responsibility rests with the PCC.

- 3 The fixed assets are the freehold premises at Alveley Old Chapel at cost.

- 4 The Restricted Funds are listed below:

The Nepal New Life Fund is for donations received for the project which we support in Nepal. A separate charity now exists to channel these funds. The remaining balance on this fund was paid to New Life Nepal during the year.

The Church Roof Fund represents accumulated donations for maintenance of the church roof, which can only be spent for that purpose.

The Fabric Fund represents accumulated donations for maintenance of the church fabric, which can only be spent for that purpose.

St Mary's (Link Bequest) was received in the year. The bequest was left to the Vicar and Churchwardens of St Mary's Alveley, for use by the local church. Funds are to be spent for that purpose only.

- 5 The Unrestricted Designated Funds:

Alveley Old Chapel represents the accumulated income and expenditure of Alveley Old Chapel. These are held in a separate bank account, but the Parochial Church Council is the accountable body for them.

The Sunday School fund represents accumulated donations for the Sunday School.

The Choir fund represents accumulated donations for the Choir. Please see note 6 below regarding 'Transfers.'

- 6 Transfers:

A balance amounting to £2,160 was transferred from the General Fund back to the Choir Unrestricted Designated Funds during the year. This was the balance transferred out from Unrestricted Designated Funds to General Funds in 2015 in respect of the Choir.

Independent Examiner's Report to the members of St Mary the Virgin, Alveley Parochial Church Council (PCC)

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on the attached pages, comprising Receipts and Payments Account, Statement of Assets and Liabilities and Notes.

Respective responsibilities of the members and examiner

The charity's trustees, who are the members of the PCC, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (The 2011 Act). 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 required.

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 Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention:

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



L Dhillon FCCA

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19 May 2023