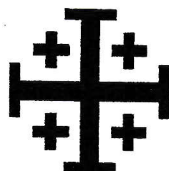


BISHOPTHORPE ROAD PARISHES

St Andrew's, Bishopthorpe, St Chad's & St Clements, York (South Bank)



**ST CHAD'S CHURCH
CAMPLESHON ROAD, YO 23 1EY**

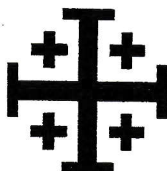
SUNDAY 21ST MAY 2023

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

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To elect Churchwardens

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

AGENDA

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THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST CHAD, YORK
MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD IN CHURCH ON
SUNDAY 15TH MAY 2022 AT 12PM

Chairman
Simon Bray

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

To elect Churchwardens

Two nominations received for Carolyn Jaques (proposed by Angela Darley and seconded by Michael Darley) and Mary Banbury (proposed by Sam Helmuth seconded by Bridget Learmouth) who were both duly re-elected as Churchwardens. Great thanks noted for their continued hard work and commitment. Spontaneous applause from all present.

Anne Bush and David Butler both standing down as deputy warden. Thanks noted for their hard work, commitment and dedication over the years. Both are very willing to continue in their respective capacities in Hospitality and Fabric & Maintenance, for which many thanks.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Copies of the annual report presented in the format as required by the Charities Commission, minutes of the May 2021 meeting, update on Electoral Roll, accounts, independent examiner's report, churchwarden's report, church hall report, safeguarding report, proceedings of Deanery Synod and report from Revd Simon Bray, were all put together in a booklet, with accompanying documents for finance and minutes, together with reports on activities of groups and organisations and made available in advance of the meeting.

Simon Bray opened the meeting with welcome and prayer.

1. Apologies for Absence

Veronica Copley, Martin Cross, Bridget Learmouth, Michael Learmouth, David Meek, Peter Phillips.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting (Tuesday 18th May 2021)

The minutes were agreed to be a true record and signed accordingly. Proposed by Mary Banbury, seconded by Marion Goodrick.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

None.

4. Report from Electoral Roll Officer

In the report Mary Banbury advised that there were two additions and ten removals. Louise Dover and Nicola Bray have applied to be added to the Roll. Sadly there have been three deaths, Mark Radnage, Catherine Ostle and Jean Smith. John and Margaret Billingham have moved away and others have ceased to worship at St Chad's. There are 79 names on the Electoral Roll: 23 resident in the parish, 56 non-resident, in total 8 fewer than reported last year.

5. Annual Report

The report as required by the Charity Commission was received by the meeting and accepted unanimously.

6. Report from Safeguarding Officer

In his report Peter Phillips confirmed that there had been no concerns. All PCC members are up to date with the requisite training. Thanks noted for Peter's hard work.

7. Churchwarden's Report

The report referred to the links forged with our partner churches as we gradually came out of Covid, especially St Clement's, supporting each other during alternate services, mixing people on rotas and singing together.

No major works or unexpected repairs required. The QI works on roof and gutters to hopefully be done this year.

Fundraising for the work on the front entrance proved very difficult, decision made to delay this to 2023 or beyond. Work is still planned to go ahead on the paths to the Quiet Garden to make the shelter accessible for all. Quiet Garden was the site of much work and has become an attractive and useable space enhanced by the shelter. Thanks noted to David Butler who designed the shelter and built it with the help of Martin Cross and Mike Felton. Many thanks noted for all their hard work. The shelter, topped with a nightingale, has been named the Nightingale Corner, after Sue Nightingale who had the original idea. A service to bless the Quiet Garden was held in summer and a Carol Service was held in December, attended by some 60 people.

Thanks expressed for David Butler, Mike Felton and Bruce Marshall for their watchful eye on the fabric and the many maintenance tasks they fulfil around the building.

Thanks also noted by the Churchwardens for the support, encouragement and friendship they have received through a challenging year. No questions asked, report accepted.

8. **Treasurer's Report**

In his report Martin Cross thanked everyone for their continued generosity which resulted in a small surplus of £400 in the day-to-day funds at the end of 2021. Thanks to some very generous donations we ended the year with £60,945 in the New Building Fund. Finances were helped by hall and church bookings starting to get back to normal in the latter part of 2021. Huge thanks noted to Mike Felton for all his hard work in managing the hall hire and to Nick Nightingale for sterling work in coordinating church concerts and bookings.

Martin reported that we continue to support the diocese by maintaining our freewill offering at the same level as 2020 and hope to do the same in 2022. St Chad's also continued to donate to a range of local, national and international charities. Donations in 2021 totalled £3, 536.

The report finished with the good news that we are able to pursue our aim of appointing a Multiply Community worker for our three parishes. No questions asked. The report was received and approved, proposed by Nick Nightingale, seconded by Mary Banbury, all in favour. Martin was thanked for his report and diligent work.

9. **Appointment of Independent Examiner**

John Goodsir, was re-appointed for one more year as the Independent Examiner. Thanks noted for his support over the last few years. A new Independent Examiner will need to be appointed in 2023.

10. **Report on Proceedings of Deanery Synod**

Peter Phillips, in his report stated that it had been an exciting year to be the parish representative. This involved taking part in the elections from the Diocese to the General Synod for the next 5 years and in the consultations carried out as part of 'refreshing' the vision (or strategy) for the next 10 years called Living Christ's Story.

Another significant discussion was when the Revd Jan Nobel, our Green ambassador, spoke about an eco-agenda for the church and how parishes can take practical steps to reduce energy and care for creation.

Question was raised regarding the Green incentive within the diocese. Simon's thoughts are that it is the aim of the General Synod to be carbon neutral by 2030. Aid and resources to be made available to help achieve this.

11. **Church Hall Report**

Mike Felton referred, in his report, to the fact that it wasn't until 21st June that restrictions were eased and some legal limits on social contact were removed. Previously only six people or two households were able to meet up inside. All legal restrictions on social contact were lifted on 19th July 2021. As this coincided with the end of the school year, the trickle back did not begin until September. The regular groups have now returned, with the exception of Tai Chi, Yoga and Pilates. Two new regular bookings have been gained.

Children's parties have also been very popular, and as all are pupils at Knavesmire School, this is not only helping income but also helping to forge links with local families. A regular week realises £200 at the moment.

Mike reported that he will need to step back in the coming months and will need others to help particularly with the parties and payments at weekends.

Thanks noted to Mike for all his hard work and commitment which has resulted in such a successful and encouraging return to business in the hall. No questions asked, report accepted.

12. Election of Parochial Church Councillors

Two members stepping down, Anne Bush and David Butler.

Rob Jeffs and Mike Felton have served 3 years but both happy to be re-elected. Re-election unopposed. Three vacancies remain. Members can be co-opted at any time.

Question asked if we will move to one benefice PCC over the three parishes.

Simon replied not known at the moment although has been raised. There would be many complications regarding assets, management, elections, etc. and would be a long process. There may be some benefits from possibly sharing time, meetings, officers, resources etc. St Chad's in a good place as all officer positions filled. St Andrew's has a viable PCC but no officers.

13. Election of representative to Deanery Synod (1 vacancy for 1 year)

There is a vacancy for a deanery Synod representative. It involves attending 3 meetings a year and provides a good opportunity to meet people from other parishes. No nominations received.

14. Report – Revd Simon Bray

Simon continued with the message in his written report 'Give thanks in all circumstances.'

He expressed thanks to the PCC officers and members. He gave thanks to God and encouraged all to give thanks to each other. Simon invited all present to take part in a practical exercise of writing a message of thanks on a piece of paper, to someone in the meeting, and to give that message to them before leaving.

Simon expressed how struck he has been with how well the parish has done in striving to get back to some kind of pre-covid way of life. He expressed thanks that John Day, who although in a somewhat reduced capacity, was still very much part of the parish. He highlighted the process of change joining with St Andrew's and St Clement's and how this has happened much more slowly due to the pandemic.

Simon took time to stop and reflect on those we have lost from across the benefice in the last year, remembering and naming each person.

Simon referred to John's Gospel, 'Children have you no fish?' and put it into context with where we are as a benefice. We have boats and nets but short of fish. We need to listen to Jesus, learn where to throw our nets and how to use our resources in God's way. We are on a journey of discernment and need to:

Pray together. Get to know each other. Work together as a partnership.

Going forward, a Pioneer Minister has been approved for the benefice and will be recruited with a brief to reach out to all, irrespective of age etc. Also two working groups have been formed in the benefice looking at the strategy of communicating, how to be most effective, an ongoing challenge.

Simon concluded with thanks to all in the groups and thanks to all who pray.

15. AOB - Nothing to report, open for questions/comments.

1. Ian Reeves raised question about the Multiply Worker, highlighting there is a gap in attendance of people between 20 – 40 years. Where is the seed core and how do we fill this gap? Simon replied: Although we do have a gap in this age group, in common with most parishes, we do have some, the seed core maybe people from the 4.15pm and 6pm services and also through the connection with the Youth Groups at St Andrew's. This is the purpose of appointing of a Pioneer Minister to look at recruiting across all ages not just focussing on one particular group.

2. Nick Nightingale raised the issue of a lack of information in the booklet regarding the tea concerts held, the choir rehearsing and concert to be recorded.

Noted to include in forthcoming APCM reports.

3. Jill Shepherd raised concerns regarding information on Facebook and social media. It was hard to find out what was going on and when.

Simon confirmed that this is a work in progress. Becky Copeland and Mhairi (from St Andrew's) are on one of two working groups looking at communication across the benefice. The status quo will remain at the moment with a joint Facebook page for St Chad's and St Clement's and a separate one for St Andrew's.

4. Sue Nightingale raised the question as to when wine will be offered at the Eucharist.

Simon confirmed that although it is now permitted, it is a pastoral decision and after raising with the clergy and PCC's it was not felt to be the right time yet, taking everyone into account, including those who are most vulnerable.

Discussions arose followed by a vote with a small majority in favour of the return of the Common Cup. Anne Paskitt shared her experience in another church of two streams of people, one for the wafer, one for the wafer and chalice. Some still uncomfortable with this option. Simon concluded that legally it is his decision and he will continue to consult with clergy, PCC's and congregations but continuing at present with the wafer only.

5. Jackie Hudson shared the observation that not many who attend live in the parish. Also not many from 4.15pm or 6pm at the APCM. How do we know what they want?

Simon referred to the purpose of the Pioneer Minister to relate to this goal to reach people: people we know and people in our parish.

6. Mr & Mrs Darley made a request to bring the time of the Sunday Eucharist back to 10am as 10.30am too late for people to attend coffee afterwards.

Simon advised that the decision had been made in favour of 10.30am after receiving moving appeals from people who would be unable to attend earlier services and was a consideration in the decision made to offer the 9am Sunday service at St Clement's. He confirmed he would consider and review the time.

Simon concluded the meeting with thanks to those stepping down, thanks to those continuing and thanks to those re-elected. He prayed with thanks to God and for his guidance.

The meeting ended at 1pm with a blessing from John Day.

Nos. in attendance 31

Bishopthorpe Road Parishes

St Chad's and St Clement's, York (South Bank), St Andrew's, Bishopthorpe

Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council of St Chad, York for the year ended 31 December 2022

Administrative Information

St Chad's Church is situated in South Bank, York. It is part of the Diocese of York within the Church of England. The correspondence address is Campleshon Road, York YO23 1EY.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission. Charity Commission Registration Number 1185287.

Priest in Charge:	The Revd Simon Bray (Chair)
Assistant Priest	The Ven John Day (until 30 th September 2022)
Curate	The Revd Richard Nihill (from 26 th June 2022)

PCC members who have served from 15th May 2022 until the date this report was approved are:

Churchwardens:	Mrs Mary Banbury
	Mrs Carolyn Jaques (Vice-Chair)

Representative on the Deanery Synod:
Mr Peter Phillips

Elected members:

Mrs Philippa Beardmore
Mr Martin Cross
Mrs Clare Davenport
Mr Mike Felton
Mr Robert Jeffs
Mrs Bridget Learmouth

Structure, Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. One third of elected PCC members retire each year. Out of an eligibility of nine elected members, there remained three vacancies.

During the year the full PCC met for six regular bi-monthly sessions, including one via Zoom, with an average attendance of nine.

From September a new system was introduced, continuing the bi-monthly pattern, whereby a joint benefice PCC meeting preceded the individual parish meetings.

Standing Committee met on six occasions, including one partly on Zoom; reports were received by the full PCC.

A Joint PCC Away Day took place on 5th February to consider the way ahead for the new Benefice.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the Parish the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is responsible for:

- o the financial management of the church;
- o the care and maintenance of the church fabric;
- o the care and maintenance of the church hall.

The PCC has powers under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers Measure) 1956 to enable it to discharge its duties by:

- o formulating and approving an annual budget for maintenance of church work;
- o making representation to the Archbishop with regard to matters affecting the welfare of the parish.

Achievements and Performance (Review of the year)

Electoral Roll. There are seventy-seven names on the electoral roll. Of these, twenty-three are resident in the parish and fifty-four are non-resident. One name has been added during the year and three have been removed either because of death, have moved away or for other reasons.

Pastoral Care

The weekly email, together with news and information sheets, continued to be sent by the incumbent throughout the year. For those without internet access copies of all documents were available for collection in the church although some continued to be delivered.

Sunday Services

*The pattern of alternating Sunday morning Eucharist services with St Clement's continued until April. Returned to weekly from 1st May.

The 4.15 (informal worship for all ages) met weekly from 9th January - 4th December, excluding 'Benefice Sundays' (2) and a two-month summer break, re-started 18th September.

Following on at 6pm 'Engage' (contemporary worship, re-located from St Andrew's) started weekly from Easter Sunday to 4th December, excluding 'Benefice Sundays (2) and a two-month summer break, re-started 18th September.

Palm Sunday, 10th April, saw the return of the South Bank Walk beginning with worship at St Chad's, on to St Clement's for remainder of worship (Communion), then to Southlands Methodist Church for refreshments.

On three occasions there were no Sunday services due to Road Race/York Race Days; 10.30am Eucharist at St Clement's.

There were two joint 10.30am Eucharist Services: 24th April (at St Andrew's); 20th November (at St Andrew's) when these were the only services in the Benefice.

***Average Weekly Attendance 10.30am Eucharist:**

Bi-monthly January – April	48 adults, 1 child
Weekly from 1 st May	35 adults, 4 children (av over 6 services)
Average Weekly Attendance, 4.15	12 adults, 6 children
Average Weekly Attendance 'Engage' 6pm	9 adults, 2 children (av over 6 services)

October Sunday (5 Sundays) average attendance (over three services):

55 adults, 5 children

Weekday Services

Ash Wednesday, 2nd March, 12Noon Eucharist at St Clement's.

Holy Week: Morning Prayer online Mon-Thu; Stations of the Cross, Wed Night Prayer, Maundy Thursday Seder Meal & Eucharist, Good Friday 2pm Hour at the Cross (at St Clement's).

The All Souls Tide Remembering Service for South Bank took place at St Clement's Church on 2nd November.

Holy Communion, monthly, 10.30am (1st Tuesday).

Morning Prayer twice-weekly online (Mon & Wed) 9.30am.

Taizé Worship, 7pm monthly (1st Thursday).

Benefice Prayer Meeting monthly from May (St Clement's).

Chocolate Works Care Village, fortnightly services from May, having been temporarily suspended earlier in the year due to covid restrictions.

Registers

Baptisms:	3
Confirmation candidates:	0
Weddings:	0
Funerals in church	5

Easter services (10.30 Eucharist, 4.15 all-age worship, 6pm contemporary worship)

Easter attendance:	61	+ 5 children
Easter communicants:	40	

Christmas services and activities

Delivery of Christmas cards to all houses in South Bank (parishes of St Chad & St Clement).

Benefice Christmas Dinner was held in St Chad's Church Hall on 10th December.

Benefice Carols by Candlelight, St Chad's, 18th December, 6.30pm.

Carols at the Chocolate Works Care Village, Christmas Eve, 6pm.

Christmas Eve first Communion of Christmas, 8pm.

Christmas Day Holy Communion at St Clement's, 10.30am.

Church activities

Benefice Prayer Meeting, monthly at St Clement's (3rd Wednesday).

Benefice Love Worship, Prayer and Music, bi-monthly at St Chad's (2nd & 4th Thursdays).

Exploring the Bible (bible study group) continued weekly via Zoom.

Benefice Weekend Away at Wydale Hall, 1-3 July.

Wednesday Café, monthly in St Chad's church hall (3rd Wednesday).

Dementia-friendly tea concerts in St Chad's church and hall, jointly with Alison Gammon who arranges the musicians and publicity. Attendance is good and people come from all parts of York including residents from a number of care homes.

There were four quiz nights during the year.

A joint benefice evening of music and bbq was held in the vicarage garden on 2nd September.

Knavesmire Primary School returned (after covid lockdown) to use the church over three days in December to present Christmas entertainment to parents and friends.

St Chad's is registered as a **Fairtrade Church** and all tea and coffee is Fairtrade.

Fabric, Goods and Ornaments: Work was undertaken on the roof/gable as recommended at Quinquennial Inspection. The Memorial Book (record of those whose cremated remains are buried in the garden) was updated, following the lapse of the previous two years.

Financial Review-year ending 31st December 2022

Total receipts 121,037 Total expenses 79,965.

Excess income over expenditure 41,072.

Total Resources at 31/12/22 192,896.

Approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by

Revd Simon Bray
Chairman, PCC

REPORTS

SAFEGUARDING

I have continued to act as our Parish Safeguarding Officer, a position I have held since 2019. It is often emphasised that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Every member of our church community has a part to play in ensuring that no one is treated harmfully and no one is taken advantage of or abused in any way in our life together. My role as a lay person and member of the PCC is to make sure that we have systems and records in place to ensure that church is a safe place for everyone, and to be another person (alongside our incumbent) to whom people can go if they have any concerns about this.

I am grateful to members of the PCC who have completed or updated the short training courses on awareness of abuse and the church's safety measures which they are required to take as PCC members and church officers. York Diocese introduced a new system (called a Dashboard) which makes it easier to track the required procedures for each parish. We also worked with the other parishes in our benefice to ensure that the recruitment process for Nicola, our Multiply outreach worker, followed good safeguarding practice.

Peter Phillips, Parish Safeguarding Officer

CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT

This has been another busy year with the usual selection of concerts in church all of which involve a lot of "behind the scenes" planning and preparation.

We were sad to say goodbye to John and Stephanie Day in October but at the beginning of 2023 welcomed Nicola Bray as our Pioneer worker.

The sad loss of Nick Nightingale in August was keenly felt by us all and, as relatively new Wardens, we miss his wise words of advice and inspiring suggestions. He would, however, be delighted at the success of the Tea Concerts. Most months now see a full (and sometimes packed) church including an increasing number from several care homes.

We continue to be very grateful to David Butler for keeping a watchful eye on the church/hall fabric, and, with the help of Stephen Porthouse, has extended Wi-Fi through from the church to the hall, and also to Mike Felton for his continued work as hall bookings manager.

The Memorial Book, the record of those whose cremated remains are buried in the consecrated area of the garden, has been updated, following the lapse of the previous two years.

As the summer advances we look forward to making good use of the Quiet Garden and Nightingale Corner.

A lot of the work required to keep St Chad's running smoothly seems to be concentrated on relatively few shoulders and there are many "small" jobs which could be undertaken by others, so if you are willing to take on a small responsibility, it would be something less for the Wardens to have to remember!

With thanks to the clergy team and the whole congregation for your help and support.

Mary Banbury & Carolyn Jaques

TREASURER'S REPORT

I would like to begin by paying tribute to our dear friend Nick Nightingale, who gave us all so much support and to whom we owe so many innovations. Nick put in sterling work on the fund raising for the improved access, although spiralling costs puts the project beyond the realms of possibility for the time being. Nick acquired us the card reader which in the three years we've had it has raised £4,500. Sue very kindly donated Nick's funeral collection to church, £8,000 which helped us end 2023 in credit.

To give a quick summary of the financial position at the end of 2023. We ended £41,000 up on 2022 with total funds of nearly £193,000. As well as Nick's collection this also included very generous donations of £12,500 to the New Building Fund, which were given for the improved access. We also received an equally generous legacy from Margaret Harker (Peggy) of £20,481. As the legacy has no designation, PCC have earmarked this for the quinquennial repairs, mainly to the roof. Thanks to many very generous donations the New Building Fund stands at £73,111, we will need to decide how this fund is best used.

Looking ahead into 2023, I would like to thank everyone for your continued generosity in regular giving, which is our main source of day-to-day funding. It will be no surprise to hear that 2023 is very challenging! A combination of soaring energy costs (£1,500 per month at least) and regular giving has decreased by £14,500 per year over the last two years, mainly with people moving on. PCC decided that in 2023 we would aim to maintain our Freewill Offering at the same level as 2022, recognising that this will put us in deficit in our day-to-day funding. At the end of April '23 we had a deficit of around £6,000 in day-to-day funding.

Can I put in a plea that if you are able to increase your giving by any amount that will greatly help, as currently finances are unsustainable.

To finish on a more upbeat note I would like to thank Mike Felton and the Church Wardens for managing all the hall and church bookings, as in 2022 these raised £10,000 and will raise more in 2023 as we have now increased our fees.

And also, to mention our very exciting Pioneer Worker project, which takes advantage of the diocesan Multiply Funding, £30,000 over 5 years, with our three churches making up the remaining funding, £7,000 each.

My prayer is that, God guides us to use our funding wisely to foster growth and enables us to be adventurous, to take leaps of faith!

Martin Cross 13th April '23

REPORT ON PROCEEDINGS OF DEANERY SYNOD

I have represented St Chad's as a lay member of York Deanery Synod since 2019, and a new 3-year cycle is about to begin. There is a vacancy for another representative for our parish, should anyone be interested in joining me.

Three meetings took place in 2022, one of which was online, and another had to be delayed a week because of extreme heat in July.

The main topic under discussion has been the formulation of a Deanery Plan designed to help put into effect '*Living Christ's Story*', the York Diocese 10 year plan for the church's growth and development. The background to this is that York Diocese, along with the whole of the Church of England, is facing a financial crisis due to falling numbers and income, as well as rising costs. The 10 year strategy is about using the Diocese's resources most effectively to support local churches to be strong, faith-filled communities carrying out the Church's mission. So the questions we have been asked have been about what support we as a church and benefice need from the Diocese, and what opportunities for growth and renewal we see emerging in our local area.

We gave answers to this consultation together with the other churches in our benefice. We highlighted active lay involvement in our churches, and the strong relationships we already have with other churches, as well as non-church organisations such as Collective Sharehouse and Community Services. Potential areas for growth, we said, are outreach to young people through our Multiply project, carrying out an Eco-church project, the church gardens as a way to make contact with local people, and St Chad's link with the Church of the Ascension, Middlesbrough through the Mustard Seed programme.

If you have any questions about issues discussed at the Synod, or would like me to raise an issue on your behalf, please get in touch!

Peter Phillips, peter_phillips@hotmail.co.uk or 07787 336 413

ST CHADS CHURCH HALL MAY 2022 - APRIL 2023

The year began very quietly. We were still feeling the effects of Covid and the restrictions around that. It is noteworthy that between the beginning of May 2022 and the end of August 2022 we hosted just 5 children's parties. There was a gradual return to normality as restrictions were eased in September 2022. Between the beginning of September and the end of this month we have had 34 children's parties. Many of the hirers for these are local parents whose children attend Knavesmire Primary School. A considerable number have hired previously and they know the hall well.

We continue to be inhabited weekly or monthly by the following: Karate Club, which is thriving, Brownies, Slimming World, Yoga, White Rose Quilters (who promoted an excellent exhibition of work in the church last year), York Flower club. We are regularly booked by the committee of York Rally, Chocolate Works Residents Association, and the Labour Party. Our local surgery booked the hall for their annual flu injections. A large group of students hired the hall for an overnight sleepover as they were attending a charity Frisbee competition at the university.

Various music groups have rehearsed here as have two theatre companies. Our café continues, and the quiz nights are well enjoyed. North Yorkshire Police use our hall during race meetings and it is used as a Polling Station.

Mike Felton, April 2023

Bishopthorpe Road Parishes
On the Road Together, Where the River Flows
Vicar's Benefice Report 2023

While the other reports presented to the annual meeting to some extent are focused on the calendar year of 2022, my report will look at the year that has passed since 2022's annual meetings. The shape of the report will be based on our benefice vision and practices, agreed by the PCCs in September and explored in the early part of 2023 in our services and in Explore Groups. More detailed information on the vision and its rationale can be found in the videos on the Bishopthorpe Road Parishes YouTube channel, and I won't take up space repeating that here, but since this is so central to the life and development of the benefice, I have attached the summary of the vision and practices to my report.

As part of the building of connections between us, we have also developed a new logo for the benefice – this in itself may not achieve a lot, but it does signify a great deal, and you will see it appearing increasingly from now on, not least on some prettier versions of the attached in due course.

On the Road Together

Our intentional journey "On the Road Together" may only have begun in September, but of course we have been on the journey of adjusting to the new benefice, to new people, and to the new post-pandemic world for some time. A year ago our new pattern of worship began – a sizeable step in the direction of togetherness, at least on paper. The PCCs will be reviewing this pattern in May 2023, during the period in which our annual meetings are taking place, so I won't preempt that conversation, other than to say that I am grateful to those who have embraced and worked with the changes we have made, while still aware both of the pain of them for some, and the length of the journey that will be needed in order for any pattern of worship that crosses long-established boundaries to become normal and settled.

A somewhat easier, though still significant change that we have made in order to travel together in a more coordinated (and less exhausting) way is to change the pattern of PCC meetings, with the three PCCs of the benefice now meeting every other month, with part of each meeting being all together and part in the three separate councils. This is still in its relative infancy, and needs continual tweaking, but has enabled some key conversations to happen across the benefice, leading to some of the decisions noted below. Among the many other things I could mention here, I think it only appropriate to draw attention to the opportunities that some of us have taken to literally go on the road together (or at least on the muddy or icy footpath), on our benefice walks, which have been a great success and a great opportunity for conversation and fun together.

In the coming year I hope we will see increased building of trust between us, leading towards a deeper shared understanding of our big purpose – to worship God and to follow Jesus, inviting others to become worshippers and disciples with us – and more specifically a shared understanding of our particular calling as a benefice here and now, beginning to see not just that we must go on the road, but perhaps where that road is leading us to. I hope too that this will encourage and be helped by the continuing building of teamwork, including delegation – this is not a science, and not something for which tried and tested models exist in this configuration, but something that is crucial and which I and we are working on!

Where the River Flows

This year has seen the launch of monthly benefice prayer meetings at St Clement's – as we have prayed for mission and ministry in the benefice we thank God for answered prayers, especially for people to step into particular roles.

More than answered prayers, though, wonderful thought that is, my hope is that this year we will as God's people in these parishes get a greater grasp of God's abundance, love and power for us and through us – not an intellectual understanding but a lived experience of the living water of the Holy Spirit.

Following Boldly, Expecting Regeneration

I think it is fair to say that there is a general feeling of being stretched as we set out on this journey. However, there is also faithful following, even when it has been costly and sometimes hard going.

It seems to me that we must face up to the fact that some, perhaps most, of the stretch and the difficulty arises from a desire both to travel and move and to discover what will be, but simultaneously to hold on to what was and what is. I hope that this year we will, with great care and discernment, find the courage to take decisive steps, not to jettison all that is and has been, but to let go of the things that will hinder our journey in order to find out what our wise, faithful, Alpha and Omega God wants to do for us and through us.

Facing Outward, Worshipping Joyfully

I celebrate the ongoing work of Community Connect in providing a safe space for many who are in various kinds of need, the ongoing work with young people in Bishopthorpe, the small signs of growth in our 4.15 congregation and Nicola starting as our Pioneer worker two days a week.

These are things we have prayed for. We have also over recent months taken time to take a small but deliberate step up in our prayer prior to worship, knowing that while God gives us many things to enjoy, the source of joy itself is only in his presence. I hope that in this coming year we will experience an increasing sense of God's presence in our worship together, and thus increasing joy – joy both exuberant and contemplative, celebratory in good times and defiant in bad.

Out of this joy, I believe, will come a desire to face outwards, and to create new pathways for people to follow into encountering Jesus through the message of the gospel, through worship and through companionship and to become missionary disciples and worshippers themselves.

Building Connections, Growing Bonds

I have found our benefice services and our weekend at Wydale a great joy. I know there is a hunger for more. I know too that there is often unrest and discontent when our regular worship is changed, but I think that worshipping together is a significant part of our onward journey, and a great opportunity to practise our practices! I hope that in the coming year we will see more worship and more social events for the whole of the benefice, and that these opportunities will be taken! This may, being mindful of what I say above about a sense of stretch, mean fewer social events and a little less worship in our separate congregations.

We are also building connections both in person with Explore Groups and online with the development of a new shared website. The Explore Groups could fit in a number of places in my report but I've put them here as I think the connections they enable between us are probably their most important purpose. I would encourage as many people as are able to consider joining a group. Sharing life with a bigger spiritual family has many blessings, but each of us needs a closer and smaller group of fellow disciples to offer mutual support, to share the joys and sorrows of life with, and to live life to the full with.

Pursuing Unity, Embracing Diversity

This is about the quality of our relationships to a large degree, so it is somewhat difficult to report on! In order to live these things out in the coming year, my hope is that we will continue to think hard about the accessibility of our activities, both in the physical and inclusivity sense of that word but also the cultural sense, taking notice of who is in our communities and how we can welcome them into our church life.

Sharing Generously, Receiving Abundantly

These practices refer both to our attitude to those in need both inside and outside the church and also to our concrete sharing of resources, both personal and church. I am encouraged by the continuing generosity of spirit evidenced by work on Community Connect, the dementia-friendly tea concerts, work with children and young people, and the support of many charities locally, nationally and worldwide.

Thinking more about the sharing of resources within the benefice, work has begun on an operational appointment agreed in principle by the PCCs in January, with one of the key aims of the appointment being to develop teamwork and efficient use of resources across the three churches in order both to do the things we need to do, and to develop capacity for new things to grow among us.

Alongside this appointment, I want to encourage us all to see our resources as shared, and as given by God for use to the benefit of *all*, and although I know there is much generosity around, I would personally like to see a change in our culture of giving – I will keep listening to the experience and thoughts of those around, but would love to see more of our giving being in the form of money given

REPORTS ON CHURCH ACTIVITIES

TAIZÉ COMMON WORSHIP

Taizé Worship takes place on the first Thursday of the month. It is a much valued and appreciated time of quiet contemplation and worship in song, word and silence. If you are new to this form of worship, you are warmly invited to come and see what it is like. You don't have to join in singing the chants; if you wish, simply sit and listen.

Particular thanks to the pianists, Jill Shepherd, Ian Reeves and Sally-Ann Long, who contribute immensely to the worship and lead our singing so skilfully.

Mary Banbury

LOVE WORSHIP

Love Worship is an informal cross-benefice group for anyone who enjoys worshipping God through music. It used to meet fortnightly at St Chad's and became one of the Explore Groups during Lent, meeting at St Andrew's. From May onwards it will be back at St Chad's, but every Thursday, at the slightly later time of 8pm - 9pm. If you'd like to know more please contact David or Sally-Ann.

Sally-Ann Long

SERVERS

Since our new pattern of worship has been in place, we have tried to have 2 servers available at the 10.30am Sunday service at St Chad's. This has proved difficult at times as we only had 5 servers to choose from. We have had some Sundays when no servers have been available, but the clergy seemed to have managed. We are going into the new term with only 4 regular servers so we will have to think about how practical it is to have 2 servers every week. I would just like to thank everyone who has been involved with serving over the last year. If anyone has a burning desire to join us and find out about the magic behind the scenes then please speak to someone.

Jackie Hudson

MUSIC - CHOIR

There is a very loyal group of singers, that has rehearsed throughout the year, and sung some anthems between the readings or at communion. Extra music has been included on festive occasions, such as Christmas, Maundy Thursday, Candlemas etc.

The dozen, or so, singers come from St Clements and St Chad's, and there is still the hope that we can have a Benefice Choir for some events, and have singers from all three churches. (ideas welcome!!). The choral evensong at St Clements was a success, so I hope similar occasions will arise in the future. Choir practices are in St Chad's on Fridays, about 3 times a month, and there is a mixture of new music and "old favourites".

New singers are always welcome, and being able to read music is not essential- just a love of singing. Many thanks to all accompanists, as well as to all singers.

Jill Shepherd

MUSIC - ORGAN

The organ has seen public use some four times over the last twelve months, either for organ recitals, or as part of a musical event. This enhances the reputation of the instrument, helps to establish the church as a musical venue and brings people into church who might otherwise not come. Some attendees have commented that they did not realise our building was a church! All these events have been very well attended.

Many thanks to Ian Reeves, who has shared playing for services with me.

The organ has behaved faultlessly throughout the year, and required no other attention than its six-monthly tunings. One curiosity I noticed sitting in the nave listening at a recital was that we have lost one of the wooden 'pineapple' decorations from the top of the upright posts at the front of the case. The organ builder tells me it was there when the organ was rebuilt shortly before the turn of the century, so it must have fallen into the instrument at some time, fortunately not during the course of a service or recital. He will search for it on his next visit.

Bob Batchelor

ALTAR LINEN

The Altar cloths at this time are all in good order. It would be nice to have perhaps one or two people who may be interested to assist me when the large cloths have to be changed. At the moment Anne Pasket helps when she can; also if I am on holiday to wash the "purificators" the small white cloths used during communion.

Marion Goodrick

ALTAR FLOWERS

Flower arrangements contribute to the beauty and joy of worship and here at St Chad's are displayed on the reredos screen behind the altar. Occasionally there is a stand for special occasions. Members of our small team are responsible for two weeks at a time. There are no flowers during Advent and Lent. There are four in the team at present and would be so pleased to welcome new helpers. No experience is necessary – there will always be someone to help – and it is very rewarding. You might like to come along one day and see what is involved.

If anyone would like to contribute towards the provision of the altar flowers for a particular date (maybe in memory of someone or to commemorate an anniversary), please speak to one of the team. Please let us know if you would like this dedication to be included in the week's pewsheets.

Mary Banbury, Clare Davenport, Marion Goodrick, Carolyn Jaques

FAIRTRADE

Towards the end of last year a small survey was taken to see if parishioners would like to see the Fairtrade stall reinstated at St. Chad's. There was a very positive response and generally once every few weeks seemed to be the preferred option.

Since then, after 40 years of pioneering and championing fair trade, Traidcraft PLC has gone into administration and stock is not as easily available. This has had a significant impact on Fairer World in York, not to mention Traidcraft staff and suppliers. We are continuing to support Fairer World where we can and Charlie and Moira have been extremely helpful sourcing Fairtrade goods, especially over Easter, from alternative suppliers which has meant we have been able to hold stalls at the Saturday Coffee Mornings at St. Clements which are held the first Saturday of the month and also a couple of stalls at the Wednesday Café at St Chad's.

Pauline Fallon

BRASS CLEANING

Over the past year a faithful group of volunteers has once again cleaned the church brasses about every three weeks. I remain grateful to Veronica Copley, Mary Batchelor and Clare and Steve Davenport for their help. As I said in last year's report: personally, I get great satisfaction from seeing tarnished objects shine brightly with a moderate amount of Brasso and effort. I also think it is important that this cleaning is done, to honour God, in whose worship many of the objects feature. If anyone else would like to join the brass cleaning rota, please let me know. The commitment is not onerous.

Ian Reeves

WEDNESDAY CAFÉ

We are now in our 11th year although only now meet monthly, but that means a huge number of cheese scones have been consumed on the premises! Many of our "regulars" have been supporting us since the beginning and it would be wonderful to be able to greet some new faces.

Our receipts are all donations and this year we have donated £100 separately to York Mind, MS Society, The Island, and RAY (Refugee Action York).

Carolyn Jaques

QUIZ NIGHTS

Graham Chilton and Helen Young, his "glamorous assistant", continue to tax our general knowledge every couple of months at the quiz which attracts both non-church and church people.

No set teams are needed so just come along and join in the fun – and sometimes – mayhem!

Next date is 26th May, 7.30 in the church hall.

TEA CONCERTS

These monthly Dementia friendly events are growing in popularity and are well supported by people from all over York. We also have welcomed residents from the Chocolate Works and two other residential homes. Tea is served in the hall and it would be great to have more of our congregation to help (set up, serve & clear up) on a rota basis.

We receive very generous donations and over the past year have been able to forward £1,721 to the Alzheimer's Society.

Carolyn Jaques

YORK ST CHAD'S 28TH BROWNIES

Recently we have been learning about Historic Costume, Confectionary and Skills for My Future badges; with many of our older girls working towards their Brownie Gold badge. Our aim is to earn as many badges as possible!

The Brownies have been hard at work over the last year, fundraising to buy a community Defibrillator, to be located on the front of the church hall. Fundraising activities have included bake sales, sponsored stair climbing, making chocolate mice, mocktails, recipe books and a Tesco community grant. We will keep you updated on the installation!

Coming up, we will be running a charity café at St Crux church, Stonegate, on the 1st June, so do stop by!

We are currently full, due to have more spaces Easter 2024, but do please check with other local units.

The Brownie team, Greer, Sarah, Milly and Nina

FACEBOOK

The Facebook page has seen an increase in views and followers over the last 12 months; there are currently 322 followers of the St Chads and St Clements page and there is a reach of 401 people reading our posts over the last 28 days.

Over the last 3 months our most popular posts have included those about the Easter Celebrations, Fair Trade fortnight and the regular posts about our services. Where we've partnered with other churches in the benefice or local organisations, such as the York Mumbler, our views have increased; with the notices about the new Stay and Play toddler group being seen by over a thousand people. Most of our viewers are unsurprisingly in York, however there are some in Selby and other local towns that also follow our progress. Our biggest demographic group are women between 35-44.

We will continue to work to ensure useful information from the benefice is posted regularly, that we link into our other growing social media such as Instagram, and that posts from other local organisations are shared to ensure we are seen as widely as possible within the community. The plan for a new benefice website will also give us other opportunities to share our faith and vision.

Becky Copeland

CHURCH BOOKINGS FOR MUSIC ORGANISATIONS

Nick Nightingale recognised that our unique combination of space and acoustics would be ideal for musicians to use and give concerts. This has continued and a variety of groups have used the church, including York Light Opera, Jervaulx Singers, Prima Vocal Ensemble, St Olave's Academy Orchestra, and York Symphony Orchestra who have come for rehearsals. Sounds Fun Choir have rehearsed weekly in term time for the past two years and give a concert twice a year. Concerts and recitals have been given by Chapter House Choir with The Chelys Consort of Viols, York Junior and Youth Choir, Friends of York Minster, and the annual organ recital under the auspices of the York & District Organists' Association.

Coming up: a welcome return of the York Railway Institute Band performing on 3rd June, Chapter House Youth Choir with Durham Cathedral Young Singers, and York Cantores Chamber Choir who will be giving their 30th anniversary summer concert on 24th June.

All who come praise the acoustics and our fine piano, given to St Chad's by Nick Nightingale, and the organ, both of which are tuned regularly.

Mary Banbury

CHURCH GARDEN

2022 was a quieter year in the Quiet Garden, a year for gentle growth after all the flurry of building the Shelter, laying out beds and clearing the banking. A year for appreciating God's creativity and sharing this with all the neighbourhood. Highlights have been, the planting of roses against the fence and by the Shelter; particularly rose 'Elizabeth', to mark the jubilee. We also now have an icon of St Francis, which is living in church but will come out for special occasions. This was painted by Rev Andrew de Smet, who is coming this summer (date being arranged) for a quiet day on icons.

Other things of importance; Nan Hallas very kindly has provided some clematis in memory of her husband and Glenys wanted her ashes scattering in the flower bed, these are in the corner by the main church entrance, the bed has been looking lovely this Spring with daffodils and red tulips.

Things for the future are that the Quiet Garden website needs updating, we want to get a sign directing people to the garden and as part of our Ecochurch audit we will be looking at how the garden can help tackle climate change and increase biodiversity.

As always, if anyone has any free time there are always some jobs to do!

Martin Cross, a happy gardener!



Independent Examiner's report to the trustees of the PCC of St Chad's

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the PCC of St Chad's for the year ended 31st December 2022

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

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

- 1) Accounting records are not kept in respect of the Trust as required in section 130 of the Act; or
- 2) The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3) The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirements that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed:



Name: COLONEL (Retd) JOHN GOODSIR CBE

Relevant professional qualification or membership of any professional body (if any)

Chairman, Finance Advisory Board, Reserve Forces & Cadets NE England.

Address: 144 House, 31 GRANGE CLOSE, SKELTON, YORK, YO30 1JR

Date: 11 January 2023.

Income	2021 Est 2022	2022 Est 2023	Expenditure	2021 Est 2022	2022 Est 2023
Fund raising	1,706	1,500	2,049	925	700
Non charitable trading	135	150	4,774	49	100
Tax efficient giving	40,245	34,600	36,104		200
Donations	36,493	2,500	20,512	3,536	4,000
Collection at Services	822	800	426	9,617	10,000
Legacies			20,863	41,772	41,772
Interest	12	12	595	1,365	1,700
Rent from PCC property	480	2,500	3,100	261	400
Letting church buildings	5,126	9,000	10,014	634	650
PCC fees	1,637	1,600	2,873	3,247	3,250
Tax refunds	13,670	9,000	18,076	2,745	7,000
Special Appeals	46	100	395	3,537	3,500
Book Trolley	34	40	94	20	100
Non Recurring Grants (Furlough c	600		1,250	201	350
			Clergy expenses	2,042	2,500
			Hall gas		
			Hall electricity	365	520
			Salaries/wages	480	800
			Support costs	2,840	2,400
			Church administration	131	200
			Cleaning	1,553	1,500
			Vicarage water	83	564
Total	101,006	61,802	121,125	75,403	71,706
Pioneer Worker					
Salary		9,999			
Expenses/Costs		2,500			
			Multiply grants		10,500
			St Clement's PCC		10,000?
			St Andrew's PCC		10,000?

St Chad's Church, York

Balance Sheet detailed

	As at 31/12/2022	As at 31/12/2021
Current assets		
A1501: Bank Current Account	(128.40)	(128.40)
A1502: CAF Current	28,118.09	20,801.27
A1550: Cash in Hand	(5.07)	(3.17)
A1560: Savings Account	—	—
A1561: CAF deposit	164,867.91	131,118.10
ZZZ08: Prepayments	—	—
Total Current assets	192,852.53	151,787.80
Liabilities		
6699: Agency collections	52.29	56.63
Total Liabilities	52.29	56.63
Net Asset surplus (deficit)	192,800.24	151,731.17
Reserves		
Excess / (deficit) to date	41,069.07	—
Z01: Starting balances	151,731.17	151,731.17
Total Reserves	192,800.24	151,731.17

Represented by Funds		
Unrestricted	58,518.18	50,340.35
Designated	64,577.89	43,875.49
Restricted	69,704.17	57,515.33
Endowment	—	—
Total	192,800.24	151,731.17

St Chad's Church, York

Trial balance

As at: 31 December 2022

Nominal code	Class	Debit	Credit
1001 - Giving and Donations	Expenditure	6,672.12	—
1003 - Mission Evangelism Costs	Expenditure	273.60	—
101 - Tax Efficient Planned Giving	Income	—	35,839.42
102 - All Tax Refunds	Income	—	18,076.98
104 - One off Gift Aid Envelopes	Income	—	265.00
105 - Collections at Services	Income	—	425.75
106 - Special gift days donations	Income	—	20,512.87
2001 - Parish Share	Expenditure	41,772.60	—
2002 - Working Expenses of Incumbent	Expenditure	932.44	—
2003 - Parsonage House	Expenditure	922.56	—
2004 - Working Expenses Assistant Staff	Expenditure	177.97	—
2005A - Church Gas	Expenditure	1,987.98	—
2005B - Church Electricity	Expenditure	319.96	—
2005C - Church Water	Expenditure	409.00	—
2006 - Insurance	Expenditure	3,367.13	—
2006A - Cleaning	Expenditure	1,516.14	—
2007 - Church Maintenance	Expenditure	3,446.33	—
2008 - Upkeep of Services	Expenditure	4,134.86	—
2009 - Upkeep of Churchyard	Expenditure	1,059.40	—
2011A - Church Hall Gas	Expenditure	3,072.72	—
2011B - Church Hall Electricity	Expenditure	511.83	—
2015 - New Building Work	Expenditure	1,361.70	—
2016 - Salaries Wages etc	Expenditure	1,270.00	—
2017 - Support Costs	Expenditure	1,115.48	—
201B - Non Recurring Grants	Income	—	1,250.00
202 - Legacies	Income	—	20,863.80
203A - Fund Raising Gross	Income	—	2,049.33
203B - Special Appeals	Income	—	395.42
3000 - Fund Raising Direct Costs	Expenditure	20.00	—
3001 - Non Charitable Trading Costs	Expenditure	4,548.19	—
301 - Dividends and Interest	Income	—	594.80
302 - Rent from PCC owned property	Income	—	3,100.00
4000 - Church Administration	Expenditure	1,168.90	—
401 - Book stall sales	Income	—	93.90
402 - Letting Church Buildings	Income	—	10,014.33
404 - Fees to PCC	Income	—	2,873.83
500 - Non charitable trading	Income	—	4,774.55
6699 - Agency collections	Liabilities	—	52.29
A1501 - Bank Current Account	Current assets	(128.40)	—
A1502 - CAF Current	Current assets	28,118.09	—
A1550 - Cash in Hand	Current assets	(5.07)	—
A1561 - CAF deposit	Current assets	164,867.91	—
Starting balance	Reserves	—	151,731.17
Totals		272,913.44	272,913.44

St Chad's Church, York

Fund totals - Details

Selected period: 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

Fund	Opening balance	Closing balance
C-C - Coffee & Cakes		
Restricted	0	0
	0	0
Legacy - Legacy fund		
Designated	43,159	53,861
	43,159	53,861
Messy - Messy Church		
Designated	0	0
	0	0
NBF - New Building Fund		
Restricted	60,945	73,111
	60,945	73,111
PWF - Pioneer Worker Fund		
Designated	—	10,000
	—	10,000
SCMF - St Chad's Mission Fund		
Restricted	(178)	(178)
	(178)	(178)
WedsC - Wednesday Cafe		
Restricted	69	92
	69	92

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Fund	Opening balance	Closing balance
General - General fund		
Unrestricted	49,881	57,863
	49,881	57,863
Endowment - Endowment Fund		
Endowment	—	—
	—	—
Roof - Restoration Fund		
Restricted	0	0
	0	0
Coffee - Refreshments Fund		
Unrestricted	458	655
Designated	14	14
	472	669
Flowers - Flower Fund		
Restricted	(37)	(37)
	(37)	(37)
Mission - Mission Fund		
Restricted	(3,020)	(3,020)
	(3,020)	(3,020)
Resound - Resound & Music		
Restricted	(264)	(264)
	(264)	(264)
Toddlers - Toddlers		
Designated	701	701
	701	701

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Fund	Opening balance	Closing balance
Chairs - Chair Fund		
Restricted	—	—
	—	—
Overall totals	151,731	192,800

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown