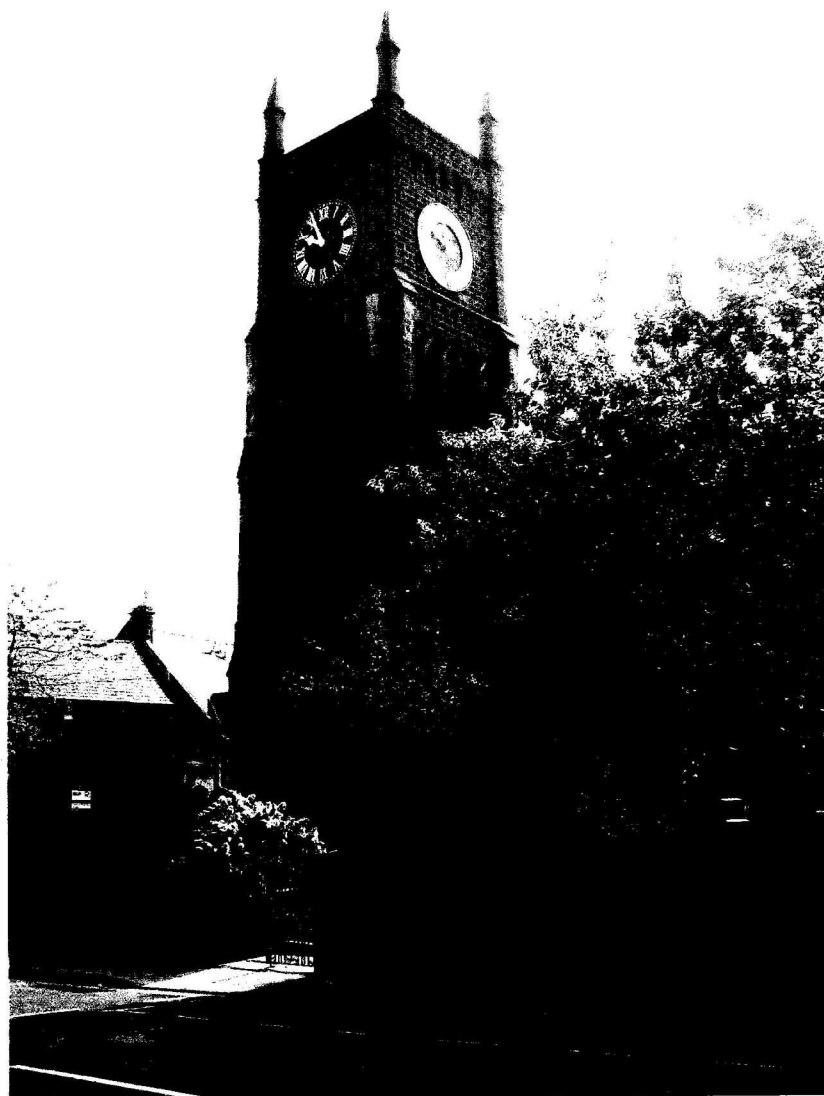


**Parish Church of
St. John the Evangelist, Farsley**



**Annual Parochial Church
Meeting
April 24th 2022**

PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, FARSLEY
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING – April 24th 2022

Agenda
Election of Churchwardens

1. Opening prayer
2. Appointment of Clerk
3. Minutes (circulated)
4. Election of Churchwardens

Church Council Attendance

2021-2022: 11 monthly meetings were held

Rev. G. Howles	11	
Mrs. P. Harding	7	(2019)
Mr. J. Isaacson	9	(2019)
Mrs. J. Mulligan	11	(2019)
Mrs. E. Sheller	10	(2020)
Mrs. L. Sykes	9	(2021)
Mrs. B. Tuke D	6	(2019)
Mrs. S. Walker R	9	(2018)
Mrs. J. Whitaker C	10	(2018)
Mr. A. Saxton		(2020)
Mr. H. Bradley	6	(2021)
Mrs. C. Glover D	7	(2021)
Mrs. V. Bergin	7	(2021)

C = Churchwarden
D = Deanery Representative
R = Reader

Agenda
Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Minutes (circulated)
2. Electoral Roll
3. Annual Report 2021-2022
4. Fabric, Goods and Ornaments Report
5. Examined Accounts for 2021-2022
Election of Examiner
6. Reports from Church Committees and Groups:
 - Armley Deanery Synod
 - Bereavement Group
 - Children and Families
 - 10.30 Children's Group
 - The Church Choir
 - The Church in Rodley
 - Churches Together in Farsley
 - Health and Safety
 - House and Study Groups
 - Parish Office
 - Parish Safeguarding
 - Social events
 - Sunflower Cafe
- Appendix – Associated Reports:
 - Friends of St. John's
7. Elections
 - i 3 PCC members for 3 years
 - ii 1 Deanery Synod Representative
 - iii. Sidespeople
8. Chairman's remarks
9. Questions and matters of parochial and general church interest.
10. Closing Prayer

List of Sidespeople, all retiring at this meeting

Mrs. N. Bean; Ms. B. Barmforth; Mrs A. Harris; Ms. J. McClusker; Mr. & Mrs. J. Palfreeman;
Mr. J. Parry; Mrs. S. Rhodes; Mrs. A. Thornton; Mrs. S. Walker; Mr. J. Wallis.

Please bring this agenda and all other papers relating to the meeting with you.

Notice is hereby given that the newly elected Parochial Church Council will meet for 15 minutes at the end of the APCM for purposes including the election of Officers and allocation of Action Groups

G. Howles 16/05/22

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, FARSLEY
Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year 2021-2022

Administrative information

St. John's is situated at the junction of Town Street and New Street. The correspondence address is: The Parish Office, The Old Vicarage, New Street, Farsley, Pudsey. LS28 5DJ.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a registered charity with the Charity Commission (1185811).

PCC members who have served from April 2021 until the date this report was approved are:

Incumbent: The Revd. Gareth Howles

Churchwardens: Mrs. J. Whitaker

Elected members:

Mrs J Mulligan – Secretary (2019) *
Mrs. P. Harding (2019) *
Mr. J. Isaacson – Treasurer (co-opted 2019) *
Mrs. E. Sheller (2020) **
Mrs. B. Tuke (2019) *
Mr. A. Saxton (2020) *
Mr. H. Bradley (2021) *
Mrs S. Walker - Reader
Mrs. L. Sykes (2021) *
Mrs. C. Glover (2021) *
Mrs. V. Bergin (2021) *

(*First three-year term; **second three-year term)

Bankers: HSBC, 88 Town street, Horsforth, Leeds, West Yorkshire. LS18 4AR

Legal Adviser: Peter Foscett, Lupton Fawcett Denison Till, Yorkshire House, East Parade, Leeds
LS1 5BD

Independent Examiner: Melvyn Ward

G. Howles

16/05/22

Structure, governance and management

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 to stand for election to the PCC. Elected members may serve up to two consecutive terms of three years, prior to standing down for at least one year, before they may stand for re-election. The intention is to provide both continuity and a range of experience to create a fully active committee. In order to carry out its aims and objectives, the PCC operates through a number of smaller groups, which meet, when required, between full PCC meetings.

Objectives and activities

The Revd. Gareth Howles is Priest-in-Charge of St. John's. The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with him in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical. (The PCC Powers Measure 1956). Together we are working to develop our objectives in proclaiming the Gospel and serving God, within the Church and the community.

During the past year, the PCC has continued to work to develop and refine the strategies by which our objectives may be achieved. Areas identified as priorities, including church growth, outreach, pastoral care, care, maintenance and development of the church building, ecological issues, community links, and generosity in serving the community have been further explored in PCC meetings, each month.

Achievements and performance

Church Electoral Roll

The number of parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll at the APCM 2021 was 67. Since then 2 names have been removed and 1 added so the total for the APCM 2022 is 66.

Alan Saxton- Electoral Roll Officer

G. Howles 16/05/22

FABRIC, GOODS AND ORNAMENTS

Churchyard and Grounds

Leeds City Council Parks & Cemeteries are responsible for the grass cutting, checking the condition of trees and general maintenance. A gardener looks after the memorial garden and makes good this area of the grounds. We also have the support of volunteers from the Friends of Farsley Church, who help keep the grounds looking tidy and colourful.

Church

Service Inspections

The fire-fighting equipment and gas installation certificates are kept up to date, along with the fixed and portable testing.

Maintenance

Volunteers from the Friends of St. John's, along with Terry Whitaker and Ray Sheller, continue to carry out routine maintenance and replacement tasks within the church. Our replacement heating system for the church has finally been sent to the DAC for approval. We hope to have this installed before next winter.

Church Hall and Offices

Service Inspections

The electrical, fire and gas installation certificates are kept up to date, along with the fixed and portable appliance testing.

Maintenance

The meeting room, hall and kitchen are now being used regularly by MHA, groups and parties. We would hope to redecorate and replace the heating in the hall in the next few years.

Old Vicarage Flat

Service Inspections

The electrical, fire and gas installation certificates are kept up to date, along with the fixed and portable appliance testing.

Letting

The flat continues to be let on an annual basis, through the letting agency Lindley & Simpson. There have been a few minor repairs needed and a new barn door was fitted over the past twelve months.

J. Whitaker – Churchwarden

April 2022



16/05/22

Review of the Year

There have been eleven full PCC meetings since the last APCM with the Revd. Gareth Howles chairing the meetings. This year again started with many covid restrictions but as the year progressed it became easier to meet again in church, although singing was not permitted until April when the choir came back into church, and then only the choir were allowed to sing. We continued with our safety measures allowing covid friendly communion to take place and eventually as restrictions were lifted we were all excited to finally be able to sing again in church. Our online services continued for those who were unable to attend church and we continued to support Pudsey Project by collecting and delivering food items.

April saw the appointment of Helen Whitaker as our new parish administrator. She has settled in well, organizing the office and ensuring that everyone is up to date with their safeguarding training. We had a big tidy up and sort out of the parish hall and cellar and welcomed Rose Upton into the parish, joining us from Ridley Hall in Cambridge on placement. She was keen to learn about parish ministry. The parish giving scheme was launched after a presentation from Janet Edmond, a finance advisor from the Diocese.

The final proposal for the new heating system was sent to the DAC for approval. We pray that by winter the new heating system will be approved and installed. Our continued thanks go to Ray Sheller for his time and expertise in order to sort out the best heating solution for St John's. Our gratitude also goes to the Friends of St John's, whose ongoing fundraising activities are vital to the continued upkeep, maintenance and development of our church. Thank you for your hard work and generosity.

In September, we had a lovely visit from Gareth's curacy church in East Morton and Riddlesden, an enjoyable evening was had by.

The Alpha course was well attended at St John's and some of the attendees now attend the main church service. In October we held our harvest festival and harvest supper. It was lovely to be able to hold our bonfire without bangs event which is always well attended by the local community.

At Christmas we enjoyed hosting a carol service by candlelight, two Christingle services, a midnight mass service and communion service on Christmas day. The nativity service was memorable with the added attraction of two donkeys. Thanks go to Farsley Fire and Smoke for providing the delicious sandwiches after the service.

It has been a busy year of services, worship and social events. Many thanks go to Janet Whitaker for all her years as church warden and the invaluable work she has done. Many thanks also go to our PCC members and to all those who work for the good of St John's and its community. Your help and support are greatly appreciated.

Jill Mulligan - PCC Secretary

G. Howles

16/05/22

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of St John the Evangelist Church, Farsley

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the St John the Evangelist Church, Farsley for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of St John the Evangelist Church, Farsley 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 St John the Evangelist Church, Farsley 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 were not kept in respect of St John the Evangelist Church, Farsley as required by section 130 of the Act;
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed:



Name: Melvyn Ward

Address: 12 Airedale Quay, Rodley, LEEDS, LS13 1NZ

Date: April 14th 2022



16/05/22

Financial review 2022

Charity accounts are split between 'Unrestricted' funds (of which some may be 'Designated' for a specific cause) and 'Restricted' funds. Unrestricted funds relate to money the PCC can spend on anything that fulfils the objectives of the church. Restricted funds record donations and expenditure for specific purposes or projects.

Financially, 2020 was a difficult year for St. John's, and in 2021 we have seen an improvement. It has been encouraging that our income received from regular and one-off giving has remained similar to 2020. This is indicative that the church continued to receive regular financial support from the congregation and community during the 2020 closures. We would love to see an increase in regular giving - as believers, we are called to give our time and our finances to support the work of the church. In 2021 we joined the Parish Giving Scheme, which allows anyone to give to church by direct debit. This has been popular and we are continuing to see more people giving in this way. This helps the church as it does not incur the same charges we have handling cash and enables us to receive gift aid income faster.

Our restricted income increased, most significantly from a generous donation of £3,000 from the Friends of St. John's.

Other income increases have come from rental income and proceeds from events. We have seen an increase in rental income as the church hall has been open for most of the year, whereas in 2020 the hall was closed for bookings for the majority of the year. We were able in 2021 to have events towards the end of the year, such as a harvest supper, bonfire party and children's 'light' party, and a Christmas fair. This was not possible in 2020.

We had reduced unrestricted expenditure in 2021 compared to 2020. Some of the decrease comes from a £3,000 reduction in the amount paid on the Parish Share. 2020 was the first year in many years that we were not able to pay the full Parish Share in the year that it fell due. We were disappointed that we were not able to meet the cost of this in 2021 too. The Parish Share is the contribution that each parish church in the Diocese of Leeds pays to fund the cost of clergy and housing, and other Diocese costs, from mission to administration. We fully intend to pay what we owe, and have presented the unpaid Share as a liability in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

The main reason for reduced expenditure is from a £9,000 reduction in repairs and maintenance cost (£2,780 of church expenditure is also paid from the restricted Common Fabric Fund in 2021 and £2,250 from the Designated fund in 2020). The reason for the decrease is due to 2020's repairs and maintenance expense being mainly as a result of the quinquennial. Every five years, each church in the Church of England must perform a 'quinquennial', which is a review of the church building by a qualified person to identify repairs and maintenance work. This review identified a number of urgent repairs required to the church building and grounds which took place in 2020.

We have continued to investigate developments in the heating system, and during 2021 have spent money on trial infrared heating systems to understand the most appropriate new system to present to the Diocese in 2022 for approval.

As we close the year we are in a more positive position than we were at the end of 2020. With £17,221 in total Unrestricted and Designated funds we have enough to continue the work of St John's. We still have to start construction work on the new heating system, which is expected to commence in 2022 following approval. This will be a major financial commitment for which we have £6,139 in restricted funds at the end of 2021 and £11,721 in designated funds.

Thank you to all who donate to the church: be it by standing order, online or by cash or card. St John's has been a beacon of hope to our community in the past year and the money we have invested this year in moving church online, and shoring up the building for future generations of use could not have happened without your generous support.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on Unrestricted funds of roughly £1,500 at the end of each month, after paying the Parish Share to the Diocese. We end the year with £5,500 in reserve, which is just below the reserves policy (the 2021 share was £53,285 which equates to £4,440 per month – in 2022 this increases to £4,489 per month). We were not able to pay the full Parish Share to the Diocese as noted in the above commentary. We continue to look for ways to minimise our costs and maximise income.

We continue to have two major financial commitments for the future: paying the Share and funding the heating project. Both of these commitments will require the generosity of church members, and our wider community, both in terms of generosity of donations, and generosity of time and ideas in researching grants and fundraising plans. 2022 offers a fresh start and we look forward to continuing to meet together in person again, worshipping and serving our community and each other.

Joel Isaacson – Treasurer

G. Howley 16/05/22

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
RECEIPTS							
Voluntary receipts							
Planned giving		19,059	-	19,059	-	19,059	20,441
Collections at services		4,041	-	4,041	-	4,041	5,130
All other giving/Voluntary receipts	5a	3,965	100	4,065	3,544	7,609	5,061
Gift Aid recovered		5,563	-	5,563	155	5,718	4,261
Activities for generating funds	5b	4,282	-	4,282	-	4,282	1,872
Investment income	5c	1	-	1	127	128	177
Church activities	5d	26,335	-	26,335	-	26,335	18,659
TOTAL RECEIPTS		63,246	100	63,346	3,826	67,172	55,601
PAYMENTS							
Church activities							
Diocesan parish contribution (Share)		(32,980)	-	(32,980)	-	(32,980)	(35,860)
Clergy and staffing costs		(5,095)	-	(5,095)	-	(5,095)	(3,434)
Church running expenses	5e	(11,216)	-	(11,216)	(2,780)	(13,996)	(23,364)
Hall running expenses	5f	(9,264)	-	(9,264)	(574)	(9,838)	(10,197)
Spending on restricted projects		-	-	-	(4,652)	(4,652)	(1,656)
Cost of generating funds		(276)	-	(276)	-	(276)	(422)
TOTAL PAYMENTS		(58,831)	-	(58,977)	(8,006)	(66,837)	(74,933)
Surplus/(deficit)		4,415	100	4,515	(4,180)	335	(19,332)
Transfers between funds	3, 4	(70)	-	(70)	70	-	-
		4,345	100	4,445	(4,110)	335	(19,332)
Cash funds at 1 January		1,154	11,621	12,775	22,383	35,158	54,490
Cash funds at 31 December		5,499	11,721	17,220	18,273	35,493	35,158

G. Howley

16/05/22

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Cash funds							
General account (HSBC)		5,458	11,721	17,179	11,609	28,788	28,315
Cash in hand		41	-	41	215	256	214
Common Fabric fund account (HSBC)		-	-	-	3,036	3,036	2,625
Children's and Youthwork account (HSBC)		-	-	-	3,413	3,413	4,004
		5,499	11,621	17,220	18,273	35,493	35,158
Investment assets							
187.27 CIF shares (Split)	2	-	-	-	4,380	4,380	3,829
202.00 CIF shares (Common Fabric fund)		-	-	-	4,724	4,724	4,130
Farsley IP (CCLA)		665	-	665	-	665	665
Farsley Stevenson (CCLA)		-	-	-	520	520	520
Farsley Sunday School (CCLA)		-	-	-	1,317	1,317	1,317
Farsley Youth (CCLA)		-	-	-	2,009	2,009	2,009
		665	-	665	12,950	13,615	12,471
Debtors							
Gift aid receivable (HMRC)		4,500	-	4,500	80	4,580	2,580
Hall and office rental		4,700	-	4,700	-	4,700	2,300
		9,200	-	9,200	80	9,280	4,880
Liabilities							
Diocese of Leeds – Parish Share		(37,730)	-	(37,730)	-	(37,730)	(17,425)
The Children's Society		(168)	-	(168)	-	(168)	-
Other creditors		(856)	-	(856)	-	(856)	(1,568)
		(38,754)	-	(38,754)	-	(38,754)	(18,993)
Other assets							
Church (Loss limit insurance value)						11,200,000	11,200,000
Hall (Loss limit insurance value)						2,800,000	2,800,000
						14,000,000	14,000,000

C. Howles

16/05/22

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

2 INVESTMENT ASSETS

All funds which are invested in CCLA Church of England Investment Fund shares.

In all cases, the donations have been made to be retained as a capital fund, but the income is for specific purpose, either General funds, Common Fabric fund or Children's and Youthwork fund.

3 MOVEMENTS IN RESTRICTED FUNDS

The movements in restricted funds during the year were:

	Balance b/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance c/fwd
Interest	142	2	-	-	144
Hall fund	3,110	-	(574)	-	2,536
Organ fund	-	250	(250)	-	-
Heating fund	9,497	449	(3,807)	-	6,139
Zoning	2,790	-	-	-	2,790
Flowers fund	215	-	-	-	215
Children's and Youthwork	4,004	4	(595)	-	3,413
Common Fabric fund	2,625	3,121	(2,780)	70	3,036
	22,383	3,826	(8,005)	70	18,273

All transfers between funds are made with the express permission of the original donor.

Interest accrued on Restricted and Designated funds is not split between the various funds due to its size. Interest accrued will be used as required with the consent of the PCC.

The Hall fund represents accumulated donations and expenditure for repairs and maintenance to the Church Hall.

The Organ fund represents accumulated donations and expenditure for repairs and service of the organ.

The Heating fund represents accumulated donations, grants and expenditure towards renewal of the heating system in the church buildings. The expenditure in the current year relates to the purchase of test infrared heaters which are required to be in place for approval from the Diocese of Leeds.

G. Howley

16/05/22

3 MOVEMENTS IN RESTRICTED FUNDS (continued)

The Zoning fund represents a grant from the Co-Op and expenditure for creating different 'zones' within church to enable different groups to use the building at the same time. Money has been earmarked from this fund to improve the experience of community groups using the church building.

The Flowers fund represents accumulated donations and expenditure for the provision of flowers.

The Children's and Youthwork fund represents accumulated donations and expenditure for children's and youthwork activities.

The Common Fabric fund represents accumulated donations and expenditure for repairs and maintenance to church fabric (i.e. building and fittings).

4 MOVEMENTS IN DESIGNATED FUNDS

The movements in designated funds during the year were:

	Balance b/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance c/fwd
Legacies	11,621	100	-	-	11,721
	11,621	100	-	-	11,721

Funds received as legacies have been designated by the PCC to be used to significantly finance the ongoing heating project.

G. Howles

16/05/22

5 FURTHER ANALYSIS OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
RECEIPTS						
a) All other giving/voluntary receipts						
Donations	3,965	-	3,965	3,544	7,509	3,561
Legacy	-	100	100	-	100	1,500
	3,965	100	4,065	3,544	7,609	5,061
b) Activities for generating funds						
Efforts	579	-	579	-	579	415
Fairs	534	-	534	-	534	-
Coffee mornings	448	-	448	-	448	381
Feed in tariff (Solar panels)	2,721	-	2,721	-	2,721	1,076
	4,282	-	4,282	-	4,282	1,872
c) Investment income						
CCLA investments	1	-	1	124	125	141
Interest received	-	-	-	3	3	36
	1	-	1	127	128	177
d) Church activities						
Fees for weddings and funerals	1,884	-	1,884	-	1,884	2,528
Rent – Office	9,331	-	9,331	-	9,331	3,105
Rent – Hall	4,491	-	4,491	-	4,491	2,494
Rent – Flat	7,080	-	7,080	-	7,080	7,035
Other income	3,549	-	3,549	-	3,549	3,498
	26,335	-	26,335	-	26,335	18,660
e) Church running expenses						
Church running expenses	6,906	-	6,906	-	6,906	6,448
Church repairs and maintenance	505	-	505	2,780	3,285	9,967
Upkeep of services	1,102	-	1,102	-	1,102	1,603
Admin and office costs	2,703	-	2,703	-	2,703	2,484
Church contribution to ongoing projects	-	-	-	-	-	2,629
Children's and youthwork costs	-	-	-	-	-	234
	11,216	-	11,216	2,780	13,996	23,365
f) Hall running expenses						
Hall running expenses	6,633	-	6,633	-	6,633	6,088
Hall and flat maintenance	1,745	-	1,745	574	2,319	3,229
Commission payable	886	-	886	-	886	880
	9,264	-	9,264	574	9,838	10,197

G. Howley 16/05/22

REPORTS FROM CHURCH COMMITTEES AND GROUPS

Armley Deanery Synod

Bev Tuke - Deanery Synod Representative

The first face to face synod was held a few months ago. There was a presentation from the new deanery secretary who hopes to unite everyone in the Leeds area this year. The aim is to get back into a normal routine of regular Deanery Synod meetings.

Bereavement Support Group

Farsley bereavement support group, due to covid, have had to change their date and time over the last few months back to the fourth Friday morning of the month at St John's church hall. We restarted the group again on the 24th of September 2021 at St John's church hall in the lounge between 11-12. Farsley bereavement support group is a safe and supportive space to talk for those who have lost someone who is dear to them.

Lorna Sykes

Children and Families- ABC church

ABC has fulfilled its major aim: to introduce very young children (and their grownups) to church and then hopefully integrate them into the 10.30 service. We have a number of children who now attend the main church service who began their church journey attending ABC. We were unable, due to covid restrictions in 2020 and 2021, to recruit new members to ABC. As a result of this, ABC did not reopen after restrictions were lifted. The children's services are developing in other areas within the main church service.

Bev Tuke - ABC Co-ordinator

Children's group at the 10.30 service

For the first half of 2021, the Sunday school was still meeting online, with a half hour group involving singing, a Bible reading and a craft activity. We had around seven regular attendees. From the summer, we were excited to start meeting again in person and have been enjoying using the church hall as a large space which the children have loved to use to explore, play games and do craft activities during the 10.30 service. All the sessions are grounded in the Bible – following the same readings that are being heard in the main church service. We encourage our children and young people to think about what they are listening to, and have lots of fun putting into action what they have heard. The group of regular attending children have grown to around twenty children a week, which we thank god for. As a result, we now have two groups running at the same time each Sunday- (one for younger children up to year four) and one for young people (from year five onwards). We have a dedicated team of leaders and volunteers (and would always appreciate more), who give their time to helping our children discover more about who God is and the good news of the Christian faith. We are very grateful for the help of committed volunteers without whom the Sunday School would not be possible. The children love coming back into the main service to share what they have read and created that morning. As many people who come to the Christian faith do so when they are young, we are aiming to grow the Sunday school and reach out into the community. This will be done only

G. Howley

16/05/22

with a thorough risk assessment, paying particular attention to health and safety guidelines and ensuring compliance with Diocesan safeguarding policies and DBS requirements.

The Sunday School leaders and volunteers

The Church Choir

Well, after another year of erratic and unusual services, due to the effect of the pandemic, I am happy to report that our small but willing choir is now able to rehearse and sing at services as normal. Last Easter we were unable to sing anything Easter related but, by Christmas, with the help of outside singers, we were able to put on a candlelight carol service with a choir of seventeen (originally twenty four but depleted due to choir members, or their family contracting covid). The congregation numbers were down on previous years for all the Christmas services, but very much enjoyed by those who were able to join us. This Easter we are joined by friends once again to perform a "Come and Sing" meditation on Handel's Messiah and Cross of Christ on Good Friday, when a choir of eighteen will swell the sound.

Many thanks to all the choir members, and those who sing with us when they are able. I'm sure the congregation sing with more confidence when led by our choir.

Eileen Sheller – Organist and Choir leader

The Church in Rodley

We started the year with an Anglican church service on January 3rd but then had to cease worship until Sunday April 4th when Mrs. Shirley Walker led our Easter Sunday service and thankfully we have continued with our services for the rest of the year.

Our hall users also had to cease meeting in January but some restarted in April using various restrictions. We gradually got back to normal in early September. We welcomed back the ladies' group, craft class and playgroup along with the DYB explorer scout section and Leeds city council used our premises as a polling station in May.

We were sad to host the funeral of Marian Houseman in early January and we also lost another of our long-standing members, Florence Priestley later in the year.

We were happy to have two baptisms in July and we have had several "local arrangement" services during the year, which seem to have been well received by everyone.

Church council meetings restarted in August after a long absence. Services with restricted communion commenced mid-year and we still continue with this at present. A harvest festival was held in September, a toy service in November and a Christingle and nativity in December. Many of our members attended the Remembrance Day service which was held at the Rodley park memorial. We are grateful to Mrs. Shirley walker for taking many services at Rodley and for many other local people who helped during her absence.

Brian Thornton - Rodley Church

B. Thornton 16/05/22

Churches Together in Farsley

Along with other organisations we were not able to meet last year as covid restrictions still applied, not only in our worship but also in finding suitable spaces in our buildings for committee meetings. As far as possible communications were maintained between the three churches. John Proctor laid a wreath on our behalf at the cenotaph on Armistice Sunday and a very nice Christmas card was designed and produced for distributing to as many residencies as possible within the community. As ever it is the distribution process which seems to fall on fewer and fewer willing or able people; several cards were left behind this year. We were able to have our AGM and are starting to think about how we can continue to work together in Christian witness for Farsley and Rodley.

Shirley Walker - Churches Together Secretary

Health and Safety

This year, the PCC has continued to be vigilant in applying the existing health and safety procedures and ensuring that any new developments are risk-assessed and added to our policies. Our comprehensive policy document and risk assessments are available, on request from Bev Tuke or from the church warden.

Bev Tuke - Health and Safety Representative

Study and House groups

Cursillo

We have only met a couple of times this year so far but are looking forward to when we can meet regularly, to encourage and support one another through prayer, study and action.

Study Group

Eileen, Nicola and myself have been able to continue our study of Acts through zoom meetings. We welcome anyone wishing to join us and look forward to meeting together again in the near future.

Janet Whitaker


Wednesday Night Home Group

The aim of the Wednesday night home group is to have a space to meet together as friends and think about the Christian faith each week. Throughout 2021, we have enjoyed meeting up again, as previously in 2020, we met online when lockdown began. We have varied the structure each week but have always included praying together for one another, the world and the church. We have done short bible studies and discussed aspects of the Christian faith.

We have also enjoyed meeting socially and celebrating together with a garden party and Christmas party.

2020 was a challenging year, and in many ways 2021 had its own challenges too but it has been great to continue to meet together. We warmly welcome anyone who would like to come along and join us.

Joel and Vicky Isaacson



16/05/22

Parish Office

I have now been in the job a year and the office is busy with lots of bookings to hire the hall and the groups that already use our facilities. I have sent out booking invoices for the hiring of the hall, ensuring that payments are on time. I have enjoyed organising the office but there is still more to do, like tackling the filing cabinets. I answer the phones and emails about booking enquires, building works in the hall, church and flat, organise the appointments for Gareth's "vicar's hour", compile the notice sheet plus various other jobs that need doing in the day to day running of the office. The notice sheet is ongoing and if you need anything adding to it please let me know either by telephoning 0113 2566878 or by email helen.whitaker@stjohnsfarsley.org.uk If you wish to receive the notice sheet by email please let me know.

Helen Whitaker – Parish Office Administrator

Parish Safeguarding/DBS

- Anyone that volunteers now have to have DBS checks and must take part in safeguarding training. I have gone through the church groups bringing them up to date with training and checks that need to be completed. I need all volunteers to complete their training and checks as soon as possible. I have had to take part and do several training courses myself in order to facilitate my role. If you are wanting to volunteer please let me know so I can pass on the relevant information and help you undergo the correct training.

Helen Whitaker – Parish Safeguarding Officer/DBS Administrator

Social events

Since covid restrictions have diminished, more social events have been able to take place. We have had a Harvest supper, Christmas Fair and pancake day event for the children. These events were well attended and provide a great opportunity to introduce people to our church community. The farmer's market cafe is run by church members for church and is now making a small profit each month. We will be holding a Spring fair in 2022 and taking part in the village Jubilee celebrations in June 2022.

Bev Tuke

Sunflower Memory Cafe

We started the sunflower memory cafe mostly for people suffering from Alzheimer or Dementia and their carers in February 2016 providing somewhere to come and talk and make friends with people with the same problems. Anybody is welcome to the cafe. It is held every third Saturday of each month from 10 - 12. We have tea, coffee and toasted teacakes. Most months we have entertainment.

This year we have only been able to hold three sunflower cafes, the first on the 17th of September, due to covid. It was lovely to see some old friends again and to meet some new ones. In December, we held the sunflower Christmas party; fun was had by all. Next year we are hoping to have some new activities and go on some new outings.

Lorna Sykes – Sunflower Memory Cafe Co-ordinator



16/05/22

APPENDIX – ASSOCIATED REPORTS

Friends of St. John

It has been quite a successful twelve months for the Friends of St John's, but not as busy as in previous years due to covid restrictions. We are hopefully now getting back to normal. As usual, we have raised money from various events including table top sales, farmer's markets, Christmas raffle, the Heritage event and sponsored walks. In November we presented a cheque for £3,000 to the church towards the heating system and we are currently still fundraising for this. A Heritage walk booklet, previously produced, is still selling well and we have also been selling our annual calendar, which this year has been based on photographs of Farsley in the past. In September, we held our heritage open day in the church which is based on Farsley village and its people and this was held as part of the national Heritage open weekend. This year again was very well attended. A wonderful array of photographs was provided and displayed by the two Malcolms, Jim and other helpers. Pusey Civic Society brought along an array of books. Allan Hardcastle, once again, brought along memorabilia, but this time his theme was World War two fire service artefacts. The Friends of Rehoboth cemetery had a stall with literature about their project of clearing and restoring the old Rehoboth cemetery on Coal Hill lane. We also held our annual sponsored walk in September. The annual brass band concert and raffle were cancelled due to covid restrictions. December saw the drawing of our annual Christmas raffle. We paid £349.20 for the church organ repairing. We continue to have monthly gardening sessions in the churchyard. We also continue to have regular tables at the farmer's markets and table top sales selling bric-a-brac and books to help with fundraising. Thank you to everyone who helps at our events.

Linda Allen – Chairperson of Friends of St. John's

G. Howles

16/05/22