

PARISH OF THE ASCENSION TORRISHOLME WITH WESTGATE

ANNUAL REPORT

THE PARISH OF THE ASCENSION TORRISHOLME WITH WESTGATE

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 2021

Vicar	Fr Damian Porter
Churchwardens	Mr Alan Forshaw
	Mrs Janet Diamond

The Aims and purposes of the Parochial Church Council

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Damian Porter, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church of the Ascension and St Martin's Westgate Community Centre complex.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible of all ages to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through Word and Sacrament. Being rooted in the Catholic Tradition of the Church of England, our worship is centred on the Eucharist.

We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church buildings and Community Centres. The Church of St Martin is used for worship by the Orthodox Community, and we have reintroduced midweek worship in the building.

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Since the previous Annual Parish Meeting, the Parochial Church Council has met on 4 occasions. The average attendance being 12.

The following reports were given at each meeting:

- Chairman/Warden's report
- Electoral Roll report
- Christian Stewardship report
- Treasurer's report
- Church Hall report
- St Martin's report
- Deanery Synod report
- Junior Church report
- Safeguarding Officer's report. A safeguarding audit was carried out in the autumn.
- Churches Together in Bare & Torrisholme report

The following people have served on the Parochial Church Council during the year:

In addition to the Vicar and Churchwardens

- Ms Y Barrett (Secretary)
- Mrs K Thompson (Treasurer)
- Mr G Arkwright (Stewardship recorder)
- Mr D Wilde (Lay Reader)
- Mrs H Higgs (Safeguarding Officer)
- Mr J Farling (Deanery Synod and Vision Champion)
- Mrs J Hall ,
- Mrs C Hammond,
- Mrs M Parkin
- Mrs K Anderton
- Mr D Hargreaves
- Ms J Phillip
- The Revd Matteo Zambon

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Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

This year has again been massively impacted by the Coronavirus Pandemic, and we have had to restrict numbers at some of our services. and had to close completely during the strict national lockdown. We have now settled on a services schedule which we believe is meeting the needs of the people of the parish family.

The PCC is keen to offer a range of services during the week and over the course of the year that our community find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling.

We welcome into our Church people of all ages and from a wide variety of backgrounds.

All are welcome to attend our regular services. At present there are 185 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, 52 of whom are not resident within the parish. 6 names were added during the year and 1 was removed either through death or because they moved away from the parish. The average weekly attendance, counted during October, was 107, but this number increased at festivals and especially at Christmas.

As well as our regular services, we enabled our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. Through baptism we thank God for the gift of life, in marriage public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services friends and family express their grief and give thanks for the life which is now complete in this world and to commend the person into God's keeping. Over the past year, however, the number of these occasions has been much reduced because of the pandemic. We have celebrated just 15 baptisms and 3 wedding sand held 10 funerals in our church this year, and conducted a further 37 at the local Cemeteries and Crematoriums.

The Church Building and Church Hall Complex

Our buildings are generally in a good condition, and we try to invest resources each year into improvements and maintenance. In the year ahead we shall be spending a significant sum of money replacing the roof over the vestry area, ambulatory and some of the back of the church.

During the week the halls are regularly used by a wide variety of hirers, all of which add to the provision for our local community, and the rental income is very useful for our parish finances. This year, the pandemic has led to a reduction in the number of hirers, so the use of the buildings and subsequent income has been significantly reduced.

Pastoral Care

Some members of our parish have been unable to attend church due to sickness or age. Fr Damian Porter has visited church members who have requested it, and together with our informal pastoral care team has ensured that those who request it receive Holy Communion at home on a regular basis. Our fortnightly "Breaking Bread" Mass and Lunch Club are instrumental in our mission to the elderly and housebound.

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Mission and Evangelism

We produce regular weekly sheets with news and information, and we make good use of the website and Facebook page. We have renewed our notice boards making information clearer.

Ecumenical Relationships

The church is a member of Churches Together in Bare and Torrisholme. For much of the time of the Covid19 Pandemic we had been the only church open in the area of the parish, so ecumenical cooperation has been very difficult. The Churches together group has not met, but latterly the clergy have met together.

Financial Review

Total receipts of unrestricted funds were £109,598 (2020: £101,698) and restricted funds of missions received were £1,469 (2020: £478). This included a total amount of £40,464 (2020: £36,544) which was received through the stewardship scheme from the 99 parishioners, of which £32,891 (2020: £31,133) appears eligible for Gift Aid. Several discerning parishioners prefer to give occasionally using the orange envelopes and their occasional giving amounted to £7,573 (2020: £3,453), and all of this is eligible for Gift Aid.

Income from Church hall lettings increased to £40,609 (2020: £31,202) as did the income from Fees. Fund raising activities in the Parish generated £1,136 (2020: £1,159), a comparable figure to that raised in 2020.

£94,903 (2020: £107,491) was spent from unrestricted funds to provide the Christian ministry for the Parish of Torrisholme, including the contribution to the diocesan parish share of £42,000 (2020: £42,000) and largely provides the stipends and housing for the clergy, as well as financing the work of the Diocesan Offices and Officers.

The sum that the parishes in the diocese have to find for the parish share is shared between the parishes according to a formula that is based mainly on a head count of the congregations and socio-economic factors.

The net result was an excess of receipts over payments of £15,389 (2020: deficit £8,275) on unrestricted funds. Adding bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balances carried forward at 31st December on unrestricted funds totalled £200,308 (2020: £184,919).

Throughout the year the congregation collected a number of contributions for 3rd party charities these amounts were:

- Children's society: £1,468.50

Reserves Policy

We have in recent years always been able to meet all our expenditure and our parish share quota. In the light of the Covid pandemic we recognise the need to try to keep the equivalent of one year turnover as a reasonable reserve. During the current year the church has remained largely closed so there has been limited opportunity to spend as much as in a typical year. This has resulted in a cash balance is higher than our reserves policy states. Going forward we will seek to bring the cash reserve position into line with the reserve policy

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Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. In particular we want to mention our churchwardens Janet Diamond and Alan Forshaw who have worked so tirelessly on our behalf Kathryn Thompson and Gordon Arkwright who serve faithfully as Treasurer and Stewardship Recorder, and help us all to understand the church's accounts and its finances.

This report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by:



Rev. D Porter

Chairman

Date

20/4/2022

PARISH OF THE ASCENSION TORRISHOLME WITH WESTGATE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR 1 JANUARY 2021 TO 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Fund 2020 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Voluntary Income	2(a)	55,215.36	-	55,215.36	56,822.19
Activities for Generating Funds	2(b)	1,136.53	-	1,136.53	1,158.55
Income from Investments	2(c)	235.64	-	235.64	579.55
Church Activities	2(d)	47,249.00	-	47,249.00	31,443.50
Missions Received			1,468.50	1,468.50	475.50
Other Income	2(e)	5,761.00	-	5,761.00	11,694.50
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		109,597.53	1,468.50	111,066.03	102,173.79
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Parish Share		42,000.00	-	42,000.00	42,000.00
Missions	3(a)	-	745.00	745.00	2,875.50
Fund Raising Costs	3(b)	28.16	-	28.16	81.90
Church Activities	3(c)	35,834.13	-	35,834.13	21,859.49
Church and Church Hall Running Costs	3(d)	16,817.13	-	16,817.13	22,046.07
Church and Church Hall Repairs	3(e)	252.00	-	252.00	21,585.60
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		94,931.69	745.00	95,676.69	110,448.56
NET INCOMING/ (OUTGOING) RESOURCES					
		14,665.84	723.50	15,389.34	(8,274.77)
Balances brought forward at 1/1/21		182,362.87	2,556.25	184,919.12	193,193.89
Balances carried forward at 31/12/21		197,028.71	3,279.75	200,308.46	184,919.12

PARISH OF THE ASCENSION TORRISHOLME WITH WESTGATE

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Fund 2020 £
ASSETS				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	102,884.29	1,878.93	104,763.22	89,373.88
Current Investments				
Church Dep Fund – Legacy a/c	55,789.98	1,000	56,789.98	56,789.98
Permanent Accounts				
Sugden Legacy-Security fund	-	400.82	400.82	400.82
Other Investments/ accounts				
Other accounts	38,354.44	-	38,354.44	38,354.44

K Thompson

Kathryn Thompson
Hon Treasurer

M Paramor

Matthew Paramor
Independent Examiner

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on and signed on its behalf by:

D Porter

Rev. D Porter
Chairman

Date

20/4/2022

PARISH OF THE ASCENSION TORRISHOLME WITH WESTAGE

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1. Accounting Policies

Basis For Preparation

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

Funds

Unrestricted Funds are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Restricted Funds represent income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest and donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given.

Assets

Investments are valued at market value at 31st December. Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the account in accordance with s.96 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993. Expenditure on maintenance or improvement of the church, halls and vicarage is written off in the year it is incurred.

Mission Received and Paid

Where collections are collected on behalf of another registered charity these are not recognised in the Statement of financing activities. These amounts are not recognised as the church is acting on behalf of other charities, and as such these funds are not under the control of the PCC.

Where Payments are made to support missions from PCC funds these are recognised within the Statement of Financing Activities. A full list of the Missions paid where the church is acting both on behalf of other charities and on its own behalf is shown in the Annual report of page 4.

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

2 – Incoming Resources

2(a) – Voluntary Income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Planned Giving				
Gift Aid Donations	32,891.00	-	32,891.00	31,133.38
Occasional Giving	7,573.05	-	7,573.05	3,453.22
Income Tax Recoverable	10,290.73	-	10,290.73	11,443.61
Non Gift Aid	-	-	-	5,411.78
Collections	4,429.05	-	4,429.05	1,511.78
Donations/Legacies	-	-	-	3,869.00
Total	55,215.36	-	55,215.36	56,822.19

2(b) – Activities for Generating Funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Coffee Money	287.00	-	287.00	571.00
Plants	559.00	-	559.00	216.90
Lunch Club	290.53	-	290.53	370.65
Total	1,136.53	-	1,136.53	1,158.55

2(c) – Income from Investments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
National Savings	167.55	-	167.55	184.71
Church Deposit Fund	-	-	-	316.08
Church Deposit Funds @ Blackburn	68.09	-	68.09	63.77
Investment Accounts	-	-	-	14.99
Total	235.64	-	235.64	579.55

2(d) – Income from Church Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Church Hall Lettings	40,609.00	-	40,609.00	31,203.50
Fees	6,640.00	-	6,640.00	240.00
Total	47,249.00	-	47,249.00	31,443.50

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

2(e) – Other Income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Flowers	1,321.00	-	1,321.00	720.50
LCC Forms	-	-	-	6.00
BDBF Comp Grant	-	-	-	-
BDBF – LIFC Grant	-	-	-	968.00
LCC Grant	4,440.00	-	4,440.00	10,000
Total	5,761.00	-	5,761.00	11,694.50

3. Resources Expended

3(a) – Mission

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Friends of the Holy Land	-	-	-	855.00
Bishops Harvest Appeal	-	-	-	320.50
St Andrew's Donation	-	-	-	1,700.00
British Legion	-	50.00	50.00	-
Local Schools	-	375.00	375.00	-
Homestart	-	150.00	150.00	-
Church's Together	-	170.00	170.00	-
Total	-	745.00	745.00	2,875.50

3(b) – Fund Raising Costs

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Coffee	-	-	-	20.40
Lunch Club	8.16	-	8.16	61.50
Raffle Tickets	20.00	-	20.00	-
Total	28.16	-	28.16	81.90

3(c) – Church Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Vicar's Expenses	5,069.26	-	5,069.26	1,003.50
Vicarage Expenses	6,976.63	-	6,976.63	4,207.76
Sunday School	1,156.51	-	1,156.51	229.64
Organist	1,531.60	-	1,531.60	840.00
Wages	8,049.55	-	8,049.55	7,047.61
Stationary and Admin	6,034.37	-	6,034.37	1232.12
Photocopier charges	-	-	-	1,959.57
Flowers	1,453	-	1,453	587.50
Church Services	5,452.34	-	5,452.34	3,250.51
Organ Repairs	-	-	-	1,251.60
Computer Equipment	-	-	-	49.90
Sundries	111.14	-	111.14	199.78
Total	35,834.40	-	35,834.40	21,859.49

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

3(d) –Church and Church Hall Running Costs

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Electricity	3,584.63	-	3,584.63	3,006.46
Gas	4,572.08	-	4,572.08	4,950.47
Insurance	2,581.20	-	2,581.20	2,535.08
Repairs and Renewals	262.00	-	262.00	7,899.20
Cleaning Materials	1,340.91	-	1,340.91	1,156.28
Garden Maintenance	3,307.29	-	3,307.29	361.90
Water Rates	305.72	-	305.72	983.78
Phones	863.31	-	863.31	1,152.90
Total	16,817.13	-	16,817.13	22,046.07

3(e) –Church and Church Hall Repairs

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Special Works:				
General Maintenance	252.00	-	252.00	-
Vestry Kitchen	-	-	-	8,355.00
Gate/Fence	-	-	-	665.00
New Zone Valve Hall	-	-	-	1,773.60
Church Redecoration	-	-	-	10,792.00
Total	252.00	-	252.00	21,585.60

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT

**Independent Examiner's Report to the members/trustees of the Parish of the Ascension
Torrisholme with Westgate Parochial Church Council.**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021 which are set out on pages 6 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

As trustees of the charity, the members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met;or
1. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Matthew Paramor
15 Briar Fields, Maidstone,

Date: 20/04/2022