



MIDHURST

PARISH CHURCH

Trustees Annual Report and

Financial Report

of The Parochial Church Council of

St. Mary Magdalene & St. Denys Church

Church Hill, Midhurst, West Sussex, GU29 9PB

Registered Charity No.1194217

For the year ended 31st December 2021

OUR AIMS AND PURPOSES AS A CHARITY

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd David Willis, in:

- The promotion of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England.
- Promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social, evangelistic and, ecumenical.
- Knowing Jesus better and making Him better known.
- Practical support and care for people in the parish, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of level of need or, ability to pay.
- Providing support to those in need and by giving financial support to other organisations with similar objectives.

The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of St Mary Magdalene & St Denys Church, Church Hill, Midhurst as well as the interior of St Ann's Hall, the parish room which is rented from the Cowdray Estate.

WHAT WE PLANNED TO DO TO ACHIEVE OUR CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES

When planning our activities for the year, our incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'.

The council has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, fully recognising its duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

For this year we discussed and planned the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims:

- Enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church.
- Enabling as many people as possible to become part of our parish community.
- Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers.

- Diversifying our programme of worship to enable more people to attend services in the parish.
- Putting faith into practice, through prayer and worship, and by acts of kindness in our community.
- Offering prayer, learning about scripture, and fellowship in small group situations.
- Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of Christianity and their trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Raising money and food for other charities.
- Reaching out to young people and families through groups and regular services and clubs aimed at them.
- Maintaining the fabric of the church building as a historic centre and focus of life in the village.
- Keeping the church building open to receive those who come in to find quiet and prayer and provide resources for them.

ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE

Attendance at worship

The church family at Midhurst Parish Church is actively seeking growth and it is our pleasure to welcome anyone from all walks of life to take part in the life of the church. We contend that voluntary attendance to worship the Lord Jesus Christ, is a major demonstration of the public benefit of our activities.

The average regular weekly attendance (Sundays and Wednesdays), counted during October was 68 people, with the number increasing on both Harvest Sunday and All Saints Sunday. Numbers attending were affected this year, once again, by Covid-19 related restrictions. Services were not held with congregations present in the building between the New Year and Easter Day. During that time, members of the worshipping community and others took part in services held online via Zoom. This practice has continued, allowing those who cannot attend services for

geographical or mobility reasons to feel part of the worshipping life of the parish.

We look to encourage the deepening of faith for all ages, and alongside our services on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, the Sparks group (primary school age and under) meet for a programme of activities. Older children and teenagers gathered on Sunday afternoons for their own groups led by our Youth and Children's Minister. These groups are open to all young people regardless of their family's involvement in other church activities. We provide Messy Church services which help families to engage with church in a relaxed and fun way.

Christmas is a very special time of celebration where many sections of the community come together to join in the services. This year's services were, sadly, impacted by Covid-19. It was, however, a joy to welcome the children and families of Midhurst CE Primary School for their carol service, as well as those from Little Laura's Nursery. The usual five carol services held for the pupils of Midhurst Rother College were condensed to one which was videoed and shown to the other pupils in tutor time back at school.

Our programme of services changed in the summer to reflect the PCCs desire to offer a variety of services to appeal to different groups in the wider community. The new format for services includes two non-Eucharistic services with more modern, guitar led, singing and one more creative service of Holy Communion. It



A packed church at Harvest

has been a difficult time to trial new services as for much of the year we were wearing face coverings and certain aspects of our worship were limited. It remains to be seen whether these services will serve to grow

the numbers attending. It has certainly been a joy to see new people joining the church during the year.

Baptisms, weddings, and funerals



Tommy's Baptism

It was with great delight that we celebrated the baptisms of 3 children during 2021, having baptised none during 2020. This number is far lower than pre-pandemic baptism numbers, but still represents a welcome increase on the previous year.

Sadly, no weddings took place during 2021, but we were able to extend pastoral ministry to families at 11 church funerals with 9 other funerals conducted for parishioners.

Evangelism and outreach

Several events during the year really helped us to connect with larger numbers of our community. A Cream Tea in August was well attended, despite inclement weather, whereas good weather for the Light Party in November saw a well-attended event for all the family including a BBQ in the Town Square.

Another opportunity for outreach is the annual All Souls Service. This event was advertised to the whole community, but families we have met through funeral ministry were specially invited to this special afternoon service. Prayer cards and holding crosses were well received by those attending and candles were lit in memory of the dead.

This year the church offered the Alpha Course to the community. 6 people attended the 10 week course between September and Christmas. Those who attended enjoyed the course tremendously and found it to be very helpful in bringing them closer to Jesus. The course was held on Thursday evenings over dessert and coffee. It will run again in 2022.

A big part of our outreach is through Midhurst Primary School where the vicar and the Youth and Children's Minister share the responsibility for

leading a weekly act of collective worship. We were very pleased that this year the prayer activities event could be held at the school with every class taking the opportunity to spend time quietly moving between ten different prayer activities. It was an enjoyable and moving time for all.

We see our youth work, and our pastoral work as important aspects of our outreach along with projects such as the Friendship Tea. These monthly events are open to all - providing cake, tea, entertainment, and most importantly friendship. Whilst held in the church, it is not an explicitly Christian event, but more about tackling loneliness and building relationships. Relationship building and expressing thankfulness is also at the heart of our gift giving at Christmas. This year we gave a small box of chocolates to over 140 shops and businesses in our town as a gesture of our support and gratitude.



Prayer Activities



A Love Midhurst Sunday

Another way that we have sought to make our church more visible in the community and to bless our town has been through designating our 5th Sunday of the month services as 'Love Midhurst' services. The church family gathers together for a 15-minute service before

going in different directions to do things that bless our community. These have included litter picking, the preparation of Christmas gifts, beautifying our churchyard and surrounding area, and a prayer walk.

It is important to us that the church is available for private prayer not just to the church family but to the wider visiting community. The votive candle stand provides a focus for prayers and prayer booklets are available for those who would like written prayers to use. This year a prayer board was added into the chapel area with paper and pens. This provided an opportunity for people to leave a written prayer request for others to see and to be included in our prayers on a Wednesday morning. Many remark not only how refreshing it is to find an open church, but also on the sense of peacefulness and spirituality that the church provides.

Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish

Pastoral Care in the parish is led by the vicar, the assistant curate, Revd. Jane Roberts, and the Pastoral Care Coordinator, Jenny Dennett. Visits and phone calls are made to anyone within the parish (whether a church attender or not) as requested. Home and hospital visiting was greatly reduced in 2021 as we continued to make our way through the Covid-19 pandemic. During the second part of the year, with the PCCs approval, Jenny undertook Authorised Lay Minister training focusing on pastoral care. She was Commissioned in the Cathedral in January 2022.

Other charitable giving

During the year collections and appeals were made for certain other charities. Around Mothering Sunday the congregation gave to the Mothers' Union Away From It All project which provides caravan holidays for families in need. £808 was raised to support this. We also support Family Support Work, a local Charity with close links to the Diocese of Chichester, who support families struggling for any reason. During the year they appointed a new Family Support Practitioner in our Deanery, Kirsty Hewitt. Kirsty spoke to the church in December at our Toy Service and was given a huge amount of toys and vouchers to distribute amongst the families that she works with. At Christmas, a special appeal towards Kirsty's employment raised £3000. Donations were also made to Midhurst Foodbank at Harvest and the Royal British Legion at Remembrance.

Since its inception in 2014, Midhurst Parish Church has provided facilities and volunteers for the Midhurst Foodbank Centre (part of Chichester District Foodbank). This continues to be the case as does our year-round collecting of food.

In September, the vicar and his son, Jacob, took part in the Sussex Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride event. They cycled over 45 miles and raised over £1500 that was split between the charity and the church.

Learning together and growing in faith.

House groups and other small groups provide opportunities for growing in our understanding of Jesus as well as providing opportunities for fellowship and support. We have 4 house groups who have met regularly at times during 2021. Sometimes these meetings have been online as has been necessary. Members of these groups enjoy times of Bible study and prayer as well as much needed fellowship and support.

As well as house groups other courses have been provided looking at certain aspects of faith. These have included Lent courses, Big Church Read (book group style) meetings, the Living in Love and Faith course, and a course on Faith in the Second Half of Life.



Sponsored cycle ride

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

MEETINGS

12 th January 2021	Deanery Standing Committee
22 nd February 2021	Deanery Synod Meeting by Zoom
17 th March 2021	Deanery Standing Committee Special meeting
19 th May 2021	Deanery Standing Committee
29 th July 2021	Deanery Synod meeting. Away day.
6 th October 2021	Deanery Standing Committee
27 th October 2021	Deanery Synod Meeting

The new Bishop of Horsham, Bishop Ruth attended the meeting in February by zoom. She introduced herself and outlined her views on several related subjects. She then answered members questions. A new Lay Chair was appointed. Christina Heath was duly elected and has proved to be a very good choice.

There have been 3 major discussion items during the year.

FINANCE

Throughout the year the discussion has centred around the short fall in the income versus outgoings of the Diocese. The primary source of income for the Diocese is the Parish Contribution. Considerable efforts were made to ensure parishes contributed their designated amount. All parishes in this Deanery paid the required amount in 2021, but that was not the case in other areas. It was clear that the deficit in the Diocesan finances was getting larger and larger. This culminated in the Diocese making suggestions that next year's Parish Share should cover the full cost of having a Priest. This was £74,300 for a full time Priest and £47,000 for a part time priest. It was suggested by the Diocese that parishes should pay the full cost of having a Priest (PMC) and a further 15% over a period. The problem was discussed in full at our July Meeting. The parish share payments for 2021 were approximately 15% below the full PMC. It was agreed that the aim should be for each parish to increase its payments by 5% a year for 3 years, or shorter, if possible, thus paying the full cost of PMC. Efforts to contribute

more than the 100% of PMC would not be considered until the Deanery as a whole were able to contribute the 100% PMC. The Diocese was present at our October meeting and gave their full financial presentation. It was clear that there was going to be a deficit in the budget in the millions. They inferred that if the parishes did not come up with the cash the other major saving could only be made by reducing the number of clergy, but the Bishop of Chichester had indicated that he did not intend to do this. They were informed of the Deanery decision which we are all endeavouring to work to.

FAMILY SUPPORT WORK

FSW has been an ongoing Deanery Project for some time but has come to fruition in 2021. Following some changes in the plans FSW went back to the original one individual between 2 Benefices. The FSW worker has been recruited and has started work. The original agreement in the Deanery for our financial contribution was £750 per Benefice and this was confirmed at the meeting in July. The FSW worker is working through primarily Schools as they have the up-to-date information on deprived and struggling families. We have a surprising number of families in this category in the Deanery. The Deanery monitors the contributions to FSW to ensure we are paying our way. We are starting to receive good reports on the work being undertaken.

SYNOD MISSION ACTION PLAN

At the beginning of the year a new action plan was explained to the Synod, and since then we have been monitoring its progress throughout the year. We have been progressing well, the FSW and the one Parish of Easebourne, Lodsworth and Selham being good examples. Considerable discussion took place at the Awayday on the various sections with plans being made for the future. Living in Love and Faith was also covered with discussions and a course being set up within the Deanery to aid people in their deliberations.

CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH WORK REPORT

MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church has continued to grow well. It is usually held at the church and run by a team of volunteers from Midhurst Parish Church and other churches in the area. It is an informal service, with a time of teaching, worship, and craft, followed by tea kindly provided by volunteers. Messy Church is mainly aimed at children of primary school age, children from Midhurst and the surrounding area attend with their parents and carers. Towards the end of 2021, due to the popularity of these activities, it was decided that Messy Church events would increase from five events a year to one event every month.

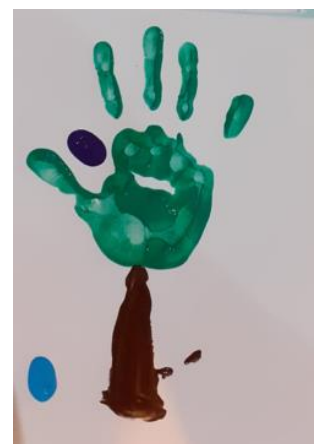


Virtual Messy Church

Due to the impact of Covid 19 we held only one virtual Messy Church event in the first half of the year which followed a similar format to our usual Messy Church events. Each child who signed up received an activity pack filled with various Easter-themed crafts and activities which they could make whilst following along on Zoom. The second half of the year we held five Messy Church events in person. The Light party, in particular, attracted and engaged with lots of local families with over seventy children and adults in attendance.

In 2021 the following Messy Churches took place:

April:	Virtual Messy Easter
July:	Messy Church Picnic
September:	Messy Church- Zacchaeus
October:	Light Party
November:	Music themed Messy Church
December:	Messy Christmas



Zacchaeus craft

SPARKS

Due to the impact of the Covid 19 Pandemic our previous Sunday School activities on the 1st and 3rd Sundays had to be suspended for part of the year. In order for the children to still feel they could engage with the Zoom

Church services, Beth put together weekly children's activity packs from January to July. These activities contained a Bible verse, a short message, crafts, and games. These activity packs followed along with the same Bible verses the adults looked at during the Sunday Zoom services. These packs were available to download from the Church website, and were also sent out via the weekly church news sheet. In September we were finally able to start up our Sunday School sessions, which we renamed Sparks, on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. These sessions involve stories, songs, games and crafts and are based on the weekly bible verses that the adults are hearing about in the main service.

IGNITE

Due to Covid 19 at the start of 2021, the ignite youth group were still meeting on Zoom. ignite sessions took place every Friday afternoon and these virtual sessions involved games, quizzes, bake alongs, escape rooms, discussions, bible teachings and more. This virtual ignite group engaged with a core group of young people and on average there were 7-9 young people who attended weekly.

Later in the year we were able to move ignite back to meeting in person on Sunday afternoons for hot chocolate, snacks, games, and bible-based teaching. Highlights of this year included a 'Staycation' event which we put



May Camp games

on in Midhurst over the May Bank holiday to replace the May camp event we would have usually taken the young people to, but Covid restrictions meant this event could not go ahead again. The weekend of events took place from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon and involved a lot of food, nerf battles, crafts, water games, bible-based teachings, and lots more. The

event helped us to engage with some of the young people we had not seen since before covid, and across the weekend we had 13 young people in attendance.

In the summer we held an end of year Summer BBQ and invited local children in Year 5 and 6 to join us along with the current young people who attended ignite. Roughly 25 children and young people joined us for the BBQ and many of these children continued to join us for our summer activities during July and August including a scavenger hunt, time challenges, casual drop-ins and lots more. Engaging with children in Year 5 and 6 meant that we had enough interest to set up a second ignite youth group towards the end of 2021. We set up a younger group for children in years 6 and 7 which meets in the afternoon on 2nd and 4th Sundays and on average 7 young people attend weekly. Our older ignite group for year 8 upwards meets every Wednesday afternoon after school and has, on average, 8 young people attend each week.

We are grateful to the congregation who continue to pray and support this important ministry.

SCHOOL'S WORK

Midhurst Primary School

Beth and Dave have continued to engage with Midhurst Primary school throughout 2021. Although unable to visit the school for part of the year, they were still able to provide video assemblies and in person assemblies during the second half of the year. They also managed to host prayer days in July which allowed the whole school to engage with various activities based around God and their school values.

Midhurst Rother College

The second half of 2021 saw Beth start to visit Midhurst Rother College again, twice weekly on Monday and Thursday lunch times. The Monday session was a drop in for young people to visit and play some games on their break. The Thursday session was a Christian Union open to all young people at MRC which provided them with the opportunity to question and discuss faith and God in a comfortable space whilst at school. On average each of these groups were attended by 6 young people each week. The young people who attended these groups really enjoyed them, and felt they had a safe space to spend time at lunch.

*Beth Pinder
Youth & Children's Minister*

CHURCHWARDENS REPORT

The principal responsibility of a churchwarden is to support the parish priest and his ministry team especially

- By helping to ensure that services are conducted in a welcoming and safe environment, and
- By ensuring that the church building and its contents are adequately maintained and protected

With regard to our services, the churchwardens are helped enormously by the assistant churchwardens, the sidespeople, the vergers and many other willing volunteers and we wish to thank them all. Where appropriate, we also act in concert with the Health & Safety Officer and the Safeguarding Officer.

As all of our lives continued to be affected by the Covid 19 pandemic throughout 2021, the health and safety of our congregation and of visitors to the church was again a significant priority. Our church at all times followed the regulations and guidelines as set out both by the national government and by the Church of England. In implementing the guidelines, we continued to use and to adapt the specific protocols relating to ventilation, cleaning and sanitation, mask-wearing, etc. that were originally developed during 2020.

The care of our beautiful listed building and of its contents encompasses recurring tasks and maintenance, responding to one-off events and addressing over time those major issues which are identified by our inspecting architect at formal inspections which must be carried out on a five year basis and/or by our insurers.

Among the recurring tasks, the testing of all portable electrical equipment was successfully completed (this has to be carried out every two years), the church gutters were cleaned, fire extinguishers tested and boiler serviced (all annual events), an inventory of church contents (also annual) was completed and the records of contents were checked and updated where necessary. One-off events in 2021 included rainwater ingress through a leak in the roof which was repaired by a contractor at a cost of £1,762 funded by the Friends of Midhurst Parish Church, the repair of the cemetery wall along the eastern side (funded by Chichester District Council) and the completion of repairs to the tower clock which were initiated during 2020 and cost £2,712 met from the Building Fund.

As we considered those issues that had been identified by our inspecting architect and/or by our insurers, we had to work within the limitations imposed both by the pandemic and by the church finances. Nevertheless, progress was made in a number of areas. While not mandating action, our insurers had in the past drawn our attention to the risk (to young children) posed by the low balcony rail in the gallery which does not conform to current building regulations. To ameliorate this risk action had been taken in an earlier year to put a single cordon at the bottom of the stairs and an accompanying sign warning parents not to permit unaccompanied children to ascend to the gallery. Together with the Health & Safety Officer and the PCC we felt that more should be done with the result that a lockable gate has now been affixed at the bottom of the stairs affording much added protection without the high expense of heightening the balcony rail to the detriment of the aesthetics of the building. A long-planned alarm system to and from the bell tower was finally installed as an alert in the case of fire or other emergencies. And the north and south doors were both treated with preserving oil and the door furnishings repainted. Although planning for significant masonry and pointing repairs was commenced, we await detailed specifications from our architect before this project can be put out to tender and, with the agreement of the PCC, action has now been put on hold so that specifications can be updated following the next Quinquennial Inspection. That Inspection is scheduled to take place by October 2022 and planning, including a tender process to appoint our architect, has already commenced.

The churchwardens are ex-officio members of the Parochial Church Council and all significant projects recommended by the churchwardens are subject to PCC approval. Through membership of the PCC, the churchwardens seek to support the ministry team and their colleagues on that body by contributing to the wider life of the church beyond their specific areas of responsibility.

While the office of churchwarden requires the exercise of responsibility, care and no little time, it is also a privilege to serve in this way and we thank you for the confidence and trust that you have placed in us.

This report would not be complete without acknowledging the dedication and service of Jenny Dennett as a churchwarden for just over seven years up to May 2021. Her two successors wish also to thank her for her help and

guidance as we moved into what for us was a new role and we are lucky that she and others are an ongoing source of help and strength.

Gerry Randall

Barry Semark (from May 2021)

Jenny Dennett (to May 2021)

PASTORAL CARE REPORT

Pastoral Care has continued to be impacted by the Covid pandemic meaning that home and care home visits have been very limited. Contact has been maintained by phone, text, or email. Mothering Sunday posies were delivered to the church family in March.

The Relaxed Carol Service was held this year with children from Midhurst Primary School involved, sadly, at the last minute, the donkeys were unable to come. Christmas cards were sent to those unable to get to church.

It has been good to see people returning to church services as and when they feel comfortable to do so.

The church has been open for private prayer when possible, providing a place to sit, pray, and/or light a candle. This is greatly appreciated by visitors to the town and people in the community.

In the autumn I was privileged to attend the Diocesan training for 'Authorised Lay Ministry Pastoral Care' in our parish and community. As contacts between people are becoming less risky in relation to Covid transmission we will be re-visioning our pastoral care in the church and community in the coming year.

With many thanks to all who care for and support our church family and community.

Jenny Dennett

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator

FRIENDSHIP TEAS

The idea of a Friendship Tea is to provide a hospitable and welcoming occasion to which newcomers to Midhurst or existing residents who may not have much opportunity to get out and meet people, can do so in a safe and peaceful place. The Teas were first started in 2017 and are held on the third Thursday of every month as an entirely secular occasion open to all, and free of charge.



Friendship Teas

In September 2021 the Teas were re-started after Covid, but unfortunately had to stop again in December (and have since resumed in 2022).

Numbers vary slightly but are typically in the region of 36 of whom around 22 are guests, the balance being volunteer bakers, helpers,

and pianist whose support is much appreciated. We particularly welcome our friends from Magdalen Court (supported housing) and the Year 6 children from Midhurst Primary School which is a lovely way of linking the generations. Feedback from our guests is always appreciative.

Mike Abbott

SOCIAL EVENTS REPORT

As with so many things in 2021, the pandemic curtailed most of our usual social events, but we were able to hold a cream teas afternoon in early August. While we had planned to hold this in the market square, the weather failed to co-operate, and we gathered in the church building.

Lots of people came along, both church members and people from our local community. We enjoyed scrumptious homemade scones, with jam and cream, and copious amounts of tea! It is fair to say that a good time was had by all, both those sitting down to the tea and those working to serve it.

Revd Jane Roberts

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

The safety and protection of children (age under 18) and vulnerable adults is a core concern and responsibility for the PCC. The topic is on the agenda of every PCC meeting with reports from Mike Abbott as the Parish Safeguarding Officer, assisted by Kirstin Bosley. The principal tasks are threefold. First, keeping the PCC up to date with the ever-shifting policy and practices relating to safeguarding nationally. Second, ensuring that all those working with children, particularly in Ignite, Sparks and Messy Church, are DBS cleared and trained as necessary. Finally to ensure a culture of awareness and vigilance which is based on having the right policies and procedures and is NOT based on assumptions. All this is in place to a considerable degree, if not ever perfect, and so constant vigilance is key.

*Mike Abbott
Parish Safeguarding Officer*

CHURCH MUSIC REPORT

The year has happily seen a return to worship in church, shared online, and music has returned in a slightly adapted form. The organ is used in services on the first and third Sundays, and Marco Frankland provides the music on the second and fourth Sundays. To the pleasure of many people, singing is now permitted again in church, led by the small but loyal choir, standing across the chancel, socially-distanced. For the singers this required some adjustment to the way in which they sing, particularly when the congregation was unable to participate. It was also possible to return to the traditional format of Christmas Carol Service, which once again included choir items.

In November the organ was damaged by an intruder in church, who broke three of the keys. The instrument remained playable and has subsequently been repaired.

*Paul Legrave
Director of Music*

HOUSE GROUP REPORTS

LIFE & FAITH GROUP

Whilst members of the group were in touch with each other during Lockdown we were able to actually meet in the Autumn and share our time together quietly, being mindful of the love which God has for us all. Following our quiet time we then read about those who, despite having to face traumas in their lives, were able to go forward with love and forgiveness. We will continue with this theme into the forthcoming months. The group is also pleased to welcome Jane Roberts who has joined us.

Madeleine Crisp
Convenor

MONDAY AFTERNOON GROUP

This group meets in the lounge at Russell Court fortnightly, on Monday afternoons at 2.30pm, followed by tea and cake/biscuits at 3.30pm. We continued meeting by Zoom in April and May 2021, the group completing the Big Church Read course on Prayer, using Pete Greig's video Prayer Course "How to Pray". The group has generally preferred to use as a basis for discussion, books from the Bible and so after a summer break we restarted in October, looking at Mark's Gospel. Discussion is lively and so we still have some way to go to complete our study of the Gospel. Picking out major themes from the Gospel, there is still so much to discuss that we will be fully occupied in the summer term! We have been fortunate to be able to use the lounge at Russell Court, kindly organised by Gordon Skidmore, and so could restart during the pandemic and sit at safe distances (when such gatherings were allowed).

The group is led by Jonathan Watson, and we have eight people present on most occasions. If anyone would like to join the group they would be very welcome. The person to contact is Jonathan Watson on 01730 816145.

Jonathan Watson

TUESDAY EVENING GROUP

The Tuesday Group is a group for slightly younger adults in the congregation. The group usually meet fortnightly on Tuesday evenings for fellowship, study, and prayer. During 2021 the group met entirely online. After a few stand-alone Bible studies at the beginning of the year, the group took part in the Lent 'Big Church Read' of Hannah Steele's 'Living His Story'. The course helped us all to feel a little more confident in our ability to witness to the love of God and the impact of Jesus on our lives. Studies after this focused on the period between Jesus' resurrection and the day of Pentecost. Meetings after the summer break were a little sporadic, but contact and support through prayer was maintained. I would like to thank Andrew Pons for taking over the leading of this group through the second part of the year.

Rev Dave Willis

LEARNING TO LIVE IN LOVE AND FAITH – A CONVERSATION

Midhurst and Woolbeding Parish Churches had sufficient church members (initially 11) to justify holding their own conversation in late 2021 about Learning to Live in Life and Faith (LLF) which primarily addresses the issue of whether the Church should now permit same sex marriage.

The discussion took place seated "in the round" in Midhurst church chancel with a round table in the centre and a candle thereon as a focal point. Tea and home-made cake made a hospitable precursor to the discussion. The debate was facilitated over the five sessions by the church's Licensed Lay Minister, Mike Abbott.

It was taken as read that all attendees were equally committed Christians and that any differences of view would be genuinely held and based on varying degrees of priority attached to "scripture alone", the Church's tradition, the changing context of society and greater scientific understanding of sexuality and gender, and one's own application of reason and conscience.

The discussion was very considered and respectful and ranged widely between those of firmly fixed views in either direction- for or against same sex marriage, and those who were undecided, seeing arguments on both sides and perhaps wishing to hear the debate.

It was recognised by everyone as an acutely difficult and potentially divisive topic at all levels in the Church and wider Anglican Communion.

The text in the LLF course booklet was followed broadly and two sessions entailed the showing of some of the video testimonies from the LLF website of those living in different understandings of Christian relationships. The discussions rehearsed the familiar arguments surrounding this debate, and which are likely to be repeated in General Synod next year. They were fully engaged discussions, and at the end the final ten participants were asked to state whether their views had changed at all. Only one person said her views had changed somewhat.

This should not be construed as implying the debate was pointless for it did enable differing views to be heard and arguments made which, if not agreed to by others holding different opinions, were at least heard respectfully. In short it was a good conversation!

The sessions were concluded with a quiet time of candle lit prayer for the Church at large, and those making the decision in General Synod.

Mike Abbott

BELL RINGERS' REPORT

2021 was a difficult year for bellringing, like so many other activities. The small size of the ringing chamber in Midhurst, the very limited ventilation, and the narrow access staircase (which has to be used to both enter and leave the ringing chamber) mean that it has been impossible to ring at Midhurst during much of the year within the Covid guidelines set out by the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers. However, as soon as ringing, even with many restrictions, was allowed, Nick Carter and I checked over the bell installation, greased the bearings and adjusted the ropes so that limited ringing could start. We started both Service ringing and regular practices in September, but unfortunately rising Covid numbers meant the we had to stop again in Mid-December. One notable event we did manage to fit in in early December was the installation of a rope spider (the thing that holds the bell ropes up off the floor) donated by Marcus and Joy Davis' family in memory of Marcus and Joy.

Marcus' daughter Alison arranged for a 'quarter-peal' (about 45 minutes of ringing during which the striking order of the bell continuously changes so that over 1200 different combinations are struck) to follow the blessing of the spider.

Nigel Goodenough

MOTHERS' UNION REPORT

Our meetings did not resume until August due to Covid, but members were kept in touch by email and phone. Members also joined District Zoom meetings during the lock down.

Some members participated in the events at the Selsey caravan site to raise money for the caravan we have for families who need holidays but can't afford them. (AFIA)

We collected items for Little Bundles run by Midwives to distribute to needy families.

A grant of £100 was given to FSW for the new worker in this area.

Four members attended the Gender Based Vigil Service at St. John's Church in Chichester.

Once we could meet again, the following events were held:

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| August | Mary Sumner (our Founder) Day was celebrated with a coffee morning. |
| September | A Mother's Union Quiz was held in St. Ann's Hall . |
| October | We brought 'Precious Items' to share with one another. |

We also held our first committee meeting for 18 months at which we elected our officials for the next three years. We are pleased to welcome Naomi Dekker on to the committee.

- | | |
|----------|---|
| November | Beth, our Church Youth Worker came to talk to us about her work and ideas for the future. |
| December | 18 members joined together for Christmas Lunch at The Bluebell at Cocking. |

Our numbers have dropped during the year due to the deaths of the following much loved members: Jessica Blossom, Joy Davies, Jenny Rhodes and Joy Walker. We also miss Sandy Ryrie who has moved to Ireland.

Jane Simpson

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

At Midhurst Parish Church the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (the vicar), the assistant curate, churchwardens, the reader and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. The full PCC met seven times during the year, three of which were online, with an average level of attendance of 77%. This included one special meeting to discuss church growth and worship patterns. Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has a number of committees (teams) each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life.

During 2021 these teams were:

- Finance, Fabric and Fundraising
- Pastoral
- Friends of Midhurst Parish Church
- Health and Safety

Teams meet as necessary and report back to the PCC with minutes of their decisions being received by the full PCC and discussed as necessary.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Midhurst Parish Church is situated in Church Hill, Midhurst. It is part of the Diocese of Chichester within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is:

The Parish Office, St Ann's Hall, St Ann's Hill, Midhurst, GU29 9NN.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and has the charity number 1194217.

PCC members who have served at any time from 1st January 2021:

Ex Officio members:

- Incumbent The Revd David Willis (Chair)
- Assistant Curate The Revd Jane Roberts
- Reader Mr Mike Abbott
 (Safeguarding Officer & Deanery Synod Rep.)
- Churchwardens Mr Gerry Randall
 Mr Barry Semark

Elected members:

- Mrs Chrissy Abbott
- Mrs Jude Gleave
- Mrs Lorraine Graham
- Mrs Emily Barrett
- Mrs Kirstin Bosley
- Mrs Jenny Dennett (Deanery Synod Rep.)
- Mr Kevin Jones
- Mrs Barbara Moss
- Mr Martin Roberts (PCC Secretary & Deanery Synod Rep.)
- Mr Dominic Singleton
- Mr Edward Symonds (Treasurer)
- Mrs Margaret Langridge
- Mrs Geraldine Thomson
- Mr James Yeates
- Ms Lillian Zwarts

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND ACCOUNTS

The Financial Review and Accounts are provided in a separate document available alongside this report.

Approved by the PCC on 24th March 2022, and signed on their behalf by Reverend David Willis (PCC Chair).

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY MAGDALENE & ST DENYS CHURCH, MIDHURST**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

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St. Mary Magdalene & St Denys Church, Church Hill, Midhurst

Incumbent: Rev. David Willis

Hon Treasurer: Mr E J Symonds

Assistant Treasurer: Mrs L Graham

Independent Examiner: Mr A Mardle,
Goodale Mardle Ltd
Midhurst GU29 9NQ

Bankers:

National Westminster Bank Plc
4 High Street, Petersfield, Hampshire, GU32 3JF

Lloyds Bank Plc
7 Carter Street, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, ST14 8HD

Lloyds Bank Plc
33 Old Broad Street, London, EC2N 1HZ

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY MAGDALENE & ST DENYS CHURCH, MIDHURST**

General (Unrestricted) Fund Receipts and Payments Account

Year Ended 31 December

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Receipts			
<i>Voluntary Receipts</i>			
Planned Giving		44,188	37,874
Collections and Other Giving		12,579	6,912
Total Giving		56,767	44,786
Gift Aid Received		8,867	10,327
Job Retention Scheme		417	1,545
Sundry Income		-	20
Legacies	5	110,000	11,202
		<u>176,050</u>	<u>67,880</u>
<i>Receipts from activities for generating funds</i>			
Fundraising Income (Gross)	272	-	-
Less: Fundraising Expenses	-	272	-
Church & Parish Room Hire		-	298
		<u>272</u>	<u>298</u>
<i>Receipts from church activities</i>			
Fees		1,181	1,439
<i>Receipts from investments</i>			
Interest & Dividends		1,057	1,367
TOTAL INCOME		<u>178,559</u>	<u>70,984</u>

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY MAGDALENE & ST DENYS CHURCH, MIDHURST**

General (Unrestricted) Fund Receipts & Payments Account (contd.)
Year Ended 31 December

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Payments			
<i>Church Activities</i>			
Diocesan Contribution ("Parish Share")		55,051	56,307
Honoraria		6,416	6,629
Utilities		2,183	2,779
Clergy Costs	6	2,278	3,211
Service Expenses		2,689	3,547
Maintenance	7	2,862	2,006
Broadband Installation		1,600	-
IT Equipment		540	-
Printing and Stationery		3,258	2,827
Office Equipment		594	545
Telephone & Broadband		727	800
Website		577	-
Parish Room Rent, Rates & Insurance		-	689
Insurances		2,711	2,668
Professional Fees		360	360
All other expenses		2,822	1,348
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		84,669	83,716
Surplus/(Deficit) of Income over Expenditure		93,890	(12,732)
Fund brought forward		79,164	71,896
Transfer from Reserve		-	20,000
Fund carried forward		173,054	79,164

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY MAGDALENE & ST DENYS CHURCH, MIDHURST**

Restricted and Designated Fund Receipts and Payments Accounts

Year Ended 31 December

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
<i>Building Fund</i>			
Designated Bank Account at 1 January		30,265	33,020
Designated Receipts		-	9,040
VAT Grant		-	1,549
Major Expenditure		-	(13,344)
Designated Bank Account 31 December		30,265	30,265
<i>Youth Worker Fund</i>			
Restricted/Designated Bank Account at 1 January		40,079	53,209
Restricted Receipts		7,902	14,000
Expenses - per Schedule attached		(30,114)	(27,130)
Restricted/Designated Bank Account 31 December		17,868	40,079
<i>Bell Tower Fund</i>			
Restricted Bank Account at 1 January		4,321	4,321
Expenditure		(2,712)	-
Restricted Bank Account 31 December		1,609	4,321
<i>Sunday School Fund</i>			
Restricted Bank Account 1 January		426	426
Expenditure		(220)	-
Restricted Bank Account 31 December		206	426
<i>Friends of Midhurst Parish Church</i>			
Restricted Bank Account 1 January		10,022	11,765
Restricted Donations		3,130	3,095
Gift Aid Received		600	-
Interest Received		1	9
Fund Raising Events		-	1,193
Contributions towards major repairs		(1,762)	(6,040)
Restricted Bank Account 31 December		11,992	10,022

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY MAGDALENE & ST DENYS CHURCH, MIDHURST
Restricted and Designated Fund Receipts and Payments Accounts - continued**

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Youth Work			
Restricted Bank Account 1 January		1,466	432
Restricted Receipts		-	1,000
Income		200	164
Payments		(880)	(130)
Restricted Bank Account 31 December		786	1,466
Charitable Giving			
Restricted Bank Account 1 January		20	648
Receipts - Appeals and collections		4,945	441
Payments - Appeals and collections	8	(3,349)	(1,069)
Restricted Bank Account 31 December		1,616	20
Parish Hall Fund			
Designated Bank Account 1 January		8,414	-
Rates Support Grant		-	10,000
Income		20	-
		8,434	1,000
Expenses			
Utilities		(563)	(386)
Insurance		(119)	-
Rent and Rates		(1,623)	(1,200)
Designated Bank Account 31 December		6,128	8,414
Youth Worker Fund			
Expenses for the Year ended 31 December			
Salary		26,614	24,807
Pension Contributions		799	744
Telephone & Broadband		1,001	791
Laptop		990	-
General Expenses		710	787
		30,114	27,130

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY MAGDALENE & ST DENYS CHURCH, MIDHURST
Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December**

	2021	2020
	£	£
<i>Bank Balances</i>		
National Westminster (Ac. No. 69055378)	92,137	11,108
National Westminster (Ac. No. 55011403)	11,992	10,022
Lloyds Bank (Ac. No. 17819460)	40,977	34,141
Lloyds Bank (Ac. MIPSCCMGB)	101,656	121,620
Sundry Debtors	28	19
Current Assets	246,789	176,910
Current Liabilities - Creditors	2,182	2,084
Net Current Assets	244,608	174,825
<i>Relating to:</i>		
Unrestricted General Fund	173,054	79,164
Restricted Building Fund	30,265	30,265
Restricted Youth Worker Fund	17,868	40,079
Restricted Bell Tower Fund	1,609	4,321
Designated Parish Hall Fund	6,128	8,414
Restricted Sunday School Fund	206	426
Restricted Friends of Midhurst Church	11,992	10,022
Restricted Youth Work	786	1,466
Restricted Appeal Funds	1,616	20
Fees Payable to Diocesan Board of Finance	1,085	649
	244,608	174,825

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. The Financial Statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Income and Expenditure basis.
2. No payments to members of the PCC or connected persons have been made, other than honorariums to the Director of Music and part-time administrators. There were no other disclosable transactions in respect of PCC members or persons closely connected to them.
3. Restricted and Designated Reserves as at 31 December 2021 are detailed on pages 4 and 5. Since the year end, the PCC has resolved to transfer a further £105,000 from unrestricted to designated reserves, mainly to cover a further year of Youth Ministry work (to the summer of 2024), to provide for building works as indicated by the Quinquennial Inspection and to improve audio-visual systems in the church. After such transfers, unrestricted funds are reduced from the £173,504 shown in the accounts to £68,504. The PCC believes it necessary to hold this level of unrestricted reserves in order to cover expected deficits on income and expenditure account over the next two years.
4. Certain restricted (legacy) funds are held by Chichester Diocese on behalf of Midhurst parish but (as the capital is not available to the PCC except for the restricted purposes) these have been excluded from these accounts. They are (i) CBF Investment Fund shares with a market value of £30,397 at 31 December 2021 for the housing of a curate and (ii) CBF Fixed Income Security shares with a market value of £8,864 for the provision of a new parish room.
5. Legacy income in 2021 was from the estate of the late Mrs Joyce Smith
6. This is the net cost to the PCC after recovery of (£2,575) contribution from Woolbeding parish for the two year ended 31 December 2020. The Woolbeding PCC will be invoiced in respect of the share of the 2021 expenses, in due course.
7. The only major expenditure was in respect of repairs to the roof. This was funded by the Friends in the sum of £1,762.
8. During the year Charitable appeals raised £4,945, including Gift Aid where applicable.

These were disbursed as follows:

Cancer Research	387
Chichester District Food Bank	272
Mothers' Union	733
RNLI	351
Royal British Legion	661
Sussex Historic Churches Trust	945
	<u>£3,349</u>

The remaining £1,616 was still in hand at 31 December and was disbursed to Family Support Work in January 2022. Together with further donations received and Gift Aid a Grand total of £3,000 was raised.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council and signed on its behalf

Rev David Willis
Chairman, Date

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY MAGDALENE & ST DENYS CHURCH, MIDHURST**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

**To the Parochial Church Council of St Mary Magdalene & St Denys Church,
Midhurst.**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021, which are set out on pages 1-7

**Respective responsibilities of the Parochial Church Council and the
Independent Examiner**

As members of the Parochial Church Council, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners in 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 (CC32 updated 4 September 2018).

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Parochial Church Council 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 Parochial Church Council concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit: consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

This report is made solely to the members of the PCC, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the members of the PCC those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the PCC and the members of the PCC, as a body, for my work for this report.

Signed
Date


04.05.22

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY MAGDALENE & ST DENYS CHURCH, MIDHURST

FINANCIAL REVIEW

I am pleased to present the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £178,559 of which £110,000 was from legacies and £8,867 was from Gift Aid. Restricted donations were also received and are detailed in the Financial Statements. The CBF investments yielded £1,021 and £36 was received in interest on the deposits with Lloyds Bank. The planned giving through envelopes and banker's orders increased by 17%. Irregular giving also almost doubled. Total income, including tax recovered but excluding the legacies, increased 19.% compared with last year.

The contribution to the diocesan parish share reduced by a small amount in the year and largely provides the stipends and housing for the clergy.

The sum that the churches in the deanery have to find is shared between the churches according to a formula that is based mainly on the duties and stipends of each clergy person employed in the individual parishes.

Our everyday expenditure continues to outstrip income and the Unrestricted fund will continue to be depleted. Major costs to maintain the Church Building are expected as the Quinquennial is imminent.

Further grants have been received towards the Youth Worker project and another has been applied for. Our commitments to that project continue. A list of the expenditure is attached to the accounts.

Funding for this project is now in place until September 2024.

Projected expenditure levels would suggest that it will not be long before we need to apply to Diocese for help meeting the "Parish Share".

The statement of assets and liabilities details the cash balances and where they are allocated to the various unrestricted and restricted funds.

Finally, I would like to add my thanks to Lorraine Graham for her continuing unstinting assistance in running the day to day management of the PCC finances.

Ted Symonds – Treasurer to the Parochial Church Council

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY MAGDALENE & ST DENYS CHURCH, MIDHURST**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

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St. Mary Magdalene & St Denys Church, Church Hill, Midhurst

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Assistant Treasurer: Mrs L Graham

Independent Examiner: Mr A Mardle,
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**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY MAGDALENE & ST DENYS CHURCH, MIDHURST**

General (Unrestricted) Fund Receipts and Payments Account

Year Ended 31 December

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Receipts			
<i>Voluntary Receipts</i>			
Planned Giving		44,188	37,874
Collections and Other Giving		12,579	6,912
Total Giving		56,767	44,786
Gift Aid Received		8,867	10,327
Job Retention Scheme		417	1,545
Sundry Income		-	20
Legacies	5	110,000	11,202
		<u>176,050</u>	<u>67,880</u>
<i>Receipts from activities for generating funds</i>			
Fundraising Income (Gross)	272	-	-
Less: Fundraising Expenses	-	272	-
Church & Parish Room Hire		-	298
		<u>272</u>	<u>298</u>
<i>Receipts from church activities</i>			
Fees		1,181	1,439
<i>Receipts from investments</i>			
Interest & Dividends		1,057	1,367
TOTAL INCOME		<u>178,559</u>	<u>70,984</u>

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY MAGDALENE & ST DENYS CHURCH, MIDHURST**

General (Unrestricted) Fund Receipts & Payments Account (contd.)
Year Ended 31 December

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All other expenses		2,822	1,348
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Fund brought forward		79,164	71,896
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Fund carried forward		173,054	79,164

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY MAGDALENE & ST DENYS CHURCH, MIDHURST**

Restricted and Designated Fund Receipts and Payments Accounts

Year Ended 31 December

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
<i>Building Fund</i>			
Designated Bank Account at 1 January		30,265	33,020
Designated Receipts		-	9,040
VAT Grant		-	1,549
Major Expenditure		-	(13,344)
Designated Bank Account 31 December		30,265	30,265
<i>Youth Worker Fund</i>			
Restricted/Designated Bank Account at 1 January		40,079	53,209
Restricted Receipts		7,902	14,000
Expenses - per Schedule attached		(30,114)	(27,130)
Restricted/Designated Bank Account 31 December		17,868	40,079
<i>Bell Tower Fund</i>			
Restricted Bank Account at 1 January		4,321	4,321
Expenditure		(2,712)	-
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Fund Raising Events		-	1,193
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**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY MAGDALENE & ST DENYS CHURCH, MIDHURST
Restricted and Designated Fund Receipts and Payments Accounts - continued**

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
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Restricted Bank Account 1 January		1,466	432
Restricted Receipts		-	1,000
Income		200	164
Payments		(880)	(130)
Restricted Bank Account 31 December		786	1,466
Charitable Giving			
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Receipts - Appeals and collections		4,945	441
Payments - Appeals and collections	8	(3,349)	(1,069)
Restricted Bank Account 31 December		1,616	20
Parish Hall Fund			
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ST MARY MAGDALENE & ST DENYS CHURCH, MIDHURST
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These were disbursed as follows:

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Royal British Legion	661
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	<u>£3,349</u>

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Approved by the Parochial Church Council and signed on its behalf

Rev David Willis
Chairman, Date

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY MAGDALENE & ST DENYS CHURCH, MIDHURST**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

**To the Parochial Church Council of St Mary Magdalene & St Denys Church,
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I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021, which are set out on pages 1-7

**Respective responsibilities of the Parochial Church Council and the
Independent Examiner**

As members of the Parochial Church Council, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners in 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 (CC32 updated 4 September 2018).

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Parochial Church Council 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 Parochial Church Council concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit: consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

This report is made solely to the members of the PCC, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the members of the PCC those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the PCC and the members of the PCC, as a body, for my work for this report.

Signed
Date


04.05.22

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY MAGDALENE & ST DENYS CHURCH, MIDHURST

FINANCIAL REVIEW

I am pleased to present the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £178,559 of which £110,000 was from legacies and £8,867 was from Gift Aid. Restricted donations were also received and are detailed in the Financial Statements. The CBF investments yielded £1,021 and £36 was received in interest on the deposits with Lloyds Bank. The planned giving through envelopes and banker's orders increased by 17%. Irregular giving also almost doubled. Total income, including tax recovered but excluding the legacies, increased 19.% compared with last year.

The contribution to the diocesan parish share reduced by a small amount in the year and largely provides the stipends and housing for the clergy.

The sum that the churches in the deanery have to find is shared between the churches according to a formula that is based mainly on the duties and stipends of each clergy person employed in the individual parishes.

Our everyday expenditure continues to outstrip income and the Unrestricted fund will continue to be depleted. Major costs to maintain the Church Building are expected as the Quinquennial is imminent.

Further grants have been received towards the Youth Worker project and another has been applied for. Our commitments to that project continue. A list of the expenditure is attached to the accounts.

Funding for this project is now in place until September 2024.

Projected expenditure levels would suggest that it will not be long before we need to apply to Diocese for help meeting the "Parish Share".

The statement of assets and liabilities details the cash balances and where they are allocated to the various unrestricted and restricted funds.

Finally, I would like to add my thanks to Lorraine Graham for her continuing unstinting assistance in running the day to day management of the PCC finances.

Ted Symonds – Treasurer to the Parochial Church Council

