**ST MARTIN’S PARISH CHURCH**

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING – SUNDAY, 15th MAY 2022**

**AGENDA**

1. **Opening Prayer**
2. **Apologies for absence**
3. **Minutes of meeting held on 23rd May 2021**
4. **Matters Arising**
5. **Notification of Any Other Business**
6. **Chairman’s Report – given during Sermon**
7. **Electoral Roll Report**
8. **Music and Worship Co-ordinator’s Report**
9. **Children and Families Worker’s Report**
10. **Treasurer’s Report**
11. **Elections:**
12. **Parish Church Wardens**
13. **Deputy Church Wardens**
14. **St Martin’s PCC**
15. **Electoral Roll Officer**
16. **Stewardship Secretary**
17. **Independent Examiner**
18. **Safeguarding Officer**
19. **Any Other Business**
20. **Date of next ACM**

**After the meeting the new St Martin’s PCC meet to elect:**

1. **Treasurer**
2. **Secretary to PCC**
3. **Sidespersons**

**ST MARTIN’S PARISH CHURCH**

**Annual Church Meeting**

**Sunday 25th OCTOBER 2020**

**Chair: Revd. Jenny Mayo**

**Present: Members of St Martin’s Parish Church in Church and via Zoom**

1. The Revd. Jenny Mayo welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayer.
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** David Sharpe
3. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7th APRIL 2019:**  The Minutes which had previously been circulated via the Church website were unanimously accepted and signed by Jenny as a true and proper record.
4. **MATTERS ARISING:** There were no matters arising from the minutes.
5. **NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS:** There were no notifications of Any Other Business
6. **CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:** Jenny had delivered the Chairman’s Report as part of this morning’s Service in which she had thanked everyone for contributing to maintaining the life of St Martin’s over the last eighteen months and particularly during the Covid 19 pandemic. This report is available for reference.
7. **ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT:** Jacky Lynam read out Martin King’s Electoral Roll Report. Since April 2019 2 people had left the Electoral Roll due to moving to another Church and 8 new names had been added 4 of whom are first timers. The Electoral Roll as at April 2020 stands at 105 people. There have been no changes since that date.
8. **TREASURER’S REPORT:** Dorothy Doody presented the Treasurer’s Report (attached). Dorothy said that the annual report had been circulated prior to the meeting on the Church website including a ‘Financial Review’. Dorothy explained several points on the accounts which are available for anyone to examine. She pointed out that we had again suffered a deficit and detailed the role the pandemic was playing in decreasing our income, particularly Hall Lettings and asked everyone to pray for St Martin’s financial situation.

The Parish Share is our main expenditure and will continue to increase proportionally until it reaches £60,900 in 2022. Jenny has spoken to the diocese about this and they have asked that we continue to do what we can. We are currently paying our share in full. Dorothy outlined a couple of options for people to look at. She asked that those who donate via the envelope scheme and money on the plate consider paying by Direct Debit and Gift Aiding donations where applicable. She also advised that the Diocese has set up on our behalf a Just Giving page for additional donations which will not cost St. Martin’s anything to operate in the foreseeable future.

Jenny advised Dorothy was stepping down as Treasurer today and thanked her for all her hard work and faithful service over the past few years.

1. **ELECTIONS:**

**Parish Church Wardens**: Carl Whitford and David Sharpe had agreed to continue to serve this year and they were elected unanimously.

**Deputy Parish Wardens:** Julie Bradshaw and Lesley Bates were elected unanimously. There is still one vacancy for a Deputy Church Warden.

**Deanery Synod Representatives:** Margaret Carter and Jen Whitford were unanimously elected to serve as Deanery Synod Representatives

**St. Martin’s PCC:** Gill Beasley, Julie Bradshaw, Sylvie Brown, Dorothy Doody, Carole Gregory, Martin King, Jacky Lynam, Colin and Susan Mcllwaine, Jenny Paxton and Diane Sainsbury were unanimously elected.

**.**

**Sidespersons:** There are no changes to the list of Sidespersons and all were re-elected unanimously

**Electoral Roll Officer:** Martin King was elected unanimously.

**Stewardship** **Secretary:** Martin King was elected unanimously.

**Safety Officer:** Sylvie Brown was elected unanimously.

**Independent Examiner:** Keith Brown was elected unanimously.

1. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS:** None
2. **DATE OF NEXT ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING:** To be advised

PCC Elected members agreed the following posts immediately following the meeting:

**Treasurer:** Chris Davidson

Chris was proposed by John Duder, seconded by John Proctor and elected unanimously.

**Secretary:** Jacky Lynam.

Jacky was proposed by David Lynam, seconded by Dorothy Doody and elected unanimously.

**Standing Committee:** To be confirmed

**Church Bank Account Signatories**: To be confirmed

The date of the first Virtual PCC meeting will be advised

**Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council of Walsall St Martin**

**For the year ended 31st December 2021**

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**The Parochial Church Council of Walsall St Martin**

**Trustees’ Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2021**

**Objectives and Activities**

The Parochial Church Council of Walsall St Martin (the PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Jennifer Mayo, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also spiritually responsible for the maintenance of the church

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at Walsall St Martin. 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 prayer, scripture, music and sacrament. Also, through non sacramental activities of hospitality and fellowship we aim to reach non churched members of the community.

**Public Benefit**

The trustees of the PCC are aware of the Charity Commission’s guidance on public benefit in The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit and have had regard to it in their administration of the Charity. The trustees believe that, by promoting the work of the Church of England in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Walsall St Martin it helps to promote the whole mission of the Church (pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical) more effectively, within the Ecclesiastical Parish, and that in doing so it provides a benefit to the public by:

* Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers; and
* Promoting Christian values and service by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

**Achievements and Performance**

See Review of the Year

**Financial Review**

It is very pleasing to report that after our overall loss in 2020 of £19,731 we had a surplus in 2021 of **£843**. Throughout 2021 we have been striving to minimise costs and raise funds prior to any planned expenditure. The main reasons for the difference are:

* Fund Raising for Children & Families Worker.
  + The total raised at the Gift Day (including Gift Aid) was **£7,240**
  + We have sought and received grants of **£4,500** from the Cooper & Jordan Trust.
  + The Bold’z Brass Concert in November raised **£682**
* The Church Administrator post was dropped when Martin retired in July. This saved around **£3,000** for the year.
* Reduced hours for the Children & Families Worker.
* We have been advised by the Diocese that we no longer need to depreciate the value of the church halls every year. Depreciation has a direct impact on the reported profit/loss, and although this is just an accounting adjustment it means the reported result will be **£7,000** better every year.

The table below shows the result for the last five years after taking church hall depreciation out of the numbers. This shows that although income has recovered in 2021, it is still significantly less that in 2017-19.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2021** | **2020** | **2019** | **2018** | **2017** |
| **Income** | £87,857 | £72,468 | £117,022 | £108,276 | £104,835 |
| **Expenditure** | £87,010 | £85,523 | £110,434 | £108,927 | £119,816 |
| **Profit/Loss** | **£847** | **-£13,055** | **£6,588** | **-£651** | **-£14,981** |

**Fund Review**

***General Fund***

The General Fund which represents the day to day running costs and income of the church.

Income for the year was £72,561. Of this £57,380 was from church giving including gift aid and £13,182 was from hall lettings. The continued major reduction in income to this fund was Hall Lettings which was down by 45% compared with 2019 due to the halls being closed because of Covid-19.

Expenditure was £79,923. The bulk of this was Parish Share at £52,097 and this was paid in full just after the year end. In 2021 the Diocese reduced the Parish Share due by the equivalent of 1 months’ payment (£4,800) in response to financial difficulties all churches experienced due to Covid-19.

The other large expenditure item was Tithe. St. Martin’s has continued its policy to tithe 10% of its giving to various charities through Mission Giving and the total for this was £5,099.

***Designated Funds***

Designated funds are funds where money is set aside by the PCC for a specific purpose.

**Baby & Toddler Group** – The income generated from this group is set aside and used to fund its costs. Just before the end of the year the balance of this fund was over £500, so in accordance with a rule previously agreed by the PCC £500 was transferred into the Children & Family Worker fund. The Baby & Toddler Group has re-started following the pandemic and is now generating a healthy income.

**Major Maintenance –** This is a fund set aside for large projects that arise, for example roof repairs. There was no requirement to use this fund in 2021 so the balance remains unchanged at £35,000.

**Hardship Fund –** There was no expenditure from this find in 2021 and the balance remains at £306.

***Restricted Funds***

Restricted funds represent money which is given for a specific purpose and can only be used for that purpose.

**Building For The Future** – This is the Repair & Maintenance Fabric Fund which is used for day-to-day expenses over £1,000. There was no expenditure from or income to this fund in 2021 so the balance remains at £9,934. Income has previously come from from the Café and Tai Chi, both of which did not operate due to the pandemic.

**Children & Family** – Funds are spent on the salary and resources used by the Children & Families Worker. Income to the fund was £13,076 and expenditure was £5,225, with a year end balance of £10,758. We currently have sufficient funds and planned income to the fund for the role to last well into 2023, but we will need to start thinking about raising further funds later this year to ensure continuity in 2023.

**Defibrillator** – Funds set aside for Defibrillator maintenance. When we tried to obtain the spare parts for the defibrillator as planned, we were told that the model was now obsolete therefore we couldn’t get the parts. We therefore sought funds to purchase a new one at a cost of £954. We received several donations from hall users and the congregation, and the Brownies held a sponsored silence which raised £335. We were able to purchase the new Defibrillator and now have a balance of £127 in the fund to cover replacement pads over the next four years.

**Karfung Yip** – We received a £1,000 grant from the cathedral to be used for any equipment required for the Kick Start Digital Communications placement (Karfung Yip). We have spent this money on equipment for live streaming services (including a new laptop), and a new PC for the office.

**Outlook for 2022**

**General Outlook**

When the budget for 2022 was set at the end of 2021 were anticipating a loss of around £19,000. However, since then several factors have made us more optimistic.

There are plans for the Café to re-start later in May and we will be holding a Spring Fair/Jubilee celebration in June. Income from these sources in 2019 was £5,700 so this will be a welcome return.

The prospects for Hall Hire income in 2022 are good, now that many of our hirers who had stopped due to COVID have returned. Income should return to the pre-pandemic level of around £20,000. Additionally, since the start of March we are receiving £1,000 per month for the use of the church as a COVID vaccination centre so that will further boost our hire income.

We are continuing to seek ways to raise funds and keep costs to a minimum, but if income continues as expected we are likely to be able to pay our full contribution to the Common Fund and we will break even.

**Common Fund**

The Parish Share system has been replaced with the Common Fund as from 2022. The idea is that better-off parishes will be able to contribute resources to less well-off parishes to share the burden of payment.

A new method of calculation, based on ‘indices of multiple deprivation’, has come into effect. St Martins have been placed 11th out of a possible 12 rankings, (1 being the most deprived). This means that we will be expected to make a significant contribution to support less well-off parishes.

The changes are being phased in over a four year period, starting this year. The full Common Fund payment for 2022 will be the same as 2021 (£56,833). The payment by St Martin’s for the following years is forecast to be as follows:

* 2023 £59,675
* 2024 £62,659
* 2025 £65,792

This means that by 2025 we will be expected to pay £9,000 per year more than we do now.

The PCC will continue to regularly review the financial position and ensure that we have a balance on free reserves that will cover several months payments. To this end we are currently paying half the amount of Common Fund due per month and will review this through the year and pay more as and when we feel able.

**Utilities**

***Gas***

The cost of gas in 2021 was £1,752, which was less than 2020 (£2,513). The gas contract was due for renewal in April and we have joined a collective scheme called Parish Buying Energy Basket where the rates are relatively low due to bulk buying. The rate was significantly less than the renewal we were being offered by EoN. We have signed up for this initially until Sept 2022, and thereafter it can be reviewed every year.

***Electricity***

The cost of Electricity in 2021 was £746, which was less than 2020 (£918). The electricity contract was due for renewal in October. The best deal available was a two year one with EDF Energy which is a 24% increase over the previous two year deal.

Fortunately, both of these contracts were entered into before the recent huge price rises so we have been somewhat protected for the moment.

**Finance Team**

2021 was a year of change for the Finance Team.

* Martin King retired from all his responsibilities when the Administrator role was discontinued (as we could no longer afford it).
* Carl Petrucco stepped down from his bank liaison role.
* Keith Brown retired as our Accountant (Year-end accounts preparation and Auditing).

After Martin retired, we switched away from using spreadsheets to prepare the accounts to a new accounting system provided by the Diocese. There is an annual subscription to this system but the Diocese are paying. The system is used to generate reports for PCC meetings and for year-end accounts.

The roles that Martin King carried out have been distributed amongst several people:

* Dorothy Doody has taken on bookkeeping, using the new accounting package.
* Sue Cooper has taken on Stewardship and Gift Aid management and additionally has taken on the payroll. The payroll was previously done by the Diocese at a cost to us.
* Chris Davidson has taken on budgeting, management of hall hire payments, preparation of year-end accounts and management of payments for funerals/weddings.
* Jenny Paxton has taken on bank liaison.

David and Jacky Lynam continue to be responsible for banking cash and cheques.

The Treasurer would like to thank all the members of the Finance Team for their support in 2021, and also would like to thank Cosy Baggot-Jewitt (Diocese Finance Team) for her support in implementing the new accounting system.

[End of Financial Review]

**Reserves Policy**

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on free reserves (net current assets) which equates to at least three months unrestricted payments. This is equivalent to £22,921. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The balance of the free reserves at the year end was £31,343 which is higher than this target.

**Safeguarding**

The PCC believe they have fulfilled their duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops’ guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Susan McIllwaine took on the role of Safeguarding Officer at the APCM. Since then she has worked hard to bring the records up to date and ensure that all necessary training has been received by relevant members of the congregation. We held a Safeguarding service in the Autumn to highlight the role that Safeguarding plays in the church and we will be holding a similar service during 2022.

**Reporting Serious Incidents**

A Serious Incident is an adverse event, whether actual or alleged, which results in or risks significant harm to the charity’s beneficiaries, employees, office holders, volunteers or to others who come into contact with the charity through its work, loss of the charity’s money or assets, damage to the charity’s property or harm to the charity’s work or reputation.

The trustees are not aware of any Serious Incidents in the last year.

**Fundraising**

The PCC takes it fundraising responsibilities seriously and is very grateful to all donors – whether regular or occasional – for their support of the church and church events. PCC supporters are never taken for granted. The PCC take full responsibility for fundraising and do not use commercial organisations or professional fundraisers. All money raised is either by donations, fundraising events, special appeals or legacies for which the PCC are most grateful.

**Review of the Year 2021-22– Minister’s Report by Revd Jenny Mayo (Incumbent)**

Since our last APCM we as a church have been looking forward to the future post-covid, whilst we take stock of the past and come to terms with how life has changed for us. My last report talked about how we were still meeting a lot online, over Zoom and live stream. We were hoping to open up groups and expand services to normal again. We were still negotiating masks and social distancing and getting to grips with the ‘new normal’.

**Sunday services**

Our Sunday Services have now fully returned to their usual pre-covid pattern, although we have seen a significant drop in regular attendance. It has been delightful to have music return gradually, and we are now enjoying full and varied musical worship. Thank you so much to our music group, all those who meet at Sing and Praise, and those who are committed to practices and leading us in worship. A big thank you to Kar Fung who facilitated our online provision, we are currently working on getting a more consistent approach to mixed mode worship provision. Thank you to everyone who is committed to attend each week, and a big thank you to those who facilitate and lead, preach and coordinate. All your efforts are seen and very much appreciated. Our prayer and praise and BCP services are back up and running, although not consistently well attended. P&P is looking to adapt and change accordingly, watch this space. Our Messy church is also back, and well attended by families. A big thank you to all the volunteers who help, if you feel you could offer help please chat to Imogen.

**Midweek services**

From the beginning of May our midweek service will be on a Thursday at 10am to accommodate the community café and bereavement group. We now have a full preaching rota again for a Thursday, a massive thank you to John, Chris, Keith, Margaret, Penny and Colin T for your midweek ministry. We started lent with an ashing service, held a vigil for the Ukrainian crisis in March, and celebrated Maundy Thursday together. Thank you to Julie who faithfully sets up and tidies away, and to all who help facilitate the worship.

**Homegroups**

During covid some homegroups continued to meet online, and some have now begun to meet in person again. This year the Monday daytime homegroup moved to the vicarage and have studied the Bible Course and Romans together.

**Children and family’s work**

We said ‘goodbye’ to Trish as our children’s and family’s worker, and a very happy ‘hello’ to Imogen who stepped into that role. She has hit the ground running with Sunday club, messy church and baby and toddlers. A big thank you to the whole baby and toddler group team who have handled the change in leadership with grace and patience. Also a big thank you to those who volunteer to help in Sunday club and messy church – you’re absolute stars, although it’s the same faces so we could really do with some new folk to step up and help.

**Hall hire**

Thankfully our hall’s are bustling again with hirers, a very helpful boost to our budget. There are many different community groups that use our halls both regularly and for one off events. We really do need someone to coordinate this ministry, could that be you? We’ve compiled a job description for it, have a look and please have a think and pray about it.

**Financial**

We started off the year with a sense of dread about the deficit in our budget. We ended the year with a big sigh of relief that we just about managed to break even and have a budget that is balanced. This is down to the tireless hard work of the Davidsons and the finance team. They have managed our money very carefully, been committed to fundraising, and have faithfully prayed through what has been a pretty tough time. Thank you so much to you all.

**Community**

We said goodbye to beloved members of our church family as they took their final journeys into Jesus’ kingdom, and we still feel the loss of them here in our family. We’ve also facilitated funerals for people of our parish, as well as offering a well-attended bereavement group – a big thank you to Gill, Chris and Penny who coordinate and lead it. Thank you to Julie and Diane who have helped us serve our community through gathering food and products for the foodbank. Thank you to all those involved in pastoral care, and to Judith M who remembers when everyone’s birthday is. Thank you to Chris R and all those who facilitate and help with outreach and prayer walking. A big thank you to Jane and the team for meeting, planning and praying for our community café, it’s amazing to offer this facility to our community again. You’re all amazing! It’s been wonderful to see the Daffodil’s community garden grow and flourish, congratulations to Lesley and the whole team. We’ve held very successful joint events and are very much looking forward to our Queen’s Jubilee celebration in June. There have been concerts and gigs for fundraising and fun, a massive well done to all!

**Fabric**

Thank you to the faithful team who pop in each week to clean and tidy and fix things around our church, Jacky and Martin and Sue – you are complete stars! No one could say the last time the hall curtains were cleaned, we are very grateful you did! Our buildings need some TLC, and we are in need of a team of faithful folk to for a fabric committee. Could it be you? Have a look at our job’s board, and have a think and pray.

**Church Officers**

A very big thank you to Jacky Lynam for doing such an amazing job as PCC Secretary and a big thank you to the outgoing PCC members. We are very grateful that Jacky is recovering, and all our love and prayers to her and David. She has served St Martin’s faithfully for many years, and we say thank you to her for all she’s done. We now are in need of a new PCC secretary and an electoral roll officer, please have a look at the job’s board and see whether it could be you! Thank you to Chris, Sue D, Dorothy, Sue C and the finance team who work tirelessly to manage our finances. A big thank you to Carl and David our churchwardens, for your faithful service. Carl is stepping down this year, thank you so much for all your hard work and dedication. Thank you to Susan for her service as safeguarding officer, for getting us up to date with DBS’s and training, and for helping us be a safe place for all.

**Staff, licensed people, and volunteers**

Thank you to our employed worker Immy, continuing to do an amazing job as worship coordinator and children and family’s worker. Thank you to all those who creatively and beautifully prepare our flowers, you make such a huge difference to our worship space. Thank you to all those who lead us in worship with such enthusiasm and dedication, and a massive thank you to our lay ministers Margaret, Liz and Penny for all of their hard work and faithful service, and to Colin M, Susan and everyone who helps lead and shape our worship. It’s been lovely to welcome Colin T as he trains for licenced lay ministry. There are so many who do so much, often without notice or praise or reward – without your quiet and committed service St Martin’s wouldn’t exist. Thank you.

**Special services**

This year we happily were able to hold our Carols by candlelight, toy service, Christingle and other Christmas services. Although the numbers were well under what we normally would see, it was so lovely to be able to meet together in person. Our All Age services are established again, with us looking at different Christian role models throughout history. Our All Age Remembrance service was the best attended service of the year, a big thank you to our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides groups, leaders and parents. For the first time we celebrated Safeguarding Sunday, a great opportunity to take to heart the responsibility we all share for making our church a safe place.

**Courses**

This year we have studied together the Bible Course, we met during Advent to discuss interesting topics whilst making Christmas crafts, we’ve run an Alpha course, and we have done the Wellbeing Journey.

**Looking Ahead**

In the coming year we will welcome our curate Sue Philips as she is ordained on the 26th June, please be holding her in prayer as she takes this step of faith and commitment with God. My prayer for St Martin’s in 2022 is that we will find new and imaginative ways to reach out to our neighbours in service and love, whilst speaking about the sure and certain hope we’ve found in Jesus. I pray that by working together we may see St Martin’s grow and flourish and see Jesus’ Kingdom come in our corner of Walsall. In the power of the Lord Jesus, I pray that we may all grasp the height and breadth and depth of God’s love for us as we continue to minister together in His name and for His glory. May God’s blessing be with you all, this year and always.

[End of Review of the Year]

**The Coronavirus Pandemic**

2021 was another particularly challenging year with the continuing disruption caused by the coronavirus pandemic and the consequent national lockdowns, restrictions on routine services, weddings and funerals as well as fundraising and other community events planned during the year. The PCC have tried to remain positive throughout to support the community as well as the fabric of our church building and halls.

Income has dropped considerably, particularly from hall lettings. However, many of our hirers have now returned so hall hire income is recovering.

The Diocese offered to waive the Parish Share for 1 month which has been most welcome.

Online streaming of services has continued and it is hoped that we that have reached a broader audience than the routine congregation.

**Future Plans**

See Review of the Year.

**Risk Management**

The Church Wardens carry out regular Health and Safety Reviews and regularly inspect premises for potential hazards. We have safeguarding policies in place for child protection and for work with vulnerable adults, including rigorous DBS checking of staff and volunteers. Our insurances are reviewed annually to ensure adequate cover. An informal review of any new risks which may impact the work of the Church in the Parish is ongoing.

**Structure, Governance and Management**

The PCC is a Body Corporate established by the Church of England and is a Charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission. The PCC is governed by the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended that came into effect on 2nd January 1957, and the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended).

The method of appointment of the PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The Council comprises the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, a representative of the Readers, those elected to the Deanery Synod, and other members who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, by those on the Electoral Roll. The PCC members receive training from courses run by the Diocese. Members of the congregation are always urged to join the Electoral Roll, and to stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance in the parish, and for all financial matters. The PCC meet six times a year.

**Related Parties**

*(“Related parties” are members of the PCC their partners, children, siblings, parents, grandparents, business interest/controlling interest).*

**Donations from Related Parties**

Donations from related parties during the year totalled £15,024. All these donations were received without conditions.

**Remuneration paid to Trustees**

Carl Whitford (Warden) is employed by the PCC on a self-employed basis to maintain the grounds. The remuneration in 2021 was £2275.

**Expenses paid to Trustees**

Various members of the PCC, the vicar and readers received expenses in carrying out their duties as members of the clergy team. No member of the PCC, or any persons closely connected to them, received any payments or expenses for carrying out their PCC duties.

**Reference and Administrative details**

The Church is situated two miles from Walsall town centre and is part of the Deanery of Walsall, in the Diocese of Lichfield. The correspondence address is St Martin’s House, 17 Daffodil Road, Walsall, West Midlands WS5 3DQ. Our website address is: www.stmartinswalsall.org

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2021 until the date this report was approved were**:**

**Ex Officio Members**

**The Incumbent** The Reverend Jennifer Mayo (Chairman)

**Readers** Margaret Carter, Liz Askey

**Churchwardens** David Sharpe

Carl Whitford

**Deanery Synod Reps** Jen Whitford

Margaret Carter

Imogen Watson

**Elected Members** Gill Beasley

Julie Bradshaw

Sylvie Brown (Until 23rd May 2021)

Chris Davidson (Treasurer) (From 23rd May 2021)

Dorothy Doody

Carol Gregory (Until 23rd May 2021)

Martin King (Until 23rd May 2021)

Jacky Lynam (Secretary)

Colin Mcllwain

Susan Mcllwaine

Jenny Paxton

Diane Sainsbury

Approved by the PCC on 24th March 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

……………………………….….….… ………………………………

Reverend Jenny Mayo (Chairman) Jacky Lynam (Secretary)

**Independent Examiner’s report to the trustees/members of The PCC of Walsall St Martin**

Registered charity number (if applicable): n/a

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

**Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner**

The charity’s trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity’s trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility

* to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
* to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
* to 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 trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a “true and fair” view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

* accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
* the accounts do not accord with the with the accounting records
* the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

* *Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: ………………………………………….. Date: …………………………………

Jonathan Hill FCMA CGMA

Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance

St Marys House, The Close, Lichfield. WS13 7LD

**Independent Examiner’s report to the trustees/members of The PCC of Walsall St Martin**

Registered charity number (if applicable): n/a

**Disclosure**

*Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32 Independent Examination of Charity Accounts: Directions and Guidance for Examiners).*

**Brief details of any items that the Examiner wishes to disclose**

**The Parochial Church Council of Walsall St Martin**

**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2021**

**Accounting Policies**

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions. They have also been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

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

**Cashflow Statement**

The Charity has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 from the requirement to produce a Cash flow statement on the grounds that the income does not exceed £500,000.

**Going Concern**

There are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

**Post Balance Sheet Event**

The ongoing worldwide outbreak of the COVID-19 virus still represents a significant event since the end of the financial year. The Charity has reviewed its cash flow forecasts and considered the impact on going concern, concluding that the going concern basis remains an appropriate basis of preparation for these financial statements given the likely cash flow impact of operations for 12 months from the date of signing this report.

**Accounting Estimates and Prior Year Errors**

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period.

No material prior year errors have been identified in the reporting period.

**Description of Funds**

**Unrestricted funds** are income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are therefore not included in its "free reserves" as disclosed in the trustees' annual report.

**Restricted funds** comprise of two elements:

a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest

b) 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. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

**Endowment funds** are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend capital as income, and where the

**Accounting Policies continued**

use of any income or other benefit derived from the capital may be restricted or unrestricted. Full details of all their restrictions are shown in the notes to the accounts.

**Income**

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received or when the PCC becomes entitled to the resource and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and Legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

**Expenditure**

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

**Governance and Support Costs**

Support costs should be allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the PCC and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources eg by allocating staff costs by time spent and other costs by their usage.

**Fixed Assets**

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts by s.10(2)(a)&(C) of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the Church’s inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements.

No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial.

Other tangible fixed assets are valued at cost. The depreciation rates and methods used are as follows:

Equipment and furniture is included at a valuation as and is being depreciated on a straight-line basis over 10 years, any computer equipment being depreciated over 5 years on the same basis. Individual items with a purchase cost of £1,000 or less are written off when they are acquired.

**Investments**

Investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued initially at cost and subsequently at market value at the year end. Investments held for re-sale are treated as current asset investments.

**Debtors**

Debtors are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount. Subsequently they are measured at cash expected to be received.

**Creditors and Accruals**

Creditors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts. Accruals are measured on best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date

**Statement of Financial Activities**

Unrestricted Designated Restricted Endowment Total Prior year

funds funds funds funds funds total funds

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Income and endowments from:** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Donations and legacies | 57,380 | 685 | 14,531 | — | 72,596 | 59,185 |
| Income from charitable activities | 14,476 | — | — | — | 14,476 | 11,720 |
| Other trading activities | 667 | — | 80 | — | 747 | 1,068 |
| Investments | 39 | — | — | — | 39 | 495 |
| Other income | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| **Total income** | **72,561** | **685** | **14,611** | **—** | **87,857** | **72,468** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Expenditure on:** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Raising funds | 107 | — | — | — | 107 | 115 |
| Expenditure on charitable activities | 79,816 | — | 7,087 | — | 86,903 | 92,087 |
| **Total expenditure** | **79,923** | **—** | **7,087** | **—** | **87,010** | **92,201** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer** | **(7,362)** | **685** | **7,524** | **—** | **847** | **(19,733)** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Transfers** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gross transfers between funds - in | — | — | 500 | — | 500 | — |
| Gross transfers between funds - out | — | (500) | — | — | (500) | — |
| **Other recognised gains / losses** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gains / losses on investment assets | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| **Net movement in funds** | **(7,362)** | **185** | **8,024** | **—** | **847** | **(19,733)** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total funds brought forward** | **70,485** | **296,319** | **12,916** | **—** | **379,719** | **399,452** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total funds carried forward** | **63,123** | **296,504** | **20,941** | **—** | **380,567** | **379,719** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Represented by** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Unrestricted** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| General Fund | 63,123 | — | — | — | 63,123 | 70,485 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Designated** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Baby & Toddler Group | — | 42 | — | — | 42 | 118 |
| Cafe | — | 260 | — | — | 260 | — |
| Capital Reserve | — | 260,895 | — | — | 260,895 | 260,895 |
| Hardship Fund | — | 306 | — | — | 306 | 306 |
| Major Maintenance | — | 35,000 | — | — | 35,000 | 35,000 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Restricted** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Building For The Future | — | — | 9,934 | — | 9,934 | 9,934 |
| Children And Family Worker | — | — | 10,758 | — | 10,758 | 2,907 |
| Christian Aid | — | — | — | — | — | 9 |
| Communion Cups | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Defibrillator | — | — | 127 | — | 127 | 66 |
| KarFungYip | — | — | 121 | — | 121 | — |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Balance sheet**

Total funds Prior year funds

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| **Fixed assets** |  |  |
| Tangible assets | 288,357 | 288,357 |
| Investments | 818 | 1,226 |
|  | **289,174** | **289,583** |
|  |  |  |
| **Current assets** |  |  |
| Debtors | 10,839 | 8,409 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 87,288 | 86,106 |
|  | **98,128** | **94,515** |
|  |  |  |
| **Liabilities** |  |  |
| Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year | 6,735 | 4,379 |
|  | **6,735** | **4,379** |
|  |  |  |
| **Net current assets less current liabilities** | **91,393** | **90,137** |
|  |  |  |
| **Total assets less current liabilities** | **380,567** | **379,719** |
|  |  |  |
| **Total net assets less liabilities** | **380,567** | **379,719** |
|  |  |  |
| **Represented by** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Unrestricted** |  |  |
| General Fund | 63,123 | 70,485 |
|  |  |  |
| **Designated** |  |  |
| Baby & Toddler Group | 42 | 118 |
| Cafe | 260 | — |
| Capital Reserve | 260,895 | 260,895 |
| Hardship Fund | 306 | 306 |
| Major Maintenance | 35,000 | 35,000 |
|  |  |  |
| **Restricted** |  |  |
| Children And Family Worker | 10,758 | 2,907 |
| Christian Aid | — | 9 |
| Communion Cups | — | — |
| Defibrillator | 127 | 66 |
| KarFungYip | 121 | — |
| Building For The Future | 9,934 | 9,934 |
|  |  |  |
| **Funds of the church** | **380,567** | **379,719** |
|  |  |  |

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 24th March 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Signature: ………………………………………

Name: …………………………………………...

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

**Statement of assets and liabilities**

General Designated Restricted Endowment This year Last year

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Fixed assets - Investments** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Equipment - | 818 | — | — | — | 818 | 1,226 |
| **Totals** | **818** | **—** | **—** | **—** | **818** | **1,226** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Fixed assets - Tangible assets** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Church Halls - | 27,462 | 260,895 | — | — | 288,357 | 288,357 |
| **Totals** | **27,462** | **260,895** | **—** | **—** | **288,357** | **288,357** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HSBC current account - | 4,420 | 589 | 7,572 | — | 12,581 | 11,500 |
| CBF deposit account - | 26,850 | 35,000 | 12,765 | — | 74,614 | 74,575 |
| Cash in hand - | 73 | 20 | — | — | 93 | 30 |
| **Totals** | **31,343** | **35,609** | **20,337** | **—** | **87,288** | **86,106** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Current assets - Debtors** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Accounts Receivable - | 9,559 | — | 1,280 | — | 10,839 | 8,409 |
| **Totals** | **9,559** | **—** | **1,280** | **—** | **10,839** | **8,409** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Liabilities - Agency accounts** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Agency collections - | — | — | 676 | — | 676 | — |
| **Totals** | **—** | **—** | **676** | **—** | **676** | **—** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Liabilities - Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Accounts Payable - | 6,059 | — | — | — | 6,059 | 4,379 |
| **Totals** | **6,059** | **—** | **—** | **—** | **6,059** | **4,379** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Grand total** | **63,123** | **296,504** | **20,941** | **—** | **380,567** | **379,719** |

**Fund movement by type**

Opening Incoming Outgoing Transfers Gains/losses Closing

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Baby&Toddl - Baby & Toddler Group** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Designated | 118 | 425 | — | (500) | — | 42 |
| **Sub-total for Baby&Toddl** | **118** | **425** | **—** | **(500)** | **—** | **42** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **C&FW - Children And Family** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Restricted | 2,907 | 12,576 | 5,225 | 500 | — | 10,758 |
| **Sub-total for C&FW** | **2,907** | **12,576** | **5,225** | **500** | **—** | **10,758** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Cafe - Cafe** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Designated | — | 260 | — | — | — | 260 |
| **Sub-total for Cafe** | **—** | **260** | **—** | **—** | **—** | **260** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Capital Re - Capital Reserve** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Designated | 260,895 | — | — | — | — | 260,895 |
| **Sub-total for Capital Re** | **260,895** | **—** | **—** | **—** | **—** | **260,895** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Christian - Christian Aid** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Restricted | 9 | — | 9 | — | — | — |
| **Sub-total for Christian** | **9** | **—** | **9** | **—** | **—** | **—** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Communion - Communion Cups** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Restricted | — | 20 | 20 | — | — | — |
| **Sub-total for Communion** | **—** | **20** | **20** | **—** | **—** | **—** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Defibrilla - Defibrillator** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Restricted | 66 | 1,015 | 954 | — | — | 127 |
| **Sub-total for Defibrilla** | **66** | **1,015** | **954** | **—** | **—** | **127** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Fung - KarFungYip** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Restricted | — | 1,000 | 879 | — | — | 121 |
| **Sub-total for Fung** | **—** | **1,000** | **879** | **—** | **—** | **121** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Future - Building For The Fut** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Restricted | 9,934 | — | — | — | — | 9,934 |
| **Sub-total for Future** | **9,934** | **—** | **—** | **—** | **—** | **9,934** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Hardship - Hardship Fund** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Designated | 306 | — | — | — | — | 306 |
| **Sub-total for Hardship** | **306** | **—** | **—** | **—** | **—** | **306** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Maintenanc - Major Maintenance** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Designated | 35,000 | — | — | — | — | 35,000 |
| **Sub-total for Maintenanc** | **35,000** | **—** | **—** | **—** | **—** | **35,000** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **General - General Fund** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unrestricted | 70,485 | 72,561 | 79,923 | — | — | 63,123 |
| **Sub-total for General** | **70,485** | **72,561** | **79,923** | **—** | **—** | **63,123** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Grand total** | **379,719** | **87,857** | **87,010** | **—** | **—** | **380,567** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Analysis of income and expenditure**

Total

Unrestricted Designated Restricted Endowment This year Last year

### INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS

#### Donations and legacies

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Planned Giving - Envelopes (GA) | 4,171 | — | — | — | 4,171 | 3,744 |
| Planned Giving - Envelopes (GASDS) | 625 | — | — | — | 625 | 849 |
| Planned Giving - Bank (GA) | 36,825 | — | — | — | 36,825 | 37,590 |
| Planned Giving - Envelopes (No GA) | 654 | — | — | — | 654 | 430 |
| Planned Giving - Bank (No GA) | 1,475 | — | — | — | 1,475 | 1,560 |
| Loose plate collections (GASDS) | 680 | — | — | — | 680 | 417 |
| Loose plate collections (No GA) | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Easy Fundraising | 124 | — | — | — | 124 | 82 |
| Just Giving | — | — | — | — | — | 313 |
| Gift Day | — | — | 6,020 | — | 6,020 | — |
| Donations (GA) | 140 | — | 281 | — | 421 | 240 |
| Donations (GASDS) | 258 | — | — | — | 258 | 307 |
| Donations (No GA) | 943 | 685 | 2,510 | — | 4,138 | 1,299 |
| Tax recoverable on Gift Aid | 10,485 | — | 1,220 | — | 11,705 | 10,641 |
| Legacies | 1,000 | — | — | — | 1,000 | — |
| Recurring grants | — | — | 1,500 | — | 1,500 | — |
| Non-recurring one-off grants | — | — | 3,000 | — | 3,000 | — |
| Christmas Fayre | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total | 57,380 | 685 | 14,531 | — | 72,596 | 57,471 |

#### Income from charitable activities

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Funeral fees | 608 | — | — | — | 608 | 709 |
| Wedding and Banns fees | 640 | — | — | — | 640 | 45 |
| Baptism Fees | 46 | — | — | — | 46 | — |
| Church & Hall lettings | 13,182 | — | — | — | 13,182 | 10,966 |
| Total | 14,476 | — | — | — | 14,476 | 11,720 |

#### Other trading activities

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Photocopying | 35 | — | — | — | 35 | 10 |
| Tai Chi | — | — | — | — | — | 633 |
| Cafe | — | — | — | — | — | 240 |
| Donations (GA) (Non Tithe) | 126 | — | 20 | — | 146 | — |
| Donations (GASDS) (Non Tithe) | 8 | — | — | — | 8 | — |
| Donations (No GA) (Non Tithe) | 360 | — | 60 | — | 420 | — |
| Allotment rent | 137 | — | — | — | 137 | 185 |
| Total | 667 | — | 80 | — | 747 | 1,068 |

#### Investments

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Bank interest | 39 | — | — | — | 39 | 495 |
| Total | 39 | — | — | — | 39 | 495 |

#### Other income

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Insurance claims | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Surplus - sales of fixed assets | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| **INCOME TOTAL** | 72,561 | 685 | 14,611 | — | 87,857 | 70,754 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

### EXPENDITURE

#### Raising funds

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Fees paid to fund raisers | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Costs of applying for grants | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Costs of stewardship campaign | 107 | — | — | — | 107 | 115 |
| Christmas Fayre expenses | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other event costs | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total | 107 | — | — | — | 107 | 115 |

#### Expenditure on charitable activities

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Tithe | 5,099 | — | — | — | 5,099 | 556 |
| Funeral charity donation | — | — | — | — | — | 40 |
| Charitable giving | — | — | 9 | — | 9 | 294 |
| Parish share | 52,097 | — | — | — | 52,097 | 49,729 |
| Co-ordinator of Music & Worship salary | 3,000 | — | — | — | 3,000 | 2,500 |
| Children & Families Worker salary | — | — | 4,644 | — | 4,644 | 2,887 |
| Parish administrator salary | 1,665 | — | — | — | 1,665 | 4,720 |
| Salary admin charges | 85 | — | — | — | 85 | 125 |
| Clergy Exp - travel | 128 | — | — | — | 128 | 159 |
| Clergy Exp - phone & broadband | 454 | — | — | — | 454 | 480 |
| Clergy Exp - vicarage exp | 94 | — | — | — | 94 | 144 |
| Clergy Exp - hospitality | — | — | — | — | — | 21 |
| Clergy Exp - training & conferences | — | — | — | — | — | 40 |
| Clergy Exp - visiting clergy | 210 | — | — | — | 210 | — |
| Clergy Exp - books & resources | 3 | — | — | — | 3 | 54 |
| Clergy Exp - Reader expenses | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other staff expenses | 98 | — | 206 | — | 303 | — |
| Parish training and mission | 70 | — | — | — | 70 | — |
| Baby & Toddler Group | — | — | — | — | — | 65 |
| Messy Church | 60 | — | — | — | 60 | 18 |
| Children's Sunday Group | 167 | — | — | — | 167 | 125 |
| Park Hall outreach | 41 | — | — | — | 41 | 82 |
| Events | 221 | — | — | — | 221 | 50 |
| Children & Families Worker Training | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Children & Families Worker Equipment | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Children & Families Worker Expenses | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Children & Families Worker Materials | 131 | — | 47 | — | 178 | 210 |
| Children & Families Worker Advertising | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Children & Families Worker Events | — | — | 534 | — | 534 | — |
| Promotion & publicity | 260 | — | — | — | 260 | 159 |
| Church running - insurance | 1,921 | — | — | — | 1,921 | 1,449 |
| Church office - telephone | 670 | — | — | — | 670 | 619 |
| Deanery Synod subscription | — | — | — | — | — | 90 |
| Music resources | 549 | — | — | — | 549 | 653 |
| Church repair & maintenance | 2,041 | — | 29 | — | 2,070 | 5,966 |
| Quinquennial architect fees | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Cleaning - cleaner costs | 2,250 | — | — | — | 2,250 | 2,000 |
| Cleaning - materials | 124 | — | — | — | 124 | 162 |
| Trade refuse | 653 | — | — | — | 653 | 356 |
| Church furniture/equipment | 29 | — | 1,598 | — | 1,627 | 241 |
| Service Exp - wine, bread, candles | 267 | — | 20 | — | 287 | 434 |
| Service Exp - flowers | 35 | — | — | — | 35 | — |
| Service Exp - refreshments | 261 | — | — | — | 261 | 11 |
| Memorial Book Expense | 23 | — | — | — | 23 | 46 |
| Grounds maintenance | 2,275 | — | — | — | 2,275 | 2,100 |
| Administration | 38 | — | — | — | 38 | — |
| Copier lease | 792 | — | — | — | 792 | 792 |
| Copier charges | 66 | — | — | — | 66 | 220 |
| Printing & stationery | 137 | — | — | — | 137 | 504 |
| Gifts & cards | 168 | — | — | — | 168 | 229 |
| Postage | 2 | — | — | — | 2 | 88 |
| PPE etc | 127 | — | — | — | 127 | 36 |
| Subscriptions & licences | 224 | — | — | — | 224 | 138 |
| Bank Charges | 26 | — | — | — | 26 | — |
| Visiting speakers / locums | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Church running - electric | 746 | — | — | — | 746 | 918 |
| Church running - gas | 1,752 | — | — | — | 1,752 | 2,513 |
| Church running - water | 175 | — | — | — | 175 | 179 |
| Governance costs examination/audit fee | 175 | — | — | — | 175 | 500 |
| Church major repairs - structure | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Church major repairs - installation | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Church interior and exterior decorating | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Hall + major repairs - structure | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Hall + major repairs - installation | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Hall + interior and exterior decorating | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other PCC property upkeep | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Depreciation | 409 | — | — | — | 409 | 7,087 |
| Total | 79,816 | — | 7,087 | — | 86,903 | 89,786 |
| **EXPENDITURE TOTAL** | 79,923 | — | 7,087 | — | 87,010 | 89,901 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **GRAND TOTAL** | (7,362) | 685 | 7,524 | — | 847 | (19,146) |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Fund Movement Report 2020**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Balance b/f |  |  | Transfers | Balance c/f |
| **Restricted Funds** | 01/01/20 | Income | Expenditure | In/(out) | 31/12/20 |
|  | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Building for the future | 12,884 | 1,368 | 4,318 |  | 9,934 |
| Defibrillator | 66 |  | - |  | 66 |
| Christingle | 417 | 417 | 417 |  | - |
| Bereavement Group | - | 15 | 195 |  | - |
| Children’s and family worker salary | 5,794 | - | 2,887 |  | 2,907 |
| Christian Aid | 9 | - | - |  | 9 |
| Covid help | - | 140 | 140 |  |  |
| Food bank | - | 340 | 340 |  |  |
| Flower fund | - | 150 | 150 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total restricted funds** | **19,170** | **1,998** | **8,252** |  | **12,916** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **General & Designated Funds** |  |  |  |  |  |
| General reserves | 69,572 | 70,085 | 75,034 | 5,864 | 70,487 |
| Hardship Fund | 393 | 100 | 294 | 107 | 306 |
| Children's and Family Worker - expenses | 3,806 |  | 210 | (3,596) | - |
| Baby and Toddler group | 396 | 285 | 64 | (500) | 117 |
| Major Maintenance | 35,000 |  |  |  | 35,000 |
| Administrator | 6,720 |  | 4,845 | (1,875) | - |
| Capital reserve | 264,395 |  | 3,500 |  | 260,895 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total General & Designated funds** | **380,282** | **70,470** | **83,947** |  | **366,805** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total funds** | **399,452** | **72,468** | **92,199** | - | **379,721** |

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities 2020**

**Fixed Assets**

**Freehold**

**Buildings Equipment Total**

**£ £ £**

**Cost or valuation**

At 1 January 2020 399,782 13,506 413,288

Additions in year - - - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

At 31 December 2020 399,782 13,506 413,288

**Depreciation**

At 1 January 2020 104,746 11,871 116,617

Charge for year 6,678 409 7,087

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

At 31 December 2020 111,424 12,280 123,704

**Net Book Value**

At 1 January 2020 295,036 1,635 296,671

**At 31 December 2020 288,358 1,226 289,584**

**Analysis of net assets by fund**

**Unrestricted Restricted Total**

**Funds Funds**

**£ £ £**

Fixed assets 289,584 - 289,584

Current assets 81,599 12,916 94,515

Current liabilities (4,378) - (4,378)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

366,805 12,916 379,721

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Debtors**

(unrestricted)

**2020 2019**

**£ £**

Prepayments 452 553

Sundry debtors - 235

Income tax recoverable 7,957 9,919

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

8,409 10,707

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Liabilities**

**Amounts falling due within 1 year**

**2020 2019**

**£ £**

Accruals & provisions 1,306 3,499

Diocesan service fees 610 -

Mission giving 1,716 6,810

Sundry creditors 746 200

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4,378 10,509

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Allocation of Support Costs**

Support costs comprise Trustee Training and Governance Costs etc. Due to the nature of the financial activities of the PCC, these would be allocated across Charitable Expenditure which comprises the majority of its expenditure and as such are automatically charged there.

**Staff Costs**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2021 | 2020 |
|  |  |  |
| Wages & Salaries | £ 9,309 | £ 10,612 |
|  |  |  |
| Average number of employees | 1.25 | 1.5 |
|  |  |  |

During the year the PCC employed an Administrator (for half the year), a Children's and Families Worker and a Co-ordinator of Music and Worship (all part-time) and no payments were large enough to attract social security costs.

There were no employee benefits to key management personnel in the previous or current year.

**Trustees’ Remuneration & Expenses/Related Parties**

*(“Related parties” are members of the PCC their partners, children, siblings, parents, grandparents, business interest/controlling interest).*

**Donations from Related Parties**

Donations from related parties during the year totalled £15,024. All these donations were received without conditions.

**Remuneration paid to Trustees**

Carl Whitford (Warden) is employed by the PCC on a self-employed basis to maintain the grounds. The remuneration in 2021 was £2275.

**Expenses paid to Trustees**

Various members of the PCC, the vicar and readers received expenses in carrying out their duties as members of the clergy team. No member of the PCC, or any persons closely connected to them, received any payments or expenses for carrying out their PCC duties.

**Fees for the examination of the accounts**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2021  £ | 2020  £ |
|  |  |  |
| Independent Examiner’s fees | 175 | 110 |
|  |  |  |
| Other fees (eg accountancy services) paid to the Independent Examiner | n/a | 390 |
|  |  |  |

**Analysis of Transfer between Funds**

**2021**

* The balance of the Baby & Toddler Designated fund at year end was over £500 so in accordance with previously agreed procedure £500 was transferred to the Children & Families Worker Restricted fund.

**2020**

* The balance of the Baby & Toddler Designated fund at year end was over £500 so in accordance with previously agreed procedure £500 was transferred to the Children & Families Worker Restricted fund.
* The balance of the Children & Families Worker Designated Fund (£3,596) was transferred to the General Fund due to the plan for the role to be discontinued part way through 2021.
* The balance of the Administrator Designated Fund (£1,875) was transferred to the General Fund due to the plan for the role to be discontinued part way through 2021.
* £107 was transferred from the General Fund to the Hardship Designated Fund to top up the balance.

**Fund Description**

## Designated Funds

**Baby & Toddler Group** – The income generated from this group is set aside and used to fund its costs. If the balance at the end of a year is over £500, £500 is transferred into the Children & Family Worker restricted fund.

**Café** – This is a new fund set up this year to hold money donated specifically to be spent on Café expenses.

**Capital Reserve** – This is a fund that represents the re-valuation of the church halls complex in 1997.

**Major Maintenance** – This is a fund set aside for large projects that arise, for example roof repairs.

**Hardship Fund** – This is money set aside by the PCC to be used at the discretion of the incumbent.

## Restricted Funds

**Building For The Future** – This is the Repair & Maintenance Fabric Fund which is used for day-to-day expenses over £1,000.

**Children & Family** – Funds are spent on the salary and resources used by the Children & Families Worker.

**Christian Aid** – This held the balance of donations when we transferred to using My Fund Accounting Online at the start of the year. This balance has been paid to Christian Aid and the fund will no longer be used – to be replaced with Agency transactions.

**Communion Cups** – This is a new fund set up this year to hold donations specifically to be spent on communion cups. We are using paper cups instead of the chalice due to COVID.

**Defibrillator** – Funds set aside for Defibrillator maintenance.

**Karfung Yip** – This is a new fund set up this year to hold money given to us by the Cathedral for resources used by the Kickstart placement.

**Fixed Assets**

* 1. Tangible Fixed Assets

The freehold buildings comprise the Church halls complex, and were valued by the Council as at 1 January 1997, based on the approximate rebuilding cost of the premises, as advised by John German, Chartered Surveyors. Additions to buildings since then are the cost of adding an administration office and disabled facilities in 2002, extending and surfacing the car-park and installing new storage in 2012.

The Council prior to 1 January 1997 had valued neither the halls nor the equipment, and the resulting surplus from the valuation has been transferred to unrestricted funds as an unrealised capital gain. The Council has no intention of disposing of any of the fixed assets in the foreseeable future.

The Halls have been depreciated since 1997 on a straight-line basis over an estimated useful life of 100 years. It was brought to our attention this year that since an update to an accounting standard 4 years ago (FRS102 - relating to financial reporting of entities including those that are not constituted as companies and those that are not profit-oriented) the church halls should not now be depreciated. The PCC agreed to stop depreciation as from 2021, but decided not to make a one-off re-valuation at the end of 2021 to put back the value that we have depreciated in the last 4 years. This is to take into account the potential loss in value due to the presence of asbestos in one of the halls.

Church Equipment comprises the Hall Gas Heaters that are being depreciated over a period of 10 years. There are two years left in this cycle.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Freehold  Buildings  £ | Church  Equipment  £ | Total  £ |
| **Cost or Valuation** |  |  |  |
| As at 1st Jan | 399,782 | 13,506 | 413,288 |
| Additions in the year | - | - | - |
| Disposal in the year | - | - | - |
| Revaluation (if any) | - | - | - |
| **Value at 31st Dec** | **399,782** | **13,506** | **413,288** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Accumulated Depreciation** |  |  |  |
| As at 1st Jan | 111,424 | 12,280 | 123,704 |
| Charge for the year | - | 409 | 409 |
| Disposals | - | - | - |
| **Value at 31st Dec** | **288,358** | **12,689** | **301,047** |
|  |  |  |  |
| Net Book Value at 1st Jan 2021 | 288,358 | 1,226 | 289,584 |
| **Net Book Value at 31st Dec 2021** | **288,358** | **817** | **289,175** |

* 1. Fixed Asset Investments

None

**Current Assets**

1. Debtors

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2021  £ | 2020  £ |
|  |  |  |
| Gift aid recoverable | 9,086 | 7,957 |
| Prepayments and accrued income | - | 452 |
| Other debtors | 1,753 | - |
|  |  |  |
| **Total** | 10,839 | 8,409 |

1. Current Asset Investments

None

**Liabilities**

1. Amounts falling due in one year

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2021  £ | 2020  £ |
|  |  |  |
| Accruals | - | 1,306 |
| Diocesan parish share | 5,000 | - |
| Other creditors | 1,059 | 3,072 |
|  |  |  |
| **Total** | 6,059 | 4,378 |

b. Amounts falling due after more than one year

None

**2020 SOFA**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Unrestricted/**  **designated** | **Restricted** | **Total Funds** | |
|  | **Funds** | **Funds** | **2020** | **2019** |
| **Incoming resources** | **£** | **£** | **£** | **£** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Voluntary income | 57,076 | 630 | 57,706 | 82,087 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Activities for generating funds | 405 | 873 | 1,278 | 5,744 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Income from investments |  | 495 | 495 | 429 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Church activities | 12,989 |  | 12,989 | 28,762 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total incoming resources** | **70,470** | **1,998** | **72,468** | **117,022** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Resources used** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Cost of generating voluntary income | 115 |  | 115 | 123 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Fund raising trading costs | 159 |  | 159 | 264 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Church activities | 83,173 | 8,253 | 91,426 | 116,245 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Governance costs | 500 |  | 500 | 480 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total resources expended** | **83,947** | **8,252** | **92,199** | **117,112** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Net incoming/(outgoing) resources | (13,477) | (6,254) | (19,731) | (90) |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Transfers between funds |  |  | - | - |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Balances brought forward at  1 January 2020 | 366,805 | 12,916 | 379,721 | 399,542 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Balances carried forward at**  **31 December 2020** | **380,282** | **19,170** | **399,452** | **399,542** |

**Mission Giving**

In 2021 the Council donated to missions and charities 10% of its income from the previous month’s planned giving, income tax recovered and collections, being the sum of £5,685.06. The distribution was as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Month** | **Charity** | **Amount (£)** |
| Jan | The Glebe | 560.81 |
| Feb | Refuge | 424.00 |
| Mar | Chose Love | 519.88 |
| Apr | West Mids Air Ambulance | 466.25 |
| May | Myaware | 557.00 |
| Jun | The Vine | 462.53 |
| Jul | Aldridge Branch Royal British Legion | 451.69 |
| Aug | Road Peace | 436.63 |
| Sep | Global Care for Vulnerable Children | 457.34 |
| Oct | Brass for Africa | 474.58 |
| Nov | Caring Matters | 436.88 |
| Dec | The Donkey Sanctuary | 437.50 |

**Review of the Year 2021-22– Minister’s Report by Revd Jenny Mayo (Incumbent)**

Since our last APCM we as a church have been looking forward to the future post-covid, whilst we take stock of the past and come to terms with how life has changed for us. My last report talked about how we were still meeting a lot online, over Zoom and live stream. We were hoping to open up groups and expand services to normal again. We were still negotiating masks and social distancing and getting to grips with the ‘new normal’.

**Sunday services**

Our Sunday Services have now fully returned to their usual pre-covid pattern, although we have seen a significant drop in regular attendance. It has been delightful to have music return gradually, and we are now enjoying full and varied musical worship. Thank you so much to our music group, all those who meet at Sing and Praise, and those who are committed to practices and leading us in worship. A big thank you to Kar Fung who facilitated our online provision, we are currently working on getting a more consistent approach to mixed mode worship provision. Thank you to everyone who is committed to attend each week, and a big thank you to those who facilitate and lead, preach and coordinate. All your efforts are seen and very much appreciated. Our prayer and praise and BCP services are back up and running, although not consistently well attended. P&P is looking to adapt and change accordingly, watch this space. Our Messy church is also back, and well attended by families. A big thank you to all the volunteers who help, if you feel you could offer help please chat to Imogen.

**Midweek services**

From the beginning of May our midweek service will be on a Thursday at 10am to accommodate the community café and bereavement group. We now have a full preaching rota again for a Thursday, a massive thank you to John, Chris, Keith, Margaret, Penny and Colin T for your midweek ministry. We started lent with an ashing service, held a vigil for the Ukrainian crisis in March, and celebrated Maundy Thursday together. Thank you to Julie who faithfully sets up and tidies away, and to all who help facilitate the worship.

**Homegroups**

During covid some homegroups continued to meet online, and some have now begun to meet in person again. This year the Monday daytime homegroup moved to the vicarage and have studied the Bible Course and Romans together.

**Children and family’s work**

We said ‘goodbye’ to Trish as our children’s and family’s worker, and a very happy ‘hello’ to Imogen who stepped into that role. She has hit the ground running with Sunday club, messy church and baby and toddlers. A big thank you to the whole baby and toddler group team who have handled the change in leadership with grace and patience. Also a big thank you to those who volunteer to help in Sunday club and messy church – you’re absolute stars, although it’s the same faces so we could really do with some new folk to step up and help.

**Hall hire**

Thankfully our hall’s are bustling again with hirers, a very helpful boost to our budget. There are many different community groups that use our halls both regularly and for one off events. We really do need someone to coordinate this ministry, could that be you? We’ve compiled a job description for it, have a look and please have a think and pray about it.

**Financial**

We started off the year with a sense of dread about the deficit in our budget. We ended the year with a big sigh of relief that we just about managed to break even and have a budget that is balanced. This is down to the tireless hard work of the Davidsons and the finance team. They have managed our money very carefully, been committed to fundraising, and have faithfully prayed through what has been a pretty tough time. Thank you so much to you all.

**Community**

We said goodbye to beloved members of our church family as they took their final journeys into Jesus’ kingdom, and we still feel the loss of them here in our family. We’ve also facilitated funerals for people of our parish, as well as offering a well-attended bereavement group – a big thank you to Gill, Chris and Penny who coordinate and lead it. Thank you to Julie and Diane who have helped us serve our community through gathering food and products for the foodbank. Thank you to all those involved in pastoral care, and to Judith M who remembers when everyone’s birthday is. Thank you to Chris R and all those who facilitate and help with outreach and prayer walking. A big thank you to Jane and the team for meeting, planning and praying for our community café, it’s amazing to offer this facility to our community again. You’re all amazing! It’s been wonderful to see the Daffodil’s community garden grow and flourish, congratulations to Lesley and the whole team. We’ve held very successful joint events and are very much looking forward to our Queen’s Jubilee celebration in June. There have been concerts and gigs for fundraising and fun, a massive well done to all!

**Fabric**

Thank you to the faithful team who pop in each week to clean and today and fix things around our church, Jacky and Martin and Sue – you are complete stars! No one could say the last time the hall curtains were cleaned, we are very grateful you did! Our buildings need some TLC, and we are in need of a team of faithful folk to for a fabric committee. Could it be you? Have a look at our job’s board, and have a think and pray.

**Church Officers**

A very big thank you to Jacky Lynam for doing such an amazing job as PCC Secretary and a big thank you to the outgoing PCC members. We are very grateful that Jacky is recovering, and all our love and prayers to her and David. She has served St Martin’s faithfully for many years, and we say thank you to her for all she’s done. We now are in need of a new PCC secretary and an electoral roll officer, please have a look at the job’s board and see whether it could be you! Thank you to Chris, Sue D, Dorothy, Sue C and the finance team who work tirelessly to manage our finances. A big thank you to Carl and David our churchwardens, for your faithful service. Carl is stepping down this year, thank you so much for all your hard work and dedication. Thank you to Susan for her service as safeguarding officer, for getting us up to date with DBS’s and training, and for helping us be a safe place for all.

**Staff, licensed people, and volunteers**

Thank you to our employed worker Immy, continuing to do an amazing job as worship coordinator and children and family’s worker. Thank you to all those who creatively and beautifully prepare our flowers, you make such a huge difference to our worship space. Thank you to all those who lead us in worship with such enthusiasm and dedication, and a massive thank you to our lay ministers Margaret, Liz and Penny for all of their hard work and faithful service, and to Colin M, Susan and everyone who helps lead and shape our worship. It’s been lovely to welcome Colin T as he trains for licenced lay ministry. A massive thank you to Sue Holmes who has taken on preparing our weekly newsletter with real panache, and to Diane who faithfully and committedly prepares out rota each month – you are such a wonderful source of support, thank you. There are so many who do so much, often without notice or praise or reward – without your quiet and committed service St Martin’s wouldn’t exist. Thank you.

**Special services**

This year we happily were able to hold our Carols by candlelight, toy service, Christingle and other Christmas services. Although the numbers were well under what we normally would see, it was so lovely to be able to meet together in person. Our All Age services are established again, with us looking at different Christian role models throughout history. Our All Age Remembrance service was the best attended service of the year, a big thank you to our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides groups, leaders and parents. For the first time we celebrated Safeguarding Sunday, a great opportunity to take to heart the responsibility we all share for making our church a safe place.

**Courses**

This year we have studied together the Bible Course, we met during Advent to discuss interesting topics whilst making Christmas crafts, we’ve run an Alpha course, and we have done the Wellbeing Journey.

**Looking Ahead**

In the coming year we will welcome our curate Sue Philips as she is ordained on the 26th June, please be holding her in prayer as she takes this step of faith and commitment with God. My prayer for St Martin’s in 2022 is that we will find new and imaginative ways to reach out to our neighbours in service and love, whilst speaking about the sure and certain hope we’ve found in Jesus. I pray that by working together we may see St Martin’s grow and flourish and see Jesus’ Kingdom come in our corner of Walsall. In the power of the Lord Jesus, I pray that we may all grasp the height and breadth and depth of God’s love for us as we continue to minister together in His name and for His glory. May God’s blessing be with you all, this year and always.

**SAFEGUARDING REPORT 2022**

ST. MARTIN’S IS COMMITTED TO SAFEGUARDING AND HAS ADOPTED THE NATIONAL AND DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING POLICIES.

WE NEED TO PROMOTE A SAFER CULTURE IN OUR CHURCH. IT IS PART OF OUR CORE FAITH AND AN INTEGRAL FEATURE OF CHRISTIAN LIFE IN CHURCH.

DURING THE LAST FEW MONTHS WE HAVE HAD A LOT OF WORK TO DO TO BRING ALL DBS AND SAFEGUARDING AT ST. MARTIN’S UP TO DATE. THIS HAS BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL AND A BIG THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE COMPLETED ALL THAT IS REQUIRED.

IT IS NOW A LEGAL REQUIREMENT FOR ALL PCC MEMBERS TO HAVE DBS CHECKS. THESE HAVE NOW BEEN REDUCED TO 3 YEARS FOR RENEWAL. THIS APPLIES TO ALL WHO HAVE COMPLETED THEIR DBS SINCE JANUARY 2022; ALL OTHERS WILL STILL BE VALID FOR 5 YEARS.

POSTERS WITH CONTACT DETAILS FOR SAFEGUARDING AND EASY TO READ POLICIES ARE NOW DISPLAYED IN THE CHURCH ENTRANCE AND ON THE NOTICE BOARD BY THE SMALL HALL. THE SAFEGUARDING FILE HAS BEEN UPDATED AND HAS A COMPLETE COPY OF THE PARISH SAFEGUARDING HANDBOOK IN IT.

SAFEGUARDING IS TO PROTECT EVERYONE AND WITH THIS IN MIND WE HELD A SAFEGUARDING SERVICE IN OCTOBER 2021 TO HELP SHARE THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS AND TO HELP WITH THE UNDERSTANDING OF IT. THIS IS TO BE AN ANNUAL SERVICE AND THIS YEAR IT WILL BE HELD IN NOVEMBER.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING IS IMPORTANT AND IT WILL BE AN ONGOING PROCESS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. ANYONE DUE TO RENEW OR NEW TO A ROLE WHICH REQUIRES SAFEGUARDING OR A DBS CHECK, WILL BE REMINDED/GIVEN ANY INFORMATION NECESSARY. FULL ASSISTANCE FROM MYSELF IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE.

THE CONTINUAL SUPPORT FROM ALL IS VITAL AS WE GO FORWARD IN MAKING ST. MARTIN’S A SAFE PLACE FOR EVERYONE.

THANKS AND BLESSINGS,

SUSAN

**Music and Worship**

A lot has changed this last year and it’s something that we can definitely celebrate! This time last year we were singing together only outside and we were just starting to have multiple musicians leading (I’m sure you’re all grateful that you don’t just have to listen to me every week!) To now be singing together week in week out, and worshipping as a full congregation is wonderful and something that we definitely shouldn’t take for granted.

Over the last year, the music group has strengthened, with more people coming back and growing into their musical ministry which is very exciting. We had a great carol service and a really joyful musical Easter, alongside our week-to-week music practices, service leading and our continuing zoom home group Sing and Praise Together.

**Children and Families**

I’ve been in this post for around three months and am very much enjoying the joy, love and new learning that comes with it. Babies and Toddlers is back at full steam with steady numbers of around 20 each week, with a few new families in the last couple of months. The feedback from the grownups is very positive and we are blessed to have such a great opportunity to love and care for these families, a couple of whom have also come to Messy Church.

Messy Church is slightly more unpredictable in numbers, but we have been fortunate enough to have both returning families and new families come along, with Good Friday being a wonderful time with the Messy families as well as many of the congregation, with over 50 attending.

After a couple of iffy weeks, sunday group is going strong again, with children learning bible stories and responding in deep and genuine ways, relating things to their own lives. We are following the lectionary, so make sure you talk to them after the service and compare teaching!

Moving forwards

We are now at a point where we can start future planning, looking at how we’d like our worshipping life as a church to grow and develop over the next few years, as well as our children and families work, and if you have any thoughts or ideas please do share them with me.

I would really encourage you to think about if there are any ways you would like to be involved in music or children’s work in a new or different way, everyone is welcome and everyone is valued. It has been a joy to worship with you this year, and I am so grateful for all your support, and all your prayers.

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who make endless amounts of toast, lead us in worship (even when technology doesn’t work!) and so many other things behind the scenes that make these aspects of our church life possible. You’re all superstars!

**Deanery Synod** consists of both the clergy and elected lay representatives of the local parishes, and meets around once every six weeks to two months. As with many other organisations, over the last couple of years of the Covid pandemic this group met remotely/online but have more recently returned to meeting in person. In addition to seasonal worship such as Advent and Pentecost celebrations, This Synod meets to discuss the opportunities and needs across the deanery, and to consider the priorities of the Church locally and nationally. To meet these goals meetings fall into two sections, an opportunity for the business of the deanery (such as finances and local interregnums) to be prayerfully considered, and a presentation or guided discussion groups on a particular theme.

As well as taking opportunities to worship together, themes discussed since our last APCM include

* Patient relations and spiritual care (NHS)
* Biblical translations
* Work of the Church Mission Society
* Prison Chaplaincy
* Diocesan Life and priorities
* Ecotheology
* Acorn’s Children’s Hospice
* Shaping for Mission

The years ahead will be very important for the Church of England, and for the work of our Church, so please remember St Martin’s new Deanery Synod reps as they work within this group over the coming year, and form the bridge of communication between our church family and our brothers and sisters across the deanery.

Our deanery prayer: Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour everyone; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen