

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Report of

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Lavant

St Mary with St Nicholas

Pook Lane, East Lavant. PO18 0AH

Registered Charity no. 1131684

For the year ended 31st December 2021

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Website: www.lavantchurches.net

Incumbent: The Revd Martha Grace Weatherill
The Rectory, Pook Lane, East Lavant, PO18 0AH

Independent examiner: Mr P Tostevin
48 Maplehurst Road, Chichester PO19 6RP

Bankers: Barclays Bank PLC 74/75 East Street, Chichester PO19 1HR
Co-operative Bank PO Box 250, Delf House, Southway,
Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

St Mary with St Nicholas

Trustees Annual Report for 2021

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The primary objective of Lavant PCC is our Mission Statement:

To lead the people of Lavant and surrounding area into the knowledge and love of God, and bring them into the life and worship of Christ's Church.

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd Martha Grace Weatherill, 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.
- To know Jesus better and make 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 financial support to those in need and, to other organisations with similar objectives.

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 PCC 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
- Maintaining an overview of worship throughout the parish
- Considering how services can involve the many groups that live within the parish
- Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament
- Offering worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel, in small group situations
- Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Providing assistance to the poor and needy of the parish and the wider locality by supporting the food bank and the relief of the homeless
- Giving grants to missionary organisations
- Reaching out to non-churchgoers through outreach activities at St Nicholas Church to create a community hub at the heart of the most populated part of the village. These activities include a monthly Brunch Café, Lunch House, Tea and Chat, Messy Church, and a thriving Toddler Group.
- Maintaining the fabric of the church building as historic centres and focuses of life in the village, treasuring our past heritage whilst looking at new ways to engage people to use our buildings
- Ensuring the financial sustainability of the two churches

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives

Attendance at worship

The Lavant Churches welcome visitors from within as well as outside the parish boundary. Visitors attend by personal choice and, it is our great 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.

"This church is like family to me and I feel at home here "

.....Member of the congregation

The average regular weekly attendance, including Zoom services was 116 which included 22 children and young people. We look to

'Just wanted to say thank you for welcoming us last Sunday'...New member

encourage the deepening of faith for all ages, and alongside our services there is a programme for young people from crèche through to teenagers to join in with. Our youth work is especially varied and open to Year 6+ and meeting on Monday evenings termtime. Christmas and Easter are very special times of celebration where many sections of the community come together to join in the services. Children and adults alike join in and memories are made.

Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers

During the year there have been 8 weddings, 9 church funerals, 1 funeral at the Crematorium, 4 Interment of ashes; 7 baptisms

A greater number of the church family have been involved in leading various aspects of worship, lending great encouragement to those involved, as well as the whole congregation. We continue to seek to extend the opportunities for the exercise of ministry and gifts within the life of our community.

Evangelism and outreach

Lavant churchgoers are the lifeblood of many regular village events as well as new initiatives. The local Church of England Primary school is also very much at the heart of the church community and is supported in its fundraising activities by members of the church.

"I have been attending St Mary's Church for forty years"
Member of the congregation

Lavant Churches offer a number of well attended outreach activities including a monthly Lunch House attended regularly by 30 villagers and church members; a weekly Tea and Chat, mainly for elderly villagers although all are welcome, and a thriving Toddler Group which meets weekly in term time and welcomes up to 30 pre-school children with their parent or carer, with a weekly average of 13. The monthly

Saturday Brunch continues to prove very popular and welcomes villagers and churchgoers alike including parents or grandparents with children who come to enjoy a relaxed brunch while their children are occupied at the craft tables. See Parish reports

Lavant News is the monthly Parish Magazine prepared by a small editorial team which has the objective of uniting the interests of the Church and the village, promoting community spirit. Publicity in the magazine encourages villagers who may not be churchgoers to join in events organised by the church and local organizations. 11 issues were distributed in 2021 (one magazine for December/January). The publication is now delivered free to everyone in the parish and to those of our worshipping community outside the parish. Additional copies are available in both churches. Part of our mission is to reach out to everyone and this is one step towards that goal.

Provision of the church building for people to enjoy

We celebrated 7 baptisms, 8 weddings and 9 funerals in our church during the year. Our church continues to be appreciated by our parishioners and many others, as a space where life events are celebrated with joy and thanksgiving.

The focus continues to be to find ways in which the St Nicholas church building can be used for events in addition to services. Its position at the heart of the most populated part of the village together with its lack of fixed pews and well-equipped kitchen make it an ideal venue for community events.

It is important to us that the church is available for private prayer and visits not just to the church family but to the wider visiting community. To this end St Mary's is always open and the many entries in the Visitors' Book testify to this.

Many remark not only how refreshing it is to find an open church but, also the sense of peacefulness and

"I am so glad to hear that the heating repairs are being done. It's such a lovely building..."

Member of the congregation

spirituality the church pervades.

Other remarks include the sense of history within; that people of much earlier generations found life and presence there and, comments on the appreciation of the architectural beauty of the building and biblical archaeology.

Improving Heating and Spatial refurbishing of St Nicholas and future projects

The church family has improved the heating, by installing new heaters at St Nicholas. Future plans are to enhance the audio-visual equipment, replacing some elements where necessary. This will enable a more modern approach to services. We also plan to refurbish the kitchen and church interiors using the grants received for buildings works and funds available for building.

Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish

The Pastoral Care Team, chaired by Mrs Cynthia Blades, is responsible for visits, befriending and home communions.

Regularly they sacrifice their time and energies to caring, listening and helping people in the village.

Provision of tangible support to the poor and needy

Especially encouraging was this year's Harvest festival where the school and church worked together to provide food for the Foodbank in Chichester.

The school and church members responded to provide many tins of soup, toiletries and other essentials.

Other charitable giving

We supported various charities throughout the year. Our Lent appeal raised £643 to MIND together with donations to the Foodbank. The Harvest appeal saw many groceries donated to the Foodbank - a very worthwhile charity and one that was needed more than ever throughout the Covid pandemic. The collection for the British Legion in November raised the sum of £259, with the Christingle service raised the sum of £198.47 for the Children's Society. Our Christmas appeal in aid of three charities, the 4 Streets project, Safe in Sussex and My sisters' house shared the total of £987 raised. Our thanks go to our generous congregation and friends for raising so much for very worthwhile charities.

Archivist

Mrs Barbara Treverton was appointed again to look after our archives. She looks after all our files and documents, is very efficient and knowledgeable especially when we require information, and our thanks go to her for her work in looking after our valuable records.

Financial Review

Once again as a result of the pandemic no actual services were held until late July and no fundraising events were held. Services during this time were held on zoom.

As in the past members of the congregation supported church running costs and the Parish Share through the Parish Giving Scheme, standing orders and collections from September. Donations were received from anonymous benefactors including at weddings and funerals.

The Parish Share pledge of £62,000 was paid in full although the sum set by the Diocese was higher and beyond the means of Lavant PCC.

Income from weddings, funerals were up by 44% on 2019 but hall lettings were down by 75% on 2019.

Lavant News continued to show an excess of income over expenditure of £4,790

The General Fund (unrestricted) had a deficit of £687 for 2021 leaving a balance of £24,777 to be carried forward to 2022. This sum includes the Choir fund and the Garden of Remembrance balance for future stelae.

The Buildings Appeal Fund (restricted) fell to £54231. Grants were received for £50999

Both held in Barclays No 4 Account in the name of Lavant Churches Building appeal fund

St Nicholas Chancel Trust is held entirely by the Chichester Diocesan Board of Finance. Claims may be made for assistance with insurance premiums for St Nicholas.

Why we hold some money in reserve

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on the general unrestricted funds (excluding property) which equates to approximately two months' worth of unrestricted payments as contingency against unforeseen situations.

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

Churchwarden's Report

During this eventful year in which many of our services had to be held on Zoom and our church doors closed with activities curtailed we said a fond farewell to David and welcomed Martha as our new Rector.

We looked into the possibility of installing new doors inside to the South Porch at St. Nicholas as a community project but after consultation the plan was put on hold. Instead, the South Porch was cleared and has been opened up as the main entrance again as was suggested on the quinquennial report. Archdeacon's Approval was sought for redecoration of the porch and this has been granted. However, as a larger decoration project is planned for St. Nicholas these projects will be combined to reduce costs.

New tables were ordered for St. Nicholas and they are proving a very useful addition being much lighter and easier to handle. With the help of Sheila Sims the old Go-Pak tables went to the Memorial Hall who gave us a donation for them.

Following the news of David's departure, meetings were held with the Archdeacon and Bishop. The Bishop, Patron and Diocese then appointed Rev'd Martha as our parish priest. This is an interim appointment which is initially for three years; we were most grateful not to have to undergo a long interregnum. The Rectory received a little redecorating and a spring clean at the beginning of August and the grass was also cut in readiness for our new incumbent.

A building's committee was assembled in September and looked at what was important for St Nicholas church going forwards heating being top of the agenda church architects and heating engineers were engaged to find the best solution. This culminated in the new heating being installed at the beginning of January. It is hoped that this will make St. Nicholas a very useful space for renting out and increasing revenue.

St Nicholas was registered with CDC as a food business establishment. Food Safety training was undertaken and a Food Safety Management Plan completed.

We continued to chase CDC for the repair of the flint wall to the roadside at St Nicholas and the repairs were finally carried out earlier this year.

Jane Jones Warner Architects prepared schedules and specifications to address the Quinquennial works at both churches. These schedules will allow us to seek quotes for the works.

We anticipate the new interpretation board to be installed in St Nicholas churchyard will be in situ by the time of the APCM.

Electoral Roll

There were 208 members on the roll as reported at the APCM on 25 April 2021. In December 2021 there were 204 parishioners on the church electoral roll. There were 3 deaths and 3 new joiners we also had a number of people who moved away from the parish. 40% [31%] of those on the roll live within the parish boundaries, however a further 58% [62%] live within a 7 mile radius of the parish.

Church Cleaning Report

One of the effects of the Covid Pandemic when the church had to close its doors was the loss of the cleaning team for the churches. Following a request from David this was reinstituted last year.

A small group come together once a month on a Monday morning and over the space of a couple of hours Hoover, dust and polish St Mary's which keeps it looking a clean and cared for church. During the year the group lost one team member and had one addition but the team would always welcome anyone new who felt they had the time to join.

A smaller group come together to clean St Nicholas carrying out similar activities to those at St Marys. More regular cleaning of St Nicholas will need to be considered going forward as the activities held there increase. Cleaning of the churches is very important to ensure they don't look neglected but are welcoming for both visitors and congregation alike.

St Nic's Flower Team

It has been very encouraging to see the return of the monthly Let's Celebrate service at St Nicholas' church in recent months. In addition to the alternate weekly 8am service, this has afforded the St Nic's flower team the opportunity to enjoy some creative time making this church look lovely for worshippers and weekly visitors alike. We were delighted to be able to celebrate Harvest Festival with a beautiful display of autumn colours with seasonal hedgerow flowers and grasses, as well as some magnificent locally grown, and donated, pumpkins. Our simple country church looked really beautiful at Christmas with its ledges and alcoves decorated with candles and foliage to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Spending time preparing St Nic's for services in this way is a very prayerful and grounding experience; it causes one to reflect on those who have come before us who have faithfully fulfilled this joyful task to the glory of God across the centuries. We are a small, friendly team who normally operate on a rota basis, coming together for the larger church festivals when we all enjoy playing our part. The team is ably assisted by Mrs Sarah Newman, a professional florist, who is our guiding support and offers encouragement in times of need!

St Mary's Flower Team

A pedestal of flowers and an arrangement on the Memorial shelf are provided every Sunday throughout the year by a dedicated team, except during Lent and Advent. Over the last few years for weddings, the trend has been for displays to be provided by professionals; florists, who offer a package for the church and reception. When we are involved in the decorating we make use, especially in the summer of cut flowers from our gardens to save on costs. If you would like to help in any way, please do say, at Festivals especially, extra pairs of hands are most welcome. Donations towards the cost of an arrangement in memory of a loved one or to commemorate a special occasion, are always welcome. That what we do is appreciated, is witnessed by the many and varied comments expressed throughout the year, so even if you declare that you can't 'do flowers' your support and encouragement is valued, thank you.

Brunch Café at St Nic's

After an enforced break of well over a year due to covid, it was with enthusiasm, but with understandable trepidation that the Brunch Team restarted the monthly community Brunch in June last year. A number of modifications were incorporated to ensure the safety, as far as possible, of guests and the Brunch team. However, there was no compromise on the warmth of our welcome with tables beautifully decorated with flowers. How thrilled we were to throw open the south porch doors and welcome our Brunch visitors again! It was lovely to feel that we were getting back to normal and very gratifying that so many of our Lavant churches friends were happy to join us as well as some of our regular visitors from further afield. Brunch Café at St Nic's takes place on the first Saturday of the month, serving delicious, freshly brewed coffee and tea, together with an array of bacon, sausage or egg baps, croissants, toast, bagels and other goodies. We kicked off the New Year with glasses of fizz and some smoked salmon as well as our usual offerings. It is always an opportunity to chat with friends and meet new visitors, and who knows - with the new heating system at St Nic's we should be even more cosy! We are re-introducing our Saturday newspapers; the children's crafts will be back with enthusiasm and we hope it won't be too long before our Fair Trade stall is back. We operate on a donations basis and are glad to have been able to make a contribution to church funds as well as offering the opportunity for friendship for visitors to St Nic's church. Do join us - you will be assured of a warm welcome. Grateful thanks to the lovely Brunch Team - Jo Heather, the Campbells, the Evisons, the Newmans and the Smiths - your sense of fun is always appreciated!

Grave Concern Report

This report is very similar to previous years and like last year it has been a difficult year with the COVID impacting on the time some members felt could help and still feel safe.

When things were relaxed a little, some of the team members were able to get involved but at no time did we have a full turnout. The group consists of some 12 members some more active than others.

As reported last year we could do with more volunteers so, before the start of the mowing season I will prepare a short appeal notice for insertion into the Lavant News and or the Pew Sheet as outlined below. Any recruitment ideas from the PCC would be welcome.

The core group is a dedicated team but would benefit from more volunteers to spread the workload a little. The group is I believe effective with everyone involved working very well together.

The three mowers will need to be serviced together with the two trimmers at an approximate cost of £600/£700, authority from the PCC to go ahead with this expenditure would be appreciated as soon as possible.

Grave Concern will, as in previous years, commit a small amount of money on summer bedding plants to give a little colour adjacent to the west door during the summer months at a cost of approximately £20.

Appeal for Volunteers

The group, Grave Concern, which keeps St Mary's churchyard neat and tidy desperately needs more people to get involved. Some of us have been involved for over 20 years and haven't the stamina we used to have. The group is a very sociable one and welcomes anyone willing to help with the heavier jobs like mowing and strimming, and also light work, for example, weeding, generally clearing up or edging. The group meets once a week on a Monday afternoon/evening during summer months, April to October. If Mondays are not convenient then other days could be considered as could the times.

Very often the evening concludes with a chat, nibbles and a glass of something.

The time is fast approaching when the clocks go forward and we start our work so if you feel able to help in any way, please contact Richard Boyce by email richard@boycenet.plus.com or phone 01243 527273.

Alternatively, just turn up on a Monday between 17.00hrs and 18.00hrs, once the clocks go forward.

Please come and join us as your help is essential, if we are to continue to keep St Mary's looking special.

Junior Church

Junior Church continued to operate on Zoom from the beginning of January to the end of the summer term in July. We were very pleased to be able to resume Junior Church at St Mary's in September. On Zoom we met every Sunday, except for Easter Sunday; however, once we started meeting again in person, we resumed our pattern of meeting in term time only. We are continuing to follow the readings for each Sunday using Roots as a guide.

On Zoom the children showed the congregation what they had made during the session and, now that we are back in church, we continue to tell the congregation what we have studied.

We also held a Good Friday activity session over Zoom.

Now that Let's Celebrate services have resumed, Junior Church is assisting at that service with members fulfilling the role of sidespeople, reading the lesson and leading the prayers.

We also held our annual Christingle service in December, which was well attended.

In spring term 2021, the average attendance was 15 children per week and in summer term 2021 the average attendance was 9 children, during both these terms the sessions were over zoom. In autumn term 2021 the average attendance was 8 children, meeting in person.

We have a team of enthusiastic, competent helpers who assist at the weekly sessions now that we are back in church. There is a rota for the helpers, generally with two assisting the leader each week.

Youth Group

With the PCC's agreement a youth group for years 7-10 was started in September 2021. We meet weekly in term time at St Nicholas's Church on a Monday evening and have a combination of games, activities and craft, generally with a short discussion on a relevant Christian topic.

We have averaged 6 young people attending each week, from 9 people on the register. We have a small and dedicated team of leaders, who plan and lead the term's activities.

Organist and Choirmaster Report

The past two years have been very testing for us all, and I have endeavoured with the choir to continue to serve the parish with sufficient and relevant music, to enhance worship in both of our churches, and online while it was the only possibility. Thank you all for your support in my position directing the musical activities of the choir and services. I pray that my service to the church is uplifting, competent, and in keeping with expectations. I am also deeply grateful for the kind words I receive from congregants regarding the music at services.

Organs

Both organs continue to serve the churches well. St Nicholas has not had any issues since the transposer issue previously referred; the work-around of transposing all down 1 tone continues to be a viable solution. St Mary's organ continues to be a delight to play.

Choir

I am happy to report an average attendance of 12-14 choristers at full attendance. All choristers continue to develop their abilities and I am very pleased with the progress. The choir is now back in full swing and are as good as they have ever been.

We are pushing ourselves with more unaccompanied repertoire, singing more of evensong unaccompanied, and singing an anthem every month at said Evensong service. I am also hoping to have anthems prepared for every major feast day over the next year and am carefully planning rehearsal time to accommodate this.

Last year, the choir recruited a few juniors, and a proposal was made for a separate junior rehearsal, to allow more focus on technique and development, and to reduce boredom from sitting around while we look at harmonies in the Senior choir. The proposed evening for this was Tuesday evening, and I am hoping to start this up again soon. Church protocols and guidance for Children and Vulnerable Persons Protection are being considered in full for this proposed extra rehearsal time.

I would like to thank everyone for their assistance in making things run smoothly at Lavant Churches from a musical perspective.

Readers and Sidesperson duties.

During 2021-22, the Readers and Sidespersons have adapted to the services provided according to C 19 regulations.

When Zoom services were introduced, Readers read "live" on zoom, or pre-recorded their Lesson. This worked well for those who were confident to try this new format, others decided to wait until the services returned to Church.

On return to the Church, Sidespersons implemented the C19 recommendations of mask wearing, hand sanitizing and social distance. Readers returned to reading from the Lectern.

A number of longstanding members of the Rota have stepped down - and we thank them most sincerely for the many years' service they have given. Others have joined - and we welcome them with open arms.

Overall, the number of people on the Duty Rota list has decreased, so the average number of duties undertaken has increased to 1 duty per month. This varies according to the duty, because there are more Readers than Sidespersons or 8am Sidespersons

Number of people on the Rota - with many doing more than one role.

Total :	41
Lost:	11
Gained:	2

Healing Ministry

Healing Ministry was suspended at the start of the Covid pandemic and this continues to be the case.

Monthly Prayer Meeting

Prayer meetings have been held in St Mary's Church since September 2021 at 7.30pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month.

These meetings are open for anyone to attend to pray for; the world, our church, those in need, the sick and the bereaved. We start with scripture readings followed by open prayer. Each meeting last about 30 minutes. Everyone is most welcome.

Weekly Email Newsletter

We send a newsletter to about 293 [276 in 2020] people each week, a third or so are not regular members of our church but they like to keep in touch with our activities. Production of the email is shared by 3 volunteers who each take responsibility for producing the newsletter for a month at a time. Overall the open rate has stayed steady this year at about 49-50% [compared to the sector average of 22%].

Toddler Group

Lavant Toddler Group resumed on 22nd June 2021 after the C of E restrictions lifted. Numbers were low to start with but there were only 4 weeks of Summer Term left. When the Autumn Term started in September last year numbers started to rise rapidly. We have about 30 children on the Register but they don't all come regularly. We are averaging 13 weekly at present. Most come from Lavant or Summersdale. Some come with parents or grandparents and a few come with a childminder.

We offer Crafts and playdough, drawing and giant Lego. There is a quiet corner with books and puzzles. We offer refreshments and just charge £1 per family per session. We usually end with singing.

We have a regular team including Gina Bill, Cynthia Blades and myself and Suzy Lowe comes fortnightly to offer craftmaking.

It is a really great group and lovely to see parents/carers socialise and relax.

Finally, we really appreciate the new heating system!

Lunch House

It was a joy to at last get back to holding monthly Lunch House meetings after such a long break and also to actually celebrate Christmas with a lovely turkey lunch and a mammoth raffle. Numbers are not so high as before COVID due to some elderly members that are no longer with us for various reasons and others still feel too nervous to venture through our doors but the 20— 25 who do come really enjoy it and it has been lovely to renew our friendships. We hope to build up our numbers again as the weather improves. We are sure there are still some church members who don't know we exist after 18 years or so and we need to reach the non church members in the village too, they can be sure of a warm welcome. Our meals are tasty, nutritious and very reasonable, our ladies who run it are talented and very friendly, what's not to like? We run at St Nic's every second Wednesday in the month commencing at 12 noon.

Tea and Chat

Our small group was able to re-start meeting in July at St Nic's on the third, fourth and fifth Wednesday of the month for Tea and Chat. We have plenty of chat which goes nicely with a lovely cup of tea and delicious cakes, which are never in short supply. We try to remember our group at Easter and Christmas with a card and a little goodie of some description. If you don't come along you are missing a treat - do come and join us, we would love to see you.

Deanery Synod

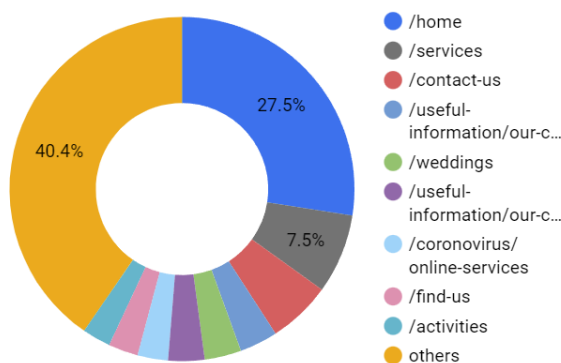
The Deanery Synod consists of members of the clergy together with laity members from parishes within the Deanery. Matters that were discussed at their meetings were the Mission Action Plan for each Deanery and Finance. Each parish is having to develop their own Mission Action Plan by Advent 2022 to feed into the Deanery plans. Finance in general and particularly the Parish Share was considered.

At the June Deanery meeting, Reverend Dr Jack Dunn who began work as Parish Development Officer in March, gave a presentation. He stated that the Church of England was 'in a pickle' financially but that the Chichester Diocese has a period of 3 - 4 years before being in a really serious situation. The Chichester Deanery appears to be one of the most generous in the diocese although it is hard for some parishes to pay their full parish share. 80% of the Parish Share monies goes on paying for clergy. Parishes are encouraged to pay their full share but can pledge a figure which they feel they can afford. They have also been asked to come up with an aspirational amount for the next 3 - 5 years so that the Diocese can plan for the future. The Diocese relies heavily on the Parish Share monies so are asking parishes, who are unable to pay the full amount, to review their pledges as the year progresses.

Church Website

The church website remains a source of information for those outside our church. The new site has been in use for over a year and is very simple to update and maintain. In the following analysis figures in brackets are for 2019.

- We had 6 [6] enquires via our contact form of which 1 concerned Baptism enquiry whereas the remainder had no common theme. We also had 40 [8] anonymous prayer request.
- During 2020 we had 3181 users [1854] who visited the website and they viewed between them 10,031 pages [5,958].
- 65% [77%] of website visitors were from the UK, 22% [8.5%] from China, 7% [6.2%] from the USA and then the rest from 39 different countries.
- The chart below shows the 10 most popular pages:



Page	Pageviews
1. /home	2,755
2. /services	750
3. /contact-us	595
4. /useful-information/our...	359
5. /weddings	345
6. /useful-information/our...	341
7. /coronavirus/online-ser...	287
8. /find-us	280
9. /activities	267
10. /useful-information	263

Online Services

At the start of COVID-19 pandemic and the first lockdown we explored how best to provide Church religious service to reach our congregation who could no longer physically attend Services in our two Churches. We evaluated several different options and chose the Zoom platform. We continued to use Zoom to deliver our main 10am Sunday Service until 20 June 2021 when we reverted all service to take place in our Churches. All Services were recorded and uploaded to the church website so those who were not able to attend at that time could view the service at a later time/date. The table shows Zoom attendances during the period that we offered online services during 2021.

Time Period	Average of Number of Unique Participant Screens	Average of Estimated Total Attendees
2021	45.8	74.8
Qtr1	54.1	89.3
Jan	55.8	94.0
Feb	54.3	87.7
Mar	51.8	84.9
Qtr2	38.1	61.3
Apr	36.7	58.3
May	40.0	65.8
Jun	38.0	59.8
Grand Total	45.8	74.8

Many people watch the service together sharing one screen and the table shows the estimated average attendees for each month [including children] for every online service.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Lavant

St Mary with St Nicholas Church, Lavant

Pook Lane, East Lavant, PO18 0AH

Registered Charity no. 1131684

For the year ended 31st December 2021

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St Mary with St Nicholas Church, Lavant

registered charity number 1131684

Summary of Financial Receipts and Payments

The financial effect of our activities during the year can be summarised as follows

	<i>Unrestricted</i>		<i>Restricted Fund/s</i>	<i>Endowed Fund/s</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Notes</i>
	<i>General Fund</i>	<i>Designated Funds</i>			<i>All Funds 2021</i>	<i>All Funds 2020</i>	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	68,231	-	4,981	-	73,212	97,723	
Charitable activities	5,795	-	-	-	5,795	4,019	
Other trading activities	8,961	-	-	-	8,961	10,142	
Investments	257	-	-	-	257	-	
Other receipts - Grants	-	5,000	45,999	-	50,999	-	
Total received	83,244	-	55,980	-	139,224	111,884	3
Expenditure on:					-		
Cost of raising funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Charitable costs	80,446	-	8,758	-	89,204	94,309	
Trading costs	3,485	-	-	-	3,485	3,719	
Other payments	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total paid	83,931	-	8,758	-	92,689	98,028	5
<i>Reconciliation of funds:</i>							
Net income or (net expenditure)	(687)	5,000	42,222	-	46,535	13,856	
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Net movement in funds	-	-	-	-	-	87)	
Bank accounts at 1 January	25,464	-	59,726	-	85,190	71,334	
Bank accounts at 31 December	24,777	5,000	101,948	-	131,725	85,190	A&L

St Mary with St Nicholas Church, Lavant

registered charity number 1131684

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Our financial position at the year-end was

	<i>Unrestricted</i>		<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Endowed</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Notes</i>
	<i>General</i>	<i>Designated</i>			<i>All Funds</i>	<i>All Funds</i>	
	<i>Fund</i>	<i>Funds</i>	<i>Fund/s</i>	<i>Fund/s</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2020</i>	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Assets:							
Bank current account	24,727	5,000 -	101,948	-	131,675	84,613	
Cash	50	-	-	-	50	577	
		-	-	-			R&P
Total bank, cash and deposit accounts	24,777	5,000	101,948		131,725	85,190	
Debtors & Prepayments	186		20		206	1,084	
Gift Aid recoverable	1,067	-	240	-	1,307	1,061	
Debtors	1,253	-	260	-	1,513	2,145	
	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Chancel Trust income held by Diocese	257	-	-		257	3,440	
	-	-	-			-	
		-	-	-			
Total assets	26,287	5,000	102,208		133,495	90,775	
Liabilities:							
Magazines adverts received in advance	2,500	-	-	-	2,500	2,572	
Water (UW) 3319, E.W fees, LH tax and						-	
Electricity used since last billed (est'd)	4,887	-	-	-	4,887	345	
						-	
Total liabilities	7,387	-	-	-	7,387	2,917	

This Financial Report for the year ended 31st December 2021, including the notes following, was approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf by The Revd. Martha Weatherill, PCC Chairman

St Mary with St Nicholas Church, Lavant

registered charity number 1131684

Notes to the Financial Report

1 The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and current Church Accounting Regulations, using the Receipts and Payments basis.

2 The following assets are recognised but not valued in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities: Movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, which require a faculty for disposal.

3 Analysis of total received

	Unrestricted		Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total All Funds 2021	Total All Funds 2020	Notes
	General Fund	Designated Funds					
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Planned giving (excl. tax refunds)	46,768	-	-	-	46,768	51,942	
	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Loose cash collections	1,991	-	-	-	1,991	1,185	
Donations and Special appeals	7,676	-	4,139	-	11,815	9,932	
Gift Aid recovered	11,796	-	842	-	12,638	14,559	
Fund raising	-	-	-	-	-	75	
Book stall sales	-	-	-	-	-	30	
Grants	-	5,000	45,999	-	50,999	20,000	4
	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Donations and legacies	68,231	5,000	50,980	-	124,211	97,723	
Fees for weddings & funerals	5,795	-	-	-	5,795	4,019	
Charitable activities	5,795	-	-	-	5,795	4,019	
Village Fete	0	-	-	-	-	-	
		-	-	-	-	-	
Magazine sales (LPC donation)	500	-	-	-	500	540	
Magazine advertising	7,922	-	-	-	7,922	7,532	
Hall lettings	539	-	-	-	539	2,070	
Other trading activities	8,961	-	-	-	8,961	10,142	
Bank & CBF deposit interest	257	-	-	-	257	-	
Total received on all funds	83,244	5,000-	50,980	-	139,224	111,884	

4 No legacies were received

St Mary with St Nicholas, Lavant

registered charity number 1131684

Notes to the Financial Report

5 Analysis of total paid

	Unrestricted		Restricted	Endowed	Total	Total	Notes
	General	Designated			All Funds	All Funds	
	Fund	Funds	Fund/s	Fund/s	2021	2020	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Stewardship costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Fund raising expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cost of raising funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Charitable grants and donations:	1,020	-	2,093	-	3,123	2,171	
Parish share to Chichester Diocese	56,833	-	-	-	56,833	67,167	
Salaries and honoraria incl NI	3,000	-	-	-	3,000	3,000	
Training conferences etc	388	-	-	-	388	367	
Other clergy costs	4,244	-	-	-	4,244	5,263	
Fees paid to fundraisers	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Insurance	3,168	-	-	-	3,168	3,094	
Water, Gas, Electricity, and Oil	5,317	-	-	-	5,317	4,403	
Upkeep of services (inc choir)	1,719	-	380	-	2,099	2,805	
	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Major church maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	1,628	
Upkeep of churchyard (inc Stelae)	807	-	1,305	-	2,112	1,512	
Other church maintenance	303	-	4,980	-	5,283	864	
Administration	3,647	-	-	-	3,647	2,034	
Charitable costs	80,446	-	8,758	-	89,204	94,308	
Magazine printing	3,132	-	-	-	3,132	3,720	
Bookstall costs	89	-	-	-	89	-	
Other trading costs	264	-	-	-	264	-	
Trading costs	3,485	-	-	-	3,485	3,720	
Other payments	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total paid on all funds	83,931	-	8,758	-	92,689	98,028	

6 Charitable donations were: Lent – MIND £643 Royal British Legion £259

Harvest – Chichester Food Bank Food only

Christmas – The Four Streets Project, Safe in Sussex and My Sisters's House £329 x 3 £987

St Mary with St Nicholas Church, Lavant

Registered charity number 1131684

Notes to the Financial Report

- 7 The Parish share to the Chichester Diocese is for the payment of Clergy and other central costs. The full cost of parish ministry amounts to Parish share: £62,000 and Clergy support: £ 4,244
- 8 Gift Aid on all donations collected under the Diocese's Parish Giving Scheme has been received. Gift Aid on other qualifying donations received since 30th September is outstanding.

Payments to PCC employees:

Wages, salaries and honoraria
Organist

2021	2020
£	£
3,000	3,000
3,000	3,000

- 9 Payments to PCC members: No payments were made to PCC members during the year other than for reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the PCC. One member received reimbursements totalling £179
- 10 A persons related to PCC members was reimbursed by £81

11 Statement of Funds

	Balances b/fwd 1 Jan 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Balances c/fwd 31 Dec 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Building Fund (restricted)	58,611	36,600	4,980	-	90,231
Mission Fund (restricted)		9,999	-		9,999
Outreach	-249	2,131	2,153	-	-271
St Mary's Garden of Remembrance	439	2,100	1,305	-	1234
Choir Fund	925	150	320	-	755
Total of all restricted funds	59,726	50,980	8,758	-	101,948
General fund	25,464	83,244	83,931	-	24,777
Joan Ainsley Fund (designated)	-	5,000			5,000
Total of all unrestricted funds	25,464	88,244	83,932	-	29,777
Total funds	85,190	139,224	92,689	-	131,725

St Mary with St Nicholas Church, Lavant

Registered charity number 1131684

Notes to the Financial Report

11 Statement of Funds (cont.)

The Statement of Funds includes £50,999 received in Grants in 2021, all of which was held in the Lavant Churches Building Fund Bank Account at the year end.

Restricted funds are not invested permanently but are to be spent within reasonable timescales.

The principal funds are detailed below.

The Building Fund holds funds raised for the specific purpose of financing building projects and major works of maintenance.

The Mission Fund holds funds for support of mission in this parish and the wider area.

Unrestricted funds are not subject to any donor restrictions and can be spent as the PCC decides

Unrestricted funds include a grant of £5,000 from the Joan Ainslie Charitable Trust which the PCC will use as needed.

12 Parish Share: £56,833 was paid in Parish Share in 2021 by 11 monthly instalments of £5,166.66, the instalment for January 2021 having been paid in 2020 and recorded in the accounts for that year.

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Mary's with St Nicholas Church, Lavant for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

This is my report to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish (PCC) of St Mary with St Nicholas, Lavant, on the annual report for the year ended 31st December 2021 set out on pages 1 to 6.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The PCC members are responsible for the preparation of the annual reports. The PCC members 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:

1. examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
2. 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
3. to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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.

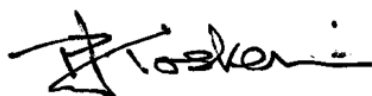
Independent examiner's statement

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

I have come across no 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.

Examiner's signature



Examiner's name CAPITALS

PHILIP JAMES TOSTEVIN

Date

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body if any

16th MARCH 2022

CTA

Examiner's address

42 MAPLEHURST ROAD

CHICHESTER, WEST SUSSEX PO19 6RP

Trustees Annual Report

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission as required by the Charities Act 2011. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Ex Officio member

Incumbent:	The Revd Dr David Jarratt	Chairman until August
	The Rev'd Martha Weatherill	Chairman from September

Elected Wardens:	Mr Ben Smith
	Mrs Georgina Bill

Elected Members:	Mrs Sheila Sims	Secretary
	Mrs Caroline Loten	Re-elected April 2021
	Mrs Zoe Mann	Re-elected April 2021
	Mrs Jean Sherrington	
	Mrs Shirley Whincop	
	Mrs Frances Talbot	
	Mrs Claire Evison	
	Mrs Jenny Quest	
	Mrs Jenny Rogers	
	Mrs Deecie Tester	
	Mrs Sue Jackson	Co-opted July 2021

Deanery Synod	Mrs Sue Tostevin	Elected April 2021
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Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent), the churchwardens (elected annually and who by resolution of the PCC may serve for a maximum of 6 years in succession) and members of the Deanery Synod (elected to serve for 3 years) and 12 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) to serve for a period of 3 years before seeking re-election for a further 3 year period only. Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

This Trustees' Annual Report was **approved** by the PCC and signed on their behalf by The Reverend Martha Weatherill - PCC Chairman

Signed: Rev'd M Weatherill

20 March 2022