

The Parish of St Edmund, Allestree



St Edmund's Church Allestree, Derby. From a pen and ink drawing by Frank Tissington

Election of Churchwardens

and

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2021

Sunday 4th July 2021

After the 10am service in the Church Hall

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Agenda

Meeting of Parishioners

1. Prayers
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the Churchwardens' Meeting 2020 (see page 4)
4. Election of Churchwardens
5. Land Charity Accounts (see page 5)

Followed by:

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the 2020 APCM (see page 8)
3. Presentation of the Electoral Roll
4. Election of Laity Representatives
5. Annual Report of the PCC (see page 12)
7. Financial Report (see page 14)
8. Appointment of Auditor
9. Presentation of other Reports (see page 17)
10. Churchwardens' Report (see page 21)
11. Vicar's Report (see page 22)
12. Opportunity for questions

Minutes of the Annual Church Warden's Meeting

11th October 2020

Present: Revd Peter Barham, Chairman

Parishioners: 35

1. Revd Peter Barham welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. Apologies

Julie Barham, Maureen Caughey, Dennis Caughey, Margaret Weston, Karen Cowgill, David Halliwell.

3. Minutes of the Churchwardens' Meeting on 14th April 2019

The minutes were read and accepted.

4. Election of Church Wardens

Michèle Aspinall was nominated again as Church Warden and was elected unanimously.

There were no other nominations. Peter stressed how important it was to have a second Church Warden and that after the next APCM in May next year, Michèle will not be continuing so the church will have a lot of problems if nobody steps forward to take on this role. Peter reinforced that the invaluable role of Church Warden is appointed a year at a time so the commitment could be for just a year and that anybody interested please speak to Michèle or Peter.

Peter thanked Patrick for being a great Church Warden and the parishioners thanked him with applause.

Patrick thanked everyone and said that it had been a privilege. Patrick thanked people who had supported him through a difficult time personally and he hopes to still stay in touch.

Peter thanked Michèle for being marvellous and parishioners thanked her with applause.

Peter thanked everyone who had helped to get through this strange year.

5. Land Charities Accounts

The accounts were presented in the APCM booklet.

Proposal – to accept the accounts. Proposed by Richard Wood. Seconded by Jill Potts. Carried unanimously.

This concluded the meeting for election of the Church Wardens.

1. ST. EDMUND'S ALLESTREE, CHURCHWARDEN'S LAND CHARITY

(Registered Charity No
219394)

(A) INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DEC 2020

RECEIPTS	£	PAYMENTS	£
Dividends		Received Items	
COIF A/C No 302160002T			
February	1068.35	Hammerite, Wire Brush, Sandpaper	56.24
May	1129.13	Quinquennial Inspection Fee	660.00
August	1129.13	Rewire Replace Tower Lights	594.00
November	1112.01	Hammerite, Wire Brush, Sandpaper	60.00
		Curtain Cleaning	173.00
COIF A/C No 302160001T			
February	11.82	Dust Extractor Hire	89.10
May	12.49	Wine Flagon Repair/regilding	83.64
August	12.49	Sunshine Dry Cleaning (DollyTub)	126.00
November	12.30		
		PAT testing	150.00
Rent		Lightning Conductor Test/Repair	144.00
Land at Sawry Hill			
		Non- receipted Item	
March	290.00	Annual church Insurance	2292.17
September	290.00	(paid by direct debit)	
Interest from Business Reserve A/C			
January to December	3.62		
Other Income			
Refund from overpayment	70.00	*	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	5141.34	TOTAL PAYMENTS	4428.15
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS	713.19		
<hr/>			
Cash at Bank and in Hand (1st Jan 2020)			19,599.39
Cash at Bank and in Hand (31st Dec 2020)			20,312.58
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(B) STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CASH FUNDS	2020	2019
	£	£
Current A/C Nat West	16178.66	15,469.09
Reserve A/C Nat West	4,133.92	4,130.30
TOTAL CASH ASSETS	20,312.58	19,599.39
ENDOWMENT ASSETS		
COIF Charities Funds (8655.2 Income Shares)	155,892.27	146,521.29
TOTAL ASSETS	176,204.85	166,120.68

2. ALLESTREE PARISH CLERKS LAND CHARITY

(Registered Charity No
503498)

(A) INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2020

RECEIPTS	£	PAYMENTS	£
Dividends Received			
COIF A/C No. 330720001T			
February	12.85		
May	13.59		
August	13.59		
November	13.38		
Building Society Interest	0.26		
TOTAL RECEIPTS	53.67	TOTAL PAYMENTS	0.00
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS	53.67		

Cash at bank (1st January 2020)	494.01
Cash at Bank (31st January 2020)	547.65

B.STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CASH FUNDS	2020	2019
	£	£
Leeds Building Society	547.65	494.01
ENDOWMENT ASSETS	1,855.17	1,743.66
COIF Charities Funds (103 Income Shares)		
TOTAL ASSETS	2,402.82	2,237.67

St. Edmund's Churchwardens' Accounts

The accounts (financial statements) of the St. Edmunds Allestree Churchwardens' Land Charity and the Allestree Parish Clerk's Land Charity have been prepared in accordance with the charities' governing documents, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for smaller entities published on 16th July 2014.

Notes to the financial statements

(1) The Churchwardens' Land Charity was set up from an endowment fund to provide an income for maintenance of the fabric of St. Edmund's Church. The main income of the charity continues to be dividends from a holding of 8655.2 Income Shares in the COIF Charities Fund, a managed investment portfolio set up by CCLA Investment Management Ltd. This fund is an approved fund for churches and other charities to invest in, if allowed by the charity's trust deed. The value of the total holding of 8655.2 shares has increased by approximately 6.4 % during the past year, and was valued at £155,892 at the year end (Dec 2020)

(2) The purpose of the Parish Clerk's Land Charity is to provide an honorarium to the PCC Secretary. The sole income of the Parish Clerk's Land Charity is the dividends from the holding of 103 shares in the COIF Charities Fund, which was valued at £1,855 (at the year end). These shares derive from the sale for building purposes of land which was once the Parish Clerk's Garden.

(3) The limited income for both charities is below that required for either an independent examination or an audit.

(4) The usefulness of having 2 separate charities from the PCC is now under discussion by the trustees of the charities as (a) the Parish Clerk's charity is unable to perform its function having been unable to pay an honorarium to the PCC Secretary for some years and (b) the Churchwarden's charity provides an extra accounting task, which could be more efficiently handled within the PCC accounts, and also enable more of the VAT to be reclaimed on repairs from the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme.

Prepared by : Richard Flatman

Richard Flatman 30/5/2021

Approved by:

Michele Aspinall (Churchwarden)

MAspinall

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

11th October 2020

1. Apologies

As recorded in previous minutes.

2. Minutes of 2019 APCM

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

3. Presentation of the Electoral Roll

The role has 126 names in total, 80 being resident in the parish and 46 not resident in the parish.

Peter read out the names of members of the congregation who have died during this year, a number of whom had made huge contributions to the life of this church – Barbara Dallas, Brian Bonsall, Peter Rice, Hilary Kirkbride, Esme Garnham, Eric Grimster, Margaret Jones, Pam Dolby, Peter Statham, Ruth Barkaway, John Coltman, Colin Wolstenholme. We remembered them with love and affection.

4. Election of Laity representatives

There are 8 vacancies on the PCC due to the rotation of members and the resignation of Karen Cowgill. Peter thanked Karen and hoped she would be back soon. She is continuing with JACK on zoom.

8 nominations had been received:

Elizabeth Jack	Julie Hutchinson	David Halliwell
Madeleine Fullerton – co-opted in 2019 – term to end 2022		Paula Birchall
Louise Whittaker	Christopher Jack	Geoff Bailey

Nominations were elected to the PCC unanimously.

This year the Deanery Synod representatives need re-electing. We are entitled to 3 representatives and their role is to attend Deanery Synod meetings and report back to PCC meetings. According to present reps the Deanery Synod meetings are dynamic and very interesting and worthwhile attending. Three nominations were received –

Mark Halliwell	Richard Wood	David Redfern
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Nominations were elected to be Deanery Synod Representatives unanimously.

PCC MEMBERSHIP FOR 2020-2021 will be:-

Incumbent	Rev Peter Barham	
Church Wardens	Michèle Aspinall	Vacancy
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Louise Whittaker (with support from Anne Cogley)	
Treasurer	Chris Jack	
Secretary	Julie Hutchinson	
Readers	Julie Barham	Deborah Simpson

ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE PCC:

Geoff Bailey	Paula Birchall	Barbara Colder	Graham Colder	Matthew Cooper
Jackie Eunson	Ken Eunson	Richard Flatman	Madeleine Fullerton	David Halliwell
Julie Hutchinson	Chris Jack	Elizabeth Jack	Louise Whittaker	

DEANERY SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES – EX OFFICIO PCC MEMBERS:

Mark Halliwell

David Redfern

Richard Wood

Retiring members at APCM 2021

Barbara Colder, Graham Colder, Matthew Cooper, Karen Cowgill, Richard Flatman.

Retiring members at APCM 2022

Jackie Eunson, Ken Eunson, Madeleine Fullerton.

Retiring members at APCM 2023

Geoff Bailey, Paula Birchall, David Halliwell, Julie Hutchinson, Christopher Jack, Elizabeth Jack, Louise Whittaker.

5. Appointment of Sides-persons (commonly known as Deputy Wardens)

The current deputy wardens are-

Geoff Bailey

Richard Wood

David Halliwell

Jackie Eunson

Ken Eunson

Colin Pearson

This list will be looked at again when things are back to normal.

At present the following people are welcoming and taking names for track and trace at services –

Chris and Liz Jack, Julie, Sophie and Dave Hutchinson, Paul and Kate Smith, Jane and Steve Burton, Diane Bakhda and Margaret Statham.

6. Annual Report of the PCC

The report is contained within the APCM booklet.

7. Financial Report

This report is on pages 14 -19 of booklet.

The retiring treasurer, Paul, explained that the figures are now 10 months out of date due to the delay in the APCM due to Covid 19. He reports that, as of December 2019, there was a small surplus of 4% but there would be a loss without legacies. Church finances are in a sustainable situation but are dependent on legacies. He continues to advocate that we should try to manage so that everyday expenditure equals everyday income.

Paul thanked Peter, the Finance Committee, the late Peter Statham and the late John Coltman for their help and support, Ken Eunson, for making all payments, Richard Flatman, for recovering tax and claiming grants and Chris for taking over as Treasurer and for claiming Gift Aid.

Peter thanked Paul and the finance team for their hard work. The parishioners thanked Paul with applause.

8. Appointment of Auditor/Independent Financial Examiner

Paul thanked Peter Hilton for examining the accounts.

Peter Hilton has volunteered to be an independent financial examiner again next year. Proposed by Paul Smith. Seconded by Richard Flatman. Carried unanimously.

9. Presentation of Committee Reports

Committee reports are printed in full in the APCM booklet.

Pastoral Care – Peter is trying to keep this going and thanks everyone doing their bit.

JACK – Karen is continuing this by zoom.

Magazine – Peter thanked the editorial team. There have been 12 new subscribers. Always in need of articles.

Church Hall Committee – Preschool and School's Out (with Covid secure measures, risk assessments etc) are using the hall through the day so the Church Hall is financially in a good situation. Two evening groups have resumed – one Zumba and 1 ballet. All are following guidelines and risk assessments carried out.

Peter thanked the Handbells, Flower Group, Choir, Julie for vicarage Book Club, Shirley and Mike for doing Food Bank, Luncheon Club and Louise and Ann for safeguarding work.

10. Churchwardens' Report

The report was printed in full in the APCM booklet on page 27.

Michèle thanked Patrick.

Michèle stated that she was not happy about continuing in the role of Church Warden on her own and is really concerned about the situation in after next year's APCM when she stands down.

Peter thanked Michèle and John, her husband, for his support.

11. Vicar's Report

The Vicar's report was printed in full on page 28 of the APCM booklet.

Peter stated that the report felt so out of date, having been written before the Covid 19 pandemic. He felt he had four priorities to work to –

1. Caring for his mental, spiritual, and physical health and that of his family
2. Making sure we worship as well as is possible over the next few months so that, even though it is different and some folk may only be experiencing it through the web, we still feel we are walking with God. There are service sheets, prayers, links to other church services etc online each week. Services will continue at 10am on Sundays and Wednesdays and Choral Evensong will start in November. Peter is not sure when and if 8am and 11.15 service can restart due to the need to clean between services. Peter will do his best for Christmas but is not sure how it will happen.
3. Caring for the mental, spiritual, and physical health of our congregation and the communities we serve as best we can. Lots of phone calls being made to each other by lots of people – please continue. Food bank has been and will continue to be very important.
4. Journeying together into the future – a future which is going to force us to ask questions about our buildings, our worship, our resources.

12. Opportunity for questions

There were no questions.

The meeting closed with the Collect of the Day.

PCC Report for Oct 2020 to May 2021 – Julie Hutchinson (PCC Secretary)

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility for co-operating with the incumbent in promoting, in the parish, the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical.

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. The Churchwardens and those elected to the Deanery Synod are ex-officio members. The PCC may also co-opt, in our case, up to two members.

PCC Oct 2020 – May 2021

Incumbent	Reverend Peter Barham	
Readers	Deborah Simpson	Julie Barham
Churchwardens	Michèle Aspinall	Vacancy

Deanery Synod Representatives:

Richard Wood	Mark Halliwell	David Redfern
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Elected Members of the PCC:

Geoff Bailey	Paula Birchall	Barbara Colder	Graham Colder
Matthew Cooper	Jackie Eunson	Ken Eunson	Richard Flatman
Madeleine Fullerton	David Halliwell	Julie Hutchinson (PCC Secretary)	
Chris Jack (PCC Treasurer)	Elizabeth Jack	Louise Whittaker (Parish Safeguarding Officer)	

Members due to retire at this APCM:

Barbara Colder, Graham Colder, Matthew Cooper, Richard Flatman.

Retiring members at APCM 2022:

Jackie Eunson, Ken Eunson, Madeleine Fullerton.

Retiring members at APCM 2023:

Geoff Bailey, Paula Birchall, David Halliwell, Julie Hutchinson, Chris Jack, Liz Jack, Louise Whittaker.

Committees:

The PCC works to support the clergy, mainly through subcommittees, which deal with the business of the church, such as finance issues, care of the church and church hall and pastoral matters.

Present subcommittees are Fabric (church), Finance, Church Hall, Pastoral and Events. PCC members choose on which committees to serve depending on their experience and interests. Other church members may help on sub committees at the discretion of the respective chairs.

The Standing Committee is required by law and consists of a minimum of 5 people and usually includes the Clergy, Lay Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and the Chair of any of the other subcommittees. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings and also sets the agenda for PCC meetings.

Review of PCC Meetings Oct 2020 to May 2021

Areas the PCC has focused on include:

- Dealing with the changing covid situation through this period. This has taken up much discussion and planning time. Planning and risk assessments for restarting public worship were carried out

and then changing to zoom services through the third lockdown, with the help of Matthew, proved very successful. PCC meetings have mainly taken place on zoom, instead of in person, during this period.

- Discussing and agreeing to plans from the Finance Committee. These have included providing a business card for petty cash for Caroline, the Parish Administrator, furloughing Caroline and Tony (the cleaner) and charitable giving.
- Discussing and agreeing to sharing a Children's, Youth and Families Worker with St Nicholas' Church.
- Discussing plans from the Fabric Committee on an improved lighting scheme for church, an accessible toilet and dealing with leaks to vestry and sacristy roofs.
- Continuing discussions with church hall users, Pre School and School's Out, so that it can be used in a covid secure way and preparing for other users to return.
- Discussing new safeguarding policies, taking part in safeguarding training and discussing transport of vulnerable people to church.
- Planning and purchase of new headstones for the church yard for future burial of ashes.
- Receiving reports from representatives of Derby Deanery Synod and Allestree Churches Together.

Treasurer's Report: 2020 accounts – Chris Jack (PCC Treasurer)

2020 has been a strange year for all of us, and we feared early in the year that our finances would suffer as churches were closed, but in fact at the end of the year we increased our bank balances by nearly £24,000 (see 'Excess or Receipts over Payments') and our investments increased in value by over £12,000. This was despite spending over £26,700 on work on the church ceiling.

The balance sheet categorisation of individual income and expenditure items has been slightly changed to bring them into line with financial practise prescribed by PCC Accountability Guide published by the Business Committee of the General Synod. The main change is the identification of the income received on behalf of, and then paid to, third parties: for instance, the diocese, organist and verger parts of the fees collected for weddings and funerals. These monies are separated into 'Agency' receipts and payments. This means that the numbers we submit to the charity commission and to the diocese are the same.

Our total income from donations fell slightly. The inevitable drop in collections at services and donations at weddings and funerals was more than offset by the increase in donations by bank standing order and individual donations. The shortfall was due to reduction in gift aid recovery, due in some part to Covid restrictions on the use of the envelope systems, which made it more difficult to claim for some donations. Some work is underway to recover some of these.

We received several very generous legacies through the year, without which our end of year balance would not be so healthy.

Grants include both recovery of VAT for work carried on the church ceiling and the furlough grants we received from HMG for Tony and Caroline last summer.

The continuing income from the church hall has been very valuable. Both the St Edmund's Pre-School CIC and the School's Out Club have been the major contributors here and Caroline has worked hard with both these groups not least to ensure that all necessary Covid precautions are in place.

Service fees appear lower than last year but, as explained above, this is largely due to the exclusion of 'Agency' income which is listed separately.

Other income is mostly the recovery of office expenses from St Matthew's.

Expenditure is largely as the previous year except for the work on the church ceiling which is listed under 'Major Repairs to Church'. The adoption of the revised categories means that in some cases a direct comparison with last year's figures is not possible, for instance 'Other costs' have been almost eliminated and moved to more specific

categories. However, setting aside the cost of ceiling work our expenditure reduced by about £21,000 compared with 2019.

There was a transfer into the restricted fund early in the year to correct the allocation of some legacies which because they contained restrictions as to the use of these funds, should not have been placed in the designated funds category.

The RBS accounts have now been closed and all current and accessible deposit account transactions are with the CAF bank.

Finally, the church hall valuation has remained unchanged for about ten years, so we are currently in the process of obtaining a new values for asset and insurance purposes.

My thanks to members of the finance committee who do significant parts of the treasurer's job for me. A special thank you this year to Ken, who managed the bank account on a day-to-day basis (all bank payments require two authorizations), and is this year choosing to stand down from the committee.

*2020 Charitable Payments	
Derbyshire Mind	£ 71.33
Christian Aid	£ 713.04
C Of E Children's Society	£ 235.77
Cancer Research	£ 49.05
Rainbow Hospice	£ 41.27
The Samaritans	£ 350.00
Padley Group	£ 350.00
Rainbows	£ 350.00
Railway Mission	£ 350.00
RNLI	£ 350.00
Derby City Mission	£ 350.00
Just Ice	£ 10.00
Rev. Howard Nasoro	£ 350.00
Christian Aid	£ 156.00
Take Heart Derby	£ 350.00
British Legion	£ 61.22
	£ 4,137.68

St Edmund's, Allestree 2020 Accounts

These accounts are on the 'receipts and payments' basis and therefore include (1) the receipts and payments account and (2) an assets and liabilities statement.

St Edmund's Allestree		Accounts for year ended 31st December 2020				
Receipts and Payments Account					TOTAL	TOTAL
		Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2020	2019
RECEIPTS	Note					
1 Planned Giving	1	54077			54077	43267
3 Collections at services	2	1947			1947	6959
Other voluntary giving						
4 and donations		1332			1332	6132
6 Tax recovered		10817			10817	13129
Total from donors		68173			68173	69487
7 Legacies		38394			38394	20523
8 Grants	3	7376			7376	0
9 Fund raising		335		300	635	887
10 Investment income	4	553			553	821
11 Service Fees		8525			8525	15624
12 Trading Income: Hall		16620			16620	16330
Magazine and book sales		2228			2228	2138
13 Other income		6068			6068	8958
13c Agency income		10384			10384	-
Other income		90483		300	90783	65280
TOTAL RECEIPTS		158656	0	300	158956	134767
PAYMENTS						
17 Fund raising		376			376	50
18 Outward giving		4007			4007	4915
19 Common Fund - Parish		54698			54698	58442
20 Salaries and Honoraria		15664			15664	12523
21 Clergy expenses		3126			3126	3984
22 Mission giving	5	0		129	129	
Church Running						
23 Expenditure		7402			7402	4872
24 Church utilities		3371			3371	
25 Cost of Trading		9812			9812	17475
26 Governance		465			465	
27 Major Repairs to Church		0		26796	26796	10889
99 Other costs		212			212	6960
Agency Payments		9083			9083	9847
TOTAL PAYMENTS		108216	0	26925	135141	129957
Excess of Receipts over Payments		50440	0	-26625	23815	4810
OPENING CASH BALANCES		15187	166717	4214	186118	181308
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS	6	-50	-108694	108744	0	0
CLOSING CASH BALANCES		65577	58023	86333	209933	186118

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

As at 31st December 2020

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	TOTAL 2020	TOTAL 2019
CASH FUNDS					
RBS current	8	0	0	0	48542
RBS deposit	8	0	0	0	32736
CAF current		4604	0	4604	5295
CAF deposit		9626	58023	67649	12352
CCLA deposit		51347	0	137680	87193
TOTAL	65577	58023	86333	209933	186118
INVESTMENT FUNDS					
CCLA CBF account	156993	0	0	156993	142422
CHURCH HALL					
	114000	0	0	114000	114000
LIABILITIES					
Agency income - Agency payments	7			1301	

ST EDMUND'S CHURCH ALLESTREE PCC

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF
ST EDMUND'S CHURCH ALLESTREE**

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2020, which comprise the Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2016. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the members of the PCC those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity trustees for my examination work.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act)) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the Act, to follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145 of the Act and Church Guidance, 2016 edition and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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

Name P B Hilton FCA
.....
Address 5 Wharfedale Close, Allestree, Derby
.....
Date
.....
Signed 19/2/21
.....

PCC Committee and other Group/Activity Reports

JACK Report – Karen Cowgill

Jesus And Cool Kids is now in its seventh year and I am able, and also pleased, to report that we have continued to thrive throughout the pandemic. May marks the first anniversary of our monthly Zoom sessions. We only missed one session in April 2020 and since then have met each third Sunday to share in fun and faith. All six families have continued to attend regularly on zoom. The children are growing up, our “12 St Edmunds disciples” are now aged between one and ten.

Our original face to face sessions had the format of meeting in church on the third Sunday of the month and going to the church hall to participate in a range of activities with a biblical theme. We would have a bible story, craft and games. Over Zoom we have kept a similar format with a theme for each session based on a bible reading and some craft activities. We have been able to develop as the children have grown more confident so that the bible reading is now usually read by one of the older children, from one of their own bibles, and others lead the prayers. Our craft activities have needed to be imaginative; everyone now has a fabulous collection including; suncatchers, mobiles, egg boxes containing a “dozen disciples”, Nativity scenes, Easter wreaths to name just some. All of these are a reminder of what has been the theme of the lesson. On some occasions I have dropped resources with the families, parents have collected from me and delivered to the others, or we have used printed resources sent out by email. It has worked really well.

Books were still presented on the anniversary (well one month late) with parents doing the honours of actually handing them over during our last session before Christmas. This was also the occasion of our first ever Zoom Nativity. I personally had tremendous fun both writing and performing in our story, hopefully the children and parents also enjoyed it. All the children had a part, with contributions from the adults now and again, and the parents created some fabulous costumes.

This has obviously not been the year to hope for expansion but the group has developed and grown in its own way. I have already said that the existing families have remained involved. In many ways the Zoom platform has worked very well, it is possible to turn up in pyjamas and slippers and sometimes the children are still in pyjamas too.

This year more than ever I would like to thank the parents for their support in making JACK work. They have printed off resources, supported the children in all the activities, helped me out on many occasions and best of all; the mess and tidying up has been their responsibility. I look forward to the coming year with faith and confidence that JACK will continue whatever the challenges.

Church Magazine – Peter Barham, Fiona Fraser & Chris Willis

We managed to get the April 2020 magazine through people’s letterboxes just before the first lockdown came into force and were able to include a leaflet of prayer and worship. May and June’s magazines both went on-line, but we have posted paper copies to people who had asked and those we knew do not use the internet. We were back as a printed magazine in July, and we posted copies to people we are on our church lists but who don’t subscribe to have the magazine delivered. We hope that some of them became subscribers. After this, copies were printed and delivered every month, and the magazine was also put on the website.

In some ways it has been harder to fill the magazine every month. Usually the “Diary” takes a couple of pages and posters fill another page or two, but that has not been the case for a year now. We have included an insert of worship material on several occasions and tried to print a selection of photos showing that life and worship have continued. We are grateful to Geoff Bailey who kept us well supplied with photos as the ceiling was repaired, to “The Rambler” who has helped us dream of life outside lockdown, and to Kate Smith and Julie Barham who have suggested books to read and films to watch. Elizabeth Jack keeps us up to date with “News from the Choir Vestry”, even when they have not been inside said vestry! We are always grateful to our contributors – please don’t wait to be asked, Fiona, Chris and Peter are always happy to receive notes and photos.

We produce 200 magazines a month, deliver most of them, post some, put some in local shops, and have copies available in church to be picked up. Primrose's Book Shed at the Vicarage has also become a distribution/collection point. Please take them – they do no good at all if they just gather dust. Do not hesitate to give copies to friends and neighbours – while it is good to get £1 a copy, the important thing is that are read. They are part of the outreach of the church.

A huge thank you to the team of deliverers. Yearly subscriptions will become due on the 1st July 2021. A paragraph about this will be in the June magazine and it is most likely that a separate note - easily seen - will also be included with each magazine. Thanks to our advertisers and to Terry Colder who organises the booking and payment of the adverts. Thanks to Fiona who sets up the artwork – while Peter and Chris find the mistakes – and gets the magazine printed every month.

We hope you enjoy reading your church magazine, and thank you for your support.

Church Hall Report – Caroline Audley

Due to Covid 19 and the various restrictions we have not been able to hire the hall out to evening or weekend users. However, we have continued to be able to offer the hall to St Edmund's Preschool Monday-Friday during term time. This income has been invaluable. We are grateful to them for continuing throughout the pandemic.

We were approached by School's Out (a before school, after school and holiday club) to see if they could use our hall before preschool and after them as well as in the holidays as they had been let down by St John's at Park Farm who were not reopening and then became a vaccination centre, and St Benedict's. We were keen to help but it started to get too stressful for preschool as there was little/no time in between the two groups to allow for cleaning and set up. We took the decision to just have School's Out during the holidays which coincided with St John's re-opening, so School's Out were not affected. We are grateful to them for this additional, invaluable income.

As of w/c 17th May 2021 we have welcomed back Ballet on a Monday (term time), Brownies on a Wednesday (term time) and Zumba on a Thursday. We look forward to welcoming back more groups in the not-too-distant future. Until restrictions ease further, we are asking all evening and weekend bookings to arrive 30 minutes before their start time and leave 30 minutes after to clean around the key touch points e.g. door handles, light switches etc. This extra time is not being charged and all cleaning materials are provided. We are grateful to our groups for taking on this extra task in the effort to keep everyone safe and the hall open.

As groups start to use the hall again, we are reviewing their rates and are getting those who have been paying under the 'church rate' closer or to that rate.

During the various lockdowns whilst it has only been preschool using the hall, they enlisted the help of a weekly cleaner to help keep the hall as safe as possible. Now that groups are using the hall in the evening, we have agreed to share this cost with preschool, and we will be doing the same with School's Out during the holidays.

Handbells – Gill Flatman

St Edmund's Handbell Group last met on March 16th 2020. Sadly, I have no news of past and current engagements for our 2021 APCM. When the Covid restrictions are lifted, I hope we will be able to practise in the autumn in preparation for Christmas.

Baby & Toddler Group – Caroline Audley

Due to Covid 19 and the various lockdowns the group has not been running. We are hopefully going to restart in September. After a conversation with St Edmund's Preschool, they are happy and keen to help as we are a potential feed into them.

Before restarting I will need to speak to Croots about the potential of them donating a weekly fruit basket again, and to the tea ladies to see if they would like to, and are able to start back again. I will also need to advertise as we've been shut for so long.

Flower Group - Michèle Aspinall

In March 2020, church buildings closed for the first time in 800 years. In common with associations and groups throughout the country, our flower team ceased to meet in person. We shared the distress of florists, wholesalers and all involved in the global flower industry whose businesses were decimated. The year saw weddings postponed, funerals restricted, worship moving online. The global pandemic certainly forced us to reflect on our priorities. When weddings and memorial services were allowed to take place in the summer, couples and families were determined to mark these events with beautiful flowers. The team kept in contact with each other and provided floral displays for the limited services and events that went ahead. Harvest and Christmas gave us an opportunity to decorate the church. Although we are a naturally gregarious group, we did manage to work in a socially distanced manner!

In normal circumstances, the group ensures that fresh flowers are always on display for services apart from Lent and Advent. A special effort is made for festivals such as Easter and Christmas. Appropriate flowers and colours are also in place for Remembrance Sunday, Whitsun etc. We always try to carry out family's wishes for funeral flowers and also provide arrangements to celebrate anniversaries or memorials.

Some of our funding comes from wedding flowers when we make a small profit while providing flowers at a more competitive price than some florists. Thanks to generous donations from individuals, the congregation's response to appeals and the skills of the group, the floral arrangements at Easter, Harvest and Christmas continue to impress. Mothering Sunday flowers are also provided from this funding.

This is a longstanding group which gladly welcomes new recruits. No flower arranging skills are required as full training is offered by our expert, talented team. Volunteers to clear flowers and help with "ordinary" weeks would be most welcome. We see flower arranging as a pleasant, social and creative way of serving the church and helping to make it a welcoming and comforting place to be.

Choir - Elizabeth Jack

It has been a strange year for the choir as for much of it we have been unable to sing in church due to Covid restrictions. In September, we resumed singing for occasional services, initially unrobed in the Lady Chapel, then later in the choir stalls. This all stopped again with the 2nd lockdown when we were again silenced. We managed a mini carol service on the Sunday before Christmas and sang at the 10:00 am service on Christmas morning. There are only 6 of us with 4 being 2 couples so distancing is no problem. Wearing masks to sing is less easy!

2021 saw us enter Lockdown 3 and it was not until Easter Day when very last-minute rule changes enabled us to sing a combined Evensong/ Communion service. We are currently unable to have separate rehearsals so are limited to music well known to us all. We are looking forward to learning new repertoire when permitted.

My thanks go to the choir for their patience and willingness to adapt to difficult conditions, to David Redfern for his sympathetic accompaniments, to Tony Westerman for playing for the Easter Day evening service and finally to Peter Barham for his support and encouragement which have kept us going through difficult times.

Bookworms and Other Vicarage Social Events - Julie Barham

Book Group was already a squash in the Vicarage sitting room, and we met at the start of 2020. Since then I have been writing reviews of www.northernreader.wordpress.com, but it will be a while before we can get back together. I suspect we will need to find a bigger room in which to meet. Peter and I look forward to welcoming people back to the Vicarage and the Garden, and Selwyn looks forward to it even more - our sociable cat has missed his fan club.

Food Bank - Mike & Shirley Dawson

The Hope Centre Food Bank has continued to be extremely well supported throughout all the Covid restrictions. Many thanks to ALL who donate. Being able to use the Shed at the side of the Vicarage for storing donations seems to have seen an increase in the number of items left there. Bags can be taken there at any time during each month. Items can also be brought to Church on the First Sunday of every month to any Service. There are new volunteers now (grateful thanks!) making sure that all the donations reach the Hope Centre each month. Others make sure that the donations in church are all in the bags provided, in order to keep the Font area tidy. During the pandemic they also make sure that the bags reach the shed after services have finished. Examples for donating are non-perishable tinned meats, tins of fruit, tins of rice puddings, soups and vegetables, packets of rice and pasta, cereals especially Weetabix type in sleeves and Variety cereal packs, small jars of coffee, teabags in packs of 80. Any other non-perishable donations are all very welcome. Toiletries can be donated, too. We have found it very humbling to be involved in such an unfortunately, still needed, collection. We have really appreciated the full support of Peter the Vicar during our time involved with the Food Bank.

Luncheon Club – Jill Potts

Luncheon Club is very sad to report that Janet is currently being cared for in a home. We are so grateful for all her devotion to the club for well over 20 years. She has been in charge for much of that time and has maintained a very high standard in all aspects of the club and will be greatly missed.

Throughout the pandemic (we last met in March 2020) the team of helpers have kept in touch with all members and with each other. Pam Highman, Anne Madge, Rosemary and Mick Yates, Mary Bennett and Jill Potts have regularly spoken to members. Thanks to Louise these same people plus Jane Burton have delivered Christmas cards and packages to everyone. This included Christmas cake, mince pies, biscuits and a wrapped chocolate. At Easter cards and packages were again delivered to all. These included hot cross buns and mini Easter eggs. We are very much indebted to Louise who volunteered to do all the baking at Christmas and to put together all the packages on both occasions. She also delivered some individual packages and gave collections of packages to others to deliver. A big thank you to everyone who was involved. A number of members have said how much they enjoyed receiving them.

Sadly, a few of our members have died and some no longer feel they will be able to return. We do look forward to welcoming back all members and helpers who are able to. We do not anticipate being allowed to re-open in the near future but will keep members informed when we know anything.

To finish on a happy note, it was really good to be able to mark Brenda Byrnes 100th birthday last July with a special card and some flowers. CONGRATULATIONS BRENDA!

Allestree Churches Together (ACT) - David Halliwell

Due to Covid restrictions and the national lockdowns, no meetings or informal gatherings have taken place between members of the group for the period April 2020-21, so unfortunately there is nothing to report. When meetings resume, two 'on old' issues need to be readdressed, (1) financial support for the joining 'Holidays at Home' project, which had been proposed following its successful run in the last two years and (2) try to resolve the ongoing NAGPUR Link problem concerning retirement replacements, remembering that the Link itself was originally formed out of the ACT Group. Subject to lockdown relaxation rules, it is hoped that at least we will manage the annual acts of Communal Worship, both in a member church and at Park Farm, and practical items such as the annual litter pick activity at the recreation ground should not be a problem.

Peter adds that four of the ministers from the ACT churches have 'met' monthly by 'Zoom', and this has been a continuing source of mutual support and encouragement.

Safeguarding - Louise Whittaker & Anne Cogley (PSO's for St Edmund's Church, Allestree)

As the Parish Safeguarding Officers for Saint Edmund's Church, Louise Whittaker supported by Anne Cogley are continuing to comply with our duties of care to children and vulnerable adults in our Church community as set down in the House of Bishops guidance in relation to Safeguarding. The period since our last annual report has been very unusual due to the outbreak of the Covid-19 virus. Much of Church Life as we once knew it has inevitably been put on hold due to lockdown measures, with reduced services and very few activities having taken place within our Parish community. At the start of lockdown we provided some information for the Church website that was aimed at helping and informing those with Safeguarding anxieties or concerns and this information is still there.

Safeguarding remains a standing agenda item at every PCC meeting. In addition, as part of our responsibility to the Church of England we provide updates of our progress via the Parish Online Dashboard and here are some extracts from our latest update: We have recently renewed the Procedure which responds to Safeguarding concerns and allegations in the light of increased focus on Safeguarding within the Church. In March we wrote and the PCC approved our Church Social Media Policy which governs the use of the internet and other social media interactions on behalf of the Church.

Louise, Anne and Peter attended a Safer Recruitment Course at the end of November. As the parish is now in control of organising our own DBS Certificates, Louise and Anne completed Online training to enable us to do this and are proud to report that we have successfully completed our first attempt at providing a DBS Certificate through this new process. Safeguarding Training is being regularly updated by the Church of England and there are approximately 40 role holders that are affected. Louise and Anne have been keeping these individuals informed as necessary as to which training courses they will now need to undertake or renew. There is now a new on-line Basic Awareness Course (CO) that is compulsory for all PCC members and is recommended for anyone who is involved in helping out in a voluntary capacity within the Church. All those who have completed their Safeguarding Training have been encouraged to use the online Updating Service that is now available to them and this is generally being taken up by everyone. All Role Description and Risk Assessment forms are being updated and the Risk Assessments will be reviewed as activities begin again and as lockdown restrictions ease.

With regards to 2021, we shall continue to encourage good practice and work closely with Peter on all Safeguarding matters. The Parish Online Dashboard will be our main priority and is likely to take up much of our time. We shall continue to do our best to support all leaders and volunteers, particularly as the Safeguarding requirements and the completion of forms have become more demanding in line with the Church of England's drive to Promote a Safer Church.

We end this report with a reminder that a copy of the Parish Safeguarding handbook 'Promoting a Safer Church' brings into one place the key safeguarding responsibilities for parishes and is designed to support day to day safeguarding work. It is available online in its most up to date format and can be read by going to www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding . There is also a hard copy of it at the back of Saint Edmund's Church and information related to it on noticeboards in the Church and in the Church hall. However, if anyone has any safeguarding related concerns at any time, please contact immediately Louise, Anne or the Vicar.

Churchwardens' Report - Michèle Aspinall

2020 has been a year like no other. We have experienced a world-wide crisis caused by the coronavirus pandemic. At St. Edmund's as with other churches, we have had to adapt and do things very differently. We have tried to support and keep in touch with one another throughout these challenging circumstances.

Although we did not realise it at the time, our pancake lite evening was to be the last social gathering of 2020. Between March and August the churchwarden's yearbook became a register of cancelled weddings and events. From September until the end of the year it recorded the restricted numbers permitted for each wedding. The same was true for funerals and more poignantly so. We all shared the sadness of being unable to pay our respects and say farewell to longstanding friends and members of both St. Edmund's and St. Matthew's.

At the end of the summer, we took part in the Allestree Scarecrow festival. Our Friar Tuck drew admiring comments. We celebrated a number of weddings and enjoyed a Harvest Festival service in a beautifully decorated church. Unfortunately, we were not able to gather at the war memorial for Remembrance Sunday. Christmas services were scaled back. Passers-by commented positively on the decorative lights on the lych gate and the yew tree.

Essential maintenance of the church went ahead throughout the year. This allowed us to complete the rewiring of the tower. Roof leaks on the choir vestry and sacristy were remedied. Servicing of the tower clock and the organ, PAT testing, and inspection of the heating system, lightning conductor and fire safety equipment all took place.

The most ambitious task of 2020 was the project to examine, clean, repair and redecorate the ceiling of the church during June and July. The work was specified and supervised by Smith and Roper Architects. Whilst scaffolding was in place, checks were carried out for asbestos and woodworm. Prior to and during this period, a very significant amount of preparation and checking was carried out by Geoff Bailey. We are very grateful to him and to all the volunteers who helped with the deep clean of the church which involved brushing the stonework, cleaning windows, cleaning below the heating grilles, polishing and restoring pews and furniture, painting metalwork, dry-cleaning vestments and curtains, polishing all silver and brassware, attending to hassocks, pew cushions, flags and flower stands and the large wall hanging. I have described this work in detail as it illustrates the willingness of so many to contribute to ensuring that we have a building which can be enjoyed by our regular congregation and visitors alike.

As restrictions were lifted, our loyal Groundforce volunteers returned to helping in the churchyard as part of their daily permitted exercise. The grass was kept mown and flower beds replanted. The railings along Church Walk were sanded down and painted. We are grateful to those who have given so much time and expertise to ensure that the church and its grounds are well cared for and welcoming. New recruits are always welcome!

Public worship was suspended and churches closed from 22 March. This presented many challenges. Under Peter's guidance, we moved to online communication. The church's website provided Facebook links, sermons, readings and notices. Our young people's group, JACK, was quick to begin Zoom worship. Traditional communication by telephone and by post was also vital to help us to stay in contact with members of the church community. An Easter card was sent to all our contacts. Whatever new technologies we mastered, I am sure that there is no substitute for corporate, physical worship. We look forward to a return to worship and events without masks and social distancing.

I am very grateful to Richard Flatman for continuing to audit the churchwardens' accounts. Thank you also to our church administrator, Caroline Audley who has taken on extra responsibility for the day to day running of the church hall. Finally, I must thank Peter and Julie for their fortitude in leading us through this extraordinary year. Peter's daily posts and weekly sermons have lifted our spirits and guided us along a difficult path. We are grateful to both of them for their support and guidance.

Vicar's Report - Peter Barham

We went into 2020 in a spirit of optimism. Epiphany celebrations included a concert/tea with 53 people in St Edmund's Church Hall and a Christingle at St Matthew's. Children from Portway Infants visited one church and Walter Evans the other. We packed people into the Fellowship Room for an evening on Eco matters, and into the Church Hall for pancakes. Ash Wednesday saw four well-attended services, and we started Lent with a couple of weddings.

Then the world changed. Firstly, we stopped sharing the Peace, then within a fortnight both buildings were closed. In that fortnight we had squeezed in a wedding (taken by the Archdeacon on two hours' notice as I had coughed down the phone to the doctor and had been told to isolate), produced and delivered church magazines with an 8 prayer leaflet of Prayer and Worship to use at home. On Mothering Sunday, we put sermons on the church website, and every Sunday since material has been produced for prayer and worship, notices and reading sheets, sermons and links to services from other churches – have a look at <https://www.stedsandstmatts.co.uk/copy-of-worship-while->

our-buildings. I started a daily “Facebook Ramble”, which I have continued writing, I’ve only missed a couple of days in the last 13 months, and people have continued to read and comment on them. We posted an Easter Card to several hundred people and lit the Easter Candle outside our church buildings.

Many people in our congregations got involved on-line and we learned how to Zoom. St Edmund’s Junior Church met regularly, as did the choirs. Other people spent a lot of time on the phone keeping in touch. When magazines could not be physically delivered, we put them on the websites and posted paper copies to people who asked for them. Peter produced videos for schools and the website – David Redfern from St Edmund’s playing “I’m not getting married in the morning” made it onto the Diocesan website.

At the beginning of June work started to repair and repaint the ceiling at St Edmund’s. This was a major project supervised by Geoff Bailey, ironically made slightly easier by the fact the building was closed for worship. We were able to reopen St Matthew’s for private prayer on Sunday 18 June, after 6 hours work to get the church empty of everything (books etc), 12 hours of cleaning, 4 hours of printing and laminating labels, and 3 hours to write a risk assessment to be signed off by the Archdeacon.

July’s magazines were back in printed form, and we posted another 70 copies out to people who don’t normally subscribe – it was an opportunity to keep in touch, to remind people that we are here and I’m always at the end of a phone.

We re-started public worship on Sunday 19 July in St Matthew’s and on Sunday 2 August in St Edmund’s (the extra fortnight being needed to clean and sort the risk assessments out after the ceiling work finished). We were two of the earliest churches to reopen in the Diocese. We had to sit socially distanced, wear face-coverings, be “tracked and traced”, and were unable to sing hymns or use the chalice, but it was good to be back. Caroline was back from furlough, so every Sunday we were producing a printed noticesheet, plus 40 copies each of two separate Orders of Service, as well as putting sermons and an Order of Service (with links to hymns, music and prayers) on the website. Although the Fellowship Room could not be hired out, St Edmund’s Pre-school and School’s Out meant that there was a lot of work managing the Church Hall.

We had two weddings in August, both with very limited numbers, but the majority of couples postponed – and then postponed again, and in some cases, again. A couple of baptisms, but everything else was postponed. Many parishes saw an increased number of funerals, we did not – probably because in our parishes most people could afford to isolate. The funerals we did have were very difficult with no personal visits, limited numbers, and a lot of grief that has not been worked through. We lost several “pillars of the church”, and the fact we could not come together and grieve has been very painful for us all.

We continued to support people with lots of phone calls, and were involved in the City’s practical response to Covid, handling food parcels and food bank collections.

We enjoyed being part of Allestree Scarecrow Festival and celebrating Harvest (without singing “We plough the fields and scatter”), but we also had to cope with an arson attack on St Matthew’s in October. Fortunately, we only lost a shed – it would have been far worse if the nearby gas pipe had fractured. We are very grateful to neighbours and the emergency services for their quick response, and to all who sent messages of love and support.

We managed a Choral Evensong at St Matthew’s in October, then were told we had to close again on Thursday 5 November. Matt and Nicole were due to be married in church on the following Saturday, they came on Friday afternoon after work. We were instructed not to commemorate Remembrance Sunday with gatherings at War Memorials, but worship material and videos were produced.

We started Zoom services on 29 November – it was a steep learning curve, but they were well-received. We were back in churches on 6 December, but continued with Zoom – in church services at 10 and Zoom at 11.30. The Zoom service is then posted as a YouTube video in the afternoon so it can be watched during the following week. We sent out 400 Christmas cards, worked with the children for Virtual Christmas celebrations, delivered Christmas bags to Luncheon Club members, and produced a Christmas video. We had one Midnight Mass, two Christmas morning services, and had about 60 people watching on Zoom. Normally we would finish the year with one United Service on

the final Sunday of December – we finished this strange year with three services, two in churches at 10 am, and Zoom at 11.30.

In a way, that sums up 2020. Covid has meant a great deal of extra work and effort, and yet so much has not happened. We have produced Prayer and Worship material every week – many people have made incredible effort to use it, to find God in new and different ways, but others have not joined in. We have made lots of phone calls and tried to keep in contact, but we will have missed people, and others are good at muttering that no one has spoken to them. We ensured St Edmund's Church Hall was available for Pre-school which meant many Key Workers could continue to do their jobs – but others complain we have shut our Halls.

Could we have done better? Yes, of course we could. When will we return to “normal”? – the answer is “never”. Will there still be a role for our churches in years to come? I hope so. Will there still be a Christian presence in our communities – yes, of course.

“Nothing can separate us from the love of God”. That is the essence of our faith, even in difficult years. Thank you for your help and support.