

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY MAGDALENE, WHIPPSNADE



**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2021**

<u>Contents</u>	<u>Page</u>
Introduction	3
Our Purpose	3
How our activities deliver Public Benefit	3
Mission and Ministry	4
Maintenance and Works	8
Financial Review	9
Structure, governance and management	9

Appendices

Statements of Accounts

Independent Examiner's Report

The Trustees of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of the Parish Church of St Mary Magdalene Whipsnade present their report with financial statements for the year ending 31st December 2021.

Introduction

The Church of St. Mary Magdalene Whipsnade sits on The Green in Whipsnade. It is part of the Deanery of Dunstable and within that of the United Benefice of Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade in the Church of England Diocese of St Albans. It is also a member of the North Chilterns Group of Parishes. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Clayhall Lane, Kensworth. The PCC form a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2020) and a charity currently excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

PCC members who have served at any time between 1st January and 31st December 2021 are:

Ex Officio members:

The Rector: The Reverend Nicola Lenthall (Chairman)

Churchwardens:

Mrs Isobel Randall

Mr Martin Rees

Deanery Synod representatives (elected)

Mrs Bola Fola-Caleb

Mr Martin Rees

Elected members:

Mrs Sarah Ayres

Mrs Joan Bailey (Trustee and Secretary)

Mr Michael Bailey (Safeguarding officer)

Mrs Kim Brown

Mr Christopher Hazell (Vice-Chairman)

Mrs Sylvia Kendrick (until 27 April)

Mrs Jo King

Mr Les Randall (Treasurer)

Mrs Pamela Ward (from 27 April)

Mrs Jane Wright

Our Purpose

The PCC are committed to a life of faith and worship and in their role as PCC members to making our Church a welcoming place of worship and communion that parishioners will want to visit and support. The Church makes a vital contribution to village life and to the spiritual and pastoral well-being of our village community. Our objectives are reviewed annually and fully expressed in the Mission Action Plan (MAP) which is regularly updated.



How our activities deliver Public Benefit

Through our mission and ministry, the PCC provide:

- a focus for worship and prayer;
- pastoral care for people living in the parish.

We work with the Rector, the Reverend Nicola Lenthal, in ministering to the people of the Parish, both through spiritual and social action and through the use of the Church building and the Churchyard. Our principal object is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the beliefs and practices of the Church of England. The PCC are also specifically responsible for the maintenance and development of the Church building and the Churchyard.

Mission and Ministry

The PCC are committed to caring for the people of the community in love and to encouraging as many as can to worship at our Church and become part of our worshipping life. The people of the Parish and those on the Electoral Roll are nurtured through worship and prayer. They knit together in love through their common understanding of the message of the Gospel and their desire to live out the Gospel in their daily lives, through social action and pastoral responsiveness.

At the APCM in April 2021 we welcomed Penny Fray as Reader into our Benefice and gave thanks that Bola Fola-Caleb was training as a Lay Leader of Worship in Whipsnade. Penny has become a valued support for our Church, the Rector and the community, and leads services regularly at Whipsnade. Now fully trained, Bola's contribution to our Church – which has always been strong – is developing further and becoming increasingly appreciated.

2021 was, like 2020, a difficult year. It began with a period of lockdown due to a spike in infections from a new strain of the Covid-19 virus, which again impacted on our mission and ministry. Circumstances improved as the year progressed, notably following the availability of new vaccines, and during this period, unlike in 2020, churches remained open. But our mission and ministry during the year were again badly impacted. Our congregations were lower than before the pandemic, as older and vulnerable people were for various reasons reluctant to join services. A rigorous cleaning and sanitising regime was put in place to keep people safe. We again placed heavy reliance on the most central and necessary parts of the life of our Church and faith – worship, love and pastoral care, working, as in 2020, with the parish councils, neighbourhood schemes and Methodist churches across the Benefice through the Coronavirus Response Group during the most difficult period. From Easter schools were open for all children, so that there was thankfully more day to day support for vulnerable families across the Benefice, from dedicated school staff with pastoral support from the Rector. Sincere thanks are due to all who kept an eye on and supported the Whipsnade community during the year.

The PCC speak for all of the Church community in expressing heartfelt appreciation of the inspirational leadership of the Rector. Her caring and conscientious pastoral and ministering support sets a fine example to us all in our Christian living.

Ministry of Worship

The Rector and PCC continued during 2021 to work together with the other Churches in the Benefice of Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade to offer a range of services on a Sunday morning, and on High and Holy days. Throughout 2021 the Rector, with the support of her family, continued to conduct services online, and to offer a range of services, including the celebration of Holy Communion, services of Stillness and Reflection, and special services during the Church year. Even when face-to-face services were resumed, these online services remained vital for those who could not attend Church due to their own personal circumstances or because numbers were limited for safety reasons. From mid-January, following discussions with the Wardens and the Reader, it was agreed that face-to-face Sunday services should be suspended. The reliance on online services continued until Holy Week, and we were unable to make the Easter gardens with the children as usual, although Easter Messy Church bags with an accompanying YouTube service were distributed across the Benefice. However, the Easter communion was held in the Church. From Easter until early June a Sunday service was held in one of the Benefice churches every Sunday, with subject to restrictions on numbers and other statutory requirements, which were welcome to many worshippers.

From June we were able to move to the normal pattern of Sunday services in each Church, at a regular time, except on the fifth Sunday of a month when the service was held in one Church on a rotating basis. In normal times it is our policy to meet the expectations of worshippers by keeping to the same time every Sunday morning, with the exception of the services held on a fifth Sunday of a month which are held in rotation around the three Churches of the Benefice.

At Christmas 2021 the Christingle, Christmas Eve Carol Service and Christmas Day Eucharist took place as normal. The Carol Service was poorly attended because of appalling weather on Christmas Eve and also because of fears about the pandemic situation at that time. We were delighted therefore that the Christmas Day Eucharist was attended by 60 worshippers.



We were very pleased too that people chose during the year to use the Church for the occasional offices of baptism, marriage and funerals. During 2021 there were two baptisms and one wedding, no wedding blessing services, two funerals with full burial, five funerals with cremation following, one graveside funeral, one funeral at a crematorium and no interments of cremated remains.

Throughout the period of the pandemic, many people have expressed gratitude to the Rector and members of the congregation for their dedication and support, including people for whom a funeral service had been conducted. We are proud that our Church was able to support people at this time, and that they appreciated the work done to keep the Church safe and sanitised, and welcoming.



In January 2021 we obtained the necessary Diocesan permissions to develop a second Garden of Remembrance to the west of the Church. Preparatory work was carried out in the Autumn, and we are aiming to carry out landscaping and planting in time for the Archdeacon of Bedford to dedicate the new Garden in March 2022, so that we can begin to use the area to inter the cremated remains of several parishioners that we have not been able to accommodate in the past two years or so. We are grateful to Whipsnade Parish Council for a donation towards the costs of the works to prepare the new Garden area, for a legacy from Vanessa Hornby and generous giving by Jane and Ben Wright.

The Tree Cathedral Annual Service was also able to be held 'in situ' in 2021, following the YouTube service of 2020. This service had the theme of 'Creation and Climate' with the guest speaker the Revd. Charlotte Bannister-Parker from the Diocese of Oxford, and was supported by the Dunstable Salvation Army Band. Thanks as ever to all involved, especially Pam Ward and all who helped.

The PCC are grateful to so many other people who have helped keep ministry and worship alive in the Parish by continuing in roles that have been made harder during the pandemic. Thanks go in particular to our hard-working churchwardens for all that they do, as well as the team of volunteers who have kept the Church open when permitted, and kept it clean and safe for all.

Ministry within groups - Deanery Synod and North Chilterns Group (NCG); Methodist Churches

We work closely with our sister Churches in the Benefice and the three congregations collaborate well to provide spiritual and social support for the local population, in addition to our regular services.

Through representation of the PCC at the Deanery Synod the PCC expresses the significance of its position within the Deanery of Dunstable and the wider structures of the church.

Two members of the PCC sit on the Deanery Synod, which is currently chaired by the Rector in her role as Rural Dean. This continues to provide us with an important link between the Parish and the wider structures of the Church. The Synod met three times in 2021, all meetings being held on Zoom due to the continuing pandemic. The meetings were well-attended. In March, the Synod was joined by the Archdeacon of Bedford, the Venerable Dave Middlebrook, who had offered to respond to 'Any Questions' from the floor of Synod. He began by thanking and praising parishes for all their hard work in the context of the pandemic, and also by stressing how important the Christian message is, with its central themes of good news, peace, love, someone/something in whom to trust and security. He then answered a range of questions, which were really interesting (the Chair later received a warm message of thanks from an experienced Synod member who said it was the best Synod he had been to). The three pastoral aid support grant applications (from Toddington, the Church of the Good Shepherd and St. John's Stanbridge) which the Deanery Standing Committee had

recommended for acceptance had been accepted and approved by the Diocese. In July, the meeting had a presentation from Christian Cole, the Diocesan Youth Missioner, on the 'Faith in Young People' report, which was followed by a general discussion about children and young people and their lives of faith. Diocesan Synod election results for the 2021-2024 period were announced, with Tricia Humber, Kerry Smith and Stephen Jury having been elected to the House of Laity, and the Revd. Linda Washington and the Revd. Kaushal David to the House of Clergy. In December Synod enjoyed a presentation by the Revd. Charles Burch, Diocesan Vocations Officer on the changes to the selection process for ordained ministry and the Diocesan framework for lay ministry training, which included opportunities for discussion and reflection. At every meeting the standing agenda included a General Synod report, a safeguarding update, eco-church information and a treasurer's report.

The NCG Council, which is currently chaired by Isobel Randall, met by Zoom when face-to-face meetings were not possible. The Annual Service and the Advent Service took place as normal, and Bishop Richard confirmed seven people at St Giles, Totternhoe in May. The Lent Course, led by the Reverend Stephen Burge, examined the impact of mission, with emphasis on respect for the culture of others, and was well attended by Zoom. A face-to-face Quiet Morning at Totternhoe led by the Reverend Kaushal David was well received. As usual the NCG gave a donation from attendance profits to the Bethlehem hospital. The Council are looking forward to celebrating the 40th anniversary in November 2022.

There is no Methodist church in Whipsnade, but the Rector has developed good relationships with the Methodists in the Benefice parishes of Kensworth and Studham, and we have opportunities to join with our Methodist friends for worship and activities when possible. Throughout the pandemic, however, the policy of the Methodist churches has been to abstain from public worship.

Mission for children and young people

We have strong links with the catchment school, Studham Village CE Academy which is a member of the Diocese of St Albans Multi-Academy Trust. The Rector, the Chairman of the Parish Council and the PCC Secretary (until April 2021) are governors of the School and Mike Bailey is Chair of the Board of Directors of the Multi-Academy Trust. During a difficult time for the School, staff and pupils the Rector has continued whenever possible to offer collective worship to the children, and pastoral support to the staff. She is much valued by the whole school community.

We were delighted to be able to resume our monthly Sunday School in September to bring our work with children back as a key element of mission and pastoral work in Whipsnade following the further period of lockdown/bubbles for school children during the first half of the year. We have been delighted to welcome new children to the Church whenever services have been able to take place during the year. Thanks to the Ayres, Whalleys, Kendricks and to Glenda Cox for helping to get the Sunday School back up and running so successfully – it is clear that the children enjoy coming to Church, doing their exciting activities and sharing them with the adult congregation at the end of the service.

The Friends of Whipsnade Church are a small but enthusiastic group of volunteers, the majority of whom are also active members of the congregation. The Friends are an independent charity whose purpose is to support the PCC in maintaining and improving the fabric of the Church. Their fundraising activities, like those of other local charities, have come to a halt during the pandemic. Notably they were unable to support the planned Summer Fete as usual and the planned Sunday teas were not possible. The Friends are now beginning to plan a resumption of events in 2022 including the Summer fete on 9 July.

Serving our Community - Ministry through pastoral and practical care

Even in normal times some members of our parish are unable to attend church due to sickness, disability or age. Holy Communion at home is taken by the Rector and a team of volunteers to those in need, and parishioners are visited at home and in hospital. Some members of the congregation helped frail or elderly people in Whipsnade by shopping, providing transport or by talking to them regularly to ensure that they were coping.

The Rector has been unfailing in her caring for people who have been ill, or died during 2021, and their loved ones, in the true spirit of Christian service. We have sadly lost some faithful and loved members of our parish: Vanessa Hornby, who served for many years on the PCC and made an enormous contribution to Church business and service to the community, died in May after a lengthy illness. We propose to recognise and commemorate her service on the first plaque to be placed in the new Garden Remembrance at the Dedication service on 20 March, along with her family and friends.

In November 2021 the Rector put in place a series of opportunities for those who have been bereaved in the past two years or so, to join in activities arranged to support them and at which all would be welcome. These include carols for the bereaved in December 2021, the regular biennial 'In Loving Memory service on 24 April 2022 at St Mary's Studham at 3pm, and, for the first time since the pandemic, a 'Coffee, Cake and Company' on Sunday 20 March 2022 at Whipsnade Church from 2.30 to 4pm.

It was not possible to hold the highly popular monthly Village Lunch for much of 2021, but we were pleased to

resume it with a Harvest lunch in October, followed by a Christmas lunch at the end of the year. The proceeds of the Harvest lunch were donated to the Bishop's Harvest Appeal, along with the Harvest Service collection. We are pleased that we are able in 2022 to resume on a regular monthly basis so that we can continue to make this important contribution to community relations.

It was a real treat to be invited by Jane and Ben Wright to a Summer Garden party in September which brought together friends from the whole Church community in Whipsnade and the wider Benefice, and also raised a fantastic £2000 for Church funds at a time when they were most needed. This was helpful in funding the new Garden of Remembrance. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon immensely, and we were grateful for Jane and Ben's generous hospitality. Thanks also to those who supported with donations of food and raffle prizes.

The Benefice had to put on hold their coffee mornings for lonely and bereaved people in Kensworth Church Hall and in Whipsnade Church. Since September 2021, 'Knit and Natter' our new social event for Whipsnade has taken place in the Church, and is becoming increasingly popular. Their work was showcased at a very successful Christmas Fair in December, which began the Christmas season beautifully. Thanks to Jo King for her sterling work in getting the group started, and to her and Jane Wright for organising the Fair. We look forward to a time when we are able to further extend community activities, and to get the full benefit of our Church and the Vestry extension for a range of purposes, and support our efforts to combat loneliness in the village population.

We take our responsibilities in relation to safeguarding very seriously. Safeguarding policy and practice meets the requirements of the Church of England and the Diocese of St Albans. The Rector, members of the PCC, the appointed safeguarding officer (Mike Bailey) and several other members on the Electoral Roll have attended safeguarding courses, and some have followed the on-line sessions

Safeguarding is considered at every meeting of the PCC and policies are reviewed annually in accordance with Diocesan guidelines. During the past year there have been no reports of safeguarding issues. DBS clearance is required of those involved with vulnerable children and adults. All members of the PCC have obtained DBS clearance. The needs of the disabled are addressed in our policies.

Daily open access to our peaceful and beautiful church is greatly appreciated and we are extremely pleased that this has been permitted throughout 2021. One of the ways we previously know this is from the extent that visitors use our Prayer Tree, kindly donated by Glenda Cox in memory of her parents Monica and Eric Todd. We also receive many positive comments in our Visitors Book about the Church and Churchyard. We know too how much parishioners and local walkers visiting the village appreciate being able to go into the Church for a moment of private reflection and prayer during their daily walks, particularly during the pandemic. Materials to assist prayer and meditation are always available in the Church.

Ministry through Charitable Giving

Charitable giving covers many activities by the PCC and individual members of the congregation, including charitable donations and volunteering in the community. All members of our congregation make a contribution in their different ways to share their diverse gifts and talents for the benefit of others in the community and beyond. Even during this unprecedented period, it has been important to maintain the fabric of the Church of St Mary Magdalene and the surrounding Churchyard, and we are grateful to those volunteers who have continued to work to this end.

Guided by the Charities Committee, the PCC have established a tradition of giving to charity on behalf of the congregation. We divide our giving between local, national and international charities, with a focus on issues related to spiritual growth, health and poverty. In 2021, and despite pressures on our finances during the year, we shared a donation of £700 between 7 charities. We continued to donate to our usual charities such as the Bishop's annual Harvest Appeal, to the Royal British Legion on Remembrance Sunday, and the Children's Society which at Christmas is the focus of our fundraising related to carol singing (in 2021 around the Home Park) and carol services. In accordance with custom we were able to hold occasional fundraising events for charities and to make collections supporting people in crisis across the world. We donated to the appeal for the people of St Vincent following the hurricane and to the Luton Refugee Hub after the withdrawal from Afghanistan. Details of the Church's charitable giving are in the annual accounts. The PCC are proud to represent a congregation which makes it a priority to support those in need.



The Parish Link, our Benefice magazine, is normally distributed monthly, free to every house in all three villages, providing vital means of communication for everyone who lives in the villages, be they churchgoers or not. The Parish Link was published online for part of the year, with just 5 being distributed in 2021. The Link website, www.parishlink.org.uk was invaluable during 2021 in keeping Benefice residents in touch and continuing to enable friends who have moved away to keep in touch with what is happening in the villages. Sincere thanks to Fiona McDougal and her team and to Les Randall the website editor.

Volunteering

Volunteering is a vital element of charitable giving. A church would not function without regular committed people of faith who work tirelessly and selflessly for the wider good, and this has evident again in 2021.

This year as ever, the PCC are very grateful for the hard work of Isobel Randall and Martin Rees, churchwardens, Joan Bailey, the PCC secretary and Les Randall, our Treasurer.

The Garden of Remembrance is lovingly maintained by the Kingham and Bedford family in honour of their deceased relatives; this is greatly appreciated by mourners. Jane and Ben Wright are working hard to prepare the planting areas of the second Garden in time for the March dedication service. We appreciate their work.

The quality of our worship has been enhanced by the music provided by Chris Hazell. We were sad to lose the services of Norman Duncombe who is now too ill to play for us; we wish him well. We are very grateful for Chris's substantial contribution to the work of the Church.

A dedicated band of bell-ringers, led by Pam Ward and Roger Kendrick, summon people to worship.

The Church is made beautiful by the efforts of flower arrangers led by Anne Weir with the support of Pam Ward and Anne Brinklow.

We also have a wonderful team of Church cleaners, especially those who have given their time regularly to make the Church safe every day for those who use it for private prayer, rest and contemplation. Their task has been even greater than usual in 2021 because of the stringent daily cleaning and sanitising work required for much of the year. The whole community are grateful for their hard work.

Sidesmen, readers and those who administer the Chalice support our worship by their regular assistance in services, and we are grateful to those few who were able to continue to do this in 2021. Volunteers have also opened up the Church each day for the benefit of the community and those who visit the Church.

The Churchyard

The PCC are very conscious that our large and beautiful Churchyard plays an important part in the ministry of the Church in Whipsnade and how much it is enjoyed by local walkers and visitors from further afield. It has continued for all of 2021 to be available to all parishioners for full burials and the burial of cremated remains into existing graves. We plan to resume the burial of cremated remains after Easter in the new Garden of Remembrance.

The PCC have paid the bulk of the cost of regular grass cutting and hedge trimming, with regular support from the Parish Council.

A small and dedicated churchyard working party continued to work hard to maintain the Churchyard over many years. It has come to be regarded as an outstanding example of wildlife and plant conservation. We are grateful to Pam Ward and the team who keep the Churchyard in such excellent condition. Theresa Williams and Jane and Ben Wright are loyal members of this team.

Maintenance and Works

Work has been carried out in accordance with our maintenance schedule and has been recorded. Required checks on fire extinguishers were completed in February 2021. Electrical safety tests on portable equipment are up to date.

The Quinquennial inspection (October 2016) tasks were completed as required.

Other minor works have been carried out.

A new Quinquennial inspection was carried out in August 2021. A copy of the Report and recommendations is available for inspection in the Church. The recommendations include items requiring attention within 6 months; within 18 months; and within 5 years. To take forward these recommendations, along with any other works agreed by the PCC for the Church and Churchyard, a new Purchasing, Works and Contracts Committee was established in 2021 to oversee the practical arrangements involved.

It had been brought to the PCC's attention in 2019 that the steps from the Church via the Vestry and the Chancel

Doors do not comply with current Building Regulations. The PCC received permission from the Archdeacon to install external safety railings in December 2020 and the works were completed in April 2021.

Eco Church

In the consciousness that the gospel is good news for God's earth, the Diocese of St Albans is encouraging the steps of churches locally to become environmentally aware and carbon neutral in line with national Church aims. In 2020 Whipsnade received a bronze *A-Rocha* award, as a first step towards improving our environmental credentials. Representatives from the three parishes have grouped together to take forward this initiative in all three Churches. They have lots of great ideas which we will see developing during 2022, including to involve children more, as this is an area which really captures the imagination of our young people. Jo King led this work on behalf of the PCC in 2021, and we are grateful for all she has done, including signing us up as a Fairtrade Church.

Financial Review

Total receipts during 2021 were £28,732 as detailed in the attached financial statements.

Total expenditure over all accounts was £30,292, an increase of £6,742 over 2020's expenditure of £23,550. The Parish Share remained the same as 2020 at £20,939 which is still a significant expenditure for such a small church. This amount will increase to £21,372 (+2.067%) in the next financial year.

St Mary Magdalene has no charitable endowments.

We wish to record our thanks to Barrie Huggins for kindly examining the PCC accounts again this year.

PCC account

The PCC account balance stood at £39,920.78 at the end of December 2021 compared with £42,040.69 in 2020.

Total income during the year was £28,224 compared to £23,550 in 2020. This reflected higher income from Church fees, the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS) and donations. There were only 2 lunches at the end of the year and once again the Summer Fete did not take place. However, there was a garden party which raised £1,000. Unfortunately, total expenditure was £30,106 compared with £26,585 in 2020. The increased expenditure included £1,384 for the new Garden of Remembrance, £980 for new railings and £1,093 for the Quinquennial Report. We were pleased to send £700 of donations shared between 7 charities. Overall, the account showed an in-year deficit of £1,882.

Restoration Fund

There was little movement in the Restoration Account. Income for the year was £508 from the Church box, bank interest and the Bike 'n Hike. Expenditure was £185 from inspection of the roof (£180) and newly introduced bank charges (£5). The end of year balance was £14,229.

Development Fund

There was no movement in the Fund in 2021, and no projects needed funding at this point. The account stands at zero.

General issues

Interest on all accounts totalled £29.85 compared to £239.43 in 2020

Reserves Policy and Risk Management

The PCC aim to retain sufficient funds in the PCC account to enable the smooth day-to-day running of the Church, that is, payment of the Parish Share to the Diocese, and meeting our administrative expenses. Funds for the maintenance of the fabric are kept in the Restoration Account, to provide for emergencies. The Church, including the new extension, is insured following the advice of the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group, to cover any potential damage to the building and the Churchyard, and to meet the cost of any potential claims against the PCC. As part of the terms of this policy, we follow advice in taking precautions against theft, fire or damage to the building, goods and chattels.

Legacies policy

The PCC welcome all gifts in Wills, however large or small. Our policy is to use gifts for the benefit of the Church and its community and to ensure that there continues to be an active and thriving church in Whipsnade, both now and for future generations.

Structure, governance and management

At present the PCC form a Charity within the Church of England which is regulated by the Charities Commission but excepted from registration, as gross annual income is below the threshold of £100,000. The Charity is, however, regarded by HMRC as having charitable status for tax purposes.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Mary Magdalene's

the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our Rector), Churchwardens, members elected to serve on the Deanery Synod and a maximum of 9 members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the Electoral Roll of the Church. All those who attend our services regularly are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. Each year members review policies on health and safety, disability access and safeguarding. The policies and practices with regard to safeguarding are clearly displayed in the Church. The Annual Parish Church Meetings (APCM) were held in April 2021.

The Church Electoral Roll was reviewed in 2021 and presented to the APCM. The legal requirements in relation to the holding and publishing of personal data are strictly observed. Each member is given an assurance that we only use the information to enable us to collate church membership statistics and report them to the Diocese, and also so that we can communicate with members. We do not keep any unnecessary personal data on individuals. At the APCM in October there were 57 people on the Roll. Fifteen members of the Roll reside in the Parish, with 42 members living outside the Parish boundary.

Sub-committees were re-constituted and members appointed in June 2021 following the APCM: the Standing Committee (Rector, Churchwardens, Treasurer, Secretary, Vice-chair); Charities Committee (Rector, Churchwardens, Treasurer, Secretary plus one other available member; Children Committee (Rector, Churchwardens, Sarah Ayres, Sylvia Kendrick, Polly Frazer, Mike Bailey and Glenda Cox, Secretary); Fabric and Churchyard Committee (Churchwardens, Pam Ward, Paul and Lorraine Wright, Bola Fola-Caleb, Secretary). A new Social Committee was formed (Jo King, Sarah Ayres/Sylvia Kendrick, Kim Brown, Isobel Randall and Jane Wright). A new Purchasing, Works and Contracts Committee was formed in November 2021 (Mike Bailey, Churchwardens, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary).

The PCC met four times during 2021, with meetings taking place virtually until September. Members considered matters relevant to the development of ministry, the health and safety of people attending the Church, and the maintenance of the Church fabric and Churchyard. Matters of a pastoral nature and issues concerning safeguarding were reported at each meeting. Minutes are displayed in the Church so that all details of discussions are available to all. Each meeting received reports from the Churchwardens, the Treasurer and the Safeguarding Officer as well as from representatives of the Deanery Synod and the North Chilterns Group.

In between meetings, a number of matters were dealt with by email including in relation to the closure and re-opening of the Church during the pandemic and the suspension of face-to-face services; risk assessments; and matters relating to the development of the proposed extension to the memorial garden and to the proposed handrails for the Vestry and Chancel steps. These were formally reported to the following PCC meeting.

And finally

A huge thank you from the PCC to all those who have worked during 2021 to fulfil our purpose and continue to provide public benefit through much needed worship and pastoral support, while keeping the Church open and both it and the Churchyard safe and in good order.



Signed on behalf of the PCC by the Reverend Nicola Lenthall (PCC Chairman)

Date:

ST. MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH, WHIPSNADE
Income and Expenditure Account 1st January 2021 - 31st December 2021
PCC Account

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>		
	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>
Balances brought forward 1st January		£		£
CCLA PCC 001D	27,274.41		3,222.36	
HSBC BANK PCC General Fund 281	14,528.67		17,736.04	
Secure Trust Bank			24,117.35	
	41,803.08		45,075.75	
INCOME				
Church Fees	2,714.00		1,403.00	
GASDS	1,353.35		1,291.92	
Collection (non GASDS)			600.00	
Planned Giving - Tax Efficient	13,646.00		13,042.00	
Tax recovered on Gift Aid/GASDS	3,611.19		3,896.64	
Donations	4,763.04		2,758.72	
Bank interest	14.21		180.03	
Village Lunch	585.50		378.00	
Events	1,537.00			
Charity Events		1,328.89		257.00
	28,224.29	1,328.89	23,550.31	257.00
EXPENDITURE				
Parish Share	20,939.00		20,939.00	
Church Expenses	7,337.79		3,591.34	
Utilities	585.15		893.12	
Clergy and Admin cover	197.90		192.00	
Clergy Expenses	314.10		144.91	
Charities	725.00	1,328.89	825.00	257.00
Bank charges	7.65			
	30,106.59	1,328.89	26,585.37	257.00
Balance of Income less Expenditure	-1,882.30		-3,035.06	
Add Opening Balance	41,803.08		45,075.75	
Balance called forward 31 December	39,920.78		42,040.69	
Bank Balances				
CCLA PCC 001D	27,288.62		27,274.41	
HSBC BANK PCC General Fund 281	12,570.15		14,528.67	
Add cheques not cashed in previous year	487.00		724.61	
Deduct cheque 101603 not cashed in this year	-424.99		-487.00	
	39,920.78		42,040.69	

ST. MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH, WHIPPSNADE

PCC Account

Breakdown of Expenditure

	<u>2021</u> £	<u>2020</u> £
Admin support to the Rector	176.00	192.00
Altar wine, breads, linen and candles etc	57.39	35.23
Bank charges	7.65	
Bell rope	252.00	
Charity giving	700.00	800.00
Charity giving (restricted)	1,328.89	257.00
Church Flowers	100.00	100.00
Churchyard grass & hedge cutting	960.00	900.00
Clergy cover	21.90	
Clergy expenses	314.10	144.91
Electrical work	114.00	270.00
Electricity	512.16	854.13
Fire extinguisher	114.00	114.00
Quinquennial Report	1,093.73	
Garden of Remembrance	1,384.86	
Gift for work done	19.99	
Insurance	574.43	564.38
Keys for church	24.00	
Lightning Conductor test		156.00
North Chilterns Group of Churches Levy	108.00	108.00
Notice Board		141.47
Parish Share	20,939.00	20,939.00
Poppy Wreath	25.00	25.00
New Railings	980.00	
Church expenses paid by the Rector	1,515.39	1,112.29
Sanitiser and gloves		49.97
Subscriptions	40.00	40.00
Water bill	72.99	38.99
	<hr/> 31,435.48	<hr/> 26,842.37

ST. MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH, WHIPPSNADE

Charity Giving 1st January 2021 - 31st December 2021

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>
	£	£
Afghanistan Appeal		120.00
Children's Society		424.99
East Anglian Air Ambulance	100.00	
Keech Hospice Care	100.00	
Mercy Ships	100.00	
Rennie Grove Hospice Care	100.00	
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal		177.00
Society of Mary and Martha	100.00	
St Martin in the Fields	100.00	
St Vincent Volcano Appeal		257.00
The Bishop's Harvest Appeal		349.90
Water Aid UK	100.00	
 TOTAL CHARITY GIVING	 700.00	 1,328.89

ST. MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH, WHIPPSNADE
Income and Expenditure Account 1st January 2021 - 31st December 2021
Restoration Account

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Balances brought forward 1 January	£	£
CCLA Restoration 002D	763.60	1,185.75
HSBC Rest & Dev Account 023	1,665.96	760.37
Virgin Money Bank	<u>11,477.14</u>	<u>11,420.97</u>
	<u>13,906.70</u>	<u>13,367.09</u>
INCOME		
Church Box (50% Rest/50% PCC)	82.06	103.71
Interest	15.64	59.40
Historic Churches Trust (Bike n Hike)	<u>410.00</u>	<u>376.50</u>
	<u>507.70</u>	<u>539.61</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Inspection of roof	180.00	
Bank charges	5.00	
	<u>185.00</u>	<u></u>
Balance of Income less Expenditure	322.70	539.61
Add Opening Balance	<u>13,906.70</u>	<u>13,367.09</u>
Balance called forward 31 December	<u>14,229.40</u>	<u>13,906.70</u>
Bank Balances		
HSBC Rest & Dev Account 023	1,973.02	1,665.96
CCLA Restoration 002D	764.00	763.60
Virgin Money Bank	<u>11,492.38</u>	<u>11,477.14</u>
	<u>14,229.40</u>	<u>13,906.70</u>

ST. MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH, WHIPPSNADE
Income and Expenditure Account 1st January 2021 - 31st December 2021
Development Fund

The Development Fund is currently dormant

ST. MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH, WHIPPSNADE
Income and Expenditure Account 1st January 2020 - 31st December 2020
Summary of Bank Accounts

	PCC	REST.	TOTAL
HSBC PCC General Fund 281	12,570.15		12,570.15
HSBC PCC Rest, & Dev. Account 023		1,973.02	1,973.02
CCLA PCC General Fund 001D	27,288.62		27,288.62
CCLA Restoration 002D		764.00	764.00
Virgin Money Bank		11,492.38	11,492.38
Add transactions not cleared previous year	487.00		487.00
Deduct transactions not cleared this year	-424.99		-424.99
TOTALS	39,920.78	14,229.40	54,150.18

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Whipsnade Church

This report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31st December 2021.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner.

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

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; 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 of the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the school and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking consideration from you as governors concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required for an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on these 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 2011Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have 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.

Signed:



Date: 27 / 3 / 2022

E.B. Huggins
93 West Hill
Dunstable
Bedfordshire
LU6 3PN