

**THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY THE
VIRGIN, STUDHAM**



**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE
YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2022**

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The front cover shows our Rector, Revd. Canon Nicola Lenthall when she was installed as an Honorary Canon, with thanks to the Parish Link and Les Randall.

The Trustees of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) present their report with financial statements for the year ending 31st December 2022.

Introduction

The Church of St. Mary the Virgin Studham is part of the United Benefice of Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade in the Church of England Diocese of St Albans. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Clayhall Road, Kensworth LU6 3RF. The PCC form a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity currently excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

PCC members who have served between 1st January and 31st December 2022 are:

Ex Officio members:

Incumbent: The Reverend Canon Nicola Lenthall (Chair)

Churchwarden: Mrs Meg Bender

Elected members:

Mrs Caroline Child (Vice Chair until June 2022, PCC Secretary from June 2022 and representative on the North Chilterns Group of Parishes from June 2022)

Mrs Felicity Cornelius (Representative on Deanery Synod and Electoral Roll Officer)

Mr Lindsey Glover (Treasurer)

Mrs Gill Harris (PCC Secretary until June 2022 and representative on Deanery Synod)

Mrs Marjorie Metcalfe (representative on The Friends of Studham Church Committee)

Mrs Mayra Shaw (Vice Chair from June 2022)

Our Purpose

The PCC are committed to a life of faith and worship. PCC members strive to make our Church a welcoming place of worship and communion which parishioners will want to visit and support as a vital contributor to village life and to the spiritual and pastoral well-being of our village community.

How our activities deliver Public Benefit

Through our mission and ministry, the PCC provide:

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

To facilitate our work it is important that we maintain and where and when possible improve the fabric of the Church of St Mary the Virgin, and keep it and the churchyard in good order.

Mission and Ministry

The Ministry Team

In March the PCC were very pleased to receive a letter from Bishop Alan of St Albans informing them that the Rector had accepted his invitation to be an Honorary Canon of the Cathedral and Abbey Church of St Alban and PCC members and church members attended Nicola's installation at the Cathedral on 19th March. We were delighted that Nicola's nineteen years of wonderful, dedicated ministry to everyone in the parish had been recognised.

Following his ordination in July, the PCC warmly welcomed to the Benefice the Reverend David Heather as a self-supporting Curate and in the latter months of the year, Dave has proved to be a very welcome addition to the team.

The PCC greatly appreciate the support of retired clergy, especially the Revd. Canon Malcolm Grant and Revd. Janet Yabsley and give thanks for the continuing reader ministry of Dorothy Blackburn and Penny Fray.

In addition, the Rector commissioned the three Benefice Lay Leaders of Worship, including Meg Bender, at the Benefice Candlemass service in Studham.

Services and Church attendance

Thankfully in 2022 it has been possible to return to the pre-Covid pattern of services, with a service at 10.30am every Sunday. The PCC are very grateful for the support of the whole ministry team which made this possible. A range of services was offered; traditional and modern language forms of the Eucharist were followed and there was a non-Eucharistic family service on the first Sunday of each month. It was wonderful to once again hold the full range of Easter and Christmas services and in spite of uncertainty about likely numbers, attendance at the Christmas Eve Carol Service exceeded pre-Covid numbers with over 170 worshippers in church.

The Rector and the PCC have continued to respond flexibly to local needs. Online Sunday worship, developed during the pandemic, has continued to be available through the Nicola Lenthall YouTube channel and together with the weekly pew sheet, has been very well received by the local community, not all of whom were regular church goers. It has proved to be especially valued by those who have been shielding or self isolating.

Work with children and young people has continued to be a PCC priority and it is a pleasure to record that this work has grown and thrived during the year. A monthly Children's Church has taken place every third Sunday and grateful thanks are due to Marjorie Metcalfe, for her enthusiasm and for her careful planning and preparation. The PCC were pleased to purchase 20 New International Version Bibles to support the children's learning. In addition, a termly Kids' Club has been held in church after school. Child centred activities with a seasonal theme, a short worship followed by a hot tea has proved to be a successful schedule, and each session has been attended by approximately 30 children between the ages of 2-12 and some of their parents and carers. Parents have been encouraged to take part in the planning and delivery of activities and it is very pleasing to record that one parent has successfully completed the necessary checks and training to become a recognised leader.

The local community greatly value the Church for Occasional Offices and the Rector has continued to give high priority to this part of her ministry by officiating at them herself. Over the year she has taken two weddings, five baptisms, one thanksgiving for the birth of a child, seven funerals in church, three burials in the churchyard, two funerals at a crematorium, one crematorium committal, one burial in a civic cemetery and five interments of ashes; (additionally two burial services in the churchyard were taken by Methodist ministers).

Several special services were held during the year. In April we were pleased to host the celebration service for the 100th birthday of Doris Spriggs. In June, the Platinum Jubilee of the late Queen was celebrated. In September, the Rector participated in the Parish Proclamation of King Charles III on West Common and the church was open (as always) for private prayer and for people to sign a book of condolence for her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Prayers were held the Sunday after the death of the Queen, and there was a Special Commemoration Service in church the day before the funeral.

Pastoral and practical care

The Rector has continued to give high priority to the pastoral care of everyone in the parish. Through 'phone calls, email messages, face to face meetings, and the continued use of Zoom, she has counselled and consoled parishioners through times of bereavement, anxiety, depression and other mental illness, NHS workers through severe stress, and others through various life events, the effects of which have been exacerbated by the long months of the pandemic. Post pandemic, home visiting to those who were too ill or too frail to attend church, the celebration of Holy Communion in individual homes and hospital visiting have resumed, although work is still ongoing to allow the return of parish visitors to the local residential home, Knoll House.

The Rector has also been supporting the deanery clergy as Rural Dean, which this year has included care of clergy whose own mental health has become a priority.

After the bleak days of the pandemic, the PCC have attached great importance to re-engaging with members of the congregation and the wider village community. To this end, the congregation has welcomed the serving of refreshments after every Sunday service and in July a coffee morning was held in the churchyard. Attended by approximately 30 people it was a pleasure to observe people happily engaged in conversation once again.

The PCC have established a tradition of donating to good causes and charities. There have been retiring collections to support people whose lives have been devastated by the war in Ukraine and the floods in Pakistan. There have also been special collections for the Bishop's Harvest Appeal, the Royal British Legion and for the Children's Society. At the end of the year donations were made to five charities — Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care at Home, Luton Churches supporting refugees from Afghanistan, the Dunstable Foodbank, the Christian Aid Malawi Fund and the environmental charity, A Rocha UK. The congregation and local community have also regularly contributed to the Dunstable Food Bank.

The parish magazine, the Parish Link (and its website at www.parishlink.org.uk), has provided an important communication in the Benefice, for all parishioners whether or not they were churchgoers. It has continued throughout the year with 10 paper copies distributed free of charge to every household in the village (and in Kensworth and Whipsnade). The PCC greatly appreciate the work of the Editor, Fiona McDougal, the Studham Correspondent, Sally Cload, the website editor, Les Randall and all the volunteers who regularly deliver the magazine.

Strong links between St Mary's and the village lower school have been maintained. The Rector has served as a governor; she has visited the school regularly and has led collective worship at least once a month. It has been a great pleasure to welcome the school to St Mary's for several of their services - an Easter service, the Platinum Jubilee Celebration for the late Queen, the Harvest Celebrations and the Christmas service.

It was also a pleasure to welcome the local Cubs' group to church in November and to support their work towards their faith badge.

ECO Church

In February 2020, the General Synod of the Church of England set the target that all parts of the church should work to become 'carbon net zero' by 2030. The PCC has warmly welcomed this initiative and through registration as an Eco Church with A Rocha UK, has carried out a self assessment to reduce our carbon footprint. There have been changes inside the church building and in the churchyard and at the end of 2021 a bronze award was achieved.

Further action has been taken in 2022. The PCC established a small working group to research greener options for church heating. The oil fired boiler is nearly 20 years old and although it appears to be working well, we want to have an environmentally friendly plan of action ready to implement quickly when it finally breaks down.

A Benefice group has also been formed to enable the three parishes of the Benefice to make progress together. Its main focus has been the dissemination of information about green issues in our churches and the wider community. The group had a welcome presence at the annual May Fair and produced an attractive information display which is now located in the church. The July Kids' Club had an environmental theme, Caring for God's creation, and there were monthly articles in the Parish Link magazine. The October article, Eco tips for autumn, and the Green Christmas article were particularly well received.

800th anniversary celebrations

2020 marked the 800th anniversary of the consecration of the church and the first appointment of a vicar to the parish. Sadly, the series of event planned to commemorate this could not take place in 2020 or in 2021, but a wonderful summer concert was held in June. Ably assisted by members of the congregation, young and old, and by children from Studham School, the Rector gave a lighthearted presentation of each of the eight centuries. The afternoon was thoroughly enjoyed by a full church of people and ended with a lovely barbeque in the churchyard. The PCC would like to thank all those who helped, but especially Marjorie and Reg Metcalfe for all their work.

Social events

Post pandemic, the PCC were delighted to hold some social events during the year. In addition to the July coffee morning, the very popular wine evening returned in October and the successful annual quiz was held in November. Both events were very well supported, hugely enjoyable and raised some important funds to support the ministry of St Mary's in Studham. The PCC are very grateful for the work of the social committee, and special thanks are extended to John McDougal and Ross McKinnon.

The wider Church of England

Deanery Synod

Two members of the PCC sit on the Deanery Synod, which is currently chaired by the Rector in her role as Rural Dean. This has continued to provide us with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the Church. The Synod met three times in 2022, returning to face-to-face meetings, having met solely on Zoom in 2021. The meetings were well-attended. In March, the Revd. Canon Malcolm Grant spoke about the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust and its role in supporting structural repairs in churches. A number of members commented favourably on the help which their parishes had received over many years, and how easy the applications were to complete. Synod member Winston Forde raised an individual question about the mechanism for removing churchwardens who were deliberately not carrying out their duties, which was then taken forward by the Chair and General Synod representative. The Rural Dean and Lay Co-Chair presented the decision to postpone the Deanery Parish Share Factor review process to allow there to be a clearer financial position following the effects of the pandemic. The diocesan and deanery response

to the developing situation in Ukraine was discussed. In July, the new Diocesan Secretary, David White, came to introduce himself to Synod, and to talk about his role. This was followed by questions from the floor and a presentation about the Deanery from the Lay Co-Chair. In December Synod enjoyed a presentation by Dr John Wallace about his doctoral thesis on 'Anglo-Catholic Church Planting' which included opportunities for questions and discussion. The recent motion from Diocesan Synod on the move towards net carbon zero by 2030 was presented by Kerry Smith, and difficulties as well as progress towards this were shared. Reports on 'Warm Hubs' in churches, or supported by them, were received. At every meeting the standing agenda included a General Synod report, a safeguarding update, eco-church information, the sharing of good news and a treasurer's report.

North Chilterns Group of Churches

We are members of the North Chilterns Group of Churches, a partnership of eight rural parishes in South Bedfordshire which work together to provide a mutual support network. This year saw the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the group, under the current chairmanship of Isobel Randall. This was marked with a special service at Kensworth on Advent Sunday with the Bishop of St Albans as a guest preacher and a combined NCG choir. The liturgy was led by the clergy, readers and LLWs of the Group. Prior to this was the Lent course, on trees and their role biblically, theologically and ecologically, devised and partly led by the Revd. Louise Collins, Vicar of Elstree and Borehamwood. The confirmation service in June at Eaton Bray saw two people from our parish confirmed, father and daughter, Stuart and Matilda Tarsey; and the annual service in July at St. Giles' Totternhoe celebrated thirty years of ordained ministry for the Revd. Joy Cousans and thirty years of reader ministry for our own Dorothy Blackburn with a very sparkly cake!

Our volunteers

The Church in Studham could not function without the team of regular committed people who have given tirelessly of their time and talents and the PCC are very grateful for all their hard work.

Volunteers have opened and closed the church each day, an important and much valued service to the community, enabling access for private prayer and reflection. The PCC are very grateful to Di Shute and the team of cleaners who have worked week by week to ensure the church was clean and attractive for visitors.

Our volunteers have helped to set up the church for services, have rung the bells, participated in the liturgy, played the organ, sung in the choir on special occasions and served refreshments after Sunday services. Grateful thanks are due to everyone involved and especially to our bell ringers, several of whom travel from Dunstable regularly to ring for our Sunday services. The PCC also extend thanks to Di Shute who crafted and donated two beautiful cushions to the Church.

Volunteers have maintained and improved the churchyard for the benefit of the community. We give special thanks for the ministries of Roger Bender and Richard Le Fevre.

Maintaining the Church building and the surrounding churchyard

The PCC continue to give high priority to the maintenance of and improvements to the medieval Grade I listed church building and its surrounding churchyard. They have continued to appoint James Ford from Clague Architects as their professional adviser.

Regular maintenance

Regular maintenance and repairs continue to be essential. Regular and frequent checks have been made to search for any damp patches, leaking pipes and blocked drains so that any problems can be identified and remedied at an early stage. A new wooden post

supporting the floodlight close to the main gate of the churchyard was erected after the old one was seen to be rotten and potentially dangerous.

Regular servicing has been carried out in accordance with our maintenance schedule. The electricity system and lightning conductor have been checked, the central heating boiler, the fire extinguishers and the organ have been serviced and the gutters and down pipes have been cleared.

Quinquennial Inspection

The important five-yearly inspection of the church fabric, internally and externally, took place in March. The PCC were congratulated by the Architect on their careful stewardship of the building and were delighted to learn that no major or urgent repair work was required. However, the Architect recommended that several comparatively minor repairs and checks should be carried out to the roofing, the rainwater disposal and the external walling within the next two to five years. The PCC agreed that this work should be addressed at an early stage and as a result the Architect has combined all the items into a Specification and Schedule of Works. Diocesan approval for the repairs has been sought and the PCC are planning for the work to take place in March 2023.

The Churchyard

The PCC are very conscious that our large and beautiful churchyard plays an important part in the ministry of the Church in Studham. It continues to be available to all parishioners for full burials and the burial of ashes – the burial plan was updated in December 2022 – and it has been enjoyed by walkers and dog walkers, locally and from further afield.

Regular mowing of the grass has been carried out by a small, dedicated team of volunteers. Weeding of the rose beds, the path and the shingle areas surrounding the church and the cutting of the hedges have also been undertaken by volunteers and a churchyard working party in September tackled some extra jobs especially weeding behind the Garden of Remembrance. It is a pleasure to record that the churchyard has looked beautiful and well cared for throughout the year and this is much appreciated by the PCC. Many thanks to everyone.

For a third year, grass cutting has been managed in two areas in the sunny central part of the churchyard to enable the rich diversity of wild flowers already growing in the grass to mature and flower. In spite of the very hot and dry weather in July, this has been successful; the beautiful wild flower patches have been greatly admired and have attracted butterflies, bees and other insects.

The Friends of Studham Church

The Friends of Studham Church is our sister charity which raises funds that contribute towards the costs of the preserving and improving the fabric of the Church and its surrounds. With the long-awaited loosening of the pandemic restrictions, fundraising activity in 2022 has taken steps towards normality.

Although there was doubt early in 2022 whether the May Fair could be held, it turned out to be a huge success. Whilst The Friends were the largest beneficiary the profit of approximately £8,500 was distributed to 13 different local charities and good causes. A huge thank you to Liesa Coates, who led the Committee and to Derek Spriggs and Becky Salisbury who have picked up the baton for this year.

With restrictions meaning less social activity earlier in the year, our social wine event in October was shared with the PCC. Additional events are in the pipeline for 2023 and a Call My Bluff Wine Evening is in the early stages of planning. The 100 Club continues to be a good earner, even with over £700 paid out to 22 different winners in 2022.

At the beginning of 2022 the Committee comprised John McDougal Chairman, Eric Jacoby Treasurer, Peter Gee Secretary and Marjorie Metcalfe as the PCC representative. After the AGM, these four were re-elected and were joined by Lindsey Glover, who took over as Treasurer and Derek Spriggs. Grateful thanks are also due to Emma Mulder for her help with the Friends' website.

Financial Review

2022 Income and Expenditure

Income for the year exceeded expenditure by £4,806.

Total income was £40,344.

Income during the year returned to near normal levels following the previous 3 years which were impacted by Covid. We received regular income from parishioners who contributed through the Parish Giving Scheme (£6,723) and by standing order (£3,660). We also received £4,292 through collections at services.

During the year we received donations of £500 from the Parish Council towards the upkeep of the Churchyard and £500 from the Benefice magazine The Parish Link. This was supplemented by donations from parishioners resulting in total donations of £3,555.

We were able to claim Gift Aid of £4,150 on the majority of the above income.

Our income was once again supplemented by dividends from our investments of £11,150, funeral and graveyard fees of £4,274 and wedding fees of £377.

2022 saw the return of social events. There was a joint wine evening with The Friends of Studham Church and also a quiz night which together raised £1,634.

Total expenditure was £35,528.

The largest single item of expense was the Diocesan Parish Share of £21,828. This is the sum that churches in the Deanery have to find to cover the cost of ministry and is shared between its constituent churches according to a formula that is mainly on a head count of congregations.

Church and churchyard expenses amounted to £2,348 and there were additional costs for the Quinquennial Inspection and report (£813) and some initial work undertaken to implement the report recommendations (£601).

Insurance costs amounted to £2,069 and Rector's expenses were £2,199. There were donations to charities of £2,861. The impact of higher oil and electricity prices resulted in expenditure of £1,572 which was higher than budget. It was however lower than 2021 when larger quantities of oil were purchased.

Our investments reversed most of the gains made in the previous year but still produced vital dividends of £11,150 (2021 £10,639).

2023 Budget

We have budgeted for a surplus of £2,650 for the year.

In 2023 we will incur the repair costs for the works identified in the Quinquennial report. The initial estimated costs for these works is £9,100 + VAT (£10,920). The Friends of Studham Church have indicated that they will fund the cost of these repairs (excluding VAT which we will recover via the VAT Grant Scheme).

Other items of income and expenditure are based on previous years' actual figures.

Investment Policy

The first call on our annual investment income is to bridge the gap in funding the annual running costs of the Church. The PCC have also agreed that any capital investment should only be drawn down if unforeseen and essential works to maintain the integrity of the church building are identified which cannot be funded from other sources.

Reserves Policy

The PCC maintain a balance on unrestricted funds that equates to at least two years' unrestricted expenditure.

Legacies Policy

The PCC will use gifts for the benefit of the Church and its community in order to keep the church building and its grounds in good order both now and for future generations.

Structure, governance and management

The Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) took place on 21st April and after the pandemic, it was a pleasure to hold the meetings in the church again. PCC members were elected in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. At St. Mary's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our Rector), the Churchwarden, and members elected by those on the Electoral Roll of the Church. All those who regularly attend our services have been encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC. At the April APCM, there were 61 members listed on the Electoral Roll of whom 17 were not resident in the parish.

The PCC met 5 times during 2022. There has been an attendance level of 90%. The PCC as trustees are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding how the resources of the PCC are to be spent. Given their wide responsibilities, the PCC have established 4 committees, each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These committees are: Standing and Finance (incorporating Stewardship); Charities; Worship and Liturgy and Social. They are all responsible to the PCC and report back as and when they meet.

The PCC have a Mission Action Plan (MAP) which sets out our objectives for the development of mission and ministry at St Mary's. The MAP was reviewed in January 2022 when we identified our priorities for the forthcoming year – to continue to re-engage with church members and the wider community including children and young people after the pandemic and to move forwards with our commitment to be an ECO Church. Our actions to make progress towards these objectives are described within the Pastoral and practical care and Eco Church sections of this report (pages 4 and 6). Our MAP will be reviewed again in June 2023.

The PCC have put in place policies and procedures for a range of matters affecting the parish, including compliance with health and safety and fire risk assessment. All policies were reviewed in January and in February sidespersons were briefed on their responsibilities should there be a need to evacuate the church due to a fire. The PCC have complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. The PCC have appointed Meg Bender as their Parish Safeguarding Officer and are committed to complying with the Church of England's January 2022 safeguarding training requirements. A safeguarding report has been received at every PCC meeting.

Our policies and procedures are available in a folder on the church's bookcase for members of the congregation to read and consult and are posted on the Parish Link website.

The PCC appoint trustees and other members of the Electoral Roll to represent the Church in various forums, including the North Chilterns Group of Churches, Dunstable Deanery Synod, the Friends of Studham Church, the Village Hall, the Parish Link, Studham Village CE Academy, and the Playing Fields. Members of churches in the benefice also serve on the Studham, Kensworth and Whipsnade Good Neighbours' Scheme.

**Approved by the PCC on _____ and signed on their behalf by the
Reverend Canon Nicola Lenthall (PCC chairman)**

Appendices

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, STUDHAM

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>2022</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>2021</u>
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Collections	3,627	665	4,292	2,166
Standing Orders	3,660		3,660	3,760
PGS (excluding Gift Aid)	6,723		6,723	6,594
Gift Aid Repayments (HMRC)	4,150		4,150	5,681
CBF Investment Fund dividends	4,829		4,829	4,782
CBF Property Fund dividends	4,666		4,666	4,461
CBF Global Equity Income Fund dividends	1,655		1,655	1,396
Donations	3,555		3,555	12,210
Funeral & Graveyard Fees	4,274		4,274	2,248
Wedding Fees	377		377	998
Social Committee	1,634		1,634	105
Kids' Club	81		81	31
VAT Grant	227		227	133
CBF Deposit Account Interest	176		176	9
CBF 'Wealdon' Fund Interest	0	35	35	39
Friends of Studham Church	0	0	0	3,160
TOTAL INCOME	39,634	700	40,334	47,773
EXPENDITURE				
Charities	2,030	831	2,861	3,254
Church & Churchyard Maintenance	2,184	164	2,348	6,655
Quinquennial Inspection & Report	813		813	0
Quinquennial Repairs	601		601	0
Insurance	2,069		2,069	1,994
Parish Share	21,828		21,828	21,991
Rector's Expenses	2,199		2,199	2,021
Kids' Club	20		20	0
Eco Church	134		134	125
Social Committee	328		328	0
Subscriptions & Memberships	163		163	158
Utilities	1,572		1,572	1,885
Other	471	121	592	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	34,412	1,116	35,528	38,083
NET EXPENDITURE	5,222	-416	4,806	9,690
NET LOSS (-)/GAINS ON INVESTMENTS	-43,687	-188	-43,875	44,300
NET INCOME	-38,465	-604	-39,069	53,990

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, STUDHAM

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
Investments	315,863	359,738
Debtors	1,538	342
Deposit accounts	18,372	18,196
Bank current account	11,086	7,106
	<u>346,859</u>	<u>385,382</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Creditors	784	238
NET ASSETS	<u>346,075</u>	<u>385,144</u>
PARISH FUNDS		
Unrestricted	344,719	383,351
Restricted	1,355	1,793
	<u>346,075</u>	<u>385,144</u>

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Studham Church.

I report to the PCC of Studham Church on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church's trustees 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 Commission (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 given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no 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 2011 Act; 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.



Les Randall
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Date: 22/02/23