

St Peter's Church Forsbrook



Trustees' Annual Report 2021

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1. St Peter's PCC

The Proceedings of the PCC and activities of the parish

Aims and Purposes

St Peter's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the Rector, the Revd. Jonathan Roberts, in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, and specifically fulfilling the PCC's Mission Statement – Glorifying God; Following Jesus; Growing Disciples; Transforming Communities'. This is undertaken in various ways and in cooperation with St Margaret's Draycott, who share the same Ministry Leadership Team (as an independent legal parish, St Margaret's is not covered by this report).

The PCC is specifically responsible for the maintenance of the parish church of St Peter's.

Administrative Details

St Peter's Parish Church is located in the ecclesiastical parish of Forsbrook, covering the communities of Forsbrook and Blythe Bridge.

Location: Cheadle Road, Blythe Bridge, Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire ST11 9PW
Postal Address is c/o: The Revd. Jonathan Roberts
The Rectory, Cheadle Road, Blythe Bridge, Staffordshire ST11 9PW
Tel: 01782 437600 Email: revdjphroberts@gmail.com
Web site: www.stpetersforsbrook.org
Facebook: St Peter's Church Forsbrook
Bank: Santander, Bride Road, Bootle L30 4EB

Ministry Leadership Team:

Rector: Revd Jonathan Roberts (Chair of PCC)
Assistant Curate: Revd Sam Crossley
Church Wardens: Alison Fuller
Georgina Borsley
Licensed Readers: Kate Bradshaw
Clive Lilley
Graham Stokes (Deputy Chair of PCC)
Lay Pastoral Minister: Leigh Silcock
Children's & Youth
Discipleship Enabler: Chrissi Thompson

(The MLT also includes Church Wardens from St Margaret's Church)

Assistants to the Church Wardens:

Howard Salt & Brian Sammons existing
Graham Borsley, Margaret Dale, Dawn Fortun, Glennis Grainger

Verger: Howard Salt
Assistant Verger: Neil Archibald
PCC Secretary: not appointed
PCC Treasurer: David Bray
Gift Aid co-ordinator: David Bray

Elected Members: (They serve a 3-year term)

Term 2017-2020

Joan Pritchard
Ruth Durkin
Howard Salt (2018-2020)

Term 2018-2021

Christine Sammons
Brian Sammons
Kirsty Finney (stepped down 2021)
Roy Williams
Elaine Owen

Term 2019-2022

Mick Smith
Lynn Young
Ann Phillips (stepped down 2020)
Glennis Grainger (2020 – 2022)

Term 2020-2023

Joan Pritchard
David Bray
Andy Berry
Geoff Price

Term 2021-2024

Graham Stokes
Clive Lilley (Co-opted by the PCC in May)
Christine Sammons
Brian Sammons
Roy Williams
Elaine Owen

Elected Members of Deanery Synod 2020 – 2023 (Ex-officio on the PCC)

Neil Archibald
Laura Hulse
Ruth Durkin (stepped down 2021)

Members of the PCC are elected in accordance with Canon Law at the APCM.

PCC Constitution

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England and the PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Measure. The PCC is exempted by order from registering with the Charity Commission.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC has spiritual and practical oversight of our worship, the care of the church building and mission.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our parish church and to belong to the community of St Peter's. This is undertaken according to the doctrines and structures of the Church of England.

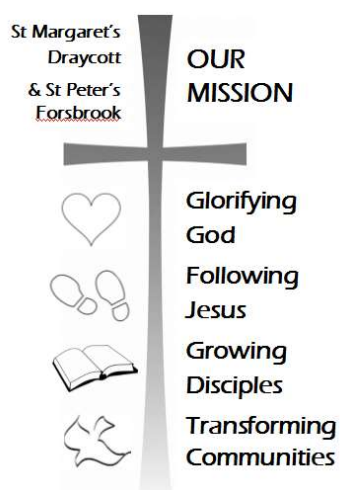
The PCC complies with the duty to show due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults (*Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016*).

Mission:

Our (benefice) Mission Statement reminds us that it is not the church of God which has a mission in the world, but the God of mission who has a church in the world.

As two churches, we are united around the **cross** of Jesus Christ, which is why this symbol is at the centre. Our mission can be summarised in four statements:

Glorifying God is the aim of every Christian (1 Corinthians 10:31). We seek to bring him the glory



due to his name through our **WORSHIP** – both corporately when we gather together (Revelation 4:9-11) and in our individual lives (Romans 12:1-2).

Following Jesus is the Christian life. Jesus called people to follow him unreservedly when he lived on earth, and today he continues to invite us with the same call – ‘follow me’ (Matthew 4:19).

Responding to his call is the life of **DISCIPLESHIP** which is both costly and rewarding (Mark 8:34-35).

Growing Disciples is at the heart of the reason for the church's existence. In his final words to the disciples before his ascension, Jesus commanded his followers to make disciples (Matthew 28:19-20). It has always been God's intention that his people should draw others to himself, and **EVANGELISM** and **DISCIPLESHIP**

should be a normal and expected part of our life corporately and individually. Spiritual growth in people, however, is God's work (1 Corinthians 3:6-8) and he graciously invites us into that process.

Transforming Communities is the outcome for which we hope and **PRAY** as we seek to be ambassadors for Christ in the communities to which we belong. Jesus reminds us that we, as his people, are to be salt and light - agents of transformation – in places where there is moral decay and spiritual darkness (Matthew 5:13-16). We **PRAY** for the coming of God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

Achievements and Performance:

We have continued to respond to the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic which has really dominated our life as churches and as a community. Thanks to the rolling out of the vaccination programme, we have slowly been able to reduce the restrictions in place, meeting regularly for worship and other events and serving the community in relation to some life events. Some of the other reports in this document will highlight these more clearly.

The PCC has met either virtually or in person (wearing face coverings) and coped well with the challenge both these ways of meeting have presented. We are hopeful that a more ‘normal’ format of meeting will continue into 2022 and dates have been set for the year.

Key areas of mission and ministry have included:

- A mixed economy of ‘online’ and ‘in-person’ worship
- Continued ministry to children and young people, including schools’ work
- Connect groups
- Pastoral care networks
- Occasional offices

Some areas of mission and ministry have not been able to operate yet because of the effects of the pandemic.

2. Electoral Roll Report

Two people have moved away from the area and are no longer included on the Electoral Roll. No one who has died this year was included on the Roll. There have been no additions. The revised numbers are therefore:

ERO Report	2021
Non-Resident	27
Resident	93
Deceased	0
Moved off	2
Total	120

If you've moved, please let me know so that the Roll can be updated. If you think you are not included on the Roll and would like to be, just ask me and we can double check your eligibility! Being on the Electoral Roll enables you to attend and vote at the Annual Meetings of the Church Council (APCM).

Laura Hulse
Electoral Roll Officer

3. Proceedings of the PCC

We have been able to transition from zoom meetings to in-person meetings which has helped the efficiency of our meetings which have been held throughout the year. The PCC has sought to fulfil its responsibilities diligently and significant areas of discussion and decision have included:

- Appointing PCC Officers
- Discussing our financial challenges and the deficit budget and seeking to address these
- Presenting the TAR for 2020 (including the annual financial statements)
- Reviewing worship and events generally and particularly in relation to the necessary covid measures
- Receiving reports and recommendations from the JMT in relation to funding our C&YDE and work with children and young people
- Safeguarding updates and annually reviewed policies
- Agreement to fund and extend Rector's administrator contract

- Overseeing routine maintenance of the buildings and outside areas
- Discussions and agreement of worship provision at different stages of the pandemic, including access to and the re-opening of the church building

(a) Churchwardens' Report

The last two years have been challenging for the life of our church family. The covid pandemic has resulted in the closing of our building for long periods and fractured our community as people have been isolated and unable to meet family and friends. We would like to thank so many people for their little acts of kindness during these lonely times, when many elderly or poorly people felt very sad and alone. The weekly telephone calls to chat and talk over problems, visiting when permitted, shopping, taking people for hospital or doctor's visits, praying with, and for them, all these have helped to keep our church family in touch. Particular thanks go to all those people involved in contributing to and producing the weekly bulletin and the online service, which has been an inspiring lifeline not just for our congregation, but for many other Christians around the country too. And it continues to be so for those who feel too vulnerable to mix.

Thanks go too, to all the people who have helped to get us back on our feet as restrictions have lessened, some taking on new roles where they have seen a need, such as helping cleaning the church, keeping the grounds tidy, taking on a side person role, or going on the coffee rota. After a shaky start with detailed risk assessments, shortened services and masks, it is encouraging now to see people feeling more confident and joyful about worshipping in church again. Some groups have restarted, and people are able to socialise but there is still much to do. There are still some jobs that need filling, and our church would not run smoothly without the many volunteers who give of their time and talents as part of their commitment to God.

A large part of our job is to support the clergy and congregation and we hope always to be able to help when people have questions or comments. We would like to thank everyone for supporting us in our role.

George Borsley and Alison Fuller

(b) Youth & Children's Discipleship Enabler Report

Throughout 2021 our focus has been '**thrive**' – a year in which, as children, young people, families, and a community of God, we don't just survive, but we flourish and prosper.

Jesus said, "a thief comes to steal and kill and destroy, but I came to give life – life in all its fullness." (John 10:10)

The hope for this year was for everything to return to 'normal' (whatever that is) and in part we seem to be at least heading in the right direction. After 17 months ~~x:cite~~ returned to St. Peter's as part of the 10am service, **Friday Club** and **Youth Fellowship** returned to meeting as whole groups at Blythe Bridge Methodist Church (via a cold stint outside on William Amory's yard – thank you so much Mr Wilken for allowing us to use the space), and **God Squad** managed to get together at McDonalds and in my garden.

It's not always been easy, and I'm sure everyone's stress levels have been high, but with some creative re-workings and some warm clothing we've worked hard at keeping everyone safe as well as encountering God together. We created 'x:cite @ home' as a creative resource for families to use alongside the 10am online service and throughout the week based on the Bible reading, and I have no idea how we kept it going for so many weeks – Margaret and Archie were the super-stars that kept me almost sane over the months and I'm super-grateful for their input, skills and putting up with my perfectionist tendencies.

It's a great encouragement that although numbers dropped when we were online, many children and young people returned, as if we hadn't been apart, when we were able to be in the same space again. I continue to thank God for the relationships we've had for years and the new ones we're building as we rediscover the love of being together. I believe we're thriving more as we reconnect with each other as community, and it's a huge blessing to us all.

Sophie continues to be amazing with her creative talents in leading the **Messy Church** team. We've discovered that by meeting outdoors, church has become more visible and although it might not always be as warm, we don't want to lose the benefits of being a visible presence in the community. That said, the opportunity to gather together for a short act of worship in St. Peter's (with Jonathan the Christingle) in December was wonderful too. I'm sure 2022 will see more of a 'hybrid' approach (especially in the Summer 😊).

It was wonderful to be able to welcome the **Year 7s** for their (streamlined) Christmas Service at St. Peter's again this year, even with some seating adaptations, and continue to keep in touch with ways we can support the whole school. Weekly Collective Worship videos have been produced and distributed to **Forsbrook** Primary and **Springcroft** for use in school and at home. Sam and I even managed to make it in to see the whole school at Forsbrook one Thursday before everyone went back into 'bubbles' and we look forward to less restrictions and more opportunities to do that again in 2022. Our ongoing relationships with local schools continue to be strong and as I look back over the year, I realise we're in a stronger position to continue to impact our local schools and community than many other churches – it's not a competition, but I take great encouragement that we're not starting from scratch as we step into 2022.

Funding what we do is rarely straightforward, and this year we have been blessed to have received continued funding towards my salary from The Henry Smith Charity and funds to help us run Friday Club and Youth Fellowship well during the pandemic from Staffordshire Community Foundation, on top of generous regular giving from individuals. I am personally grateful and know the children and young people in our community are closer to God, to church and to each other as a result. Thank you!

In 2022 we're looking forward with **hope**; remembering to focus on God as the source of our **hope** as we are expectant about what God might do in and through us.

I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in Him and that by the power of Holy Spirit you will abound in hope and overflow with confidence in His promises

Romans 15:13
Chrissi Thompson

(c) Tiddler's Group Report

May 2021 saw us opening tiddlers in a new way with Tiddlers Go Wild - an outdoor version of the group but running in St Margaret's Church Hall. It was lovely to welcome familiar families back along with some new faces too. Due to covid restrictions we have sought to adapt our sessions in line with local covid rates and restrictions, and it is a real joy to be back in our church building now. We have also been able to welcome back some of our older volunteers into the kitchen which has been great.

Historically Tiddlers has used the welcome room, but to keep things more covid safe, and to make the most of the space we have, we have used a large part of the worship area. It has been a delight to watch our families inside our church building listening to worship songs, playing together, and enjoying hearing stories about Jesus. And many of the carers have commented on how lovely it is that their children can enjoy exploring the area.

Louise and Archie have stepped forward as a great duo for Bible story time which is a delight to see, and Christine has kept the children entertained with some wonderful Bible themed crafts.

We have introduced a Tiddlers WhatsApp group and it is a real encouragement hearing weekly comments about how much the children have enjoyed themselves. We received this comment on the group this week

Another lovely morning - thank you to the whole team! We loved the interactive Bible story, the toast and hearing great worship songs in the background! Brill! ❤️🙌 xxx

As our numbers have rapidly increased (25 children this week and grownups) we have adapted a process of continual improvement where we seek ways of keeping our families safe and happy whilst sharing in fellowship and friendship.

We have started doing termly Tiddler family services where we invite friends and family of Tiddlers to an all-age service and end with drinks and homemade cakes. It has been lovely to see Tiddler families coming along to our Messy Church and Christmas Wreath Making workshop too.

This week we made the decision to stop giving out biscuits, and introduce toast into our snack time. The kitchen was kept very busy but rose to the challenge tremendously resulting in very happy tiddlers and grownups.

Going forward to this year we continue to look for ways to minister to these families, and are looking forward to a summer day out for the families.

Sophie Roberts and the Tiddlers' Team

(d) Messy Report

As we've journeyed through the changes of rules that have come into place as we learn to live with Covid 19 this year, we have enjoyed being able to reach out to so many families during key events of the year in Messy Church.

The Messy Church leadership team has grown in number, and it has been a delight to welcome new leaders whilst continuing to be blessed by our original Messy Church Team.

At Easter we had 130 children following trails around our village, scanning QR codes which were attached to giant eggs, to hear the true story of Easter. It was lovely to see the buzz of so many families enjoying the fresh spring air, local walks and hearing the good news that Jesus died for them. When they finished the hunt they were gifted eggs and an Easter story which was made all the more possible by the great support of Tesco Meir and some generous donors.

On 31st October on a night which would usually see our village bustling with ghosts and ghouls, the Messy Church team came together to unite in God's light as superheroes. 150 children joined in and enjoyed searching for the heroes around the village whilst filling goodie bags with sweets that were kindly donated by Spar Forsbrook, Tesco Blythe Bridge and Meir, and some of our Messy Church Team. When they finished their hunt it was a joy to welcome them onto our church car park to enjoy homemade pumpkin soup using locally grown pumpkins, hotdogs from our local butchers and fun and dancing. It was especially moving to see our Leaders' photo on the front page of the Blythe Times as a salute to good overcoming evil.

At Christmas it was a real blessing to be able to welcome some of our families back into church for our Messy Nativity and Christingle. 20 families enjoyed crafts and Christingle making on the carpark whilst being serenaded by our wonderful choir, and joined by our good friends at the Olcote Sanctuary who brought some of their animals along. We ended with a service inside church, and it was particularly moving to sing Away in a Manger together whilst watching our candle flames and remembering Jesus being the light of the world.

We give thanks for the hard work and enthusiasm of all of the Messy Church Team, and look forward to hopefully being back inside the church building for some of the future Messy Church Services.

Sophie Roberts and the Messy Church Team

(e) Connect Group/Zoom Bible Study Report

'Connect' continued to meet during the first part of the year online, through Zoom, with both morning and evening sessions functioning with a combined number of 16 being involved. This was quite an encouraging number and several people who previously had been unable to be involved in the in-person sessions were able to participate through Zoom. However it was a great relief and source of joy when we were able, in late summer, to meet again in person with both the morning and evening sessions at St Margaret's and St Peter's recommencing. The first study we completed was on the Bible's teaching on 'Contentment' followed by a study on what Biblical teaching is on the Church. Both the morning and evening sessions have

attracted between eight and twelve people a week which is a pleasing number. We pray that as we continue to move forward post covid others will return as well as new people joining.

Participants continue to say how important the sessions are for them in their growth as Christian disciples.

Last year we set out our hopes for the future of Connect and, with hope and confidence in God, we carry them through into the coming year.

1. It would be wonderful to have more people on the rota to lead the Bible Studies [even just once every couple of months would be great]. Those volunteering don't have to be a trained expert as detailed leaders' notes are provided.
2. Above all though we would like more people to come along and share in the Bible studies and to bring their own unique insights and life stories to the groups. We share and learn together.
3. It would also be good, if anybody felt God's leading, to offer their home for a group to meet at some other time. Help would be given to anyone willing to lead such a group.

Above all we pray for the Lord of the Scriptures to continue to use Connect as a major way for the church community to grow in discipleship and in the love of His Word.

Clive Lilley
Co-Ordinator

(f) Choir Report

This year has been a much better year for us although we are still a way from being normal again. Just in time for the Easter service the church was once more open for services in the building. Masks were mandatory and we had to sit in the congregation rather than in the choir stalls. No singing was allowed inside but we did get to hear hymns played via the iPad. We were however allowed to sing outside (weather permitting). It felt so good to actually sing again but some of us did find our voices a bit rusty after a year not singing. Singing in church was eventually permitted but masks are still being worn and we are still not back in the choir stalls. We do now have the organ to accompany our singing which makes a huge difference. Our grateful thanks to Ian.

The carol service did take place this year but in a very different format. There were only communal carols and no choral pieces from the choir. We did however as a choir go out a few weeks before Christmas and sing carols for two choir members who cannot get to church. This was very much appreciated by both members, and we all felt good to be singing as a choir. We were joined on this occasion by a special junior chorister who we hope will join us permanently when she is a bit older.

Choir practices resumed after Christmas albeit only once a month for a short stretch after the evening service. We brushed up on our choral responses and have also been learning a new setting for the evening prayer service responses.

On a sad note we have had one member of our choir who has had to retire on health grounds. The rest of us still keep going but like everyone are starting to feel our age. We would love to

recruit new members, but interest is very low. (Too many other demands on people's time I guess)

We hope as restrictions are lifted and people try to return to a "normal" life that things will soon get back to normal in church.

**Margaret Elkin
(Chorister)**

(g) Rector's Report

This has been an unpredictable and challenging year for many of us in different ways as we have sought to follow Jesus both individually and as a church.

A pandemic which has continued far longer than any of us would have imagined has brought great challenges and also great opportunities and reminds me of the need to 'run with perseverance the race marked out for us, keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith' (Heb 12:1-2).

The challenges of the pandemic have rippled through our lives personally and as a church. Many have struggled with a feeling of isolation and loneliness; some have had to bear the pain of bereavement; others a sense of loss in other ways or feeling disoriented. We are reminded that the Christian life does not lift us out of suffering but directs us on in our discipleship as we follow the suffering servant who 'for the joy that was set before him endured the cross' (Heb 12:2).

The pandemic has also presented opportunities to think about what really matters in our own lives and in the life of our church and world. Such priorities, such as the need to care for each other, the need to root ourselves in the Bible and the need to be a source of hope and help to those inside and outside the church, both practically and spiritually, have emerged continually in different ways. I am grateful for those in our church families who have been those voices of hope and models of prayerfulness.

The continued mission and ministry of our churches has been possible because of the faithful giving of our members in terms of our time, talents, and treasure. It is impossible to single out individuals for thanks because of the great number of people who have contributed to God's work here in so many different and varied ways. I hope that if you have been able to serve in any way this year, visibly or behind the scenes, you will accept my expression of sincere thanks here, both personally and on behalf of those who have been blessed by you.

As we continue our journey as God's people in this place, we do so with a sense of lament for what has been lost, thankfulness for what God has provided and taught us and anticipation for what is to come. We will need to cultivate attentiveness to the promptings of the Spirit and prayerful trust in Jesus Christ as he leads his church into the coming year

**Jonathan Roberts
Rector**

(h) Safeguarding Report

St Peter's Church PCC is committed to caring for all the children, young people and vulnerable adults who participate in any aspect of our church life. The safety and security of children, young people and vulnerable adults is of the utmost importance and the Church of England guidelines and policies underpin this.

As reported last year Safeguarding is a standing item on the PCC Agenda, thus ensuring through the Rector and the Parish Safeguarding Officer, members are regularly informed and updated to ensure the PCC complies with its responsibilities. There have been no safeguarding concerns reported to me during 2021.

The Safeguarding Policies for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults were reviewed and updated at the beginning of year and presented to the PCC for approval on 8 March 2021. Both these policies were approved and can be viewed on St Peter's Church website at www.stpetersforsbrook.org.

DBS Requirements:

In accordance with the Church of England safeguarding procedures, clergy, lay readers, PCC members, volunteers and staff members who hold a DBS Certificate are required to renew them every 5 years. During 2021, 7 people's certificates expired, except for 2 individuals, these were renewed accordingly. The two volunteers who did not renew their certificates no longer undertake a voluntary role within the church. 1 new volunteer was recruited whose role required a DBS Check.

Training Requirements:

With regarding to Safeguarding Training, the National Safeguarding Team have advised that the Basic Awareness and Foundation online training modules (formerly Co and C1) are now of such a high standard that they meet the training needs of all lay volunteer leaders in churches, including church wardens. However, those who hold a Bishop's Licence or Commission, including lay readers are required to complete the additional Leadership module. All our Lay Readers have completed the relevant training which is still valid. 3 people have completed the Basic Awareness and Foundation modules during the year.

Thank you to everyone who completed online DBS Applications, training or attended additional training courses, for giving their valuable time and commitment, ensuring we meet our obligation to safeguard children, young people, and vulnerable adults within our church community.

Joan Pritchard
Parish Safeguarding Officer

(i) Eco Group Report

The Eco Group was formed in October 2020 to help care for God's Creation.

These are the aims:

- To help control climate change
- To reduce energy use by St Peter's

- To minimise use of resources by St Peter's
- To encourage members to adopt sustainable lifestyles
- To encourage all people to adopt sustainable lifestyles
- To organise practical work to improve the environment
- To encourage governments and other organisations to support sustainable proposals

Progress has been slow due to the pandemic, and no actions were really started until late in the year. A number of more specific actions have been identified for 2022. These include:

- Cover the environment in prayer
- Better control of heating
- Maximise recycling at church
- Install bird boxes
- Community litter picking
- Environment features in church bulletin, magazine, and website

The potential for solar panels, insulation and LED lighting are being considered by the Building & Grounds Group.

The group members are:

George Borsley; Graham Borsley; Margaret Dale; Louise Purnell; Brian Sammons; and Mick Smith.

Several other church members have indicated they would help with some actions. The Methodist Church is also considering their environmental position, and joint action is proposed for the community litter picking.

Brian Sammons
Group Co-ordinator

5. St Peter's Parochial Church Council
Financial Report and Statements
31st December 2021

2021 was a very challenging year for St Peter's regarding its financial situation and have been unable meet its contribution in full for the 2021 parish share. This was despite of the generous giving of the church family and a kind contribution from the Diocese. The payments in 2021 were made through regular monthly payments but were only just over half that expected. We would normally pay any large unrestricted surpluses we have accumulated over the year towards the parish share but owing to continued lockdowns and delays in payments we were not able to meet this obligation. The Parish Share is being replaced by the common fund and the amount due is like that of the 2021 parish share. The current proposal is to pay a similar monthly amount to the common fund and to pay any additional surpluses we have towards this amount as a lump sum towards the end of the year.

With the partial reopening of the physical services in 2021 St Peters did see a slight increase in cash donations. Owing to the timings of the lockdowns the giving in grace initiative was not implemented and is planned for 2022. Overall giving was slightly less than 2021 except for a large generous legacy payment for restricted funded projects.

In the financial statements, it can be seen that the youth fund has been built up steadily. This was owing to the kind £20K grant from the Henry Smith Charity in 2020 that was restricted for use to cover the costs of employing a skilled Children's and Youth Discipleship Enabler. The funding was almost all used up in 2021 and will need to use the youth fund to support this work going forward. The work has really enabled many children and young people in their faith development (see Children's and Youth Discipleship Enabler Report) and continues to strengthen our partnerships within the community.

The funding to support the work of our Children's and Youth Discipleship Enabler is continuing for the majority of 2022 by using the remainder of the Henry Smith grant and through contributions built up over several years from the wider community whilst we had the grant funding in place.

The funding for the post of Rectors administrator has been secured for 2022 through kind donations of the St Peters and St Margaret's community and by reallocating funds from another fund (social fund)

St Peter's relies heavily on the generosity of its' congregation to flourish, and the PCC continues to be grateful for this, however, it also relies heavily on all the volunteers who give up their time and offer their skills but there is always room for more volunteers to support the work of the Church, this can be by:

- Supporting the work of the Tiddlers Group who meet every Tuesday
- Support the work of the Messy Church team
- Connect Bible Study groups
- Helping out during the services by
 - operating the sound system and/or projector
 - be willing to read one of the Bible readings
 - lead our intercessions
 - be a Sides-person
 - provide refreshments
 - be there to say hello and welcome to a visitor
- Helping the Ministry Team
- Supporting the Pastoral Team
- Be part of the Flower Arranging Team/Brass Cleaning Team
- Help the Building Committee

The list is endless, and I am sure I will have missed something out, but this is something you can be part of, why not ask a member of the PCC for more information.

David Bray
Treasurer & Gift Aid Co-
ordinator

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ending 31st December 2021

Introduction

The role of the Independent Examiner is to provide an independent scrutiny of accounts and the examiner plays a part in maintaining public trust and confidence in the PCC.

The Independent Examiner's Report can be found on the back page of this report.

All financial reports are taken from Myfundaccounting which is the software that is recognised and approved by the Dioceses in the Church of England for use by Treasurers and Gift Aid Co-ordinators.

Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities (SORP) and applicable accounting standards (FRSSE) or (FRS102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements include all transactions, assets, and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

The Financial Statements have been prepared using the Receipts and Payments method and therefore are shown as such and a statement of assets and liabilities.

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

Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purpose of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are restricted.

The accounts include all transactions, assets, and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

Incoming Resources

- Voluntary income and capital sources
- Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.
- Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised only when received.
- Income tax recoverable as Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recovered.
- Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for when the income is received.
- Funds raised by fairs and similar events are accounted for gross.
- Sales of books and magazines from the church are accounted for gross.

Other Income

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the income is received.

Income from Investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as received.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on re-valuation of investments at 31 December 2021.

Resources Used

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The whole of the Diocesan Parish Share is accounted in this financial year.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated property and movable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficial property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s 96 (2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 1993.

Movable church furnishings held by the Clergy and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected at any reasonable time. There is insufficient cost information available to facilitate inclusion of these assets in the accounts.

Other fixtures, fittings, and office equipment

All such expenditure relating to benefited or consecrated property is written off in the year of acquisition.

Other property

Other church buildings are included in the accounts as deemed or actual costs if known.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December 2021.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 30th March 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



.....

Appendix 1	St Peters Forsbrook PCC				
Statement of Financial Activities					
For the period from 01 January 2021 to 31 December 2021					
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted	Endowment	Total Funds	Prior year total funds
Receipts					
Planned giving	18,338	14,494		32,832	33,594
Collections and other giving	3,696	190,769		194,465	8,164
Other voluntary	2,779	45		2,824	20,100
Gift Aid recovered				-	12,314
Other reciepts				-	5,765
Activities for generating funds		143		143	2,419
Investment Income	100	18		118	196
Receipts from church activities	5,189	1,145		6,334	5,111
Total income	30,102	206,614	-	236,716	87,663
Payments					
Cost of generating funds	240	956		1,196	727
Missionary and Charitable giving	95			95	2,594
Parish Share	26,943			26,943	37,309
Clergy and Staffing Costs	1,240	24,062		25,302	22,844
Church running Expenses	4,354			4,354	9,233
Church Repairs and Maintenance	7,285	1,206		8,491	1,160
Governance Costs				-	-
Miscellaneous	1,238			1,238	859
	41,395	26,224	-	67,619	74,726
Net income / (expenditure resources before transfer	(11,293)	180,390	-	169,096	12,937
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds - In		2,422		2,422	-
Gross transfers between funds - Out		(2,422)		(2,422)	-
Other recognised gains/losses					
Gain/losses on investment assets					
Gains on revaluation, Fixed assets charity's own use					
Net Movement in funds	(11,293)	180,390		169,096	12,937
Reconcillation of funds					
Total Funds Brought Forward	5,784	56,429		62,213	49,276
Total Funds Carried Forward	884	234,498		235,382	62,213

Appendix 2					
2021 Balance Sheet (Summary)					
			As at 31/12/2021		As at 31/12/2020
Current assets					
Cash at Bank and in hand			235,382		66,168
Total net Current Assets			235,382		66,168
Less: Current liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year			(15,690)		(3,955)
			-		-
Net current assets less current liabilities			219,692		62,213
Total assets less current liabilities			219,692		62,213
Less: Long term Liabilities			-		-
Total net assets less liabilities			219,692		62,213
Represented by:					
Unrestricted funds			1,691		5,784
Designated funds:					
- Christians against poverty			535		250
- Friendship group			476		476
- Rectors PA			1,658		1,055
- Tiddlers group			766		991
- Service Book Fund			1,262		1,262
- Social Committee Emergency Fund			-		2,422
-Parish Magazine			1,838		1,692
Designated Sub-Total			6,535		8,148
Restricted Funds:					
-Henry Smith Grant			746		21,568
-Youth Account			21,895		11,619
- St Chads Volunteer			2,192		2,192
- Choir Robes			1,024		1,025
-F Jones and B Spencer Fund (music)			616		616
- Organ Fund			519		519
- Illuminated Cross Appeal			480		480
- Roy Harvey Fund			189,413		-
-Building Fund			10,271		10,261
Restricted Sub-Total			227,156		48,280
Restricted plus Designated Sub-Total			233,691		56,428
Funds of the church			235,382		62,212

Appendix 3							
Analysis of income and expenditure							
Selected period: 01 January 2021 to 31 December 2021							
						Total	
		General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies							
	0101 - Gift Aid Collections	17,447	2,550	11,124	-	31,121	33,594
	0110 - Non-Gift Aid Collections Direct Debit/Standing Order	891	550	270	-	1,711	2,602
	0301 - Loose Plate Collections	3,696	-	-	-	3,696	2,021
	0550 - Donations over £20	-	-	-	-	0	2,120
	0701 - Legacies	-	-	190,619	-	190,619	1,500
Donations and legacies Totals		22,033	3,100	202,013	-	227,146	41,837
Income from charitable activities							
	1111 - Messy Church Income	-	150	-	-	150	50
	1113 - Youth Activities - Residential and Others	-	-	360	-	360	1,063.00
	1555 - Friendship Group	-	-	-	-	0	186
	1556 - Tiddlers Group	-	275	-	-	275	619
	1557 - Cristians Against Poverty	-	360	-	-	360	360
Income from charitable activities Totals		-	-	-	-	1145	2,278.00
Other trading activities							
	1250 - Magazine	-	142.5	-	-	143	2419
Other trading activities Totals		-	142.5	-	-	143	2419
Investments							
	1020 - Bank and Building Society Interest	-	18	-	-	18	96
	1030 - Rent - Lands and Buildings	100	-	-	-	100	99
Investments Totals		100	18	0	-	118	195
Other income							
	0601 - Gift Aid Recovered	-	-	-	-	0	12,314
	0801 - Recurring Grants	-	-	-	-	0	20,100
	08A1 - Non-Recurring one-off grants	-	150	-	-	150	210
	0901 - Other Funds Generated	2,779	-	45	-	2824.06	5,522

	1101 - Fees Weddings and Funerals	5,189	-	-	-	5189	2,833
	1234 - Worship Resources	-	-	-	-	0	33
Other income Totals		7,968	150	45	-	8,163	41,012
Income and endowments Grand totals		30,001	3,250	202,058	-	236,715	87,663
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds							
	1730 - Costs of Fetes and other Events	240	-	-	-	240	
	2501 - Magazine Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	727
Raising funds Totals		240	-	-	-	240	727.2
Expenditure on charitable activities							
	1112 - Messy Church Resources	-	-	-	-	-	273
	1115 - Youth Activities	-	-	1,889.39	-	1,889.39	803
	1801 - Giving to Missionary Societies	50	-	-	-	50	0
	2340 - Worship Resources Literature	233.21	-	-	-	233.21	0
	2556 - Tiddlers Resources	-	599.69	-	-	599.69	
	2557 - Christians Against Poverty	-	-	-	-	-	585
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals		283.21	599.69	1,889.39	-	2,772.29	1,661.00
Other expenditure							
	1114 - Discipleship Hosting	-	-	-	-	-	933
	1910 - Ministry Parish Share etc..	26,943	-	-	-	26,943	37,309
	2050 - Youth Worker	-	-	18,920	-	18,920	18,570
	2051 - Salaries - Other	-	5,142	-	-	5,142	4,274
	2101 - Clergy Expenses	721	-	-	-	721	1,308
	2130 - Vicarge expenses	519	-	-	-	519	
	2150 - Vicars Telephone	-	-	-	-	-	704
	2201 - Parish Training and Mission	360	45	-	-	405	660
	2301 - Church Running - Insurance	2,585	-	-	-	2,585	2,456
	2310 - Church Office Expenses Paper, Post, Printer	236	-	-	-	236	858
	2320 - Organ/Piano Tuning	-	-	576	-	576	207
	2340 - Worship	-	-	-	-	0	403

	Resources Literature						
	2330 - Church Maintenance	1,168	-	630	-	1,798	953
	2341 - Worship Resources - Communion	-	-	-	-	-	84
	2342 - Worship Resources - Licences	767	-	-	-	767	587
	2370 - IT Expenses	889	-	-	-	889	376
	2401 - Church Running - Electricity	421	-	-	-	421	398
	2410 - Church Running - Gas	1,692	-	-	-	1,692	1,986
	2721 - Fees for Weddings and Funerals	2,993	-	-	-	2,993	272
Other expenditure Totals		40,872	5,187	18,548	-	64,607	72,338
Expenditure Grand totals		41,395	5,786	20,438	-	67,619	74,726

Appendix 4				
Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st Dec 2021				
Cash at bank and in hand				
001D: CCLA 620161001D - Asset		Type	Balance	Previous Balance
	Service Book Fund	Designated	649	649
002D: CCLA 620161002D - Asset		-		
	Choir Robes	Restricted	1,026	1,025
003D: CCLA 620161003D - Asset				
	Building Fund	Restricted	10,271	10,261
004D: CCLA 620161004D - Asset				
	Frank James and Bert Spencer	Restricted	617	616
005D: CCLA 620161005D - Asset				
	Building Fund	Restricted	-	-
006D: CCLA 620161006D - Asset				
	Youth Worker	Restricted	4,711	4,707
007D: CCLA 620161007D - Asset				
	Organ Fund	Restricted	519	519
61468702: Bank account - Asset				
	General Fund	General		

			884	9,739
	Designated Funds	Designated	9,353	7,499
	Restricted Funds	Restricted	207,352	31,152
		Cash at bank and in hand	235,382	66,168
Liabilities				
	Agency Collections			
	Parish Share Due		15,690	3955
		Total Liabilities	15,690	3955
		Grand Total	219,692	62,213

AUDITORS REPORT

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Peter's Church, Forsbrook

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2021, which are set out on pages 1 and 2, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulation 2016 (the "Regulations") and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 (the "Act").

Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirements of the Regulations and section 43(2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statement in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition. That examinations includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements 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 expression an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

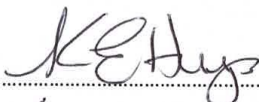
Independent Examiner's Statement

In accordance 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 the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations have not been met.

OR

- (2) To Which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Signed:  Date: 19 May 2022
Name: Karen Elizabeth Hays FCA
Address: 1 Early Lane
Swynnoton
Staffordshire
ST15 0RB

6. Fabric - Building Committee Report

A further year of only a few small works achieved: lightning conductor tested; new sump pump fitted; and fire alarm battery replaced. Potholes were filled in the car park; mainly by a local resident in the building trade; our thanks to him.

There was also the regular maintenance of the grounds, mainly the planting around the car park.

There was much consideration given to use the trust funds from the will of Roy Harvey. Various proposals were put forward, and the priorities for improvement were agreed to be organ works, the roof and the car park.

The architect gave an assessment of the work that could be done on the roof and car park. The car park was seen as in need of immediate attention, and the architect prepared drainage proposals. Advice was received from the Diocesan Organ Adviser; and quotes obtained for a thorough overhaul. The year ended with a need to review priorities oncemore in view of the amount of potential work now identified and their potential costs.

Group members: Archie Archibald; Andy Berry; Alison Fuller; and Brian Sammons.

Brian Sammons

Deanery Synod Report 2021

Deanery Synod Representatives serve a three-year term. Your current lay representatives are Laura Hulse and Neil (Archie) Archibald. Deanery Synod enables representatives from each church in the Deanery to get together and share our work in the communities we serve. The meetings have previously focussed on achievements, however in the past year the focus has changed. Under the guidance of our Chair, Rev Michael Follin, and Lay Chair, Sylvia Bainbridge, we now concentrate on how we are moving forwards, with particular attention to the opportunities and difficulties in the following areas:

Discipleship • Vocation • Evangelism

At our most recent meeting, held via Zoom in February 2022, we had a guest speaker from Home for Good (homeforgood.org.uk) who highlighted that in the UK, a child enters care every 15 minutes. There are currently 30,000 children waiting for adoption. Find out more about how you can help, by visiting their website. If you would like to be *that person* in our church that picks this up and goes with it, tell us!

One of the things we are exploring at a Deanery level is Talent. You may know your Talent. Say hi to it... say thank you to God for it... we mean it... Right now, as you are reading this, pause... ...notice that you have this Talent, and say thank you to God for it. You may use this Talent every day in your paid work, or as a volunteer somewhere. That is great! Here are some examples of jobs and tasks (paid or otherwise) that you might do:

- Administration/typing/secretarial
- Art/Creative/Crafts
- Audio-visual
- Care of older/vulnerable people
- Catering/Hospitality
- Childcare
- Coming alongside/talking to people
- Construction/building work
- Electrics
- Engineering (E.g. gas or mechanical)
- Events Co-ordination
- Finance
- Friendship
- Fundraising
- First Responders (E.g. Fire, Police, Ambulance)
- Gardening/Floral design
- Insurance
- IT
- Languages
- Law
- Leadership
- Marketing
- Medicine
- Musician/Music tech
- Photography
- Plumbing
- Public Speaking
- Project Management
- Proof-reader
- Social Work
- Therapy (E.g. physio, counselling)
- Training
- Website Design/SEO

You might not have a job, be retired, or feel that you don't have any Talent at all, actually. Perhaps your Talent is more discreet and you struggle to acknowledge it. Perhaps it's kindness, or financial generosity. Perhaps it's an ability to come alongside anyone and be beside them. Laura will say that the helpers at Tiddlers over the years may not have/perhaps still don't necessarily realise the depths of their own Talent in coming alongside new mothers; that their warmth and consistent presence was/is such a blessing. What a difference it made when they used that Talent rather than keeping it hidden.

Act Now

We would love it if you could complete the basic survey of your Talent (big, small, current, or dormant and waiting to get out!) Find the posters in church.

Thank you!

Laura Hulse and Neil (Archie) Archibald
Deanery Synod Representatives