

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Christ Church, London Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex TN37 6GL

Registered Charity no. 1170031

For the year ended 31 December 2020

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Website: www.christchurchstleonards.co.uk
Priest-in-Charge: Rt. Revd. Peter Wheatley
Independent examiner: Ashdown Hurrey, Hastings
Bankers: Charities Aid Foundation, West Malling

Christ Church and St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul, St Leonards-on-Sea Trustees Annual Report for 2020

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent in:

- The provision and maintenance of the fabric of Christ Church, St Leonards on Sea and its associated buildings;
- Conducting regular Christian worship;
- The celebration of the Holy Eucharist, including on a daily basis at Christ Church; baptisms, marriages and funerals;
- Leaving Christ Church open to the public to enter and benefit from personal spiritual contemplation;
- Promoting the study of Christian teaching, practices and Scriptures;
- The provision of means and encouragement to promote fellowship within the membership of the Churches and the wider community;
- In addition to the above, Christian devotional acts and outreach work is carried out, including:
 - Visiting the sick;
 - Administering the Sacraments to those unable to attend regular acts of Worship, to the sick and dying;
 - Supporting pastoral work;
 - Fostering ecumenical links between differing Christian denominations;
 - Supporting the work of other local charities.

What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives

When planning our activities for the year, our incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'.

For 2020 we continued to pursue the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims:

- Enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church;
- Enabling as many people as possible to become part of our parish community;
- Teaching, baptizing and confirming new and existing believers;
- Maintaining an overview of worship throughout the parish;
- Considering how services can involve the many groups that exist within the parish;
- Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament;
- Offering worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel in small group situations;
- Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus;
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;

- Providing assistance to the poor and needy of the parish;
- Maintaining the fabric of the church building as a historic centre and focus of life in the Parish.

Our Mission Action Plan is regularly reviewed and monitored at PCC meetings.

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives

The range of activities for Christ Church can be split broadly into three categories –

- a) worship, prayer, catechesis, pastoral care and evangelism;
- b) fellowship and fundraising;
- c) serving the local community

This year began well. Jane Hart was commissioned on 11 January by the Bishop of Chichester in his Cathedral as an Authorised Lay Minister to continue her work with children and families including coordinating the weekly activities of our parish Sunday School (PALS) group. We continued to open our Crypt as an emergency night shelter during the winter as part of the Local Authority Severe Weather Emergency Plan (SWEP), extending this provision on other evenings through co-operation with Surviving the Streets. Over the weekend of 13-15 March a group of children from our Parish School joined the Diocesan pilgrim group at the Walsingham Children's Pilgrimage, led by Head teacher, Mr Russell Thorne, Mrs Sharon Blythe, Mr Graham Marcroft, and Fr Nick. But this was just before the first lockdown in the coronavirus pandemic.

Worship, prayer, catechesis, pastoral care and evangelism

Public worship was suspended in March by order of the Government and the regulations prohibited the normal functioning of the Church's activities.

Mass continued to be offered daily in Church by the clergy throughout both the first lockdown (March to July) and the second (November/December). During these times the Church was kept open daily for private prayer. Public worship resumed as soon as permitted in July and again in December with four Masses on a Sunday as opposed to the previous two per Sunday to ensure ease of social distancing and cater also for the needs of the children who were unable to meet safely in the crypt.

When permitted Baptisms were celebrated and 2 adult candidates presented for Confirmation. With only limited numbers allowed to attend, funerals in Church included those of a number of members of the congregation, Christopher Langdon, Chas Bryan, Janet Davis, Adrian Tate, Sonia Rook, Sheila Johnston, Sheila Sergeant, and Fr Christopher Hopkins who, despite illness courageously suffered, had continued to celebrate and preach at Mass until his death. *Requiescant in Pace.*

Throughout the lockdowns Fr Nick Archer has led worship in Christ Church Academy, kept open for key workers and vulnerable children, and has provided weekly videos for classroom worship. When allowed, parishioners led 'Open the Book' collective worship in school,

The church bells were rung each Sunday. When collective bell ringing was not possible, the bell ringers ensured that a single bell was tolled both on Sunday and before the evening Mass.

Fundraising and Fellowship

The not so good news

- The Parishioners monthly table sale that provides a regular source of income has had to be suspended due to COVID-19.
- Our Summer and Christmas Fayres had to be cancelled.
- The only Parish lunch to actually take place was on the Feast of the Epiphany; due to the pandemic all others were canceled.

The better news

- As previously reported, a fundraising group was established 2019 to assist in looking at ways of raising the substantial sum of money needed for renovation of the Church fabric.
- The group were advised in 2019 by Dr Katherine Prior, the Diocesan Adviser on Fundraising, this has continued to be a useful source of information but probably more suited to a later project looking at activities to engage with the community, after the main building funds have been raised.
- Funding from a parishioner enabled the installation of Wi-Fi throughout the church which was believed to provide access to various fundraising initiatives in the future. Little did we know that COVID-19 presented severe challenges in having to close the church for some months, but the Wi-Fi assisted in the 'livestreaming' of services whilst the service booklets were emailed to people's home from the Parish Office. Later in the year further funding was provided to purchase a licence for 12 months of an unmanned contactless donation device which in these difficult times, especially with cash handling and the church being open for private prayer and reflection only, has proved to be invaluable.
- Our website has been re-built to reflect a more modern look but has also included an on-line giving facility.
- Despite COVID-19 much progress has been made in dealing with the recommendations of the 2018 Quinquennial Report from our architect Peter Pritchett.
- We commissioned Heritage Stone Access (HAS) to conduct a survey of the Tower and Spire on the basis that there was a risk of falling masonry and ironwork from the clocks. This was conducted in the Spring of 2020 and a report received in May 2020.
- Bishop Peter, our Priest in Charge introduced the committee to Craigmyle, an experienced fundraising firm of some 50 years, especially in the area of an ecclesiastical nature.
- A meeting was held after lockdown 1 on the 15 June 2020 where exploratory ideas via a Zoom meeting with Craigmyle, these were:
 - The nature of our reserves
 - The importance of gain an 'At Risk status' with English Heritage
 - The case for support to enable the raising of grants to enable renovations to the church fabric to be done
 - If Craigmyle could assist in us achieving our fundraising objectives.
- Following the meeting Craigmyle presented a proposal of how they would assist Christ Church in its objective of raising sufficient funds to allow the renovations necessary. This was accepted at the PCC Meeting of 24th July 2020.

- By September 2020 it became obvious that the Tower and Steeple required urgent work totaling around £120k. With the help of Craigmyle, the Fundraising Committee and our architect, Peter Pritchett, an offer of a grant of £89k was made by NLHF which enabled the planning of the work to be done in early 2021.
- In December Historic England approved our application to place Christ Church on the 'At Risk' register which will enhance our chances in grant applications.

Serving the Community

This year we have continued, as much as circumstances and restrictions have allowed, to continue looking outward in our mission and outreach.

We have still been able to support the local community in these ways:

- The Seaview Project (for the poor and needy) through contributions of food and useful small items and contributing staple foodstuffs and toiletries to Hastings Foodbank.
- Serving as local governors at our parish school.
- Serving as trustees of the Christ Church Old Buildings Trust (CCOBT), Sarah Brisco Trust and the St Mary Magdalen Educational Charity.
- Serving as Board members of the Christ Church House Improvement Society Ltd.
- Hosting weekly Alcoholics Anonymous meetings.
- Members of the sewing group are contributing knitted items of clothing to charities such as surviving the Streets, Dom's Food Mission and Warming Up The Homeless.

These meetings have been face to face wherever possible or by zoom and telephone conference calls.

Night Shelters

- The Snowflake Night Shelter project still has our support although unable to run in its usual way.
- Opening the Crypt for the night shelters operated by SWEP (Severe Weather Emergency Protocol) and Surviving the Streets has not been allowed this year but communications remain open with Hastings Council for using the Crypt and supporting SWEP in future.
- Regular contact and support is maintained with Surviving the Streets and some funding has been given to them via the Sarah Brisco charity. Discussions re ways forward for the church to continue its support are ongoing.

Church members continue to volunteer to lead our local Scout Group and serve as members of the Scout Group Committee although actual gatherings have been curtailed until allowed.

The monthly Community Cafe has been unable to take place this year but will resume when possible.

Some small table sales of craft items at the back of church have taken place after mass when possible but monthly table sales which provide an opportunity for outreach and fellowship with the wider community through conversation and refreshments have not been able to occur.

The Parish Centre Hall and Crypt have had to postpone being resources for the community but will be operational when permissible. The Hall and Crypt have continued to be used by vulnerable groups AA, NA, CA. Tai Chi took place when allowed and other groups hopefully will return at a later date.

The 'Book Room' in the Parish Centre has been open twice a week when allowed and continues to raise a profitable amount of money as well as providing a reading resource for the congregation and wider public.

Plans have started to develop resources whereby different schools can use the church building for learning across the curriculum.

The Church has been able to continue to host some concerts this year and has a good ongoing relationship with Hastings Philharmonic Choir and Chamber Choir. We have been able to benefit from a variety of recitals by various people in church and some concerts have been rescheduled to take place at a later date.

Citizens Advice Bureau has settled into CCOBT's Magnet Centre and a good relationship is developing with them.

The Church has also benefitted from being part of the Safer Streets project with liaison between Church, police and CAB to provide extra lighting and security cameras in the Courtyard. This will give extra security to the users of our premises.

Financial Review

Throughout 2020 the PCC continued to highlight different ways in which people can financially contribute to the mission and ministry of the Church in this Parish. In particular this stressed giving through the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS), enabling a more direct means of reclaiming Gift Aid, thus helping with our cash flow. Although there was a small uptake in numbers in the PGS, the overall level of regular giving has not increased.

During 2020 a number of generous donations enabled an increase in donations compared to 2019 and no legacies were received. The PCC continue to, where possible, keep expenditure under tight control. However fabric repair and other exceptional expenditure total £47,000 in the year. Income excluding legacies has been reduced by £15,000 whilst the Church has been closed and our ongoing underlying deficit remains stubbornly high, and without the special donation income, would have been £33,000. St Peter's Hall was sold in March 2020 and achieved a surplus of £97,560. The increased investment holdings brought the expected additional income, but also a windfall gain on their revaluation at the year-end. We again caution that valuations can reduce as well as increase. The beneficial impact of this has been to increase our Reserves by £55,000

The PCC continues to address this unsustainable financial position through its Financial Sustainability Sub-Committee, tasked with achieving a balance of income over expenditure over a 5 year period. It has not been possible during 2020 to make much progress, and the expected deficit for 2021 remains too high at £44,000 thereby eroding further our accumulated reserves.

The Quinquennial Inspection showed the requirement for urgent fabric restoration repairs, compounded by additional work now found to be required on the Tower and Steeple. In total there is a need for in excess of £600,000 to meet these costs, and this is greater than our level of reserves. During the year Christ Church engaged the fundraising consultancy Craigmyle as professional

support to advise on a capital campaign to raise the sums required to take our building improvement plans forward, and to create plans to make the annual running costs of the church sustainable without relying on reserves.

Why we hold some money in reserve

The PCC discussed the following factors in arriving at their reserves policy:

- Money should only be kept in reserve for specific reasons – whilst the Bible clearly indicates that we should not hoard, it is also clear that sensible planning for known events and a contingency for emergencies are important.
- In 2020 there was an excess of expenditure over income of £62,000 before the exceptional surpluses on the sale of St Peter's Hall and our Investments is taken into Account
- The ongoing income is insufficient to meet the ongoing costs of the Church. The largest item of cost being the Parish Share. Whilst there is no immediate cause for concern, given the current levels of cash and other reserves, it remains prudent to make reserves for both ongoing costs and special repair and maintenance costs, for the Church and Church Hall.

Policy: It is the policy of the Church to keep-six months' running costs (£70,000), to cover any unforeseen emergencies. The PCC will also keep in reserve sufficient funds to enable the Church, and Church Hall to be kept in a good and substantial state of repair. Currently an amount of £42,000 is considered to be a reasonable estimate. This policy is reviewed annually.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

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

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

Ex Officio members

Priest in Charge

The Rt Revd Peter Wheatley *PCC Chairman*

Assistant Curates:

The Revd Nicholas Archer

The Revd Dr Richard Ralph (NSM) *PCC Secretary*

Wardens:

Mrs Susan Shaw *PCC Vice Chairman*

Mrs Maureen Harman

Elected Members:

George Brice [to 27 September 2020]

Jessica Campbell *Assistant Safeguarding Officer*

Trevor Davies *Treasurer*

Julie Gidlow

Christopher Goodman *Data Protection Responsible Person*

Tina-Marie Grevett [*from 27 September 2020*]

Michael Hart

Jane Hart *Safeguarding Officer*

Wil Jewitt

Andrew Knight

Celia Manning [*from 27 September 2020*]

Sharon Mercer [*to 27 September 2020*]

John Read [*from 27 September 2020*]

Carol Sherwood *Electoral Roll Officer*

David Smith

Deanery Synod Representatives

Louise Fisher

Anne Hanney *Assistant Safeguarding Officer*

Elizabeth Mackay

Susan Parsons [*from 27 September 2020*]

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain *ex-officio* members (the incumbent, curates), the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and 13 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

Structure, governance and management

As required by law, a Standing Committee meets to transact PCC business between PCC meetings.

A Maintenance Committee of the PCC worked with the Rector and Standing Committee in managing the fabric of the buildings.

Safeguarding and Fundraising sub-committees of the PCC also met regularly. Meetings of the Churchwardens and of the Clergy Staff took place on a monthly basis, chaired by the Priest in Charge

Christ Church St Leonards on Sea House Improvement Society Ltd

The Board of Directors is chaired by Bishop Peter. The Company Secretary is Trevor Davies and the Managing agents continue to be FPE. Fr Richard Ralph is in attendance at Director's meetings. The Directors have the responsibility of administering and maintaining St Richard's House, Pevensey Road, St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex. During 2020, the Board of Directors continued to improve the standard of housing and levels of comfort for our tenants, and despite ever-increasing costs kept rents at 2018 levels, but this incurred a deficit. The registered address is Christ Church Parish Office, 2 Christ Church Courtyard, London Road, St Leonards on Sea, TN37 6GL.

St Mary Magdalen Educational Charity

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (306495). The charity offers cash grants to individuals and organisations that will tend to facilitate education in accordance with the principles of the Church of England, and provides grants to Christ Church School in particular. The charity mainly operates within the parish of Christ Church and St Mary Magdalen, St Leonards-on-Sea or in the wider Borough of Hastings. The Trustees are chaired by Bishop Peter. Trevor Davies is Treasurer.

Sarah Brisco Trust

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (211554). The Trustees are Bishop Peter, the Church Wardens and Treasurer. The charity exists for the relief of the poor of the Parish which it does through the making of grants to individuals, and organisations within the Parish of Christ Church, St Leonards-on-Sea, at the absolute and uncontrolled discretion of the Trustees.

In 2020 this included grants to Christ Church School for part of the costs of the needy schoolchildren's Breakfast Club, and Walsingham Pilgrimage, as well a contribution to the costs of the Calvary Chapel conversion that will enable this space to be used for the benefit of the wider Community.

Christ Church St Leonards Old Buildings Trust

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (1087321)

The Trust owns and manages the buildings parallel to Christ Church known as the Old School Buildings and the land upon which the Christ Church CE Primary and Nursery Academy stands.

The objects of the Trust are:

1. The advancement and promotion of theological education and training for lay and ordained persons in the Church of England.
2. Meeting rooms for the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church and St Mary Magdalen, St Peter and St Paul, St Leonards-on-Sea.
3. Accommodation for clergy and their families within the Church of England.
4. For other charitable purposes connected with the Church of England

The Priest in Charge of Christ Church, Bishop Peter Wheatley, Mrs Maureen Harman, Miss Maureen Mason (retired 20 July 2020), Bishop Nicholas Reade, and Mr Ian McKellar serve as Trustees. Mr Andrew Knight is Clerk to the Trustees. Two further Trustees have been identified and will join the Board in early 2021.

Highlights for 2020 have been:

- The continuation of a ten-year lease let to CA1066 (Citizens Advice Bureau) from 2/1/19
- A rolling 1-year lease let as a private residence for 17 Alfred Street from 1/5/2020
- The continuation of a rolling 1-year lease of the 'Parish Rooms' to the Christ Church PCC
- A continuation of a 125-year lease to Hastings Borough Council for the part of the building known as Renaissance House
- Despite the COVID-19 pandemic the Board met five times during 2020 and discussed and progressed where possible
 - A closer relationship with the Mother Agnus Trust
 - Fire Safety in the Old School Buildings (OSB) including replacing the fire alarm
 - Maintenance of the outside of OSB (held up due to COVID-19)
 - Long term strategy of the use of the OSB
 - Recruitment of new Trustees
 - Anti-Social behavior in and around the OSB and Christ Church
 - Compliance with the Charities Commission advice on Risk and Financial Control

Risk Review

The risks facing the PCC include the state of repair of the church, and the financial requirements to meet its stated activities, including payment of its Annual Parish Share. The structure of the church is continually monitored by the Fabric and Maintenance Committee and the Church Architect and the finances are controlled by careful budgeting and encouragement and appeals to worshippers and visitors.

There have been no serious incidents or other matters relating to this charity over the previous financial year that should have been brought to the attention of the Charity Commissioners but have not.

There is a Church Risk Assessment booklet. It is strongly recommended that all who work in the church read it and abide by it. There is a copy in the Outer Sacristy and more copies are now available for groups who hire the church and for school visits.

Organisational Structure

The PCC is responsible inter-alia for promoting the mission of the Church, the parochial budget, and all expenditure thereunder, and the care and maintenance of the fabric of the church. The PCC is also the normal channel of communication between the parishioners and the Bishop of the diocese. All members of the PCC are volunteers.

New representatives are told of their responsibilities and of the issues facing the Church by existing representatives, and receive such additional training as required. Officers of the PCC, including the Secretary and Treasurer are appointed at the first meeting of the PCC after the Vestry Meeting.

As indicated, members of the PCC also serve as representatives on the Deanery Synod.

The church is run entirely by volunteers, as the clergy are remunerated by the Church Commissioners. Without the work of these volunteers, Christ Church would not function.

Fabric

The following servicing has taken place: Boilers in the Church and Parish Centre; Church and Rectory alarms; Fire Extinguishers; Organ Tuning. At the time of writing PAT testing is still outstanding, as is the servicing of the Font Lifting Mechanism. The firms that do these have only been doing essential work as they have some workers shielding. This is also the reason why the replacement of high level bulbs in the Church hasn't taken place, as yet.

Radiators in the Parish Hall have been replaced and are more effective...

The motor for the organ blower burnt out, which was why the organ was not working for a period of time. The motor has been repaired.

Church outside metal railings and downpipes and brass silverware are protected by SmartWater.

The gully where the Lady Chapel and Sanctuary join has been cleared of considerable rubbish etc. as rain water leaked into the former in heavy rain. We are hoping to have a safe ladder erected from the bell tower to the gully so that expensive scaffolding is not needed when clearing is necessary.

Appreciation is recorded to the Church Cleaning Team for hoovering, floor washing, rubbish and weed removal, and many other such tasks. Also thank you to those who keep the gardens in check.

Safeguarding

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) adopts the Safeguarding Policy of the Diocese of Chichester and reviews this annually. Our Safeguarding Officer is Mrs Jane Hart. She is assisted by Mrs Anne Hanney and Miss Jessica Campbell. The Diocese has a Safeguarding Website <https://safeguarding.chichester.anglican.org>, which can be accessed by anyone, and all the policies and procedures adopted by the PCC are available here. They are also available via a link on the front page of our Parish website. Due to not being regularly in church, the policies need to be updated and re-signed, and this will happen before the APCM in March 2021.

During 2020, the Safeguarding Training was delivered by Zoom, with those needing to update attending, including Jane Hart and Fr Richard Ralph at C2 level. It has been difficult to monitor this during the various lockdowns of the pandemic, but Jane is aware of any courses being made available and the PCC and wider Parish community will be notified as appropriate. The courses are C0 and C1 safeguarding training, required by all in any role concerning young people or vulnerable adults. C2 training is for all laity in a leadership role. The Clergy are also required to take C3 training.

The Diocesan Simple Quality Protects (SQP) safeguarding audit tool, was used to complete the SQP1 audit. This was completed and is reviewed regularly, including at Deanery workshops. I am happy to report that Jane and Fr Nick met with Kim Nash and Morag Keane in February 2020 and after being interviewed and discussing our research, policies and risk assessments, we were told we had passed the SQP in March 2020.

All members of the congregation required to do so (those in leadership/training/supervision/trustee roles) have been DBS checked (Criminal Records Bureau), and these are updated every 5 years. We aim to be transparent in all we do, and are compliant with all required forms and information, subject to GDPR.

Any safeguarding concerns should be addressed to the Clergy or Safeguarding officers, when advice and appropriate action will be taken. Any concern will be treated in utmost confidence. There were regular meetings of the Safeguarding Committee during 2019. Unfortunately, due to the various lockdowns and shielding situations, we did not meet regularly during 2020, but as restrictions lift the team will do so by Zoom or in person; these will continue monthly or bi-monthly thereafter.

Thankfully there were no issues that needed to be addressed during the periods of closure. However, one scheme that was successful was Jane asking for coats for children at our school. Sadly some children do not have adequate clothing, particularly during the winter months, and after an appeal, Jane was able to offer a few bags of coats to the school to be donated to those in need. Thank you very much for this support.

PALS (Christ Church Sunday School)

Some of the children were able to attend the Walsingham Children's Pilgrimage from 13th-15th March. 32 adults, including Jane Hart, and children from Christ Church School made the journey and had a wonderful weekend considering the theme of Saving Water, making new friends, meeting old ones, and enjoying wonderful fellowship together. I learnt some new songs, which one day I hope we can share in church, and also some sign language which I have incorporated into the newly formed Family Mass.

Sadly, our last Face to Face PALS session was in March 2020, but the Family Mass takes place at 10.30 on a Sunday, and is 'in lieu' of Sunday School. There have been some new families join us, which is a great blessing, and we try to involve them in as much of the service as possible; reading the lessons and Gospel, taking part in actions and activities, adding incense to a large burner and making their private prayers. It is a joyous celebration, and will be further enhanced when we are once again able to sing. Thank you to David who plays the organ at various intervals.

For the very young ones I have put together individual packs in zipped folders. This keeps their crafting and colouring Covid safe as they are not sharing anything. The packs include crayons and

paper, scratch art, prayers, stickers, and posters relevant to the day's story. They are kept in church so we know no one else will use them and I top them up on a weekly basis.

I managed to introduce Godly Play at the beginning of March which I hope to use bi-monthly when we are able to meet again, but have also sent out electronically.

Also, I made up Holy Week/ Easter packs that I was able to deliver to the PALS children just before lockdown last year.

I have maintained contact by email and text with the families as much as possible during times when the church was closed.

Deanery Synod Report

A Deanery Synod report on the February meeting of Synod was discussed at the PCC meeting of 10 March 2020. Louise Fisher pointed out the difficulties inherent in a body that encompassed sharply-contrasting styles of churchmanship. Bishop Peter underlined the importance of reports from the Synod which drew the attention of the PCC to matters of wider significance and also of direct relevance to the parish (including the Deanery Review and financial matters).

It was noted that there was a large aggregated shortfall in the payment of the Parish Shares throughout the Deanery, which was at odds with the payment in full of its Share by Christ Church PCC. Bishop Peter agreed that many of the parishes in the Deanery continued to struggle financially; and the notion of cross-subsidy from wealthy parishes in the West of poor parishes in the East of the diocese was in active discussion.

Since the meeting on 3 February 2020 parish representative had not heard anything from Synod. Over the previous two years parish representatives had been contributing through discussion to a report for the Diocesan Synod. There has been a change of Rural Dean and this may mean a change in focus. We are disappointed not to have been asked to an online meeting and sorry that we have nothing new to report to the PCC.

Christ Church Bell Ringers

The Christ Church St Leonards Bell Ringers Guild, to give it its original Victorian title, is currently returning thirteen paid-up members of the Sussex County Association of Change Ringers. As such, it is one of the better populated towers in the county. Ringing has, of course, been restricted over 2020, but we have rung when it has been allowed to do so, and have received very favourable comments from the local community as a result, particularly when the bells were heard again after the Health Protection regulations were lifted at the beginning of July. It has become apparent that the sound of the bells is an important part of the lives of many of our neighbours, and was sorely missed during the government-imposed silence.

We are delighted that such considerable sums have been raised for work to the tower, to help ensure that the bells continue to be heard for a long time to come; and we hope that the clock chimes, another integral part of life in central St Leonards until comparatively recently, may soon be heard again as well. The bells themselves continue to be in good order.

Alan Pink, *Tower Captain*

9th Hastings (Christ Church) Scout Group

Well, I once heard someone say, “What a difference a year makes”. They were obviously talking about the year 2020. Looking back I suppose you could call this BC – Before Covid -19. The year started off so well for our Group with each section just about full and running smoothly, which is always a relief when you are the Group Scout Leader.

By the end of the previous year we had just raised the money needed to replace some old tents and equipment and we were eagerly awaiting a trip to the tent suppliers to purchase new ones. The Beavers were organising a fund-raising evening for their forthcoming trip to *Lego Land* and the whole Group was looking forward to helping with the Hastings Half Marathon drinks station amongst other events throughout the year.

But unfortunately, on Friday 20th March the whole of the UK went into Lockdown and Scouting had to be put on hold.

In the months that followed, the Scouting HQ has organized a Zoom account for every Group in the Country so we can do virtual meetings and we have had several Leader meetings. Every group has had to put certain things in place ready for when we can meet up again face-to-face. Part of this was completing lengthy Risk Assessments which had to be approved by the District Commissioner.

With all this now in place and with the recent Government announcements about coming out of the latest Lockdown, we eagerly wait to hear from Scout HQ when we may be able to start back. Even though we have been unable to do much this past year because of the lockdowns and other restrictions, we still have a healthy number of young people who still want to come back, which is every encouraging,

Also, very encouragingly, I’ve just received our first Scout enquiry of the year for someone wanting to join our Group as soon as we can meet up, as well as someone interested in becoming a new adult leader.

I would like to thank all the Adult Leaders, Assistant Leaders and Helpers for the excellent job they do, volunteering their time in making a real difference in the lives of the young people in our Group and hopefully in the not-too-distant future we can all resume our face-to-face meetings.

Graeme Monk
Group Scout Leader

This Trustees’ Annual Report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by The Rt. Revd. Peter Wheatley, PCC Chairman

8 March 2021

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Registered Charity no. 1170031

Statement of Financial Activities for the 12 months ended 31st December 2020

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund(s)	Endowment Fund(s)	Total Funds	Total Funds 2019	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	77,478			77,478	86,697	
Charitable activities	794			794	740	
Other trading activities	14,100	(1,306)		12,794	33,182	
Investments	9,239	448		9,687	5,074	
Other receipts				-		
Total income	101,611	(858)	-	100,753	125,693	2
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	7,702			7,702	158	
Charitable activities	139,724	240		139,964	113,317	
Other trading activities	14,793	258		15,051	29,747	
Other expenditure				-		
Total expenditure	162,219	498	-	162,717	143,222	3
Net gains (or losses) on investments	115,847	938	18	116,803	10,127	
Net income or (net expenditure)	55,239	(418)	18	54,839	(7,402)	
Transfers between funds				-		
	55,239	(418)	18	54,839	(7,402)	
Other recognised gains/(losses):				-		
				-		
<i>Reconciliation of funds:</i>						
Net movement in funds	55,239	(418)	18	54,839	(7,402)	
Total funds brought forward 31.12.2019	488,276	17,431	523	506,230		
Total funds carried forward	543,515	17,013	541	561,069		

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Registered Charity no. 1170031

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2020

	Total Funds	<i>Total Funds</i>	
	2020	<u>2019</u>	<i>Notes</i>
	£	£	
Intangible assets	-	-	
Tangible assets	-	110,000	
Investments	298,652	279,427	
Endowed investments	541	523	
Total fixed assets	£ 299,193	£ 389,950	8
Stocks	-	-	
Debtors	4,711	5,202	10
Cash at bank and in hand	321,372	164,330	15
Total current assets	£ 326,083	£ 169,532	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(22,135)	(11,180)	11
Net current assets or (liabilities)	£ 303,948	£ 158,352	
Total assets less current liabilities	603,141	548,302	
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	-	-	12
Provisions for liabilities	(42,072)	(42,072)	13
Total net assets or (liabilities)	£ 561,069	£ 506,230	
The funds of the charity:			
Endowment funds	541	523	
Restricted income funds	17,013	17,431	
Unrestricted funds	543,515	488,276	
Revaluation reserve	-	-	
Total unrestricted funds	£ 543,515	£ 488,276	
Total charity funds	£ 561,069	£ 506,230	9

This Annual Financial Report, for the year ended 31st December 2018, including the notes following, was

Approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf by

+Peter Wheatley Chairman

.....

Date

Notes to the financial report

1 Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement Of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and the revaluation of fixed assets. 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 affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment

c Income and endowments

All income and endowments are accounted for without deduction for any costs of receivability, are recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receivable is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount accords with the Gift Aid declaration or other record of intention to donate.

Gift aid recovered is recognised when the income to which it is attached is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the formal offer in writing of the funding, is received by the PCC.

Charitable activities

Sales of magazines and study notes are recognised when received.

Rents from property are recognised in accordance with the rental agreements, when receipt is probable.

Other trading activities

Trading activities are where income is receivable in return for selling goods or providing services. Income from trading is recognised either: a - when received, or b - in the cease of concerts: for the year in question, irrespective of date of receipt. Advance bookings are included in creditors until the concert has taken place.

Investment income

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

Notes to the financial report (continued)

All other income

All other income is recognised in accordance with the above overall policy.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation at 31 December.

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and accounted for gross.

Grants

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

Church Activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for on an annual basis, reflecting the allocation set by our Deanery. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011. Movable church furnishing held by the Vicar 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 but are not included in the financial statements. For other property acquired prior to (date) there is insufficient cost information available and therefore the cost of such assets is not stated in the financial statements.

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1,000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

□ Fixtures and fittings	20%
□ Audio visual equipment	33%
□ Office equipment	25%

No depreciation is provided on freehold property as it is the PCC's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. The useful economic life of these assets is so long and residual values so high that any depreciation would not be material. These assets will be subject to annual impairment reviews. Provision will be made if there has been any permanent diminution in value.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

f Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectible.

Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds, or at the bank

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Analysis of income and endowments 12 months to 31st December 2020

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund(s)	Endowment Fund(s)	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019
	£	£		£	£
Planned giving (excl. Gift Aid)	18,052			18,052	20,206
Planned Giving (incl Gift Aid)	14,192			14,192	12,349
Donations	30,195			30,195	23,965
Loose cash collections	2,578			2,578	5,468
Fund Raising Events	587			587	1,075
Summer and Winter Fayres				-	
Table Sales	1,588			1,588	3,869
Gift Aid recoverable	10,286			10,286	9,765
Legacies				-	10,000
Grants				-	
Donations and legacies	£ 77,478	£ -	£ -	£ 77,478	£ 86,697
Fees for weddings & funerals	794			794	740
Charitable activities	£ 794	£ -	£ -	£ 794	£ 740
Summer fete & Christmas bazaar				-	3,563
Coffee and Candles	830			830	2,457
Rent from letting of St Peters Hall	900			900	
Church Hall and Office Letting	12,370			12,370	20,900
Grants		250		250	250
Walsingham Pilgrimages		(1,556)		(1,556)	6,012
Other trading activities	£ 14,100	£ (1,306)	£ -	£ 12,794	£ 33,182
Bank & CBF deposit interest	1,266			1,266	2,472
CBF investment fund dividend	7,947	448		8,395	2,408
HMRC Interest re Gift Aid	26			26	194
Investments	£ 9,239	£ 448	£ -	£ 9,687	£ 5,074
				-	
Total income and endowments on all funds	£ 101,611	£ (858)	£ -	£ 100,753	£ 125,693

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Analysis of expenditure 12 months to 31st December 2020

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund(s)	Endowment Fund(s)	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Special appeals costs (e.g. adverts, brochures)				-		
Summer fete & Christmas bazaar costs				-		
Planned Giving Costs	35			35	158	
Stewardship costs (e.g. printing envelopes)				-		
Grants costs (e.g. making E/Heritage application)	7,667			7,667		
Investment management costs				-		
Other fundraising (non-trading) costs				-		
Cost of raising funds	£ 7,702	£ -	£ -	£ 7,702	£ 158	
Missionary and charitable giving						
Ministry:						
<i>diocesan parish share</i>	61,800			61,800	60,000	
<i>other clergy costs</i>	936			936	2,363	
Staff	6,134			6,134	6,752	5
Upkeep of services	946	190		1,136	2,947	
Church running	13,456			13,456	10,048	
Sunday school		50		50	242	
Church maintenance and repair	11,358			11,358	3,937	
Fabric Costs	31,706			31,706		
Insurance of Church Building	6,727			6,727	6,566	
Grants	20			20	50	
Fees for Weddings and Funerals				-		
Quinquennial Inspection/Architects Fees	1,666			1,666	17,928	
Bank charges	90			90	90	
Rectory Costs	2,965			2,965	594	
Governance	1,920			1,920	1,800	6
Cost of charitable activities	£ 139,724	£ 240	£ -	£ 139,964	£ 113,317	
Summer fete & Christmas bazaar costs				-		
St Peters Hall costs	637			637	3,307	
Church Hall and Crypt running costs	12,167			12,167	18,192	
Curate costs	1,989	258		2,247	3,697	
Parish magazine costs				-		
Bookstall costs				-		
Walsingham Pilgrimages				-	4,551	
Sundry Expenses				-		
Cost of other trading activities	£ 14,793	£ 258	£ -	£ 15,051	£ 29,747	
Total expended on all funds	£ 162,219	£ 498	£ -	£ 162,717	£ 143,222	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

4 Missionary and charitable giving:

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019
Overseas:	£	£	£	£	£
Home:				-	-
	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -

5 Staff costs

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019
a Remuneration	£	£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries	6,134			6,134	6,752
Social Security costs				-	
	£ 6,134	£ -	£ -	£ 6,134	£ 6,752

6 Governance

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019
Independent examination	£ 1,920	£	£	£ 1,920	£ 1,800
Accounts production				-	
Bookkeeping				-	
	£ 1,920	£ -	£ -	£ 1,920	£ 1,800

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019
7 Analysis of transfers between funds	£	£	£	£	£
				-	
	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -

Notes to the financial report (continued)

8 Fixed Assets

a Investments

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds	Notes
Market value 1 January 2020	£ 264,820	£ 14,607	£ 523	£ 279,950	
Net (losses)/gains and revaluation	18,287	938	18	19,243	
Market value 31 December 2020	£ 283,107	£ 15,545	£ 541	£ 299,193	

b Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Audio visual equipment	Office equipment	Total fixed assets	Notes
Cost or valuation	£	£	£	£	
At 1 January 2020	110,000			110,000	
Additions				-	
Disposals	(110,000)			(110,000)	
Revaluation				-	
At 31 December 2020	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	
Charge for impairment					
At 1 January 2020				-	
Additions				-	
Disposals				-	
Revaluation				-	
At 31 December 2020	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	
Net book amounts					
At 31 December 2020	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	
At 31 December 2019	£ 110,000	£ -	£ -	£ 110,000	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

9 Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Investment fixed assets	283,107	15,545	541	299,193	389,950	
Current assets (except cash)	4,711			4,711	5,202	
Cash at bank and on deposit	319,904	1,468		321,372	164,330	
Current liabilities	(22,135)			(22,135)	(11,180)	
Provisions for Liabilities	(42,072)			(42,072)	(42,072)	
	£ 543,515	£ 17,013	£ 541	£ 561,069	£ 506,230	14

10 Debtors

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Income tax recoverable	2,540			2,540	3,339	
Prepayments and accrued income	2,171			2,171	1,863	
Other debtors				-		
	£ 4,711	£ -	£ -	£ 4,711	£ 5,202	

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Deferred income				-		
Accruals for utilities and other costs	22,135			22,135	11,180	
Other creditors				-		
	£ 22,135	£ -	£ -	£ 22,135	£ 11,180	

12 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Other creditors				-		
	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	

13 Provisions for Liabilities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019	Notes
	£	£	£	£	£	
Provision for Church Hall Maintenance				-		
Provision for Church Maintenance	42,072			42,072	42,072	
	£ 42,072	£ -	£ -	£ 42,072	£ 42,072	

The Board of Trustees have deemed the valuation of the provision for Church Maintenance (2017 Church Hall and Church Maintenance) as reasonable based on the report of the Architect following the Quinquennial Inspection of the structure of the Church and the recommendations included in the Report.

Notes to the financial report (continued)

14 Statement of funds

	Balances b/fwd 1 Jan 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Balances c/fwd 31 Dec 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
DBF Funds	523			18	541
Total of all endowed funds	£ 523	£ -	£ -	£ 18	£ 541
Rector & Churchwardens					-
YACC	577				577
Walsingham Pilgrimage Fund	1,922	(1,556)			366
Sunday School	295	250	50		495
Trollopes Charity	14,637	448	448	938	15,575
Total of all restricted funds	£ 17,431	£ (858)	£ 498	£ 938	£ 17,013
General fund	488,276	101,611	162,219	115,847	543,515
Total of all unrestricted funds	£ 488,276	£ 101,611	£ 162,219	£ 115,847	£ 543,515
Total funds	£ 506,230	£ 100,753	£ 162,717	£ 116,803	£ 561,069

The endowed fund comprises an historic bequest

The restricted funds are as set out above. The YACC balance is considered to be a designated account. Restricted funds are not invested permanently, but are to be spent within reasonable timescales.

The unrestricted fund includes a designated sum £42,072 which has PCC has set aside towards the cost of future fabric repairs to the Church

Within the unrestricted funds are balances totalling £320,352 that can be utilised for expenditure by the authority of the Rector and Churchwardens only

15 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019	Notes
	£	£	
Cash in hand including non-notice deposits	321,372	164,330	
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	-	-	
Overdraft facility repayable on demand	-	-	
Total cash and cash equivalents	£ 321,372	£ 164,330	

16 Related parties and transactions

Certain members of the PCC are also trustees of certain other Charities.

No member of the PCC has any financial transactions with any of these Charities.