



ANNUAL REPORTS

St Nicholas' Church Dunnington

'A Christ-like presence with the people of Dunnington'

**The Annual Meeting of Parishioners
for the election of Churchwardens
followed by
the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
will be held on
Sunday 16th May 2021 at 3.00pm via Zoom**

AGENDA

- 1 Opening Worship
- 2 The Annual Meeting of Parishioners for the Election of Churchwardens
(in accordance with the rules of the Churchwardens Measure 2001)
- 3 The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM):
Minutes of APCM: 22nd November 2020
- 4 Reports
 - i) Presentation of the Electoral Roll
 - ii) The proceedings of the PCC, parish activities & Deanery Synod
(As presented in the Annual Reports)
 - iii) Treasurer's Report and presentation of the accounts
 - iv) Presentation of the Terrier and Inventory

Any questions for the meeting should be sent in advance please (by Friday 14th May) to the Chairman (revnickbird@gmail.com).

- 5 Elections
 - i) PCC Members
 - ii) Independent Examiner
- 6 Lectio Divina (please see attached "APCM 2021 - Lectio Divina Bible Passage")

A brief meeting of the new PCC will follow

Parish of St Nicholas, Dunnington

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held via Zoom on Sunday 22nd November 2020 at 2.00 pm

- 1) This meeting, postponed from the originally scheduled date 26th April 2020 because of the Covid-19 coronavirus, was conducted via Zoom in accordance with Government and Church of England restrictions and guidance.

The meeting opened with prayers by the Chairman, Revd Nick Bird who then thanked everyone for attending and explained the format the meeting would take.

- 2) **Meeting for Election of Churchwardens:** Nick said he was extremely grateful to the current churchwardens Carole White and Peter Helm. The delayed annual meeting meant that in effect they had served for about 18 months. He went on to explain that Peter had served as churchwarden for six consecutive years and was therefore not eligible for nomination this time. The special arrangements currently in place meant Peter would continue as churchwarden until end of February 2021 unless a replacement is admitted to office before then. Nick thanked Peter for his work over the past 6 years and went on to say that at this time no one had come forward to take over from Peter.

A nomination form had been received for Carole White. There being no other nominations Carole was re-appointed unopposed. Carole added her thanks to Peter for his help during her first term as churchwarden.

Nick said he hoped someone would come forward to replace Peter and help Carole. He went on to say that although the churchwardens are ultimately responsible for ensuring that things are done, they are not expected to do everything personally and other people should offer help – everyone has something to give and we need to aim for 100% of the work to be done by everyone and not what occurs in most churches with 80% of the work done by 20% of the people.

This part of the annual meeting then closed.

- 3) **The Annual Parochial Church Meeting: (APCM):** The minutes of last year's meeting held on Sunday 24th March 2019 were agreed as a true record. Acceptance was proposed by Victoria Beale, seconded by John Vernon and agreed by a show of hands. The minutes were subsequently signed by the Chairman.

- 4) **Presentation of the Annual Reports:**

- a) **Presentation of the Electoral Roll:** It was reported that the electoral roll stood at 124. There had been 16 additions since the new roll had been created for the 2019 APCM and 7 deletions. Nick thanked Alison Gilmour, Electoral Roll Officer.
- b) **Proceedings of the PCC, Parish activities and Deanery Synod:** Nick explained that many of the reports included in the Annual Reports document had been written before the coronavirus restrictions started and were reports on the previous year. This document had been circulated in advance via email and available on St Nicholas church website as well as an option to request a printed copy if needed. Nick said he was presuming that people had

read the reports in advance of the meeting.

No questions had been received prior to the meeting. Nick thanked groups of people and individuals for their particular involvement throughout the year including:

- Eve Scoreby in her role as PCC Secretary.
- **Fabric** - The churchwardens and Angie Creswick for their care of the church fabric. There are a couple of large projects coming up - reroofing the Tower Room and replacing the heating system.
- **Churchyard** – Barry Hewitt for keeping watch over the care and maintenance of the churchyard.
- **Safeguarding**– Thanks to Mary Murray, Benefice Safeguarding Officer, for the work she does to ensure that, as stated in the Safeguarding report, St Nicholas Dunnington, Holy Trinity Stockton on the Forest, St Mary Warthill and Holy Trinity Holtby have complied with the duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to the House of Bishops guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).
- **Deanery Synod** – Judith Hewitt and Joan Verrier who have represented the PCC at Deanery Synod meetings, and Alison Gilmour who is Deanery Synod secretary.
- **Sacristan** – Carole who Nick said would welcome offers of any additional help to lighten the load especially now she is also churchwarden.
- **Music** – David Marles who had taken over as Director of Music and to all the musicians and singers.
- **Servers** – Jim Gilmour and the servers for their contribution to services in “regular” times.
- **Family Worship** – Pamela White, Laura Spruce and the planning group. The families who usually attend this service are missing it very much.
- **Ignite** – Nick said the youth group was also being missed at the moment but thanked Anna Lewis, Colin Beale, Andy Pomfret and Diane Benson for their leadership.
- **Little People** – Nick said before having to stop meeting due to the pandemic the group had been much more engaged in the life of the church and thanked the leaders.
- **Children and Families Worker** – Lisa Horton who had started at the beginning of 2020 and who had carried on working, engaging a wide range of people despite the imposed limitations.
- **Pastoral Teams** – Members of the Home Communion and Visiting Teams and Judith Peeke-Vout for co-ordinating these teams.
- **Evening Fellowship Group** – The Beales for hosting and Pamela White for leading.
- **Christian Meditation Group** – Peter Moorhouse for his leadership of this group that had managed to meet virtually during the pandemic.
- **Social Events Planning Group** – Diane Benson, Joan Verrier, Eve Scoreby and Judith Hewitt for planning and organising events. Everyone looking forward to events happening again in the future.
- **Grapevine Magazine** – This had continued to be available on the website during the pandemic thanks to Victoria Beale.

c) **Treasurer's Report and presentation of accounts for year ending 31 December 2019**

Helen Pomfret was not able to attend the meeting. Nick expressed thanks for the excellent job Helen continues to do. The accounts had been examined by Brian Hopper, Independent Examiner. Copies of the full accounts were available and a copy was on display as the regulations required (including on the church website). The Treasurer's Summary Review, Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2019 were also all included in the Annual Report document.

John Vernon, making reference to the Achievements and Performance "Worship and Prayer" section of the Annual Report pointed out that we do offer a greater variety of worship than recorded in the report, including occasional Taizé-style services and communion for those attending Fun, Food and Fellowship.

There being no other questions acceptance of the reports, en bloc as presented, was proposed by Nick, seconded by Carole White and agreed without dissent.

Nick added especial thanks to his ministry colleagues – retired clergy, Terry, Judith and also Mark Poole who was attending his first Dunnington Annual Meeting since starting in the Benefice as Curate.

Nick urged people to speak to relevant people with offers of any help they felt able to give.

d) **Presentation of the Terrier and Inventory:** These were usually available at Annual Meetings for people to see and alternatively available to view by request through the churchwardens. Carole said that due to the pandemic she had not been through the whole inventory but would complete before re-opening of the church for services.

5) **Elections:**

a) **Deanery Synod Representatives:** Dunnington PCC are eligible to elect three representatives to Deanery Synod. Judith Hewitt and Joan Verrier were both eligible to be re-elected. Nomination forms had been received for Judith and Joan who were therefore duly elected unopposed. There is one vacancy.

b) **PCC Members:** Nick thanked all of the members who had completed their elected terms of office. Andrew Brooks; Phil Raines and Pamela White had all completed 3 years and therefore not eligible for re-election. Victoria Beale had completed 2 years and therefore eligible to be elected for 1 year and Eve Scoreby had completed a year's co-option onto the PCC as secretary.

There were nine vacancies and eight nomination forms had been received as follows:

For the 1 year vacancy: Victoria Beale

For 2 year vacancies: Jennifer Brooks; Peter Helm; Eva Scoreby

For 3 year vacancies: Francine Cross; Heather Hogg; John Neale; Elizabeth Skilbeck

At the meeting Robert Woolley said he was willing to fill the one remaining vacancy (for 2 years). Carole White was happy to propose and Eve Scoreby seconded his nomination.

There were no other nominations and therefore the above-named people were all elected unopposed and welcomed by Nick as members of the PCC.

- c) **Independent Examiner:** Brian Hopper was re-appointed as Independent Examiner. Proposed by Robert Woolley, seconded by Colin Beale and agreed by show of hands.

6) **Looking to the Future:**

Nick said he was hoping to re-open the church at the end of the current lockdown to whatever level we are able and restrictions allow, and he looked forward to resuming services when the time is right. In the meantime the principal act of worship would continue to be online for some time to come. He explained that there are four teams currently producing the online services that take a total of about 40 hours each week to produce a 30 minute service.

He said he was keen for there to be some acts of worship in church over Christmas if at all feasible.

Carole thanked Nick on behalf of everyone adding that we are very fortunate to have him as our Rector!

The meeting concluded with prayers and the blessing.

REPORTS

List of Reports

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- 2.** Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) 2020/21
- 3.** Rector
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- 9.** Music in Worship
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- 11.** Family Worship
- 12.** Ignite Youth Group
- 13.** Pastoral Team
- 14.** Christian Meditation
- 15.** Sacristan
- 16.** Evening Fellowship
- 17.** Altar Servers
- 18.** Social Events
- 19.** Twinam Trust
- 20.** Grapevine Magazine
- 21.** Treasurer's Financial Review – Year Ended 31 December 2020
Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure Charts

1. ELECTORAL ROLL

There are 124 names on the electoral roll at this time, the same as in November 2020 at the time of our last APCM. However two names have been added, and sadly I have deleted the names of two deceased.

Alison Gilmour, Electoral Roll Officer

2. PROCEEDINGS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) 2020/21

The 2020 APCM was delayed until November due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. Since then the PCC have “met” virtually via Zoom on 4 occasions. The average attendance at meetings was 17. The actual number of members was 12 elected lay members, and 7 Ex-officio members. At the meeting held immediately after the 2020 APCM Helen Pomfret was appointed Treasurer and Angie Creswick was appointed Fabric Officer (both non-voting).

At the 2021 APCM Victoria Beale, Mary Murray, John Vernon and Irene Watson all complete their elected terms of service.

Vacancies to fill at the meeting are:

- Four vacancies for elected lay members who will serve on the PCC until the APCM in 2024

It is important that these vacancies are filled if possible as a strong representative PCC is essential to ensure that future changes to the structure of Church organisation and services reflect the wishes of our Parish and Benefice. Please take this opportunity to share your vision for the future of our Church and Benefice by nominating for election to one of the vacancies.

In addition to discussion and decisions on domestic matters relating to worship, fabric and finance the PCC receives reports from the Deanery Synod and relevant points from other meetings.

Some specific topics discussed include:

- Continuing review of the Covid-19 situation
- New Mission Statement ratified
- S.23 Application to facilitate calling of banns and solemnisation of marriages across the Benefice
- Review of Existing Policies and Approval of New Policies

Thank you to PCC members for their participation in our deliberations at meetings or via email and thanks to everyone who supplied items and reports for meetings and the Annual Meeting.

Eve Scoreby, PCC Secretary

3. RECTOR'S REPORT

Friends,

Towards the end of March 2020 our churches were closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, most of our Annual Parochial Church Meetings were postponed, and there were no services over Easter. Coffee mornings, toddler groups, social gatherings and all other in-person events were stopped, including public worship. For all of us, in many various ways, this has been a difficult time.

As this first lockdown came into force a community support structure was established around the benefice, and in most of our parishes this was initiated and enabled by our church members. From first meeting, within a few days all homes in the benefice had received a leaflet through their letterbox with a local contact person who could help them to get shopping or medicine if they were self-isolating. I could not be more proud of our churches for their commitment, initiative and care for the wider community. A telephone-tree was also set up in several of our villages so that the church family could keep in touch with each other.

Early in 2020 we had appointed a new Children and Families Worker, Lisa Horton, who has carried on sterling work across our parishes, engaging with a wide range of people, including our schools, undaunted by the many limitations that were imposed on us. I am very grateful for her ministry among us, and the enterprising ways in which she has worked with our benefice families.

Worship was moved online, and since April 2020 there has been a weekly act of worship created within the benefice and put out through YouTube, which has been widely circulated and greatly appreciated. These continue to have around 200 'views' per week, giving a congregation much larger than our benefice weekly average. I am hugely grateful to the teams that work hard to create each service, which takes a combined 30-40 hours of work each week. These services will continue for the foreseeable future, and are accompanied by a transcript for those who cannot access the service by other means, and also an audio version that can be listened to via the telephone. On a Wednesday evening each week there is an online service of Compline via Zoom, which is usually attended by between 30-40 people.

In July we rejoiced to be joined by Mark Poole, our new curate, initially as a Licensed Lay Worker as his ordination was delayed due to the pandemic. Mark was ordained deacon on 25th September in York Minster and we are delighted to have him ministering among us, and look forward to his ordination as priest later in the year.

From July, each of our churches held a service of Morning Prayer during the week to which around 25 people attended over the week, and then, from the beginning of October, there was a weekly Sunday service held in Stockton on the Forest.

I am enormously grateful for the ministry and support of our clergy, Reader, Recognised Parish Assistants, and not least our Churchwardens, without whom many things would be impossible. Through difficulties, we have together received many gifts and graces.

Revd. Nick Bird

4. CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT

Reviewing the Churchwardens' report prepared for the previous APCM in November 2020, it is clear that at that time we had no idea how long the restrictions due to Covid-19 were going to have an impact on our church functioning. Although we were left with a vacancy for churchwarden following that meeting Peter Helm was required to remain in post until the end of February 2021, for which I was extremely grateful.

I am indebted to Nick the Rector, his staff team and the PCC for their leadership, encouragement and prayerful support. I am also very grateful for the continued support of Barry Hewitt, both for his extensive experience and knowledge regarding churchwarden matters and for his handyman skills.

One of the main focuses for this year has been to ensure that our church remains a safe place to meet and worship. The annual review from our insurers advised us that we should review our health and safety procedures. A Health, Safety and Welfare Policy has now been drawn up with input from both Ged Murray and Noel Broadbent, and approved by the PCC. Noel is currently helping Carole to devise an annual safety plan to ensure compliance. The precautions resulting from the dangers of Covid-19 infection have increased awareness of the need for Risk Assessments for all activities undertaken by the church, assessing for all anticipated risks, whether in the church building (such as funerals or Christmas and Easter Eucharist) or outside (such as Carols on the Green or the children's activity trails at Easter). Copies of all the assessments we have done are available in a file in the print room for inspection. They provide evidence of the careful consideration that has gone into the organization of activities to ensure safety and provide an opportunity to show where learning from experience has taken place. A review of the data consent forms held by St Nicholas Church has been carried out to ensure that we comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (2018). Those on the current Electoral Roll for whom a form has not been received have been contacted and invited to return a signed consent form. This legally enables us to maintain contact with our congregation.

As the church has not been fully open all year, many of the people who normally volunteer to assist in keeping the church running smoothly have had the opportunity for a break. Thanks must go to Joan Verrier and her team for continuing to provide floral decorations for the occasions when we have been able to use the church, particularly at Christmas, Easter and for funerals. The Tower Room has been unavailable for use by the various groups over the past year. It is hoped that it will not be too long before the church and Tower Room can resume activities, albeit with more precautions. During the year I have contacted all those on the keyholder log to ensure that this information is up to date.

There are a couple of major building issues that are in the process of being addressed – namely the need to re-roof the Tower Room and the need to replace the church heating system. I am grateful that Peter Helm has formed and is chairing a sub group of interested and knowledgeable people to take these issues forward.

The pandemic has resulted in many innovative ways to express our faith, not least in the amazingly professional YouTube services produced for the Benefice each week. We are truly blessed to have so much technical expertise and talent which has enabled this. I also feel that in many ways this situation has created an opportunity for us to grow closer as a Benefice, not least because of the many services held via Zoom, which have provided a different medium for us all to worship together - and the benefits of not having to go out in inclement weather are a bonus! Thanks must be expressed to those who regularly distribute the transcript of the Sunday services so that those not connected to the Internet still feel connected to our worshipping community. The option of listening to the telephone link of a recording of the service means that, even without a computer, familiar voices can be heard delivering the Good News!

Finally, I want to record my heartfelt thanks to Eve Scoreby for the amazing work she has done as PCC secretary. Her gentle prompting, eagle-eyed proof-reading skills and fantastic word processing skills have kept this PCC on track. We pray that someone else will feel called to take on this important role, as it is important that any of us who volunteer for service to this church feel that we can take a break occasionally.

Carole White

5. FABRIC REPORT

The Quinquennial Review was undertaken by the Church Architect in August 2020. The Architect concluded overall that the church building fabric was in very good condition. Our conscientious approach to tackling repairs and to keeping comprehensive records of repair, maintenance and servicing work was commended.

The major issues on the agenda are replacing the Tower Room Roof and installing a new heating system. A small group set up by the PCC is now taking this forward. The architect is drawing up plans for the new roof which is the immediate priority. Attention is being given to fund raising with much appreciated donations starting to come in. Work is underway in trying to establish the wider community needs which will be critical for seeking funds from grant awarding bodies. Ideas are developing on a new, more environmentally friendly, more efficient, heating system that we need. It is important to keep in touch with the fast-changing technology in this area.

Inevitably there are some other maintenance issues we need to pursue over the coming years. The clearance of the gutters which was identified as a more urgent issue by the Architect has now been undertaken by a local roofing company. While we wanted this done sooner it was not possible for the roofing company to fit this in until more recently.

Peter Helm, Carole White and Angie Creswick

6. CHURCHYARD REPORT

A big thank you once again to the Churchyard Grass Cutting Team and the volunteers who maintain the flower beds and control the weeds around the church. The excellent peaceful and welcoming setting this provides to the church is much appreciated. Due to the Covid Restrictions we have not been able to get help this year with the grass cutting from the Community Payback and the local Council.

We are grateful for all the work that has been done to bring the memorials into line with the Churchyard regulations set by the Diocese. Some improvements are unfortunately still required, and we will be progressing this further during the year.

With thanks to Barry the graves have now been indexed which will be an incredible asset for the future. The churchyard is now closed for new burials apart from those that have already been reserved. There are a few plots available for the burial of cremation ashes.

Derek and Christine Utley very kindly replaced the dead silver birch sapling tree. At their request, a donation was made to Carecent for the provision of the tree. We will continue to work with Derek in improving the tree landscape of the churchyard.

Peter Helm, Carole White and Barry Hewitt (Churchyard Volunteer Organiser)

7. SAFEGUARDING REPORT

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this has been a very quiet year, as all events and meetings have been cancelled due to lockdowns, and following advice from scientists and government.

In Dunnington we had six new PCC members appointed after our last APCM. There have been no other new appointments in any of the other three churches within the benefice.

There is to be a forum meeting via Zoom on the 18th March for York Safeguarding Representatives with the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser and her team. This forum is for guidance, support and instruction from the DSA as well as time to share problems with and give valuable support to our fellow representatives, who hold such responsible positions in our parishes.

The 31:8 agency, who checks our DBS applications, continues to give efficient and professional service at this difficult time.

I am regularly checking those who need to complete their training and those who need to refresh the training they completed three years ago. I have been held back by the fact that I cannot visit people in their homes to assist those who find doing this online quite daunting. Sometimes a face to face chat produces better results than an email.

Our Child and Adult Safeguarding Policies have been updated and distributed to each church within the benefice for the churchwardens to display them.

We are committed to making our churches within the benefice safe for children, young people and vulnerable adults and for all those who volunteer and for those who work within these groups. The work of those who volunteer for safeguarding and the safer recruitment work requires personal commitment, study of new information and attention to detail. I am particularly grateful for the guidance of Martin Sheppard at the Communications Department of the Diocesan Office for his help and advice with regard to information on safeguarding in our website.

With this in mind, it is important to state that Dunnington, St Nicholas; Stockton on the Forest, Holy Trinity; Warthill, St Mary and Holtby, Holy Trinity have complied with the duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to the House of Bishops guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Mary Murray, Safeguarding Representative for the Benefice of Rural East York (March 2021)

8. PROCEEDINGS OF DERWENT DEANERY SYNOD

Members of Derwent Deanery held two formal meetings throughout the year. All other planned activities; meetings, festival services, and social occasions were cancelled in compliance with Covid-19 regulations. By December 2020 we had 7 clergy, 15 lay members and 1 co-opted member, alongside 7 vacancies for elected members. Included in these numbers were two new clergy, a curate, Revd Mark Poole, in the benefice of Rural East York and Revd Jan Nobel, Priest-in-Charge of Osbaldwick with Murton and also Green Ambassador of the Diocese of York. We anticipated having a new priest in Derwent Ings, and a new house-for-duty priest in Bubwith early in the new year. Mrs Margaret Eldridge was also welcomed as the third elected representative from Dunnington.

Our meeting in February began with a brief introduction to the parish of Barlby and Jo Beacroft-Mitchell, Team Leader from the Generous Giving Team, introduced the new Parish Giving Scheme being launched throughout the Diocese to Synod members and Deanery Treasurers (who had been individually invited to attend).

In October we held an open meeting in St Helen's Church, Escrick. The building is sufficiently large to accommodate us with more than 2m distance between each of us and a one-way system in place. All, members and visitors, who were comfortable with that were able to attend an informative presentation "Black Lives Matter - raising awareness in our communities" by Canon Linda Ali, our General Synod representative. We also received stories from individual parishes about activities since lockdown - much use was being made of Zoom, YouTube and other social media. There was a lot of contact being maintained with parishioners by volunteers within individual parishes.

The Deanery Leadership Team (DLT) met several times on Zoom and planned how we will deal with the issues we face in 2021 - principally how we discuss (and report back) on the Clergy Covenant (looking at clergy well-being) and the Diocesan consultation "Living Christ's Story". This will look at our growth and discipleship, all aspects of our organisation within parishes, financial challenges and re-shaping our future. We planned to hold Deanery-wide meetings/services in 2021 that will be covid-compliant.

The visit of Bishops to our Deanery as part of "Come and See" where every benefice was visited and people were invited to join in events/services took place immediately before lockdown.

After the resignation of our Deanery Financial Adviser in 2019 we have not found a successor. The post is still vacant and we would welcome any volunteers.

Reports have been received from both Diocesan and General Synods.

The secretary is still passing information around the membership by email on a regular basis around our parishes, to members and PCC secretaries.

Alison Gilmour, secretary of Derwent Deanery, March 2021

Judith Hewitt, Joan Verrier and Margaret Eldridge are your elected members of Derwent Deanery Synod

9. MUSIC IN WORSHIP

I would like to start by saying the most huge thank you to everyone who has participated in the music since our services moved online last year. Recording yourself singing or playing is a very different proposition to offering worship through music during a service. Everyone has responded so positively to the technical challenges of this process, and have generously given their time to meet every deadline. I'm so very grateful.

Wherever possible, I have tried to use music from within the benefice for our online services. Much of this has been performed by our music group, Laudate: our regular members, Andy, Angie, Anna, Eliza, Nicky, Sue and Victoria, were recently re-joined by Josh on the drums, and we give a warm welcome to Thomas on the saxophone. Our other regular contributors to our services include Lionel our organist, John and Rhona in Stockton, and Sally providing music during Compline. Many thanks to all of them, and to everyone else who has enriched our worship through music this year.

I would like to say a personal thank you to everyone who has responded to my requests for photographs, and who has accepted invitations to read and offer intercessions – and even shout and bang things – for the online services this year. We have a rota of teams preparing these services, so I will have produced sixteen of them between Easter 2020 to Easter 2021. In a difficult and painful year for us all, the process of producing the services has been a great source of blessing for me, and I am deeply thankful for everyone who has been a part of them.

As soon as it is safe and proper, we look forward to worshipping God through music together in our church again.

David Marles, Director of Music

10. CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WORKER

Following on from my report in September last year, I have continued to carry out my role as Children & Family worker, mainly online or via other technology.

I am continuing to produce a weekly newsletter for the children, which is distributed around the Benefice families and to all the schools. The newsletter is put on the Facebook group for any of those families who do not receive it individually.

Mark Poole and myself continue to produce recorded Collective Worship for the school on a fortnightly basis and will do this until we can finally return into schools and see the children in person again.

Since September 2020 the following activities have been set up:

- Scarecrow Trail (St Nicholas's Church & Holy Trinity Stockton on the Forest). Craft packs were given to children and we had a scarecrow competition for the best scarecrow.
- Christmas Nativity Trail in Dunnington, Stockton on the Forest, Warthill and Holtby.
- Heart Trees in Dunnington, Stockton on the Forest, Warthill & Holtby.
- Easter trail in all 4 churches together with craft packs for children.

I have also:

- Provided resources for schools for Remembrance Sunday and decorated Stockton on the Forest & Warthill churches with poppies, which were kindly donated to me.
- Prayer walk (with Mark Poole) around the villages and especially for the schools on Prayer Day for schools. Sent resources for schools to use.
- Delivered Christmas craft packs to families.
- Regularly updated the Facebook group with activities, songs etc for families. We have had a few new members, which is great and hopefully this will continue to grow.
- Re-commenced monthly Family worship via Zoom with Mark Poole and Judith Hewitt.
- Assisted YoYo (York Schools and Youth Trust) with lessons in Stockton on the Forest School.
- Children's Pancake Bake-off via Zoom with Rachael Harrison (Harton Benefice)

I have attended relevant online training sessions for my role and a bi-monthly York Children's Leaders Network Meeting, which has been very helpful.

I am thoroughly enjoying my role and had some lovely responses from the families in the Benefice that I have met, who have enjoyed the activities on offer.

Plans for the future

As the government have now produced their guidelines for the Roadmap to easing Covid restrictions, from 12th April we are permitted to commence all children's activities indoors (up to 15 parents) so I am hopeful that Parent & Toddler groups could recommence as long as leaders and families are happy and feel safe to return.

Collective Worship for schools will continue online until we are advised by the schools that we can return in person.

I am currently researching summer holiday clubs as I would hope that we would be able to provide one of these in the summer (face to face) and this will hopefully be in collaboration with Rachael Harrison of the Harton Benefice.

Lisa Horton

11. FAMILY WORSHIP

As we prepare this report we have had two Zoom Family Worship services. Mark and Lisa joined me in preparing the services and we tried to include familiar elements, like birthdays, thank yous.

Our first service took the theme of Love, and God's love for us all, as Valentine's Day was celebrated later in the week. We included a game, finding something beginning with each letter of LOVE, so the children were engaged with the service. We also 'shared' something we love to eat.

Our second service followed the World Day of Prayer and we used some of the material produced for that on 'Building Firm Foundations'. We heard and watched a video of the story of the Wise Man and the Foolish Man. Again we asked the children to bring a building and a rock bun or a sandwich to the service.

Nick played his guitar for both services, so we turned the sound off and sang together!

We are very excited now as we have just planned our first in-person service for 2nd May.

We would value your prayer as we look to the future and how to reach out to new families, particularly as many of our regular attenders may think they are now too old for Family Worship.

Judith M. Hewitt

12. IGNITE YOUTH GROUP

The ignite youth group, out of necessity, came to an abrupt end at the start of the Covid 19 pandemic in March 2020.

Firstly, a huge vote of thanks for the work of the leaders and their commitment to the young people where they gave freely of their time to such an important part of our church. The commitments of the leaders with their own children and home learning, dedication to our online services and the new demands made in employment brought about by current circumstances meant that, for a period of time, Ignite was dormant.

Revd. Mark Poole, understanding the demands made on the leaders at this time, took the initiative and opened up the youth group through Zoom with a view to listening to the young people's perspective on 're-igniting' Ignite. This was warmly received by our young people where the focus is on fun and engagement. The youth group now meet once a month on Zoom. The first meeting was in February. Lisa and Anna provide a supportive role in this new venture. The meetings are short and enjoyable including online escape rooms, party games and delectable party bags! It is encouraging to have the young people on board as a part of the online church.

Anna Lewis

13. PASTORAL TEAM

The circumstance of this last year has meant that Home Visits and Communion for the Housebound has not been possible. Contact has been kept with those remaining within the scope of the team via telephone calls.

Once life returns to some sort of normality, there will be the opportunity to revitalise the teams and recommence the good work that they do.

Judith Peeke-Vout, Pastoral Team Co-ordinator

14. CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

The year 2020 was a strange one. Despite the pandemic the group had meetings every month with the exception of March. The January and February meetings were held in church as usual, ie in the Lady Chapel. From April to December we met every month. Of those nine meetings four were online using Zoom. Five meetings were held in church on a Thursday lunchtime, as a socially distanced gathering in the nave.

Over the eleven meetings the average monthly attendance was exactly 8.

The group has a stable membership of fourteen, though sadly one member, Basil Barber, died recently.

The group continues to practice silent contemplative prayer. Meetings include a short introduction using a reading, and/or a reflection. Various group members take it in turns to lead the evening.

Every year we hold an away day at a monastery or convent. In June 2019 thirteen members enjoyed a day visit to the Anglican Order of the Holy Paraclete, Whitby. In 2020 we had hoped to visit St

Athanasius' Coptic Orthodox Monastery, Langdale End, Scarborough, on the edge of the North Yorkshire Moors. This visit had to be postponed because of the epidemic. It is hoped the visit may be rearranged at some point in the future when conditions allow.

Revd. Peter Moorhouse

15. SACRISTAN

It has been a relatively quiet year for sacristy duties, as for the majority of the time the church has been closed. However once limited access was granted again, initially for private prayer twice a week and Morning Worship on Thursdays, I resumed changing the colours of the hangings (altar frontal and pulpit fall) as a visual reminder of what season we were in. When the church was locked again, clergy were still allowed to go in and make recordings to be uploaded for the YouTube services, so again it is nice (I think) to have the appropriate colours for the season in the background.

It all seems a distant memory now of having to set out the elements for Holy Communion, so I hope that when it becomes possible again, I haven't forgotten what to do! I'm pleased to report that Thom Hammond is still available and keen to assist me once services do resume. However, if there is anyone else who might like to learn what's required and to become involved in this unobtrusive ministry, I would be very happy to instruct you!

Carole White

16. EVENING FELLOWSHIP

The Evening Fellowship Group has not met since early spring 2020. We have appreciated the contributions to online services, and Sunday morning Zoom coffee sessions, as means for some group members to keep in touch with each other a little. The group decided not to hold its evening meetings via Zoom. We look forward to when we are able to meet together in person again, although the timescale for meetings restarting is not yet clear.

Pamela White

17. ALTAR SERVERS

After a year with no procession, a year in which some young people from the team have moved on to higher education, a year with weekly parish eucharists missing, where do we look for inspiration? For some worshippers, the ritual of the robed gradual and offertory processions, the lavabo, and the precise observation of symbolic gestures in the Eucharist is deeply associated with the significance of the sacrament. But everyone, even from backgrounds or traditions less observant of ritual knows - is alerted to the fact - that THESE are great moments, that the pinnacle of our worship is when the Word of God is proclaimed and the Elements are consecrated and distributed.

Our servers are cheerful and committed. The team's aim is to be respectful and to be joyous, rather than unblinkingly solemn. We now know that the day is coming when we may safely return to a form of worship that is rather more like the familiar Parish Communion. It's to be hoped that we'll never regard it as routine or everyday. When we do assemble for the Feast it is always special. May we remember the serving team in our prayers and greet them joyfully when we all make those tentative steps towards normality.

To those who have served in the past go our thanks. We hope that others will be inspired to volunteer for server ministry when it is resumed. And we commemorate Basil Barber, a long term member, and an affable friend that we valued for his cheerfulness and his encouragement for younger members.

Jim Gilmour

18. SOCIAL EVENTS

There were several events planned for 2020 which had to be cancelled due to the covid pandemic. The planning group has met over Zoom and is busy planning events for the coming year. It is hoped that some of the cancelled events which have now been re-scheduled, such as the Sax Forte concert will take place later in the year. We are initially looking at events that can be done safely outdoors beginning with the Scarecrow Festival over the early May bank holiday weekend. We have a variety of events in mind for 2021 and very much look forward to being able to bring people together to meet socially soon.

Diane Benson, on behalf of the Social Events Planning Group

19. TWINAM TRUST

Your PCC manages this historic trust which was set up to help the poor and needy of Dunnington. The PCC agreed at its meeting on the 21 January 2021 that the £207.91 dividends received in 2020 should be given to the Primary School to better support pupils on "Pupil Premium".

Peter Helm and Carole White

20. GRAPEVINE MAGAZINE

The Grapevine magazine continues to be a much appreciated publication, and we work hard to make sure that the Grapevine magazine meets both the needs of the churches within our four villages, and the wider communities which it serves.

Victoria Beale continues to do a most professional job as the Grapevine editor, and I am always very grateful for her wisdom and advice. At the beginning of this year we said goodbye to Kath Bridgford as she handed over her role as bookkeeper after ten years in the role, and we are thankful for the careful and diligent way she fulfilled this. I am also grateful to Barry Hewitt for managing the subscriptions and distribution. Dave Safhill, who has been a long time support to Grapevine, helping

to manage the invoices and payments for advertising, and also for giving us some oversight as to the financial position of the account, has now also taken over the bookkeeping role, and I'm very appreciative of this.

Because of the covid pandemic, the national advice was to not distribute paper publications through letterboxes, and we were keen to minimise any risk to our wonderful volunteer distributors, and so in the spring of 2020 we moved Grapevine entirely online. As we were not printing, our outgoings were significantly reduced. But as we were not distributing, we didn't feel we could charge our advertisers in the same way. So all subscriptions and advertising were suspended until distribution of hard copies resumed, and this was done with a Christmas/January magazine, which was delivered free of charge to all households in the Benefice. Putting aspects of the magazine online had many benefits in terms of use of colour, image quality, flexibility and environmental impact, but excluded those people for whom online of viewing was not an option. Normal service has now resumed but the "Church News and Events" section of each magazine is still shared free of charge on our website.

We shall continue to work hard to maintain the standards and creativity that is so greatly appreciated by the recipients of the magazine, and hope that our parishioners will continue to participate actively in providing copy, photos and news.

Revd. Nick Bird, Grapevine General Manager

21. TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REVIEW- YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

2020 has been an extremely challenging year. In accordance with government advice, following the COVID-19 outbreak, the church building has been closed for most of year and very few services have taken place in the building. This has reduced our income from collections and parish fees. Income from the parish magazine and Tower Room lettings have also reduced. Since the majority of our costs are fixed, we have not been able to offset this reduction in income with a reduction in expenditure and as a result we have finished the year with a deficit.

The final outturn for the year on all funds, before accounting for net investment gains, was total income £99,214 (2019, £109,033) and total expenditure £108,532 (2019, £111,629) resulting in net income (a deficit) of -£9,318 (2019, -£2,596). The General Fund realised a deficit of -£6,861 (2019, surplus £2,114).

Planned giving by standing order or envelopes remained stable at £54,388 in 2020 (2019, £54,535). However, Free Will Offerings (open plate collections and the church's share of collections at funerals) reduced by 73% to £2,028. An online donations website was created to enable more 'ad hoc' giving and this yielded £190. Donations received by cash or cheque increased by 83% to £4,696.

The closure of the church building reduced income from Tower Room lettings to £645 (2019, £4226).

Expenditure on maintenance and repairs returned to 'normal levels' as many of the larger maintenance projects are complete and we are currently trying to save funds for the next big projects.

We increased our freewill offering to the diocese by 2.5% but our Mission and Charity giving fell slightly.

The General Fund balance (reserves) at the year-end have been depleted to £8,541 (in 2019 the General Fund balance was £15,664).

Restricted Funds remained fairly stable, they decreased by £1,498 during the year (compared to a £1,675 increase in 2019).

There was an upturn of the stock markets in 2020, which saw the market value of The Church Estate Fund investment increase by £2,291 (6%) and the James Twinam Fund investment increase by £435 (6%). The dividends from the James Twinam Fund will be donated to Dunnington Church of England Primary School to support the Pupil Premium.

Expenditure on salary costs and working expenses for the newly appointed Children and Families Worker are being allocated to the Families Worker designated fund. Stockton on the Forest PCC have transferred £13,800 to this to help finance this role for future years. Total expenditure in this fund in 2020 was £12,072.

Printing and distribution of the magazine was paused between May and December, following government advice. Advertisers will not be billed for the first 8 months of 2021 to compensate for this. This has been reflected in the accounts by deferring the advertising income for May to December into 2021. During the months when no printed version was available, the magazine continued to be published on the church website hence the salary and administration costs. In December, a free copy of the magazine was distributed to all households in the Benefice at our own cost. Although there will be no further advertising income from the pre-existing advertisers until September 2021, there is a reasonable buffer with which to cover printing, staff and office costs and a small amount of additional income is anticipated from a few new advertisers.

The net movement on all funds, after taking into account the net market value gain on investments, amounted to -£6,592 deficit (2019 £3,845 surplus), which when added to the funds brought forward at the beginning of the year, resulted in fund balances to carry forward at 31 December 2019 of £114,101 (2019, £120,693).

Our reserves in the General Fund are now only £8,541, which is only around 20% of the sum required by our Reserves Policy. We have no certainty about how soon services and other activities will recommence in the church building with 'normal' levels of attendance. We might try to encourage more giving but this is likely to be difficult alongside the current campaign to raise funds for the new heating system and roof. The only remaining option will be to reduce our costs, but many of these are fixed, so we may find ourselves unable to fulfil our Freewill offer to the Diocese in 2021, or we may need to give a smaller amount to our nominated Mission and Giving charities.

Helen Pomfret (April 2021)

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of
St Nicholas, Dunnington**

Statement of Financial Activities

for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total Funds	
	General	Designated		2020	2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	71,418	13,800	2,043	87,261	79,890
Charitable activities	3,049	149	2,764	5,962	9,934
Other trading activities	645	-	3,755	4,400	17,591
Investments	-	184	1,407	1,591	1,618
Total income	75,112	14,133	9,969	99,214	109,033
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	149	71	-	220	890
Charitable activities	81,824	12,073	4,880	98,777	96,885
Other trading activities	-	-	9,535	9,535	13,854
Total expenditure	81,973	12,144	14,415	108,532	111,629
Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments	(6,861)	1,989	(4,446)	(9,318)	(2,596)
Net gains/(losses) on investments	-	-	2,726	2,726	6,441
Net income/(expenditure)	(6,861)	1,989	(1,720)	(6,592)	3,845
Transfers between funds	(222)	-	222	-	-
Net movement in Funds	(7,083)	1,989	(1,498)	(6,592)	3,845
Reconciliation of funds:					
Fund balances brought forward at 1 January 2020	15,664	32,951	72,078	120,693	116,848
Fund balances carried forward at 31 December 2020	£ 8,581	£ 34,940	£ 70,580	£ 114,101	£ 120,693

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of
St Nicholas, Dunnington**

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2020

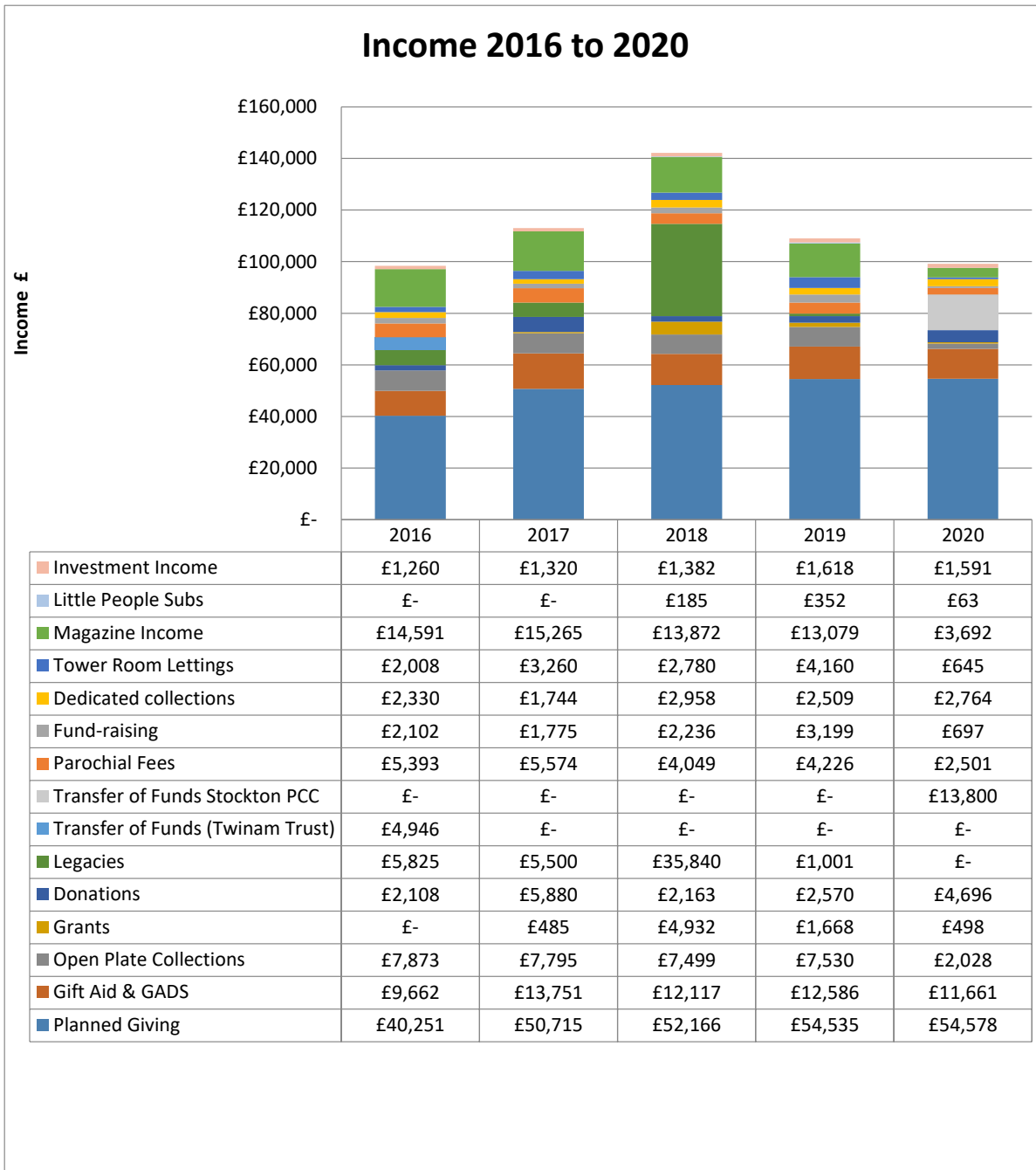
	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted	Total	
	General	Designated	Funds	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	1,240	1,240	3,184
Investments	-	-	45,155	45,155	42,429
	-	-	46,395	46,395	45,613
Current Assets					
Debtors	7,785	-	298	8,083	10,509
Cash at bank and in hand	10,063	34,940	34,569	79,572	81,814
Total Current Assets	17,848	34,940	34,867	87,655	92,323
Current Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9,267	-	10,682	19,949	17,243
Total current liabilities	9,267	-	10,682	19,949	17,243
Net Current Assets	8,581	34,940	24,185	67,706	75,080
Total assets less current liabilities	8,581	34,940	70,580	114,101	120,693
Net Assets	£ 8,581	£ 34,940	£ 70,580	£ 114,101	£ 120,693
Parish Funds					
Unrestricted General Funds	8,581	-	-	8,581	15,664
Unrestricted Designated Funds	-	34,940	-	34,940	32,951
Restricted Funds	-	-	70,580	70,580	72,078
	£ 8,581	£ 34,940	£ 70,580	£ 114,101	£ 120,693

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 23rd March 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

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Rev N W R Bird
Chairman

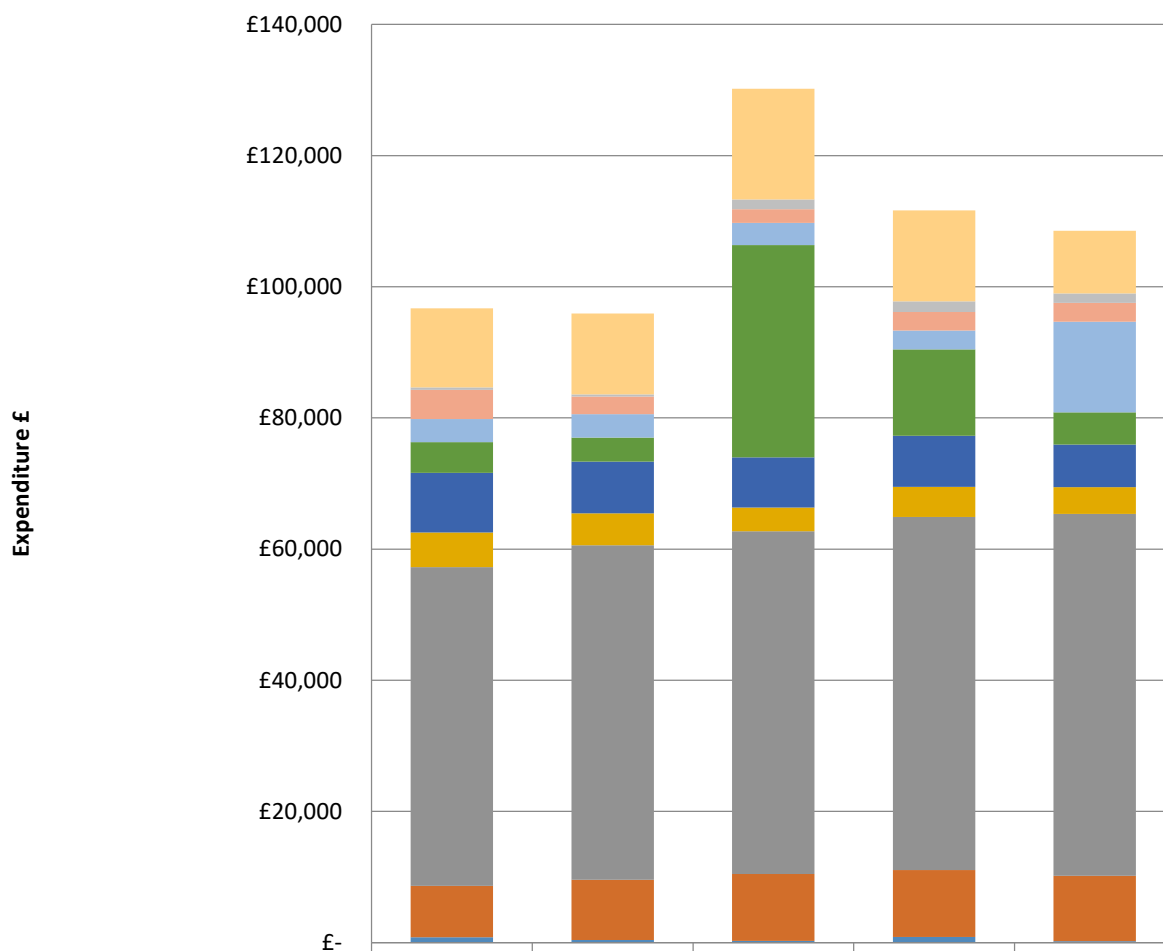
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H L Pomfret
Treasurer

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of
St Nicholas, Dunnington**



**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of
St Nicholas, Dunnington**

Expenditure 2016 to 2020



	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Trading Costs (Grapevine)	£12,076	£12,370	£16,848	£13,854	£9,535
Other expenditure	£366	£313	£1,488	£1,617	£1,465
Office & Administration	£4,445	£2,667	£2,102	£2,847	£2,885
Salaries & Honoraria	£3,550	£3,584	£3,398	£2,874	£13,809
Church Maintenance & Repairs	£4,678	£3,665	£32,363	£13,154	£4,915
Church Utilities & Insurance	£9,095	£7,873	£7,625	£7,785	£6,471
Ministry Costs	£5,242	£4,890	£3,618	£4,601	£4,097
Diocesan Freewill Offering	£48,600	£51,000	£52,275	£53,844	£55,188
Missions & Charities	£7,830	£9,190	£10,198	£10,163	£9,947
Fund-raising	£842	£384	£252	£890	£220

APCM 2021 – Lectio Divina Bible Passage

Luke 4:14-21

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, ‘Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’