

*Parish of
St. John-in-Bedwardine*

2018

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

and

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

will be held in the church on Sunday the 22nd day of April 2018
commencing at noon.

AGENDA

and

REPORTS

**The Accounts for 2017 and the Independent
Examiner's Report are at the back of this booklet
(following page 22).**

St. John-in-Bedwardine Church
Agenda for the Annual Meeting
22nd April 2018, 12noon in the Church

Welcome and Opening prayers

PART 1 MEETING FOR THE ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS Page

Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd April 2017 Part 1.

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PART 2 ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. Apologies.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd April 2017 Part 2. 3

3. Matters Arising.

4. Elections of Parochial representatives of the laity:

a. To the Parochial Church Council (4 vacancies).

5. Appointments:

a. Appointment of Sidesmen.

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6. A Report on changes in the roll since the last annual meeting. 5

7. An Annual Report on the proceedings of the parochial church council
and the activities of the parish generally:

a. Vicar's Annual Report 5

b. Report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council. 7

c. Reports from Church Committees and Groups (written). 8-21

8. Financial Report and Accounts for the year ending 31.12.17.

*The Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2017 are
at the back of this booklet (page 22 to 34), and incorporate
the Finance Report and the Independent Examiner's
report.*

9. Churchwardens' annual report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of
the Parish Church. 19

10. Report on the proceedings of Deanery Synod. 21

11. Any Other Business.

PART 3 MEETING OF THE NEW PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

1. Election of Assistant Churchwardens.

2. Election of Lay Vice-Chairman.

3. Election of Secretary.

4. Co-option of Members.

5. Election of Treasurer.

6. Confirmation of Standing Committee

7. AOB.

8. Date of next meeting.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL MEETING
12 noon SUNDAY, 2nd APRIL, 2017

The Vicar took the chair. There were 38 present; 19 apologies were recorded.

Part 1 *The appointment of Churchwardens.*

The minutes of last year's meeting (part 1) were approved.

There were two nominations, Gordon Templeton and Joy Job, for the two posts of Churchwarden and they were therefore declared elected.

On behalf of everybody, the Vicar thanked the wardens for all their work.

Part 2 *The Annual Parochial Church Meeting.*

The minutes of last year's meeting (part 2) were approved as a true and accurate record. There were no matters arising.

For the PCC election, 4 people were proposed and declared elected as there were 4 vacancies: Bill Amos, Sue Bale, Colin Nash, Chris Rees.

The Vicar asked for opinions on setting a maximum term (e.g. 6 years) for PCC members. The question was asked 'Why tie your hands?'. The Vicar said it would force the PCC to take in new blood, but emphasised that he had no strong opinion on the matter.

For the Deanery Synod election, 3 people were proposed and declared elected as there were 3 vacancies: Bill Amos, Graham Evans, Margaret Rutter.

There were no proposed Sidesmen.

Chris Rees and John English proposed the re-appointment of Grahame Lucas as our independent inspector and this was agreed.

Graham Evans, Electoral Roll Officer, reported that the electoral roll now had 151 members: 10 names have been added and 7 removed since last year.

The Vicar noted that all reports had been issued in advance in booklet form to give people time to read them before the meeting. He asked for comments or questions about each report in turn. Some of the points raised:

- The Vicar noted that Graham Evans was not continuing as PCC Secretary. He thanked him for his work; he had been an excellent PCC Secretary. Joy Job presented a card and gift to thank Graham for all his hard work.
- The Vicar emphasised the importance of Safeguarding for the church.
- Colin Nash said there was a wonderful selection of events in the past year.
- Charity Committee: The church supports the Live At Home scheme from the Henry Smith Charity. Margaret Rutter asked about support for Penny and Juan Carlos in Peru. They did have a donation in the previous year. The only income

they have is from their church supporters in the UK. The Charity Committee will consider a donation for the current year.

- Communications - website. The Vicar said the website was excellent.
- Children's Church: Thanks were expressed to Jane Askew and the team of helpers for all the activities and all the hard work that goes into them.
- Baptism follow-up: Our Baptism preparation is being re-vamped.
- Little Lambs: Heidi Murphy has been appointed leader for Little Lambs (as a paid post, reflecting the importance the PCC attaches to this). Thanks went to Amy Rees for setting this up, and to Barbara and Graham Willis and the other volunteers who kept it going since Amy had had to step back.

The Vicar noted there are many more reports than when he first arrived in the parish, eight years ago. That is good, a lot has happened and we should all be really pleased; he emphasised his thanks to all involved in all we do.

The 2016 accounts and treasurers' report were presented to the meeting. Chris Rees summarised the 2016 outcome as a loss of £7000, although it was not as bad as it sounded. The outlook is for 2017 to be in balance. The accounts were accepted by the meeting.

The Churchwardens' Annual Fabric Report for 2016 was accepted. It was noted that the Estate Manager does a good job and ultimately saves us a lot of money.

On request, Sue Bale gave a verbal report on the Friends of St John's. It was set up for those who had supported the Tower Appeal; membership costs £20 per annum, and the funds are exclusively for buildings and maintenance.

Thanks were expressed to the clergy for all their work.

The Vicar reported that he will be on Sabbatical from 5th June to 4th September. He will write a piece for the magazine to explain more.

Part 3 *Parochial Church Council Meeting.*

At the PCC Meeting held immediately following the above, the following appointments were made:

Assistant Churchwarden: Sue Bale

Lay Vice Chairman: Sue Bale

Secretary: Elizabeth Edwards (appointed as a non-member of the PCC, remunerated within her role as Parish Administrator)

Treasurers: Chris Rees (Lead), John English.

Composition of the Standing Committee was agreed as: The Vicar, Assistant Curate, Lay Vice Chairman, Churchwardens and Treasurers. The Vicar of Dines Green invited to attend.

*Graham Evans, PCC Secretary
April 2017*

APPOINTMENTS

Appointment of Independent Examiner

The proposal is to re-appoint Mr Grahame Lucas as our Independent Examiner.

Chris Rees, John English, Treasurers, March 2018

Electoral Roll Report – April 2018

The church Electoral Roll stood at 151 after the 2017 APCM.

11 people have been added since the 2017 APCM and 8 have been removed. The new roll is 154 (an increase of 3).

In accordance with rule 2(3) of the Church Representation Rules 2017 a copy of the roll as revised has been exhibited continuously for not less than fourteen days (in fact since 6th April) before the annual parochial church meeting.

Graham Evans, Electoral Roll Officer

Vicar's Annual Report

The last year has been a challenging one, and without dwelling upon what has happened, we have to be honest in acknowledging an atypical and difficult vacancy. We have all felt considerable frustration at the delays and general lack of support from the diocese, but both Sarah and I have found immense support from the congregation. If there were hard matters to confront, and some are still bearing the bruises of the last twelve months, people pulled together magnificently and the clergy are hugely grateful for the grace and compassion so many have shown. It is impossible to thank all those who deserve a mention, but I do especially want to thank Gordon and Joy for all their hard work as churchwardens over the past year. It is always a demanding role, but that is more the case than ever in a vacancy, and they have been an invaluable source of support for the clergy and the church.

Central to the life of a church is worship. We have had some problems with the 8am BCP Holy Communion on a Sunday, the number of servers falling so low that we had to reduce it to a twice-monthly service during February and March. Since Easter it has returned to being weekly, but server numbers remain precariously low and an 8am service each Sunday may not prove sustainable in the future if more people do not come forward. The attendance has dropped, perhaps in part because the 10am BCP Holy Communion service on a Tuesday is more convenient for some. The Tuesday service is going well, with between fifteen and twenty people attending most weeks. Café Church, the Healing Service and the Women's Breakfast continue to provide more informal services each month, and I am grateful to Margaret, Jenny and Sylvia for all their efforts in organising and leading these. I would also like to thank the other ALMs - Chris, Graham, Mike, Philip and Rob - for their valuable contribution in leading other non-Eucharistic services. The choir has been growing in strength, and John and the choristers have enhanced the quality of our worship, aided by Peter and the Music Group, and the bell ringers. This year, we are trying out some new liturgical patterns. For example, attendance at the dawn service on

Easter Day has been declining to a very small number, so this year we are trying out an Easter Vigil and Liturgy on the evening of Holy Saturday. Worship is always something which must faithfully engage with tradition and context, and I hope that we are gradually developing something at St John's which meets the needs of a parish church encompassing differing traditions. We need to continue to encourage and develop lay ministry in that, making use of the many gifts in the congregations.

There has been some debate over the 10.30am service on a second Sunday, with tension between a formal Morning Prayer and a children's service. It has proved hard to combine the two, and the attempt to do so was perhaps misguided. We are now exploring the provision of a specific children's or family service to run after Morning Prayer on the second Sunday. It is important to remember the other work done with children, led by Jane and her team: Children's Church most Sundays and the Saturday activities once a month. The clergy also engage with the PRU and more occasionally with other local schools.

Sarah has been teaching a bishop's certificate course in St John's this year, and we ran a Lent Course on 'The Passion in the Arts'. I would like to devote more energy and resources to provision of adult education and courses, although that will require consultation to determine what is possible and what interests people.

The engagement with the local community has continued to be strong in the past year, with some excellent events. Thanks are due to the Events Team for all the work they do in organising and delivering these events and the various trips. Jenny and her team have continued to put on very successful parish breakfasts. The Young Adults Group has put on several events, including one devoted to proving how bad the vicar is at crazy golf, and the committee are working hard to develop this opportunity for fellowship.

These are highlights, not a comprehensive study of the parish. As I write my first annual report as vicar of St John's, I am aware that I do so as one who is quite probably the last person who will hold that post. With Sarah and I now having been licensed as the two clergy permitted to the West Worcester Group under the Deanery Plan, we are now seriously looking ahead to forming a team ministry. I know that this plan has been under discussion for a very long time indeed, in one form or another since before I was born, and I know that there have been numerous problems and a lot of hurt along the way. Now, however, it does finally look as if we are at last within reaching distance, although I am experienced enough to realise that diocesan promises are not necessarily to be believed. I know not everyone is yet convinced, but a team is the only way two clergy can possibly divide four churches, and Sarah and I are fully committed to working as a clergy team to bring about that reality. Team brings opportunity as well as loss, and I hope that in the next year we can begin to embrace the possibilities. We want the parishes to be actively involved in shaping the West Worcester Team, not simply to accept something imposed from above, and that is a process on which we must now embark. There is much to celebrate in this parish, with all the signs of God at work, and as you have so supported us this last year I hope you will continue to walk with us as we work together to shape the future.

Revd Phil Bradford, Priest-in-charge

Report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council 2017-18.

The PCC met 10 times during the year: a short meeting following the APCM last April to appoint officers and five ordinary meetings in May, August, November, February and March. There was one emergency meeting in June to discuss funding for an Inter-Faith Youth Worker and one short PCC meeting in November to approve the faculty application for repair to the organ. The PCC also met twice more in November - A Preliminary Vacancy Meeting – which was an information evening with the Archdeacon of Worcester and the Rural Dean to discuss the process that would be used for recruitment of the clergy posts at St Johns and St Clements, and a Final Vacancy Meeting – to appoint 2 representatives from St Johns PCC to attend the discernment meeting in December prior to the appointment of the Priest-in-Charge at St John's.

The PCC had 16 members (no vacancies).

Graham Evans stepped down from the role of PCC Secretary at the APCM in April 2017. He remains a member of the PCC and Standing Committee. Liz Edwards, Parish Administrator took on the role of PCC Secretary.

The parish entered into vacancy in July 2017. Revd Phil Bradford was licenced as Priest-in-Charge on February 25th 2018. (On 4th March 2018 Revd Sarah Cottrill was licensed as Curate-in-Charge at St Clement's)

During 2017 there were 14 weddings, 25 baptisms, 13 funerals held in church and 13 funerals held at Worcester Crematorium for St Johns parish.

The PCC operates through a number of formal sub-committees and other groups/teams. Membership of the committees etc. (except the Standing Committee) is not restricted to members of the PCC. The Group Committee is currently in suspension.

When planning our activities, the PCC is aware of and takes into account the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance to charities concerned with the advancement of religion. The specific activities are reported throughout this document.

The PCC has complied with the duty to have "due regard" to House of Bishops' guidance in relation to safeguarding.

Each meeting opened with a prayer and closed with all saying 'The Grace'

A summary of the minutes of each PCC meeting is placed upon the main church notice board and is published in the magazine.

Liz Edwards
PCC Secretary

Reports from Church Committees and Groups

Standing Committee Annual Report April 2017 to April 2018

The PCC has always had a Standing Committee with the power to act for the PCC between PCC meetings (as required by the Church Representation Rules). This function was exercised on occasions in relation to employment matters and also management of the parish properties.

Up to February 2017 the Standing Committee had additional roles delegated by the PCC, but this delegation was withdrawn in February 2017.

In February 2018, the PCC decided that all employer responsibilities would be returned to the Standing Committee.

Graham Evans

Safeguarding Report 2017

Safeguarding continues to be important to St John's Church. We make sure that all those who need to have a DBS check have one.

Throughout the year changes are made to the safeguarding arrangements and it sometimes seems as if we will never get on top of them. However, we have been able to ensure that all our DBS checks are in place.

Safeguarding is an important issue and rules and regulations change and are updated regularly. But there is one thing that does not change and that is that it is everyone's responsibility to report anything that they are concerned about regarding the safety of children and vulnerable adults. Working together will mean that we can keep people safe.

Jane Askew

Events Team Report 2017

In last year's report we talked about the necessity of sharing skills and utilising the strengths of individuals, not just in producing events but in supporting others to set up their own projects. This is beginning to occur and is one of the biggest changes we have seen this year.

The team has been approached by several individuals who have requested support to stage events of their own. The team has been able to help not only by providing supportive advice but also with more practical help such as catering and publicity. The largest project this year has been helping with the organ appeal – supporting the organ fundraisers in spreading awareness of the need for fundraising for the much needed organ repairs. We were also able to provide support for the stunning concert put on by John and Luise.

Over the course of this year though, we have had to reconsider the types of events we have been able to stage. Large events require a large team and at this time we do not have the volunteers coming forward to enable us to organise summer fayres and daffodil days. It seems unfair to constantly approach the same small band of people and it was with heavy hearts that we had to write to the PCC and explain that we will be unable to continue putting on these events until we get more support to run them. With this in mind, we have, for the time being, turned our attention to more manageable, smaller events and community services.

Within the community we have organised some highly successful coach trips, and these continue to go from strength to strength with a huge number of people booking for future trips. Over the past year we have been to Weston for a day by the sea, a Christmas trip down memory lane at Blists Hill Victorian Town and all our thanks go to Graham and Barbara Willis for their hard work arranging a trip to Ashwood Nurseries, including a tour of the owners beautiful garden. Forthcoming trips include: Hereford Cathedral, The National Memorial Arboretum and Highgrove before finishing the year with a festive outing to the Christmas markets in Bath.

The Stand By Me project, which ended 18 months ago, has recently been relaunched as 'The Good Old Days'. In February we had our first meeting with an afternoon of reminiscing and chat with tea and cake. The first meeting was run by Discover History and Paul Harding gave a talk on WW2 rationing, with the team providing a selection of food which was bravely sampled by those attending. Further events are to include a light hearted quiz based on photos of old Worcester, kindly provided by a visitor from a local camera club.

Later in the year we are planning an event to mark the hundredth anniversary of the end of the First World War. This will be the biggest event of the year and we are looking forward to working together with church groups on this hugely important occasion.

We look forward to another exciting year of projects within the church and the community, and are hopeful that more people may wish to volunteer in the coming months. All the information is at the back of the church on the 'What's on' table and anyone is welcome to volunteer for any job at any time. Please continue to spread the message that volunteers are always welcome and very much appreciated!

The Events Team

Pastoral Care Group - Report 2017

Over the past year the pastoral care team has continued to offer support to members of the congregation by phone or visits when ill and unable to attend church services.

Members of the congregation are continuing to offer support and contact the team when it is noticed people have not attended services for a time.

Transport when possible is arranged to get people to church services and various meetings, we do need more drivers so hopefully this year will see church members coming forward.

Each month our home communion teams Sylvia Render, Joy Job, Jenny English and Margaret Rutter visit Teme Court and Regent care homes within our parish to offer communion to the residents, this is greatly appreciated by them as they would otherwise have no contact with church.

Home Communion is also offered to members of our congregation who are unable to get to church. This keeps them in touch with church and events and very important

Healing services have continued to be well supported and on average have a congregation of 15. The service is held around the font and is slightly less formal, prayers and different ways of praying are being experienced by those who attend. Jenny English leads a short meditation

during the service. Time is given at the end of the service for those requesting private prayers. Tea and biscuits are served after the service.

Thanks go to Peter Yates, Brian Askew and the music group, volunteer readers, Jenny English who all help and support.

Pastoral care team:

Janet and Walter Hart, Yvonne Hardwick, Sue Bale, Ruth Reeves and Sue Hussell.

Very many thanks to you all and to members of the congregation who help us to carry on caring.

Sylvia Render - Pastoral care leader

Report from the Charities Committee (For the year 2017)

For the year of 2017 the Charities Committee had a budget of £3,000. As in previous years we divided this amount into three categories of giving – individuals; local/national and global. We set a cap of £100 per individual. Over the year our giving has been:

Individual:

We received four requests from local individuals in need of financial support. Each of these received £100

Local/national

- Warwickshire Hospital – support for sufferers from Anorexia - £100
- Worcester Hospital – Maternity Bereavement Fund - £200
- Worcester Hospital – Rory Robot Appeal for the early Treatment of Prostate Cancer - £200
- Snozelen – multi-sensory help for Children with special needs - £200
- Worcester Food Bank - £200
- Family Holiday Association Providing holidays for disadvantaged - £315

Global

- Penny and Carlos, our Mission Partners - £865 (spread Over 3 payments)
- Meisori School, Kenya - £100
- Feminine Hygiene Project – providing sanitary Items to young girls in Kenya - £150
- East Africa Famine Appeal - £150
- Toilet Twinning Scheme - £120

Total giving for 2017: £2,900

Charities Committee comprises:

Sarah Cottrill – Chair

Margaret Rutter – Treasurer

Beth Broadway – Secretary

Margaret Morris, Luise Horrocks, Barbara Willis, Graham Willis

Sarah Cottrill

Friends of St John-in-Bedwardine 2017

The Friends have continued to raise funds for the maintenance of the church and held a “British Style” Thanksgiving Dinner as its annual “thank you” to the members, along with guests.

During this year, the PCC have asked the Friends Scheme to contribute to the organ repair fund and later in 2018, after the quinquennial, they will identify specific projects which will require further contributions from the Scheme.

The friends continue to seek new members (at £20 per annum per person) and there will be additional fund raising to help with the essential work and to meet the needs of this beautiful church – so all contributions gratefully received.

Sue Bale

Communications - Website

The PCC decided to review the church’s web presence and has decided to move over to a paid-for template organised by the diocese and which is being developed by the team that developed the new “A Church Near You” website.

Philip Evans

Former Webmaster

St. John's Flower Arranging Team Report 2017- 2018

The Flower Arranging Team meets each Friday morning 9am-12noon except in Advent and Lent. We welcome new helpers, and many visitors - some from abroad, some just curious and sometimes ‘one time local’ people looking for memories of family or memorials or graves. We are very fortunate to have such a lovely and interesting church to decorate.

Sadly 2 of our older members died last year. Mrs Sylvia Rubery who was an enthusiastic helper in the late 90’s died after a long illness. She was followed a few months later by Tony, her husband, who usually accompanied Sylvia on her visits, taking the opportunity to have his hair cut while Sylvia was busy in church!

Mrs Audrey Stevens died shortly before Christmas. Audrey, for many years, arranged the flowers at the high altar for Christmas and Easter, also the special Palm Sunday arrangement. Audrey always arrived with a basket full of beautiful greenery from her garden. We remember with love the time and care given by these two ladies.

We seem to be getting fewer wedding orders for flowers – we enjoy preparing for these special occasions.

The team has also spent a Friday morning in Lent helping towards the Tidy-Up-Day which makes such a difference to the church. I would like to thank the ‘special extras’ who come to help us decorate the church for Easter and Christmas. It is always good to have their help.

Thank you for the support in helping us to make the church look loved and cared for, and a place of welcome and worship.

Eileen M Cantrill

West Worcester Churches Young Adults Group

Young Adults has now been running for just over 18 months and the group is still thriving. It is a fun social group for those aged 18 to 40 who worship in the West Worcester Group of Churches.

We meet regularly on the first Sunday of the month for Sunday lunch and meet at other frequent times in between. This year we had a great trip to Hereford in the summer where we played crazy golf and visited Hereford Cathedral and have also hosted a couple of Board Games nights at St John's and St Clement's. Other events have included trips to the 'Screen Unseen' viewing at the cinema, weekly evening meals during Advent at St Michael's and pancakes on Shrove Tuesday. We have planned more trips to the cinema, an Easter trip to a Little Owls Farm and a Sunday afternoon walk in the countryside finishing at a local church. We regularly have between half a dozen to a dozen people at events including families with young children who are always very welcome to the Sunday meals.

New members are always welcome and attendance at events is not compulsory. Just pop along to what interests you!

For more information speak to any one of us. Regular updates about events are posted on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/westworcesteryoungadults/

Contact us via email at young.adults@westworchesterchurches.org.uk

Organisers: Beth Broadway, Philip Evans and Alice Evans

2017 Annual Report from Children's Church

We have continued to run Children's Church during the morning 10.30 session. The older children have moved on to a church that is more able to meet their needs but we have a number of younger members. We still continue to struggle with space. We have been looking at some of the popular Bible stories, starting with Noah's Ark. We have talked about the story, drawn pictures and learnt a song. With younger children we will continue to study particular Bible stories in detail, do crafts linked to them and sing songs.

We were very brave and had a BBQ in the summer. Unfortunately we experienced the same difficulties. We set up outside and just as we were ready to eat the heavens opened and we had to quickly move indoors. The children decided that their charity choices for this year would be Acorn's Hospice and The Dogs' Trust. So far they have raised £50 for each charity.

Christingle making continued. They were rewarded with a McDonalds for their hard work.

The monthly Saturday Activities have continued with mixed numbers, but a steady band of regulars. It continues to be an enjoyable afternoon, where singing, stories, talks, crafts and a tea are the order of the sessions.

At the family services, once a month, led by an ALM, the children help with the readings, intercessions and collection. It is lovely to see their confidence grow not only with the readings but the younger ones taking part in various aspects of the service.

We look forward to another year working with the children. We are very short of helpers and if you feel you would like to help, please do let us know.

Jane Askew and the Children's Church Team

Little Lambs

Little Lambs is a free weekly playgroup for children 0-4 and their caregivers. We average 26 children per week, with a variety of new and regular attendees. Little Lambs runs every Monday in term time and attracts parents from all over the city. The group provides a free play experience with activities that allow children to creatively explore, develop their social skills and encourages inquisitiveness.

In 2015 53% of the Children's Centres' budgets were cut by the County Council. This has left provision for early years sparse and poorly distributed throughout the city. Parents who attend the sessions speak of the need and importance of playgroups and have noted how there is little else of similar quality that they can find in the city. Furthermore, 23% of children in Worcester currently live below the poverty line; creating a free space opens access to families who may be struggling.

The work that Little Lambs does is appreciated by those who attend. Many have noticed a sharp decline in designated play space for early years, this is corroborated by research at the University of Cambridge, who analysed the playing habits of children across the UK and found that play time was becoming 'more heavily scheduled' in community spaces.

About Free Play

Free play is described by the Play and Playground Encyclopaedia as:

'Unstructured, voluntary, child-initiated activity that allows children to develop their imaginations while exploring and experiencing the world around them. It is the spontaneous play that comes naturally from children's natural curiosity, love of discovery, and enthusiasm'

It incorporates parts of unstructured and creative play – for example, art materials and blank paper; playing with dolls or cars. It allows children to use their imagination to develop their own worlds and puts an emphasis on a child's creativity – letting them take control of their play.

Free play gives children the space to play within their developmental stage, allowing them to progress at their own pace. It is a useful tool for a group such as Little Lambs, as staff can identify a child's developmental stage with regards to play, and this helps to develop a meaningful relationship more quickly for the child. Development with regard to play was identified by Jean Piaget and includes activities such as sensorimotor activities (dropping a toy on the floor) through to playing games with rules – for example, some of our older children play skittles together.

Numbers

Since 2016, Little Lambs has engaged a total of 128 children. 70 of which joined the group in 2017, where we had an average weekly attendance of 26 children and 19 caregivers. Our busiest months were February through to May, with an average of 31 children attending in March. Once the weather warms up we find our numbers fall in the summer, but never dipping below an average attendance of 20. These trends look set to continue across 2018.

Our highest attendance in 2017 was 34 children and 27 caregivers on the 6th March 2017. This was not an anomaly and is in keeping with other attendance numbers for that period. Our lowest attendance was 11 children and 8 caregivers on the 19th June 2017; this was during very hot weather. Currently, most of our attendees are between the ages of 1 and 2.

The group has 6 regular volunteers, 1 paid member of staff, and an additional two volunteers who attend when needed or when they can.

Impact:

Little Lambs is a group that is highly recommended by its attendees, and forms an integral part of life to those who frequent it. This is evident from the growing number of families who attended alone and later recommend the group to their friends or families with children and the high retention of attendees and children who develop through social stages with us.

Impact for Caregivers

The group provides a space where parents can meet other caregivers, and have a quiet moment with a cup of tea, whilst their child plays in a safe and inclusive space. All group leaders take time to talk to parents, taking extra time to provide little elements of support that can make the big difference for parents – for example, asking breast feeding parents, or parents who cannot move because of sleeping children if they would like a drink or anything from the kitchen; or chaperoning siblings whilst parents take a child to the bathroom.

Communities play a large role in helping to combat loneliness felt by parents, particularly those with young children. 52% of all parents in the UK have suffered from loneliness, with 21% identifying as feeling significantly lonely in the past 7 days (Action for Children, November 2017). The Jo Cox commission on loneliness also found that 61% of parents feel cut off from family and friends after having a child. Little Lambs can help to build a new community, or support the confidence, of new parents or parents who are struggling. In the past 12 months, the group has had at least one parent who has been open about their struggle with loneliness since having a second child because they felt unable to leave the house. Most of our attendees are parents, 50% in the recent survey (Figure 3), and therefore knowing how to best support them in the Little Lambs community is vital for wellbeing.

Impact for Children:

Having a free play space allows children to shape the space in which they inhabit. This develops curiosity and encourages imagination, promoting a creative mind-set that supports problem solving and social development. For example, older children playing with blocks are able to dictate to group leaders what they want to build and this allows them to use their communication and language skills, whilst giving them ownership over the project – having to problem solve how to best build their vision.

Entering a child's game in their space even if the rules that govern play are not abundantly clear to an adult (for example pushing cars through playdough, smashing dinosaurs into one another) can be incredibly empowering for children, particularly those who often play alone, with more complex needs or who fall behind developmental milestones. By entering their space within their rules, an adult playing with the child is non-verbally validating the rules of the space for the child; exploring consent with the child, and temporarily removing hierarchy in a safe environment. This gives children freedom to explore their play further, develop social skills if they invite the adult into their space and does not put pressure on the child to push their skills which can lead to frustration.

Heidi Murphy

Choirmaster's Report to the APCM of April 2018

I began as Organist and Choirmaster in October 2011 when I inherited a small but dedicated choir of five voices. My main aim from the outset has been to build up the choir both in numbers and in the amount and range of music that they sing. In this way they provide a growing lead and support to the congregational singing whilst offering more choral music in worship.

We have 18 regular members. We can call on extra singers for special services or where the music selected is particularly demanding. We fielded 30 voices for the Christmas Carol Service.

We meet on Thursday evenings at 7.00pm for 90 minutes including a short break. We have a 10.00am warm-up practice on Sunday mornings. Morale is high and we enjoy our rehearsals where we work hard but also have fun.

The choir sings on most Sundays at the 10.30am Eucharist and twice a month at 5.00pm for Choral Evensong. We also sing at major festivals during the Church's year. The choir is available for Weddings.

I choose hymns and other choral and organ music for the services and publish a Music List each month. Taking the seasons, themes and readings of services as a starting point, I try to reflect these, where practicable, in the music.

My wife, Luise Horrocks, writes a regular column, Notes from the Choir, for the Parish Magazine.

We continue to build and I am always delighted to hear from singers interested in joining the choir.

I thank the clergy, the choir and the people of St John-in-Bedwardine for their friendship and support.

John Brierley - Organist & Choirmaster

Annual Report of Music Group for 2017/18

The Music Group's principal involvement with the Parish in the past year has been through the Morning Prayer service on second Sundays and the Wholeness and Healing service on fourth Sundays. Both of these include specific provision for that great Christian tradition, singing the psalms. The "Responsorial Psalm" format seems to be well established now, and complements the mixture of traditional and modern hymnody we lead.

Our other regular Sunday morning commitments in the past year have included renewing our contribution to the Worship for Everyone service at St Clements on the first Sunday of each month, and our other regular commitment on the third Sunday at Café Church at Rushwick Village Hall.

We do also have occasional commitments elsewhere in the west Worcestershire area, notably at St John-the-Baptist parish in Suckley.

In the run-up to Christmas, and in co-operation with other parishes (and, through Mixed Blessings, other denominations), we were to be found in various church and non-church locations doing carol services and carol singing generally. So that's where our "Outreach" really kicks in - we do not just take our musical ministry into other churches but into non-church locations too.

This year one of our founder members, Auriol Pakington, passed away at the age of 95. She originally played keyboard with the group, and then moved to flute, being a very accomplished musician. Her funeral was a bitter/sweet occasion, with 20 current and former members of Mixed Blessings being present to see her off with some of her favourite hymns.

Overall, we continue to be very busy - and would hugely appreciate any new members to share the duties (and privilege, not to mention pleasure) of contributing to worship both in churches and elsewhere on the Westside.

*Peter Yates
10th March 2018*

Bell ringers' Report for 2017

The past year has been a mixture of great sadness and much laughter.

First the sad news. Our much loved Tower Captain, John Bower has resigned as a decline in his health has meant he now rings nearer his home across the river. He is much missed and we have dragged him back to ring with us at special services and weddings. The camaraderie and friendship within the group are the cause of much laughter and will enable us to move forward as a band.

Ringling generally is going through tough times and our band is no exception. It's important to spread the message that it's not all old people – our youngest member Thomas is 14 and he's a star. It is also important to change the perception that ringing is boring – one visit to our tower will prove that! We do need to give consideration to how to increase our numbers and this is an ongoing issue that we will have to tackle.

'Looking forward with confidence' is our motto for the coming year as we need to build on the work John Bower has done and use it as a solid base to continue to improve our ringing.

At the end of the year there will be a period of reflection and remembrance when, working alongside the Events Team and the clergy we will be taking part in one of the largest events we have ever been a part of. On 11th November 2018 the United Kingdom and its friends overseas will mark the day 100 years ago when the guns fell silent at the end of the First World War. This event will be the biggest we as a band will ever tackle and a Quarter Peel (St John's style) will be attempted by the Clangers for the first time.

Tracey Ward

Women's Breakfast Meeting Report for 2017

West Worcester Group Churches Women's Breakfast monthly meeting had an exciting 2017 which included moving venue twice. We outgrew Manor Farm and it wasn't easy for speakers with the general background activities. Three meetings were held at The Living Well, Top Barn which was an extremely nice venue. Unfortunately Wendy and John felt it wasn't something they could cater for on a regular basis. Our next move was to The Blakefield Room at St. John's Church where we became self-catering, still offering cooked and continental breakfast. This is working well with twenty women attending meetings.

Sally is a wonderful cooked breakfast chef, Barbara provides a substantial continental and everyone else helps with preparing the room, tidying and pot washing. We have become a great team.

Speakers have been excellent with topics ranging from being a foster family to prayer and creative art.

In addition to the monthly meeting a day workshop led by Beryl Little was held to make Famine Hygiene Packs for girls in Kenya.

We have been challenged, inspired and had lots of fun during our journeying together over the year.

We meet on the second Saturday of the month. Breakfast is at 8.30am followed by a talk with the meeting finishing at 10am. Why not consider joining us for food, fun and fellowship.

Margaret Rutter

Community Breakfast Report for 2017

On Saturday 3rd March 2018 we held our 10th Breakfast at St. John's Church. It was a very snowy day and had been freezing cold with winds from Siberia and a storm from the south. We served 78 breakfasts and one gentleman took bacon and sausage sandwiches away with him to share with others in Worcester. He has been sleeping under the railway arches for the past year and does not attend Maggs. Another lady came in from Malvern with a struggle and some university students attended and ate a very hearty breakfast.

The original vision for the breakfasts came from reading a book by Michael Mitton called "Coming Home". The book talked about what other churches have done to encourage people to come through the doors of a church and St John's situated where three roads meet is an ideal venue for being used to offer Hospitality to the stranger in our midst. Five years ago there was a Diocesan initiative asking all churches what they proposed to do as a piece of outreach work and this is where the vision became reality.

We held our first Breakfast on 11th May 2013. We served 50 breakfasts and although it was free we had a small float for the next breakfast and we covered our costs. We now have 2 breakfasts per year.

Since then the process has been refined with better advertising and just serving a “full English breakfast” with Toast and Marmalade, Tea and coffee and a very willing team of helpers to cook, serve and wash up.

On the 7th of October last year we served 133 full English breakfasts and had about 160-170 people through the door, some people just come for tea/coffee and toast. It has always been a free event and has always covered its costs and made a surplus for the next event. We have also been able to buy 2 new toasters for church use, chafing dishes have been donated and we have a splendid new urn and Hot pot bought for everyone to use.

God has so blessed this initiative with warmth and fellowship, for both our guests and us as we serve the wider community. I thank everyone who wants to be part of the team and who with hearts full of love is willing to serve.

Jenny English

Parish Magazine Report to Annual Meeting 2018

The Parish Magazine continues to be produced eleven times a year (monthly except August). Our monthly sales are about 180 through subscriptions and 30 from the back of church. As well as being a valuable form of outreach and communication to the church family, the magazine (through sales and advertising) more than covers its costs and makes a net contribution to the church's income.

Our thanks to Jill Bowen, who babysits the print run each month and makes up all the bundles and named copies, to Mary Hancock, Ian Thompson and Liz Edwards who do aspects of the administration, and to all our distributors who get the magazine distributed come rain or shine.

We'd love to grow the circulation of the magazine - If you like the magazine, please tell your friends about it - if you don't, please let the editors know why.

Graham and Sue Evans, joint magazine editors

REPORT ON THE FABRIC, GOODS AND ORNAMENTS OF THE CHURCH

CHURCHWARDENS' ANNUAL FABRIC REPORT for 2017

The following doubles as an Accommodation Committee report. It incorporates text from Brian Askew, our Estates Manager, which provides a review of the fabric work that was carried out in our church during 2017. The Churchwardens are happy to advance this verbatim as the substance of their own official report.

We would add that:

The Blakefield Room floor was refurbished (sanded and polished).

The church organ suffered two failures to its electrical circuitry. These each took out part of its capability. Interim repairs were effected, but it was determined that the 1950s wiring connecting the keyboards to the pipes needed to be replaced at a cost of some £20,000. Over £12,000 of this has been raised through fundraising and grants and as at the time of this report repair work is underway.

A small grand piano has been donated to the church. This is presently situated near the font under the authority of a 12 month's archdeacon's licence pending diocesan review of a full faculty application.

The PCC agreed to defer any significant repair work to the tower masonry until the findings of the 2018 Quinquennial inspection are known.

There has been no change in 2017 to the inventory of church ornaments.

Once again, we offer our thanks to Brian for his energetic work in ensuring that our buildings are maintained in good order.

*Gordon Templeton and Joy Job, Churchwardens
March 2018*

ESTATES MANAGER'S REPORT FOR 2017

During the early part of the year the PCC requested that the church should have a formal Safety Policy and Fire Risk assessment. I prepared these documents, using guidelines from Ecclesiastical Insurance, and they were subsequently approved by the PCC. The documents now reside in the Parish Office.

The testing of our portable electrical appliances (PAT testing) was completed in February 2017.

During July all of our fire equipment was given its annual inspection. A few extinguishers were replaced and re-sited and better signage fitted to show the use of each extinguisher. About half of our fire extinguishers will be time expired next year so will need to be replaced.

In October our three gas boilers were safety checked and serviced and everything was satisfactory. The cooker in the kitchen was safety checked and also found to be satisfactory.

As in previous years, we now have the bells safety checked every six months, by John Slater, around April and October. Some issues were identified where bolts were loose in the wooden frame and couldn't be tightened. These were rectified by John, who is happy that our bells installation is in good condition.

All the high level spotlights in the body of the church were changed for LED variants. These run much cooler, use less electricity and (hopefully) won't need replacing as often as the normal bulbs. Two additional high level spotlights were fitted in the North Aisle. This was to improve the lighting in that area following a report from the Diocesan lighting advisor.

Electrical work (in the form of additional power sockets) was carried out in the Ringing and Bell Chambers to reduce the amount of extension leads and trailing wires that were in existence.

I continued to have regular meetings with Council officials to keep the pressure on them to fulfil their legal responsibilities with the maintenance of the closed churchyard. This had success in two areas. Firstly I managed to get the Council to repair some potholes in the paths around the church and, secondly, when the wind blew down the large conifer tree the Council did all the clearing-up work. Towards the end of the year the Council approved the expenditure to reinstate and repair the trip fence. A small piece was repaired in December and the rest will be done next year.

*Brian Askew
February 2018*

REPORT ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE DEANERY SYNOD

Representation

This parish is represented by three members of the laity (the number depends upon the size of the parish electoral roll); currently Bill Amos, Graham Evans and Margaret Rutter. Representatives are re-elected every three years - 2017 was a re-election year.

Meetings

The Synod meets normally three times a year. In 2017-18 the February meeting was cancelled due to availability problems of key members.

Each meeting is divided into two sections. The first half looks at a particular topic of concern or interest, often with a visiting speaker:

- The Reverend Alison Maddocks, Diocesan Stewardship Officer, shared with Synod her thoughts and aspirations regarding Parish Share.
- The Rev'd Ruth Walker, Diocesan Children's Officer, together with Diocesan Mission Enablers addressed Synod.

During the second half of the meeting, the Synod conducts its business, including receiving reports from Diocesan boards and committees and voting on Diocesan-wide and National matters.

At the meeting of Deanery Synod in February 2016, the parishes of St John's, St Michael's and St Clement's put forward a resolution that they support the principle that Parish share arrears should be written off for parishes due a smaller Share following the Fairer Share exercise.

This motion, together with a similar one from Dudley Deanery, did have an effect: The Diocese eventually declared a jubilee, a forgiveness of parish share debt, for all parishes with a reduction of parish share under 'fairer share'.

Graham Evans
Deanery Representative of the Laity for the Parish of St. John-in-Bedwardine

St John-in-Bedwardine

*The Parochial Church Council of St John-in-Bedwardine Parish Church,
Worcester*

Annual Report and Accounts 2017



Incumbent: Rev Phillip Bradford
Registered Charity No. 1152583
St Johns Parish Office
1a Bromyard Road, Worcester WR2 5BS
01905 420490

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1. Introduction

The Annual Report and Accounts for the Parish of St John-in-Bedwardine is written equally for church members and those outside of the church looking in. As a charity we have to be publicly accountable to everyone. Therefore, it is produced in accordance with the requirements of the Church of England; to comply with the Charities Act 2011 and any regulations made there under and SORP (FRS 102) (Section 0, page 26). For further information please contact the Churchwardens or the PCC Treasurer (please see Parish Office contact details on the front cover).

For 2017 the report remains a work in progress and it is anticipated to be complete by the end of 2018.

2. Administrative information

The Parish of St. John-in-Bedwardine, Worcester is part of the Martley & Worcester West Deanery within the Diocese of Worcester; part of the Church of England.

St John-in-Bedwardine PCC is a registered charity (No. 1152583).

The PCC elects members (for a three year term of office) each year at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). PCC members who served from 1st January 2017 until the date this report was approved are:

Church Wardens: Gordon Templeton, Joy Job

Clergy: Priest-in-Charge: Rev Dr Chris Stuart (until July 2017);

Priest-in-Charge: Rev Phil Bradford; Assistant curate/associate vicar: Rev Sarah Cottrill

Lay Vice Chair: Sue Bale

Secretary: Graham Evans (until 2nd April 2017), Liz Edwards, non-member, remunerated as Parish Administrator

Treasurer: Chris Rees, John English

Other PCC Lay Representatives: Margaret Rutter, Graham Evans, Jane Askew, Colin Nash, Luise Horrocks, W Arthur Burgess, Barbara Willis, Graham Willis, Bill Amos

The Parish Administrator is Liz Edwards.

The PCC has appointed Alan Simcox of Nick Joyce Architects Ltd, Worcester as Inspecting Architect.

The PCC uses Lloyds Bank, The Cross Worcester.

3. Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on general funds of approximately 25% of gross expenditure (if possible); as a contingency to cover for urgent and emergency situations that may arise from time to time. The PCC policy requires the balance on General and Designated funds to be at least £30k. The balance on these funds was £67,325 at 31st December 2017. The PCC is operating within its reserves policy and looks to designate specific funds into a formal Asset Management fund.

A number of restricted and designated funds are held for specific purposes. These are set out on the balance sheet of the Accounts.

It is our policy to invest funds in CBF Church of England Deposit Fund, after taking account of the need for cash in the bank current account to meet day to day expenses and cash flow. Some small investments arising from other charities and trusts are held in other investment funds. These will be reviewed on a regular basis.

4. Structure, governance and management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. It operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. PCC members are appointed in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. All committed members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and consider standing for election to the PCC.

The Parish of St John-in-Bedwardine is a parish in the Benefice of St John-in-Bedwardine, Worcester. The PCC is responsible for health and safety, disability discrimination and child protection. The PCC has nominated people for the Diocesan Child Protection training.

The PCC is responsible for working with the clergy in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church; pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC delegates some business to other groups: *Standing Committee*: comprising PCC Lay Vice Chair, Churchwardens, PCC Treasurer, PCC Secretary, and stipendiary clergy. Responsible for day-to-day business decisions on behalf of the wider PCC, or any decisions that are required urgently but have been agreed in principle by the PCC, who have duly authorised the Standing Committee to make a final decision.

St Johns Bell Ringers: comprising representatives from the bell ringing team, this is responsible for running the bell tower of the church building.

A PCC member is the wife of the Church Organist. During 2017 the PCC paid £4203 for the services of John Brierley, Church Organist. The PCC member concerned took no part in any discussions or decision making relating to these payments and contracts. Another PCC member is the wife of the Estates Manager. During 2017 the PCC's share of Brian Askew's services amounted to £2429. The PCC member concerned took no part in any discussions or decision making relating to these payments and contracts.

4.1 Strategic Risks and Management Action Plans

The PCC is aware of its responsibility for risk management and has put in place arrangements to manage and reduce those risks which it regards as most significant as follows:

<i>Risk title:</i>	<i>Impact / likelihood:</i>	<i>Management action:</i>
Loss of use of key buildings e.g. Boiler failure	Disruption to ministry momentum and risk of reduced congregations and loss of income. Medium likelihood	Flexibility with more than one building—in the short term if necessary could relocate to St Clements. Asset Management plan in place for covering predictable maintenance costs.

5. Achievements and performance

The past year of mission and ministry of the church is reviewed in the reports from the various areas of church life. These are published in the first part of the APCM booklet. They include reports on the electoral roll, proceedings of the PCC, the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church, and the proceedings of the Deanery Synod.

6. Financial review

6.1 Financial standing: highlights (the ☺ and the ☹)

Total funds	£580K	Up from £572K last year ☺
Income	£118K	Down marginally from £120K last year ☹
Expenditure	£118K	Down from £125K last year ☺
Net Surplus	Cr £334	last year we had a deficit of £5k ☺

6.2 Actions taken during the year

There are dedicated volunteers who perform many functions of the treasurer job; processing and tracking magazine income, service collections, as well as long term rental income and gift aid management which provide the bulk of our income, and this is greatly appreciated as it makes the task manageable.

Achievements in 2017:

- Managed to almost match our fundraising budget, due to many and varied activities during the year
- Raised the income from room hire and parking
- Reduced the cost of fundraising
- Raised funds and acquired grant funding for the repair of the organ
- Raised £300 in aid of our campaign for a defibrillator

Despite a modest surplus, this disguises a fall in the general fund, which we have to monitor carefully, as this greatly restricts the activities that we can pursue as a church. We continue to break even, and would be able to do a lot more if our costs were matched in addition to any further activity, and we would be in a better position to be confident should the need for major building repairs or maintenance arose, as they will.

This year has been challenging for St John's with the interregnum, which made a stewardship drive very difficult given the timings involved.

We received grants from the Feoffees to match the fundraising for the organ, and they also contributed towards maintenance and the estate manager's salary, which has been most helpful in balancing the budget.

Gift aid claims as a percentage are up, and it is still encouraged to complete declarations for even modest donations as it increases the donation value by a quarter.

Two generous legacies are reported to be coming in this year or next, and this is also very gratefully received; they are incidentally free from inheritance tax and provide great support to the church in realising projects and ideas.

Future commitments and budget for 2018:

The PCC continues to face challenges. The immediate financial challenges include:

- Seeking to increase our income to match the longer term ambitions of St Johns,
- Regular maintenance costs of our historic church building and costs arising out of the need for our rental property to remain marketable.
- Anticipating the costs of reordering and redecoration of the church to improve our church buildings.
- Funding of new projects coming out of our plans for the future.
- Raising the contributions towards our asset management plan.

During 2017 the PCC paid £54,502 towards our Parish Share, that being 100% of its allocation.

6.3 The Annual Statement of Accounts for 2017

Set out from page 28 and has been subject to Independent Examination (see the Examiner's report at the end of this document).

6.4 Funds movements

The PCC has a loan outstanding from the Meeting Room Trust, which is repaid annually from general funds.

7. Accounting Policies - for the year ended 31 December 2017

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, applicable accounting standards, and the current Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS 102). The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value.

7.1 Funds

General funds: represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC.

Designated Funds: are held for a particular purpose by the PCC, but still remain legally unrestricted.

Restricted funds: these are funds raised by the church or given to the church for specific purposes and must be spent on that purpose.

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

7.2 Incoming Resources

<i>Voluntary income and capital resources</i>
Collections: accounted for when received by or on behalf of the PCC
Planned giving: under Gift Aid is accounted for only when received
Income tax: recoverable on Gift Aid donations is accounted for when the donation is received
Grants and legacies: to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the amount due
Fund raising: special events (e.g. concerts) accounted for gross
Sales of books and magazines: accounted for gross
<i>Other ordinary income</i>
Rental income: from the letting of church premises and car parking is accounted for when the rental is due
<i>Income from investments</i>
Dividends and interest: accounted for when receivable. Tax on such income is accounted for in the same accounting year
<i>Gains and losses on investments</i>
Realised gains or losses: accounted for when investments are sold
Unrealised gains or losses: accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December

7.3 Resources used

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

7.4 Activities *directly relating to the work of the Church*

Parish share: accounted for when payable. Any agreed payment remaining unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor¹ in the Balance Sheet.

7.5 Fixed assets

Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings

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

No value is placed on movable church furnishings held by the vicar/rector and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers these to be inalienable (i.e. cannot be transferred to another person). They are listed in the Church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For inalienable property acquired before 2015 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Items acquired since 2015 (had there been any) would have been capitalised and depreciated in the financial statements over their anticipated useful economic life on a straight line basis.

All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings, individual items under £2,500, on repair, or movable church furnishings, is shown as expenditure for the year in the financial statements.

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment

Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £2,500 or less are shown as expenditure in the year when the asset is acquired. There are no items of greater value.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

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 uncollectable.

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

7.6 Gifts in kind

Volunteers: the time given by volunteers is not accounted for in the accounts. The PCC's gratitude for these gifts is reflected in the reports contained within the APCM booklet.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 20th March 2018 and signed on its behalf by:



Rev Phil Bradford (PCC Chairman)



Chris Rees (Treasurer to the PCC)

¹ Creditor: goods or services which we have received in the year but for which payment is to be made in the following year.

8. Financial statements

8.1 Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	67,944	4,092	—	72,036	72,186
Income from charitable activities	6,324	3,411	—	9,734	9,869
Other trading activities	21,139	103	—	21,241	20,032
Investments	15,225	—	71	15,295	16,420
Other income	—	—	—	—	1,116
Total income	110,631	7,605	71	118,307	119,623
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	2,550	22	—	2,572	4,515
Expenditure on charitable activities	2,837	445	—	3,281	7,842
Other expenditure	104,117	8,002	—	112,119	112,625
Total expenditure	109,503	8,469	—	117,973	124,983
Gains / losses on investment assets	119	1,010	6,331	7,460	9,255
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	1,247	146	6,402	7,794	3,895
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds - in	—	—	1,913	1,913	1,917
Gross transfers between funds - out	(1,913)	—	—	(1,913)	(1,917)
Other recognised gains / losses					
Net movement in funds	(666)	146	8,315	7,794	3,895
Total funds brought forward	445,534	31,546	94,822	571,901	568,006
Total funds carried forward	444,868	31,691	103,136	579,696	571,901
Represented by					
Unrestricted					
General fund	67,325	—	—	67,325	68,110
Designated					
Church Expenses Funds	1,443	—	—	1,443	1,323
Curates House Fund	270,000	—	—	270,000	270,000
Kingdom Mission Fund	6,100	—	—	6,100	6,100
Parish Office and Flat	100,000	—	—	100,000	100,000
Restricted					
Bell Ringers Account	—	49	—	49	49
Bell Ringers Fund	—	1,715	—	1,715	1,636
Door Replacement Fund	—	620	—	620	620
Film Club	—	1,851	—	1,851	2,296
Friends of St Johns	—	2,630	—	2,630	2,170
Henry Smith Charity	—	1,081	—	1,081	—
Monuments Maintenance Fund	—	197	—	197	180
North Aisle Lighting Improvements Fund	—	—	—	—	190
Nourse Fund	—	1,348	—	1,348	—
Organ repair fund	—	(1,792)	—	(1,792)	—
Poor Fund	—	2,164	—	2,164	1,985
Sick Poor and Gen Fund	—	2,689	—	2,689	2,466
Sick and Poor Fund	—	984	—	984	902
St Johns Blakefield Hall Trust	—	17,268	—	17,268	16,758
Tower Fund	—	887	—	887	2,294
Endowment					
St Johns Ecclesiastical Purposes	—	—	65,742	65,742	60,298
St Johns Meeting Room Trust	—	—	37,395	37,395	34,523

8.2 Balance sheet

Class and code	Description	This year	Last year
Fixed assets			
CBF1006F	CBF 1006F Blakefield Hall T	17,268	16,758
CBF1252S	CBF 1252S C/EXP Acton L	246	226
CBF1253S	CBF 1253S C/Exp Anon	246	226
CBF1254S	CBF 1254S C/Exp Hemsworths	951	872
CBF1255S	CBF 1255S Poor	2,164	1,985
CBF1256S	CBF 1256S Sick Poor	984	902
CBF1400S	CBF 1400S	65,742	60,298
CBF1401S	CBF 1401S(2)	10,724	9,836
CBF2261S	CBF 2261S	197	180
CBF2262S	CBF 2262S Sick Poor Gen	2,689	2,466
PBROMY1A	Parish Office and Flat	100,000	100,000
PHERON16	16 Heron Close	270,000	270,000
	Total Fixed assets	471,209	463,749
Current assets			
ACC1	Lloyds Bank Account 1	2,708	20,046
ACC2	Lloyds Bank Account 2	16,506	8,006
ACCAM	Lloyds Bank Account Asset Management	13,425	9,222
ACCFOC	Lloyds Bank Account Friends of St Johns	2,630	2,170
ACCHSMTH	Henry Smith Account	2,379	—
CASHCHILDR	Children's Church petty cash	50	50
CASHFLOAT	Cash floats for events	—	—
CASHOFFICE	Office Petty Cash	50	50
DEPOSITACC	Deposit 642180001D	46,634	46,503
STJ1212D	St Johns Meeting Room Trust 1212D	26,671	24,687
Z05	Accounts Receivable	1,967	2,009
	Total Current assets	113,020	112,743
Liabilities			
6699	Agency collections	2,633	21
Z04	Accounts Payable	1,901	4,571
	Total Liabilities	4,534	4,592
	Net Asset surplus(deficit)	579,696	571,901
Reserves			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	334	—
Z01	Starting balances	571,901	562,646
Z02	Other gains/(losses)	7,460	9,255
	Total Reserves	579,696	571,901
	Represented by funds		
	Unrestricted	67,325	68,110
	Designated	377,543	377,423
	Restricted	31,691	31,546
	Endowment	103,136	94,822
	Total	579,696	571,901

8.3 Statement of assets and liabilities

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Fixed assets - Investments						
CBF 1006F Blakefield Hall T	—	—	17,268	—	17,268	16,758
CBF 1252,3,4 & 2262S	—	—	—	—	—	—
CBF 1252S C/EXP Acton L	—	246	—	—	246	226
CBF 1253S C/Exp Anon	—	246	—	—	246	226
CBF 1254S C/Exp Hemsworths	—	951	—	—	951	872
CBF 1255S Poor	—	—	2,164	—	2,164	1,985
CBF 1256S Sick Poor	—	—	984	—	984	902
CBF 1400S	—	—	—	65,742	65,742	60,298
CBF 1401S(2)	—	—	—	10,724	10,724	9,836
CBF 2261S	—	—	197	—	197	180
CBF 2262S Sick Poor Gen	—	—	2,689	—	2,689	2,466
Totals	—	1,443	23,301	76,465	101,209	93,749
Fixed assets - Tangible assets						
Parish Office and Flat	—	100,000	—	—	100,000	100,000
16 Heron Close	—	270,000	—	—	270,000	270,000
Totals	—	370,000	—	—	370,000	370,000
Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand						
Lloyds Bank Account 1	(15,954)	6,100	12,562	—	2,708	20,046
Lloyds Bank Account 2	19,775	—	(3,269)	—	16,506	8,006
Lloyds Bank Account Asset Management	16,631	—	(3,206)	—	13,425	9,222
Lloyds Bank Account Friends of St Johns	—	—	2,630	—	2,630	2,170
Henry Smith Account	—	—	2,379	—	2,379	—
Children's Church petty cash	50	—	—	—	50	50
Cash floats for events	—	—	—	—	—	—
Office Petty Cash	50	—	—	—	50	50
Totals	20,552	6,100	11,096	—	37,748	39,543
Current assets - Investments						
Deposit 642180001D	46,634	—	—	—	46,634	46,503
St Johns Meeting Room Trust 1212D	—	—	—	26,671	26,671	24,687
Totals	46,634	—	—	26,671	73,305	71,191
Current assets - Debtors						
Accounts Receivable	1,967	—	—	—	1,967	2,009
Totals	1,967	—	—	—	1,967	2,009
Liabilities - Agency accounts						
Agency collections	(73)	—	2,706	—	2,633	21
Totals	(73)	—	2,706	—	2,633	21
Liabilities - Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year						
Accounts Payable	1,901	—	—	—	1,901	4,571
Totals	1,901	—	—	—	1,901	4,571
Grand total	67,325	377,543	31,691	103,136	579,696	571,901

8.4 Fund movement by type

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/losses	Closing
BellRinger - Bell Ringers Fund						
Restricted	1,636	228	149	—	—	1,715
Sub-total for BellRinger	1,636	228	149	—	—	1,715
BlRngrAcc - Bell Ringers Account						
Restricted	49	—	—	—	—	49
Sub-total for BlRngrAcc	49	—	—	—	—	49
BlakFldHIT - St Johns Blakefield						
Restricted	16,758	—	—	—	510	17,268
Sub-total for BlakFldHIT	16,758	—	—	—	510	17,268
CExpenses - Church Expenses Fund						
Designated	1,323	—	—	—	119	1,443
Sub-total for CExpenses	1,323	—	—	—	119	1,443
CurHouse - Curates House Fund						
Designated	270,000	—	—	—	—	270,000
Sub-total for CurHouse	270,000	—	—	—	—	270,000
Door - Door Replacement Fun						
Restricted	620	—	—	—	—	620
Sub-total for Door	620	—	—	—	—	620
EccclPurpos - St Johns Ecclesiasti						
Endowment	60,298	—	—	—	5,443	65,742
Sub-total for EccclPurpos	60,298	—	—	—	5,443	65,742
FilmClub - Film Club						
Restricted	2,296	—	445	—	—	1,851
Sub-total for FilmClub	2,296	—	445	—	—	1,851
Friends - Friends of St Johns						
Restricted	2,170	460	—	—	—	2,630
Sub-total for Friends	2,170	460	—	—	—	2,630
HSMITH - Henry Smith Charity						
Restricted	—	1,081	—	—	—	1,081
Sub-total for HSMITH	—	1,081	—	—	—	1,081
KNGMISSION - Kingdom Mission Fund						
Designated	6,100	—	—	—	—	6,100
Sub-total for KNGMISSION	6,100	—	—	—	—	6,100
Monument - Monuments Maintenan						
Restricted	180	—	—	—	16	197
Sub-total for Monument	180	—	—	—	16	197
MtngRoom - St Johns Meeting Roo						
Endowment	34,523	71	—	1,913	888	37,395
Sub-total for MtngRoom	34,523	71	—	1,913	888	37,395
NAisleLigh - North Aisle Lighting						
Restricted	190	—	190	—	—	—
Sub-total for NAisleLigh	190	—	190	—	—	—
NOURSE - Nourse Fund						
Restricted	—	1,348	—	—	—	1,348
Sub-total for NOURSE	—	1,348	—	—	—	1,348
ORGAN - Organ repair fund						
Restricted	—	4,431	6,222	—	—	(1,792)
Sub-total for ORGAN	—	4,431	6,222	—	—	(1,792)
POffFlat - Parish Office and Fl						
Designated	100,000	—	—	—	—	100,000
Sub-total for POffFlat	100,000	—	—	—	—	100,000
Poor - Poor Fund						
Restricted	1,985	—	—	—	179	2,164
Sub-total for Poor	1,985	—	—	—	179	2,164
SickPoor - Sick and Poor Fund						
Restricted	902	—	—	—	81	984
Sub-total for SickPoor	902	—	—	—	81	984
SickPoorGn - Sick Poor and Gen Fu						
Restricted	2,466	—	—	—	223	2,689
Sub-total for SickPoorGn	2,466	—	—	—	223	2,689
Tower - Tower Fund						
Restricted	2,294	58	1,464	—	—	887
Sub-total for Tower	2,294	58	1,464	—	—	887
General - General fund						
Unrestricted	68,110	110,631	109,503	(1,913)	—	67,325
Sub-total for General	68,110	110,631	109,503	(1,913)	—	67,325
Grand total	571,901	118,307	117,973	—	7,460	579,696

8.5 Analysis of income and expenditure

8.5.1 Donations and legacies

					Total	
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
101 - Planned Gift Aid donation	36,422	—	—	—	36,422	39,601
102 - Tax recovered	9,621	—	—	—	9,621	9,953
103 - Planned giving (not Gift Aided)	1,500	—	—	—	1,500	1,500
104 - Plate collections	4,706	—	—	—	4,706	4,843
105 - Wall safe collections	483	—	—	—	483	519
106 - Unspecified/sundry donations	1,204	—	878	—	2,082	1,174
107 - Gift Aid donation (not regular)	520	—	325	—	845	430
201 - Grants to general fund	12,375	—	—	—	12,375	13,596
202 - Legacies	1,113	—	—	—	1,113	—
F1 - Friends donation	—	—	460	—	460	570
MPCC - Movement into PCC umbrella	—	—	2,429	—	2,429	—
Total	67,944	—	4,092	—	72,036	72,186

8.5.2 Income from charitable activities

					Total	
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
203 - Fund raising and other sources	3,029	—	3,411	—	6,439	4,129
203E - Fund raising Everyclick / Raise with Sainsbury	16	—	—	—	16	48
203F - Fund raising Events Team	3,279	—	—	—	3,279	5,692
Total	6,324	—	3,411	—	9,734	9,869

8.5.3 Other trading activities

					Total	
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
203P - Fund raising printing	385	—	—	—	385	800
2500 - Bell ringers visiting bands	—	—	103	—	103	253
402 - Rental income from church rooms/parking	6,366	—	—	—	6,366	5,791
403 - Magazine	2,189	—	—	—	2,189	2,096
404 - Wedding and funeral fees	12,199	—	—	—	12,199	11,092
Total	21,139	—	103	—	21,241	20,032

8.5.4 Investments

					Total	
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
301 - Interest and dividends	2,855	—	—	71	2,925	2,544
302F - Rental from 1a Bromyard Road	5,158	—	—	—	5,158	5,536
302H - Rental from Heron Close	7,212	—	—	—	7,212	8,340
Total	15,225	—	—	71	15,295	16,420

8.5.5 Other income

					Total	
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
601 - Insurance claim	—	—	—	—	—	1,060
B1 - Bell ringer account income	—	—	—	—	—	55
Total	—	—	—	—	—	1,116

INCOME TOTAL	110,631	—	7,605	71	118,307	119,623
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8.5.6 Raising funds

					Total	
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
3000 - Costs of fundraising	603	—	22	—	625	1,513
3000E - Cost of fundraising (Events team)	1,947	—	—	—	1,947	3,003
Total	2,550	—	22	—	2,572	4,515

8.5.7 Expenditure on charitable activities

					Total	
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
1001 - Mission Overseas	320	—	—	—	320	620
1002 - Mission (International charities)	150	—	—	—	150	980
1003 - Mission UK (e.g. Church Army)	—	—	—	—	—	140
1004 - Mission local/christian/secular charities	2,367	—	445	—	2,811	6,075
2007A - Young adults group	—	—	—	—	—	27
Total	2,837	—	445	—	3,281	7,842

8.5.8 Other expenditure

					Total	
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
2001 - Parish Share to WDBF Ltd	54,502	—	—	—	54,502	53,501
2002 - Clergy expenses	1,175	—	—	—	1,175	1,539
2004 - Assistant Curate expenses	—	—	—	—	—	85
2005 - Heating/Lighting/Water/Cleaning	9,727	—	190	—	9,916	8,648
2006 - Routine/minor maintenance	7,145	—	—	—	7,145	6,294
2007 - Upkeep of services	8,059	—	—	—	8,059	7,047
2008 - Upkeep of churchyard	112	—	—	—	112	183
2009 - Costs of Parish Magazine and bookstall	75	—	—	—	75	215
2011 - Maintenance/management/repair flat/house	2,173	—	—	—	2,173	2,922
2015 - Security System/Major Church maintenance	1,747	—	6,200	—	7,947	12,500
2016 - Verger/Organist/Choir/Bell ringers from weddings	5,475	—	—	—	5,475	4,849
2016B - Bell ringers expense budget	—	—	—	—	—	191
2017 - Children's Church	170	—	—	—	170	411
207 - Maintenance/repair bells	—	—	364	—	364	208
309 - Maintenance/repair Tower	—	—	1,249	—	1,249	1,349
4000 - Administration	10,134	—	—	—	10,134	9,707
4000I - Ecclesiastical insurance	3,623	—	—	—	3,623	2,977
Total	104,117	—	8,002	—	112,119	112,625

EXPENDITURE TOTAL	109,503	—	8,469	—	117,973	124,983
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GRAND TOTAL	1,128	—	(864)	71	334	(5,360)
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9. Report of the External Examiner

Independent Examiner's Report to the members/trustees of St John In Bedwardine Church, Worcester, Parochial Church Council.

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2017 which are set out on pages 7 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
- to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Grahame Lucas
120, Laugharne Road,
St Johns
Worcester.
WR2 5LT
19th March 2017

Notes



Annual Reports booklet for St John-in-Bedwardine, April 2018