

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2022

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2022 10.30am at St Oswald's Church

### AGENDA

#### 1. Worship

#### 2. Annual Meeting of Parishioners

- 2.1. Introduction
  - 2.2. Apologies
  - 2.3. Minutes of 2021 AMP
    - 2.3.1. Matters Arising
  - 2.4. Elections
    - 2.4.1. of Churchwardens (two places)
    - 2.4.2. of Deputy Churchwardens (two places)
- Close

#### 3. Annual Parochial Church Meeting

- 3.1. Introduction
- 3.2. Minutes of 2021 APCM
  - 3.2.1 Matters Arising
- 3.3. Electoral Roll Report
- 3.4. Elections to PCC (three places)
- 3.5. Receive Church Reports: (Electoral Roll, Churchwardens, Safeguarding, PCC, Deanery Synod)
- 3.6. Receive reports on Church Activity
- 3.7. Receive and approve accounts for 2021
  - 3.7.1. Appointment of independent examiner of accounts
- 3.8. Development & Vision
- 3.9. Election Results (if necessary)
- 3.10. Future Dates:

PCC: 16<sup>th</sup> May, 4<sup>th</sup> July, 19<sup>th</sup> Sept, 21<sup>st</sup> Nov

#### Closing Prayer

## Minutes of 2021 APCM (agenda 2.3 & 3.2)

**Date of meeting:** 9th May 2021 **Time:** 11:10am

**Location:** St Oswald's Church, Lawford Road, Rugby + virtual 'Zoom' meeting

**Note:-** due to the Covid pandemic the meeting was held in the Church building with a limited number, in line with Covid restrictions in place at the time of the meeting, of Parishioners present. The remainder of Parishioners were able to actively join in the meeting by way of the 'Zoom' platform.

**Introduction:** Alan opened the meeting by explaining the purpose of the two meetings and who could vote at which. The protocols to enable people to participate by Zoom were explained. Thanks were given to the Technical Team without whom we would have struggled, not only to hold this meeting, but all the services, meetings, etc. during the last twelve months.

There followed a short time of prayer led by Alan.

### Annual Meeting of Parishioners - Minutes

**Apologies:** Apologies were received from Alison Farnell and Murray Naish

#### **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2020 were taken as read. Ann Love proposed and Julie Reid seconded the proposal that the minutes be formally accepted by the meeting. This was unanimously accepted by the meeting. There were no matters arising.

#### **Election of Church Wardens and Deputy Church Wardens:**

Before proceeding to the election Alan and Jane expressed their thanks for the invaluable support given to them by the current Wardens and Deputies over the last year.

Church Wardens – two nominations had been received by the time of the meeting:-

Anna Naish – proposer Fiona Setchell; seconder Ruth Hartley

Alisdair Rusk – proposer David Long; seconder Stuart Cleall.

There being no other nominations both Anna and Alisdair were re-elected unopposed.

Deputy Church Wardens – two nominations had been received by the time of the meeting:-

Debbie Olnier – proposer Dawn Austin; seconder Mark Austin

Laura Freeman- Powell – proposer Tom Daniel; seconder Julie Reid

There being no other nominations both Debbie and Laura were re-elected unopposed.

Following the elections, the meeting was closed.

### Annual Parochial Church Meeting – Minutes

**Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2020 were taken as read. Nathan Ritz proposed and Debbie Olnier seconded the proposal that the minutes be formally accepted by the meeting. This was unanimously accepted by the meeting. Alan paid thanks to Colin Parker, who was the PCC secretary at the time of the October meeting but, sadly, was unable to complete the minutes before his untimely death. He thanked Terry for putting the minutes together based on the notes of others.

There were no matters arising.

**Electoral Roll Report:** The current electoral roll is 117, of which 38% live in the parish. Thanks were given to Dawn for preparing the report and in her role as Electoral Roll Officer.

**Elections to the PCC:** Two members – Debbie Olnor and Val Burgon– were due to retire from the PCC with three vacancies to be filled.

At the time of the meeting three nominations had been received:-

Val Burgon – proposer David Williams; seconder Dorothy Williams

Di Doyle – proposer Dawn Austin; seconder Julie Reid

Chris Hailstead – proposer Marion MacLellan; seconder Dave MacLellan

There being no other nominations Val, Di and Chris were re-elected unopposed to serve on the PCC until 2024.

**Receive Church Reports:** Alan addressed the meeting by talking through his ‘Vicar’s Comments’, as contained within the meeting pack, and gave thanks to all those who had gone over and beyond in order to keep us together as a worshipping community.

As copies of all other reports were contained within the meeting pack for pre-meeting reading none were read out during the meeting but questions were invited of which there were none.

Anna and Alisdair took the opportunity to pay their personal thanks to Alan and Jane for their support and encouragement.

Alan reiterated the importance of Safeguarding stating that it has to be our first priority in which the whole Church must be involved. If anyone has any concerns, at any time, they should talk to our Safeguarding Officers or Clergy.

**Receive Reports on Church Activity:** Copies of the relevant reports formed part of the meeting pack. These were taken as read with no questions being raised.

**Receive and approve accounts for 2020:** Dave MacLellan ran through the basis of the accounts. Our income for 2020 was around £18K greater than that for 2019, the bulk of this difference coming from donations made by church members.

By reference to the financial information contained within the meeting pack it was noted that our income and expenditure virtually balanced. Expenditure was slightly greater than in 2019 with the largest outgoing being our Parish Share along with £12k for the support of other parishes.

Several slides were shown outlining historical costs over the last seven years all demonstrating that we are currently in a healthy financial position.

Points to note for 2021:- by the end of April income and expenditure were more or less the same; Parish Share has been reduced due to the falling number of church members over recent years; later in year building improvement work is due to start with associated costs; maybe in a position to pay off some of the Parish Share owing from previous years.

Finally we should all carefully consider our personal giving.

As there were no questions the meeting unanimously approved the accounts.

**Appointment of Independent Examiner of accounts:** The meeting was informed that Phil Helmsey, who has acted in this role for some time and had been extremely helpful in guiding Dave in the preparation of this year’s report, was willing to stand again.

The meeting unanimously agreed to the re-appointment of Phil.

Alan formally thanked the financial team for their hard work.

**Development and Vision:** Alan began by outlining the Vision that had recently been agreed by the PCC and said that he was looking forward to the next few years. It is usual for vision statements to detail functions but, the one presented to the meeting, detailed real visions that set the direction of travel for the Parish which we believe God wants us to follow. Exciting but challenging times are ahead.

As we come out of the current pandemic there is a need to review our service pattern and what is finally agreed, will not necessarily offer a range of services to try and engage the other 90%. Alan also made reference to 'Prayer 2020' and 'God in my Everything 2021'.

As a church we need to look at becoming more diverse – age/ethnicity/social/background - in order to truly reflect the Parish we serve.

Behind the 'Vision' is a 5 year plan that is constantly developing and evolving with new programmes being released as we move forward. The current priority is reconnecting with each other. The next set of priorities will be shared towards the end of the summer as the post-pandemic situation clarifies.

Alan then opened the meeting for questions. No questions were raised but Gail Long took the opportunity to say 'I think it is exciting. Thank-you'.

Meeting formally closed at 12:05 following a short time of prayer led by Jane

# Church Reports 2022

## Electoral Roll Report 2022

	April 2021	April 2022
Resident	44	46
Non-resident	73	76
<b>Total</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>122</b>

Leaving:	5 (1 deceased, 4 moved on)
Joined:	10

*Dawn Austin, Electoral Roll Secretary*

## Vicar's Comments

At the last APCM we released both a long-term Vision to outline where we believe God wants to take us as a church, and a set of priorities for the next twelve months to take us nearer to that vision.



**To be Jesus centred,  
God dependent,  
Missionary disciples**



*who are*



**Being church in a variety  
of ways**



*resulting in us*



**Becoming a more  
diverse community**



*and*



**Serving God in His world**



The pandemic has hindered advancement on some things, both because of the energy that has gone into constant change, but also because of the limitations on meeting together. However, substantial progress has been made. Specific details can be seen in the interim report issued a few weeks ago and in the individual ministry reports below. We can be really encouraged by progress made, for example, in our children & youth ministry, our schools ministry, building repairs and development, as well as in being able to continue ministries like Make Lunch throughout the pandemic.

Very few churches have come out of the pandemic in as financially stable way as we have, so thank you for your generosity. We do however need to grow both our income and our one-off gifts (like legacies) if we are to build our staffing levels to a realistic level and complete our plans for an enlarged building.

Moving the Overslade congregation into a monthly 'pastoral mode' was a big change, but the appointment of Ian Sweeney as curate gives us a route for planting a New Worshipping Community of some sort in that area of the parish in the coming year.

Much of what has been achieved has been because of the efforts of a few people. We are hugely grateful to them, but our hopes for 2022 and beyond are that we can share the tasks of ministry and of giving more widely amongst the congregation. The SHAPE programme has been developed to facilitate that.

Our key scripture for 2021 was Colossians 2:6-7. It forms our ongoing prayer for our whole church family. *"Just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith."*

*Alan & Jane Hulme*

## **Church Warden's Building Report**

Like last year, I would like to say a big Thank You! to all those who have regularly given freely of their time and talents to carry out jobs in and around the Church. Your efforts are hugely valued and appreciated.

The work on the building has continued and I hope you are seeing the improvements. Last year we concentrated on some big projects that improved the exterior appearance of the church and the general standards of the building. We have continued in that vein this year.

Starting on the outside of the building, the old and damaged chain-link perimeter fence adjacent to New Street has been replaced with a new one to a high standard. Our outside team have continued to do a brilliant job in maintaining the grass, removing weeds, ivy, and brambles but as ever, it is an uphill task. The kitchen roof has been treated to remove the unsightly moss that had built up and is now looking good.

The new church noticeboard and carpark signs have been delivered and erected and are looking brilliant. There is also a new bicycle rack in position providing a secure place to leave you bikes!

Inside the church we have continued to maintain the building. The church carpets have recently been professionally cleaned. As part of our need to improve the standards of the kitchen a small team gave up a week of their time to repaint it from top to bottom – Thank You! In addition, the installation of a catering dishwasher with a three-phase electrical supply, a new fridge/freezer, new blinds, and the provision of new kitchen equipment, mugs and chopping boards, means that we now have a kitchen that has enabled us to register with the council so that we can provide food for our activities, cooked on site. The kitchen floor has been professionally cleaned as well. The small toilet cubicle has been recently painted and looks fresher. New cupboards have been erected in the side hall.

The current heating system is now beginning to fail and the Drugasar heaters are needing a lot of nursing to keep them going. We should have a new system in place this year, but we are still waiting for the approval to come through. The air curtains in the foyer have been subject to running repairs but Dave Cartwright has got them running well again!

To enable our plans for re-ordering we had an Asbestos audit carried out in the church building. We also had the lightning rod system tested and all was found to be in order. We also had a Portable Appliance Testing (PAT) audit completed of all the pieces of portable electrical equipment in our three buildings. Only two items failed, and these were immediately removed from the building.

As last year, we have had the roof spaces in the church treated for Cluster flies. This was a treatment to further reduce the levels overwintering in the roof spaces. The pest control company was also asked to investigate a reported mouse sighting in the Dixon Hall which has now been dealt with and signed off.

There remains a lot to do and I still have a long list of jobs that I want to get completed this coming year so if anyone is looking for a job, small or large, please talk to me!

*Alisdair Rusk, Churchwarden*

## Safeguarding Report

Making sure that our church and our ministries are safe and secure are core to what we do, and so a big thank you to all who have enabled this over this past year.

We would encourage each member of the congregation who has not undertaken safeguarding training to consider doing the Basic course set by the diocese, this can be accessed at <https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/>

Please feel free to email us at [safeguarding@stmatthews.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stmatthews.org.uk) if you have any questions or concerns.

Ensuring that the church is a safe place for everyone is a whole church responsibility so please remember; if you see something that concerns you, tell someone.

*Marion MacLellan and Ruth Hartley*

## PCC Membership

<b>Clergy</b> (ex officio):	Rev. Alan Hulme, Rev. Jane Hulme
<b>Churchwardens</b> (elected annually):	Anna Naish, Alisdair Rusk
<b>Deputy Churchwardens</b> (elected annually):	Laura Freeman-Powell, Debbie Olnier
<b>Deanery Synod Members</b> (ex officio until 2023):	Anne Love, Debbie Olnier, Nicola Tysall, Dave MacLellan
<b>PCC members: Elected until 2022:</b>	Stuart Cleall, Malcolm Hunt, Fiona Setchell, Janet Wright
<b>Elected until 2023:</b>	Gail Heslop, Tom Daniel, Terry Seamer
<b>Elected until 2024:</b>	Val Burgon, Di Doyle, Chris Haistead

## **PCC Report**

This report covers the period May 2021, following the APCM held on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May, to April 2022.

The PCC have met on six occasions (May, July, September, November, January and March) the November and March meetings being face to face in Church, all others via Zoom. The minutes of all of these meetings are available on request.

There has been an 85% attendance rate at these meetings. An additional face to face meeting was held in October for which the PCC were joined by the Worship Team in to specifically review the 2021 Worship Pattern.

With Covid restrictions, in one form or another, being in place throughout the year, a theme common to all meetings was related to how we would function within the constraints of such restrictions whilst still keeping the Church together. Every other meeting the Parish Safeguarding Officers prepared, and presented, a comprehensive report to the PCC Church for approval. Finances appeared on the agenda for each meeting as did Buildings. The latter covered the maintenance of our existing buildings, along with the proposed modifications plans for them, plus the proposals for the new church hall.

PCC reviewed and approved a) Mission Action Plan; b) Equal Opportunities Policy and c) social media & On-line Guidance for Youth Ministry Leaders.

*Terry Seamer PCC Secretary*

## **Deanery Synod Report**

Deanery Synod meetings have taken place three times this year.

Significant discussions have taken place on Parish Share, Rugby Deanery Plan, Clergy welfare, and the Mission Hub to facilitate growth in each parish. Our PCC's suggestion for a simplified Parish Share reporting system that made it clear who were donor parishes and who were subsidised parishes was accepted and adopted for 2022.

The four Deanery representatives have been able to share fellowship with other members of the Deanery-and represent your views.

*Anne Love Deanery Synod Representative*

## **Rugby Revive**

Rugby Revive is a network of churches and para-church organisations across Rugby. Unlike most ecumenical organisations it functions not with a constitution but simply through relationships and trust. Every Revive activity has a lead church or group and other churches choose to join in as they see fit. Alan Hulme is part of the Steering Group. With many ministers new in town since 2019 the priorities in 2021 were about re-building relationships and praying together. To that end this church was instrumental in initiating a senior leader's pray meeting, initially online, once per month. A small group from other churches initiated a town-wide online conversation under the auspices of *Redeeming our Communities* (ROC), but there have been no significant outcomes from that yet. More concrete plans were made for working together in 2022 as the pandemic eases which include a Youth Camp led by YFC and a BLESS RUGBY prayer walking initiative, led by St Oswald's.

## Activity Reports (agenda 3.6)

### Children & Young People

**Children's Church** exists for the younger generation of our congregation, to provide them a space where they can learn more about God and the Christian faith, develop their own faith and be a church community together. Twinkles serves our 2-4 year olds and Fun Followers serves our primary school aged children.

The main highlight of 2021 was welcoming our children back into their groups in September, following a long period of absence due to the COVID pandemic. For the early part of 2021, leaders provided materials online and via email for 'Twinkles at home', while Fun Followers engaged with the livestreamed services. Other highlights have been safely recruiting a number of new group leaders and helpers, watching our children become more enthusiastic and confident in church and our Children's Church Christmas party where all of the groups joined together. For the leaders, another highlight has been our regular prayer meeting every Sunday before Children's Church. God's presence in the church centre has been tangible and we have experienced immediate and concrete answers to prayer in our groups on Sunday mornings.

Our aims for the coming year are to continue to help our children develop their own faith and to help those who are ready to start taking part in communion. We will also be looking to hold more whole Children's Church/Tea and Toast events to build our sense of church community and to help those who are ready to transition to the next group.

*Laura Freeman-Powell*

**Tea and Toast** exists to serve the young people of our church, giving them their own space where they can connect with God and each other. The group was relaunched in 2021 following the COVID pandemic, starting with some summer social events and then Sunday morning meetings twice a month since September.

Highlights of 2021 have included welcoming new members to the group and to church, revamping our room with new furniture, beanbags and lights, a meal out together at Nando's and new friendships forming within the group. Our focus for this year has been the youth alpha course. A particular highlight was our Holy Spirit Alpha session. We held a longer Sunday morning session with a pizza lunch to watch the Alpha videos together and to leave more space for discussion and some free social time. This event was a turning point in our relationships with one another and we have seen the personal faith of many of our members develop over the course.

Our aims for the coming year are to develop the foundation we have built through the alpha course by looking at the gospels together and then looking at how we can live out our faith in areas that are important to our young people. We also hope to hold a number of social events as COVID restrictions ease and are looking to attend Rugby Youth for Christ's weekend youth camp this summer.

*Laura Freeman-Powell*

**Schools Ministry** is a key part of our mission to children and young people – particularly to our two CofE primary schools, St Oswald's and St Matthew's, and Harris Academy.

Highlights in 2021 included:

- Eight church members involved as school governors.
- The creation of an Open the Book team which takes Bible stories into both primary schools twice per month.
- Prayer stations on the Lord's prayer, changing every half term, in both primary schools; linked with Collective Worship delivered by the clergy.
- 14 church members volunteering to help with reading in schools to help children catch up after the pandemic.
- A developing relationship with the new chaplain at Harris Academy.

The aims going forward are to continue to strengthen the links and to create more bridges between the schools and the church family.

*Alan Hulme*

**8th Rugby Brownies:** The primary reason Brownies exists is for girls aged 7-10 to make new friends, take on fresh challenges, learn useful skills and have fun together. We also have three teenagers who help each week – widening their experiences and developing their leadership skills.

Highlights of 2021 included moving from online Zoom meetings when we created artwork on the theme of peace, to meeting outside in the church centre garden, including one memorable meeting with visiting alpacas, and finally, back to the hall where we made wind turbines and hedgehog homes. We have also been able to present a Bronze Award from the new programme – the first of many we hope.

Our aims for the coming year are to build up confidence and competence in the group, particularly by encouraging the older girls to take on planning and running a meeting themselves. We are also working towards helping more girls achieve their programme awards and getting out and about for some fun activities as a unit again.

*Sarah Rusk, Brown Owl*

**St Matthew's Guides & Rangers:** Being outside was really important for the girls so we spent Friday nights from Easter-end of July at the scout camp. We did basic fire lighting up to cooking on wood, den building, campfire singing and wide games. Once everyone was back in September, we have been having fun completing badges learning about one another and making new friends.

We managed to get away for a weekend in November to PGL. There we did Zip wire, raft building and archery.

It's been a funny year starting with lockdown and ending having to cancel our Christmas party due to COVID cases rising.

*Bev Haistead*

## Adult Discipleship

**Teaching Focus:** 2021 saw us focus all year on a programme called “God in my Everything” which aimed to help us create rules (or rhythms) of life which allow God into every part of our lives. It consisted of Sunday teaching, Connect Group discussions and encouragement to use a book by Ken Shigematzu. Creating and living by our *Rules of Life* is an ongoing process, but 2021 has given us some building blocks to use.

**Connect Groups** have paid a vital part in keeping the church connected during the ongoing pandemic. Every group has handled the pandemic differently with a mixture of Zoom meetings, live meetings and phone conversations. By the end of 2021 there were 10 groups meeting at various times of the week. Study material was primarily based upon the Sunday sermons so we could take points raised into discussions. A big thank you to all the Connect Group Leaders who have served to make it happen.

We look forward to a more normal 2022 when we can develop the Connect Group Network into an even wider variety of groups and increase it’s reach across the church.

*Alan Hulme*

**Mothers’ Union:** The reason Mothers Union exists is to demonstrate the Christian faith in action by the transformation of communities worldwide through the nurture of the family in its many forms.

Highlights of 2021 have included resuming meeting together again following Lockdown restrictions. Our first meetings took place in the church centre garden, and this was the venue for our Annual Cream Tea. We then moved to the Side Hall and had a craft afternoon in November. We also managed a socially distanced Christmas Meal in December.

Our aim for the coming year is to continue to meet together supporting families world-wide, whilst enjoying each other’s company and fellowship. We look forward to guest speakers and welcoming anyone along who would like to find out more about who we are.

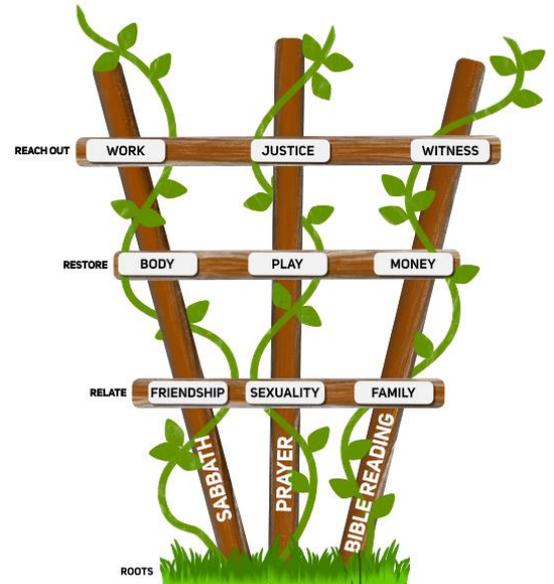
*Julie Reid*

**Thursday Fellowship:** The reason the Thursday Fellowship exists is to provide a mid-week devotional meeting for all members of the church

Highlights of 2021 included re starting!! We only restarted last September following lock down. We moved venue to the Parish Office and this has been very successful. We also changed format to the 1st and 3rd Thursdays in the month. We are grateful to the members of our congregation who have been to speak to us, and we look forward to getting speakers such as The Coventry City Mission and from further afield now that things are moving on. We also have the occasional meal out or outings.

our aim for the coming year is to continue to worship Our Lord and to welcome anyone who would enjoy time together with friends.

*Linda Lindley*



**Music Ministry:** The reason the worship group exists is to worship God and encourage and enable the congregation to worship, too.

Highlights of 2021 included a return to in-church services and congregational singing (albeit masked for some of the time); also we were pleased to have new members join the team.

Our aims for the coming year are to grow our worship teams, and to continue to encourage and build a strong worshipping community in our church.

*Marion MacLellan*

**Prayer Meetings:** Corporate prayer meetings exist to grow our relationship and dependence upon the Lord.

Highlights of 2021 include the faithfulness of people attending the Daily Prayer Room, the many ways in which the Lord has answered prayers and the involvement of a significant number of people in the 12 hours of prayer on 31st October.

Our aims for the coming year are to enable more people to join in with the corporate prayer life of the church (especially the Boiler Room), so that as a fellowship we become increasingly God-dependent.

We would also like to run a 24/7 time of prayer at the opportune time.

**Prayer Ministry:** The Prayer Ministry team exists to minister the love and healing of Jesus to those who need His touch.

Although Prayer ministry has not taken place after the 10.30am service, prayer ministry has continued one to one with the clergy and others through the year when possible. Highlights of 2021 include seeing a number of people receiving inner healing and increased freedom as the Lord has ministered to them.

Our aims for the coming year include inviting John and Gillian Ryeland from Christian Healing Mission to lead a morning of "Encounter" with God, training the Prayer Ministry Team and reinstating prayer ministry after the 10.30am services.

*Jane Hulme*

**Overslade Church:** Having not met since March 2020 because of the pandemic, it became clear that age was catching up with the ability of the existing congregation to meet every week. We met for a vision day in July 2021 and agreed on the following:

1. The current congregation will move into a "pastoral mode", meeting monthly in the community centre for fellowship, worship and prayer. The rest of the month we will worship in the parish church. (The monthly Sunday meetings commenced September 2021)
2. Our two Connect Groups will continue to be at the heart of our growing in faith.
3. We will seek to be a major prayer support for whatever the next worshipping community on Overslade is to be.

*Alan Hulme, Mervyn Hill*

## Community Outreach Ministries

**Coffeebreak:** Coffee Break parent and toddler group exists to reach out to young families in the local community by providing a welcoming, safe place for parents, grandparents, carers and their little ones to be able to meet, chat and play and also to find a listening ear when needed.

Highlights of 2021 included our return to meeting face to face regularly after many months of not being able to get together because of the Covid restrictions. We also discovered that meeting outdoors in the church centre garden had several great benefits, enabling us to extend the range of our activities and, in particular, enjoy some messy play!

Our aims for the coming year are hopefully to welcome more new families into the group, especially as several of our members will be moving on to nursery, etc in the autumn. We would also like to create more opportunities for our Coffee Break families to become more closely linked with the life of the church.

*Hilary Hunt*

**Pitstop:** Pitstop exists to be a place for older members of the church and New Bilton residents to meet and have a time of companionship, friendship and activities within the context of a loving church community.

Highlights of 2021 have been limited. We managed to meet in the church centre garden in the summer. We had a few speakers and finally managed a Christmas meal at the Webb Ellis and a wonderful Christmas sing-along with Owen and Lynda.

Our aims for the future are a complete rebrand as 'Connexions'. We hope to make Tuesday a highlight for New Bilton seniors as we offer a service, activities, speakers and lunch every week. More than anything we hope to offer the love of Jesus to all.

*Val Burgon*

**Winter Night Shelter for the Homeless:** This winter the situation was the same as last year – no Winter Night Shelter. Although COVID had a part to play in this, the principal reason was due to the lack of demand. This has to be good news, but it doesn't mean that homelessness had gone away. Apart from one or two, who were sleeping rough by choice, the remainder have been housed by Rugby Borough Council. Supported by Government funding, they made available a House of Multiple Occupancy to be used, as necessary, during the winter months, by rough sleepers with support and guidance being provided by Hope4. As we come out of COVID the future is uncertain – we at St Oswald's are ready to open our shelter next winter should the need arise.

*Terry Seamer*

**Make Lunch** exists to tackle holiday hunger amongst families on low income – especially those who qualify for Free School Meals in school term time. During the Covid pandemic, the Government began making a grant to these families to help buy food in the school holidays. However, we know that despite that, families still sometimes struggle to provide enough healthy food in the holidays. Getting together at Make Lunch for a meal and activities not only helps those who are hungry, but also gives a free opportunity to socialise and have some fun together.

Highlights of 2021 included:

- An effective Steering Group and great team of volunteers.
- Due to the pandemic, delivery of bags to 42 families with recipes and ingredients for two full meals each week of the February half term, Easter, October half term and Christmas 2021 school holidays. These bags also included crafts and activities.
- In-person meeting twice a week for 4 weeks of the summer 2021 school holiday for Make Lunch. This was the first time Make Lunch happened in-person since February half term holiday 2020. God's provision was a wonderful venue at St Matthews Bloxam Primary School and sufficient volunteers. Families were hesitant to meet due to covid, competing activities offered locally and the new venue, so numbers were low, but those who came had a really good time. "You don't know what it means to me to come out and talk to another adult," said one Mum, who came with her 5 children to every session.
- Sufficient funding from successful grant applications.

Our aims for the next year include:

- To return to regular in-person Make Lunch whenever possible.
- To find ways to encourage parents, carers and children, to learn more about managing money, planning meals on a budget and cooking simple recipes.
- To secure new members of the Steering Group to take Make Lunch forward and develop it further.

*Alison Farnell*

**Mission Partnerships** exist for us to be able to help others financially and in prayer, and for us to be able to learn from them. The church seeks to give 10% of its general income to these partnerships plus one-off collections. The primary link is with Casa Reom Orphanage and School, but other organisations supported in 2021 were: Christians against Poverty, Christian Aid, CPAS, Harris C. of E School, HOPE 4, Jesus-Haus (Williams S), Novimost, Samaritan's Purse (Shoeboxes), St Matthew's Bloxam School, St Oswald's School, Toybox and Rugby Youth for Christ. Financial details are in the accounts.

Looking forward, we have a review planned in May which will aim to connect the whole church with our partnerships more closely so that they are much more than just places we give money to.

*Murray Naish*

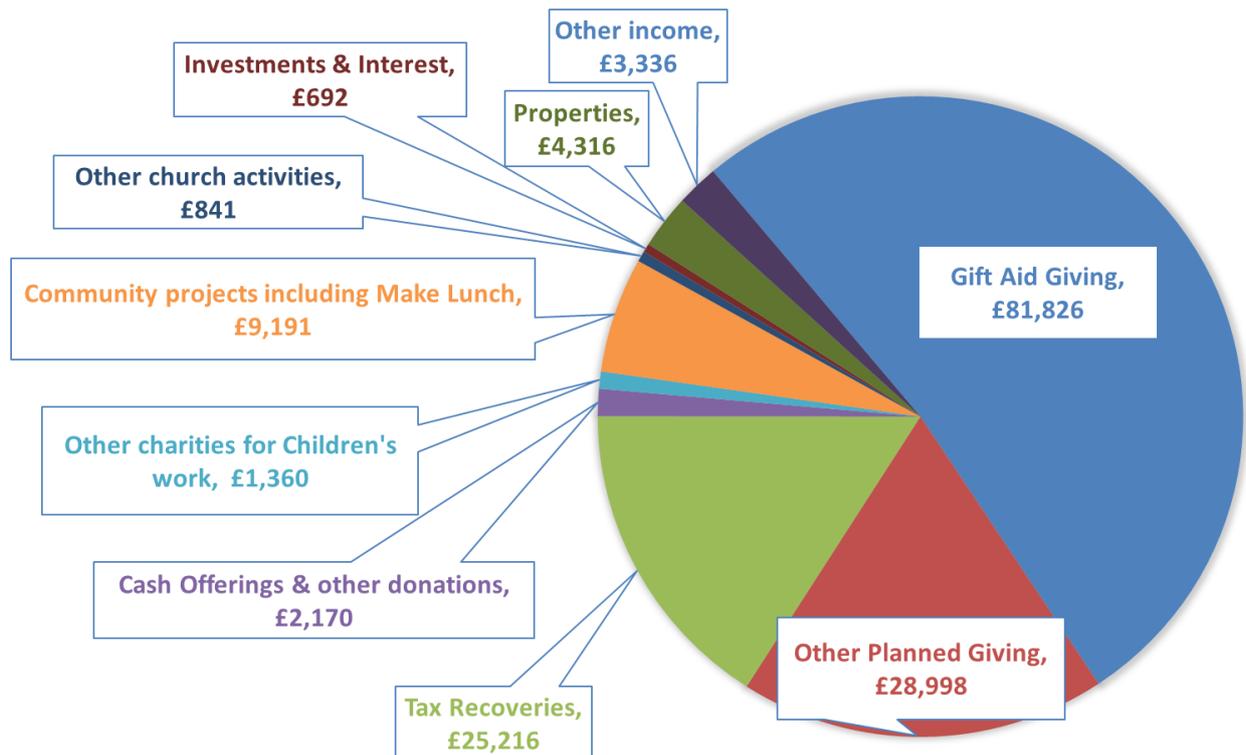
## Finance Report 2021

A detailed report is available on request, but for those who want an overview here is a short summary of the key points and a pie chart of income and expenditure:

### INCOME

Our income in 2021 was just under £158,000 (£4,000 higher than 2020).

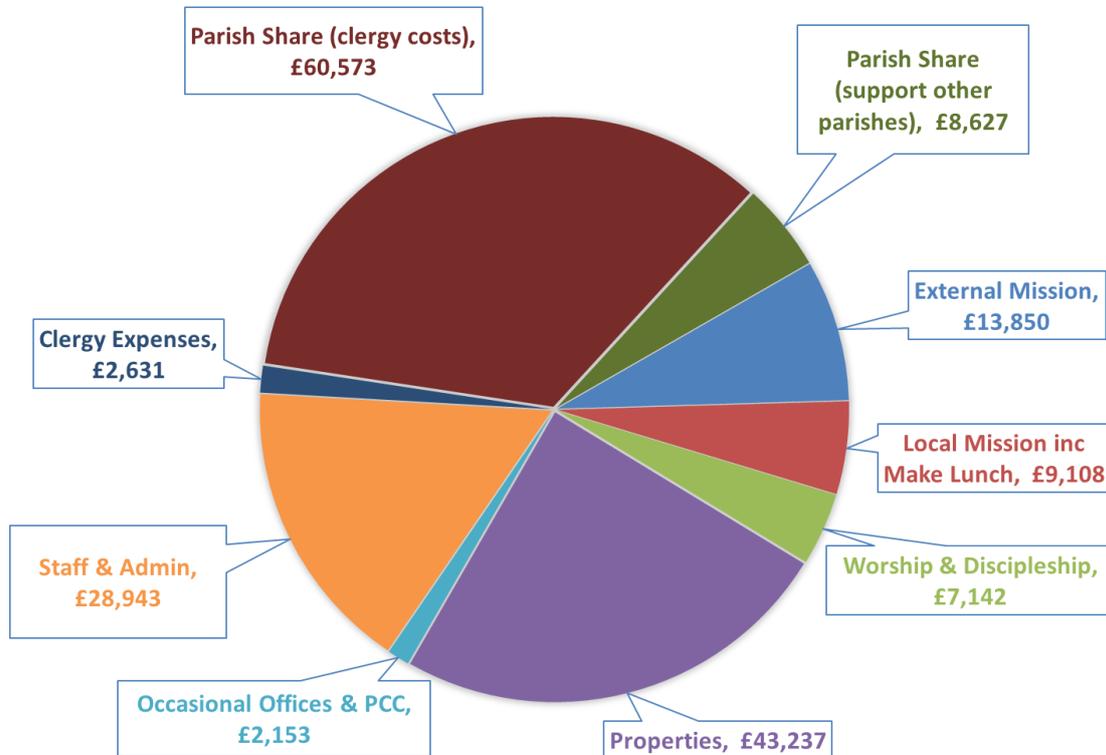
This came mainly from planned giving, as shown below:



This level of giving together with lower than planned expenditure on church activity (owing to many months of lockdown) means that the General Fund made a surplus of £8,000 in 2021.

# EXPENDITURE

Our expenditure was just over £176,000, £20,000 higher than last year – this higher figure includes a spend of almost £30,000 from our Designated Properties Fund in enhancing our properties and in preparation for extensive future work.



General fund expenditure was almost identical to 2020.

Our biggest expenditure is the Parish Share, in total £69,200 (£3,000 lower than 2020) – as a net donor parish some of our share is used to fund less-well-off parishes in our deanery and in the diocese, which are unable to support the share of clergy costs. For clarity, it is broken down above as Clergy costs (£60,573) and support for other parishes (£8,627). The Clergy costs include Alan’s stipend (£26,500) with the remainder covering housing, pensions, NI and training costs for curates as well as a share of other central costs.

As we move forward with our plans for developing our church buildings - and increase the level of activity in worship, discipleship and mission – we will need to increase our expenditure this year (2022) and there is an opportunity for all to review their planned giving and respond to specific future needs.

*Dave MacLellan. Treasurer*