

**Church of
St. Mary and All Saints
Broomfield**



**Annual Reports and
Financial Statements for
The year ended 31st December 2021**

South Quantock Benefice

West Monkton - Kingston St. Mary – Broomfield – Cheddon Fitzpaine

**Church of
St. Mary and All Saints
Broomfield**

Rector – Rev'd. Dr. Mary Styles

Associate Vicar – Rev'd. Jim Cox

Assistant Curate – Rev'd Tracey Hallett

PCC Treasurer

Mr J Earp

Tall Trees

Cheddon Road

Taunton TA2 7QT

Independent Examiner

Mr. R. Mackay C.A.

Cedar House,

1 Quantock Rise

Kingston St. Mary, TA2 8HJ

Correspondence Address:

The Benefice Office, The Vicarage, Kingston St. Mary,

Taunton, Somerset. TA2 8HW

Bankers:

National Westminster Bank plc

49 North Street, Taunton

The Parochial Church Council

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in the promotion within the ecclesiastical parish, of the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has the responsibility for the maintenance of the Church of St. Mary and All Saints, its services and the surrounding churchyard.

The PCC is exempt from registration with the Charity Commission.

Members of the PCC

Members are either elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) or are ex officio, in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

The following served as members of the PCC during 2021:

Ex Officio

Rector	The Rev'd. Mary Styles
Associate Vicar	The Rev'd. Jim Cox
Churchwarden	Miss Ann Powell
Secretary	Miss Ann Powell
Treasurer	Mr John Earp

Representatives on the Deanery Synod

Vacant

Elected Members

Mr Jim Duncan
Dr. John Ogle
Mrs Bez Purdy

Committees

The PCC has a Standing Committee which is required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any direction given by the PCC.

The PCC has a Fabric Committee whose report can be found on page 12

Broomfield Church - ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS
Sunday 22nd May 2022
in the church after the 10.30am service
AGENDA

1. Welcome and opening prayer.
2. Apologies for Absence.
3. Acceptance of the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 30th May 2021
4. Election of two Churchwardens.

Broomfield Church - ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
Sunday 22nd May 2022
in the church after the 10.30am service
AGENDA

1. Welcome and opening prayer.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 30th May 2021 (from page 6).
4. Election of parochial representatives of the laity to
 - a) The Deanery Synod.
 - b) The Parochial Church Council.
5. Appointment of an Independent Examiner of the accounts of the PCC.
6. To receive the Reports as printed in the Report Pack.
 - Clergy (page 8)
 - Electoral Roll (page 11)
 - Churchwarden (page 11)
 - PCC Secretary (page 11)
 - Deanery Synod (page 14)
 - Fabric (page 13)
 - Safeguarding (page 13)
 - Pioneer Report (page 17)
7. Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults – to formally adopt & minute the Benefice safeguarding policy (see report on page 13)
8. Any other business.
9. Closing prayer.

The South Quantock Benefice

Minutes of the Broomfield Annual Meeting of Parishioners
Held on 30th May 2021 in the Church

Present

Dr. John Ogle (Chair), Rev'd. Mary Styles, Mrs. Andrea Duncan, Mr. Jim Duncan, Mrs. Dorothy Earp, Mr. John Earp, Mrs. Mary Johnson, Mrs. Nancy Lyons, Dr. John Pether, Mrs. Sonia Pether, Mrs. Bez Purdy and Mrs. Diana Taylor

In attendance: Miss Ann Powell (Secretary)

The meeting commenced at 11.35 am.

1. **Welcome and Opening Prayer**

Dr. Ogle welcomed everyone to the meeting and Rev'd. Styles said an opening prayer.

2. **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Rev'd. Jim Cox, Miss Margaret Cavill and Mrs. Dorothy Kirwan.

3. **Acceptance of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners 2020**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18th October 2020 were approved and adopted.

4. **Election of Two Churchwardens**

Mrs. Purdy formally stepped down from her role as Churchwarden.

Dr. Ogle thanked Mrs. Purdy, on behalf of the PCC, for all her hard work as Churchwarden over the past 20 years. Before the start of the meeting Mrs. Purdy had been presented with some flowers, a cheque (made up of donations from well-wishers) and a letter of thanks from Bishop Ruth.

Mrs. Purdy thanked Miss Powell for helping her as Churchwarden and gave her a small gift.

Mrs. Purdy advised that Miss Powell had offered to stand as Churchwarden for the coming year and was willing to continue as Secretary in the short-term. However, it would be helpful if a new Secretary could be found to take on that role.

Mrs. Purdy therefore proposed that Miss Powell be elected as Churchwarden for the coming year and this was seconded by Mrs. Johnson. This was agreed by all present and Miss Powell was duly elected as Churchwarden.

The meeting closed at 11.40 am.

The South Quantock Benefice
Minutes of the Broomfield Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Held on 30th May 2021 in the Church

Present

Dr. John Ogle (Chair), Rev'd. Mary Styles, Mrs. Andrea Duncan, Mr. Jim Duncan, Mrs. Dorothy Earp, Mr. John Earp, Mrs. Mary Johnson, Mrs. Nancy Lyons, Dr. John Pether, Mrs. Sonia Pether, Mrs. Bez Purdy and Mrs. Diana Taylor

In attendance: Miss Ann Powell (Secretary)

The meeting commenced at 11.40 am.

1. **Welcome and Opening Prayer**
Dr. Ogle welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Apologies for Absence**
Apologies were received from Rev'd. Jim Cox, Miss Margaret Cavill and Mrs. Dorothy Kirwan.
3. **Approval of Minutes of Annual Parochial Church Meeting**
The Minutes of the meeting held on 18th October 2020 were approved and adopted.
4. **Election of Parochial Representatives of the Laity**
 - 4.1 **Election of Parochial Representative to the Deanery Synod**
Unfortunately, Miss Cavill had advised that she would be standing down as a member of the PCC at this meeting and would, therefore, not be continuing her role as Deanery Synod representative.
Rev'd. Styles asked if anyone would be interested in taking on this role. She said that Deanery Synod meetings were held approximately three times a year and the next meeting was being held in September. These meetings are currently held on Zoom due to the pandemic restrictions. No-one put themselves forward for the role, which meant that the PCC currently does not have a Deanery Synod representative.
 - 4.2 **Election of Parochial Representatives to the Parochial Church Council**
Unfortunately, Miss Cavill, Mrs. Duncan, Mrs. Kirwan and Dr. Pether have all decided it is time to step down from the PCC for various reasons. However, Mrs. Duncan said that she was still willing to help where she could and proposed that her husband, Mr. Jim Duncan be elected onto the PCC in her place.

Dr. Ogle thanked everyone for their hard work as members of the PCC, particularly those who were stepping down. Dr. Pether proposed that Mr. Jim Duncan be elected as a member of the PCC and this was seconded by Mrs. Purdy. This was agreed by all and Mr. Duncan was duly elected onto the PCC. The following members of the PCC were also re-elected for the coming year: Dr. John Ogle and Mrs. Bez Purdy.

RIDER: It was noted, following the meeting, that Mrs. Bez Purdy should have been formally elected onto the PCC as she was previously an ex. officio member (Churchwarden). This will be rectified at the PCC meeting due to be held on 28th June.
5. **Appointment of Independent Examiner of the Accounts**
 - 5.1 Mr. Earp (Treasurer) said that he had spoken to Mr. Mackay, who had agreed to continue to act as the PCC's Independent Examiner of the Accounts. Mr. Mackay was, therefore, duly re-appointed.

6. To Receive the Reports

- 6.1 **Clergy** – This was taken as read. However, Rev'd. Styles added that a 'listening group' had been set up to discuss the way forward after Covid restrictions are hopefully relaxed later in the year. The group will discuss the future pattern of services for the benefice and ways to evolve in the community.
- 6.2 **Electoral Roll** – This was taken as read.
- 6.3 **Churchwarden** – This was taken as read.
- 6.4 **PCC Secretary** – This was taken as read.
- 6.5 **Deanery Synod** – This was taken as read.
- 6.6 **Fabric** – Dr. Ogle informed the meeting that Wessex Conservation would be starting work on the major repairs to the church on 12th July. It was hoped that this work would be completed by the Autumn. It was also hoped that work to rebuild the West door would start soon.
- 6.7 **Safeguarding** – This was taken as read.
- 6.8 **Bathpool Pioneer** – This was taken as read.
- 6.9 **Treasurer** – Mr. Earp highlighted some key points relating to his report. The Broomfield Account, at close of business on 28th May, was £15,646.74. Currently £6,927.12 is for the Restoration Fund. Payments totalling £3,643.30 have so far been made to cover the release of the grant from Viridor Credits and Project Manager services.

The Treasurer advised that VAT has to be paid on invoices for the restoration work but this can be reclaimed retrospectively. If this was a quick process then there should be enough in the accounts to cover the restoration costs. However, if this process takes longer then there could be a cash flow issue. The Treasurer reminded the meeting that the loan from Kingston St. Mary PCC needs to be repaid by 31st December 2021.

The income from collections was significantly reduced, because of the restrictions imposed due to the pandemic, which had resulted in fewer services being held and the cancellation of marriages and baptisms. This situation has also impacted on the Gift Aid and GASDS revenue. The Treasurer said the PCC needs to try and encourage people to donate by Standing Order, rather than relying on income from collections.

Dr. Ogle thanked the Treasurer for his report.

7. Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults – To Formally Adopt and Minute the Benefice Safeguarding Policy

Rev'd. Styles asked for the updated Safeguarding Policy to be adopted. This was agreed by all those present and it was confirmed that a copy of the Policy was displayed in the church porch.

8. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 11.55 am.

Clergy annual report (2021) for the Benefice APCM's

Our Benefice Mission: "To know, share and spread the love of God."

Sunday Worship:

The whole of 2021 has happened under the shadow of the Covid-19 pandemic – and yet, having built on the experience of 2020, a lot had changed. From a church-service point of view we moved from the majority of worship happening on-line using the “zoom” platform – there was an average weekly “zoom” attendance of around 50 people for much of the first 3 months of the year with very small in-building services. Some made Easter day on 4th April a moment to return to the church building – we were still unable to sing indoors but went outside with hymn-books in hand to sing “Jesus Christ is Risen today!” which felt very special.

We progressed through different levels of opening up our church buildings and edging towards some sort of normality – always in masks and with great care. Gradually we re-introduced Holy Communion bringing just the bread to worshippers where they sat. Much later in the year the clergy “intincted” (dipped) the wafers in the wine to enable everyone who wished to, to receive in both kinds. Through the year we moved from listening to the organ play our hymns, to a soloist or choir singing and finally to congregational singing indoors. As people became more comfortable with attending in-building services, the Sunday numbers grew and those attending zoom services reduced – so we gradually increased the in-building services from a single Benefice-wide one each week early in the year, to re-introducing the early BCP service, and then moving back to almost the Sunday rota that we were using before Covid by the end of the year, but retaining a monthly zoom service for those who need it.

Most parishes have sadly lost some previously regular worshippers through frailty, and sadly some deaths, and we've also been blessed by a few new people joining our worshipping communities over this past year.

We were able to hold most of our usual “special” services, even if slightly adapted for the pandemic – Lammas outside at Broomfield was perhaps the highlight of our agricultural celebrations and it was good to see the pet service back again. Our first ever “Climate Sunday” was a great success and held in the open air at Cheddon, led by Rev Tracey and a team of volunteers, we hope to build on this in 2022. Remembrance was marked in each Parish, and all our usual Christmas services happened, though with reduced attendance due to the pandemic.

We are particularly grateful to Reader Christine for her ministry over zoom in this period and for Dean's technical support.

Curate Tracey and her husband, Dean's last service with us was on Boxing Day 2021.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals:

Government restrictions impacted these pastoral services significantly. Funerals were permitted throughout 2021 but restrictions on numbers able to attend made these even more difficult occasions for bereaved families. As both Baptisms and Weddings were permitted during the year, they came with restrictions on numbers (and receptions afterwards) too and so many families / couples decided to postpone (sometimes multiple times!)

Now as we write in 2022 it's good to see a steady stream of requests for baptisms coming in but requests for weddings are significantly lower for 2022.

Pastoral service numbers 2021 (2020 numbers in brackets for comparison):

Weddings/wedding blessings 9 (4)

Baptism 26 (6)

Thanksgiving for a child 1 (0)

Funerals: church, churchyard and crematorium 23 (25)

Ashes interment 14 (6)

“Build back better”:

We were encouraged by the Church of England as well as many other church (and non-church) organisations to look at the pandemic as an opportunity from which we might build back better. A group from across the Benefice gathered on “zoom” in spring / early summer 2021 and in person in gardens on a number of occasions, to pray and imagine how we might emerge from the pandemic. We wondered and prayed about how things might be in the future for us and sought to be guided by God into formulating a plan.

This work is currently (in 2022) being used to inform our next MAP (mission action plan) but we have already made some changes (as well as deciding to keep much the same!) such as re-introducing all age worship in 2 parishes and creating church events to attract families.

Community support, communication and pastoral care:

Tracey (our pioneer curate) and Paul (our pioneer) have been the focus of community interaction in Cheddon and West Monkton Parishes respectively and have overcome significant difficulties in their ministries caused by the pandemic. Much practical, pastoral and moral support being given in these communities.

Rev Mary worked with Revs Robin and Tobie from the Deanery to run a Lay Pastoral Assistant (LPA) course this year (over zoom) attended by 3 people from our Benefice. Kate and Corrine were commissioned in the Benefice as LPA's this year with particular focus on West Monkton and Cheddon Parishes respectively.

The clergy continued to use a combination of phone and home visiting across our large Benefice. Michele, in the Benefice Office, has been central to our communications, producing the weekly pew-sheet and e-mailing that out to our ever-increasing mailing list each Friday (working through the pandemic from home where necessary.) She's also keeping our web-site up to date (no mean feat!) She is frequently the first face or voice of the Benefice to those seeking our help or thinking about a Christening or wedding in one of the churches – as well as being a pastoral listening ear to those in need or distress.

The ministry team took turns in recording a weekly video reflection for the first part of the year aimed at those who were not able to attend our live worship (either in building or over zoom) – a real challenge to our technical ability and patience – but they were well received by those who view them. Rev Jim continues in his role as Area Dean (and Mary as assistant area dean) facilitating deanery clergy working together, connecting with Archdeacon Simon and being part of the “DMPG” that plans and enables deanery synod.

Rev Tracey set up the “Little Seedlings” group in Cheddon Memorial Hall as a parent/carer and child group – something that was hugely appreciated by young families with “lock-down” babies wanting to get out and meet others. Emma Booker has now taken on the leadership of this group with the help of LPA Corrine – it meets weekly. Our thanks to the Memorial Hall Committee for their support of this important community group.

Care for creation has been an important theme through the year with the Lent course helping to launch some initiatives: Investigation of “eco-church” at West Monkton, some natural planting by church and community at Kingston, and our partnering with “Send a Cow”.

Schools:

2021 has been a second difficult year for our schools. We have tried to support them as much as possible through prayer, e-mailing and visiting (when possible.) Clergy have supported our three church primary schools in their collective worship times in different ways: Joining them “on-line”, sending in a video reflection with some ideas for activities around the theme, and on the few occasions possible to go into school to a single class or year group.

Rev Mary, Pioneer Paul and Cathryn Howse (on placement with us) were able to take a limited session with the year 6's at West Monkton in July (which hadn't been possible the year before) to help them prepare for moving up to High School. And the "It's your move" booklets were given out in all 3 church primary schools.

Mary and Paul continue to contribute to the West Monkton Ethos committee and Mary has recently joined the Cheddon ethos committee.

Rev Tracey spent a lot of time (as her final curate year "placement") working with Cheddon school, on collective worship, muddy church, preparing for their inspection and Christingle – to name but a few activities.

In November, Rev Mary worked with the Somerset Wood volunteers to lead a Remembrance Day service attended by West Monkton, Cheddon and Nerrols school children and staff as well as a host of dignitaries, Royal British Legion representatives and local people – the children had learnt the National Anthem as well as some special prayers for the occasion and so were able to lead many of the adults on this important day.

Small groups:

The Benefice continues to have a weekly "home group" on Wednesday evenings – functioning on zoom during restrictions and moving to meeting at the Vicarage when permitted. The Lent course was held on zoom and focused on the environments, our care for creation. Out of that a small group have helped us, as a Benefice, become a sponsor for one of the "Send a Cow" projects in Kenya which, rather than sending a real cow, enables a community to learn new farming practices (to cope with global warming) supplies seeds and tools and helps them to then help their neighbours.

The Advent study groups used Church of England materials focused on the daily readings.

Training and wider ministry

Rev Mary continued to act as "training incumbent" to both Rev Tracey in the last year of her curacy and also to Rosie as our Reader-in-Training – which involved supporting their academic work, reflecting with them on their practical ministerial work and fulfilling diocesan requirements of report writing for them.

We also had Cathryn Howse with us doing her final year placement before her curacy starts.

We so often learn as much from those in training as they learn from us, different ministries enriching our worshipping life together.

Reader Christine continues to minister among us and contribute to the staff team. Pioneer Paul, works on the edge of church, in the Bathpool housing estate (see his separate report.)

Our particular thanks to Rev Maureen Doble who continues to help with worship leading on occasional Sundays and is a hugely important part of our funeral ministry. Taking funerals and supporting families through these difficult times.

Looking forward:

We are already well into 2022 and thankfully seeing pandemic infection rates fall and government restrictions continuing to ease. We will continue to monitor the situation and adapt our in-building services and meetings as things unfold. We will also be adapting to Benefice life without a curate, having bid Tracey and Dean a fond farewell.

Baptism Group

Any benefice church is called upon to conduct baptisms, weddings and funerals and most churches do not have the personnel to follow up properly after these services. At a benefice gathering last year there was interest from a few church members to offer something more to baptism families in particular. So after conversations with interested parties we evolved a baptism group. Its aims are

modest, but it is intended to be a one-off pastoral follow-up phone call to families to see if they are all right and if the baptism was a good occasion. At the initial visit the clergy will explain this to the families and these callers will hope to be present at the baptism service to be introduced. Besides this, we will continue to email families to invite them to events within the benefice throughout the year.

This group has just been launched, so it is hoped there will be more to report at next year's APCM.

We are in the process of producing a new "MAP" to help our direction of travel as a Benefice – aiming to grow and develop as followers of Jesus and to share the Good News with those around us in the most appropriate ways.

Thank you!

To Church Wardens, PCC members and the many, many Parishioners who work and pray so hard, enabling our church buildings and grounds to stay safe, open, comfortable and welcoming. To all who aim to keep our Benefice Values* integral to all we do and to enable us all to fulfil our mission: "To know, share and spread the love of God."

Mary and Jim

*Benefice Values:

Being welcoming.

Having welcoming buildings.

Being community minded.

Telling stories of Jesus.

Being discipling.

Enabling people to flourish.

Being attractive (so people want to find out more.)

Being kind and caring.

Being people of integrity.

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT DEC 2021

There are 24 names on the Electoral Roll; 7 are resident in the parish and 17 are non-resident.

Ann Powell

PCC SECRETARY REPORT

Broomfield PCC held four meetings in 2021. The first was on 10th April, which was held in the Vicarage Garden, Kingston St. Mary, due to the ongoing Coronavirus restrictions regarding people meeting indoors. The APCM was held on 30th May, following the service in the church. The other two meetings were held on 28th June and 11th October, both in the Benefice Office.

Ann Powell

CHURCHWARDEN REPORT - BROOMFIELD

I must start my report by giving a huge vote of thanks to John Ogle and Kevin Davenport for all their diligence and hard work over the past year, which has ensured good progress on the Restoration Project. At the time of writing, the work is almost complete. Very many thanks also to John Earp for keeping the finances on track.

As the Covid 19 restrictions were gradually relaxed in 2021 we began holding one Holy Communion service per month in Broomfield Church, although these services are still not 'back to normal' due to the ongoing concerns regarding transmission of the virus.

It was not possible to hold the customary Good Friday Walk in April; however, a short reflection service was held in Broomfield Church. There was no Easter Sunday service at Broomfield, but services were held in Kingston St. Mary and West Monkton.

From August we started holding two services per month (Evening Prayer at 6 pm on the first Sunday and Holy Communion at 10.30 am on the fourth Sunday).

It was lovely to be able to hold our Lammas Service again on the Village Green on 1st August, in accordance with the Covid guidelines in place at the time. This meant that no home-made bread could be provided this year. The service was led by Rosie Brown and The Rev. Preb. Simon Hill (Archdeacon of Taunton) was the guest speaker. Approximately 50 people attended and everyone was able to enjoy cider/soft drinks, bread and cheese served in the Village Hall after the service (again, following the relevant Covid guidelines). £162.50 was collected and donated to The Farming Community Network. Special thanks to Rosie Brown, to all those who helped serve the refreshments, the House family for providing the straw bales for us to sit on and Edwin White for setting them out.

Rosie Brown held "Cuppa and Chat" afternoons in June and August in the churchyard for people to meet up and have a chat over a cup of coffee/tea.

Our Harvest Festival Service was held on 3rd October led by Rev. Tracey Hallett, assisted by Rosie Brown. Thanks to Joan Chamberlain for playing Rosie's keyboard, as the organ was not in use due to the ongoing restoration work. Regrettably, it was decided not to provide refreshments following the service this year, due to concerns regarding the ongoing pandemic. Just over 40 people attended. The non-perishable foodstuffs and the collection/money raised from the sale of perishable goods (£164) was given to Open Door. Thank you to everyone who helped to decorate the church.

The Carol Service was attended by approximately 40 people, led by Diana Taylor. Sadly, the Voice of the People Choir felt unable to attend due to the ongoing concerns regarding the pandemic. Joan Chamberlain played the organ, accompanied by Rosie Brown on the flute. Once again, we felt it was still not safe to hold the usual gathering in the Village Hall for mulled wine and mince pies following the service, but mince pies (in bags) were handed out as people left the church. Thanks to Diana for leading the service and Joan and Rosie for providing the music. Thanks also to all those who decorated the church so beautifully and to the House family for providing the Christmas tree from Tetton Estate.

Our Christmas Day service was led by Rev. Tracey Hallett, assisted by her husband, Dean. Approximately 40 people attended and Rev. Tracey provided some pre-recorded music to help us sing the carols.

Finally, I would like to thank all the volunteers who generously give up their time to clean the church on a regular basis and also those who provide the lovely floral decorations for our services. Their efforts are very much appreciated and provide a very welcoming environment for all those attending services/visiting the church.

A Baptism Service involving 5 children, one Memorial Service and one funeral were also held in 2021.

The Inventory, Log Book and Terrier are all up to date.

Ann Powell, Churchwarden

FABRIC REPORT FOR BROOMFIELD CHURCH

The year has seen the following repairs to the fabric of the Church:

1. Repointing throughout.
2. Replacement of defective stonework including new mullion to South-facing window by porch.
3. 4 new slates and rebuilding of lead flashings.
4. Exposure of and repairs to split stone table under gutter South wall.
5. Bitumen repairs to roof of Tower
6. New oak doors to top of Tower spiral staircase and to West porch.
7. Rebuild of corroded electricity switchboard.
8. Re-decoration of and new lighting for bell-ringing chamber, and new lighting to spiral staircase with emergency over-ride.
9. Removal of and re-leading/build of 3 main windows.
10. New and larger gutters where required and new down-pipe where absent.
11. Exploration and replacement of broken land drainage system around the Church from previous building works.
12. 8 new louvres to Tower windows, made from Broomfield oak.
13. Exploration and rebuild of subsiding pews along rear of North and South walls.
14. Repairs to plasterwork.
15. Rebuild, previously broken, brick and cobble surface drains (in progress).
16. Re-decorate (ongoing)

We are extremely grateful to Kevin Davenport for his help and expertise, to the building firm Wessex Conservators for all their hard work in achieving all this, to Viridor Credits among other individual donors for their generosity, and to John Earp for overseeing the financial arrangements.

John Ogle, March 2022

SAFEGUARDING REPORT FOR SOUTH QUANTOCK BENEFICE Jan 2021

This year my work has been made so much easier by the support of Samm Barge as joint Safeguarding officer across the benefice. I am very grateful to her for agreeing to take time out of her already busy life to share the work.

We have continued to carry out DBS checks online for new people joining relevant benefice activities and to renew the checks on anyone whose original DBS is over 3 years old. Please notify one of us if you think this applies to you.

Bath and Wells have been through a lot of changes in the Safeguarding training Department but seem to have settled now for online training for most roles. We would encourage anyone who is in a position that has required a DBS check to take the C0 and ideally C1 courses and to advise us when they receive their certificates. We are available for more information and assistance with these online courses if needed.

We have been encouraged to join the Parish Dashboard Safeguarding process. This requires a comprehensive look at all the Safeguarding requirements at each of the 4 churches individually and the production of a record of these in the form of a Dashboard or Grid. It is time consuming but useful and we hope to complete and review this process across the benefice during 2022.

Finally, I am pleased to report there have been no Safeguarding incidents across the Benefice this year and we remain confident that if any such incident was to occur, we would be able to call on the professional support of the team at Bath and Wells.

Lucy Hay, Benefice Safeguarding officer.

BELL TOWER REPORT

West Monkton ringers continue to be happy to support 1st Sunday Evensong ringing and for festival services. Unfortunately other services clash with our own, but we are happy to support for weddings and whenever we can.

With the event of Covid the bell-ringing world has lost many of our senior ringers, and many towers have become silent. However I am pleased to report although we no longer have the support for the Monday evening practice, we appreciate being able to use the tower for training purposes on an ad-hoc basis, often Saturday mornings.

Despite the long lay-off when the bells were silent, there have been no issues in the Belfry which was checked recently when a worn rope was repaired.

Pearl Jeanes, March 2022

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

Apart from the deanery service in the summer presided over by the archdeacon, Synod has been forced to meet on zoom which has sucked any momentum out of this triennium. It has stalled in its attempts to produce a useful Mission Action Plan or get a strong sense of direction – though it did decide it would be useful to have a Facebook page.

However, Synod met in person in March which gave it a renewed sense of purpose. Julia Hill (acting deanery accompanier) gave a presentation on the diocesan resources Church: what we are and what we could be... and encouraged parishes to engage with the material.

On the agenda - still, from previous years - are the Living in Love and Faith documents (a deanery course is to be led by St Andrew's church on a Wed evening 8th June – 6th July 2022) and the diocesan deployment strategy.

The other meetings this year are the Visitation Mon 6th June at Staplegrove, the Holy Communion Tue 21st June and the business meeting Tue 4th October – all in the evening.

Rev Jim (Area Dean)

MEN'S GROUP

Men's Group has - like everything else - struggled with the covid restrictions. However we ended the year with a very stimulating in-person talk by Dr John Scanlon on Cheddon's WWII secret bunkers and related activity, based mostly on research John had done on the war graves in Cheddon churchyard. We began this year with a meeting at the New Mill pub and planned a programme of events hoping to take advantage of fair weather when we can (walks and barbecue) and huddling indoors for the winter months (pool and pubs). Numbers are modest - there are about 20 names on the emailing list - and people opt in to what is of interest.

The programme of events up to July 2022 is on the website and we welcome new members at any time.

Jim

LITTLE SEEDLINGS REPORT:

Little Seedlings Baby and Toddler group was started in 2019 for the families in the Northwalls Grange area. In Autumn 2021, Rev Tracey, with an eye to the future, started to look into the possibility of applying for support from the Mary Joslin Trust to enable the group to continue when she moved to a new parish in January 2022.

It was therefore agreed that Little Seedlings would continue under the leadership of Emma Booker (Community Support Worker) and Corinne McMylor (volunteer) and that a budget from the Messy Church Fund would be transferred over. This has been used to widen the range of toys available including purchasing a lovely wooden buggy, diverse books and dolls and a tuff tray for messy play.

The Facebook page has been refreshed and an Instagram version introduced. The Facebook page has almost 90 likes! Families are encouraged to check the page on a Sunday evening to check notifications of the next day's activities. We operate a "drop in" policy so that families can come by at whichever time suits between 1.30-3.15. On average, 8 families attend at the moment and new faces are appearing all the time. We have some links with social services and health visitors and are receiving enquiries from a range of sources.

We have also organised a couple of family events- a picnic, family walk and den-decorating. We have just purchased some flasks so that hot drinks can be (safely) offered- something we've wanted to do for a while. Thank you so much to everyone for their support, enabling this valuable community resource to continue and flourish.

Emma Booker

CUPPA AND CHAT

Over 8 weeks in the Summer of 2021, on Tuesday afternoons, I took flasks to make tea and coffee in the four churchyards of the benefice, hoping to encourage people to meet in the fresh air after so many months of isolation. The weather was very kind and was dry on every occasion.

Over the Summer at least 20 different people came together to chat along with speaking to others who were visiting the churches or just walking through the churchyard on the day.

It was great to see so many people and to relax and have conversations face to face. Some came only once whilst others chose to come many times. It was great to see you all and get to know each of you a little better.

Cuppa and Chat will return to the churchyards this Summer – so please look out for the dates and do come along, bring a chair if you can. You will be welcome to bring your own drink or to share mine. I look forward to seeing you.

Rosie Brown

BOOK CLUB

There were around 12-15 people who first joined book club, when it was originally arranged over Zoom at the beginning of 2021, during the third lockdown. Tracey suggested we read the Quick Reads, as they are short reads of no more than 100-120 pages so there wouldn't be a huge commitment to read and talk about during the book club meeting. After around 6-7 months of meeting over Zoom, Tracey invited us to meet at her house and from then on, book club continued for a further 6 months. The face-to-face book club would bring in around 6-10 people and we continued to read the Quick Reads, as many of us found these reads enjoyable and, despite the shortness, there was plenty to discuss!

Report from Hannah – one of the attendees

ECO CHURCH REPORT FOR 2022 ACPM

Our Lent course in 2021 focussed on Caring for God's Creation. It was quite a challenging course but it did leave us thinking about what more we could do as individuals and as a benefice to become more aware of environmental issues and impacts and consider how we could live more sustainably.

The Church of England has developed 5 marks of Mission, one of which is "To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth"

At the end of the Lent course we thought about ideas and environmental initiatives that we as a benefice could develop and take forward, one of which was Eco Church.

Eco Church is a scheme run by the Christian organisation "A Rocha" and open for all churches in England and Wales who want to demonstrate that the Gospels are good news for God's earth.

A Rocha have developed a survey and supporting resources designed to equip churches to express their care for God's world in their worship and teaching; in how to look after buildings and land; in how to engage with your local community and in global campaigns, and in the personal lifestyles of the whole congregation.

As churches become more environmentally aware and actively care for creation they can achieve prestigious Eco Church Awards at Bronze, Silver or Gold level.

Eco Church's vision is for churches of all denominations to care for creation as an integral part of loving their neighbours and following God faithfully.

At the end of August a Climate Sunday Service was held at Cheddon Church – an outside service that allowed people to listen, to see and to give thanks and praise to God's wonderful natural world around us; and think about how we can respond to reduce our impacts to the climate.

We have undertaken the Eco Church Survey at West Monkton and nearly completed the baseline Eco Church questionnaire to gauge where our church currently is in relation to the three award levels. This will help us identify and plan actions to work towards an award.

The plan is that we do the same across all 4 of our churches. To achieve this we would like to establish a benefice wide environmental working group to help undertake the surveys, complete the Eco Church questionnaires and identify initiatives and actions to take forward.

Help us bring that vision to reality by participating in Eco Church. If you are interested please drop a line to Mary – and also feel free to have a chat with Steve Barge to find out more.

Steve Barge

BOOK REVIEWS

I'm not sure exactly when or why, but at some point - maybe during the lock-down - I decided to write some book reviews which have been appearing, somewhat randomly, on the benefice website. I am no academic, nor am I a fast or scrupulous reader so these rather grandly-termed 'reviews' are really just personal reflections on books I've enjoyed.

Some of the books are hefty - and come with a health-warning, others are 'imaginative histories' or - better still - slim!

Parke and Tsiolkas are basically novels about NT times. Sacks and Heschel are both Jewish writers, the other German-sounding authors are generally harder, and Chalke and Wells are 'known' in current church conversations.

I shall continue to read and write, and if these musings are of any interest, they are on the website.

Jim

BIBLE STUDY HOME GROUP

The Home Group meets regularly every Wednesday evening and for the more popular bible study series on Monday afternoons too. Initially, like all other activities, we met via Zoom but with the gradual lifting of restrictions it has been great to be meeting face to face since last Autumn.

Our topics for study have varied during the year as has the style of study – but always an informal setting so that everyone feels welcomed and relaxed. No previous knowledge is required and the home group helps those just starting to explore the bible for the first time as well as those who regularly read and study the bible.

During Lent last year we explored “Caring for Creation” – a guided study looking at the Environment and Climate Change through the lens of the bible and how we as Christians can respond to give a future of faith and hope. In the Summer we explored Paul’s letter to the Galatians and living by the fruits of the spirits. Over Advent we followed a guided study of daily bible readings “Reflections for Advent” – a series designed to enhance our spiritual journey through the season of Advent.

We are currently watching an amazing film series called the “The Chosen” exploring the life of Jesus and the Disciples through the Gospels. Exploring the Gospels through film has helped put us right into the action and given us a deeper understanding of many of the familiar gospel stories.

If you are interested please do come along and join us on a Wednesday evening - and there is no commitment to be there every week; just come and join us when you can. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Steve & Samm Barge

PIONEER REPORT

Allowing for the obvious interruptions of COVID, my third year in post has built on the previous two. There has been progression and evolution in what I'm doing, but I yet to encounter anything that has prompted me to question the general direction of travel. My focus remains on trying to foster a sense of community on the new housing estate as, I strongly believe, it's in community that people can flourish and enjoy being known and accepted. Not only does community enrich, protect and support us all as individuals, but it's through the relationships born of community that we get to walk alongside others and, as we do life together, to naturally share our stories and our faith with them.

I see developing community somewhat akin to the process of growing a tree. We all know that it will grow up to become a place of shelter and refuge, of fruitfulness and provision but, as complex organisms, the trouble with trees is that they take a long time to reach maturity. Communities are no less complex and I'm painfully aware that my five years in post can only achieve so much. My hope and prayer is that others in the future will be able to benefit from the start that has been made.

Nevertheless, our sapling community is already starting to show some signs of life. Working with the Parish Council over the past year, community-building has become one of the top two priorities (along with the environment) and greater energy and resource is now being put into this. One example has been the start of the West Monkton Youth Group. Starting this in the midst of a pandemic has been an interesting and disrupted experience but, when we're able to meet, we now have a group of around 15

young people coming together. Whilst I take heart from these green shoots, there can be no doubt that there is plenty more room for the tree to grow.

In the absence of a strong and active community, my focus has continued to be on supporting individual families in need. In my context, this approach to pioneering makes sense, but I am aware that this can create issues in terms of visibility of what I'm doing. Since the sense of community is not strong enough to build relationships through a constant diet of activities, events and initiatives, there is little by way of advertising, headcounts or news to give visibility to my work. Likewise, the confidential nature of what I am doing as I work with families dealing with a range of issues, from debt and depression to health concerns and relationship issues somewhat precludes communication. What I can say is that, here too, as we've done life together, some encouraging green shoots of faith have emerged.

Openly broadcasting the nature of my work is problematic for the reasons just given. However, whilst I would never discuss individuals (and strongly resist the notion of turning people into projects), as always, I would welcome conversation with anyone interested in my work and approach. Feel free to grab me for a chat after a service or let me take this opportunity to also advertise the monthly drop-in morning I host on the first (non-Bank Holiday) Monday of each month from 11:15am at 16 Bishops Close.

Paul Elliston, Bathpool Pioneer

**The Parochial Church Council
of The Church of St. Mary and All Saints
Broomfield**

**Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st December 2021**

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**The Parochial Church Council
of The Church of St. Mary and All Saints, Broomfield
Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st December 2021**

The Council is responsible for working with the Incumbent in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical. It also has the responsibility of maintaining the Church, its services and the churchyard. Members of the Council are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. During the year, the Council members and other officers were as follows:

Members Ex Officio:

Rector	Rev. Mary Styles	FS*
Associate Vicar	Rev. Jim Cox	

Churchwarden

Miss A. Powell	FS
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Deanery Synod (Ex Officio)

Vacant

Elected Members of the Council

Mr. J. Duncan
Dr. J. Ogle
Mrs. B. Purdy

Secretary to the PCC

Miss A. Powell

Treasurer

Mr. J. Earp

*The letters F and S above denote membership or co-opted membership of the Fabric and Standing Committees respectively.

Committees

There are two committees. The Standing Committee, as required by law, may transact the business of the Council between meetings, subject always to its direction. The Fabric Committee is responsible for all works affecting the Church building and the churchyard.


Church Attendance

There are 24 names on the Electoral Roll this year. 7 are resident in the parish and 17 are non-resident. The number of declared worshippers was 13.

Independent Examiner

Mr. R. Mackay C.A., who in the Council's view is properly qualified, has kindly consented to examine these Financial Statements.

Signed,



The Rev'd Mary Styles (Chairman)
The Benefice Office, Kingston St Mary

Date: 23/3/22

The Parochial Church Council of the Church of

St. Mary and All Saints, Broomfield

Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st December 2021

Independent Examiner's Report

This Report is in respect of an examination carried out under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the Regulations") and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 ("the Act") on the Financial Statements of the Parish Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2021, and the notes thereto, all as set out in pages 3 to 7 hereto ("the Financial Statements").

As members of the Parochial Church Council, you are responsible for the preparation of the Financial Statements. You consider that the audit requirements under the Regulations and the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to give this Report on the Financial Statements in accordance with regulation 25 of the Regulations.

My examination has been carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 edition, issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishop's Council. That examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the Council and a comparison of the Financial Statements with these records. It also included a consideration of any unusual items or disclosures and the explanation from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the Financial Statements.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention –

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
to keep accounting records in accordance with s.41 of the Act; and
to prepare Financial Statements which accord with the accounting records; and
to comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations;
have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the Financial Statements to be reached.



R Mackay CA. Chartered Accountant.

DATE:


The Parochial Church Council of
The Church of St. Mary and All Saints, Broomfield


Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st December 2021

Receipts and Payments Account

	Note	Year ended 31 st December			2020 Total
		<u>2021</u>		<u>2021</u>	
		Restoration Fund	General Fund	Total	
		£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources					
From all Sources	1.3	6,724	14,405	21,129	24,397
Interest Received			278	278	373
		<u>6,724</u>	<u>14,683</u>	<u>21,407</u>	<u>24,770</u>
Resources Expanded					
The Work of the Church	1.4	18,209	11,357	29,566	16,597
Management & Admin.			463	463	1,109
		<u>18,209</u>	<u>11,820</u>	<u>30,029</u>	<u>17,706</u>
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources (all Funds)				<u>(8,622)</u>	<u>7064</u>
Cash at Bank Brought Forward					19,828
Net Incoming (outgoing) Resources during the year					(8,622)
Cash at Bank Carried Forward					11,206

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 21st March, 2022 and signed on their behalf by


The Rev'd Mary Styles
Date: 23.3.22


John Earp, PCC Treasurer
Date: 23/03/2022

The notes on pages 4, 6 and 7 form part of these Accounts

The Parochial Church Council
of The Church of St. Mary and All Saints
Broomfield

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st December 2021

1. Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORPs, and under the historical cost convention. Accounts are shown on a Receipts and Payments basis.

1.2 Funds

The General Fund represents funds that are not subject to any special restrictions regarding their use and are available to be applied to the general purposes of the council. The Restoration fund was established based on extensive fund raising and special appeals and is a Designated Fund to be utilized for the restoration works identified by the council, based on professional advice received.

1.3 Incoming Resources

Collections and planned and other giving are recognised when received. Income tax recoverable on gift aid is accounted for when such income is received. Grants and legacies are also accounted for on receipt. Funds raised by fetes, garden events etc. and by the sale of books and other items are accounted for net of costs, where such costs are not considered to be material. Dividends and interest are accounted for when received.

1.4 Resources Used

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over or awarded. No material remuneration, or benefit has been paid or is payable to any member of the Council or to any person connected thereto. Reimbursement of expenses is paid at cost.

1.5 Fixed Assets

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the Accounts by virtue of s96 (2)(a) of the Charities Act, 1993. No value is placed on moveable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and moveable church furnishings, whether restoration maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure. Individual items of equipment costing less than £5,000 are written off when acquired.

1.6 Reserves Policy

The Council wishes to maintain reserves amounting to not less than one year's future costs.

The Parochial Church Council of
The Church of St. Mary and All Saints, Broomfield

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)
For the Year Ended 31st December 2021

2 Incoming Resource	Restoration Fund		General Fund	
	2021	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£	£	£
From Donors				
Box			801	30
Collections			869	762
Gift Aid	150	100	3,726	3,724
Other Giving			0	75
Loan from Kingston St. Mary			0	3,500
Fund Raising			162	461
Grants, Gifts, Fees etc.	6,503		757	2,870
Tax recovered	1,060		1,437	3,714
Investment & Bank Interest			278	373
Restoration appeal	5,664	9,161		
	<u>13,377</u>	<u>9,261</u>	<u>8,030</u>	<u>15,509</u>
3 Resources Used				
Quota (Parish Share?)			7,629	8,097
Repairs & Maintenance				
Church	18,209		177	6,591
Churchyard			640	400
Electricity			795	1,236
Insurance			847	141
Missionary & Charitable Giving			475	62
Vicars' exps / Admin / Office			463	1,109
Church Activities and Expenditure			794	70
	<u>(18,209)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>11,820</u>	<u>17,706</u>
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources	<u>(4,832)</u>	<u>9,261</u>	<u>(3,790)</u>	<u>(2,197)</u>
4 Statement of Funds				Total
				£
Brought Forward 1 st January 2021	9,261		10,567	19,828
Net Outgoing Resources during the year	(4,832)		(3,790)	8,622
Balance at 31 st December 2021	<u>4,429</u>		<u>6,777</u>	<u>11,206</u>

The Parochial Church Council of
The Church of St. Mary and All Saints, Broomfield

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)
For the Year Ended 31st December 2021

5 Investments

The parish receives benefit in the form of dividends from two legacy funds as follows:

	Bid Values as at:	
	31/12/2020	31/12/2021
1. The Hamilton Will Legacy		
a. Fund Number CBF 101001067S	£5,670.84	£6,540.14
2. The Parsons Grave Fund		
a. Fund Number CBF 101001358S	£3,590.17	£4,146.08

6 Liabilities (2021 Receipts or Payments not covered until 2022)

1. Repayment of the Loan of (£3,500) from Kingston due by 31/12/2021 but was actually repaid on 12/01/2022
2. Contribution to the Benefice costs for 2021 Invoice issued (953) to be paid in early 2022.
3. Invoice for Broomfield Village Hall hire in 2021 paid in 2022 £24.00.
4. The VAT recovery claimed for the last Restoration fund invoice of 2021 was £640.24 received on 19/01/2022.

Further Notes:

1. Covid restrictions changed during the year, but the services were limited, and this is reflected in the contributions which although slightly greater than the previous year are still low by comparison with Pre-covid levels. This also impacts the Gift Aid contributions on those collections.
2. The "box" contribution this year was up on the previous year both in terms of actual "box" contributions which is surprising as it must reflect an increase in church visitor numbers (or contributions per visitor) despite the continuing covid effect, but also because it includes one off (non-recurring) donations. In this case the collections for the retiring Church Warden are captured under this heading.
3. Gift Aid recovery was more normal this year as it only reflects the actual 12-month period; last year's higher figure was because it included some back claims. The gift aid recovery also included an element of recovery related to the donations for the restoration fund donations. Gift Aid recovery related to 2020, that for 2021 will be claimed in 2022.
4. The high church maintenance figure reflects the commencement of the Restoration project. Although the urgent early tower work took place in 2020 and some work is due in 2022, the vast majority took place in 2021. Whilst payment for much of this work was directly covered via a grant from Viridor Credits, the Broomfield account had to cover other aspects for example some of the stained glass work which was not covered by the Viridor arrangements and the VAT element which was then subsequently reclaimed through the Listed Places of Worship Scheme. It is the VAT element of the expenditure which forms a significant part of the expenditure figure of £18,209 shown. The VAT recovery amounted to £6,172.
5. Insurance: The Church insurance for 2021 was paid by Monthly Direct Debit.
6. The changes in Church activities and Missionary giving are a reflection of the Covid influence.
7. The Vicars' exps / Admin / Office number reflects actual activity and contributions made for the operation of the Benefice.

8. The Loan from Kingston St. Mary shown in the 2020 general fund (as last year's accounts) was spent on early restoration related work but was in place before the restoration fund was established. The repayment of this loan will be taken from the restoration fund in early 2022 (see the note above).
9. The electricity costs were lower this year due to 1) warmer weather, 2) fewer services and 3) a short-term advantageous tariff from OPUS. However, OPUS would not allow this tariff to be adopted at the time of renewal and a change to the cheapest supplier (Scottish Power) has been negotiated, but in line with energy prices generally the costs for electricity are expected to be significantly higher next year.
10. The Missionary and Charitable Giving figure is higher this year due to the increase in services during the year and reflects donations to RBL and the Farming Community (Post Lammas). It also includes £75 to Open Door – a late cheque cashed early in 2021 but relating to activity in 2020.