

Church of The Blessed Virgin Mary

Cheddon Fitzpaine



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

SOUTH QUANTOCK BENEFICE

The Blessed Virgin Mary

Cheddon Fitzpaine

Incumbent – Rev'd Dr. Mary Styles

Associate Vicar – Rev'd Jim Cox

PCC Treasurer

Mr J Earp

Tall Trees

Cheddon Road

Taunton TA2 7QT

Independent Examiner

Mr R Mackay

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:

Lloyds TSB plc

31 Fore 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 the Blessed Virgin, its services and the surrounding churchyard.

The PCC is excepted 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	Rev Dr Mary Styles
Associate Vicar	Rev Jim Cox
Curate	Rev T Hallett
Churchwardens	Mrs Diana Taylor

Representatives on the Deanery Synod

Mrs. Pauline Stone	Mrs. Diana Taylor
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PCC Secretary

Mrs Diana Taylor (and Lay Chair)

Elected Members

Mrs Corrine McMylor	Mr. Stuart Triggol
Mr George Winter	Hilary Shaw
Meg Lenton	

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.

**Cheddon Fitzpaine Parish Church
ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS**

15th May 2022

Following the 10.00am Communion Service

Agenda

1. *Welcome and opening prayer.*
2. *Acceptance of the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 23rd May 2021*
3. *Election of two Churchwardens*

**Cheddon Fitzpaine Parish Church
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
2022**

15th May in the church after the 10.00am service

AGENDA

1. Welcome and opening prayer
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Approval of the meeting held on 23rd May 2021 (See below)
5. Electoral Roll Officer's Report (pg 11)
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. Presentation of annual accounts
7. Safeguarding Policy to be approved
8. To receive the Reports as printed in the Report Pack
9. Questions related to the Reports or any other issue
10. Closing prayer

Cheddon Fitzpaine Parish Church

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

held in CHURCH on 23RD MAY 2021 at 10.20am

Those present were Rev Jim Cox (in the Chair), Corrine McMylor, Stuart Triggol, John and Dorothy Earp, Hilary Shaw, Thelma Burnett, Christine and George Winter, Elizabeth Thompson, Diana Taylor (secretary), Meg Lenton, Colin and Pauline Stone.

Rev Jim Cox opened the Meeting with prayer. He expressed gratitude that the meeting could be held in person after the morning's Holy Communion service due to some recent lifting of COVID19 restrictions

1. Apologies: Tom Playll

2. Minutes of the Annual Meeting on October 25th 2020 (delayed because of the Covid19 Pandemic). These were accepted and signed.

3. Election of Two Churchwardens

Rev Jim had received one nomination. Stuart Triggol had proposed and Corrine McMylor seconded that Diana Taylor be elected Churchwarden. There was no other nomination and all approved that Diana Taylor be Churchwarden for the coming year.

The Meeting closed at 10.25.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

HELD IN CHEDDON FITZPAINE CHURCH

ON MAY 23RD 2021 AT 10.25AM

Those present were: Rev Jim Cox (in the Chair), Corrine McMylor, Stuart Triggol, George and Christine Winter, Elizabeth Thompson, Meg Lenton, John (treasurer) and Dorothy Earp, Hilary Shaw, Thelma Burnett, Diana Taylor (secretary), Colin and Pauline Stone.

Rev Jim thanked everyone for attending the meeting which thankfully could be held in person under strict Covid protocols and social distancing rules.

1. Apologies: Tom Playll

2. Minutes of the APCM held on October 25th 2020. These were approved and signed.

3. Electoral Roll Officer's Report

In the absence of the ER officer, it was agreed that the numbers be checked and inserted in the Minutes. (44 at 23/5/21)

4. Election of Parochial Representatives of the Laity to:

a. The **Parochial Church Council**

The secretary had received nomination papers for the following:

Stuart Triggol, Corrine McMylor, George Winter, Meg Lenton and Hilary Shaw.

There being no election, all five were declared members of the PCC for the coming year.

Each member has signed a declaration of Eligibility to act as a Charity Trustee and will obtain DBS clearance, if not already held.

b. The **Deanery Synod**

Pauline Stone and Diana Taylor were confirmed as representatives on the Taunton Deanery Synod.

5. Appointment of an Independent Examiner of the accounts of the PCC.

John Earp reported that Mr Robert Mackay had examined the 2020 accounts and proposed that he be re-appointed. Diana Taylor seconded this and all approved the appointment of Robert Mackay.

6. Presentation of the Annual Accounts to December 31st 2020.

These has been widely circulated and discussed in detail at the May 10th meeting of the PCC. The loss of income from collections, giving and occasional services had been drastic during the long periods of national Lockdown. The income from the 100 Club had thankfully continued.

They were unanimously accepted by the APCM.

John Earp then spoke to the current critical financial situation.

Although there was £22,663.06 in the bank account, we must be aware that almost all of this is for the benefit of the churchyard. A true figure of available monies for other spends would be negative in the region of £2000.

A recent donation had again been given for the maintenance of the churchyard.

The members of the 100 Club have been written to, seeking their approval for some flexibility in the use of the net income for the functionality of the church. Otherwise, a situation would soon arise where the churchyard was immaculate, but the church could not pay other bills (e.g., electricity, repairs, insurance) therefore not function.

The Gift Aid, wrongly claimed on 100 Club income pre-2020, was still under discussion between the treasurer and HMRC. However, JE had been asked to submit the legal Gift Aid claim for 2020 which amounted to £873 and which could be set against the sum needed to be repaid. After much negotiation, the PCC still owes £3824.50 to HMRC, for which a repayment plan may hopefully be agreed.

John was thanked most sincerely for all his help and apologies made for the unforeseen problems with which he had had to deal.

Rev Jim noted that the best way to help the church finances is to make regular standing order payments, for which Gift Aid may be claimed if given by taxpayers.

7. Safeguarding Policy

The current policy was updated in April 2021 and the report of the Benefice Safeguarding Officer, Lucy Hay, is in the Report Pack.

This is an important subject for the whole of the Church of England and each of us has a responsibility to be aware of the care of each other.

The PCC has agreed the delegation to the Diocese of the responsibility of reporting to the Charity Commission any non-safeguarding serious issues. The PCC accepts responsibility of reporting safeguarding issues to the CC.

8 To receive the Reports as printed in the Annual Report Pack

The pack had been available for some weeks, thanks to the work of Michele Hardman, the Benefice Administrator.

As the last APCM had only been held in October 2020 because of the COVID19 pandemic restrictions, there was some lap-over, but all the reports clearly showed the effect of the virus on all our lives and activities.

Dr Liz Thompson spoke about the arrangements being planned for Pastoral Care now that she and Mary Gunning have moved away from the parish. Annie Durham will welcome newcomers to Rowford and Rev Tracey will try to cover the Nerrols Estate, but someone is needed for Cheddon village. Rev Maureen Doble will try to send cards to those bereaved, baptised etc.

Rev Jim thanked the writers of the reports and briefly spoke to each matter.

There being few questions, ST proposed, TB seconded and the meeting unanimously agreed to accept the Report Pack.

9. Future Ministry

JC reported that the Rector, Rev Mary Styles, had formed a group from across the four parishes to discuss what shape ministry in South Quantock Benefice might take after all the restrictions have been lifted, bearing in mind the current and future staffing levels. Meetings are currently taking place. The Mission Action Plan will be updated.

The next meeting of the PCC will be on Tuesday 29th June 2021 at 6pm. Arrangements to be confirmed.

The Grace was said by all and Rev Jim closed the meeting at 10.55am.

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:

Number on the Electoral Roll as at 23.05.2021	44
Total at December 31 2021	40
12 were Residents and 28 non- residents.	

Joan Osmond / Diana Taylor

CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT 2021

Somehow, with a lot of prayer and much caution and goodwill, we have got through another year dominated by the Covid pandemic. At times it was frightening as the virus ebbed and flowed through the whole population and it certainly was more prevalent in our immediate locality. Our schools had great difficulties as children rather than old folk seemed to be the victims for much of the year. After long periods of lockdown in early 2021, we began to meet more people, Care Homes gradually opened up and we had more church services but many of us were still nervous of socialising and of being spreaders of the virus – especially as new variants circulated. We began to "live with covid" but more of our relatives and neighbours caught it.

It proved very difficult for our clergy and wardens to decide on the best thing to do when the government and the Church of England left decisions to the Incumbent of each parish. It was almost easier when "you must not do this" was the rule. By constantly updating the Covid Guidance and the Risk Assessments, Rev Mary led us through a very strange year. We still asked people to wear masks, to socially distance and to sanitise hands. The priests administered the sacraments under strict protocols to communicants who remained in their pews. A collection plate was on the table by the door. Only alternate pews were used and as much ventilation as we could bear but regular attendees grew used to the procedures. The aim was to keep everyone safe.

But in Cheddon, we had 4 weddings and 8 children were baptised which was encouraging. Ashes of our benefactor, Michael Hake, of Richard Shirley-Smith and of Jean Bentley (Pauline's Aunt) were buried in the churchyard and just one funeral for Philip Cracknell was held.

Socially distanced working parties were much enjoyed and kept the churchyard pristine. Thank you everybody in the ever-growing volunteer gang! Our neighbours Messrs Ron and David Burnett are also often seen quietly working in the churchyard. The PCC unanimously agreed to a unique but beautiful Memorial to Richard Shirley-Smith being placed on the wall in the new churchyard and finally in December saw it in place.

The churchyard looked stunning for the outdoor Climate service led by Rev Tracey Hallett in September. Over 60 sat out in the sunshine, glad to be together again.

A singing group began in the churchyard (and church) on 1st Sunday of the month initiated by a couple of local ladies through Rev Tracey and subsequently with Rev Jim taking the lead by default. As attendance is declining we await to see what the future has in store.

We began to feel normal but by Christmas we were all scared of the very infectious omicron variant, and many stayed away from the end of year services.

With few occasional services, no fund-raising events and little income from services, the financial concerns continued. So, the sale of Joan's Jams for church funds was much appreciated.

The income from the 100 Club kept us afloat, particularly after March, when the PCC agreed that it now be used for maintaining the functionality of Cheddon Church. This new flexibility was essential as most of our funds are still restricted or designated and mainly for the upkeep of the churchyard.

However, the early part of the year was dominated by the deficit from 2020 and the need to repay nearly £5000 to HMRC, representing Gift Aid improperly claimed over previous years. We were very grateful to John Earp, the new Treasurer for finding, then guiding us through this very worrying minefield. We owed him a huge apology for the extra amount of work it caused him. Thanks to a very generous anonymous donation plus other gifts we were able to finally pay this debt in October which was a huge relief.

The Treasurer was also much engaged with the Jack Hake Trust and in rationalising the numerous smaller accounts which had appeared over the years.

Because of the financial concerns, the overdue fabric repairs were put on hold in January and will soon need to be addressed. The PCC has also delayed decisions about a sound system or repairs to the organ which Hilary Shaw has brought to our attention. She is very worried about the state of the organ but somehow has managed to coax lovely music out of it and to play hymns.

Singing was banned for months, then Rosie Brown sang delightful solos from the choir stall. Eventually the congregation was allowed to sing – but with masks on which is horrid and difficult, but most people tried valiantly. Thank you, Hilary and Rosie, and not forgetting Rev Mary's lovely voice and Rev Jim with his guitar and singing to give us music in church. The bells rang out from the Tower on many occasions thanks to Pearl Jeanes and her Ringers.

We were saddened to learn of the death of Michael Hake and Pauline Stone was present for the burial of his Ashes in the churchyard in the autumn. She has also acted as verger for the weddings.

Corrine McMylor was licensed with our blessing as a Lay Pastoral Assistant in the year and has been a key player in the success of Little Seedlings which is held in Cheddon Memorial Hall for young families. She has also been a constant help at Baptisms and as Sidesman.

Relatively minor but fairly frequent vandalism occurred in the church porch and churchyard during the summer months and was disturbing for the neighbours and the key holders who usually found the evidence. There were regular discussions with the neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator, Mrs Camilla Redpath and the local police, who made visits to the church. Various suggestions were made about CCTV cameras, security gates and lighting. Rev Jim led these discussions, but no-one wanted the church to seem less than welcoming. However, better external lighting was essential, and our friend Phil Wight very helpfully installed a replacement motion activated light in the porch and a solar -powered light in the Lych gate is being trialled. We are very grateful to Phil for his help.

The village has experienced some difficult times this year with the publication of plans for a considerable amount of new housing on numerous sites around Glebe Farm. The development ideas have generated some controversy, but our clergy and the PCC aimed to stay as neutral as possible.

However, the offer of a car park for the church was mentioned in these plans and the PCC spent some time discussing what the legal and financial implications might be if this transpired. Their thoughts were passed to the developers and to the Parish Council. There is an undoubted need for car parking as we will no longer be able to use the paddock behind the village street which the Ashton family have allowed us access to for many years.

(At the beginning of 2022, Ben Ashton kindly clarified the possibilities for parking and hopefully this will be taken forward with him).

The PCC has been very grateful to the neighbours who have opened and closed the church every day, thus keeping "an eye" on the building and its environs. This has been a great help to me as I live up on the hills. Their rota has been willingly managed by Sue Custance-Baker- who has also appeared with very welcome refreshments for the working parties. Thank you, Sue!

Thank you to Jane and the others who have "hoovered" and cared for our much-loved church. And thank you to those who have read Lessons and led the Intercessions. I have only planned one service at a time, during this time of uncertainty.

We have sorely missed Mary Gunning and Liz Thompson, who have each moved to be nearer their daughters. Mary's Lunches were missed at the Harvest Festival and the Pastoral Group is much diminished without both of them. Rev Maureen has quietly continued helping with this pastoral care

Rev's Mary and Jim have led our services and have liaised closely with me and the other churchwardens through the challenges of the year. Many joined them in meetings and groups across the Benefice (often on Zoom") to work out how to "build back better" after the pandemic.

We have all valued their leadership and care for us. Through 2021 they were joined by Rev Tracey Hallett our pioneer curate and force extraordinaire in the Cheddon Parish, working mainly from the Church House on the Nerrols Estate but known to all of us for her enthusiasm and energy. As her training drew to a close, it was announced that she had been appointed Rector of the South Petherton Benefice so we said goodbye and thank you to her at the Cheddon Carol Service. We also sent good wishes to her husband Dean as he begins ordination training. They have given so much to the village in their three years among us.

Finally, I must thank Michele, our very wonderful Administrator, without whom we could not manage. In farming terms, Michele is without doubt Head Herdsman!!

The required checks including the safeguarding audit have been carried out. The Terrier and Inventory are both up to date.

Diana Taylor

CHEDDON CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT 2021 SECRETARY'S REPORT

The PCC met six times in 2021, in spite of the continuing difficulties caused by the Covid 19 Pandemic. The national regulations, which controlled all our lives, changed frequently through the year and meetings had to be planned carefully. We tried to include everyone but not all members had available technology or were comfortable with in-person meetings. A considerable amount of business was carried out by email or text amongst members to avoid personal contact.

The January, March and May meetings were held on Zoom, thanks to Reverend Tracey Hallett's help. We were able to hold the (legally) delayed APCM in late May in Church and also the June meeting. When the pandemic seemed to ease a little, the August and October meetings were held in the home of Rev Jim on the Nerrols Estate, which suited the majority of members.

Rachel Vokes and Tom Playll sadly resigned from the PCC but the remaining four members were joined by Hilary Shaw at the APCM. Pauline Stone continued as ex-officio member through her membership of Deanery Synod and Diana Taylor was elected as Churchwarden in May.

The new Treasurer joined the zoom meetings the January and March zoom meetings to take the PCC through some difficult financial decisions and he submitted invaluable reports to every meeting. Rev Mary and/or Rev Jim attended each meeting and gave reports on Benefice activities, particularly about services which were held on Zoom or gradually introduced into the churches through the year. Safeguarding was always on the agenda. Members must ensure they carry out safeguarding training and have up to date DBS clearance, now required every three years.

Socially distanced churchyard working parties and church cleaning mornings were organised. Hilary Shaw reported on the deteriorating state of the organ and the need for a sound system was also discussed. Church security and intermittent vandalism were regular topics on the agendas. But until the church finances are more secure, the PCC felt it could not make any decisions on expenditure. However, voting to use 100 Club monies for the functionality of the church will help going forward. Church repairs were put on hold but the need for a church toilet becomes urgent and was regularly debated.

The PCC unanimously supported the Licensing of Corrine McMylor and Kate Ayres of West Monkton as Lay Pastoral Assistants.

Rev Jim, as Area Dean, kept us informed about Deanery Synod meetings which had also been in-person or on zoom.

At the end of the year, the PCC voted to pay the 2022 Parish Share by monthly direct debits, which the Treasurer will set up in January. They voted to accept the Diocesan offer to pay the same as in 2021 i.e., £7330.

Diana Taylor, Secretary

SAFEGUARDING REPORT FOR SOUTH QUANTOCK BENEFICE Dec 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.

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 Staplegrave, the Holy Communion Tue 21st June and the business meeting Tue 4th October – all in the evening.

Rev Jim (Area Dean)

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 Cheddton 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

ANNUAL REPORT FOR CHEDDON TOWER 2021-22

Cheddton tower has fared well following the long period of inaction during the pandemic. There have been no issues in the Belfry this year and the ropes continue to be in good order.

Initially returning to ringing in the enclosed environment of the tower was a challenge and for some months we rang just the 4 bells (one in each corner) with the door slightly ajar. As the pandemic has receded we are now more comfortable ringing the 5 and the West Monkton team are happy to continue to support ringing for the 3rd Sunday service, and other special services when requested.

Pearl Jeanes, March 2022

CHEDDON CHURCH ORGAN REPORT 2021

The organ continues to deteriorate. There has been no general maintenance or repair other than annual tuning. The quality of the organ "action", which links the keys to the pipes, has declined significantly, particularly on the Great manual. This makes the organ disappointing and difficult to play accurately without errors.

Whilst a full overhaul, costed at around £12,000, is probably unrealistic given the financial resources available, I would again refer the PCC to the 2 quotes I obtained and reported in the 2019 APCM.

These outlined more urgent maintenance and repairs, estimating what I considered to be a reasonable £2,000. I think this would be money well spent and defer more expensive costs later.

The organ is tuned annually by Mr Brian Hooper, who recommended placing open water containers around the organ to help prevent dryness in the mechanism. This has been done.

On a brighter note, the organ stool, currently fixed too high, and unstable, is being converted to an adjustable one, which will benefit all. This may be one of the first in the "Campaign for adjustable Organ Benches", promoted by the Society of Women Organists, and reported nationally. It is nice to think of Cheddton being in the forefront of modern, inclusive thinking!

Hilary Shaw

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

CHEDDON FITZPAINE CHURCH "100 CLUB"

Firstly, we would like to say a sincere and huge thank you for those continuing to support the Church "100 club" and the invaluable monies received. This has now been running for over ten years having started in July 2010. The annual receipts and prize money is always shown, recorded and accepted on the Annual PCC report to the 31st December each year.

In 2021 there has been an average of 65 entries in the monthly draw. For every £5 paid per month you have one entry into the draw, members paying more than this e.g. £10/£15/£20/£25 therefore will have 2/3/4/5 monthly entries. The monthly prizes are currently
1st Prize £50 2nd Prize £15 with an additional Christmas Bonus of £50.

The prize money changes depending on how many members are in the monthly draw.

The purpose for the use of this fund was amended in 2021 with agreement from members so that it provides flexibility for the use of the fund to support the functionality of the Church. The main purpose would remain to support the material condition of the church but some funds may be needed for other bills to most importantly ensure that the Church remains open.

As you can see from the annual accounts in this booklet the gross income from the "100 Club" in 2021 was £4010 and the balance held at 31st December 2021 is £9,618. This number reflects the fact that the Gift Aid over claim was paid back to HMRC from this account hence it is lower than the 100 club fund last year.

If you would like to join the "100 club" please contact one of the organisers below.

With many thanks Pauline Stone and Joan Osmond

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

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

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

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

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 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

**The Parochial Church Council
of The Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Cheddon Fitzpaine**

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

Contents

Page 1	Officers of the Council
2	Independent Examiner's Report
3	Receipts and Payments
4	Financial Statements
5	Notes: Continued

The Parochial Church Council
of The Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Cheddon Fitzpaine
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
Associate Vicar Rev. Jim Cox

Churchwarden.

Mrs. D. M. Taylor (From May 2021)

Deanery Synod (Ex Officio)

Mrs. D. M. Taylor
Mrs. P. Stone

Elected Members of the Council

Mrs. C. McMylor,
Mr. S. Triggol,
Mr. G. Winter,
Mrs. M. Lenton,
Mrs. H. Shaw

Secretary to the PCC

Mrs. D. M. Taylor

Treasurer

Mr J. E. Earp (Ex Officio)

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

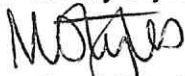
There are 42 names on the Electoral Roll this year. 15 are resident in the parish and 27 are non-resident. The number of declared worshippers was 17.

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



The Benefice Office, Kingston St Mary

Date: 30.3.22

**The Parochial Church Council
of The Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Cheddon Fitzpaine
Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st December 2021**

Independent Examiner's Report to the Parochial Church Council of Cheddon Fitzpaine: The Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This Report is in respect of an examination carried out under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 (lithe Regulations") and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 (lithe 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 5 here to ("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 the Blessed Virgin Mary, Cheddon Fitzpaine
Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st December 2021

	2021 General Fund £	2021 Designated & Restricted Funds £	2021 Total Funds £	2020 Total Funds £
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Direct Giving				
Gift Aid	1,830		1,830	1,200
Collections	1,189		1,189	203
100 Club Giving	4,010		4,010	4,330
Legacies and Donations	6,662	1,000	7,662	1,757
Other Income				
Fees	2,180		2,180	636
Grants		320	320	320
Tax recovered	186		186	3,652
Other Income	1,670		1,670	2,102
Investment Income & Interest	366	-	366	356
	18,093	1,320	19,413	14,556
RESOURCES USED				
Charitable Giving				
Local & National Charities	138		138	317
Work of the Church				
Parish Share	7,223		7,223	7,330
Clergy & Benefice Expenses	794		794	2,164
Service Expenses (inc Music Costs)	345		345	121
Church Expenses				
Insurance	946		946	934
Light & Heat	402		402	1,390
Repairs, Renewals & Equipment	570		570	3,688
Organ Expenses			0	0
Churchyard expenditure		810	810	270
Administrative Expenses				
Sundries (inc 100 Club Prizes)	5,291		5,291	445
Legal Fees	0		0	0
	15,709	810	16,519	16,659
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	2,384	510	2,894	(2,103)
Cash at Bank at 1 st January 2021 Brought forward			<u>24,983</u>	<u>27,086</u>
Cash at Bank at 31 December 2021 Carried forward			<u>27,877</u>	<u>24,983</u>

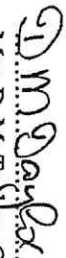
The Parochial Church Council
of The Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Cheddon Fitzpaine
Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2021

	<u>Unrestricted</u>		<u>Restricted funds</u>		Memorial Funds*	Endowment Fund	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	General Fund	100 Club Fund	Messy Church Fund	Messy Church Fund				
<u>Cash Funds</u>	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Lloyds Current Account	7,500	9,618	0	10,759	-	27,877	24,983	
Total Cash Funds	<u>7,500</u>	<u>9,618</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10,759</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,877</u>	<u>24,983</u>	
<u>Assets</u>								
<u>Investment at Cost</u>								
Pemberton Trust			-	-	-	4,165	4,165	4,165
NS&I Investment account	650						650	650
300 @ 3½% war Loan105	105						105	105
Fees owed from other Parishes	0						0	356
<u>Liabilities</u>								
Fees owed to other Parishes	953						953	719

As at 31 December 2021 the Stock Exchange Securities shown above had a market value shown on page 5 note 5.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 21st March 2022


Mrs. D. M. Taylor - Chair
On behalf of the Board of Trustees

♦ Refers to the J Musgrave Memorial Fund and the Jack Hake Memorial Fund see page 5 note 4.


J.E. Harp - Treasurer

The Parochial Church Council
of The Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Cheddon Fitzpaine
Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st December 2021

Notes to the Accounts

Year ended 31 December 2021

1. The accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis and in accordance with Charity Commission guidance.
2. Neither the Trustees, nor any person connected with them, have received any remuneration. Expenses incurred have been paid at cost.
3. The Endowment Fund refers to the Pemberton Trust investment of 490 units at £8.50 and is quoted at valuation. The balance at 31 December 2021 was £4,165 (2020: £4,165).
4. The Designated/Restricted Funds are represented by Three funds.

The **100 Club Fund** was originally the Reordering Fund is primarily to support refurbishment of the fabric of the church and was renamed because the 100 club donations are its source of income. Balance at 31 December 2021 was £9,168 which reflects the value in 2020 of £10,313 plus the net 100 club contributions minus the net repayment of £3,825 to HMRC following the over claim of Gift Aid on 100 club donations. Although still classified as a designated fund the PCC during 2021 elected to seek the views of 100 club members to alter the designation of the fund and it was agreed that going forward it would be to support the functioning of the church (rather than the fabric of the church) hence in practice it is effectively a general fund in terms of its use.

The **Messy Church Fund** was held by Cheddon on behalf of the benefice, it is now no longer needed, and the PCC took a decision that it should be used in support of Little Seedlings. Balance at 31 December 2020 was £660. However, the PCC took a decision during 2021 that Little Seedlings was a benefice activity and was better administered through the Kingston account and so the net figure following some expenditure in 2021 was transferred to Kingston so at 2021 year end this fund stood at £0.

The **Memorial Funds** covers two funds established to support memorials:

- **The J Musgrave Memorial Fund** was established in the value of £759 in 2000 for the purpose of contributing to the future maintenance of a family grave.
- **The Jack Hake Memorial Trust** was established in 2009 to use any income and, if necessary, the capital for the maintenance of the churchyard and adjacent services. During 2020/21 correspondence with Michael Hake (prior to his sad death in 2021) regarding this fund it was an understanding that the fund should be considered the original £10,000 donation and that this should be separately invested with any interest arising designated to the original purposes of the fund. To date that process has not been completed – it is ongoing BUT for these accounts the value shown is £10,000 which resides in the main bank account.

5. Investments as at 31st December 2021 were as follows:

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Market Value</u>
The Pemberton Trust (490 Units @ £8.50) Account Ref: CCLA account 101001083S	£4,165	£11,529.59*
The NS&I Investment	£ 650	£660.16
300 @3½% War Loan (nominal)	£105	£ (unknown)**

* **The Pemberton Trust**, invested via the Diocese was established in 1935 with the income, paid to the PCC general bank account, to be used for the amenities of the churchyard and in particular the Pemberton grave.

** The last correspondence on this is dated 1979 and will be followed up going forward.

6. Gift Aid. As reported in last year's accounts in prior years, certain donations were wrongly allocated as attracting tax recoverable on Gift Aid amounting to £4697.50. Contact with the HMRC to correct this initially resulted in the correct gift aid claim in 2021 being discounted against that owing. The PCC in 2021 then decided to authorise the repayment of the balance of £3824.50. This was paid from the 100 Club fund. Hence at the end of 2021 there were no outstanding dues to HMRC.
7. The liabilities "money owed to other Parishes" £953 represents the Cheddon contribution to the benefice for 2021 and is calculated at 10% of the net benefice costs.