

THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS' MARCHAM WITH ST. LUKE'S GARFORD
(registered charity no. 1140057)

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Administrative Information

The Parish of Marcham with Garford is part of the Diocese of Oxford within the Church of England. The correspondence address is:

Parochial Church Council (PCC) Secretary
c/o All Saints' Church, Church Street, Marcham, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX13 6NP

Church members who have served from 1 January 2022 until the date this report and the financial statements were approved are:

Vicar:	Rev Nick Weldon (licensed 20 October 2021)
Permission to officiate:	Rev. Kevin Mentzel, Rev. Mark Newman, Rev Rosemary Siebert
Authorised to lead and preach:	Professor James Allan, Dr Mary Embleton, Mrs Debbie Flint, Mr. James Gilbert, Dr Tim Jack, Mr Martin Poon, Mrs Jill Rowe
Children and Families Minister:	Jill Rowe
Youth Worker:	Rob Finch
Parish Administrator:	Tamsin Gilbert
Safeguarding Officer:	Ruth Atkins
Electoral Roll Officer:	Chris Nutman
Churchwardens (2):	Neil Rowe (from April 2018) Chrystal Poon (From May 2022)
Deanery Synod Reps (up to 3):	Tim Jack Caroline Manders
Elected PCC Members (up to 12):	Ruth Atkins (PCC Secretary) Chris Nutman Chrystal Poon Danni Grady Barney Stevens Ann Southwell Pamela Carter Moore Alison Lyndon David Lunn Jonathan Boardman Carolyn Whiting Sue Lawton (From April 2022)
Co-opted Members:	Tamsin Gilbert (as administrator)

PCC Officers:

Chairman	Rev Nick Weldon
Vice Chairman	Neil Rowe
Secretary	Ruth Atkins
Treasurer	Bryan Eccles

Independent Examiner:

Mike Greig (2020-)

Structure, Governance & Management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC was formally registered with the Charity Commission on 26 January 2011. Lay members of the PCC are appointed in accordance with the provisions of the Church of England.

All eligible church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. In April 2022, the Electoral Roll stood at 137 members (2020: 138, 2021: 142).

The PCC met monthly during the year and the churchwardens and staff team met with the vicar regularly.

Health and Safety, Child Protection and other pertinent legislation is adhered to. The PCC also encourages its members to attend training events and money is set aside in the budget to facilitate this.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults is a vital part of the PCC role. The PCC ensures that safeguarding training and DBS checks are in place for all necessary activities and personnel. They comply fully with the diocesan safeguarding requirements and report any issues or concerns to the Diocesan Safeguarding team. The PCC uses 31:8 as their umbrella body for doing DBS checks.

Objectives

The PCC has the primary responsibility of promoting with the Vicar the whole mission of the church in the parish of Marcham and Garford. This includes pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical ministries to all in the parish by 'Serving Christ Together.'

The PCC seeks to be renewed and empowered by God's Spirit. Whilst recognising the responsibility to be prudent stewards of our resources, seeking and responding to God's will as revealed in the Bible and in line with the traditions of the Church of England is a key component in how the PCC manages its affairs.

Reserves

The PCC operates within a budget determined by its annual income and reserves and approved by the PCC. The agreed reserves policy is to hold three months basic operating costs in the general fund. This is to allow the church to continue to meet its financial obligations in the event of a disruption to its income stream. The church family are invited annually to review their regular giving and special appeals are launched for special projects as appropriate.

Public Benefit

The PCC is aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit and have regard to it in their administration of the Parish. The PCC believes that, by fulfilling its responsibility to work together with the incumbent in the Parish and cooperate in all matters of concern and importance for the promotion of the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, it provides a benefit to the public by:

- providing resources and facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers;
- promoting Christian values, and service by members of the Churches in the Parish to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

Review of the Year – Activities and Achievements (1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022)

Services:

During the year we ran morning and evening services most Sundays in All Saints' with numbers of people attending back up to pre-covid levels. We also ran some all-age services at the newly-built community centre (roughly once a month). Over Christmas we were able to provide a whole programme of activities that catered to lots of different groups, from the youngest to the oldest. Most of our normal Sunday morning services were live-streamed for anyone unable to make church.

St Lukes Church, Garford: During 2022 the members of St. Lukes in Garford have continued to engage with their community with great effect. On Easter Day there was another sunrise service in the churchyard which was well attended. On Remembrance Sunday an Act of Remembrance was attended by many of the village at the War Memorial. An Advent Carol Service was attended by Bishop Gavin and at Christmas there were Crib and Carol services in the church and Carols on the green. There have also been a variety of other services including a Harvest

festival. The church is open weekly on Sunday mornings to provide a quiet space for parishioners to reflect and pray. The choir continues to support worship services at St Lukes and has gained a few singers from Marcham this year.

Other regular activities: The church supported and promoted activities which included:

Children & Youth Work: Marcham School (governors, classroom, R.E., assemblies and services); Friday Club for 5s-11s and termly Family Friday events; Monday night Youth activity session on the MUGA at Marcham Community Centre; Children's and Young people's groups on Sundays (during services and in the afternoon/evening);

Older Persons support: Care for the older people within our parish has continued to some extent through volunteers. In 2022 a fortnightly Games morning was introduced that is popular amongst older generations. The vicar has also made a point of visiting many of the people who were isolating due to the pandemic.

Spiritual study and prayer: Home groups; Weekly prayer meetings; the Prayer Chain; Prayer for the persecuted church; Prayer Triplets. The Midweek Holy Communion is once again meeting in the lounge at Duffield Place. A women's Bible Study has met monthly. Most homegroups came together in church during October and November to complete the Bible Course (a Bible Society resource).

Community activities: The parish has continued to run a variety of activities open to the whole community including Men's Beers & breakfasts, Women's evenings, Tiddlypeeps (baby and toddler group) and Remembrance and Christmas Events and Services.

Other Church activities: a website (www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk); a Facebook page managed by Ruth Atkins. The choir took the decision in the summer to stop singing regularly on 4th Sundays, but will reform occasionally for services and events. The choir sang at the carol service in Dec 2022.

Charitable Fundraising: The church has continued to be involved in charitable fundraising, in particular for Agape, and Ripple Effect (formerly Send a Cow).

Church Maintenance: The PCC has undertaken routine maintenance and improvement works to the church buildings during the year. Total spending on maintenance dropped this year compared to 2021, as last year included replacement of the heating boiler at All Saints (£10,788) and redecoration at St Lukes' (£6,143F). Further information can be found in the fabric report.

Financial Review of 2022

The PCC seeks to be good stewards of the financial resources placed in its care through the generous giving of church members and other income it receives in the form of grants and fees.

Total income for 2022	£161,521	(2021 £150,887)
General Funds	£144,732	(2021 £138,366)
Restricted Funds	£16,789	(2020/1 £12,521) Send-a-Cow, MML, Building Fund
Total expenditure for 2022	£156,240	(2021 £162,635)
General Funds	£145,231	(2021 £144,755)
Restricted Funds	£11,009	(2021 £17,880)
Deficit 2022	£5,281	(2021 £11,748)
Unrestricted	£(499)	(2021 £6,389)
Restricted	£5,780	(2021 £5,359) MML, Send a Cow, Building

Cash at the bank at 31st December 2022 was £180,161 (2021 £175,806)

This is split between the general fund: £172,265 (2021 £167,384) and the restricted funds £7,396 (2021 £8,422) (Send-a-Cow, Marcham Moldova Lifeline, Building Fund, Mission Partners general) £83,608 (2021 £82,523) of the general fund is held as reserves in a deposit account (see Reserves on pg 2)

Overall planned giving eligible for gift aid fell by a modest £2,244 during 2022 (2021 £20,620). This was a result of donors moving out of the parish and some passing away, replaced by new donors moving in, and increases in donations from existing donors.

However, total Gift Aid increased by £868, due to an increase in GASDS and the general movements outlined above., No legacies were received during the year, (2021 £2,000)

One grant was received from Marcham Parish Council, for ecological work in the churchyard, but none from Abingdon Deanery or VWHDC in 2021 (2020 Nil)

44% of the expenditure in 2022 related to the Parish Share £68,799 (2021 35% £55,483). The increase in Parish Share was due to 2022 being the first year the Vicar did not have responsibility for Shippon, which had previously absorbed 25% of the Parish Share to reflect the Vicar's responsibility.

23% of the expenditure in 2022 related to staff wages £35,948 (2021 27% £43,327)

During 2022. The drop in Wages was primarily due to the payment to the Parish Chaplain in 2011, discontinued with the arrival of our new Vicar in October 2021, partly offset by the payment of a modest salary to the Parish Administrator

Risks and Uncertainties

The main financial risks to the church are perceived to be where:

- a) Giving to the church reduces or stops
- b) One or more significant donors stop giving
- c) Parish Share increases over and above the anticipated increase that comes with the appointment of a full-time vicar
- d) unexpected damage to the church buildings occurs

The PCC takes a prayerful approach to managing these risks and holds reserves and appropriate insurance policies. The PCC also budgets for the year ahead and further ahead for some items of expenditure.

Approved by the Trustees on and signed on their behalf by:

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