



Annual Report

2021

Archers Road, Southampton SO15 2LU

www.stmarkschurch.uk

Sharing God's love in word and action

St Mark's Church, Archers Road, Southampton SO15 2LU
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR
ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2021

How the church is organised

General information

St Mark's Church is situated in the Banister Park part of Southampton, Hampshire and is part of the Southampton Deanery of the Church of England, in the Diocese of Winchester.

Correspondence address: St Mark's Church, Archers Road, Southampton, SO15 2LU

St Mark's Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity exempted from registration with the Charity Commission.

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2021 until the date this Report was approved are:

Vicar

Kathy Hicken

Churchwardens

Andrew Coombs (until April 2021)

Paul O'Neill

Representatives of the Deanery Synod:

Sophie Baker

Liz O'Neill

Elected Members:

Lizzie Barlow

Chris Clarke Treasurer (until April 2021)

Andrew Coombs (from April 2021)

Claire Heyes PCC Secretary

Leah Pike

Richard Seed Lay Deputy Chair

Derek Willis

Helen Willis (from April 2021)

Structure, governance and management

Recruitment, induction and training of PCC members

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) has set the number of elected members at 9, with a minimum of three places to come up for election each year.

All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

New PCC members are encouraged to obtain a copy of Practical Church Management: A Guide for Every Parish and to attend training events run by the diocese.

PCC Organisation

The **Standing Committee** is empowered by law to conduct PCC business in between meetings of the full Church Council. It also acts, when required, as the financial planning group. Its members are the Church Officers plus three ordinary member of the PCC.

Day to Day Management

The Churchwardens, vicar and office team manage the day-to-day business of the Church and the office staff oversee the administration associated with the hiring out of our premises.

Financial Report

St Mark's PCC Financial Report – prepared by Steve Williams (PCC Treasurer)

Independent Examiner - Stuart Wrighton, Southampton Solent University.

Bankers - Nat West & Barclays.

Risk Management

Procedures are in place to ensure that all activities are carried out with an awareness of potential risk to health, finance and reputation.

During the COVID-19 pandemic we have followed the Church of England guidelines and produced and implemented a risk assessment to mitigate the risks of meeting in person in our church building.

Church Attendance

There are 62 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll (last year 56), of whom 46 are not resident in the parish.

Average in person attendance

We held 41 services on Sundays, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

	2021	2020
Adults	27	47
Children	3	7

In January, February and March we weren't able to hold in-person services, but services were held on Zoom for this period, available afterwards on YouTube.

January, February and March 2021 (no congregation)

Watched live on YouTube	27
Watched live or recorded on YouTube	66

April to December 2021 (with congregation)

Watched live or recorded on YouTube	64
-------------------------------------	----

Vicar – Rev'd Kathy Hicken

January 2021 saw us returning to mainly online services because of the pandemic, this time through the medium of Zoom. This gave us a bit more opportunity for interaction, and we enjoyed being able to have a chat with each other after the service. Through the period of Lent, we also met online for regular Monday morning prayer and Lent reflections. We marked the 1 year anniversary of the first COVID-19 lockdown with a reflective service on 23rd March.

We were delighted to reopen the church for worship on Easter Sunday this year, and it was truly a time of heartfelt thanksgiving and celebration for all that Jesus has done for us, sustaining us through difficult times.

Praying together through Thy Kingdom Come this year felt even more important than ever, and I was grateful to Reuben and Kez for helping to lead morning and evening prayer and prayer walks during this time.

Throughout the course of this year, we have needed to balance the desire to meet with one another and to develop our mission, with the need to protect one another from COVID-19, and this has sadly meant that our activities together have been much fewer. Our first church lunch on 1st August was a very moving occasion, to see people eating together and enjoying each other's company was a real joy.

It was wonderful to see the church family pulling together as we celebrated two church family weddings this year – teams of people worked very hard making the church look beautiful and providing food. Sadly, we also said goodbye to Bob after only a few months of married life, but it was moving to hear how much his life had blessed others at his packed funeral.

We were excited to re-start Alpha in October and had a small but committed group running through til early December. Thank you to the team who faithfully served Alpha. We held an online Advent course this year, as we were back into lockdown, but it was a hopeful sign to hold our Tree of Light event in aid of Communicare at the start of December, and this was well attended.

It was lovely to be able to celebrate Christmas together in person this year, and our Nativity Breakfast Church went down well, along with Carols by Candlelight and Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.

We've continued working with St Mark's CE Primary as they have faced the challenges of COVID-19, as well as the development of the All Through school. We have been involved with online collective worship and RE sessions and offering practical help during moves. We welcomed our new Head of Primary, Vickie Sutton at a special service at church in September.

I have been so thankful this year for the commitment and faithful service of our church family – our churchwarden, Paul, our preaching and service leading team, and all our volunteers this year, especially under such challenging circumstances. Christine and Dick and their team of volunteers did a sterling job of reopening our baby and toddler group COVID-safely, first in the garden and then indoors again, and Reuben and Christine even developed a new group for pregnant mums and babies up to 1 year.

Jen and her Haven team, likewise, restarted Haven in stages along the way, recognising that their clientele had particularly suffered during lockdowns. Huge thanks are also due to our tech teams and Andrew for making sure that

our services can be live-streamed giving access to those who can't be with us in person. Thanks also to Reuben and his team for restarting our children's and youth groups and Kez for carrying us in our sung worship through a difficult time and developing the lovely band that is growing. Our appreciation too goes to our caretaker Wayne, for his hard work in looking after our building's sanitisation and cleanliness and helping our hirers.

Last but by no means least, I know I speak for many in expressing heartfelt thanks to Jayne for all her hard work keeping us all in order in the office. You would be surprised at the amount of admin involved in running a church, and many of us could not do what we do without Jayne's support.

I continue to feel hugely privileged to serve such a loving, missionally-minded and Jesus-hearted people, and I look forward to being part of all that God will do in the year ahead.

PCC review of the year – *Claire Heyes (PCC Secretary)*

The PCC continued to meet over Zoom over the year throughout the pandemic and restrictions and continued to try to discern the best way forward for St Mark's in both the short and medium term future. The Standing Committee and other groups (such as the Communications subgroup and the Mission Forum) also met during the year and the notes of their work were received by the PCC and action taken where necessary.

In the short term, the PCC have tried to balance the need for complying with the guidance from both the Government and the Church of England against providing the opportunity for the congregation to worship together as a community. This including approving an upgrade to audio visual equipment that allowed us to stream worship online.

The PCC were very pleased to welcome Steve Williams to the role of Treasurer of St Marks as well as giving grateful thanks to Chris Clarke for his service in the role. Both have had a difficult time trying to steer a responsible financial course for the church in very uncertain waters. The PCC continues to maintain its oversight of the financial activities of the church and approve spending requests and budgets where required to do so. St Mark's was pleased to be able to make the full contribution to the Common Mission Fund as requested by the Diocese.

The PCC continued to act to make sure that St Mark's met its obligations; approving risk assessments and safeguarding policies, enacting recommendations as a result of the quinquennial inspection. In addition, the PCC considered how best to manage the employment of the caretaker, parish administrator, worship leader and youth and children's worker, taking into account the amount of work required for each position whilst balancing the financial requirements of each post.

In the medium term, the PCC held a vision morning to discuss and discern the future path of St Mark's and have subsequently approved the church's pMAP (parish Mission Action Plan) which sets out what St Mark's wants to achieve and how it will aim to do so.

If you are interested in being more involved in the life of St Mark's Church and being able share your gifts, ideas and experiences as part of the PCC, please speak to one of the PCC members for more information.

Churchwarden – Paul O'Neill

As I write this, I feel this is a case of good and bad news, but first the good news. Thankfully the restrictions due to COVID-19 have been lifted and we are now slowly opening up the church and our activities so we can resume being more social while remaining aware of the need to keep our vulnerable members safe. It's been encouraging to see new people coming to our services and wanting to get involved in the life of the church.

Kez and Reuben have been a real blessing to the church this year. Reuben has been a tireless children's worker for the church and in so many other areas. After months of faithful service by Kez in leading us in worship, it's been great to see Oli, Becca, Sophie, and Diana join our worship group. I would also like to pay tribute to Jayne and all her hard work. I have genuinely never met a more efficient administrator!

Thanks to Steve and Kev for joining our IT/PA team comprising Andrew, Andy, Derek, and Joel. The sight of the team working with all those cables leaves me full of admiration!

Wayne has kept busy behind the scenes making sure the church is set out properly and kept clean, especially with the extra demands of the pandemic.

The Alpha Course was run again from October to December and Liz and I were encouraged to be with our guests on their journey as they learnt more about

Jesus. Thanks to Helen and Denise's husband Fitz and the others who helped with the catering and setting up.

Dick and Christine continue to serve the Babies and Toddlers group, and I started helping them and Wendy & Vanessa to set up on Monday mornings. Having seen first-hand the effort everyone puts in its no surprise our Babies and Toddlers Group has such an excellent reputation in the city.

It's also been good to see that Haven led by Jen has been able to reopen. It's a great time for people to meet friends and have a good meal on a Friday lunchtime. The church is also now open on Wednesday mornings for a special coffee time and we are making new connections with the people who come along.

Forgive me if I have not mentioned you by name and what you do for the church, but God knows who you are and what you do for His Kingdom!

St Marks is a generous church, and we give to several local charities including Amber, Acorn and Communicare. We also continue to be a church that has an international vision, and we support Adam in Iraq, Jonny in Athens, and the work in Burundi. Every pound that's given to work overseas can often go a lot further in helping people.

Now the bad news. As I write this the dreadful events in Ukraine are unfolding. As people of God, we do not need to simply be bystanders, but God calls us to pray, and we can actively pray for peace in Ukraine and protection for the Ukrainian people, and this is what we at St Marks have already started to do. Even in the midst of tragedy God is not distant but shares our grief and, in my experience, I know that God is in the business of bringing good out of bad.

Lastly, I am hopeful we will be able to continue returning to normality. I Look forward to St Marks increasing our engagement and outreach with the local community and the children of the newly expanded St Mark School.

It will be exciting to see what God will be doing in the months to come.

Pastoral Team – Helen Willis

The pastoral team have been very aware that for many, the ongoing pandemic throughout 2021 caused isolation and a feeling of detachment from the church family. We have therefore aimed to maintain contact with all members via phone and zoom calls and latterly home visits as the restrictions began to lift.

With the church re opening its doors at Easter it was also a way for those who were able to attend to see and support each other.

The team has also been available for prayer, support and provision of meals as needed and continues to provide this or coordinate others to be involved.

The team consists of Kathy Hicken, Liz O'Neill, Jenny Coombs and Helen and Derek Willis.

Please contact Helen or another member if you would like prayer or other support.

Thursday Home Group – Helen & Derek Willis

In the circumstances of varying lockdown restrictions and COVID-19 vulnerability during the year our meetings were all held via Zoom, with about 6-8 people attending. We kept the format simple, to include a brief bible discussion inspired by content from the Bible in One Year App, followed by a time of Prayer and Share. The group provided an opportunity to stay in contact and provide mutual support and encouragement during periods of restrictions on gatherings as well as stimulating and encouraging our faith. We grew to a close at the end of the year in order to make way for a new format of home based discussion and encouragement groups that are planned to be established in 2022 as we hopefully move past the worst of the pandemic.

Deanery Synod – Sophie Baker

The Deanery Synod continued to meet online during 2021, which actually resulted in slightly better attendance than we'd seen in 2019. I quite liked being able to see everyone's names on the screen too.

The February meeting saw Kathy and Sophie both voted onto the Deanery Mission and Pastoral Committee. This sub-group met several times through the year, looking at how the parishes are organised through the Deanery.

The May meeting focused on Clergy well-being. The Pandemic has been a time of great mental loading for all clergy; from caring for the many bereaved families to learning how to lead services online, it has stretched our shepherds beyond what they could possibly have imagined. It was good to think about how we could support our clergy and their families.

The October meeting was around the time of COP26, and focused on what churches can do to help the climate crisis, and why. It was a very moving

meeting and quite inspirational. There is now a BCM* Climate Care course available, which sounded really worthwhile.

*Bishop's Commission for Mission – these courses are run by the Diocese of Winchester and are designed to equip lay people in topics such as leading worship, pastoral care etc. Anyone attending has to be recommended by their PCC, so do speak to Kathy if you are interested.

Children, Youth and Schools Work – Reuben Humphreys

2021 has been another strange year. We started the year in a lockdown meaning not much at all was happening with Children, Youth and Schools work. As restrictions slowly eased throughout the year we were able to restart groups and even start some new ones! 2021 saw us launch our Bumps and Babies group, restart our Sunday children and youth groups, and our involvement in the school increased.

If you would like more information about our Children, Youth and Schools ministry or if you feel called to serve in this area then please come and have a chat with Reuben!

Our prayer for 2022 is that our groups will continue to grow and develop - leading to more families, children and young people being transformed by the love of Jesus.

Babies and Toddlers – Christine Seed- Group Co-ordinator

During the first four months of the year parents were sent a newsletter each Monday offering craft and play activities they could do in the home.

From May to July, we were able to offer play sessions adhering to the COVID-19 restrictions of the time. These were bookable places to play in the church garden (indoors if wet).

During the school summer holiday, we continued to open, offering a 'Garden Play Space' for children 1 – 11 years. This was well accepted, and some good relationships were made with families.

From September, we were pleased to begin 'normal' sessions in the halls yet still with the COVID-19 restrictions of that time. The number of families attending steadily grew.

At Christmas time we celebrated with a nativity puppet praise (puppet show), an outing to Jungle Jeans (soft play centre), then a party for our final session. This event included the Bumps and Baby Group so they could all have their photographs professionally taken. They enjoyed an interactive nativity experience, party games, craft and took home a Christmas gift.

Bumps and Babies – *Reuben Humphreys - Children Youth and Schools Worker*

In early 2021 we launched Bumps and Babies, a group for new and expecting parents to meet and socialise. We felt that this was a group which had really missed out over the various lockdowns and we wanted to reach out in love to this group. We started by having socially distanced picnic blankets set up in the side hall with different toys as we progressed through the various easings of restrictions we were able to do away with the socially distanced element and set up communal areas. We started with a small but dedicated group of two new mums which has now grown to a core group of eight!

Our prayer for 2022 is that the group would continue to grow and that we would be to keep faithfully serving the new and expecting parents in our area.

Fireworks and Rooted – *Reuben Humphreys*

In September 2021 we relaunched our Sunday youth and children's groups. These have been running weekly since then with breaks for half-term and school holidays. Our Sunday morning group, Fireworks, has had a small but committed group throughout 2021. Our Sunday evening group, Rooted, also has had a small group. We are in need of helpers for our Sunday evening youth group.

Our prayer for 2022 is that we would have wisdom in knowing how to plan and expand our offering to children and young people both inside and outside the church.

Work with St Mark's School – *Reuben Humphreys*

In 2021 we continued to enjoy great links with St Mark's school. Kathy and I continued to lead all school collective worship on a regular basis. I was also able to go in and do some volunteer reading in the Summer term. We were also fortunate enough to support the school when they held their open evening for the secondary school with both Kathy and myself there to talk about the future

RE curriculum and to emphasise the close links between church and school. As well as leading collective worship we were also invited into the classroom to talk on a range of different subjects from communion to Advent. We have also helped the school in more practical matters by helping to get everything into boxes for the move from the temporary building into the new one. It was a special privilege to go into the new school building on the day the keys were handed over and to pray over the new building with a small group of people from church.

As well as supporting St Mark's school we were very excited to be invited to St John's school to talk to their year 4 classes about temptation.

Our prayer for 2022 is that our links with St Mark's would continue to grow and deepen, particularly as the secondary school opens in September.

Worship – *Kez Beckerleg*

Before writing the report for this year I took a look back at what I had written this time last year and it is truly remarkable how much has changed! I am so thankful for God's goodness and grace which has allowed us to press on towards the goal He has for us as we rediscover how to worship as a collective after the pandemic.

On 19th July we were allowed to sing in our services again and what a difference that made both to myself as I was growing weary of singing to the congregation rather than with them. The joy at being able to sing together was really tangible and I was very emotional to be joined by other voices again. This season although relieved by having the congregation sing with me was not easy as I was still not in a place to start a band due to both numbers and safety following the spike of Omicron cases after Christmas.

From the beginning of February, however, it has been a completely different story and such a huge blessing to me to be able to lead a band in worship again. I am so grateful for the eager and willing hearts of the people who have joined my team, they serve so readily and are happy to learn how to play music and lead worship together. For a lot of my members this is unfamiliar territory as they have little experience playing in a worship context or certainly have not done so for a number of years. I am so proud of each member of my worship team! They have entirely got on-board with my vision for worship at St Mark's

and share my desire to see people have real encounters with the Holy Spirit in worship. I cannot thank them enough for the difference this has made to our times of worship – God is certainly moving in a new and exciting way and we are meeting Him afresh in this season.

Students & Young Adults – *Kez Beckerleg*

Since last year we have gained three students! Although they are not the fifteen we prayed for last summer they are valuable members of our congregation and are already involved in serving on team. The best part about leading Students & Young Adults is our Connect Group which meets bi-weekly on a Thursday evening. We have seven members currently and it's such a wonderful group. We're currently going through Season 1 of The Chosen together led by their accompanying study guide and we're learning so much about the person of Jesus, seeing Him represented in a new and wonderful way. I cannot thank God enough for every member of this group He has brought to our church, it is so exciting to see friendships growing as we do life alongside each other.

I am confident that God still has so much to do through this ministry and I am continuing to pray for fifteen, that God will continue to bring the right people to St Mark's to join this ministry.

Social Media – *Kez Beckerleg*

We've been really blessed to see God growing and using our Social Media to reach people we otherwise wouldn't and grow our online presence and congregation. Our Facebook page has gained 74 organic followers and page reach has gone up by 309%. Our Instagram Page has increased by 100%, gaining 68 followers since the page was started. These are really exciting statistics which encourage me that God is making sure that our posts meet the right people online and are seen by those that need them.

Safeguarding – *Sophie Baker*

Safeguarding continues to be one of our priorities at St. Mark's. Liz O'Neill has joined Sophie Baker as a Safeguarding Officer.

We are particularly grateful this year that Jayne has helped with some (a lot) of the admin around DBS checks. The on-line checks are a lot quicker than the

paper versions were, but still require the person to bring their ID to be seen by one of us in real life, which is often the biggest delay. Thanks to Jayne's persistence, many more checks were completed in 2021 than we could have managed without her.

This is a good thing, as the Church of England decided last summer that we will need to renew everyone's DBS checks every 3 years, not every 5 as previously, so we have more checks than ever to do. Don't be surprised when Jayne comes asking for you to renew your form someday soon.

In addition to the DBS checks, we now have a form which asks for references before someone starts volunteering with us, as part of our commitment to safer recruiting. It might seem like a lot of work, but it helps ensure that our children and vulnerable adults are kept safe, so it's more than worth the effort.

Thank you to everyone who has completed either a DBS check or a volunteer form, or who has done their Safeguarding Training this year. And a specially big thank you to Jayne!

Church Centre Maintenance – *Andrew Coombs*

Another quiet year on the church maintenance. We redecorated the main kitchen and replaced some of the broken kitchen cupboard doors. The red metalwork at the front of the church freshened up with a new coat of paint.

We had our 5 yearly inspection called the 'Quinquennial Inspection' by the Architect. He was generally pleased with the range of jobs carried out since his last visit, however he did give us a list of maintenance repairs that need to be undertaken over the next few months and years.

Thanks to Wayne for keeping me informed of any maintenance issues that arise.

St Mark's Church, Southampton
Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

Receipts and payments account

	<i>Notes</i>	<i>General</i>	<i>Designated</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Total 2021</i>	<i>Total 2020</i>
Receipts						
Activities for generating funds	3	2,995.42	–	–	2,995.42	7,600.27
Incoming resources from charitable activities	4	450.00	1,544.32	(411.00)	1,583.32	1,027.87
Investment income	5	1,106.76	–	–	1,106.76	1,145.53
Voluntary income	6	56,135.00	25.00	14,025.00	70,185.00	58,630.77
Total Receipts		<u>60,687.18</u>	<u>1,569.32</u>	<u>13,614.00</u>	<u>75,870.50</u>	<u>68,404.44</u>
Payments						
Administration	7	2,778.53	37.37	–	2,815.90	2,244.09
Capital Expenditure	8	257.44	2,115.86	–	2,373.30	13,632.56
Charitable giving	9	4,250.00	–	12.20	4,262.20	5,391.67
Ministry	10	18,988.02	3,718.83	481.07	23,187.92	20,688.54
Outreach and activities	11	36.54	–	–	36.54	–
Running expenses	12	29,671.74	3,789.76	–	33,461.50	19,353.23
Total Payments		<u>55,982.27</u>	<u>9,661.82</u>	<u>493.27</u>	<u>66,137.36</u>	<u>61,310.09</u>
Receipts less payments		<u>4,704.91</u>	<u>(8,092.50)</u>	<u>13,120.73</u>	<u>9,733.14</u>	<u>7,094.35</u>

Statement of assets and liabilities

	<i>Total 2021</i>	<i>Total 2020</i>
Cash	955.03	133.16
Current account	23,666.33	18,000.93
CBF Deposit account	19,185.68	18,080.80
Pass-through funds	(241.11)	(241.11)
Premium account	18,824.70	18,822.82
Total monetary assets	62,390.63	54,796.60
Debtors/prepayments	(440.14)	52.86
Creditors/accruals	(5,169.38)	(7,801.49)
CBF Investment Fund	43,101.69	37,683.27
Total Net Assets	<u>99,882.80</u>	<u>84,731.24</u>

Financial review

The most significant impact on the church finances in 2021 continued to be the consequences of COVID-19. This continues to be illustrated by the income we received from letting out the building spaces was £2,618 in 2021 which is even lower than the £4,367 in 2020.

In addition, we are excited to have taken on Reuben and Kez to work in the areas of youth and worship and we have received generous gifts to support them and their work

We have again managed an excess of income over expenditure of £9,733 in 2021. In part this has been due to some savings in running costs, although many of our costs were not reduced significantly as activity levels are starting to increase again, and we continued to benefit from the Governments Furlough scheme. The main contributor has been the amazing generosity of the Church Family with voluntary giving of £70,185 being even greater than the £58,630 in 2020. For this positive response from our Church Family the PCC is extremely grateful.

The upshot of this is that having anticipated that the consequences of COVID-19 might continue to diminish our monetary assets (cash and bank balances) we have finished the year with monetary assets of £61,500.

No legacy gifts were received this year. If anyone associated with the church would like to consider making a gift in their will, please speak with the Treasurer.

There have been no specific fundraising events undertaken during the year although included in the voluntary giving referred to above has been some fund raising via our website for specific activities.

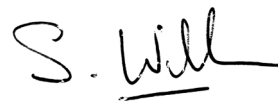
COVID-19 has continued to provide a real strain on the rest of the Diocese but the PCC has again kept a close eye on expenditure during the year and have been able to meet the requested payment towards the Common Mission Fund of £14,712 in full.

Whilst the results for 2021 are encouraging we enter 2022 with hope that the pandemic is receding and the church can get back to a more normal operation. The PCC is optimistic the generosity of those who donate to the Church will meet our regular operating costs. We look to God for His provision with regard to finance to enable the ministries which operate both in the church and in the

community at large to continue and grow. We would encourage every member of the church to practice regular giving as part of their ongoing Christian discipleship and consider reviewing the level of their giving at regular intervals.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on general funds, which equates to approximately six months budgeted payments for the following year, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. The PCC Budget for 2022 reflects our continued desire to develop and enhance the mission of the Church and indicates we will make payments which total £101,000, an increase of £9,000 over 2021 estimate mainly due to extra salary costs. This results in an increase in a target balance to hold on general funds of £50,500 at 31st December 2021. The actual balance on general funds (including investments) at that date was higher than this at £66,300. The PCC recognises that as custodians of the congregation's funds, we are responsible to spend these reserves in an appropriate manner for the glory of God.



Steve Williams
PCC Treasurer.



Approved by the PCC on the 14th March 2022
and signed on their behalf by Kathy Hicken,
Chair of the PCC and Steve Williams, the PCC
Treasurer.

Notes to the financial statements

1. Accounting policies

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts & Payments basis.

The following assets, where they exist, are recognised but not necessarily valued in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities: Moveable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal.

2. Payments to PCC members

During the year, no members of the PCC received remuneration for church activities unrelated to membership of the PCC. Members of the PCC received refunds of expenses incurred in carrying out church activities unrelated to membership of the PCC. A small immaterial proportion of the expenses paid to the incumbent may have related to her services as chairman of the PCC.

3. Activities for generating funds

	<i>General</i>	<i>Designated</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	Total 2021	<i>Total 2020</i>
Other income	377.00	–	–	377.00	3,232.68
Hall Lettings	2,618.42	–	–	2,618.42	4,367.59
	<u>2,995.42</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	2,995.42	7,600.27

4. Incoming resources for charitable activities

	<i>General</i>	<i>Designated</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	Total 2021	<i>Total 2020</i>
Banns & Funerals etc (net)	450.00	–	(411.00)	39.00	557.99
Sales baby and toddlers	–	292.76	–	292.76	257.99
Haven	–	1,251.56	–	1,251.56	211.89
	<u>450.00</u>	<u>1,544.32</u>	<u>(411.00)</u>	1,583.32	1,027.87

5. Investment income

	<i>General</i>	<i>Designated</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	Total 2021	<i>Total 2020</i>
Interest and dividends	1,106.76	–	–	1,106.76	1,145.53
	<u>1,106.76</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	1,106.76	1,145.53

6. Voluntary Income

	<i>General</i>	<i>Designated</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	Total 2021	<i>Total 2020</i>
Collections and other donations (non gift aided)	1,276.03	–	1,085.00	2,361.03	–
Collections and other donations (gift aided)	1,475.33	25.00	11,750.00	13,250.33	5,233.89
Vol giving via website (GA unknown)	295.70	–	540.00	835.70	390.00
SO donations	5,537.16	–	150.00	5,687.16	5,344.29
Gift Aid donations via Parish Giving	35,953.31	–	–	35,953.31	1,107.86
Non gift aided via Parish Giving	2,328.94	–	–	2,328.94	36,626.48
Tax recovered	9,228.53	–	–	9,228.53	772.00
Sundry income	–	–	–	–	9,156.25
Vol income GA Vicar discretionary fund	–	–	500.00	500.00	–
Vol income-sundry	40.00	–	–	40.00	–
	<u>56,135.00</u>	<u>25.00</u>	<u>14,025.00</u>	70,185.00	58,630.77

7. Administration

	<i>General</i>	<i>Designated</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	Total 2021	<i>Total 2020</i>
Bank charges	–	–	–	–	–
STRIPE fees	17.58	10.26	–	27.84	127.22
Photocopier and other admin exp	–	–	–	–	481.00
Hospitality	292.53	–	–	292.53	259.15
Telephone	742.58	–	–	742.58	766.48
Church services	157.47	–	–	157.47	188.83
Admin sundry	218.01	–	–	218.01	35.60
Admin software	1,350.36	27.11	–	1,377.47	385.81
	<u>2,778.53</u>	<u>37.37</u>	<u>–</u>	2,815.90	2,244.09

8. Capital expenditure

	<i>General</i>	<i>Designated</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Total 2021</i>	<i>Total 2020</i>
Equipment	207.94	–	–	207.94	131.31
Office equipment	–	72.00	–	72.00	8,912.27
Decoration/major repairs	49.50	2,043.86	–	2,093.36	4,588.98
	257.44	2,115.86	–	2,373.30	13,632.56

9. Charitable giving

	<i>General</i>	<i>Designated</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Total 2021</i>	<i>Total 2020</i>
Home missions	–	–	–	–	291.67
Tithe	4,250.00	–	–	4,250.00	5,100.00
Ministry - Vicar Discretionary fund	–	–	12.20	12.20	–
	4,250.00	–	12.20	4,262.20	5,391.67

10. Ministry

	<i>General</i>	<i>Designated</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Total 2021</i>	<i>Total 2020</i>
Diocesan quota	14,712.07	–	–	14,712.07	13,785.74
Home groups - Alpha	310.63	–	–	310.63	–
Publicity and outreach	619.93	–	–	619.93	210.00
Subscriptions and membership fees	369.92	2,894.00	–	3,263.92	1,696.36
Training and conferences	10.00	–	–	10.00	1,606.40
Upkeep services	979.00	–	–	979.00	161.00
Working expenses of incumbent	352.12	–	–	352.12	2,357.92
Young church	–	551.65	20.42	572.07	–
Ministry Schools	–	–	–	–	681.33
Ministry sundry	985.00	180.00	460.65	1,625.65	189.79
Ministry - Worship	–	93.18	–	93.18	–
Ministry Parking	4.20	–	–	4.20	–
Consultancy & Professional Fees	645.15	–	–	645.15	–
	18,988.02	3,718.83	481.07	23,187.92	20,688.54

11. Outreach and activities

	<i>General</i>	<i>Designated</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Total 2021</i>	<i>Total 2020</i>
Event costs	36.54	–	–	36.54	–
	36.54	–	–	36.54	–

12. Running expenses

	<i>General</i>	<i>Designated</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Total 2021</i>	<i>Total 2020</i>
Cleaning	714.10	–	–	714.10	470.93
Electricity, gas, water	3,323.34	–	–	3,323.34	4,280.03
Insurance	1,232.31	–	–	1,232.31	1,234.75
Minor maintenance	2,047.70	–	–	2,047.70	713.82
Organ, piano and sound system/software	(1,949.23)	3,789.76	–	1,840.53	1,699.05
Staff costs	27,600.34	–	–	27,600.34	16,209.38
TV licence	157.50	–	–	157.50	154.50
Health and safety	396.00	–	–	396.00	144.00
Sundry and general	32.49	–	–	32.49	41.27
Furlough	(3,435.55)	–	–	(3,435.55)	(5,594.50)
Unknown	(447.26)	–	–	(447.26)	–
	29,671.74	3,789.76	–	33,461.50	19,353.23

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Mark's, Southampton

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2021, which are set out on pages above, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirements of Regulation 3(3) and section 43(2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulation 25.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the Act to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations 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 view given by accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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
 - a. to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
 - b. to prepare accounts 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 accounts to be reached.



Stuart Wrighton
Independent Examiner
1st March 2022

St Mark's Church, Archers Road, Southampton Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Meeting of the Parishioners 25th April 2021

1. Election of Churchwardens – Paul O'Neill

Kathy Hicken thanked the outgoing Churchwarden, Andrew Coombs for all his service and presented him with a token of appreciation from the church.

Nomination for Churchwardens have been received from Paul O'Neill and Kathy is currently in discussion with another person about possibly standing for election as churchwarden.

The appointment had been properly proposed and seconded and was approved.

Minutes of APCM held 25th April 2021

1 Opening prayer

2 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Paul and Liz O'Neill, Derek and Helen Willis and Chris Clarke.

3. Minutes of the previous Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2020

Proposed: Pat Hebditch

Seconded: Richard Seed

The minutes were therefore agreed and approved.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Vicar's remarks

The Vicar, Kathy Hicken (KH) addressed the meeting. She reflected on the last few months, how hard it's been not meeting together and the challenges, technical and otherwise to continue worshipping. She gave special thanks to Andrew Coombs for taking responsibility for the technical aspects to enable us to livestream services via YouTube and Zoom.

KH explained that we have ended the financial year in a much better year than we thought we would. The PCC has been greatly encouraged by the generosity of the congregation, especially for appeals such as Bags of Hope, AV equipment and Reuben, our Ministry Assistant.

St Mark's continues to look forward as well as backwards to see how the Lord will be with us in the coming months. He will lead and walk with us as we go forward as we seek to be good witnesses.

Last year, Kathy was about to present our new pMAP but so much has changed that the PCC will need to revisit it. However, God has been at work over the past year, bringing people to us. Jenny Coombs stepped down as our previous administrator and God has brought Jane to us as Parish Administrator. God also brought Reuben to us as a Ministry Assistant. His time with us comes to an end in July in this role but the PCC have decided to keep him on from August as a part time Children's Youth and School Worker. Kez has also come back to us as Worship Leader and we are looking to keep her on and develop her role as Worship Leader and working on social media for the church and student outreach. Reuben and Kez's roles are temporary at the minute and we are seeking funding for them, so KH asked that the congregation do consider regularly donating or increasing your donations to the church.

6. The reports

Approval of Annual Report

It was noted that the following reports could be read in detail in the Annual Report:

- a) Electoral Roll
- b) PCC report
- c) Activities of the parish
- d) Fabric report
- e) Deanery Synod report
- f) Financial statement

As there were no questions the Annual Report was unanimously agreed and approved.

7 Elections and appointments

a. PCC

2 members of the PCC: all nominations had been properly proposed and seconded.

Helen Willis

Andrew Coombs

Vacancy

All members were therefore unanimously elected to the PCC.

Kathy formally thanked all members of the PCC for all their service.

b. Independent Examiner

The PCC noted their thanks to Stuart Wrighton for being the independent examiner for the previous year and several years before that.

It was proposed that Stuart Wrighton be appointed as the independent examiner for the forthcoming year.

Proposed: Richard Seed

Seconded: Will Beckerleg

The appointment was therefore unanimously approved.

8. Any other business

There was no other business

9. Closing prayers

The meeting closed with a prayer.