

Present for	Toby Wright (chair), Kate Banks, Julia Bee, Lawrence Bee, Jacky Bone, Jonathan Brooks,
both meetings:	Judy Brooks, Andy Brown, Robin Carr, Jill Carter, Joanna Collicutt, Alexina Fantato,
	Maurizio Fantato, Michele Foot, Alan Gentry, Reza Ghaleh, Mehrdad Hashemi, Melody
	Helm, Dair Henderson, Monica Hester, Sue Hodges, Josie Holmes, Mojtaba Kargaran,
	Jeremy Lasman, Sophie Lawley, Christine Lever, Elpie Lewis, Kate Lockwood, Kirsty
	Morgan, Sheena Menon, Helen Meyrick, Reza Nouri, Martin Peirce, Rosemary Peirce, Dave
	Pizzey, Lorna Roche, Robert Seares, Val Seares, Alison Spicer, David Taft, Linda Taft, Claire
	Titcomb, Charlotte Tremain, Hugh White, Andrew Whitehouse, Lorna Whitehouse,
	Richard Young
Apologies for	Sally Down, Fiona Francis, Paul Francis, Clare Hermon, Ian Meyrick, Chris Riley,
both meetings:	Anne Taylor, Guy Taylor, Mark Thomas, Marilyn Wathes, Jean Wild, Stuart Wild,
	Sally Wright

Item	
1.1	The meeting opened with prayer.
2.1	Apologies were received as above.
3.1	Annual Meeting of Parishioners
3.1.1	<b>Minutes of the last meeting</b> Minutes of the meeting on 8 May 2022 were approved by show of hands and there were no matters arising.
3.1.2	Election of Churchwardens Jeremy has agreed to continue, proposed Jonathan Brooks, seconded David Exham. Kate Banks has agreed to continue, proposed Richard Young, seconded Jeremy Lasman. The election was uncontested and therefore passed. The meeting of Parishioners closed at 4:07pm
	Annual Parochial Church Meeting
4.1	Minutes of the meeting held 8 May 2022  Minutes of last meeting on 8 May 2022 were proposed Judy Brooks, seconded Helen Meyrick, approved nem con subject to a correction to note the Anna Chaplain made contact with Nursing homes last year but didn't visit because of Covid restrictions.  There were no matters arising.
4.2	Vision and Strategy  The Ministry Team have drawn up a diagram to help illustrate our vision and strategy to be a community of mercy and kindness. It is centred around Bishop Stephen's challenge for us to grow deeper in God.  To help us with this we have four key pillars of our common life together: the Eucharist and Daily Office, which sustain all that we are. And Inclusivity and Hospitality which shape all that we do. Supported by these four pillars we have 7 key areas of focus for our ministry. This is not meant to capture all that we do, but they are each areas which we all share in taking responsibility and are seen as important for us going forwards this year.  The meeting heard of some key events that have happened this year within each area of focus. There was an opportunity to reflect and discuss in small groups.  More information on each of the areas of focus is available in the Year Review.



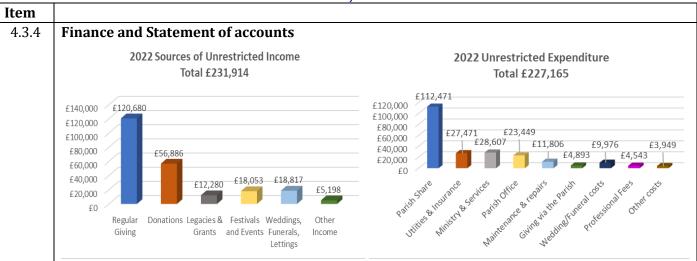
Item	ST MARY THE VIRGIN, WITNEY
4.3	Reports
4.3.1	Proceedings of the PCC in previous year
	Since the last APCM in May 2022 the PCC has held four meetings.
	The PCC monitors the financial position of the parish and agrees the budget each year. It also
	receives updates from all the churches, and the activities taking place in the parish.
	<ul><li>In the last 12 months:</li><li>The PCC has participated in a review of collaborative working within the Witney Team,</li></ul>
	conducted by Rev Canon David Tyler, Associate Archdeacon of Dorchester.
	The PCC has received Safeguarding reports from our Safeguarding Officers and is using C of
	E Parish Dashboard to monitor safeguarding practices. The Safeguarding Policy has been reviewed and updated for 2023.
	<ul> <li>Faculty applications were submitted for improved lighting at St Mary's, and repairs to the</li> </ul>
	stained glass at Hailey. A contractor has been appointed to repair the roof at Holy Trinity in the near future.
	<ul> <li>The Fire Safety Policy, Baptism Policy, Personnel Committee Terms of Reference, Policy for</li> </ul>
	the Admission of Children to Holy Communion, Conflict of Interest Policy, Storage, Retention & Destruction Policy and Whistleblowing Policy have all been revised. All PCC policies are available to view on the website.
	New General & Fire risk assessment templates have been devised for use in all churches.
4.3.2	Safeguarding
11012	Over the last year the parish has continued to develop and review its safeguarding policies and practices for both in person and online events as some activities are still held this way.
	Training has been held in person and online for those who need it. The Diocese encourages anyone who wants to, to undertake basic level training, this - along with foundation and domestic abuse level - is compulsory for PCC/DCC members, children's workers, pastoral visitors, and other roles.
	We use the Parish Dashboard system to record much of this work.
	Concerns have continued to be reported and dealt with as needed.
	The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.
	Thanks were expressed to Alison and her team.
4.3.3	Annual Fabric Report
	St Mary's Fabric Report
	<ul> <li>Completed the refurbishment of the Winchester Room, with upgraded facilities to enhance our ability to provide hospitality as well as the capability to offer mixed in person and on- line meetings.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>A substantial upgrade to our audio systems which, alongside with the installation of three</li> </ul>
	powerful video cameras has allowed us to offer significantly improved streaming of services and events via YouTube.
	<ul> <li>Installed two icons in the nacelles either side of the Aumbry in the St George's chapel. These</li> </ul>
	are of St Luke and St Frideswide; their beauty has enabled us to begin to re-imagine this
	chapel as a place of quiet contemplation and healing.
	<ul> <li>Progressed the project to install a new nave altar and dais in the church, with the wood for</li> </ul>
	the altar being sourced from the cedar of Lebanon in the churchyard which had to felled in 2019.
	<ul> <li>Spotlights have been installed to highlight the Nave altar, lectern as well as the new icons.</li> </ul>
	The lighting in the Couth Aigle and outside the Winghester Doom are now controlled by

The lighting in the South Aisle and outside the Winchester Room are now controlled by

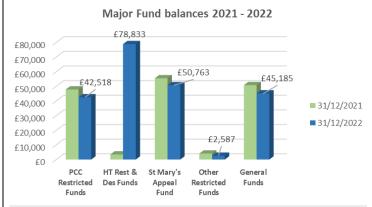


	ST MARY THE VIRGIN, WITNEY
Item	
	motion sensors, to provide automatic illumination for those entering and leaving the church when it is dark. All the lighting in the church has been converted to LED fitments to improve energy usage and longevity.
	• The North porch has been redecorated, and the noticeboards upgraded. The noticeboards at the rear of the church have also been improved to show relevant information in a much more informative and attractive style.
	The heating system required an urgent repair last year, but fortunately this was the only significant unscheduled maintenance that had to be progressed.
	<ul> <li>We continue to be hugely grateful for the work of the many volunteers who regularly turn up for church cleaning and ad hoc maintenance, as well as those who enhance the beauty of the church with flower displays and seasonal altar cloths and banners.</li> </ul>
	Holy Trinity Fabric Report
	<ul> <li>The quinquennial inspection was carried out in April/May. The main priorities are repairs to the guttering and a new north roof, for which we are fundraising. The work has had to be delayed for spring/summer bat surveys.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>The five-yearly electrical systems inspection took place in September and the necessary repairs have been completed.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>We are waiting for a faculty for two small conifers and a laburnum to be felled, and also confirmation from the council that they will prune branches of the trees nearest to the church. We have had problems with squirrels getting into the building and not being able to get out.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>The bell is out of action because of damage to the connection. It will not be repaired until the scaffolding for the roof is up and an extended platform can be added.</li> <li>All the usual servicing and organ tuning has been carried out.</li> </ul>
	St John the Evangelist, Hailey Fabric Report
	The stone cross fell off the gable end of the chancel.
	<ul> <li>A proud piece of the concrete slab making up part of the church path has been made safe and repair work will begin shortly.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Routine gutter clearing revealed the gutter on the north aisle is only very precariously held on. This is because of the timber roof ends are rotten and the screws have rusted. We are awaiting a list of works, to be passed to the DAC to ratification.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Repair of the stained glass windows will begin later in the spring</li> <li>Tidied up and cleaned the boiler room; it has been reinstated as a "Tool shed" for the hand tools being used in the churchyard.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>The long grass was allowed to get a bit longer so that by June when the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland, came to make their 20-year inspection of biodiversity, it was a sea of wild flower blossom. The 2023 season will see a new person cut the grass in keeping with the Caring for God's Acre, management of grasses.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>St John the Baptist, Curbridge Fabric Report</li> <li>Building is in quite sound condition.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>A few minor leaks from the roof but these are now in abeyance.</li> <li>Statutory requirements for electrical safety are in place.</li> <li>Gutters are clear and some repainting has been done by the congregation.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>• The stonework is sound but the bell is no longer working.</li> <li>• The church path is subsiding in places and some repairs have been put in place.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Part of the churchyard is being allowed to go semi-wild and the whole is full of flowers.</li> <li>Only nine grave spaces remain for burials, but there is ample room for interred ashes.</li> </ul>





- The income for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 totalled £488,025, with total expenditure of £429,883. These figures vary slightly from those in the Benefice Year in Review booklet as a result of some notional accounting adjustments made by our financial reviewers. These do not affect the underlying performance of the Parish. They include Restricted and Unrestricted Funds.
- ➤ Pre notional adjustments, unrestricted income totalled £231,914, while costs amounted to £227,165, resulting in an operating surplus of £4,749. Post adjustments, this figure increases to £5,669, as a result of a change in the amount accrued for Wedding deposits.
- ➤ This result reflects the continued generosity of our congregations, in response to an appeal for one off donations to enable the Parish to meet its operating budget. This is the third year that such an appeal has had to be launched.
- ➤ 2022 income benefitted from the reopening of our churches post pandemic. As a result we were able restart our festival and events ministry. Income from weddings and (sadly) funerals increased substantially.
- ➤ Our operating costs increased by 7.7% also largely as a result of the re-opening of our churches for services and the return of in person ministry across the Parish. However, they remain slightly lower than those reported for 2019 (£233,184) pre pandemic.



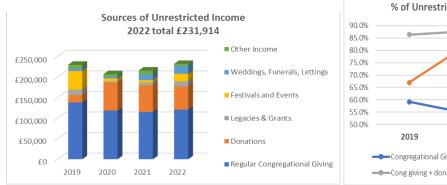
- ➤ This chart illustrates the movement in the major funds of the Parish.
- ➤ It includes both the main Restricted Funds, as well as the General Fund.
- Restricted Funds can only be used for the specific purpose for which the monies were donated. General Funds are unrestricted and can be used in support of any of the activities of the Parish at the discretion of the PCC.
- ➤ We created a number of new PCC restricted funds in 2022 Asylum, Friends
- of Curbridge and Pioneer Outreach. However, the main constituents of the £42,518 balance are for our Youth Worker (£34,549) and the Hardship Fund (£7,427).
- ➤ The HT Fund includes £18,000 funds designated by the HT DCC in support of the roof appeal. The overall figure reflects the massive success of the fund raising activity primarily for repairs to the roof.
- The main items of restricted income and expenditure relate to the St Mary's Appeal £148,366 Income and £146,167 expenditure reflecting the significant enhancements that we have been able to progress to the fabric of the church.

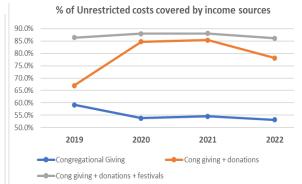


### 4.3.4 contd

Item

The level of General funds remains comfortable above the requirement set by the current reserves policy.





- The charts above illustrate the increased dependency of the Parish on one off donations from our congregations. Pre pandemic, income from festivals and events formed a far more significant contribution.
- ➤ The chart on the right illustrates the fact that our total congregational giving remains relatively static at 54% of our operating costs. It also suggests a degree of donor fatigue, given that we have run an appeal for three consecutive years.
- ➤ It is worth noting that the aggregate contribution from our congregations, one off donations and festivals and events has also remained relatively static at approx. 85% of our total costs, even though the contribution from each of these sources varies considerably year on year.
- ➤ Our 2023 costs are projected to increase by 17% this year to approximately £265,000, given the current rate of inflation and the expected quadrupling of our energy costs. To maintain 54% cover from regular congregational giving, the latter would have to rise to £143,000 from £120,260 last year.

Thanks were expressed to Jeremy for all he does as treasurer and Churchwarden.

#### 4.3.5 **Electoral roll on 21st March 2023**

 St. Mary's:
 116 (from 140 in 2022)

 Holy Trinity:
 56 (from 58 in 2022)

 Hailey:
 39 (from 33 in 2022)

 Curbridge:
 6 (from 9 in 2022)

 Total:
 217 (from 240 in 2022)

It is noted that numbers of people who join our online worship cannot be captured. People who join worship online may not legally qualify as worshiping regularly in the parish or joining the electoral roll.

#### 4.3.6 **Rector's report**

It is good to celebrate together across the four churches in the parish and Minster Lovell.

The sanctification of time is important and thanks go to all those who support the prayer life of the parish through Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer; the weekday Eucharists; and prayer meetings. It has been good to welcome the Persian contingent at our services this year.

Thanks to the wardens and deputy wardens who do an immense amount of work and in particular to Robin and Keith who are standing down this year.

Thanks to all the colleagues on the Ministry Team: Jacky Bone, Julia Bee, Dave Pizzey, Mark Bezeera Speeks, Laverne Williams and Rebecca Coatsworth.

Thanks for the wisdom, graciousness and insight of the retired clergy: Peter Challenger, Martin Peirce and Tina Rollings and our LLM, Richard Young.

Thanks to our organists: Paul at Holy Trinity, Francis at St Mary's, Jeremy at Hailey and Lorna at Curbridge also to the choirs, for their wonderful contribution to our liturgy and life.

Thanks to Michelle, our parish administrator. Her friendly welcome is greatly appreciated.



Item	SI MARY THE VIRGIN, WITNEY
Ittili	There is an amazing ministry silently growing in all our churches as our mission continues to
	flourish.
	Prayer that we will grow in knowledge of God's love and power of God's Spirit.
4.3.7	Deanery Synod Report  Meetings were held on 15 <sup>th</sup> February on Zoom and 25 <sup>th</sup> May in person.  There was a visit from Bishop Steven including Deanery Synod members on 29 <sup>th</sup> March in St Mary's Witney.
	Oxford and Vaxjo Diocese in Sweden link There was a talk by Eric Sidenall from the Vaxjo Diocese on the Links with Sweden in choirs, confirmation groups, schools and churches.  Witney Deanery Pilgrimage There was a Witney Deanery pilgrimage from 12th -19th June around all the churches in the Deanery organised by The Rev'd Dr Hugh White with help from Sue Campbell.  Finance The Deanery share has been paid.
4.3.8	Churchwardens' report With the lifting of all Covid restrictions, all our churches were able to re-open fully in 2022. In addition, we have also seen the continued growth of our on-line ministry, significantly enhanced with the upgraded audio-visual capabilities in St Mary's. As such, we remain hugely grateful for energy and commitment shown by our Ministry Team, PCC/DCCs, Church Wardens, Deputy Wardens and the whole raft of volunteers who enable the work of the Parish to flourish and grow in our desire to be a community of mercy and kindness.  We must pay particular thanks to Robin Carr, for his faithful and diligent work as Hailey church warden, but who is now stepping down from this role. Keith Ridgway is also standing down as deputy warden of Holy Trinity, and our thanks go to him for his input during the past year.
4.4	Elections
4.4.1	Deanery Synod Elections
1.1.1	The following people were proposed and duly elected. They will serve for 3 years.  Kate Banks – proposed Richard Young, seconded Jeremy Lasman  Sue Hodges – proposed Joanne Gribben, seconded Marilyn Wathes  Kirsten Morgan – proposed Elspeth Lewis, seconded Robin Carr  Linda Taft – proposed Jeremy Lasman, seconded Christine Howden
4.4.2	Deputy Churchwardens
	The following people were proposed and duly elected:
	St Mary's: Maurizio Fantato – proposed Michele Foot, seconded Keith Holmes Melody Helm – proposed Jenny Greer, seconded Susan Beale
	Holy Trinity: Dair Henderson – proposed Sue Hodges, seconded Chris Riley Charlotte Tremain – proposed Sue Hodges, seconded Marilyn Wathes
	Hailey: no nominations Curbridge: Ian Galletley – proposed Christine Lever, seconded Valerie Pole
4.5	Appointment of Independent examiners
1.0	The meeting agreed to reappoint Whitley Stimpson Ltd.
	Proposed Jeremy Lasman, approved nem com.
4.6	Any other business
	Thanks were expressed to Kate Lockwood for her work as PCC Secretary and to Toby for all
	his love, care and support.
4.7	Date of next meeting Sunday 21 April 2024 at 4:00pm
L	Signed: Date:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_