

# **St. Mark**



## **ANNUAL CHURCH MEETINGS**

**Sunday, 23rd April 2023**

**ANNUAL MEETING of PARISHIONERS for the  
ELECTION of CHURCHWARDENS**

**in the Church at 11.45**

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

**in the Church at 12.00**

**Meeting Documents**

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# **The Parish of St Mark South Farnborough**

## **Annual Meeting of Parishioners for the Election of Churchwardens**

**Sunday 23rd April 2023 at 11.45 in the Church**

### **Agenda**

1. Opening Prayer
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the meeting, Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> of May 2022
4. Election of Churchwardens

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## **Minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting of Parishioners for the Election of Churchwardens**

**Sunday the 15th of May 2022 after the 10.30 Eucharist in Church**

Present: - Mr Mike Palmer, Churchwarden and Chairman, and 23 parishioners.

**Apologies for absence** were recorded from, Mr Deglan Rowe, Mrs Anne Rowe, Mrs Ann Ient, Mrs Felicity Milne, Miss Gwen Miller, Mrs Eileen Confrey, Mrs Maria Smith, Mr Michael Evans, Mrs Sue Evans, Mrs Margaret Lapwood, Mrs Margaret Lee, and Mrs Judith Gibbons.

### **Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> of May 2022 had been distributed previously, and were approved as a true record of the proceedings. Proposed by Mr Mick Smith and seconded by Mrs Daryl Bates.

### **Election of two Churchwardens**

There were two nominations for the position of Churchwarden: -  
Mr Deglan Rowe and Mr Michael Palmer

There being no further nominations for the position of Churchwarden, Mr Deglan Rowe, and Mr Michael Palmer were duly elected as Churchwardens to serve for a period of one year with all present in favour.

# The Parish of St Mark South Farnborough

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting

**Sunday 23rd April 2023 in the Church following immediately  
after the meeting to elect Churchwardens**

### Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the previous meeting Sunday 15 of May 2022
3. The Electoral Roll
  - a) acceptance of the Roll
  - b) appointment of an Electoral Roll Officer
4. Chairmans Report
5. Report on the Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council for 2022
6. Financial Report from the Treasurer
7. Independent Examiner
  - a) Note of thanks
  - b) Appointment of the Independent Examiner
8. Report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church
9. Reports from Church Groups
10. Aldershot Deanery Synod
11. Election of Parochial Church Council Members
12. Election of the Honorary PCC Treasurer
13. Election of the Honorary PCC Secretary
14. Safeguarding
15. Any other business, *to be notified in writing to the Chairman not less than seven days before the meeting.*
16. Closing Prayer

Note: Following a change to the Church Representation Rules in January 2020, sidespersons are no longer appointed by the APCM. Instead, they are appointed by the PCC.

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# **Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, The Parish of St Mark, South Farnborough**

**Sunday the 15th May 2022**

Immediately following the meeting to elect the Churchwardens.

**Apologies for absence:** as for the previous meeting.

## **Minutes of the previous meeting**

Minutes of the previous meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May 2022 had been previously distributed and were approved as a true record of the proceedings.

Proposed by Mrs Felicity Lewis and seconded by Mr Mick Smith. All present in favour.

## **The Electoral Roll**

- a) Mrs Judith Gibbons reported that there were 53 members on the Electoral Roll at the date of the 2022 APCM, and there were 48 at the close of the 2021 parish year. The breakdown is: 28 members within the Parish, and 25 outside of the Parish.
- b) Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer: Mrs Gibbons agreed to continue as Electoral Roll Officer, and was proposed by Mrs Daryl Bates and seconded by Mr James Podger. All present in favour.

## **The Chairmans Report**

The Chairman thanked the Rev Haydon Wilcox, Rev Martin James, and all the clergy and Lay People, who had come from St Peter's and elsewhere to aid us in celebrating the Eucharist, Sunday by Sunday. There were no questions to the Chairmans Report.

## **Report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council**

The Report is attached as part of this APCM Pack. There were no questions to this report.

## **Finance Report**

The Treasurer's report and the 2022 accounts are part of this pack.

The Treasurer made the following comments to his report: -

- There was a modest increase in the church income over the past 12 months.
- The Church Hall is back in full use and bringing in its usual profit enabling the Church to continue to open.
- We should be able to pay the reduced interregnum Parish Share in full for the current year.
- The 'open plate' and planned giving collections alone are not enough for us to be able to pay the Parish Share, it is the Church Hall's profit which allows us to open. If we do not have the Hall, then we will not be able to pay the bills.
- Gift Aid has not yet been claimed, but it is in the process of being done.

- The Treasurer explained how he had managed to get good rates for the supply of gas and electricity to the Church, Vicarage, and the Church Hall.

The Chairman thanked the Treasurer for all his hard work over the past year.

Mrs Hilary Bellamy asked if there had been discussions about the possibility of having the outstanding debt in regard to the Parish Share written off. The Chairman said that at a PCC meeting with the Archdeacon that this had been raised and it would depend on whether we could pay the Parish Share in full for 2 years.

### **Independent Examiner**

- a) **Note of thanks:** - a note of thanks was sent to the Independent Examiner of the Accounts, Mr Patrick Brown.
- b) **Appointment of an Independent Examiner:** it is hoped that Mr Patrick Brown will be willing to continue as the Independent Examiner for our accounts.

### **Fabric, Goods and Church Ornaments**

The report is attached as part of this pack. There are a number of problems with the structure of the building allowing water ingress, the main areas are: -

- The Vestments cupboard in the Vestry
- The south side wall by one of the Stations of the Cross
- The southwest entrance/coffee area
- The porch

With the exception of the vestment's cupboard, these leaks are caused by loose tiles, or missing lead flashing.

The chairman asked Mrs Felicity Lewis about the church cleaning. Felicity said that she was in church most Friday mornings and would welcome any help.

There were no questions to the report.

### **Aldershot Deanery Synod report**

The report is attached as part of this pack. Mr James Podger and Mrs Judith Gibbons are our representatives and have one year left of their three-year term. There were no questions.

### **Election of five PCC Members**

There were five vacancies carried over from the 2021 APCM. There were three nominations to fill these vacancies: -

- Mrs Hilary Bellamy
- Mrs Margaret Lapwood
- Mrs Jacqui Nicol

There being no further nominations from the floor, all three were elected to serve for three years.

This again leaves two vacancies which were not filled. During our time of interregnum, it is important that all posts on the PCC are filled so that there can be varied discussion on important Church matters.

### **Election of the Honorary Treasurer**

There were no nominations on the form which had been posted on the Church door for this position. Mr Michael Smith was nominated from the floor,

There being no further nominations, Mr Michael Smith was duly elected as Honorary Treasurer to serve as an Ex-Officio member of the Council for one year.

### **Election of Honorary PCC Secretary**

There was one nomination for this post,

Mr Colin Lagor

There being no further nominations from the floor, Mr Colin Lagor was duly elected to the office of Honorary PCC Secretary, to serve as an Ex-Officio member of the Council for one year.

### **Safeguarding:**

Mrs Angela Gilbert volunteered for the post of Safeguarding Officer. She is happy to take over this role and will be supported by Mrs Daryl Bates and Mr Deglan Rowe as part of a team. The Chairman thanked her for volunteering to take over this very important role, as we cannot open the Church without a Safeguarding Officer.

### **Any other Business**

Votes of thanks were recorded for:

- Mr Deglan Rowe and Mr Mike Palmer for their work as Churchwardens over the past year.
- Mrs Anne Rowe for maintaining the Church Website and helping to organise services.
- Mr Paul and Mrs Marie Collins for choosing and providing the hymn music week by week for our Services.
- The outgoing members of the PCC.

The Revd. Gareth Dicks (Associate Vicar of St Peters, and Vicar designate to St Mark's) closed the meeting with prayers. He thanked all present for attending the meeting which is very important to the governance of the Parish. He asked that God's will be done here in the Parish, and that with help from the Congregation and the PCC we can increase the awareness of our Church in the wider community.

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# St. Mark



## Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for 2022



# Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for 2022

## 1 Administrative Information

St Mark's Parish Church is situated on the corner of Reading Road and Alexandra Roads, Farnborough Hampshire. It is part of the Diocese of Guildford, within the Church of England. The Parish has no administrative support or office facilities. The address for correspondence is c/o The Vicarage, 1 St Mark's Close, Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 6PP

The Parish became a fully registered charity, registration number 1188893, with the Charity Commission on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020.

## 2 Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is as set out in the Church Representation Rules. The PCC operates with three official sub-committees: the Finance, the Fabric/Quinquennial, and the Hall Management sub-committees, which are chaired by a Churchwarden. Each is made up of four other members, with the ability to co-opt other members as necessary. The Executive committee, which is usually chaired by the Vicar, and consists of both Churchwardens, the Treasurer and the Secretary. has not met due to the Interregnum. These groups make recommendations to the main council, where they are debated, and decisions made.

## 3 Objectives and Activities

The PCC normally has the responsibility of cooperating with a resident vicar to promote within the parish the whole mission of the church. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church, and the Church Hall. It has the responsibility to promote and maintain pastoral links with St Mark's Church of England (Aided) Primary School, Queens Road, Farnborough. In the absence of a vicar, the PCC works with the church wardens to carry out these objectives.

In 2022, we saw the opportunity to reopen the church free of Covid restrictions. We benefited from a reduced parish share, as we had no incumbent. We anticipated that Rev. Gareth Dicks would be appointed, but unfortunately it became clear that this would not happen. Gareth vacated the vicarage in December 2022. The PCC were awaiting further developments via the diocese.

*Deglan Rowe, Churchwarden*

## 4 Electoral Roll

At the end of the 2022 parish year there were 56 persons listed. During 2022 nine persons were added and one was removed.

Just over half of these electoral roll members live within the parish boundary (30) and the others are living in other parishes. We did think, this time last year, that even more 'outsiders' would be joining us after the graft/plant plans that the Diocese proposed for us. Obviously, this has not happened.

It is important to note that whilst increased Electoral roll membership SHOULD mean that our income increases, it also means we have to pay more for our Parish Share to the Diocese, so it is a double-edged sword!

*Judith Gibbons*

## 5 PCC Membership

The membership for 2022 – 2023 is:

Position	To April 2023	From April 2022
Vicar	Vacancy	Vacancy
Churchwardens	Mr Deglan Rowe Mr Michael Palmer	Mr Deglan Rowe Mr Michael Palmer
Aldershot Deanery Synod	Mr James Podger Mrs Judith Gibbons	Mr James Podger Mrs Judith Gibbons
Honorary Treasurer	Mr Michael Smith	Mr Michael Smith
Honorary Secretary	Mr Colin Lagor	Mr Colin Lagor
Elected Members (Full council = 9 members)	Mrs Felicity Lewis Mrs Daryl Bates Mr Jim Ennis Miss Angharad Nicholas- Podger Mrs Angela Gilbert * Mrs Jacqui Nicol Mrs Hilary Bellamy Mrs Margaret Lapwood (With 1 vacancy)  <i>*Mrs Angela Gilbert resigned during her term of office which leaves 2 vacancies.</i>	Mrs Felicity Lewis Mrs Daryl Bates Mr Jim Ennis Miss Angharad Nicholas- Podger Mrs Angela Gilbert Mrs Jacqui Nicol Mrs Hilary Bellamy Mrs Margaret Lapwood (With 1 vacancy)

## 6 Review of the year to December 2022

We started 2022 looking forward to the appointment of a new vicar, but ended the year with the vicarage empty and awaiting future decisions from Guildford Diocese as to what might happen next. The Rev Gareth Dicks was licensed to St Peter's Church Farnborough and was hoping to encourage a number of the congregation from that church (including families) to join us at St Mark's. This process was encouraged by, for example, an open Saturday at the Church Hall. Matters appeared to be progressing. Unfortunately, it was apparent that those who had promised to come across were very limited in numbers and his appointment at St Mark's was postponed by the diocese. With the help of the Archdeacon of Surrey, Paul Davies, Gareth was at last able to join us and to learn more about life at St Mark's. He also had an opportunity to conduct some services. Unfortunately, the failure of the 'plant' rendered Gareth's plans for an additional service in the Church Hall unworkable. It was eventually decided in April that Gareth would not be joining St Mark's and he eventually left the vicarage in December 2022.

In the meantime, St Mark's itself was thriving, working on its own, due to the dedicated work of the key team, and with excellent support from Rev Haydon Wilcox. We also had help from other clergy so that virtually every week we had a visiting cleric. If this was not possible, then we ran our own service and invited everyone present to partake in the 'bread of friendship'. St Peter's Church Team offered assistance via Rev Sarah Norbron, Dr Stephen Linton, Andrew Linn and Elizabeth Rowlandson. We were also pleased to have the support of Rev Keith Bristow from Ash Parish Church who adapted the 10:30am service on the first Sunday of the month to include our children.

When Rev Haydon Wilcox could no longer join us. Rev Stephen Mourant kindly took on the mantle and conducted many of the Sunday services. He was willing to cover funerals, baptisms, attend the school and indeed conducted the School Leavers' Service in July. We were pleased to see some re-establishment of

the link between the church and the school, especially during the Covid pandemic, no-one could visit the school at all.

We also saw some new faces. A number of people joined us permanently and the 8 am service on the first Sunday of the month was followed by parish breakfast and then the 10:30am service which, if possible, would have a family theme.

It became apparent during the latter part of the year, that a link with another church in order to find a replacement vicar would not be the preferred route. We had various meetings with Archdeacon Paul and the Rev Jens Mankel to look at other ways to find someone to replace Father Ian. We knew that this would be a challenge because our finances were (and still are) limited. We turned our thoughts as to whether we could look to employing a part-time vicar who, in turn, could grow the church. This model has been followed elsewhere in the diocese. If the church could increase attendance and income, then eventually a full-time vicar might be appointed in the future.

The priority was given to ensure that the Church Hall was kept in good order and decorated. Our finances had, however improved, and therefore we could look to carrying out some repairs to the church itself particularly as we had leaks after heavy rain.

*Deglan Rowe, Churchwarden*

## **7 Report of the Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council**

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) consists of six Ex Officio Members who serve for one year only, two Churchwardens, the Treasurer, the Secretary, and two Deanery Synod members, plus the Vicar, (currently we have a vacancy). In the absence of a Vicar, one of the Churchwardens is appointed as Chairman of the Council.

The main body of the PCC consists of nine elected members who serve for three years. At the APCM, three new members were elected making the total Council members up to eight leaving one vacancy.

During the year one member, Mrs Angela Gilbert, resigned from the Council and as Safeguarding Officer, leaving another vacancy which has not been filled.

The role of Safeguarding Officer was taken on jointly by Mrs Daryl Bates and Mr Deglan Rowe. However, at a meeting in January 2023 Mr Jim Ennis volunteered to become the Safeguarding Officer as soon as he has completed his training.

During the past 12 months, the PCC has met for one special meeting, and six normal meetings. The Archdeacon of Surrey (Paul Davis), and Jens Mankel (Church Planting and Fresh Expressions Advisor) attended the special meeting, and Jens another of the normal meetings.

At one meeting, after much discussion, it was decided by those members present that they felt the Council could no longer support the appointment of Revd. Gareth Dicks as Vicar of St Mark's.

The following subjects were discussed: -

- Clergy cover during the Interregnum.
- Formation of sub committees
- The updating of the Vision Statement Document for St Mark's future
- Meeting with the Archdeacon of Surrey and Church Planting Advisor (Jens Mankel)
- Meetings with the Rev Gareth Dicks
- Approving the Accounts for the APCM
- The resignation of Mrs Angela Gilbert as Safeguarding Officer

In addition to the above subjects, the PCC discussed the day to day running of the Church and Church Hall.

*Colin Lagor, PCC Secretary*

## **8 Fabric Report**

As the priority was to carry out work to the Church Hall and Covid restrictions were still in place during part of the year it was not possible to take any action as regards the Quinquennial Report (2019). It was noted that there was water ingress into the church and we needed to be aware that leaks to the roof would require repair work to be carried out in early 2023. The churchwardens would need to consider the inventory and the terrier and update Health and Safety in 2023.

*Deglan Rowe, Churchwarden*

## **9 Churchwardens Report for 2022**

The year started well with the various meetings with Archdeacon Paul and Rev Jens Mankel, the diocesan officer responsible for church planting and fresh expressions. Matters appeared to be moving forward with Gareth Dicks due to become our vicar. We were even given a date in May 2022 when he was going to be Licensed. Unfortunately, it became apparent that Gareth's plans for using the Church Hall for an alternative service, bringing in families - the missing generations - was not going to happen. The reason for this was, as part of the plan, Gareth would attract a sizable number of people – 50 to 60 in all – to join us at St Mark's from St Peter's Church. Sadly, it became evident, however, that this would not take place. We had seen an increase in the size of our congregation, including a good support for the 8 am service. We are aware that some people attending our 8 am service were worshippers traditionally from St Peter's church. Whilst Gareth indicated that he may might be prepared to continue the 8 o'clock service, there was some concern that he might change the time of the 10:30 am service to fit in with an earlier service at the Church Hall. He did warm to the idea of a monthly service, with everyone attending, as the PCC thought it important that St Mark's remained as one church, with everyone meeting together. In any event, Gareth did not join us and the Archdeacon announced that everything was to be placed on hold and later, cancelled altogether. This was a huge disappointment as we all had worked very hard. In particular members of the congregation from St Peter's and from St Mark's had put the vicarage in good order. We were lucky to have the support, as mentioned earlier, of the various members of the clergy. We had a wealth of different speakers for the 10:30 am service. As Rev Haydon Wilcox suffered a personal tragedy, he was no longer able to support us. It was indeed fortunate that Rev Stephen Mourant was available and worked hard with us offering support for services and in pastoral care elsewhere. We owe a huge debt to everyone that has assisted during the long period of interregnum, since Father Ian left the parish.

Archdeacon Paul has commented that one would normally expect a church in interregnum to see a fall in the number of attendees and that we had bucked the trend and seen an increase in our numbers. We wanted to ensure that any newcomers would receive a warm welcome and they would be encouraged to join the services and to come along to our activities. The social committee was now back organising events and also with the restoration of the Parish Breakfast once a month, one had a feeling that we had turned a corner.

During Easter 2022, once again, we were able to offer a full Easter programme. We welcomed Rev Mark Chester and his wife for the Dawn Service and Breakfast, following with the 10:30 service on Easter Day. This is one of the highlights of the year.

Christmas 2022 services allowed the usual St Mark's pattern. Worthy of note were a very well supported Advent Festival musical event in the church performed by the Cecilia singers and the Christingle service, which was attended by no fewer than 96 adults and 55 children.

The PCC were united in their views about the future of St Mark's. As there was now no future with Gareth, they wanted to continue the Anglo Catholic tradition and therefore the search for a new vicar would be

started. There was some debate as to how this would be afforded. Payment of the full Parish share would certainly present a very difficult challenge. We have been asked to reflect and pray; however, we felt the time was to move on and try and find a solution as soon as possible. Discussions took place with Archdeacon Paul and the proposal has been made that we should be looking to a part-time minister for up to two years who could grow St Mark's, with a partial increase in the Parish share, meaning that we could keep our finances in order.

Apart from the clergy, we should particularly thank the following:

Daryl Bates, for managing the Church Hall and providing us with financial stability;  
Carole Lagor and Judith Gibbons for helping with church activities throughout the year;  
Paul and Marie Collins, for providing the music and choosing hymns;  
Anne Rowe for helping to organise services. liaison with visiting ministers and updating the website;  
Felicity Lewis, taking over refreshments and acting as verger, for weddings and funerals;  
Mick Smith, keeping the finances in order and assisting at the visiting clergy at the 8am service; Colin Lagor, acting as Secretary and assisting at the services

And everyone else, who makes St Mark's what it is.

*Deglan Rowe and Mike Palmer, Churchwardens*

## **10 Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults**

The last year has seen some changes in personnel as I was able to hand over the role of Safeguarding Officer to Angela Gilbert for a short time. She was invaluable in sorting out priorities but had to resign due to other commitments. Deglan Rowe and I have taken over in the short term as we are trained. I can report that the new members of the PCC have completed all their training. I should also like to acknowledge the superb help and support given by the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer.

Deglan has produced and spoken about a Safeguarding Information Sheet which is now available at the back of church.

The best news is that Jim Elder-Ennis has volunteered to take on the role and will do so as soon as he has completed the Diocesan Training. He has much more knowledge and understanding of all that is involved due to his work. We shall then be a useful team as we get to grips with all the ramifications of the Diocesan Safeguarding policy in our growing parish life.

*Daryl Bates*

## **11 Children and Youth Work**

I am happy keeping the corner up to date with things to do. I have been asked if there is a chance for a Sunday school, but to start that up I need people to help run it and who are happy to get the church training too. Then we need the children to come regularly enough.

I open the church a couple of times a year for lots of childminders to bring their children. I tell the kids a story about Easter or Christmas. We then work around the church and look at different things or count the crosses. Then there is a craft or colouring in, and a snack and drink, and then they go. I have been asked to do something again for the childminders for Easter, which I will have to think about.

*Felicity Lewis*

## 12 Deanery Synod report 2022

Since writing the last report, for the APCM held in 2022, there were three meetings of the Deanery Synod were booked. One of these was cancelled, James and I attended the second one, which was held in St Paul's Church, Tongham, and for the third one, unfortunately, both of us were out of the country.

The one that we were able to attend, had guest speakers from the Diocese who spoke to us about the wide variety of Lay Ministry opportunities that exist. It would seem that there is a 'niche' for almost anything that you would care to instigate or invent. The all-encompassing 'Diocesan Web site' would seem to be the answer to all queries one would have, but I have tried on several occasions to navigate through the said website to search for information and I find it a nightmare. One interesting fact that I gleaned from the meeting was that the rules and regulations about compulsory Diocesan training for SOME things might not be as stringent as has sometimes been reported. DBS checks however crop up as soon as you even think about taking on any kind, of 'Lay Ministry'.

We had an interesting discussion with some of our neighbours during this meeting. It revolved around the creation of 'warm spaces', and it was suggested that St Mark's Vicarage could be used as such! At the time, the Vicarage was still occupied!

I have just received the minutes of the meeting held in February, when I was in Kenya. The main topic of the evening was on Modern Day Slavery. Members were given information about what to look for. A surprising fact was that 250 'slavery survivors' were listed in Hampshire in 2021 and 137 in Surrey. There being more children than adults in those lists. The 'county line' system of drug trafficking is bigger in Hampshire than in Surrey, but frighteningly not all children who are targeted are classed as vulnerable, all children are in danger of being approached to carry drugs. Synod was urged to contact police if they think something is suspicious. Nail bars and car washes are regularly found to be using 'slaves' and there are people in Surrey and Hampshire who are in Domestic Servitude or being kept in brothels. Frightening!

A Modern Slavery helpline number was produced. 08000 121 700

A brief report from Diocesan Synod was also given to members. This had included discussion of increased clergy stipends, safeguarding issues and 'reaching net zero by 2030'.

A General Synod report from the Area Dean, Mark Hayton, included information about a response to Living in Love and Faith (see my last paragraph), which had resulted in a motion being passed that commended the publication of 'Prayers of Love and Faith' which would be used in services of blessing for same sex couples.

It is worthy of note, that one of the topics raised at Deanery Synod during the 2021 season, which had come down to us from General Synod, and was tackled in the Deanery via some Zoom meetings, has been the topic of one of our lent groups this year. It is a topic that should really have been tackled with 'our' priest at the helm, but given the situation this obviously did not happen, but it was felt that at least SOME of us needed to know what it is all about. Without doubt, you will be hearing more about 'Living in Love and Faith'

*Judith Gibbons and James Podger*

## **13 Annex – Reports from Church Groups for 2022**

### **A1 Church Cleaning**

The cleaning still goes on most Friday mornings. There are now a few of us that come for different lengths of time, as can be fitted in with plans. I am very grateful for all that come along. Some weeks we don't clean, we just chat as that is more helpful that week. There are several people that come in to pray some weeks. The weeks can seem boring as floors and pews have to be swept and then cleaned every week. This is a big task, so that the other things get done less often.

*Felicity Lewis*

### **A2 Church Hall Committee**

The Church Hall continues to be both an important asset to the Church and to the local community. We are now hired by over 30 different groups on a regular basis. During the last year a ramp has been constructed outside the Wallis Room to improve disability access. The Wallis and Probart Rooms were painted in the summer. New tables have been added and, with a new trolley, all tables are now stored in the foyer. This has meant that we no longer have to put tables back in the correct rooms. We have also got rid of some old chairs (thank you Hilary B) and the hall is much tidier.

Our cleaner, Shanti Gurung, continues to be a valuable asset as do all those who turn up on Hall Work mornings. I could not continue without the invaluable help of Jason (Drain Man) Lewis or Hedley (help I've got a problem at the hall) Bates.

*Daryl Bates*

### **A3 Communication (Magazine)**

I started a new newsletter this February and hope to do one quarterly, I hope that some others will write short pieces about what has happened since the last, and or something about what they are look forward to. It is now only going to be eight small pages. I hope the children will give me pictures and prayers to add as well.

*Felicity Lewis*

### **A4 Music Report**



Paul Collins (left) continues to provide music for the 10.30 morning service whether it be visiting clergy (communion) or one of our congregation leading (liturgy of the word with bread of friendship). Paul has been playing music and will continue while he is able or when such time that a proper organist can be found to either play the electric organ, piano or the church pipe organ that requires repair of the sound board. Thanks are due to Colin Lagor for providing the music when Paul is not around.

*Paul Collins*

### **A5 St Mark's Fellowship**

The Fellowship did not meet in 2022.



## **A6 St Mark's Floral Team**

In the absence of our own vicar for yet another year we have not been without flowers, generously provided by the usual team, Daryl Bates, Judith Gibbons, Carole Lagor, Felicity Lewis and Jacqui Nicol. Easter saw a riot of flowers everywhere in the church after an austere time through Lent.

As usual we enjoyed Judith's artificial flowers over the summer. A week before Advent we had a Wreath Festival for which Judith had arranged a preparation day for everyone interested to have a go at making a wreath, and the variety and inventiveness was astounding. The title of the festival was "The 12 days of Christmas". A few wreaths stayed through Advent, but Christmas came and in came the beautiful arrangements again.

We keep hoping that a few new people will join the team and enjoy giving God the glory in flowers.

As always, I want to thank the people who not only arrange their flowers, but also pay for them as a gift to the church. I also want to thank those who so faithfully donate to have flowers at festivals and for special occasions. Miss Gwendolen Miller, even in her great age, continues to be very faithful in remembering her uncle at all the festivals and donating so his memorial can be adorned.

Marie Collins

## **A7 St Mark's Library**

I keep swapping books and adding some new ones too. But I would love somebody that can take over this, as for a dyslexic it is very hard to always have a relevant group of books out.

Felicity Lewis

## **A8 Website Update**

St Mark's South Farnborough Website.

Accessed at [www.stmarksfarnborough.co.uk](http://www.stmarksfarnborough.co.uk)

Thanks to Anne Rowe for her work in keeping the Homepage as current as is practical. This work is quite time consuming and relies very heavily on input from all the various people, committees and groups that make St Mark's function.

Managing the Home page has become more difficult as many of the features that were available have been discontinued, so these cannot be used. A new Homepage server has been setup and the Homepage functions have been moved to the new platform, using a new Homepage build tool called Design Builder.

The web site as it stands is running on a very old version of the Church Edit software, and St Mark's has been advised the current Homepage platform will be closing by the later part of 2023. No exact date has been given as to when the existing Home page platform will close, but plans are in place to move to the latest Homepage platform as soon as is practicable.

A small working party has been set up to look at producing a Homepage using Design Builder. This has proved to be a big learning curve as there are many elements available to produce a website.

Many of the pages are in need of an update it is hoped to make the new website Homepage active at the end of May. If you feel you have something to add to the website, please feel free to make your comments and recommendations to either Anne Rowe or Mick Smith.

*Mick Smith*

## **A9 Social Committee**

Once again, we have had a busy year organising many events both at the Church and the Hall. We have found ourselves, in the absence of a Vicar, organising some services as well as social events. Holy Week and Easter were well-attended and very powerful.

We also celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in style with all kinds of entertainment, food and planting trees. We also continued with the more usual events such the MacMillan Coffee Morning, Tea Party and Harvest Lunch and Remembrance Weekend.

The Wreath Festival was an enormous success both financially and also in continuing to embrace our new church members into our church family and also developing the all-embracing nature of this wonderful Church Community.

*Daryl Bates*

## St Mark's CE Primary School



2022-23



St Mark's CE Primary School have had a year full of exciting events linked to the church and local community. We said a sad farewell and enormous "Thank You" to our wonderful Head Teacher, Mrs Stocchetti, at our Easter service in 2022. This service focused on the Colours of Easter and the children built the cross using a range of different colours each with a story, poem or Bible passage linked to aspects Jesus' life.

Our quest for recruiting a new Head Teacher continued and we welcomed Mrs Kay Bowen, from St John the Baptist School as our interim Head for a term. Our Year 6 children were delighted to attend the annual Leavers Service at Guildford Cathedral to celebrate with other schools their time at Primary School. They also had a fantastic day out at Wintershall, watching the fully immersive production of the "Life of Christ".

In July we were able to return to the church again firstly for the Juniors to undertake a wonderful performance of Shakespeare's the "The Tempest" and secondly for our school Leavers Service to wish our fantastic Year 6 good luck in the next stage of their education journey.



As the new academic year began, we saw the arrival of Mr William Neighbour, from Newlands Primary School as our next interim Head Teacher. Our focus for our daily worship reflected on the story of Joseph from the Old Testament book of Genesis, thinking about how (as it says several times in the story) God was with Joseph in bad times as well as good, and used his circumstances to save Joseph's whole family - as well as the whole nation of Egypt. Across the term, we reflected on what Joseph learned about himself through his experiences as well as the things that we could learn from Joseph's story about ourselves, our emotions, our challenges and our successes. In October we were delighted to be able to hold our Harvest Festival celebration in church. The children hosted a wonderful service, which included some very new Year R scarecrows and a

wonderful narrated and sung poem based on the parable of the sower. A huge collection for the Farnborough Bank and Trussell Trust was generously donated by our amazing families and joined the collection at the back of church forming an impressive display around the font and beyond.



November saw us focus our thoughts on Remembrance Day, where we held our reflective service at school. The whole school came together for our service of remembrance. The children all made a poppy which we used as a focal point for prayer, led by our Spirituality Team. We looked at who and why we remember, including the significance of the poppy and other flowers such as the marigold.

Together we observed the 2 minute silence at 11am, listening to the last post and the traditional words of the poem "For the Fallen" by Laurence Binyon. Year 5/6 performed another powerful poem written by Brian Moses called "What are we fighting for". Our worship was concluded with a beautiful prayer written by one of our Year 6 pupils. Also in November we welcomed back the actors from Wintershall, to perform at school. The actors shared the story of 'Jesus heals a blind man' and 'The Innkeeper'. The children asked thought provoking questions and shared their ideas with actors.

In school our Spirituality Team started to run JAM Club (Jesus and Me) for the younger children. Each week they choose a different Bible story to explore through craft and drama activities. Their first session focused on the story of Noah's Ark and they made animal puppets to perform the story. "When the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between me and all living beings on earth. That is the sign of the promise which I am making to all living beings." *Genesis 9 v16-17*

As Christmas drew near and our school worships started to focus on Advent we were blessed by the kind offer of help from Rev Stephen. He shared a beautiful worship with the children looking at the second candle of Advent and discussed the relevance of peace in our lives. During Advent both the staff and children became Advent Angels and undertook acts of kindness to brighten someone's day.

At the beginning of December the whole school visited the "All Wreaths Bright and Beautiful" Festival at St Mark's Church to see the vast selection of stunning wreaths. We spotted our school wreaths made from recycled items! The children noticed lots of different features in each wreath and enjoyed guessing what they were made from.



It was a delight to perform the Infant Nativity "Baaaaarmy Bethlehem" at the church, in front of a full audience of St Mark's families, governors and the wider community including Alex Tear, the Director of Education at Guildford Diocese. The children retold the wonder of Jesus birth with the help of three very excitable party sheep. The final song said it all "We want to shout about this baby, we want to tell the world his name. We want to celebrate this Christmas time with the things we've heard today". Our thanks went again to Rev Stephen for so kindly supporting the children with prayers and closing words. We were also thrilled to be able to hold our Carol Service once again at the church. The Juniors lead a beautiful service full of Bible passages, readings, prayers, a range of carols, hand bells and of course the special nativity tableaux created by the Infants. Soloists began the service with Once in Royal David City before the congregation joined the rest of the school in this traditional carol. A selection of different carols from modern to more well known were enjoyed throughout the evening, with more solos and group performances, including Junior Choir. The newly formed hand bells group played two pieces with confidence. We were delighted to welcome again a full church of St Mark's families, the wider community and Rev Stephen.

*For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9v6*

The New Year brought a focus on being the change you want to see in the world. As we begun a new term and a new year, we took the opportunity to do this: to bless and commission our school community for the year ahead and commit to the chance to be a blessing to others in return. Through events in the life of Jesus, we have been reflecting on the impact Jesus had on the ordinary people he met (including children!), helping our children to fill in the gaps between Christmas and Easter in the narrative of Jesus' life, making better sense of the timescale. But we have also be using these stories to help children to think about the impact that they, in turn, can have on their world, by issuing 'Be the change...!' challenges to do 'small things with great love', as Jesus did. Most recently we have begun our preparations for Easter, which began with two beautiful worships, firstly led by our Spirituality Team on Shrove Tuesday which included real pancakes! Then secondly by Rev Stephen on Ash Wednesday which talked about the positives during Lent and led seamlessly into the children completing 40 daily Acts of Kindness throughout Lent. The children and staff

are very much looking forward to our Easter Service which will take place in church, with the invitation extended to our parents and families. Our term will end with a traditional Pause Day, taking the time for quiet reflection, creative activities and personal prayers.

We look forward to sharing more of our school events within the church and with the wider St Mark's community throughout the rest of the school year.

Mrs Nicola Smith  
Senior Teacher

DIOCESE of GUILDFORD  
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL  
PARISH OF ST MARK'S SOUTH FARNBOROUGH (0108)

Financial Statement and Treasurer Report  
Year Ending  
31st December 2022

PRESENTED  
TO THE  
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL  
PARISH OF ST MARK'S SOUTH FARNBOROUGH (0108)  
28 March 2023

# 1 – Report of the Independent Examiner for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

## ST MARK'S PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

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

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022.

#### Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners in section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:
  - the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
  - the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
  - the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a part of an independent examination
- (2) I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to obtain a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



Mr Patrick Brown  
6 Kingsley Court  
Windsor Way  
Aldershot  
Hants  
GU11 1HZ

6th April 2022



## **2 - Financial Statement for the Year Ending 31 December 2022**

Once again St Mark's has faced the challenge of dealing with no permanent vicar and Covid-19 still very present in its many mutations but, by the grace of God, St Mark's is still managing to survive and there has been increase in the numbers attending services.

Once again St Mark's is indebted to St Peter's and all the visiting clergy who have enabled St Mark's to have a Eucharistic 10:30am service on most of the Sundays throughout 2022.

With special thanks to Martin James, Haydon Wilcox, Keith Bristow, Mark Chester, Stephen Mourant, Sarah Norbron, and the lay-people, including Steven Linton, Andrew Linn and Elizabeth Rowlandson, for their cover when a vicar was unavailable

Having the Church open for service has seen the return of weekly income via the envelope and open plate, however the amounts have been somewhat erratic throughout the year.

Standing Orders (SO) have remained constant throughout 2022 with a slight increase. This is a good thing as it does give the treasurer some idea for budgeting, and the treasurer would ask any regular givers using the envelope or open plate if they would consider moving to a Standing Order donation, as it would greatly help with budgeting; gift aid will also help.

The Diocese has set the parish share for 2022 at £37,460.52, a reduced figure as St Mark's is still in an interregnum (that is no full-time vicar). This parish share figure of £37,460.52 was paid in full but still continues to be the biggest single outgoing. The Parish Share is the payment to the Diocese of Guildford for the cost of ministry for St Mark's.

The outstanding HMRC Gift Aid claim for the tax year 2019-20 and 2020-21 has still to be claimed. Gift aid is like a bonus and will increase your donations by 25% if you are a UK tax payer, but please ensure you have paid enough income tax to cover the gift aid.

As the Treasurer, I would like to thank everyone for their continuing support of St Mark's and, with the grace of God, our future success.

### 3. 2022 - Income

The total income increased from £67,466.85 in 2021 to £100,807.77 in 2022.

This increase is due to the opening up of the church hall which has almost doubled its income. This increase is partly due to the lack of hall space locally, with Famborough Leisure being demolished, and the efforts of the hall manager, Mrs Bates. The gift aid tax claims for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 tax years are still to be claimed.

#### **Planned Giving:**

**A) Monthly Standing Orders (SO)** have seen an increase from £18,380.00 in 2021 to £20,280.00 in 2022. This is an increase of £1,900. This regular monthly planned giving gives the finance committee a better idea for planning and budgeting. A big thank you to the people who now donate by Standing Order. Again, I would ask people to consider donating by Standing Order (SO) if possible, enabling better planning and budgeting.

#### **B) Gift Aid Yellow/Brown envelopes:**

The Gift Aid envelope scheme has seen a modest increase from £2,367.90 in 2021 to £2,810.90; a small increase of £443.00. This scheme relies on people using the envelopes to donate the same amount for the 52 weeks of the year. Some people have switched to giving by SO which may explain the increase in SO giving and the reduced envelope giving.

#### **C) Gift Aid Blue envelopes:**

The blue envelope scheme has seen a major decrease from £2,486.50 in 2021 to 1,534.00, a decrease of £952.50. I am unable to explain why there was such a dramatic fall in the blue envelope income.

#### **D) Open Plate Collection:**

The open plate has seen a big decrease from £5,445.6 in 2021 to £3,839.03, a decrease of £1,606.57.

Again the treasurer is unable to explain why there was such a large drop, it is possible the reduction is as a result of people switching from Open Plate to regular giving through SO's and Envelopes.

#### **C) Donations**

The One-off donations have seen a very large increase from £1,320 in 2021 to £4,853.51, plus £620.00 which boosted the overall income

Although the number of people attending services is slowly increasing, the weekly retiring collections do not seem to be increasing greatly. I would ask if the tax payers could use the gift aid form and the brown or blue envelopes, or better still switch to a SO method of donating.

The SO planned giving, yellow envelope, blue envelope, open plate and donations income for 2022 was ~£33,900 and for 2021 ~£30,000, giving an increase of ~£3,900 on 2021. Good as these figures are, they were insufficient to cover the monthly running costs of parish share, insurance and utilities.

The Church Hall is the biggest contributor of income to the general funds increasing from £36,000 in 2021 to ~£63,000 in 2022.

This increase is nearly double the previous year's income and is due in no small part to the Herculean efforts of Mrs Daryl Bates and her band of selfless people who maintain and keep the Church Hall virtually fully booked.

Without the continued commitment from this small group of people, life would be very different at St Mark's.

## 2022 Income

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted		Total	Total
	Church	Hall	Development Fund	General Fund	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Voluntary Income</b>						
Planned Giving Standing Orders	20,280.00				20,280.00	18,380.00
Planned Giving Yellow Envelopes	2,810.90				2,810.90	2,367.90
Gift Aid Blue Envelopes	1,534.00				1,534.00	2,486.50
Open Plate Unrestricted Cash	3,839.03				3,839.03	5,445.60
Gift Aid Donations	620.00				620.00	
Donations	2,195.00		2,658.51		4,853.51	1,320.00
Sundry Book Shelf Hall	32.00				32.00	
HMRC Refunds	0.00				0.00	
	<b>31,310.93</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,658.51</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>33,969.44</b>	<b>30,000.00</b>
<b>Income from Investments</b>						
Bank interest & compensation	170.50		13.42		183.92	7.28
	<b>170.50</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>13.42</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>183.92</b>	<b>7.28</b>
<b>Income from church activities</b>						
Cakes, coffee, crafts	78.55		0.00		78.55	
Monies to be paid out (Rest collected to be paid out)	0.00			357.41	357.41	
Fund raising Fayres (Any)	432.40		575.00		1,007.40	1,227.28
Hire of the Church	0.00				0.00	
Church Hall Lettings	0.00	63,068.49			63,068.49	35,796.31
Magazine	0.00				0.00	
Fundraising					0.00	
St Mark's PCC Fees	1,530.25				1,530.25	378.00
Refund on utilities	612.31				612.31	65.26
	<b>2,653.51</b>	<b>63,068.49</b>	<b>575.00</b>	<b>357.41</b>	<b>66,654.41</b>	<b>37,466.85</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<b>34,134.94</b>	<b>63,068.49</b>	<b>3,246.93</b>	<b>357.41</b>	<b>100,807.77</b>	<b>67,466.85</b>

#### **4 - Expenditure:**

The total expenditure for 2022 was £72,731.93. This is an increase of £25,546.30 from the £47,185.63 figure for 2021, due mainly to the reduced amount paid towards the parish share in 2021.

St Mark's was unable to fully pay its parish share for the years 2020 and 2021 and there is an outstanding balance of £20,000.00 from 2020, and £31,311.74 for 2021 making a total outstanding parish share of £51,311.74, this is still an outstanding debt to the Diocese of Guildford.

St Mark's was able to continue to pay the parish share for 2022 at an agreed reduced figure of £3,400.00 per month and the full amount of £37,460.52 was paid to the Diocese.

The financial situation remains unchanged from previous years, all expenditure has been put on hold and only essential and safety works have been, and will be, carried out to keep the expenditure as low as possible. There is work to be carried out to make the east and west ends of the church water tight. Work is need to repair leaks over the vestry and font and other places at the west end where lead is missing. This now being addressed and the missing lead has been replaced in March of 2023.

The utility bills are being very closely monitored in the light of the hike in energy prices. The electricity contracts for the hall and church were negotiated as the current contract with British Gas ended in June and July 2022. The contracts have moved from British Gas to TotalEnergies at a rate for the:

Church of 22.5907pence/kWh, £1.44/day standing charge, contract end date of 7 September 2026.

Hall of 22.3407pence/kWh, £1.44/day standing charge, contract end date of 7 September 2026.

The current gas contract for the Church will expire on 01 August 2024. The church is currently paying 3.67p/kWh. This will increase to 12.1322/kWh and £2.70/day standing charge. The hall contract will expire on 04 October 2024. The hall is currently paying 3.992p/kWh. This will increase to 16.6025/kWh and a standing charge of £3.21.93/day. As this will mean massive increases to the gas bill for both the Church and the hall, it is doubtful St Mark's income will be enough to heat the church in the winter of 2024-25.

Some idea of gas increases:

The ~£850.00 December 2022 church gas bill will be £3,400.00 in 2024.

The ~£450.00 December 2022 hall gas bill will be £1,350.00 in 2024.

These figures are very approximate (~) but it gives an idea of how precarious St Mark's finances are.

A renewed effort is now required for fundraising for the Church building and roof fund. The Quinquennial report lists some work that is needed fairly promptly to maintain the integrity of the building.

<b>Resource Expenditure for 2022</b>						
	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Total	Total
	Church	Hall	Development Fund	General Fund	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>CHURCH ACTIVITIES</b>						
Ministry						
Diocesan Parish Share	37,460.52				37,460.52	20,000.00
Working Expenses	313.00				313.00	276.68
Vicarage Expenses	413.83				413.83	1,136.25
Visiting Clergy	1,370.35				1,370.35	837.54
Upkeep of Services	1,087.19				1,087.19	297.12
<b>Church</b>						
Insurance	4,313.89	2,195.05			6,508.94	6,449.75
Utilities	3,612.25				3,612.25	4,333.14
Boiler Maintenance	847.14	285.00			1,132.14	288.00
Repairs, Maintenance Cert	884.23	383.23			1,267.46	1,167.88
Church Music	65.00	990.34			1,055.34	1,055.34
Verger / Organist	250.25				250.25	151.00
Memorial Chapel Project				0.00	0.00	
<b>Hall</b>						
Running Costs		6,100.85			6,100.85	5,089.07
Utilities		4,740.26			4,740.26	5,118.61
Hall Sundries		1,109.12			1,109.12	616.65
Hall Major Expenditure Repair Maint		6,144.43			6,144.43	368.60
Bad Cheques Refunds & Deposit Returns		150.00			150.00	
<b>Other Parish Expenses</b>						
Charity Restricted paid out	0.00				0.00	
<b>Church Management and Administration</b>						
Parish Admin	16.00				16.00	
Magazine	0.00				0.00	
Quinquennial Inspections			0.00		0.00	
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPEND</b>	<b>50,633.65</b>	<b>22,098.28</b>			<b>72,731.93</b>	<b>47,185.63</b>

## 5 - 2022 Statement of Assets and Liabilities

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES						
<u>Assets</u>	Unrestricted	Restricted		Total		Total
	Funds	Funds		2022		2021
	£	£				
<b>General Fund:</b>						
NatWest Bank 2526	59,789.37	923.41		60,712.78		38,254.37
C of E CBF No. 2 Account	12,580.21			12,580.21		12,416.90
C of E CBF No. 3 Account	553.41			553.41		546.22
<b>Development Fund accounts:</b>						
NatWest Bank 7625		11,567.62		11,567.62		6,134.11
C of E CBF Account No.4		1,033.74		1,033.74		1,020.32
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>72,922.99</b>	<b>13,524.77</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>86,447.76</b>		<b>58,371.92</b>

## 6 – Movements in Restricted Funds during the year 2022.

	Bal B/fw d	Receipts	Payments	Transfers In	Loans	Bal C/fw d
Dev Fund NW 7625 Gen	5,016.72	3,233.51	0.00			8,250.23
Dev Fund NW 7625 Memorial Chapel	587.39	0.00	0.00			587.39
Dev Fund NW 7625 Roof works	260.00	0.00	0.00			260.00
Dev Fund NW 7625 Philippa Nicholas	270.00			2,200.00		2,470.00
Reserve fund held in NW2625 Acc	2,766.00	357.41		-2,200.00		923.41
CBF No.4 004D Restricted	1,020.32	13.42				1,033.74
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,920.43</b>	<b>3,604.34</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>13,524.77</b>

### **Reserved Funds**

£2,200.00 reserved fund in the 7625 account is a memorial fund for Mrs Philippa Nicholas

£270.00 restricted fund in the 7625 accounts is part of a memorial fund for Mrs Philippa Nicholas

## Development Fund

The NatWest development fund, a restricted account, can only be used for PCC specified projects.

- 1) Non-specific Fund: (Restricted within the NatWest ----7625 account) restricted fund of £5016.72 and receipts of £3,233.51 balance of 8,250.23
- 2) Philippa Nicholas: (Restricted within the NatWest ----7625 account) restricted fund of £270 with a transfer of £2,200 from the 2526 account with zero expenditure balance £2,470.00.
- 3) Memorial Chapel Restoration: (Restricted within the NatWest ----7625 account) carry forwards of £587.39 and zero expenditure, balance £587.39.
- 4) Church Roof Works (Restricted within the NatWest ----7625 account) carry forwards of £260.00 and zero expenditure, balance of £260.00
- 5) The restricted NatWest -----7625 account balance at 31 December 2022 is the combination of the £8,250.23, £2,470.00, £587.39, £260.00 for a total of £11,567.62.

## Forward to 2023 and further years

As in last year's 'Forward into 2022', St Mark's is still at the point of unsustainability and some major actions will still need to be taken to ensure the future of St Mark's. It was disappointing that the proposed appointment of a new incumbent, who should have been in place in May 2022, did not come to fruition, and has left St Mark's still in an interregnum.

St Mark's, together with the Archdeacon, are working on various solutions to the issue of a full or part-time vicar. When it happens, this appointment will come with an increased financial burden to St Mark's as the parish share will increase to cover the cost of the ministry.

The 2023 parish share has been set at £3099.72 per month, this will increase to ~£5,000.00 per month when a full-time vicar is in place. With the current income from the church giving, there is a shortfall in monthly income of ~£2,000.00. Having a part-time vicar will not reduce this figure by much.

*Example of cost for a full time vicar using 2022 figures, the 2022 Parish Share the Diocese set a figure for St Mark's at £59,811.00, and this does not include the outstanding parish share of £51,311.74 from 2020-21 (this figure was provided by the DBF). Once again it will be difficult for St Mark's to meet this 2022 figure. It would require a monthly payment of £4,984.25 just to pay the 2022 parish share. Payments would need to increase to ~£10,000.00 per month to clear the debit in 2022 and currently this is impossible.*

As in previous years, St Mark's will be facing a potential £220,000 to £420,000 sum to deal with the issues of the dry rot and roof repairs, along with the work required by the 2019 Quinquennial inspection. These issues will not go away without the application of significant sums of money to address the issues in the Quinquennial report. The next Quinquennial inspection will be in a year's time and may identify new issues.

In the current climate of increasing utility costs for the Church income needs to increase significantly and the parish share will need to be paid even if there is no vicar. Failure to pay will not go down well with the Diocese.

**The income from the church hall is paying the short-fall of St Mark's church income, any significant decrease in hall income will reduce the money to cover the church short-fall. 2022 has seen the income nearly double from 2021, and it would appear that the income will be similar for 2023, but there is no guarantee.**

**Ministry includes the vicar, his housing costs, pension and support from the Diocese. The £59,811 parish share figure equates to a donation of approximately £30.00 per person per week with a regular congregation of 38. Increasing the congregation is essential to reduce this figure.**

**Please also remember this £30.00 figure does not cover the costs of the insurance (£4,388.75 for 2021), utilities (£4,333.14 for 2021) and repairs (£711.00 for 2021). It is not possible for everyone to donate this sum, but there are some who donate over and above this figure and as the treasurer I thank everyone for their contributions.**

Extra funds will be required as there is still a need for some urgent roof works at the both the east and west ends of the Church where the lead has been stolen; the water ingress continues and is still destroying the fabric of the building. Some of these lead works have finally been addressed in March 2023. Thank you Hilary.

On the subject of the weekly/monthly collections and giving, the treasurer would ask if it would be possible to change your method of donation to a Standing Order as this gives a reliable and regular income to enable better budgeting.

The Church Hall is still the saviour of the parish and thanks to Daryl and her family the bookings are extremely good for the coming year. There are some large expenditures needed for the hall to ensure that is kept in a desirable condition for the hirers. There is planned work throughout 2023 that will require funding, but the hall income is capable of dealing with these bills, albeit at the cost of income that can be transferred to the running of the church.



## **Bank Account Functions**

### **General funds**

NatWest Account ---2625 - this is the account used for the day to day running of the Church and Church Hall.

C of E CBF No.2 account - this is the savings account for general non restricted funds.

C of E CBF No.3 account – this is a designated account that can only be for music at St Mark’s.

### **Restricted Accounts**

NatWest Account ---7625- this is a restricted account and can only be used for the maintenance and upkeep for the infrastructure of the Church, and specified projects

C of E CBF No.4 Account - this is a savings account for the development funds, same restrictions as for the NatWest Account

Compiled by Michael Smith

Treasurer for the PCC of the Ecclesiastic Parish of St Mark South Farnborough

Registered Charity Number 1188893