



2023

Annual Report

St Andrew's Finghall

(Reporting on the calendar year 2022)

Aims and purposes

St Andrew's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Chris Lawton, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical. The PCC has yet to create its own vision. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church of St Andrew's, Finghall.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC encourages as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of the community at St Andrew's. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and Scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. When planning our activities for the year the PCC try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church of Andrew's Church Finghall.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and prayer

The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and the benefice, to which St Andrew's church belongs.

Queen Elizabeth II died on 8th September 2022 and the church opened to allow those who wished, to light a candle in her memory.

Mothering Sunday flowers were given to folk in the community and home visits were made regularly.

The PCC is keen to offer a range of services during the month and over the course of the year, that our community find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. For example, evening song provide a quiet, intimate and reflective environment for worship whilst opportunities are provided for people to engage in different styles of worship are provided through mid-week and Sunday Morning Prayer services, Family services and Holy Communion. As part of the Benefice of Lower Wensleydale other services are available across the other five parish churches in the benefice, including Simply Together, T.O.A.S.T. Café Church. Services with the offer of prayer for healing, Patronal services, services to mark the Agricultural year, along with services such as; Vigils and Compline at specific occasions during the church year are also offered. During the period of Covid St Andrew's church and the Benefice has also facilitated the attendance of a range of services through PhoneChurch. This continues with a regular PhoneChurch service enabling those unable to attend a service in person, able to participate over the phone.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. Through baptism we thank God for the gift of life, in marriage public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services

friends and family express their grief and give thanks for the life which is now complete in this world and to commend the person into God's keeping.

We open our church on Thursday afternoons so that our community has the opportunity for private prayer as well as for visitors.

We are actively supporting the new 'Friends of Finghall Christian Home Group' that has been started by the local Methodist congregation following the closure of their building.

Attendance

The Sunday attendance: ranges between 6 and 12 but this number increased during services associated with events and festivals. We have celebrated one baptism, two weddings and conducted five funeral ministries this year.

St Andrew's Church Building

The fabric of the church building apart from the roof remains on the whole in fair condition.

In 2022 we applied to several grant making bodies for assistance with the roof, as well as continuing with fundraising.

Our application to the Jack Branton Trust was unsuccessful but we were promised a conditional grant of £2,000 from the Diocese, provided we prove that a Faculty has been obtained and that the work is started within a year of receiving the letter from the Diocese.

We were also in receipt of a legacy and, with monies already in church reserves, we hope that we can begin phase one of the re-roof soon, starting with the South Nave which is the worst affected.

An electrical report found that the electrical installation is good for its age, the Fire Extinguisher was inspected in October 2022 and the Lightning Conductor was tested and work continues to bring it to standard.

Pastoral care

Some members of our parish are unable to attend church due to sickness or age. Rev'd Chris and Rev'd Lisle and members of the church have visited parishioners when requested and where appropriate have been able to celebrate communion with them either at their homes or in hospital. Other home visits and regular contact with folk in the village has been maintained and attempts made to care for the lonely and those with health issues in the village by involving them in village events, by members of the PCC.

Mission and evangelism

Along with the other parishes in our benefice we have been able to reach out to our community on a number of occasions throughout the year at events such as.

- Platinum Jubilee Events
- Village Fetes
- The Wensleydale Agricultural Show
- Hunton Steam Gathering

A new pictorial Mini-Guide to St Andrew's Church was produced in time for the new Spring opening. A working party from the village helped to do the annual clearing of the churchyard before the winter of 2022.

In 2022 we were able to support mission in the benefice and deanery assisting with

- Snape Holiday Club,
- Puppet Nativity at St Gregory's Crakehall,
- "Open the Book" at Middleham and Spennithorne CofE Schools,
- contributions to a weekly "Soup and Pud" Lunch Club in Leyburn at St Matthew's Church
- continued help with transport to and from local medical appointments through the "Leyburn Good Neighbours" scheme.

St Andrew's has also been open throughout the Summer of 2022 and had many visitors, giving an opportunity for listening and chatting about things social and spiritual. In December 2022 we held "Beer and Carols" at the Queen's Head in Finghall which was very well attended.

Rev'd Chris continued his role as a chaplain to the Agricultural Community through his membership of the 'Agricultural Chaplains Association' & Yorkshire Churches Rural Business Support'. Principally this is through the Mart at Leyburn but also through visits to individual farms and businesses as well as through advocacy on farming issues.

Rev'd Chris also sits as a board member on several local charities and supports the deanery and diocese in active membership of the Area Mission and Pastoral Committee and the Leeds Board of Patronage.

Safeguarding

There were no safeguarding issues to report. All members of the PCC held valid DBS checks.

Financial Review

Total receipts £25,493

Total payments £ 8,706

Receipts

The total receipts for this year were £25,402 which seems a lot but it includes £15,132 from the legacy of Ernie Tull.

Planned giving remained the same as last year at £345.00.

Collections were £2,413 slightly down from last year which were £2,778.

The Roof Appeal was £1,691 compared to £605 last year.

Donations were £1,570, £500 more than last year at £1,062.

We received £1,000 from the legacy of Colin Ellwood.

Diocesan Fees were £2,627 nearly double from last year at £1,380.

We received £2,796 from HMRC for Gift Aid last year and this year received £930.90.

The money from the legacy was transferred to our Savings account in Skipton Building Society in which we now have £41,320 we got £91 interest in 2021. This year we have received £362.11

Payments

The Diocesan Share request was paid in full also our Deanery Levy. We have paid our Parish Share of £4,566 in full which is £300 more than last year, a point of interest this years is the same as last year due to a recognition of the effect of Covid.

Churchyard upkeep was up by £50 partly due to the increase in the price of fuel but we are very lucky that Brian cuts it free of charge.

Diocesan Fees were £728, this included £551 which should have gone to Hauxwell but was sent to us by mistake so was forwarded on to them.

Property expenses included £405 to Gamble for sorting out the problem with the electric cutting out and £69 for having the organ tuned £109 for checking Fire extinguishers and £144 for checking the Lightning conductor.

Charity Donations were £80 to Serving in Mission Project which was a church collection when we were given a talk about it. £150 to the Addington Fund which was the collection at our Harvest Festival Service and £20 to the Royal British Legion.

Sundries included organist payments, £138 to our accountants and £27 to the Wensleydale Deanery Synod and £413 towards the Rectors expenses.

There was an increase in the cost for heating and electricity and a slight increase for the Insurance up to £1,276 from last year's figure of £1,234.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds that equates to at least three months' unrestricted payments to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. This was equivalent to £2,177. The cash balance of £46,349 held in unrestricted funds at the year-end more than adequately meets these aims. Although high is deliberately being built up to meet the replacement of the church roof, which we expect to cost in the region of £170k.

Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church run smoothly. Particularly Marj Blake the Church Warden for all that she has done to care for the building and help with mission in the benefice and deanery.

Deanery Synod

Three members of the PCC sit on the Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the Church.

There were four ordinary Synod meetings and one special meeting during the year. The discussion focus for 2022 was on the Environmental & Zero Carbon Plan. Two members of the PCC sit on the Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

In February, there was a presentation by Rev'd Jeff Payne who gave examples of how churches can make practical changes to help the climate emergency. He had prepared a baseline spreadsheet to help churches calculate their emissions and guidance on how to offset. Members of the Finance task group offered visits to PCCs to assist with using the annual report templates that will keep the accounts in the Deanery consistent.

For five weeks in April and May a course run by the deanery, entitled Living in Love and Faith took place. The course looked at The Pastoral Principles which look at how areas of disagreement within church communities and across the church. It also focused on sexuality, marriage and relationships, by looking at the different viewpoints and understandings with the Church of England.

In May a special Synod met with Bishop Helen-Ann speaking on "What it means to be a Rural Church". Her talk emphasised thanking our congregation, resilience, creativity, attitude, being bold in being small, being a slow church (not fast asleep or frenetic) and accepting failure is an option.

The June meeting of the synod took place in Kirklington. The discussion topic speakers were Rev'd Jeff Payne and Jemima Parker the Diocese Environment Officer. The presentation with slides "Saving Creation: Six steps to Carbon Net Zero" gave lots of information on 'how to start a church's journey'. It was also emphasised how the Diocese had help and guidance on offer and also through the Church of England website.

In September the meeting was held in St Matthew's Church, Leyburn where Rev'd Dr Dave Bookless, the Director of Theology for A Rocha International gave a presentation on where Theology comes into Biodiversity and Climate Change. He encouraged preaching and explaining the importance of creation to our faith.

The final meeting of the year was held via Zoom in November. The speaker was Dr Anne Readshaw and her biodiversity talk was about managing grassland and road verges and making our villages more wildlife friendly.

There were the following new appointments:-

Gillian Lunn was ordained as curate for Leyburn and Bellerby. Also Bishop Helen-Ann was to be installed as Bishop of Newcastle in early 2023.

Deanery Prayer meetings continued to be held on 4th Wednesday of each month.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Andrew's, the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent, churchwardens, and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

Given the small number of PCC members there are no committees, other than the Standing committee. The PCC have both independent and joint Benefice PCC meetings.

Administrative information

St Andrew's Finghall is part of the Benefice of Lower Wensleydale and in the Diocese of Leeds, within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Patrick Brompton, North Yorkshire.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2022) and a charity currently excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

PCC members who have served at any time from 1 January 2022 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex-officio members:

- Incumbent: The Reverend Chris Lawton (Chairman)
- Wardens: Mrs Marjorie Elizabeth Blake; (one vacant post)
- Mr Nicholas Horn, representative on Deanery Synod (one vacant post)

Elected members:

- Mr Derek Bradley (Treasurer)
- Mr Marmaduke Charles Wyvill
- Mr Marmaduke D'Arcy Wyvill

Electoral Roll

There were 23 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, of whom six are not resident within the parish.

Bank

The PCC banks with

Barclays Bank, Market Place, Leyburn.

and

Skipton Building Society, Bedale.



Approved by the PCC on 20th April 2023
and signed on their behalf by the Reverend RDC Lawton (PCC chairman)

Appendix 1

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of the Church for the year ended 31st December 2022 which are set out on the attached pages of this report.

In order to assist you to fulfil your duties under the Charities Act 2011, we have prepared for your approval the financial statements of St Andrews Finghall PCC for the year ended 31st December 2022 as set out on pages 5 to 6 from the charity's accounting records and from information and explanations you have given to us.

As a practising member firm of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at <http://www.icaew.com/en/members/regulations-standards-and-guidance/>.

This report is made solely to the Board of Trustees of the charity, as a body, in accordance with the terms of our engagement. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the financial statements of the charity, and state those matters that we have agreed to state to them, as a body, in this report in accordance with ICAEW Technical Release 07/16 AAF. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its Board of Trustees as a body for our work or for this report.

It is your duty to ensure that the charity has kept proper accounting records and to prepare statutory financial statements that give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and surplus or deficit of the charity. You consider that the charity is exempt from the statutory audit requirement for the year.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit or a review of the financial statements of the charity. For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the statutory financial statements.

WALTER DAWSON & SON

Chartered Accountants

York House
Market Place
Leyburn
DL8 5AT

13th February 2023

Receipts and Payments Financial Statement

	<u>2022</u>		<u>2021</u>	
	£	£	£	£
<u>RECEIPTS</u>				
<u>Donations, Legacies and Grants</u>				
Covenants	345		345	
Collections - Services	2,413		2,779	
Donations	16,702		1,102	
		19,460		4,226
<u>Fund-raising Events</u>				
Roof Appeal	1,691		605	
Christmas Cards	-		100	
		1,691		705
<u>Investment Income</u>				
Skipton Building Society	91		96	
		91		96
<u>Other</u>				
Fees	2,628		1,381	
Grant	450		-	
HMRC Refund - Covenants, Gift Aid	1,173		2,796	
		4,251		4,177
<u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u>		<u>25,493</u>		<u>9,204</u>
<u>PAYMENTS</u>				
<u>Costs</u>				
Contribution to Rectors Expenses	413		61	
Insurance	1,276		1,234	
Property Expenses	729		2,303	
Churchyard Expenses	125		70	
Parish Share	4,593		4,314	
Diocesan Fee	987		41	
Organist	195		65	
Accountancy Fee	138		132	
Charity Donations	250		263	
Sundries	-		360	
<u>TOTAL PAYMENTS</u>		<u>8,706</u>		<u>8,843</u>
<u>NET RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR</u>				
		16,787		361
Cash Funds as at 1st January 2022		29,562		29,201
Cash Funds as at 31st December 2022		<u>46,349</u>		<u>29,562</u>

Statement of assets and liabilities
as of 31st December 2022

1. CASH FUNDS

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
<u>Building Society Accounts</u>		
Skipton Building Society	41,320	26,096
<u>Bank Current Accounts</u>		
Barclays Bank	5,029	3,466
	<u>46,349</u>	<u>29,562</u>

Appendix 2

Rectors Report

2022 was another challenging year for us in the Benefice, however we continued to faithfully fulfil our mission in service to the community and worship of God. As in 2021 we saw changes to the pattern of gathering due to the ongoing concerns over Covid-19, however as the year progressed people started to return to something like pre-pandemic norms. Numbers attending services significantly improved towards the end of the year and it was a joy to return to social gatherings again. As a benefice, we continue to grow together and for that I am deeply grateful. We made big strides in safeguarding training and certification and for that I am thankful to our PCC's and especially Julie. In terms of governance, we are still desperately short of officers and role holders and this is now a pressing need that must be addressed. I am once again thankful to all who come together to be the church here in Lower Wensleydale and recognise the immense privilege it is to continue to serve this community.