

**ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST,
ASHTON HAYES**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH
COUNCIL**

For the year ending 31st December 2017

St John the Evangelist
Church Road
Ashton Hayes
Chester
CH3 8AB

www.ashtonhayes.church

The Parochial Church Council

The PCC is a charity, subject to the Charities Act 2011, but exempt from registration with the Charity Commission. The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC has maintenance responsibilities for St John's Church and Churchyard.

Membership of Parochial Church Council

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio, elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) or co-opted in accordance with the Church Representation Rules, 2017. During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Ex-Officio:

Vicar & Chairman: David Lamb

Readers: Alan Downen (also Deanery Synod Representative)
Philip Goodall

Deanery Synod Representative: Barbara Craven

Churchwardens: Alan Goodall (from 2nd May)
Lesley Groves
Margaret Papworth (to 2nd May)

Elected Members:

Sue Abernethy (from 23rd April)
Margaret Buckingham
Diane Eldridge
Yvonne Downen
John Eldridge
Alan Goodall (to 23rd April)
Avril Lewis - Electoral Roll Officer
Hilary Maitland
Geoffrey Manning
Natalie Meara (to 23rd April) - GAP Coordinator
Lesley Rickards - Treasurer
Barbara Russell-Moore - Secretary
Ron Salisbury - Assistant Treasurer
Kate Slack (from 23rd April)

Co-opted Members (from 22nd May):

Natalie Meara
Margaret Papworth

PCC Sub-Committees

The PCC operates with the assistance of Sub-Committees, which meet as required. The following Sub-Committees met during the year:

Standing Committee

David Lamb (Chair), Alan Downen, Alan Goodall, Philip Goodall, Lesley Groves, Margaret Papworth, Lesley Rickards.

This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Its main task is to draw up the agenda for PCC meetings. It met four times.

Project Group Sub-Committee

Barbara Craven (Chair), Alan Downen, Diane Eldridge, Alan Goodall, David Lamb, Geoffrey Manning and Ron Salisbury

This committee met four times to deal with issues concerning the reordering of the church building to provide better facilities for church and community use. This mainly involved ongoing correspondence with the Diocesan Advisory Committee regarding the Faculty petition that was sent in March.

Electoral Roll and Church Attendance

There were 130 members on the revised Electoral Roll, which was published in April.

The average Sunday attendance was (2016 figures in brackets):

9.00 a.m.	9 (9)
10.30 a.m.	45 (48)
6.30 p.m.	10 (9)

Review of the Year

The PCC met six times during the year in addition to an Away Day. The meetings were chaired by David Lamb (Vicar).

In February, the Archdeacon of Chester carried out the triennial inspection of our church records. He was pleased with our record-keeping, registers and procedures, but requested that we use an approved Church Log Book to record building and maintenance work.

In March, we held our annual 'Light up a Life' service for those recently bereaved, which was well attended. A Lent Bible Group, studying the person and work of the Holy Spirit, was held at the Vicarage: 17 people took part. On Good Friday, we took part in a 'Walk of Witness' with St Cuthbert's Roman Catholic Church in Mouldsworth. This was well supported with over 50 people walking between our two churches carrying palm crosses and praying along the way.

In May, the annual Gift Day was held, with parishioners invited to support our work.

In June, we held a special 'Mission Sunday' service to support the work of the Teso Development Trust, with visiting speakers.

In July, our annual Rose Queen procession and crowning was combined with the Ashton Hayes 'Picnic in the Park'. Poppy Mason was crowned as Rose Queen and Erin Whitelock-Wainwright as Rose Bud. We also held a Rose Queen service in church. We had a PCC Away Day at the nearby Foxhill Conference Centre: this was led by Bishop Graham Dow on the theme of 'Growing Faith - Growing Churches'. From the discussions at the day, we agreed to review our 'GAP' initiatives, such as our baptism and pastoral visiting procedures. These will be coordinated by Margaret Papworth, our Pastoral Worker-in-Training. The ever-popular Summer Concert was held in church, organized by our music director, Yvonne Downen: all we need is more comfortable seating!

In October, a very successful 'Country Tea Dance' was held in a marquee at Geoffrey and Diana Manning's house to raise money for the Building Fund.

In November, we had our annual Remembrance Service with an act of remembrance at the war memorial.

In December, a Christingle Service was held in addition to our other Christmas services and, despite David's concerns, no fires were started and it was lovely occasion! We had a Nativity Trail for children and their parents around Ashton Hayes village with Christmas figures, which the children helped make.

Throughout the year we ran regular informal 'Village Praise' services with refreshments in the Parish Rooms. These are aimed particularly at older members of our community, with an average attendance of 10. We also linked with the local Koinonia ecumenical fellowship for meals and worship in the Village Hall.

We continued to hold our monthly informal, child-friendly service, 'First Sunday', with an average attendance of 65 (including 14 children). Our monthly Sunday Club for children aged 5 to 11 met in the Village Hall, with varying attendance. We also started a children's Film Club, meeting initially at the Village Hall and then moving to the Groves' house, where a cooked breakfast is also provided. Midweek Club continued meeting at the Vicarage on Wednesdays during term-time under the leadership of Debbie Groom and Philip Goodall, with up to 12 children attending. In compliance with its duty under the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, the PCC regularly reviewed its child protection policy with the help of our Parish Safeguarding Officer, Margaret Garman.

We hosted a number of events and services for Ashton Hayes School as well as taking assemblies at the School. David enjoyed leading some of the children on a bird spotting walk around the village with the help of the head, Matthew Hover.

Yvonne Downen worked hard with the choir throughout the year to maintain a high level of performance, with winter rehearsals held at the Vicarage. We are grateful to our regular organist/pianist, Steve Lucas, and other visiting musicians.

Building work and maintenance during the year included an asbestos survey and repairs to the organ and lightning conductors. Lesley Groves organized a churchyard tidy up. We were able to welcome back the small flock of sheep to safely graze on church land, after the troublesome dog from the old vicarage was rehoused elsewhere. Churches View Farm continued to provide and maintain a portable toilet for us in the church car park. Progress on our reordering project continued to be slow, with our faculty petition being scrutinized by the Diocesan Advisory Committee.

In response to a request from the chair of the Village Hall Trustees regarding possible purchase of the Hall from the PCC, an independent valuation was carried out. However, this valuation proved unacceptable to him and the matter did not proceed. Improvements on the Hall were completed with our permission, although the promised Building Regulations Certificate was not delivered to us

In addition to supporting Teso Development Trust and being a Tearfund 'Connected Church' with the LAMB Bangladesh Project, we also raised £1600 for the Disasters Emergency East Africa appeal and contributed to the Charlie Horton appeal to send a local boy to the USA for specialist treatment. We continued to support the local charity Save the Family with an Easter egg collection at our Palm Sunday service, food items at our Harvest Service, and Christmas presents at our Toy Service in December. Margaret Garman organized collections for West Cheshire Foodbank with a box in church and also ran the Christian Aid Week collection in May.

Alan Downen continued production of our monthly newsletter, 'News From The Pews', as well as managing our church website.

There were five Baptisms, one Wedding and eight Funerals held in our church during the year. There was also four internments of ashes.

Parish of St John the Evangelist, Ashton Hayes – 2017 Accounts

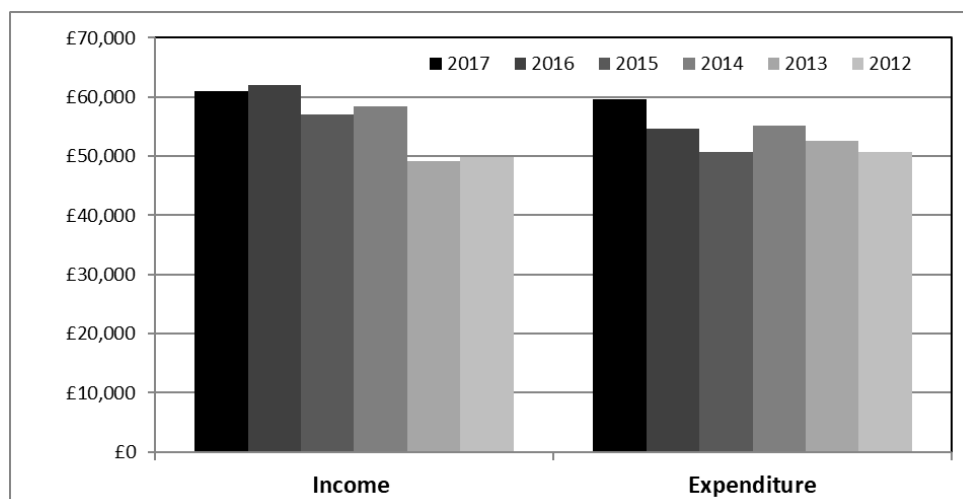
The PCC General Fund for 2017 shows a net surplus of £1,404, compared with £7,338 the previous year. The opening balance for 2017 was £25,872 and the end of year balance was £27,276.

Total income for the year for the General Fund was £61,048, about 1.5% lower than in 2016; income was low in January, February, August and October. There were larger amounts of income in May, July and September and November corresponding to gift aid tax refunds, and also in May when the Gift Day was held. The final total for Gift Day was £6130, slightly less than 2016. The Rose Queen Festival, part of the Picnic in the Park (held in July), raised £1152 (compared with £1176 in 2016). We have also received three Gift Aid tax refunds during the year, totalling £6887.77. We received a grant of £350 in November from Mouldsworth Parish Council towards the upkeep of the churchyard, but we have not received a grant for 2017 from Ashton Hayes or CWaC Councils, although this is now in hand. The grants of £500 from Ashton Hayes Parish Council and £650 from CWaC Council for 2016 were received in March 2017. Planned giving through envelopes and standing orders has increased slightly (by 5%) compared with 2016.

Net expenditure was £59,643; higher than in 2016 by almost £5000, but there were several major items of spend this year, including checking and repairing the lightning conductor (£1176). In addition there were five items of spend each between £500 and £600 (electrical inspection and subsequent repairs, boiler repairs, asbestos survey, work on organ) plus £600 to match the sum raised for the East Africa appeal. The spend also includes the money sent to the Charlie Horton Appeal (£2180), but this is balanced by the income for that Appeal. There was quite a large deficit over the first 6 months of the year, but since then the position has improved and at the end of the year there is a modest increase in funds. Most items of regular expenditure are broadly similar to 2016. The main exception being the Parish Share (up by 2.5% in 2017).

The current account includes some funds allocated for the building project. This was £303 at the start of the year and £198 at the end. Building Project income during 2017 was £13,443 from personal and other donations, gift aid, events and deposit account interest. There was no expenditure during 2017; spend in earlier years amounted to £16,110. The CCLA deposit account (Building Project monies) began the year with a balance of £89,688 and ended with £103,497. During the year £13,548 was transferred from the current account and £262 interest was added. A summary of the Building Project funds is included within the accounts. The total raised for the Building Project as of 31st December 2017 is £119,805.

The PCC also has a number of Trust Funds, interest from which goes into the current account. The value of these Trust Funds at 31 December 2017 was £57,055, slightly higher than 2016.

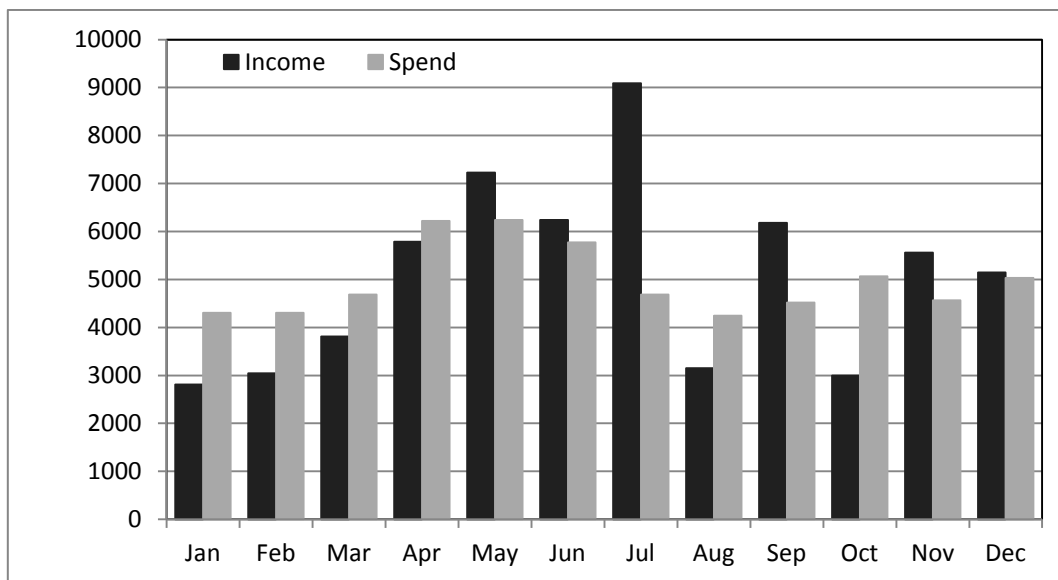


Parish of St John the Evangelist, Ashton Hayes

Financial Summary - 12 months to 31 December 2017

Cash movement, current account - General fund	
£	
Opening Bank Balance	25872.03
Total Income	61047.70
Less: Total Expenditure	<u>59643.48</u>
Closing Bank Balance*	27276.25
Change in Bank Balance	1404.22

* Includes £357.30 in transit



Parish of St John the Evangelist, Ashton Hayes 12 months to 31 December 2017

Analysis of Expenditure

	2017		Restricted		2016		Restricted		change F/(A)
	£	%	£	%	£	%	£	%	
Church Requisites	268.43	0.5%			137.00	0.3%			(131)
Printing, postage and stationary	1027.92	1.7%			1072.36	2.0%			44
Vicar's Expenses	363.65	0.6%			204.85	0.4%			(159)
Council Tax	3282.98	5.5%			3208.47	5.9%			(75)
Gas/Elec	1553.49	2.6%			1492.41	2.7%			(61)
Young Church	78.97	0.1%			0.00	0.0%			(79)
Organist/fees expenses	2460.00	4.1%			2130.00	3.9%			(330)
Parish Share	34388.28	57.8%			33549.48	61.3%			(839)
Churchyard Expenses	2200.00	3.7%			2730.00	5.0%			530
Insurance	2374.27	4.0%			2688.27	4.9%			314
100 Club prizes	792.50	1.3%			742.25	1.4%			(50)
DBF fees	1552.00	2.6%			1506.20	2.8%			(46)
Building Project			0.00				1020.00	100.0%	1020
	50342.49	84.5%	0.00		49461.29	90.4%	1020.00	100.0%	(881)

Sundries	2017		Restricted		2016		Restricted		change F/(A)
	£	%	£	%	£	%	£	%	
Clock maintenance	0.00	0.0%			602.40	1.1%			602
Printing Raffle tickets (RQF)	51.00	0.1%			62.00	0.1%			11
RQF Expenses	39.90	0.1%			0.00	0.0%			(40)
Chester Synod Contribution	0.00	0.0%			70.00	0.1%			70
Organ servicing/tuning	268.61	0.5%			263.36	0.5%			(5)
Piano tuning	68.00	0.1%			65.00	0.1%			(3)
Christian Copyright fee	178.92	0.3%			177.76	0.3%			(1)
Fire Extinguisher Renewal/Service	28.50	0.0%			227.70	0.4%			199

Analysis of Income

	2017		Restricted		2016		Restricted		change F/(A)
	£	%	£	%	£	%	£	%	
Offeratories	2590.17	4.3%			2687.66	4.4%			97
Planned Giving	25429.55	41.8%			24211.43	39.6%			(1218)
Fees	7575.00	12.4%			7137.20	11.7%			(438)
Special Events (Rose Queen Festival	1151.50	1.9%			1176.02	1.9%			25
Investment Income	1836.98	3.0%			1605.46	2.6%			(232)
Donations	1980.89	3.3%			3446.14	5.6%			1465
Gift Day	6130.00	10.1%			6115.00	10.0%			(15)
100 Club Subscriptions	1651.00	2.7%			1733.00	2.8%			82
Building project - Donations			10780.95	79.0%			8315.00	62.6%	
Building project - fund raising events			1830.00	13.4%			1045.00	7.9%	
Building project - HMRC refund			831.75	6.1%			3079.50	23.2%	
	48345.09	79.5%	13442.70	98.5%	48111.91	78.6%	12439.50	93.6%	(233)

Sundries

	2017		Restricted		2016		Restricted		change F/(A)
	£	%	£	%	£	%	£	%	
Mouldsworth P.C. donation	350.00	0.6%			350.00	0.7%			0
Miscellaneous	255.00	0.4%			105.00	0.2%			(150)
Churchyard grant ex Ashton P.C.	1150.00	1.9%			1000.00	1.6%			(150)
NFTP advertisement income	360.00	0.6%			360.00	0.6%			0
Village Hall rent	400.00	0.7%			400.00	0.7%			0
Inland Revenue refund	6887.77	11.3%			10277.36	16.8%			3390
Harvest supper	0.00	0.0%			380.00	0.6%			380
School Service Collections	68.64	0.1%			194.82	0.3%			126
Charlie Horton appeal	1927.20	3.2%							
Hospice collection	285.00	0.5%							
DEC collection	525.00	0.9%							
TESO Development Trust	124.00	0.2%							
Christingle (Children's Society)	170.00	0.3%							
Clock maintenance			0.00	0.0%			500.00	0.8%	500
Flower fund			0.00	0.0%			250.00	0.4%	250
Churchyard upkeep			200.00	1.5%			100.00	0.2%	(100)
	12502.61	20.5%	200.00	1.5%	13067.18	21.4%	850.00	6.4%	565
Total	60847.70	100.0%	13642.70	100.0%	61179.09	100.0%	13289.50	100.0%	331
Total (including general restricted)	61047.70				62029.09				
NET SURPLUS/(DEFCIT)	1404.22				7338.13				

Schedule of Deposit Account Balances at 31 December 2017

Trust Account Name	£	£
Chapel Trust		6,797.12
Dobie		4,597.56
Churchyard - Robinson		2,894.15
Stipend - Robinson		15,347.26
Sunday School - T Robinson		7,210.57
Bryony Johnson Legacy (Graveyard)		19,977.90
Ashton Hayes		230.48
		57,055.04

MOVEMENT IN AVAILABLE FUNDS

1st January 2017

Current Account Lloyds Bank		26,174.93
General funds	25,872.03	
Building Project	302.90	

Deposit Account CCLA		89,687.53
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Total		115,862.46
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Income 1 Jan - 31 Dec 2017

General funds	60,847.70	
Churchyard upkeep	200.00	
Building Project	13,442.70	
Interest CCLA Account (Building project)	261.51	74,751.91

Total		190,614.37
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Expenditure 1 Jan - 31 Dec 2017

General funds	59,643.48	
Building Project	-	
Total expenditure		59,643.48

Balance		130,970.89
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NOTE:

Transfer from CCLA to current account	-	
Transfer from current to CCLA account	13,548.10	

31st December 2017

Current Account Lloyds Bank	27,116.45	
General funds	26,918.95	
Building Project	197.50	
Income in transit	357.30	
		27,473.75
Deposit Account CCLA	103,497.14	
Total		130,970.89
Excess operating income over expenditure		15,108.43
General funds	1,404.22	
Building Project	13,704.21	

Note: End of year bank balance on statement is £27116.45
Last income for 2017 of £357.30 in transit

Signed *L. Rickards*
Treasurer LESLEY RICKARDS

Date: 11th April 2018

Signed *A. M. Milne*
Independent Examiner
ALAN M MILNE FCA

Date: 11-04-18.

Summary of Building Project Funds

1st January 2017

Current Account (Lloyds Bank)	302.90	
CCLA Deposit Account	89,687.53	
Total		89,990.43

Income 1 Jan - 31 Dec 2017

Personal donations	10,780.95	
Gift aid	1,830.00	
Events	831.75	
Interest CCLA Account	261.51	13,704.21
Total		103,694.64

Expenditure 1 Jan - 31 Dec 2017

	0.00	0.00
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Building Project Fund Balance

103,694.64

31st December 2017

General account	197.50	
CCLA account	103,497.14	
Total		103,694.64

Expenditure prior to 1 Jan 2017

Architect's fees	14,400.00	
Brochure design and printing	690.00	
Quantity Surveyor	1020.00	
Total		16,110.00

Total funds raised for Building Project

119,804.64