

**ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST,
ASHTON HAYES**

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

For the year ending 31st December 2018

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

www.ashtonhayes.church

Incumbent (and Correspondence address):

Rev. Dr. Phil Weston
The Vicarage
14 Dunns Lane
Ashton Hayes
Chester
CH3 8BU

Bankers: Lloyds Bank plc
(Chester Branch)
8 Foregate Street
Chester
CH1 1XP

Independent Examiner:

Mr. Alan M. Milne, FCA
16 Dunns Lane
Ashton Hayes
Chester
CH3 8BU

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. During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Ex-Officio:

Vicar & Chairman: David Lamb (until 30th April)
Phil Weston (from 14th Sept)

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

Deanery Synod Representative: Barbara Craven

Churchwardens: Alan Goodall
Lesley Groves

Elected Members:

Margaret Papworth (from 18th April)
Margaret Buckingham (from 18th April)
Diane Eldridge
Yvonne Downen
Avril Lewis - Electoral Roll Officer
Hilary Maitland (from 18th April)
Geoffrey Manning
Natalie Meara
Keith Morley – Treasurer (from 18th April)
Ron Salisbury - Assistant Treasurer
Kate Slack

Co-opted Members:

Barbara Russell-Moore - Secretary
John Eldridge

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, until 30th April), Phil Weston (Chair, from 14th Sept), Alan Downen, Alan Goodall, Philip Goodall, Lesley Groves, Margaret Papworth.

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.

Project Group Sub-Committee

Barbara Craven (Chair), Alan Downen, Diane Eldridge, Alan Goodall, Phil Weston, Keith Morley and Geoffrey Manning.

This committee met to deal with issues concerning the reordering of the church building to provide better facilities for church and community use. This included correspondence with the Diocesan Advisory Committee regarding the Faculty petition that was granted in May, ongoing consultation with our architect, plus preparation of various grant applications.

Electoral Roll and Church Attendance

There were 128 members on the revised Electoral Roll, which was published in April.

The average Sunday attendance was (2017 figures in brackets):

9.00 a.m.	8 (9)
10.30 a.m.	43 (45)
6.30 p.m.	11 (10)

There were four Baptisms, one Wedding and seven Funerals held in our church during 2018.

Review of the Year

During January 2018 the Bishop of Chester visited Ashton Hayes. Bishop Peter preached at our morning service and presided at communion. He later emailed David to say that he had enjoyed his visit and particularly 'the high quality of the choir and music.' Later in that month we held a Mission Sunday in support of Tearfund's Lamb Bangladesh Project. But 2018 was a year of roughly 'Two Quarters' and 'A Half' — Q1 with a vicar: Q2 without a vicar: H2 the vicar is restored!

David Lamb had already announced his intention to retire from Parish Ministry during the latter part of 2017. His final service of Holy Communion, held on Sunday, 29th April, was followed by a reception in the Village Hall — and so our Parish Vacancy began! We would like to record our gratitude for David and Lesley's work and support during the seven years they were here with us and we wish them well in their new home and life in Llandudno.

Whilst praying for the best we now began to prepare for a worst case scenario of a potential long interregnum. Keith Morley volunteered to succeed Lesley as PCC treasurer and following the Annual Church Meeting on 18th April at which he was elected to the PCC, his appointment was confirmed. Lesley Groves and Alan Goodall were re-elected as our churchwardens. At a PCC Meeting held on 8th May, Barbara Craven and Margaret Papworth were elected to act as our Parish Representatives for vacancy matters, other than that and as far as possible it was 'business as usual'.

The PCC met with the Archdeacon of Chester (Mike Gilbertson) on 31st May and he informed us that he had been appointed by the Bishop of Chester to oversee the vacancy. He was very positive that a new incumbent would be found (eventually!) for 'this vibrant parish'. By the time that meeting was held the first draft of the Parish Profile and the Parish Fact Sheet were already available. It was agreed by the attendees and the Archdeacon that the Profile should be completed by the end of June so that the process of finding a new incumbent could begin in July with applications closing in September and interviews beginning shortly afterwards (little did we know!).

Shortly after the meeting with the Archdeacon a 'stranger' was seen 'lurking' around the parish and arrangements were made for said 'stranger' to look around the vicarage. There followed a sudden scramble to complete the Parish Profile and by the time of the next PCC meeting (2nd July) Phil Weston had been appointed as the next vicar of Ashton Hayes subject to the receipt of a positive DBS disclosure. This created a flurry of activity as we suddenly had little more than month to empty and completely redecorate the vicarage.

It should be noted that Phil's appointment at St John's is only 40% (i.e. two full days per week plus Sundays), with a further three days a week employed by St Mellitus theological college in Liverpool. David's role at St John's was 50% and we shall therefore have to be more careful about what demands are placed on the vicar if the parish is to succeed.

Meanwhile, away from this frantic business, church services continued as normal with very little drop off in attendance thanks in part to the support of the clergy from

local churches. In July we continued to participate in the community's 'Picnic in the Park' (including organising the Rose Queen Pageant) and held another successful 'Music for a Summer's Evening' Concert.

In May we were delighted to receive confirmation that the Diocese had finally granted us faculty permission for our reordering project. The challenge going forward is to raise sufficient funds to commence the first phase of work. Members of the Building Committee (led by Barbara Craven) continue to work hard to finalise details of the scheme (including our heating, lighting and audio-visual requirements) and to secure sufficient grant funding. Following an approach by the Village Hall committee, the PCC also agreed to confer a new long term lease to them which, once finalised, will release significant additional funds for our building project.

Following the Summer holiday season, Phil Weston was installed as our new vicar by the Bishop of Chester on the 14th September 2018 and a new era in Ashton Hayes began and concluded what must have been the shortest parish vacancy on record. We would like to express sincere thanks to all those who assisted in any way during the vacancy.

During the year we hosted services for Ashton Hayes Primary school, including their Christmas concert, as well as taking several assemblies for them. We also continued to support the local charity 'Save the Family' with an Easter egg collection in the Spring, a collection of food at October's Harvest Thanksgiving, and of Christmas presents at December's Toy Service. We also supported West Cheshire Foodbank, and Margaret Garman kindly ran our Christian Aid Week collection in May. Alan Downen continued production of our monthly newsletter 'News from the Pews', ably supported by a willing team of distributors. Our church website has been updated this year, and our Facebook and Twitter accounts are increasingly active, maintaining our social media presence!

Our Sunday Club and Film Club continued to run on one Sunday a month each, thanks to Natalie Meara and Lesley Groves, with our first Sunday All Age Service remaining popular with families. Our Midweek Club for children was ably led by Debbie Groom and Philip Goodall, and included a very enjoyable trip to the 'Big Church Day Out' at the start of June. In the Autumn, Margaret Papworth succeeded Margaret Garman as our Parish Safeguarding Representative, and as a PCC we remain committed to following the Church of England's national Safeguarding guidance and procedures.

A churchyard clear-up took place at the end of October, while November marked the centenary of the end of World War One. The church was full for our Remembrance Sunday service, followed by the laying of wreaths at the War Memorial. Church members, led by Margaret Papworth, also contributed to an enjoyable Remembrance-themed Afternoon Tea in the Village Hall on the same day. As the year closed, Christmas services at St John's were well attended, and included a Nativity Trail, a Carol Service and a Christmas Eve Nativity Service. We also had the pleasure of hosting the WI's carol service at the start of the festive season.

Parish of St John the Evangelist, Ashton Hayes – 2018 Accounts

The PCC General Fund for 2018 shows a net deficit of £141, compared with a surplus of £1,304 the previous year. The opening balance for 2018 was £27,276 and the end of year balance was £27,135.

INCOME

Total income for the General Fund was £58,584, about 4.0 % or £2,464 lower than in 2017. This reduction can be mainly attributed to lower Planned Giving (£1,563), a reduction in Fee Income (£1,598) which was offset by higher Gift Day contributions (£510). As in previous years income was higher in April & June as a result of higher fee income and Gift day contributions. Total Gift Day contributions in 2018 amounted to £6,640, an increase of £510 over the previous year. During the year 3 Gift Aid tax refunds were received amounting to £6,342, which was £546 lower than the previous year, due to the lower Planned Giving amount mentioned earlier. Grants were received from Mouldsworth Parish Council of £350, Ashton Hayes PC of £500 and CW&C PC of £700 towards the upkeep of the churchyard.

EXPENDITURES

Total expenditures for the year amounted to £58,726, which was lower by £917 than in 2016. This reduction can mainly be attributed to the Parish Share being reduced by £1,490, the fact that payments were not required for Lightning Conductor Repair, Electrical Repairs, Asbestos Survey and Organ Work amounting to £2,862, which was partially offset with the cost of redecorating the vicarage, prior to occupancy in September. Most items of regular expenditure were close to those of 2017.

PROJECT

The Building Project income during 2018 was £7,917 from personal and other donations, gift aid, events and deposit account interest. There was one expenditure during 2018 of £8,623, which when added to spending in earlier years, now gives a total expenditure on the Project of £24,733. The CCLA deposit account (Building Project monies) began the year with a balance of £103,497 and ended with a total of £102,989. The total raised for the Building Project as of 31st December 2018 amounts to £127,722. A summary of the Building Project Funds is included within the accounts.

TRUST FUNDS

The PCC also has seven Trust Funds, income from which goes into the current account. The value of these Trust Funds at 31 December 2018 was £54,781, slightly lower than the value of £57,055 the previous year end.

ACTIVITIES

In order to receive bank documentation in a more timely manner, we are now using the internet to access this information electronically. During the year contacts for lighting and heating were arranged to lock in prices for the next few years. Starting 1st January 2019, a new Accounting Software programme, which is recommended by Dioceses in the Church of England, will be used to record our financial transactions. This will enable our financial reporting to be carried out efficiently, as well as to meet legal requirements under the Charities Act.

Parish of St John the Evangelist, Ashton Hayes

Parish of St John the Evangelist, Ashton Hayes – 2018 Accounts

Financial Summary - 12 months to 31 December 2018

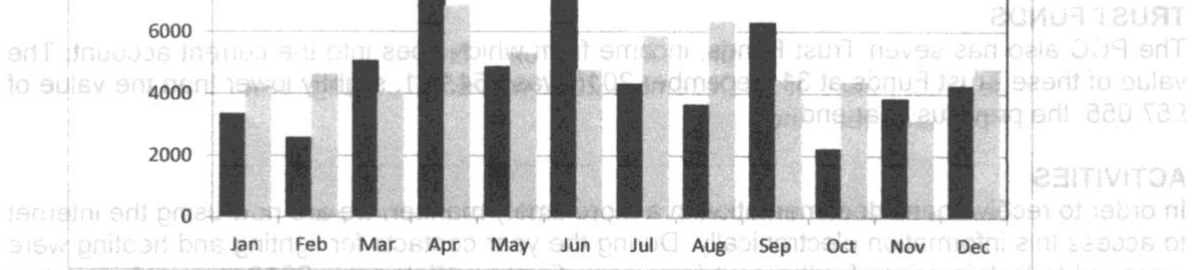
The POC General Fund for 2018 shows a net deficit of £141 compared with a surplus of £1,304 the previous year. The opening balance for 2018 was £27,276 and the end of year balance was £27,134.

INCOME
 Total income for the General Fund was £58,584, about 4.0% or £2,444 lower than in 2017. This reduction can be mainly attributed to a decrease in Giff Day contributions in the income (£1,598) which was offset by higher Giff Day contributions (£1,010). As in previous years income was higher in April & June as a result of higher fee income and Giff Day contributions. Total Giff Day contributions in 2018 amounted to £8,640, an increase of £1,070 on the previous year. During the year 3 Giff Day refunds were received amounting to £9,343, which was £446 lower than the previous year due to the lower Planned Giving amount transferred earlier. Grants were received from Mowbray Parish Council of £500, Ashton Hayes PC of £500 and CW&C PC of £700 towards the upkeep of the churchyard.

EXPENDITURES
 Total expenditure for the year amounted to £58,728 which was lower by £917 than in 2017. This reduction can mainly be attributed to the Parish share being reduced by £1,480, the fact that payments were not made for lighting, guttering, roof repairs, electrical repairs, asbestos surveys and organ work amounting to £2,882, which was partially offset with the cost of redecorating the vicarage, prior to occupancy in September. Most items of regular expenditure were close to those of 2017.

Cash movement, current account - General fund	
Opening Bank Balance	27,276.25
Total Income	58,583.98
Less: Total Expenditure	58,725.52
Closing Bank Balance	27,134.71
Change in Bank Balance	- 141.54

PROJECT
 The Building Project income during 2018 was £7,917 from personal and other donations, gift aid events and deposit account interest. There was one expenditure during 2018 of £3,623, which added to spending in earlier years, now gives a total expenditure on the Project of £24,723. The total deposit account (Building Project) income for the year with a balance of £103,980. The total raised for the Building Project as of 31st December 2018 amounts to £127,725. A summary of the Building Project Funds is included within the accounts.



TRUST FUNDS
 The POC also has seven Trust Funds which are held in the current account. The value of these Trust Funds at 31st December 2018 was £1,147,055, an increase of £37,055 from the previous year.

ACTIVITIES
 In order to reduce the risk of fraud and to ensure that the accounts are accurate, the POC has implemented a new Accounting System for the next year. Starting in January 2019, a new Accounting System will be implemented by the POC which will be used to record all financial transactions. This will enable our financial reporting to be carried out efficiently, as well as to meet legal requirements under the Companies Act.

Sundries (continued)	2018		2017		Restricted		Restricted		change	
	£	%	£	%	£	%	£	%	F/(A)	%
British Legion	-	0.0%	30.00	0.1%					30.00	
Foxhill (PCC Half-Day Away)	-	0.0%	272.50	0.5%					272.50	
Music books for Choir	50.00	0.1%	-	0.0%					50.00	
CCLI Music Licence	189.36	0.3%	-	0.0%					189.36	
Giving Envelopes (2018)	-	0.0%	95.09	0.2%					95.09	
Hire of Parish Rooms	143.00	0.2%	36.00	0.1%					107.00	
Visiting clergy expenses	1,001.20	1.7%	220.20	0.4%					781.00	
Fees to choir	240.00	0.4%	300.00	0.5%					60.00	
Miscellaneous	92.00	0.2%	167.00	0.3%					75.00	
Alms Box Repair	312.00	0.5%	-	0.0%					312.00	
Electrical inspection	-	0.0%	468.00	0.8%					468.00	
Boiler/Heat Pump repair	1,053.60	1.8%	505.36	0.8%					548.24	
Mid Week Club Function	200.00	0.3%	-	0.0%					200.00	
Work on Organ	-	0.0%	575.96	1.0%					575.96	
Asbestos Survey	-	0.0%	594.00	1.0%					594.00	
RR Electrical Repairs	-	0.0%	516.00	0.9%					516.00	
Lightening Conductor check/repair	-	0.0%	1,176.00	2.0%					1,176.00	
British Legion Poppy Appeal	475.00	0.8%	-	0.0%					475.00	
Chester Clergy Family Charitable Tru	260.00	0.4%	-	0.0%					260.00	
Tear Fund	287.00	0.5%	-	0.0%					287.00	
Christingle/C Horton Appeal	170.00	0.3%	1,927.20	3.2%					1,757.20	
DEC Appeal	-	0.0%	1,318.75	2.2%					1,318.75	
TESO Development Trust	298.00	0.5%	124.00	0.2%					174.00	
Hospice collections	410.00	0.7%	240.00	0.4%					170.00	
Flowers			100.00	100.0%	100.00	100.0%			-	
			6,016.81	10.3%	100.00	100.0%	100.00	4.6%	3,184.18	
			58,625.52	100.0%	100.00	100.0%	59,543.48	89.1%	917.96	
Total			58,725.52				59,643.48			

Analysis of Income

	2018		Restricted		2017		Restricted		change F/(A)
	£	%	£	%	£	%	£	%	
Offeratories	2,623.19	4.5%	5190.36	68.1%	2,590.17	4.3%	10780.95	79.0%	- 33.02
Planned Giving	23,866.75	40.9%	820.50	10.8%	25,429.55	41.8%	1830.00	13.4%	1,562.80
Fees	5,977.00	10.2%	1408.75	18.5%	7,575.00	12.4%	831.75	6.1%	1,598.00
Special Events (Rose Queen Festiva	1,293.00	2.2%	7419.61	97.4%	1,151.50	1.9%	13442.70	98.5%	- 141.50
Investment Income	1,755.45	3.0%			1,836.98	3.0%			81.53
Donations	1,976.81	3.4%			1,980.89	3.3%			4.08
Gift Day	6,639.80	11.4%			6,130.00	10.1%			- 509.80
100 Club Subscriptions	1,328.00	2.3%			1,651.00	2.7%			-
Building project - Donations									-
Building project - fund raising events									-
Building project - HMRC refund									-
	45,460.00	77.9%	7419.61	97.4%	48,345.09	79.5%	13442.70	98.5%	2,885.09

Sundries	2018		Restricted		2017		Restricted		change	
	£	%	£	%	£	%	£	%	F/(A)	%
Mouldsworth P.C. donation	350.00	0.6%			350.00	0.7%			-	-
Miscellaneous	695.61	1.2%			255.00	0.4%			- 440.61	-
Churchyard grant ex Ashton P.C.	500.00	0.9%			1,150.00	1.9%			650.00	1.9%
NFTP advertisement income	480.00	0.8%			360.00	0.6%			- 120.00	-
Village Hall rent	400.00	0.7%			400.00	0.7%			-	-
Inland Revenue refund	6,342.22	10.9%			6,887.77	11.3%			545.55	11.3%
CW&C PC Grant	700.00	1.2%			-	0.0%			- 700.00	-
School Service Collections	79.70	0.1%			68.64	0.1%			- 11.06	-
Rose Queen Event	1,109.84	1.9%			-	0.0%			- 1,109.84	-
Charlie Horton appeal	-	0.0%			1,927.20	3.2%			1,927.20	3.2%
Hospice of the Good Shepherd	240.00	0.4%			285.00	0.5%			45.00	0.5%
British Legion Poppy Appeal	475.00	0.8%			-	0.0%			- 475.00	-
Chester Clergy Family Charit Trust	260.00	0.4%			-	0.0%			- 260.00	-
Tear Fund	287.00	0.5%			-	0.0%			- 287.00	-
DEC collection	-	0.0%			525.00	0.9%			525.00	0.9%
TESO Development Trust	258.00	0.4%			124.00	0.2%			- 134.00	-
Christingle (Children's Society)	-	0.0%			170.00	0.3%			170.00	0.3%
Visiting Vicar Refunds	746.61	1.3%			-	0.0%			- 746.61	-
Churchyard upkeep			200.00	2.6%			200.00	0.3%		
	12,923.98	22.1%	200.00	2.6%	12,502.61	20.5%	200.00	1.5%	- 421.37	-
	58,383.98	100.0%	7619.61	100.0%	60,847.70	100.0%	13642.70	100.0%	2,463.72	4.2%
NET SURPLUS/(DEFCIT)	-		141.54		1,304.22		1,445.76		1,445.76	

Schedule of Deposit Account Balances at 31st December 2018

Trust Account Name	£	£
Chapel Trust		6,526.15
Dobie		4,414.28
Churchyard - Robinson		2,778.77
Stipend - Robinson		14,735.43
Sunday School - T Robinson		6,923.11
Bryony Johnson Legacy (Graveyard)		19,181.47
Ashton Hayes		221.71
		54,780.92

MOVEMENT IN AVAILABLE FUNDS

1st January 2018

Current Account Lloyds Bank		27,473.75
General funds	27,276.25	
Building Project	197.50	
Deposit Account CCLA		103,497.14
Total		130,970.89

Income 1 Jan - 31 Dec 2018

General funds	58,383.98	
Churchyard upkeep	200.00	
Building Project	7,419.61	
Interest CCLA Account (Building project)	497.33	66,500.92
Total		197,471.81

Expenditure 1 Jan - 31 Dec 2018

General funds	58,725.52	
Building Project	8,622.60	
Total expenditure		67,348.12
Balance		130,123.69

NOTE:

Transfer from CCLA to current account	8,622.60
Transfer from current to CCLA account	7,617.11

31st December 2018

Current Account Lloyds Bank		27,134.71
General funds	27,134.71	
Building Project	-	

Deposit Account CCLA	102,988.98	102,988.98
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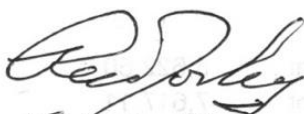
Total		130,123.69
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Excess operating income over expenditure	-	847.20
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General funds	-	141.54
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Building Project	-	705.66
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Note: End of year balance on bank statement is:		27,165.81
Income received 30 Dec 2018 banked in 2019		583.90
Cheques presented in 2019 (£475 & £140)	-	615.00
Balance as per Financial Statements		27,134.71

Signed 
Treasurer **KEITH MORLEY**

Date: **24-04-19**

Signed  FCA
Independent Examiner
ALAN M MILNE

Date: **24-04-19**

Summary of Building Project Funds

1st January 2018

Current Account (Lloyds Bank)	197.50	
CCLA Deposit Account	103,497.14	
Total		103,694.64

Income 1 Jan - 31 Dec 2018

Personal donations	5,190.36	
HMRC refund (Gift Aid)	1,408.75	
Events	820.50	
Interest CCLA Account	497.33	7,916.94
Total		111,611.58

Expenditure 1 Jan - 31 Dec 2018

Architect's Fees	8,622.60	8,622.60
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Building Project Fund Balance **102,988.98**

31st December 2018

General account	-	
CCLA account	102,988.98	
Total		102,988.98

Expenditure prior to 1 Jan 2018

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 **127,721.58**