

Sandon Annual Reports



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(completed after the meeting with revised Financial Report, Flower Report and Minutes of APCM)

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Minutes of the Vestry Meeting 2017

held in St Andrew's Church on Monday 10th April 2017 at 8 pm.

- 1 Opening Prayers were said by Revd Terry Brown.
- 2 Appointment of Clerk – Anna Cosby agreed to clerk the Annual meetings.
- 3 Apologies - Liz Bobeldijk, Audrey Bryan, Ronald Wood, Claire Jefferies, Janet and Dennis Terry.
Present - 22 members of the congregation and parish.
- 4 Approval of the Minutes
 - 4.1 Annual Vestry Meeting on 17th April 2016
was proposed by David Farrar and seconded by Christine Mennie, and were agreed unanimously.
 - 4.2 Extraordinary Vestry Meeting on 16th October 2016
Amendment to item b. 2
Apologies Judy Cecil
These were proposed by Alison Read and seconded by Valerie Grimwood, and were agreed unanimously.
- 5 Election of Two Churchwardens.
David Farrar is stepping down as Churchwarden as noted in Vestry Meeting Minutes 17th April 2016. Revd Terry Brown thanked David on behalf of the congregation for all his hard work over his tenure as Churchwarden.
Two nominations have been received for this position:
Judy Cecil proposed by Denise Carter and seconded by Christine Mennie.
Michael Puffett proposed by Eileen Bartrup and seconded by Patricia Eden.
A vote was not required; Judy Cecil and Michael Puffett will be Churchwardens for the coming year.
- 6 Date of Next Meeting - Provisionally this will be held on Sunday 22nd April 2018 at 11.30am.

The meeting then closed.

Minutes of the 2017 Annual Parochial Meeting

held in St Andrew's Church on Monday 10th April 2017 after the Annual Vestry Meeting.

- 1 Notice Convening the Meeting
Revd Terry Brown noted that the meeting had been convened.
- 2 Apologies - Liz Bobeldijk, Audrey Bryan, Ronald Wood, Claire Jefferies, Janet and Dennis Terry.
Present 22 members of the Congregation and Parish.
- 3 Election of Tellers - There is no requirement for tellers as no ballot is required.
- 4 Approval of minutes of the year 2016 Annual Parochial Church Meeting.
These were proposed by David Farrar and seconded by Valerie Grimwood, and were agreed unanimously.
- 5 Matter Arising - None
- 6 Reports
 - 6.1 Electoral Roll Report
As per Page 7, St Andrew's Church, Sandon. 2017 Annual Papers. No additions or amendments.
 - 6.2 As per Pages 8 - 12, St Andrew's Church, Sandon. 2017 Annual Papers.
Revd Terry Brown noted that this report has changed to meet diocesan requirements and thanked Judy Cecil for all her hard work in instigating the changes.
In regards page 11 under Structure, Governance and Management Judy Cecil highlighted that licensing should read institution and induction.
 - 6.3 As per Pages 13 - 19, St Andrew's Church, Sandon. 2017 Annual Papers.
Following publication of the Annual Papers Nick Bobeldijk as Treasurer wishes that it be noted: A grant had been received from Sandon Parish Council in 2016 and was accounted under the Building Maintenance Fund. This will be adjusted in 2017; The accounts have been independently examined by Richard Wheatley and no material issues were identified.
Judy Cecil congratulated Nick on presenting the Annual Accounts as per Diocesan requirements

despite the independent examiner having concerns in respect of this presentation which perhaps is due to lack of experience of this presentation.

Revd Terry Brown also thanked Nick for his work as Treasurer this year as he has also had to deal with the additional financial requirements in respect of the Church roof replacement.

- 6.4 Fabric Report - As per Pages 20 & 21, St Andrew's Church, Sandon. 2017 Annual Papers.

David Farrar has no amendments to this report but would like to add that he has also painted the boiler room roof. He also reiterated his thanks to all that have contributed to the Church Fabric over the past year.

Revd Terry Brown thanked David for all his hard work in respect of the Church Fabric.

- 6.5 Deanery Synod Report - As per Page 22, St Andrew's Church,

- 7 Reports from Other Organisations.

Previously item 12 on the agenda

As per Page 24 - 32, St Andrew's Church, Sandon. 2017 Annual Papers.

Additions or amendments:

Sandon. 2017 Annual Papers.

No additions or amendments.

- 6.6 Chelmer Crouch and Compass Churches Report

As per Page 22 & 23, St Andrew's Church, Sandon. 2017 Annual Papers.

Revd Terry Brown noted that St Andrew's is represented on this body by Richard Cecil and Mark Davies.

- 6.7 Churches Together in Chelmsford

As per Page 23, St Andrew's Church, Sandon. 2017 Annual Papers.

Revd Terry Brown, St Andrew's is indebted to Richard Cecil in respect of this especially as he is the secretary of this body.

Richard Cecil drew attention that the largest event organised by this body is to be held on Good Friday at 11am in Chelmsford and transport is available for those who are immobile.

Nick Tovey raised that there was no report in respect of Men's Breakfast. In respect of Tiny Tots Toddler group Alison Read raised that they had received (£160) and are to receive donations from the Sandon Allotment Society following its disbandment and the distribution of their residual monies.

This has been used to purchase a baby changing unit which has been installed in the St Andrew's room thanks to Neil Read and Tiny Tots will be looking to provide further furniture for the children.

8 Deanery Synod Election

Additional Item to the Agenda, added by Revd Terry Brown

Judy Cecil and Dennis Terry are stepping down having represented the PCC for the last three years on this body. Two members are required of this Parish.

Christine Mennie proposed by John Gruby and seconded by Judy Cecil.

David Farrar proposed by Judy Cecil and seconded by Janet Terry.

Revd Terry Brown thanked Christine and David for volunteering.

9 Election of Parochial Church Members

Previously item 7 on the agenda

There are five vacancies, two to serve one year and three to serve three years. There are five members of the congregation standing therefore no election required.

Election for 1 year:

Valerie Grimwood proposed by Judy Cecil and seconded by David Farrar

Nick Bobeldijk proposed by Janet Terry and seconded by Brenda Moyse.

Election for 3 years:

Dennis Terry proposed by Christine Mennie and seconded by Janet Terry.

Claire Jefferies proposed by Gwendolyn Horscroft and seconded by Reginald Horscroft.

Alison Read proposed by Gill Haddington and seconded by Dessi Speakman.

10 Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer

Previously item 8 on the agenda

Nick Bobeldijk was asked if Liz, his wife, would consider standing again to which he affirmed Liz would agree. Proposed by Anna Cosby and seconded by Christine Mennie.

Agreed unanimously.

11 Appointment of Child Protection Officer and Vulnerable Adult Officer

Previously item 9 on the agenda

Alison Read agreed to stand for the position of Child Protection Officer and was proposed by Anna Cosby and seconded by Gill Haddington. Agreed unanimously.

Christine Farrar will not be standing as Vulnerable Adult Officer due to ill

health. Revd Terry Brown gave thanks for her contribution in this role previously. John Gruby agreed to stand being proposed by Nick Bobeldijk and seconded by David Farrar.

Agreed unanimously.

12 Appointment of Independent Examiner

Previously item 10 on the agenda

Richard Wheatley proposed by Nick Bobeldijk and seconded by Christine Mennie.

Agreed unanimously.

Nick Bobeldijk to write and advise of this.

13 Appointment of Sidesmen and Sideswomen

Previously item 11 on the agenda

Colin Bryan Gill Hodge Valerie Grimwood

Joan Bridger Anna Cosby Christine Mennie

David Farrar John Gruby Denise Carter

Kim Davies Richard Cecil Pam Norrington

Eileen Bartrup

Proposed by David Farrar and seconded by Alison Read. Agreed unanimously.

14 Rector's Report

Previously item 13 on the agenda

15 Concerns/Questions to be expressed - Michael Puffett expressed that we are the lucky ones and very fortunate to have Revd Terry Brown who will be our new Rector.

Richard Cecil raised as a Parish and Church we are blessed to be receiving a second visit by the Bishop of Marsabit.

Revd Terry Brown confirmed that the new Bishop, Daniel, will be visiting and coming to stay on the 9th of July this year, to thank us for the donations we have made to his diocese over the years.

This diocese is facing considerable hard times and we need to keep our eyes open to these people. He would hate for our relationship with Marsabit to be broken, they have been our friends for five years and we should not give up on them.

16 Any Other Business - None Raised

17 Date of Next Meeting

Provisionally this will be held on Sunday 22nd April 2018 at 11.30am.

18 Closing Prayers were led by Revd Terry Brown.

The Meeting was then closed.

Minutes of the Parochial Church Meeting 10th April 2017

held immediately following Annual Church Meeting.

Apologies - Janet Terry, Dennis Terry, Claire Jefferies.

Present - Nick Bobeldijk, Revd Terry Brown, Colin Bryan, Judy Cecil, Anna Cosby, David Farrar, Valerie Grimwood, John Gruby, Christine Mennie, Michael Puffett and Alison Read.

- 1 Appointment of Vice Chairman
Judy Cecil was proposed by David Farrar and seconded by Christine Mennie and was duly appointed.
- 2 Appointment of Treasurer
Nick Bobeldijk was proposed by Christine Mennie and seconded by Judy Cecil and was duly appointed.
- 3 Appointment of Secretary
Anna Cosby was proposed by David Farrar and seconded by Judy Cecil and was duly appointed.
- 4 Appointment of Parochial Electoral Roll Officer
This will be held by Liz Bobeldijk following appointment during the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, held prior to this meeting.
- 5 Next Meeting Dates
They will continue to be held on a Monday evenings at 7.30pm.
Provisionally: 2017 15th May, 17th July, 18th September and 20th November
2018 15th January and 19th March.

Electoral Roll Report

The changes are one new non-resident and 2 residents removed from the electoral roll, namely Marjorie Ferguson and Greta Mills following their death. This brings the totals on the roll to 32 residents and 38 non-residents.

Liz Bobeldijk

Annual Report

Aims and Purposes

St Andrew's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent Revd Terry Brown (Terry), in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church building and Churchyard at The Green, Sandon.

Objectives and Activities

St Andrew's PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with an incumbent, when appointed, promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church building and churchyard at The Green, Sandon. During the year, we continued with the following vision

“In the light of God's call, and our situation here, our vision is:-

- 1 “To glorify and worship God and to further his kingdom on earth.
- 2 “To declare and show the love of Christ for all people to the people of Sandon.
- 3 “To teach, encourage and help people to be disciples of Christ.
- 4 “To proclaim Christ's Gospel to the people of Sandon and the wider world.
- 5 “To encourage commitment and personal growth in Christian discipleship and spirituality.
- 6 “To channel God's love through service and care for all.”

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

We 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 a knowledge and trust in Jesus.

Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.

Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work we feel it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Andrew's and regular maintenance is carried out, mainly by volunteers.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer



The PCC is keen to offer a range of services during the week and over the course of the year which our community find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling.

This year we have continued to welcome families and visitors into our church to the family service on the 2nd Sunday morning each month at 10 am.

All are welcome to attend our regular services of sung Communion at 10 am on the other Sundays, as well as a said communion on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am. At present there are 70 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, of whom 38 are not resident within the parish. The average weekly attendance is 41, though average numbers counted during October, were 53 as we celebrated several extra festivals at that time. Numbers increased for special services such as Harvest, Memorial service for loved ones, Patronal festival, Christingle and at Easter and Christmas times. On Easter Day 77 people attended and there were 50 communicants (slightly more than last year), while 288 attended special services during Advent and on Christmas Eve and Morning 215 people attended and 77 received communion (numbers boosted by a very good attendance at the Crib Service).

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of life's journey. 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 completed in this world and to commend the person into God's keeping. We have celebrated four Baptisms, five weddings, one wedding blessing and held three funerals in our church this year. Ashes have also been buried in the garden of remembrance after cremations.

Deanery Synod and Compass Churches

Two lay members of the PCC and the incumbent sit on the deanery synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. This year the PCC continues to explore the most effective deployment of stipendiary and non-stipendiary clergy, and the development of lay leadership as the Compass Churches Mission and Ministry unit has been formed and commissioned. Compass churches is composed of St Andrew's together with our 11 neighbouring churches, with Terry as clergy chair and Richard Cecil as a council member.

Use of the Church building and the St Andrew's Room

The church remains open every day from about 9 am to dusk and many neighbours and visitors come in for quiet prayer and reflection.

Having completed retiling the nave and north aisle last year, in the Spring of 2018 we have also retiled the north slope of the chancel roof using the remainder of the government grant and donations from the PCC and the Friends of Sandon church.

The work was recommended by our architect and was carried out as an extension of the original contract by Cater Roofing Ltd.

Each Wednesday in term time the St Andrew's Room and church are used by our Tiny Tots mothers and toddlers group. Up to 20 children and their carers have been regular attendees and the group also organised a teddy bear's picnic and a summer party.

Refreshments are served after the Tuesday morning service. A group enjoyed a Christmas lunch in the Crown pub. The St Andrew's room is also used by the local school, WI, Christians together in Chelmsford, Chelmsford Street Pastors, Community Choir, Parish Council and our church choir.

Pastoral Care

Some members of our parish are unable to attend church due to sickness or disability. Terry visits at home and church members visit the local Nursing Home and offer lay led communion to some of the residents and staff once each month. Terry is a governor at the local secondary school and visits to lead assembly and as chaplain. Church members visit those who unwell or not able to get to church and we have set up a more formal group to take some of the load from Terry as he expands his role in other ways. Judy Cecil was licensed as a Pastoral Assistant in October and assists Terry in leading and providing pastoral care.

Mission and Evangelism

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. The PCC has encouraged fund-raising and a decision was made to support 4 charities during the year to the end of March 2018 giving £1000 to each, representing about 10% of our income for last year. (Donations were also made to British Legion, Children's Society and Disasters Emergency Committee.) The four charities were CHES the local homeless support group, Water Aid, J's Hospice and the Samaritans.

We have enjoyed fundraising concerts by the Cathedral Choir, 'The Southend Boys and Girls' choirs. Our summer fete included a dog show and stalls in the churchyard and raised much needed funds while proceeds from the Christmas Fayre in the village hall also boosted our finances.

Our parish magazine is now distributed quarterly to all houses in the parish and to those on the Electoral Roll, and copies are available in church. The magazine keeps our parishioners informed of the important matters affecting our church and includes articles which help to develop our knowledge and trust in Jesus as well as some which are more light-hearted. A weekly email is sent out to about 50 members of the congregation and other supporters to keep them up to date with the following week's services and events. The St Andrew's website is kept up to date and includes information about events and services, as well as previous magazines, pew sheets

and photos of past events. A communications group is considering ways of improving our contacts within church and with the neighbourhood.

Ladies breakfasts continue monthly at Butts Green Garden centre, but the men no longer meet. Ten church members took part in the annual Christian Aid week collection.

Our annual outreach 'Tea on the Green' in August attracted a crowd of over 150 who sang with the Salvation Army Band, listened to a message from Archdeacon Mike Lodge and shared in a time of prayer.

Ecumenical Relationships

The church is a member of Christians Together in Chelmsford and The Compass Churches. We have this year supported the local United Reformed Church (URC) at Howe Green by attending their Christmas Carols, Fair-trade coffee morning and a new venture of Cafe church on some Sunday afternoons. One member of the URC congregation has joined us for bible studies. Small groups have attended lay and clergy led courses.

Volunteers

We thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church a lively and vibrant community: those who clean the church and arrange flowers, work in the churchyard, ring the bells, sing in the choir, make the tea, manage our website, edit and deliver our magazine and all those others who share their talents and time in so many different ways to make St Andrew's a loving community.

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St. St Andrew's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our Rector), 2 Churchwardens, and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. There are 2 deanery synod representatives and there are 9 elected members allowed with 3 elected each year for 3 years. 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. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC. The full PCC met six times during the year with an average level of attendance of 80%. Thank you to our electoral roll officer and our vulnerable adult and child safeguarding officers. Terry was licensed as Rector of Sandon on Tuesday 9th May 2017 and as Priest in Charge of East Hanningfield later in the year, (Christine Horton remains as Incumbent).

Administrative Information

St. Andrew's Church is situated by The Green, Sandon. It is part of the Diocese of Chelmsford within the Church of England. Our correspondence address is:-
 c/o The Vicarage, 1 Glebe Meadow, Great Waltham, Chelmsford CM3 1EX
 PCC Members who have served from 1st January 2017 until the date of this report are:

Priest:	Revd Terry Brown	
Wardens:	Mrs Judy Cecil	
	Mr David Farrar	<i>till May 2017</i>
	Mr Michael Puffett	<i>from May 2017</i>
Deanery Synod		
Representatives:	Mrs Judy Cecil	<i>till May 2017</i>
	Mr David Farrar	<i>elected in 2017 for 3 years</i>
	Mrs Christine Mennie	<i>elected in 2017 for 3 years</i>
	Mr Dennis Terry	<i>till May 2017</i>
Elected members:	Mr Nicholas Bobeldijk	<i>elected in 2017 for 1 year</i> <i>Treasurer</i>
	Mr Colin Bryan	<i>elected in 2016 for 3 years</i>
	Mrs Anna Cosby	<i>from April elected in 2016 for 3 years</i> <i>Secretary from April 2017</i>
	Mrs Valerie Grimwood	<i>elected in 2017 for 1 year</i>
	Mr John Gruby	<i>elected in 2015 for 3 years</i>
	Mrs Claire Jefferies	<i>elected in 2017 for 3 years</i>
	Mr Simon Johnson	<i>till April 2017</i>
	Mrs Christine Mennie	<i>Secretary till April 2017</i>
	Mr Michael Puffett	<i>till April 2017</i>
	Mrs Alison Read	<i>elected in 2017 for 3 years</i>
	Mr Dennis Terry	<i>elected in 2017 for 3 years</i>
Mrs Janet Terry	<i>elected in 2016 for 3 years</i>	

Standing Committee:

Incumbent or Chairman, Churchwardens, Treasurer and Secretary

Bank: Lloyds TSB, Chelmsford Branch

Examiner: Martin Harcourt-Williams

Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December 2017

Giving from all sources showed a small increase in 2017 with planned giving increasing by some £1431 while Income from charitable activities and Other Trading Activities also increased. Income from donations, both gift aided and non-gift aided, were down however. The overall total of £121,234.40 shown in the accounts is distorted by the inclusion of an additional monies received from Sandon Parish Council in 2016 but credited to the Building Maintenance Fund in error.

Our total income increased by £74,855.31 compared with 2016.

Our outgoings also increased by £58,948.07 to £100,783.06 giving us an excess of income over payments of £20,451.34, with last year's excess being £4,544.

As at 31st December 2017 we had a total balance in the bank of £33,295.92 although some £15,000 of this total is restricted funds.

The Building Maintenance Fund had a balance of £14,814.75 at the end of December.

The main expense items were:- Parish Share £26,789, Magazine £1,668, Insurance £1,929, Electricity £2,150 and Water £81. Maintenance expenditure was only £172. Churchyard expenses totalled £897 although much voluntary work was carried out over the year for which we are very grateful. A grant of £1300 was received from Sandon Parish Council in respect of maintaining the churchyard and for which we are also very grateful.

In Mission a total of £7,198 was given to various causes, the main beneficiaries being Chelmsford CHESS £1,061, and Water Aid, The Samaritans and J's Hospice all receiving £1,161 each. These amounts include the proceeds of the Christmas services.

Fundraising expenses were £532.

We paid various affiliation fees and subscriptions totalling £263.

Nick Bobeldijk Treasurer 14th April 2018

Receipts and Payments Account	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2017	Total 2016
Receipts				
Donations and legacies	£54,263.96	—	£54,263.96	£36,696.88
Income from charitable activities	£4,504.00	—	£4,504.00	£2,669.31
Other trading activities	£7,149.13	—	£7,149.13	£6,981.10
Investments	£37.31	—	£37.31	£31.80
Total receipts	£121,234.40	—	£121,234.40	£46,379.09
Payments				
Raising funds	£532.07	—	£532.07	—
Expenditure on charitable activities	£50,530.86	—	£50,530.86	£41,834.99
Other expenditure	£49,720.13	—	£49,720.13	—
Total payments	£100,783.06	—	£100,783.06	£41,834.99
Excess of receipts over payments before transfer	£20,451.34	—	£20,451.34	£4,544.10
Transfers				
Gross transfers between funds - in	£80,287.79	£88,434.96	£168,722.75	£7,219.13
Gross transfers between funds - out	(£88,434.96)	(£80,287.79)	(£168,722.75)	(£7,219.13)
Excess of receipts over payments before other gains / losses	£12,304.17	£8,147.17	£20,451.34	£4,544.10
Net movement in funds	£12,304.17	£8,147.17	£20,451.34	£4,544.10
All assets at 01 January 2017	£20,695.78	(£8,147.17)	£12,548.61	£8,969.03
All assets at 31 December 2017	£32,999.95	—	£32,999.95	£13,513.13
Represented by				
Unrestricted				
General fund	£32,999.95	—	£32,999.95	£12,845.79
Restricted				
Restricted Funds	—	—	—	(£8,147.17)

Balance sheet

Class and code	Description	2017	2016
6501	Current Account	(£2,483.87)	£3,159.60
6505	Deposit Account	£35,000.00	£17,500.00
6510	Cash Account	£112.45	£36.18
6520	Deposits Paid Account	£105.00	£105.00
6530	COIF Units Held 461090001T	£562.34	£562.34
	Total Current assets	£33,295.92	£21,363.12
Liabilities			
6610	Building Maintenance Fund	—	£7,984.13
6620	Diocesan Board of Finance	—	£158.00
6640	Treasurer's Expenses	—	—
6650	Friends of Sandon Church	—	£256.40
6660	Rector's Fees & Expenses	(£124.03)	£415.98
6670	Sponsored Flowers	£95.00	—
6680	Tiny Tots	£325.00	—
	Total Liabilities	£295.97	£8,814.51
	Net Asset surplus(deficit)	£32,999.95	£12,548.61
Reserves			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	£20,451.34	—
Z01	Starting balances	£12,548.61	£12,548.61
	Total Reserves	£32,999.95	£12,548.61
	Represented by funds		
	Unrestricted	£18,185.20	£20,695.78
	Designated	—	—
	Restricted	£14,764.75	(£8,147.17)
	Endowment	—	—
	Total	£32,999.95	£12,548.61

Statement of assets and liabilities

	General	Restricted	2017	2016
Current assets – Cash at bank and in hand				
Current Account	(£2,483.87)	—	(£2,483.87)	£3,159.60
Deposit Account	£20,606.62	£14,393.38	£35,000.00	£17,500.00
Cash Account	£112.45	—	£112.45	£36.18
Totals	£18,235.20	£14,393.38	£32,628.58	£20,695.78
Current assets - Debtors				
Deposits Paid Account	—	£105.00	£105.00	£105.00
Totals	—	£105.00	£105.00	£105.00
Current assets - Investments				
COIF Units Held 461090001T	—	£562.34	£562.34	£562.34
Totals	—	£562.34	£562.34	£562.34
Liabilities - Provision for liabilities and charges due within one year				
Building Maintenance Fund	—	—	—	£7,984.13
Diocesan Board of Finance	—	—	—	£158.00
Treasurer's Expenses	—	—	—	—
Friends of Sandon Church	—	—	—	£256.40
Rector's Fees & Expenses	—	(£124.03)	(£124.03)	£415.98
Sponsored Flowers	—	£95.00	£95.00	—
Tiny Tots	—	£325.00	£325.00	—
Totals	—	£295.97	£295.97	£8,814.51
Grand total	£18,235.20	—	£32,999.95	£12,548.61

Analysis of receipts and payments

Donations and legacies	Unrestricted	2017	2016
Collections - Gift Aided	£471.80	£471.80	—
Direct Credits - Gift Aided	£4,770.00	£4,770.00	10953
Donations - Gift Aided	£231.25	£231.25	833
Collections - Non Gift Aided	£253.19	£253.19	1557
Direct Credits - Non Gift Aided	£2,329.00	£2,329.00	1799
Donations - Non Gift Aided	£19,469.50	£19,469.50	2779
Parish Giving Scheme	£12,742.54	£12,742.54	5658
Small Donations Scheme	£6,959.69	£6,959.69	5000
Gift Aid Recovered	£7,036.99	£7,036.99	7465
Total	£54,263.96	£54,263.96	36696

Income from charitable activities	Unrestricted	2017	2016
Parochial Fees	£4,504.00	£4,504.00	2669
Total	£4,504.00	£4,504.00	2669

Other trading activities	Unrestricted	2017	2016
Fundraising - Gift Aided	£121.00	£121.00	—
Fundraising - Non Gift Aided	£6,798.13	£6,798.13	5893
Magazine – Advertising	£210.00	£210.00	425
Magazine – Sales	£20.00	£20.00	662
Total	£7,149.13	£7,149.13	6981

Investments	Unrestricted	2017	2016
Investment Income	£22.24	£22.24	20
Interest Received	£15.07	£15.07	11
Total	£37.31	£37.31	31

Other Income	Unrestricted	2017	2016
Grants Received	£55,280.00	£55,280.00	—
Total	£55,280.00	£55,280.00	—

INCOME TOTAL £121,234.40 £121,234.40 46379

Raising funds	Unrestricted	2017	2016
Event Expenses	£532.07	£532.07	691
Total	£532.07	£532.07	691

Expenditure on charitable activities	Unrestricted	2017	2016
Mission	£7,198.11	£7,198.11	3803
Parish Share	£26,789.04	£26,789.04	26250
Fees	£7,720.47	£7,720.47	175
Cost of Services	£440.52	£440.52	63
Churchyard Expenses	£897.25	£897.25	678
Printing & Stationary	£317.30	£317.30	224
Clergy Expenses	£1,033.30	£1,033.30	10
Church Running Expenses – Electricity	£2,150.10	£2,150.10	2366
Church Running Expenses – Insurance	£1,929.34	£1,929.34	1714
Church Running Expenses - Water Rates	£80.84	£80.84	77
Church Running Expenses - Vestry Supplies	£264.70	£264.70	669
Magazine Costs	£1,667.89	£1,667.89	1885
Church Running Expenses – Extinguishers	£42.00	£42.00	—
Total	£50,530.86	£50,530.86	38600

Fabric Maintenance – Buildings	£49,588.13	£49,588.13	2684
Fabric Maintenance – Other	£132.00	£132.00	550
Total	£49,720.13	£49,720.13	3234
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	£100,783.06	£100,783.06	41834
GRAND TOTAL	£20,451.34	£20,451.34	4544

Independent Examiners Report to the PCC of St Andrew's Church, Sandon

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2017, which are set out above

Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

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 procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- + State whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of this report

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 final 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 a full audit, and consequently I do not express an opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In Connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements -
 - + to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - + to prepare accounts, which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Martin Harcourt Williams

Martin HARCOURT WILLIAMS
The Old Forge, East Hanningfield, CM3 8AA

Fabric Report for 2017

During the early part of the year our attention was mainly concerned with the retiling of the four main slopes of the church roof. This was completed in time for us to be using the building in full by Easter. Details of the contract and the costings were given in last year's report since this was arranged during 2016.

We have, this year moved our attention to the chancel roof. The north slope of the chancel was considered to need immediate retiling. The grant application made in respect of the main roof was able to be extended to cover the chancel and arrangements have been made for this work to be done in early 2018, using the same contractors with whose work we were so pleased previously.

We were advised by the architect that the south slope of the chancel was in better condition, and although he thought that it should be retiled as soon as we could afford it, it did not need to be done within two years and possibly not for some five years. Accordingly we could not extend our grant to contribute to this. The matter is on hold until after the next Quinquennial inspection, due in April 2018.

The steel chandeliers which were given to us to hang in the arches of the nave caused some problems. The DAC did not like them but after a site visit in May they were happier and agreed to support our Faculty application, subject to some minor modification, in particular the addition of some painted red lines. Accordingly we made these changes, the painting being done very skilfully by Kim Davies, a Faculty was granted and the chandeliers have been hung.

In early December the lead on our roof was again attacked. The gully on the porch was stolen and an attempt to take lead from the main roof valley proved too difficult and was abandoned. There was some damage to the new tiles but this was inexpensively repaired. The DAC agreed that the porch gully could be replaced with a non lead material to match the material used in the earlier theft some years ago without the need for a further Faculty. We have Archdeacon's approval and this work is expected to be done shortly. It is the subject of an insurance claim.

It is difficult to see how we can protect our roof but several measures are planned which it would be better not to spell out in this report.

The PCC has decided that we need some extra storage and a wooden shed is planned to be sited on the south-eastern boundary of the churchyard. We have obtained quotations for this and have sought the approval of the DAC in readiness for a Faculty application.

Two of our sacred vessels were showing signs of wear since they were acquired in the 1970s. The patten was dented and the large silver jug leaked. Permission was obtained from the Archdeacon for these to be repaired and this work has been done. Two members of the public with connections to St Andrew's have applied for grave space reservations. This has been with our approval and in both cases Faculties have

been granted and the details noted in the Burial Register. The sites on the ground have been appropriately marked.

The churchyard has sustained a little weather damage this year but this has not needed outside help to clear up.

The car park surface is again in a rather poor state. We are in the process of filling potholes but this is an ongoing matter. Similarly the church fence, which is over 60 years old, needs constant monitoring. We are able to keep up with the repairs, doing the work ourselves. The security lights have given us a good deal of trouble. We have needed to replace some of the sensors and, of course bulbs.

We would like to thank all those who work so hard in and around the church.

Members of the congregation and others keep the building clean, maintain the churchyard to a high standard, do minor repairs and other general tasks which keep our church a glorious place in which to worship.

Michael Puffett Churchwarden

Deanery Synod Report

The Deanery Synod met four times in the past year. The first was led by Andy Griffiths as Area Dean. Christine Horton was voted on as Lay Chair, Harry Marsh as Treasurer and Sue Edwards as Secretary. Two groups were elected from lay and clergy for the Standing Committee for 3 years. The main address was by Steve Kersys, who is Children's and Families Advisor for the Diocese. He and his wife had visited 300 churches in the Diocese and his impression was that children wanted to talk but no one was listening. He put forward some ideas that could be used in the future to encourage young people.

The second meeting was mainly a presentation by Robin Stevens on the role of the Deanery Synod within the wider context of Church of England governance. This was very interesting explaining how the Deanery Synod worked in the Diocese. This was followed by questions and answers. Andy Griffiths informed us that this would be his last meeting as he was stepping down as incumbent at St Michael's Galleywood and as Area Dean.

The November meeting was a service at Great Baddow with an address by the Reverend Canon David Hague from the St Cedd Centre for Pioneer Mission. At this service Reverend Tim Ball was made Area Dean.

The final meeting was an address by the Reverend Captain Peter Allen who runs the Evangelism Enablers programme. He also spoke of his work in the Church Army.

Christine Mennie

Compass Group Churches

Sandon have for many years been members of the Chelmer Crouch Group. This has now been dissolved and on February 10th 2018 there was a service launching an analogue grouping consisting of Bicknacre and Woodham Ferrers, Danbury, Downham, East Hanningfield, Little Baddow, Ramsden Bellhouse, Ramsden Heath, Sandon, South Hanningfield, South Woodham Ferrers, Stock and West Hanningfield. Revd Terry Brown and Mrs Margaret Partridge (from South Woodham Ferrers) are joint chairs and the secretary is Claire Newman from East Hanningfield. The treasurer is Robert Andrews from Downham. The aim of the new group, called Compass Group, is to encourage working together in both Mission and Ministry. Judy Cecil wrote a piece in the March magazine which I reproduce here. On February 10th a number of Anglican churches met together with Archdeacon Elizabeth and Area Dean Tim Ball at St John's, Danbury. Representatives came from Danbury St John, Little Baddow St Mary, Sandon St Andrew, East Hanningfield All Saints, West Hanningfield St Edward, Stock All Saints, Downham St Margaret with Ramsden Bellhouse, South Hanningfield St Peter, Woodham Ferrers St Mary and Bicknacre, and South Woodham Ferrers Holy Trinity. After a welcome coffee or tea and introduction from the archdeacon, we spent an hour in parish/benefice teams recording the mission opportunities, resources and existing groups in our own parishes and then we moved round the room and looked at the corresponding information for the other parishes. There was plenty of discussion and sharing throughout the time. New friendships were made and older friendships renewed. We all chattered more over a 'bring and share' lunch with drinks kindly provided by the St John's helpers. At 1 pm we gathered in the church for the formal part of the day, the Commissioning of the Compass Churches, their Clergy and Lay leaders and council of representatives from the twelve churches. Visitors from two United Reformed Churches were welcomed. Before the new beginning though, there was a formal ending to the Chelmer Crouch Group of churches and a decommissioning of their banner. The new Compass churches banner was on show and will be moved around the churches.



Then the service of music led by the St John's choir, readings, sermon from the Archdeacon, prayers and formal words completed an exciting day as twelve churches in the Chelmsford South deanery came together as the Compass Churches. We hope to work to share expertise and resources and get to know each other better. I believe the first shared service will be on Ascension Day, Thursday May 10th at 7.30pm at St Andrew's church Sandon. All are welcome to come along.

Richard and Judy Cecil

Christians Together in Chelmsford

Sandon have for many years been members of Churches Together in Chelmsford. About 50 churches in Chelmsford are members and its main activity is the Procession of Witness from 5 points to the City centre High Street for a service to mark Good Friday.

Collectively the churches in Chelmsford support the work of CHESSE, the Foodbank, Street Pastors, Renew Counselling, Work Place Chaplaincy, YMCA, Christian Aid and Interfaith Forum and Chelmsford 24-7 Prayer. Since Revd Canon Carol Smith took up a new post in Kent in January 2017, Revd Keith Jackson, senior pastor at Life Church in Chelmsford has been acting as Chair and Revd Ade Adayi has been acting Vice-Chair. All denominations are involved and it provides a vehicle where churches can share events across a wider forum. Its AGM is on Sunday 20th May at Skylark church at 3:00 pm followed by Tea and Displays and all are welcome to attend.

Richard Cecil

Howe Green United Reformed Church

Report of working with St. Andrew's Church, Sandon, March 2017 to March 2018
During the past year Howe Green URC has shared many occasions with St Andrews.

Some of these events have been more 'community' related, such as the Fair Trade Fortnight, when Howe Green hosted a Coffee Morning and St. Andrews held a wine tasting evening, with members of both churches attending and taking part. Similarly, a 'Church Crawl Lunch' took place in June when people travelled from Howe Green (starters), to St Andrews (main course), to Little Baddow (desserts) and finishing at Danbury URC for cheese, biscuits and coffee. Members of these Churches and other local residents attended and money raised was donated to Christian Aid.

We have also shared Sunday services. Rev Terry Brown has led three afternoon services at Howe Green (some as Café Church), and other members of St. Andrews also attend the monthly services held there. The Howe Green congregation has attended various services at St. Andrews - Mothers Day, Harvest Festival, the special service of thanks for the new roof, and some of the Easter services. They also

provided a speaker for the service held at St Andrews for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

Representatives of Howe Green URC have also been able to help at the Church Summer Fete, and the Tea on the Green in Sandon. One member also attends the Lent Group.

Rev Terry Brown took part in the Christmas Carol Service at Howe Green and was joined by several others from St Andrews.

Mrs Pam Knott

Chelmsford Nursing home

Over the years a strong bond has been created between the Nursing Home and the Church, and a small group still continue to take the reserved Host every second Monday of the month. We regularly have Group of residents and Staff, 8-10 in number who join in a Lay led service. There are also a number of bedbound residents that have the host taken to their rooms. Our presence appears to be well appreciated by Staff and Residents and those of us who go there receive a lot of satisfaction in knowing that we are assisting in God's work. We regularly record 10-18 in the numbers of people served; we also try to cover special holy day such as Christmas and Easter by arranging a group Sing Song or Carols singing. This is well liked by the residents and it is amazing how many still remember the words and music.

Dennis Terry

Bell Ringing Report

We have continued to ring for most Sunday services during the last year but are highly dependent on the support of Ken and Jo Elliot, whose home tower is Great Baddow. Great Baddow ring on the first Sunday of each month and we do not have enough ringers to ring without them. However, this may change in the near future as we have just started training three new recruits, whom we hope will enjoy the ringing and be able to join us and boost our numbers on a Sunday. We are always on the lookout for new learners and can teach them from scratch so no prior knowledge is required. If anyone is interested please contact Richard Cecil.

We have rung for 5 weddings and 1 quarter peal have been rung in this tower over the last year. The quarter peal was all rung by visiting bands. We have had visiting ringers on 4 other occasions, one training day by the Ladies Guild and one by the Essex Ringing Course. We have also hosted two District practices on a Tuesday evening. Practice nights continue to be fairly well attended with support from other towers, mainly Great Baddow, Downham and Galleywood.

Neil Arnold and Mike Worboys have continued to carry out a regular programme of cleaning, inspection and planned preventative maintenance on the bells. The importance of this work cannot be underestimated as a failed weld on the clapper of the Tenor (our heaviest bell) was found during a routine inspection. Our thanks go to

Joviks in Mayes Lane, who repaired the mounting cylinder within one working day at no charge so that the bell could be brought back in to action in time for a visiting band of ringers. Neil Arnold has also manufactured a clapper clamp which enables us to silence a bell so that it can be used for training purposes without undue disturbance for local residents. Neil is not a ringer so the time and enthusiasm he gives in support of the keeping the bells ringing is greatly appreciated. After many years of excellent leadership, Nick Tovey stood down as Tower Captain at Christmas, passing the baton to Richard Cecil. Nick continues to ring and the knowledge and expertise that he has gained over many years are a great asset for the tower, particularly as we look to develop our expertise in 'calling' and broadening our repertoire of methods rung.

Richard Cecil, Tower Captain

Bible Reading Notes

A limited number (12 copies - some to couples) have been taking New Daylight published by BRF (Bible Reading Fellowship) which provides a short scripture reading for each day with a commentary about it. These commentaries, written by a wide range of authors can explain stories from the Old and New Testaments as well as use scripture to illuminate the lives of men and women of God from different ages both before Christ and since. To grow effectively as a Christian some form of Bible study (along with prayer, fellowship and witnessing) seems a must. These notes do not have a monopoly on this but do provide an outlet for a disciplined approach if that is what you aspire to.

Richard Cecil

St. Andrew's Choir

The choir has had a successful year, singing at all the main services. We were pleased to join with the choir of All Saints, Maldon, for "The Crucifixion" at Passiontide and with the Maldon Choral Society for the Thanksgiving Service at the end of April. Like all choirs, we would welcome new members. The commitment is very small. Even one male singer would make all the difference. Finally, I should like to thank the members of the choir for their continued loyalty.

Ron Woods

Magazine Report

The magazine is indebted to the wide variety of those who contribute in so many ways: ideas, articles, reports, advertisements, distribution. We are grateful for the regular columns provided by Narelle Arnold and the Speakman family. Each edition has included a letter from Terry and some light hearted items too. Pat Eden and David Farrar have contributed well on that front. We have continued to track the 100th anniversaries of those shown on the WW1 war memorial. We have a good team of distributors who circulate the magazine, now free, to all households in the parish 4 times in the year. Those outside the parish are asked to pay 50p. Thank you again to all who have contributed and please continue to do so.

Richard Cecil, Editor

Churchyard

The churchyard at St Andrew's is always kept in excellent order and this is all down to the people who give up their time and energy to work diligently through the year. This year we were highly recommended in the Churchyard competition. Considering we have only entered in the last three years, we have had an award every time. This is all down to you. Thank you to all those who tend and keep graves in beautiful order. A special mention to George whom we cannot praise enough for the work and time that he gives, also for Les, who when he can, looks after our car park hedges. We meet every second Saturday to do jobs in the churchyard and although our numbers are small we are very grateful. If you would like to join us, just come along. We are always being complemented on our churchyard, so thank you once again for all your help.

Christine Mennie

‘Friends of Sandon Church’

The Friends have now been in existence for just three and a half years. During the past 12 months the committee have met 5 times and we have put on three events: a quiz, a concert and the Christmas Market.

These raised over £2,000 in total. During the year we contributed £6,900 to the PCC of St. Andrew’s Church to help fund the retiling of the roofs.

We had our Annual Meeting in October 2017 with 20 attendees.

Currently we have £7,554 in our funds and in the next 12 months we will be promoting more ‘Friends’ events so that we can help with the cost of future Church repairs.

We always are looking for ways to raise funds and to increase our membership so if you are not yet a member please join up. You can do this by talking to Terry or me. Finally, we are looking for new, enthusiastic committee members to help us improve our performance.

David Farrar

Scout Report

Sandon Cubs have had another busy and exciting year. We started 2017 by completing the Road Safety badge, learning about traffic signs, the green cross code, crossing a busy road and types of pedestrian crossings.

Our excellent Young Leaders took charge for a couple of evenings in February, running the Adventure Challenge Award, with Cubs trying new activities and games. We cooked pancakes for Easter, and some were almost edible!

In-between playing numerous games, for Mother’s Day we made plant pots, dressed up in full Irish regalia for St Patrick’s Day and had a fantastic trip to Greenwich London, visiting the Royal Observatory and Planetarium.

We completed the Fire Safety badge during the summer term, had a team leader challenge and hiked around Sandon. Dads, Lads and Lasses camp was a great weekend, and we finished the term at Pitch & Putt in Maldon.

We practiced soap carving as part of the Artist Badge, attended Jamboree On The Air (JOTA), and enjoyed the My Faith badge with Terry’s help during November, with bell ringing performed at the Christingle Service. All in all an enjoyable and varied 2017!

Steve Eatly Akela

Ladies' Breakfast

Another year has passed when ladies have enjoyed an early morning breakfast every other month at Butts Green Garden Centre. The meals have been preceded by a talk given by an invited guest who speaks for about 30 minutes on their chosen subject. The six speakers we have welcomed in the past twelve months were:

April 2017	Revd Sue Howlett
June 2017	Revd Susan Cooper
August 2017	Revd Faye Bailey
October 2017	Pam Knott from Howe Green URC Chapel
December 2017	Revd Sue Iskander
February 2018	Revd Sue Finch from St. Mary's, Gt. Baddow

Following the talk, we then enjoyed a full English breakfast, perfectly cooked and served to us by friendly and helpful staff. For those ladies who have not yet ventured out at this early hour, do come and join us on the 21st April 2018 at 8.30 am when the speaker will be Rev Suzy Edmundson.

Pat Eden

Community Choir report for AGM

SING! The Sandon Community Choir, led by Jill Parkin, meets every other Monday from 7.30pm until 9.00pm in St Andrew's Room (£5.00 per session).

At present we have about a dozen regular attendees, with others attending on an ad-hoc basis. We are hoping for a bigger choir to bring in a greater depth to the range of voices already there.

The music we sing is fairly diverse from some beautiful Folk Songs to popular 60's, 70's music, such as Simon and Garfunkel, The Beatles, The Monkees and then to Musical Theatre Numbers.

Jill is very good at getting the choir 'warmed up' at the beginning of every practice, with vocal exercises. She breaks down the song and explains each part which eases us into it. When we go wrong, she stops, re-explains and then we try again. Jill is very encouraging and also makes the sessions fun. We have learnt to listen to one another and blend in. At the end of each practice we feel we have really achieved and have become a good 'small' choir. Jill encourages us to do a couple of concerts a year, so that we have something to aim towards.

Our mission is that the Sandon Community Choir grows bigger in numbers and as such in confidence.

Claire Jefferies

Inter-Village Walk

Our walk last year was a repeat of the previous years but equally enjoyable I think. We had 31 walkers who set out at 10:10 am from the church car park heading down Hall Lane to travel down the side of the A12 and then over past Sandon Hall and on to Mayes Lane.

A short walk took us to The White House where Pat Eden and helpers welcomed us with tea, drinks and biscuits etc. Again thank you Pat!

Next it was to the nearby T junction and left up Gibcracks, turning left at the top to head down through the fields to the Ford. From there it was the very tiring uphill plod to the Cricketers Arms at Danbury Common.

Adrian had again come up trumps with the food planning and provision and we had an excellent lunch mainly outside the pub, just wondering if it was going to rain! It did not! We were lucky again.

Some 90 minutes later the residual walkers (most of us) set off to climb up the steep path to St. Mary's Church, Danbury. Great views but most of us were too busy avoiding the speeding traffic across the A414 around the sharp bends there! Next we plunged almost straight down into the Bellhill Wood and Lingwood Common to come out near a little orchard and then down to Graces Cross, Graces Lane and finally Graces Walk. By this time the feet were complaining and personally the last climb from the Sandford Mill Lock up to the A414 near Brick Kiln Road was tough.

Now we were on the homeward stretch and the Crown Public House appeared as a welcoming oasis in the distance. Sure enough mine host Andrew was open and welcoming. Even Adrian from the Cricketers with 'his better half' was there!

Now, few words of praise are needed here! The youngest walker who did all 8.5 miles was my granddaughter Imogen Ottley aged 10. However, the very youngest walker was 3 and a half named Eden Birkin, who is Eileen Bartrup's great nephew but he only did the first half! Only?! Well done!

We had 5 accompanying dogs that were very well behaved—better than their owners!

I want to thank all who walked or sponsored or supported this event in any way—sorry to keep bugging you for money every moment every year!!

However, we raised over £600 for St. Andrew's Church charities which this year were Water Aid, CHESS.

This year's walk is to be on Saturday the 12th of May and we intend to start at 10 am from the St. Andrew's car park as usual. Hope to see you there!

David Farrar

Ride and Stride

John Gruby and David Farrar and family rode in the Mersea Brightlingsea area and Richard Cecil strode more locally raising a total of £350 & £145 respectively.

Richard Cecil

Greenacre

It is always a pleasure to be involved with Greenacre. We have had the joy in the last year of sharing lunch with them and morning refreshments and singing with

them. We were lucky to have them join us at the summer fete and I know that they thoroughly enjoyed it. At Christmas a few of us went to sing carols with them. I think we actually raised the roof. Everyone selected their favourite carols and we all sang at the top of our voices. It was a really happy occasion. If you have time to go and join them for a cup tea or lunch (all homemade) you are made very, very welcome. Thank you Greenacre. Christine Mennie

Holy Dusters

This year began with a very good turnout to spring clean the church after the completion of the roof repairs. We meet and clean every fourth Wednesday after Celtic Prayer. We are rather short on helpers, but we do have 3 or 4 people who come regularly, to polish all the pews, Hoover and clean the brass, the SAR, toilet and kitchen. As you can see there is a lot to clean. I would like to say a special thank you to Claire and her family who gave up a great deal of time to polish all the woodwork. If you can help us we would be very grateful so that we can keep it to a high standard not only for ourselves but people who visit.

Thank you all once again.

Christine Mennie

Tiny Tots Toddler Group

This year saw lots of exciting times including crafts, singing, snacks and plenty of hot drinks for the adults to keep them going through those tricky days of raising little ones and attending toddler group! Hopefully we continue to offer the change of scenery that every caregiver needs for his or her children & in the sanctuary of St Andrews.

We were sad to say farewell to 9 children last summer, which had a big impact on the group however, along with our existing families, we have had the pleasure of welcoming several new members, helping our group to rebuild.

We were very lucky to have received a (further) donation from the Sandon Garden Allotment Group, which we used to invest in some amazing new chairs for the children. The baby-changing unit installed following their previous donation in February 2017 has been a huge asset to Tots, and hopefully to the church as a whole. We have also received a generous donation from the Speakman family from money raised at Danbury Fireworks and we have yet to decide what to spend this money on but are very excited to be exploring several options.

A special mention must be made to our amazing team of helpers; these are Gill Haddington, Terry Brown, Kim Davies, Janet Terry, Diane, Lesley Murphy and Liz Bobeldijk, without whom Tots couldn't go ahead.

We look forward to another successful year ahead.

Alison Read

Flower Report

Taking on the role of festivals and events flower co-ordinator this time last year, the biggest aim was to become more self-funding and to have greater community involvement.

We have made a good start at raising money through donations to cover the cost of the flowers. The building works completed by Easter 2017 revealed that the plaster and carpet behind the Piscina were damp. The decision was made to stop arranging flowers in the Piscina and arrange flowers in the Paschal candle instead. Sponsored flower arrangements fund another arrangement on the long window sill and to date there have been six requests from the community. The sundries stall at Christmas Fayre and Christmas Door Wreath Making evening generated sufficient donations to cover the cost of the Christmas flowers. Donations were given towards the cost of Easter flowers and donors completed sympathy cards with messages to their loved ones. These were displayed in frames amongst the arrangements. I had a lovely afternoon helping the Tiny Tots plant up Viola plants for the Easter Garden. Having access to larger wholesalers and encouraging arrangers to be more economical has allowed savings in the cost of floral foam. Overall, we have a small carry forward into the next year, which is held in the general Church funds...

Looking to the future, the next challenge is to organise and arrange for weddings and funerals. We have one request in May which is already paid for; now it needs to be delivered on budget!

We have received many positive comments about the flowers in St Andrew's and are fortunate to have such a great team of arrangers. They have risen to the challenge of moving around the church trying new locations. The team are wonderful in supporting each other.

Thank you to flower arrangers, Terry Brown, Judy Cecil, Nick Bobeldijk and Janet Underwood for their support and encouragement over the year.

Lesley Worboys

We are fortunate to have a rota of fifteen ladies who take turns to arrange the flowers so beautifully on a fortnightly basis. They supply and arrange the flowers on the Altar and around the Paschal Candle. Four ladies who are not on the rota also join us to arrange flowers for festivals.

I would like to thank all the Flower Arrangers for adding to the beauty of our Church, and to Lesley Worboys for successfully organising the annual festivals and fund raising events.

I would also like to record grateful thanks for the contribution that Greta Mills made to flower arranging at St Andrew's. Greta was on the weekly rota for many years and created a small arrangement for every festival. We will miss her.

Janet Underwood

Minutes of Vestry & APC Meeting and 1st PCC Meeting

The meetings were held in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday 15th April 2018 at 11:30 am

Annual Vestry Meeting

- 1 Opening prayers were led by Revd Terry Brown.
30 members of the electoral roll were present.
- 2 Appointment of Clerk. Richard Cecil was appointed.
- 3 Apologies were received on behalf of Christine Farrar and Dennis Terry.
- 4 Approval of the minutes of the year 2017 Annual Vestry Meeting
Approval was proposed by Christine Mennie, seconded by Judy Cecil and approved unanimously.
- 5 Election of two Churchwardens
Nominations had been received for:-
Michael Puffett proposed by Eileen Bartrup and seconded by Brenda Moyses;
Judy Cecil proposed by Christine Mennie and seconded by Ron Woods.
There being no other nominations Michael and Judy were duly elected.
- 6 Date of Next Meeting –
It was provisionally set as Sunday 21st April 2019, now revised to Sunday 14th April 2019, circa 11:30 am

Annual Parochial Church Meeting held after the Annual Vestry Meeting

- 1 Notice Convening the Meeting had been displayed on the church door for the previous 2 Sundays.
- 2 Apologies for absence – as for the Annual Vestry meeting.
- 3 Election of Tellers – Revd Pat Cotton and Beryl Puffett were elected.
- 4 Approval of the minutes of the year 2017 Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Valerie Grimwood proposed and David Farrar seconded approval which was agreed unanimously.
- 5 Reports as listed below had been circulated (as above) and were noted. The Flower Report was not there then but was noted and in particular Greta Mills' contributions over the years was acknowledged.
 - 5.1 Electoral Roll Report – encouraged the church's involvement.
Liz endorsed the report above.
 - 5.2 Annual Report – David Farrar said that Dr Peter Beattie had brought the Christian Aid material the day before and
 - 5.3 Financial Report – Nick Bobeldijk explained that the most significant change as a result of the Independent Examiner's work was to include the Building Fund monies.

- 5.4 Fabric Report
 5.5 Deanery Synod Report
 5.6 Chelmer Crouch and
 Compass Report

5.7 Christians Together in
 Chelmsford

- 6 Election of Deanery Synod members for 2 years
 Following the resignation of the post holders Nick Bobeldijk was elected leaving one vacancy.
- 7 Election of PCC Members – the following nominations had been received:-
 Valerie Grimwood proposed by Judy Cecil, seconded by Christine Mennie;
 Denise Carter proposed by Richard Cecil, seconded by Beryl Puffett;
 John Gruby proposed by Judy Cecil, seconded by David Farrar
 and were duly elected for 3 years.
- 8 Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer – Liz Bobeldijk was proposed by
 Christine Mennie, seconded by Judy Cecil and appointed.
- 9 Appointment of Child Protection Officer
 Alison Read was proposed by Janet Terry, seconded Michael Puffett and
 appointed.
 Appointment of Vulnerable Adult Officer
 John Gruby was proposed by Judy Cecil, seconded Janet Terry and appointed.
- 10 Appointment of Independent Examiner
 Revd Terry Brown explained that Richard Wheatley was not well enough and
 very kindly Martin Harcourt-Williams had stepped in on a one off basis.
 Valerie Grimwood suggested that members of the congregation consider if
 they can offer suggestions.
- 11 Appointment of Sidesmen and Sideswomen
- | | | |
|--------------|---------------|------------------|
| Colin Bryan | Gill Hodge | Valerie Grimwood |
| Joan Bridger | Anna Cosby | Christine Mennie |
| David Farrar | John Gruby | Denise Carter |
| Kim Davies | Richard Cecil | Pam Norrington |
- Eileen Bartrup
 Those on last year’s list (as above) were proposed by Nick Bobeldijk and
 seconded by David Farrar. Agreed unanimously.
- 12 Reports from other Organisations were noted and received with thanks.
- 13 Rector’s Report
 These are the notes to which the Rector Terry Brown spoke
 There is so much to give thanks for over the last year
 First I need to thank the churchwardens Judy and Michael. They are great
 wardens to work with. They know their job and they just get on with it to
 make this a delightful place to come and work and worship. Thank you.
 Then there is the PCC with Anna our Secretary and Nick our Treasurer and all

the PCC who have worked together this year on many things. We have learnt especially to work together and love each other.

Then there is Ron our organist and our choir who have had a good year combining with other choirs to bring wonderful music in our church.

We need to thank Nick and all our bellringers for their work during the year.

It is so good to hear that we have new recruits and we need to thank Mike Worboys for the training of new members.

We thank Richard particularly for all his work on our church magazine. Our magazine is delivered 4 times a year to the whole Parish and this is a very important part of our mission.

Also I wish to thank Richard and Judy helping me to run Lent and Advent courses in the nurturing of our congregation as well as preparing food for us to share.

Then there is Tiny Tots with Alison, Gill, Anna, Janet, Kim, Diane every Wednesday. There has been a real growth here with sometimes 16/18 babies and toddlers and of course mums dads and grandparents. It is such a demonstration of love to these families. I love the playdoh.

Then there are the excellent flower arrangers who beautify our church all the year but particularly at the festivals of Christmas and Easter. I am very thankful to Lesley Worboys who has kindly taken on the role of co-ordinator. This Easter we had the wonderful display of Lilies with the names of loved ones in frames. Such a lovely idea.

Then there is Nick our sacristan who works hard to order supplies of candles etc for our services as well as changing altar frontals and preparing the altar for every Sunday.

Also thanks to Liz for all her work in maintaining the electoral roll. Just a warning Liz, you have a big job next year as the whole of the Electoral Roll is redone.

Thanks to Dennis for the pew sheet.

For all the helpers in the churchyard and for taking part Essex Competition for the Best kept churchyard. For Christine and all her hard work in the churchyard and her enthusiasm in arranging churchyard mornings also for Christine in bringing together our cleaning volunteers The Holy dusters, once a month. We could do with others to join us.

The uniformed organisations and the way they are coming to Church Parades and wanting to come up to the church for various badge work etc. Just yesterday I spoke to Charles the leader of the Explorer Scouts who wanted a service on St George's Day. Next Sunday around 10 young people with their leaders will be attending our 10 am service.

Lots to give thanks for last year.

Tea on the Green last August with 170 people with the Salvation Army Band. John Wraw, Bishop of Bradwell was due to preach at this event, but sadly Bishop John died in July 2017. We were fortunate in having a challenging talk from the Archdeacon of Southend, Mike Lodge who stepped in to help us. Bishop John did join us in May when he came and licensed and inducted me as your Rector. This came as a wonderful occasion when the community came together.

We continue our relationship with Sandon School, taking assemblies to all year groups once a term. I will begin doing the visits and the follow up lessons in June.

Ladies' and men's breakfasts continued last year but sadly the men's breakfasts have stopped since January as we work out what the future is for the men. We look forward to inviting both speakers and new people to these mornings held at Butts Green Garden centre.

We were fortunate in receiving a grant from the government and with the hard work of Anna we obtained other grants to enable us to have the roof retiled during January and February last year. We are grateful to Sandon School as we held 7 services in the school which enabled us to save time on the building plan and also meant that we didn't need to clean up every Saturday for the Sunday services. This year we were able to retiling the north slope of the chancel. We hope that our church building is now in a good state of repair and we look forward to receiving our quinquennial inspection in the next month. We held a Thanksgiving Service on Sunday 30th when we welcomed the Mayor, Canon Ivor Moody from the Cathedral to preach, our Architect and the workmen who carried out the work on the roof. Thanks to Maldon Choral Society who provided music for the occasion.

Last year we were pleased that Judy became our Pastoral Assistant and one of the results was the setting up of a shepherd and a small group of people to look out for. This is a very important step made in the pastoral care of our congregation. We hope that this will be of benefit to all.

Last year we also began to work closer with the United Reformed Church in Howe Green. There have been various social events including coffee mornings, a church crawl around 4 churches stopping at each one for a different course in the lunch, Fairtrade wine tasting evening but above all meeting together in worship. We have held café church, as well as traditional URC worship on various Sunday afternoons, Tea on the Green, Carol services at both churches. We intend to deepen this friendship more and more.

Last year a lot of work was put in to form a new MMU (mission and ministry unit) group of churches. Our original 7 Chelmer Crouch Churches have now joined with 5 other churches in the area. We had our Commissioning Service

in February and now we look forward to working together in the future. There will be the Quiet day in Bradwell in June, Ascension Day services in Ramsden Bellhouse, Stock and Sandon. We are looking towards other joint events in September as well as a joint Alpha course in the autumn.

So what are our priorities for 2018?

Just 3 things to put at the top of our list.

The first is a challenge. For a number of years members of the congregation have bought the New Daylight bible notes. Our first priority this year is to have more members of the congregation growing in their faith and becoming Disciples of Christ. To this end the next copy of Daily Light is issued in May. All members of the congregation will be given a free copy and asked to try to use it for the 4 months up to the end of August. The aim is to meet up 2 or 3 times either during a morning or an evening with a cup of tea/coffee and help each other in what we have read and how we are challenged. I do hope everyone will take up this challenge and learn how to spend a few minutes each day reading the bible.

Our Second priority for the year is to increase our prayer time each day. Between Ascension Day and Pentecost there will be Thy Kingdom Come when our Archbishop asks us to prayer. I will be setting up an hour each day when we will ask all members of the congregation to pray for 5 minutes. Material will be available for you to use. Let's make sure that we all become involved in this.

Our third priority this year is the ministry of invitation. In the notices I often ask you to an event and say bring a friend. I would like us to take this seriously this year. We have lots of special services and events which we can invite someone along.

I hope and pray that by this time next year all our congregation will have a stronger faith and that the numbers of people involved in our church will increase.

14 Concerns/Questions to be Expressed/Asked – There were none.

15 Date of Next Meeting

It was provisionally set as Sunday 21st April 2019, now revised to Sunday 14th April 2019, circa 11:30 am.

16 Closing Prayers were said by Revd Terry Brown, giving thanks for all present, all in Sandon and seeking guidance for all and sought from the Lord the fruits of the Spirit followed by collectively saying the Grace.

Parochial Church Council Meeting

- 1 Appointment of Vice Chairman – Judy Cecil was proposed by Janet Terry, seconded by Valerie Grimwood and appointed.
- 2 Appointment of PCC Treasurer – Nick Bobeldijk was proposed by Judy Cecil, seconded by Michael Puffett and appointed.
- 3 Appointment of PCC Secretary – No appointment was made. To be looked at at the next PCC meeting
- 4 Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer – Liz Bobeldijk had already been appointed by the APCM immediately prior to this meeting.

Next meeting dates

21st May and then provisionally 3rd Monday of odd months.