

# Sandon Annual Reports 2021



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## **Minutes of the 2020 Annual Vestry Meeting**

held in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday 4 October 2020 at 11:30 am

- 1 Opening prayers were led by Revd Terry Brown.  
23 members of the electoral roll were present.
- 2 Appointment of Clerk. Mike Worboys was appointed.
- 3 Apologies were received on behalf of Pam Norrington, Kay Tyler, Colin Bryant, George Turner and Catherine Horne.
- 4 Approval of the minutes of the 2019 Annual Vestry Meeting  
Approval was proposed by David Farrar, seconded by Christine Mennie and approved unanimously.
- 5 Election of two Churchwardens. Nominations had been received for: -  
Michael Puffett proposed by Brenda Moyse and seconded by Eileen Bartrup;  
Claire Jefferies proposed by Christine Mennie and seconded by Gill Haddington.  
There being no other nominations, Michael and Claire were duly elected.
- 6 Date of Next Meeting –  
It was provisionally set as Sunday 18 April 2021, circa 11:30 am  
*The Meeting was then closed.*

## **Minutes of the 2020 Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

held in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday 4 October 2020 after the Annual Vestry Meeting

- 1 Notices Convening the Meeting had been displayed on the church door for the previous four Sundays.
- 2 Apologies for absence – as for the Annual Vestry meeting.
- 3 Election of Tellers – Janet Terry and David Farrar were elected.
- 4 Approval of the minutes of the year 2019 Annual Parochial Church Meeting.  
Judy Cecil proposed and Eileen Bartrup seconded approval, which was agreed unanimously.
- 5 Reports as listed below had been circulated (as above) and were noted.
  - 5.1 Electoral Roll Report
  - 5.2 Annual Report – Revd Terry Brown thanked Judy Cecil for preparing the report
  - 5.3 Financial Report

- 5.4 Safeguarding Report – Alison Read outlined the importance of Safeguarding in caring for each other and making the church a safe environment for all.
- 5.5 Fabric Report
- 5.6 Deanery Synod Report - Revd Terry Brown noted that Chelmsford North and Chelmsford South were combining, starting in December 2020.
- 5.7 Compass Churches Report
- 5.8 Christians Together in Chelmsford
- 6 Election of two Deanery Synod members for three years  
A nomination had been received for Richard Cecil, proposed by Christine Mennie, seconded by Andrew Horne. There being no other nominations, Richard was duly elected for three years.
- 7 Election of six PCC Members – the following nominations had been received: -  
Alison Read proposed by Richard Cecil, seconded by Dessi Speakman.  
Janet Terry proposed by Michael Puffett, seconded by Nick Bobeldijk.  
Judy Cecil proposed by Michael Puffett, seconded by Richard Cecil.  
Andrew Horne proposed by Judy Cecil, seconded by Christine Mennie.  
Christine Mennie proposed by Andrew Horne, seconded by Catherine Horne.  
Alison, Janet, Judy, Andrew and Christine were duly elected for 3 years.
- 8 Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer – Liz Bobeldijk confirmed she was happy to carry on in the roll so Liz Bobeldijk was proposed by David Farrar, seconded by Alison Read and appointed.
- 9 Appointment of Parish Safeguarding Officer  
Alison Read was proposed by Claire Jefferies, seconded by Christine Mennie and appointed.
- 10 Appointment of Independent Examiner  
Jeremy Watson was proposed by Christine Mennie, seconded by Janet Terry and agreed unanimously.
- 11 Appointment of Sidesmen and Sideswomen
- |              |                  |                  |
|--------------|------------------|------------------|
| Colin Bryan  | Gill Hodge       | Valerie Grimwood |
| Joan Bridger | Christine Mennie | Eileen Bartrup   |
| David Farrar | John Gruby       | Pam Norrington   |
| Kim Davies   | Richard Cecil    |                  |
- Those on last year’s list (as above) were proposed by David Farrar and seconded by John Gruby. 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 last year. I am so lucky to have such a lovely church and people working together to advance the Kingdom of God.

First, I need to thank the churchwardens, Judy and Michael. 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 Mike our Secretary and Nick our Treasurer and all the PCC who have worked together this year on many things that we have learnt to work together and love each other.

Then there is Ron our organist and for our choir. We look forward to hearing them sing again. We need to thank our bellringers for their work during the year and our Tower Captain Mike. It has been great to see new members joining the team of ringers.

Richard particularly for all his work on our church magazine. Together with Claire, Alison and Valerie and those who deliver the Church Magazine. Our magazine is delivered four times a year to the whole Parish and this is a very important part of our mission.

Then there is Tiny Tots with Alison, Gill, Janet, Kim, Lesley, Diane, Dessie and Liz every Wednesday. Though small in numbers it is an important part of our ministry.

Thanks to our flower arrangers who beautify our church all the year but particularly at the festivals of Christmas and Easter. I would like to thank Lesley for her skill as well as organising special flower displays and help with the wedding flowers. Also thank you Janet Underwood for keeping the rota of flower arrangers.

Then there is Nick our sacristan who works hard to order supplies of candles and other items 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.

All the helpers in the 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 once a month. We could do with others to join us. Thanks must go to George for all his work in the churchyard and it is so good to see him every week worshipping with us in church

The uniformed organisations and the way they are coming to Church Parades and wanting to come to the church for badge work and other activities. Thanks especially for all the work they do for Remembrance

Sunday in the making of ceramic poppies and last year the wonderful display of poppies outside, cascading down from the roof of the porch. Lots to give thanks for this year.

With Judy our Pastoral Assistant we continued to look after members of our congregation. There is still work to be done here. Last year we began making a monthly visit to Baycroft where we have a lay communion service. I am thankful to Judy, Gill, Nick and Dennis for their involvement in this area. We also had a teatime service once a month, where residents attended a short service followed by tea and cake.

Tea on the Green last year was a success, more and more people look forward to this event. Our summer fete was very successful last year, as was the Christmas Fayre. It is good to see us all working together on these events.

We have had a very successful Community choir with nearly twenty members, with Jill Parkin, who was our leader.

This year Dennis Terry passed away. He had been a member of this church for many years. He was a bell ringer, a member of the choir, assistant sacristan, member of the PCC and for a long time he took communion to the Sandon Nursing home and latterly Baycroft. He also produced the weekly Pew sheet and oversaw the events page on the website. Our hearts go out to Janet at this time, and we look forward to the time when we can hold a memorial service for Dennis in our church.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone of you for supporting me during last year. It is such a privilege to be your Rector. I am proud to be the priest in this parish. I am proud when I preside over this worshipping community each Sunday and look at all the people at various stages in their walk with Jesus and in their walk through this life.

I am proud to be able to tell other people about our family here in Sandon, my family of Christians and your family in this place.

Last August I underwent major surgery and was off for three months. It was always good to know that the life of this church continued - a very healthy sign of a church.

I cannot end this report, which should have been given in April, without mentioning the Coronavirus, which has delayed our APCM until today in October. We as a church have been challenged, at first with our church being shut during lockdown. Due to the hard work of Richard, Judy, Andy and Cathie we have been able, and still are, Zooming services every two weeks so that all our congregation can receive a service in their homes. We need to encourage those without Zoom to phone in and listen to our services.

We need to look forward to this year living in this Coronavirus state. We long for our bells to be rung again, for our choir and for us to be able to sing, for us not to have this 2 metre distance between us and that we can all receive both bread and wine at the altar.

We must as a church work hard to overcome these problems. We need to think outside the box so that we can still hold our celebrations this year, and especially at Christmas. I spoke to the churchwardens last week about some of my ideas including a glowstick carol service outside, a special crib service for children and other ideas to welcome people to events at Christmas. I will need to have help on many of these ideas so please volunteer to help us get through these strange times.

I would like to finish with a short piece I found recently regarding all-age worship and involvement in church. If St Andrew's were to have a manifesto, I hope it would look something like this:

We believe in God who created us for him and for each other.

We believe in Jesus who welcomes young and old without exception.

We believe in the Holy Spirit who transforms the life of all believers, young and old.

We believe in meeting God most intimately in the lives of those who are different from ourselves.

We believe in a church which reflects God, the three in one.

We believe we grow closer to Jesus as his disciples when we:

Worship God in a variety of ways, both familiar and different.

Worship in community as well as individually.

Worship in a way that encourages everyone to participate.

Worship in a way that both enriches and is enriched by our everyday life.

Worship God with all that we are.

Reproduced from 'All-Age Worship' by Lucy Moore (The Bible Reading Fellowship).

May God bless you all as you continue to find ways of following your individual calling as followers of Christ and finding new ways of participating in the life and worship of his church here in Sandon.

Terry closed by expressing his grateful thanks to Judy Cecil for her work as a churchwarden, particularly in the support she had given to him during his period of illness but also across the wider church.

#### 14 Concerns / Questions to be Expressed / Asked

John Gruby asked whether, as we appoint Sidesmen and Sideswomen, we also need to appoint readers. Revd Terry Brown said that we had a list of readers and no formal appointment was required. Alison Read noted that the role of Vulnerable Adult Officer had been incorporated into the role of

Parish Safeguarding Officer so no longer required a separate appointment. Richard Cecil noted that as Nick Bobeldijk was leaving the PCC it was appropriate to thank Nick for his services over many years in many roles, which was acknowledged with applause by those present. Judy Cecil offered her thanks to Revd Terry Brown, expressing her pleasure that he had recovered from a serious illness, all his support as a serving minister and to Caroline who had helped so much when Terry had been absent.

15 Date of Next Meeting

It was provisionally set as Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2021, to follow the Annual Vestry Meeting.

16 Closing Prayers were said by Revd Terry Brown, followed by collectively saying the Grace. *The Meeting was then closed.*

### **Minutes of the First 2020-21 Parochial Church Council Meeting**

held in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday 4 October 2020 after the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

17 Appointment of Vice Chairman – Michael Puffett was proposed by Judy Cecil, seconded by Claire Jefferies and appointed.

18 Appointment of PCC Treasurer – Revd Terry Brown noted that Nick Bobledijk had expressed his willingness to continue in the role but was standing down from the PCC. It was agreed that Revd Terry Brown should take advice from the Diocese, prior to discussion at the next PCC meeting. Any appointment should follow the Safer Recruitment process.

19 Appointment of PCC Secretary – Revd Terry Brown noted that Mike Worboys was stepping down and thanked him for his work in the role over the last two years. Richard Cecil was proposed by Christine Mennie, seconded by John Gruby and duly appointed. It was agreed that, notwithstanding this decision, the appointment should in parallel be ratified through the Safer Recruitment process.

20 Next meeting dates

Monday 2 November 2020, 11 January 2021 and 1 March 2021.

### **Electoral Roll Report**

Sadly, we have also lost three members of our congregation in the last year, namely Barbara Hodges, who moved away in the autumn, Ron Woods and Jean Harrass, both of whom died in December 2020. In March 2021 Reg Horscroft died. With no new members the Electoral Roll is thus 67, comprising 37 residents and 30 non-residents.

*Liz Bobeldijk, Electoral Roll Officer*

## **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*

During the year, we continued with the following vision In the light of God's Call, and our situation here, our vision is:

- To glorify and worship God and to further his kingdom on earth
- To declare and show the love of Christ for all people to the people of Sandon
- To teach, encourage and help people to be disciples of Christ
- To proclaim Christ's Gospel to the people of Sandon and the wider world
- To encourage commitment and personal growth in Christian discipleship and spirituality
- 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, although the coronavirus restrictions have pushed us to be creative, we



have continued to welcome people to a mix of socially distanced in-church, and various online services and events. During January and February, we met in church. Sadly, we had to cancel our church service for Mothering Sunday in March and during the ensuing lockdown offered first Facebook and then Zoom services until July when some services resumed in church. From mid-November services were again on Zoom, some members joining via their landlines.

All are welcome to attend our regular Sunday services of communion or morning worship at 10 am, communion or Celtic Morning prayer on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am and Night prayer on Zoom on Wednesdays at 8.30 pm. Residents of Baycroft nursing home have attended via Zoom this year and Terry has continued with 'Tea with the Rector' also via Zoom.

The average weekly attendance has been 25, and similarly average numbers counted during October, were 25, both during a time of concern about people attending in person, keeping social distance and difficulty with technology. We do hope to rebuild and bring the worshipping community together again in 2021.

Holy Week and Easter services were online, as were Christmas midnight and Christmas morning. We enjoyed a Drive-in carol service, generously hosted by Sandon school and a well-attended, socially distanced Crib service in the church yard focused on a wooden crib and manger under the Indian Bean tree. Over Christmas we counted 100 attendees, 80 of whom came to the outdoor crib service.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of life's journey. We held two Memorial services for loved ones just before the November lockdown, so that the church could limit numbers on each occasion to allow for social distancing. 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 3 Baptisms and 1 wedding and held 4 funerals in our church this year. Ashes have also been buried in the garden of remembrance after cremations.

We started a bible study course during Lent and finished it on Zoom.

### *Safeguarding*

In summary: -

*Display:* A formal copy of our Safeguarding Policy and the adoption of the House of Bishops 'Promoting a Safer Church; safeguarding policy statement' is on display in the SAR, signed and dated April 2019.

*Review and Report:* We continue to report on Safeguarding at each PCC meeting and submit an Annual Review at each APCM.

*Safer Recruitment:* New positions within the church have been safely recruited.

*Safeguarding Training:* All new members have completed both child and adult online training. This means we now just have 2 members of the PCC outstanding which are both work in progress. Face to face (C2) training is still required for our new Church Warden and this will be done when the Diocese notify of any future dates (currently none running).

*DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) Checks:* All those needing checks are complete, this includes both Church Wardens, 3 other members of the PCC, Gill Haddington as Toddler Group Leader and Mike Worboys as Bell Captain.

*Activity Risk Assessments (or Parish Activity Plans, PAPs):* This is the next key area for attention. These are recommended for all activities which are associated with either children or vulnerable adults and run in the name of the church. Going forwards we intend to create a PAP for each activity whilst cross referencing them with our current Risk Assessments which take place annually.

*Food hygiene:* All complete with just 2 outstanding. All due for renewal in 2023.

#### *Deanery Synod and Compass Churches*

Two lay members of the PCC and the incumbent can sit on the Deanery Synod. Since the autumn this is one Deanery for the whole of the Chelmsford area and now, we only have one lay representative as well as the incumbent. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. This year the Parish continues working as part of the Compass Churches, 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 has remained open every day from about 10 am to dusk, when coronavirus restrictions have allowed and many neighbours and visitors have come in for quiet prayer and reflection.

Sadly, many of the groups which have enjoyed use of the St Andrew's Room in previous years, have only met a few times in 2020. There has been no monthly Soup and Sandwich lunch since March, Community Choir has not met and Tiny Tots have managed to gather occasionally outside during the warmer months. We look forward to resuming these activities and Ladies breakfasts and Men's lunches in 2021.

#### *Pastoral Care*



This year has been a tough time, particularly for those living alone. Members of St Andrew's have kept in touch with one another and friends who would have been attending Soup and Sandwich, Tiny Tots and other social events, by telephone, especially when services were on Zoom. Terry has sent letters by post to those who do not have access to computers, and a team has ensured the church building was open each day for private prayer when this was allowed and felt to be safe. A number of the congregation have helped with shopping for others who were isolating and the foodbank has been helped with gifts of both food and money.

During the first few months of Lockdown, St Andrew's sent 96 photo cards of the church to all members of the congregation and all those in Sandon and the surrounding areas known to us. We wanted to tell people that we were thinking of them and praying for them. Each card had a personalised message and/or a piece of scripture. It was a way to keep in touch, in a world that was very isolated at the time. We continue to send cards to various people for various reasons.

### *Mission and Evangelism*

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. The PCC has encouraged fund-raising and we continued to support 6 charities during 2020, giving over £800 to each charity during 2020, representing 10% of our income for last year. (Donations were also made to the British Legion and the Children's Society.) The six charities are RNLI, MacMillan Nurses, Wilderness Foundation, MIND, Marsabit diocese and RNOH charity. We have also supported the Chelmsford Foodbank with regular donations of food.

We were not able to enjoy a fundraising concert, summer fete or Christmas Fayre but we did hold 2 fundraising quizzes which boosted our finances and helped the Foodbank.

Our parish magazine is 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. Importantly the link to online services and events can be found here 30 minutes before the start time. The St Andrew's, Sandon Facebook page is also kept up to date and reaches friends nearby and much further afield. A churchyard service with social distancing,

recorded music from the Salvation Army and no tea! replaced our usual ‘Tea on the green.’ Not the same.

### *Ecumenical Relationships*

The church is a member of Christians Together in Chelmsford and The Compass Churches. The local United Reformed Church (URC) at Howe Green has not felt ready to open but we have continued to convey a message from them in each magazine article and stand ready to advertise and support events when they are ready. One member of the URC congregation has joined us both for bible studies and mid-week prayer on Zoom.

### *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 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 up to 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 i.e., January to December 2020, with an average level of attendance of 75%. Thank you to our electoral roll officer and our vulnerable adult and child safeguarding officers.

### *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, St Augustine's Way, North Springfield, Chelmsford, CM1 6GX  
PCC Members who have served this year are:

Incumbent: Revd Terry Brown  
Wardens: Mrs Judy Cecil till 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020  
Mrs Claire Jefferies from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020  
Mr Michael Puffett from May 2017

Deanery Synod Representatives:  
Mr Nick Bobeldijk till 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020  
Mr Richard Cecil re-elected 2020 for 3 years

Elected members:  
Mr Colin Bryan to 2022  
Mrs Denise Carter to 2021, resigned January 2020  
Mr David Farrar to 2022  
Mrs Judy Cecil elected 2020 to 2021  
Mrs Valerie Grimwood to 2021, resigned March 2020  
Mr John Gruby to 2021  
Mr Andy Horne co-opted June 2020 elected to 2023  
Mrs Claire Jefferies to 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020  
Mrs Christine Mennie co-opted June 2020 elected to 2023  
Mrs Alison Read elected 2020 to 2023  
Mrs Laura Scurlock to 2022, resigned January 2020  
Mrs Janet Terry elected 2020 to 2022

PCC secretary (non-voting):  
Dr Mike Worboys till 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020 and then Mr Richard Cecil

Standing Committee:  
Rector, Churchwardens, Secretary and PCC member Alison Read.  
Bank: Lloyds TSB, Chelmsford Branch  
Examiner: Jeremy Watson

*Claire Jefferies, Churchwarden*

## **Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31 December 2020**

### Financial Review

Total receipts from all sources were £59,505.67 of which £9,142.95 was unrestricted voluntary donations qualifying for Gift Aid in addition to qualifying donations received through the Parish Giving Scheme and monies received under the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS) amounting to £2,813.84. The bulk of Gift Aid due on donations, up to the end of November, was claimed from HMRC in December as was Gift Aid due under GASDS.

The planned giving through envelopes and direct credits decreased by 19.5%. Total income, including tax recovered and a legacy of £1,000 increased by 6.4% compared with 2019. Total income includes a number of generous donations made towards special projects, such as the installation of a cutting-edge sound system, a churchyard path upgrade for disabled access and replacement of bell ropes. £68,389.76 was spent from all sources to provide the Christian ministry of St Andrew's church, including the contribution to the Diocesan Parish Share which increased slightly this year. Overall, our total expenses increased by 21% in 2020 with the largest increases being in Fabric Maintenance, Fees paid and Parish Share.

A total of £6,160.25 was paid out as 'Mission' with the bulk of £5,592 going to our 6 supported charities.

Our expenses were almost £9000 more than our total income. This can largely be explained by additional spending on fabric and other maintenance this year of some £6,000, made up by the car park renovation materials at a cost of £3,200 and the additional cost of the path upgrade amounting to £2,950 which, although covered by a legacy from Su Whinney, this income was incorporated into last years' accounts and therefore appears as an additional expense in this year's accounts. An additional £1,050 was spent on replacement bell ropes but this expense has been largely covered by a kind bequest of £1,000 from the estate of Dennis Terry, a dedicated bellringer in the past. The remaining shortfall of some £3,000 is mainly due to a reduction of £2,921 in GASDS monies received due to our being unable to hold services in church for much of the year.

Adding bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balances carried forward as at 31st December totaled £21,220.75, which includes restricted funds of £583.13. *Nick Bobeldijk, Treasurer, 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021*

## Receipts and Payments Account

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
<b>Receipts</b>				
Donations and legacies	53,690.22	—	53,690.22	44,972.64
Income from charitable activities	2,364.00	—	2,364.00	3,254.00
Other trading activities	3,415.96	—	3,415.96	7,467.60
Investments	35.49	—	35.49	217.92
Other income	—	—	—	—
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>59,505.67</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>59,505.67</b>	<b>55,912.16</b>
<b>Payments</b>				
Raising funds	60.95	—	60.95	526.15
Expenditure on charitable activities	41,934.52	—	41,934.52	41,484.37
Other expenditure	26,394.29	—	26,394.29	14,489.39
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>68,389.76</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>68,389.76</b>	<b>56,499.91</b>
<b>Excess of receipts over payments before transfer</b>	<b>(8,884.09)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>(8,884.09)</b>	<b>(587.75)</b>
<b>Transfers</b>				
Gross transfers between funds - in	1,777.67	2,225.99	4,003.66	13,742.39
Gross transfers between funds - out	(2,225.99)	(1,777.67)	(4,003.66)	(13,742.39)
<b>Excess of receipts over payments before other gains / losses</b>	<b>(9,332.41)</b>	<b>448.32</b>	<b>(8,884.09)</b>	<b>(587.75)</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>(9,332.41)</b>	<b>448.32</b>	<b>(8,884.09)</b>	<b>(587.75)</b>
<b>All assets at 01 January 2019</b>	<b>29,970.03</b>	<b>134.81</b>	<b>30,104.84</b>	<b>30,692.59</b>
<b>All assets at 31 December 2019</b>	<b>20,637.62</b>	<b>583.13</b>	<b>21,220.75</b>	<b>30,104.84</b>
<b>Represented by</b>				
<b>Unrestricted</b>				
General fund	20,637.62	—	20,637.62	29,970.03
<b>Restricted</b>				
Restricted Funds	—	583.13	583.13	134.81

## Balance Sheet

Class and Code	Description	This year	Last year
<b>Current assets</b>			
6501	Current Account	619.80	2,434.43
6505	Deposit Account	20,000.00	27,500.00
6510	Cash Account	17.82	35.60
6520	Deposits Paid Account	105.00	105.00
6530	COIF Units Held 461090001T	743.65	743.65
	<b>Total Current assets</b>	<b>21,486.27</b>	<b>30,818.68</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
6610	Building Maintenance Fund	—	—
6620	Diocesan Board of Finance	—	160.00
6630	Organist's Fees	—	—
6640	Treasurer's Expenses	—	—
6650	Friends of Sandon Church	—	—
6660	Rector's Fees & Expenses	—	468.00
6670	Sponsored Flowers	144.00	144.00
6680	Tiny Tots	121.52	273.51
6690	Ringin Simulator Fund	—	(331.67)
	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>265.52</b>	<b>713.84</b>
	<b>Net Asset surplus(deficit)</b>	<b>21,220.75</b>	<b>30,104.84</b>
<b>Reserves</b>			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	(8,884.09)	17,556.23
Z01	Starting balances	30,104.84	12,548.61
	<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>21,220.75</b>	<b>30,104.84</b>
<b>Represented by funds</b>			
	Unrestricted	20,637.62	29,970.03
	Designated	—	—
	Restricted	583.13	134.81
	Endowment	—	—
	<b>Total</b>	<b>21,220.75</b>	<b>30,104.84</b>



## Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	General	Restricted	This year	Last year
<b>Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand</b>				
Current Account -	619.80	—	619.80	2,434.43
Deposit Account -	20,000.00	—	20,000.00	27,500.00
Cash Account -	17.82	—	17.82	35.60
<b>Totals</b>	<b>20,637.62</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>20,637.62</b>	<b>29,970.03</b>
<b>Current assets – Debtors</b>				
Deposits Paid Account -	—	105.00	105.00	105.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>105.00</b>	<b>105.00</b>	<b>105.00</b>
<b>Current assets – Investments</b>				
COIF Units Held 461090001T -	—	743.65	743.65	743.65
<b>Totals</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>743.65</b>	<b>743.65</b>	<b>743.65</b>
<b>Liabilities - Provision for liabilities and charges due within one year</b>				
Diocesan Board of Finance -	—	—	—	160.00
Rector's Fees & Expenses -	—	—	—	468.00
Sponsored Flowers -	—	144.00	144.00	144.00
Tiny Tots -	—	121.52	121.52	273.51
Ringling Simulator Fund -	—	—	—	(331.67)
<b>Totals</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>265.52</b>	<b>265.52</b>	<b>713.84</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>20,637.62</b>	<b>583.13</b>	<b>21,220.75</b>	<b>30,104.84</b>

## Fund Movement by Type

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Closing
<b>Rest1 - Restricted Funds</b>					
Restricted	134.81	—	—	448.32	583.13
<b>Sub-total for Rest1</b>	<b>134.81</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>448.32</b>	<b>583.13</b>
<b>General - General fund</b>					
Unrestricted	29,970.03	59,505.67	68,389.76	(448.32)	20,637.62
<b>Sub-total for General</b>	<b>29,970.03</b>	<b>59,505.67</b>	<b>68,389.76</b>	<b>(448.32)</b>	<b>20,637.62</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>30,104.84</b>	<b>59,505.67</b>	<b>68,389.76</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>21,220.75</b>

## Analysis of Receipts and Payments

### Donations and Legacies

	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>This year</b>	<b>Last year</b>
0101 - Collections - Gift Aided	190.00	—	190.00	785.00
0110 - Direct Credits - Gift Aided	3,662.00	—	3,662.00	3,915.00
0201 - Donations - Gift Aided	5,290.95	—	5,290.95	544.00
0301 - Collections – Non-Gift Aided	25.00	—	25.00	—
0401 - Direct Credits – Non-Gift Aided	2,400.00	—	2,400.00	2,229.00
0410 - Donations – Non-Gift Aided	17,071.11	—	17,071.11	6,564.83
0501 - Parish Giving Scheme	14,309.24	—	14,309.24	13,414.19
0510 - Small Donations Scheme	2,813.84	—	2,813.84	5,734.62
0601 - Gift Aid Recovered	6,928.08	—	6,928.08	8,786.00
0701 – Legacies	1,000.00	—	1,000.00	3,000.00
Total	53,690.22	—	53,690.22	44,972.64

### Income from Charitable Activities

	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>This year</b>	<b>Last year</b>
1101 - Parochial Fees	2,364.00	—	2,364.00	3,254.00
Total	2,364.00	—	2,364.00	3,254.00

### Other Trading Activities

	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>This year</b>	<b>Last year</b>
0910 - Fundraising - Gift Aided	—	—	—	—
0911 - Fundraising - NonGift Aided	1,933.00	—	1,933.00	6,086.60
1250 - Magazine - Advertising	1,432.96	—	1,432.96	1,356.00
1260 - Magazine - Sales	50.00	—	50.00	25.00
Total	3,415.96	—	3,415.96	7,467.60

### Investments

	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>This year</b>	<b>Last year</b>
1001 - Investment Income	23.63	—	23.63	204.48
1020 - Interest Received	11.86	—	11.86	13.44
Total	35.49	—	35.49	217.92

## Other Income

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
0550 - Grants Received	—	—	—	—
1320 - Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—
<b>INCOME TOTAL</b>	<b>59,505.67</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>59,505.67</b>	<b>55,912.16</b>

## EXPENDITURE

### Raising Funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
1730 - Event Expenses	60.95	—	60.95	526.15
Total	60.95	—	60.95	526.15

### Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
1801 - Bank Charges	0.76	—	0.76	2.59
1830 - Bank Interest Paid	—	—	—	—
1850 - Mission	6,160.25	—	6,160.25	6,144.36
1910 - Parish Share	28,196.04	—	28,196.04	27,297.24
2310 - Fees	1,524.60	—	1,524.60	411.42
2340 - Cost of Services	67.87	—	67.87	382.50
2350 - Churchyard Expenses	682.00	—	682.00	758.50
2360 - Printing & Stationary	113.07	—	113.07	151.62
2370 - Clergy Expenses	—	—	—	857.50
2401 - Church Running Expenses - Electricity	1,204.41	—	1,204.41	1,729.99
2410 - Church Running Expenses - Insurance	1,901.40	—	1,901.40	1,950.56
2420 - Church Running Expenses - Water Rates	35.13	—	35.13	104.08
2430 - Church Running Expenses - Vestry Supplies	223.77	—	223.77	327.48
2440 - Miscellaneous	327.72	—	327.72	49.03
2501 - Magazine Costs	1,497.50	—	1,497.50	1,317.50
2510 - Church Running Expenses - Extinguishers	—	—	—	—
Total	41,934.52	—	41,934.52	41,484.37

## Other Expenditure

	Unrestricted	Restricted	This year	Last year
2701 - Fabric Maintenance – Buildings	14,533.32	—	14,533.32	12,780.11
2710 - Fabric Maintenance – Other	11,860.97	—	11,860.97	1,709.28
Total	<u>26,394.29</u>	—	<u>26,394.29</u>	<u>14,489.39</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>	<b>68,389.76</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>68,389.76</b>	<b>56,499.91</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>(8,884.09)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>(8,884.09)</b>	<b>(587.75)</b>

## 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<sup>st</sup> December 2020, 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 Act) and that an Independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to –

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act.
- Follow procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 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 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.

*Jeremy Watson, Independent Examiner, 4 Anchor Lane, Heybridge 26/3/2021*

## Safeguarding

Our safeguarding commitments: -

- To follow the House of Bishops Safeguarding Policy for children, young people and adults
- To promote a safer environment and culture within our church
- To safely recruit and support all those with any responsibility to children and vulnerable adults
- To respond promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
- To care pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse
- To respond to those who may pose a present risk

This year has seen a growth in confidence in that we are now following the 'Parish Safeguarding Checklist' issued by the Diocese which guides the PCC through their key roles and responsibilities. One of our key responsibilities is to ensure those who need a DBS check (electronic police check, previously known as CRB) have completed one and any who have previously had one are up to date. Another aspect is to ensure all those who work with children, young people and/or vulnerable people can access and complete the appropriate online (C0 & C1) and face to face (C2) training provided by the Diocese. The online training is available for anyone within the church who is interested so please contact me if you would like further details. You will simply need access to a computer along with an email address. There are 2 separate courses, one for adult safeguarding and one for children. You can complete one or both as many of us have already done. We have also updated St Andrew's Safeguarding Policy demonstrating our commitment to following the Church of England's Safeguarding Policy and a copy is on display in the St Andrew's room along with a poster named 'Promoting a Safer Church'.

We have embarked on Safer Recruitment – ensuring that all new positions within the church are recruited according to the guidelines.

Safeguarding is a matter for all and we would ask anyone who has any concerns to share their concerns, in confidence, with either myself, one of the Church Wardens or with the Diocese directly. *Alison Read, Parish Safeguarding Officer*

## **Fabric Report**

It has been a difficult year for the church in many ways but there has been a good deal of activity regarding the fabric.

The main item achieved was the installation of a professional sound system for which we are grateful to an anonymous donor. A working party led by Mike Worboys had been planning the system for some two years and a contractor was chosen and the work was done during the summer. We have not yet used its full potential but it has already made big differences to our worship. A Faculty was needed for this work.

The other matter that required a Faculty was the upgrade of the path around the tower and fire door. This has been resurfaced in a fine natural stone, the gradient was adjusted and now wheelchair users can access the church easily. The cost of this work was met by the families in remembrance of wives who had died recently.

The car park was top dressed during the summer using a good layer of type 1. Hardcore - the same as the existing. It seemed expensive but we have been filling potholes for years and it is hoped that this top dressing will solve the problem and add to the safety for some time. We are grateful to the Sandon Parish Council who provided the labour and machinery for the spreading and rolling of the hardcore. Great Baddow URC church closed during the year and they gave us an oak table for use in the SAR and 8 Gopak tables to be stored in the shed and used for outdoor events such as the fete.

Routine items like the fire extinguisher check and lightning conductor check were completed. The latter is done at about 18-month intervals and the former annually. The major problem has been the discovery that the church bells need major work. There are six bells and two have cracked. The plan is to remove all six and do the necessary repairs. The last major overhaul was in 1909. A working group has been set up to investigate the details and there is and will be more about this elsewhere. Despite the restrictions we have kept the churchyard in a good state and I am very appreciative of the help given by several people with this, and especially to George Turner who spends so much time helping to keep our surroundings in such good condition.

We hope that later in 2021 we will be able to return to normal services and I thank in advance all those who keep the building so clean and tidy.

*Michael Puffett, Churchwarden*

## Deanery Synod Report

This year has very much been a year of transition for the Deanery Synod. The process of forming one Deanery of Chelmsford, as it used to be years ago, from Chelmsford North and our deanery, Chelmsford South has exercised several legal minds as the formalities needed to be cleared without being able to meet.

The Area Dean, Tim Ball, ensured that each deanery voted to allow the proposed merger and then the appropriate legal orders were made. At the beginning of December, the newly formed met for the first and, so far, only time. The business consisted of electing the officers and standing committee and then Revd James Gilder spoke about the target for each church to become carbon neutral by 2030, a daunting but desirable aim.

Tim Ball remains as Area Dean but Christine Horton, Deanery Lay Chair of Chelmsford South is no longer a deanery officer. Mrs Jill Readings was elected as the new Deanery Lay Chair. Harry Marsh, who was Treasurer for all the life of Chelmsford South Deanery is the Treasurer and Gwilym Morris is the new secretary. The following were elected to the Standing Committee: to the House of Clergy: Terry Brown Gemma Fraser, Dan Pierce and Carolyn Tibbott; to the House of Laity: Robert Andrews, Ros Mercer, Andrew Podd and Robin Stevens.

*Richard Cecil*

## Compass Group Churches

A number from the Compass Group clergy and others meeting regularly on a Thursday morning for Morning Prayer. There are only 3 stipendiary clergy in this Mission and Ministry Unit (MMU), namely Revd Carol Ball at South Woodham



Ferrers and in charge at Woodham Ferrers and Bicknacre, Revd Jacqui Jones at Danbury and overseeing Little Baddow too. Revd Stephen Need is at Stock and oversees West Hanningfield. Revd Terry Brown continues as joint chair with Alex Cooper from Danbury. He also is priest in charge at East Hanningfield where Christine Horton is minister in charge and where from the middle of February Revd Suzy Edmundson has been licensed as assistant minister. The Downham, South Hanningfield, Ramsden Heath, Ramsden Bellhouse part of the MMU now finds itself with just Rev Jean Andrews and Revd Miranda Seaman as part-time unpaid ministers. However, Rev Jean Andrews has recently had surgery and does not look likely to return to work for several months.

Most parishes, including Sandon, have been paying their full parish share. Claire Newman from East Hanningfield and Robert Andrews from Downham remain as secretary and treasurer respectively.

There was a joint Ascension Day service on 21<sup>st</sup> May on Zoom which was an early example of using this technology for several of the churches.

The regular Quiet Day at Othona Community near Bradwell had to be cancelled because of the pandemic.

*Richard 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. However, this was cancelled because of the covid-19 pandemic.

David Gilbey has resigned as Chairman with effect from early April 2021 and Pete Bardwell as Vice Chairman. Breakfasts on the first Wednesday of the month and the third Thursday, which have been a valuable point of contact between different church members, were suspended in March with the outbreak of the pandemic restrictions. All main Christian denominations are involved, and it provides a vehicle where churches can share events across a wider forum.

*Richard Cecil, Secretary*

### **Howe Green United Reformed Church**

The past year has been a very unusual and difficult time for us all. Churches had to change much of the way they welcomed people to worship or served their community. This was certainly true of St. Andrew's and Howe Green URC. The year started with the more community related activities for the annual Fairtrade Fortnight. Howe Green had a Coffee Morning and St. Andrews held a wine tasting evening, with members of both churches attending and taking part. But then came the first 'lockdown', and everything changed.

Unfortunately, Howe Green Chapel layout was not suitable for the recommended way of social distancing, etc., so has physically not been able to open. Fortunately, as well as having some events with Christ Church, Chelmsford (with whom we share a minister - Rev Paul Stein), we were able to take part in the online Bible Studies and weekly Evening Prayers set up by St. Andrew's and they were a great way of keeping in touch. We were also delighted to join in with the Churchyard Services arranged in the summer and the 'drive-in' Carol Service was a joy to attend at a really difficult time in December.

We very much look forward to continuing our connection to St. Andrew's Church and sharing events in the coming year, in whatever way is possible, during this different time caused by the pandemic.

*Pam Knott*



## **Bell Ringing Report**

January saw the year get off to a positive start with a Quarter Peal, a tower meeting and the first use of the training simulator by learners working in pairs on their own to develop their ringing skills. This was not to last and the last ringing of the year took place on Sunday 15 March, just ahead of the Covid lockdown. Sadly, Dennis Terry, one of our ringers, passed away in May. Dennis had not rung for several years but was always a keen supporter of ringing, both in Sandon and as a Friend of the Essex Association. The partial lifting of the social distancing criteria during the summer were not enough to enable us to safely resume ringing but we were able to get together in the open air for a catch up and a cream tea! Inspection visits by three professional bell hanging companies identified considerable wear and tear on the bell fixtures and fittings, plus cracks in two of the bells. It is hoped that a fund-raising appeal will be launched in 2021 to raise the money to undertake the necessary repairs and refurbishment. The year ended on a more positive note, with bell ringing moving online using Ringing Room and virtual practices being held twice a week. We hope that this will serve us well for when we can get back in the tower.

*Mike Worboys, Tower Captain*

## **Bible Reading Notes**

‘New Daylight’, published by BRF (Bible Reading Fellowship), 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 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 & Music**

Dear Ron Woods, organist and choir master for many years, passed away in December and is missed by the choir and many other friends and colleagues. He was a gentleman in all senses and very faithful to St Andrew’s.

The choir continued to lead music and Ron often played the piano at the Sung Eucharist and other services when the church was open for worship and covid 19 regulations allowed. Sadly, choir practices ceased in March and had not resumed at the end of the year. We are grateful to Cathie and Andy Horne who shared leading and accompanying the singing with Ron and to the St Martin’s Singers, members of the choir and some from neighbouring churches who have also helped to lead singing and provide music during these times when services have been online via Zoom.

*Claire Jefferies, Church Warden*



## **Magazine Report**

The magazine is indebted to the wide variety of those who contribute in so many ways: ideas, articles, reports, advertisements, distribution. David Farrar and Terry Brown of course also provide a regular supply of material. Prior to June's magazine, in view of the national lockdown emergency, I sought and received support from the PCC to continue publication and distribution under these more difficult circumstances. We are grateful for the regular columns provided by Narelle Arnold and the Speakman family. During the year, several enquiries to the church have been able to generate interesting articles. The magazine has attempted to tackle some difficult current issues. Valerie Grimwood has consistently contributed by proof-reading which has been greatly appreciated. Claire Wood has reviewed the advertising and gained valuable new business. Alison Read has been organising the distribution with a great team of distributors who circulate the magazine, now free, to all households in the parish four 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**

Thank goodness for our lovely churchyard!

In this time of restriction and lockdown, I am sure the churchyard has been for many people a place of solace and quiet prayer. The churchyard has looked at its best throughout, and this is largely due to the hard work of George Turner. Without George we could not have kept the churchyard looking so good. Thank you, George. Thank you also to Judy Cecil and to Pam Norrington and Eileen Bartrup who have helped me in the Garden of Remembrance and to all those that come regularly to tend their family graves. Thank you too to the grass cutters who kept it neat so that we could have our outside services.

We had of course a new path and seat, which I hope will mean more people can come and further enjoy our lovely churchyard.

I am hoping that soon we will be able to have our monthly working parties, keeping to the rules of course. If any time you would like to work in the churchyard please give me a ring and I can put you in the direction of where it is most needed.

Thank you once again and please keep up the good work George.

*Christine Mennie*

## **'Friends of Sandon Church'**

Both events planned for 2020 (Concert and Quiz) were cancelled due to Covid 19 regulations. As such there is nothing to report other than we had no new members so it is now time to start recruiting again!



*David  
Farrar*

## **Annual Sponsored Village Walk and Cycle Ride**

A ‘separation’ walk (to conform to Covid Rules) was held on the 26th of July. The morning circular walk attracted 18 walkers and another 6 people came along for lunch on the Green outside the Crown. During the afternoon just 11 of us did another shorter circular walk and then visited the Crown for a few bevvies. The weather was fine and helped us to raise £1,247 for church funds. Many thanks to all the walkers and sponsors!

This was a ‘spaced out’ bike ride (to conform to Covid cycling regulations at the time). The date was a little later in the year than normal and on Saturday the 26th of September. Ten riders in two groups and cycled via Galleywood and through Hylands Park to Writtle Green where we lunched at The Rose and Crown. Our return route followed the River Chelmer through Chelmsford, on Bicycle Route 1, all the way to Sandford Lock and then back home. Again a ‘spaced out?’ celebration for completing the course was held in the Crown on our return. The sponsorship amounted to a good total of £725 for church funds. Thanks go to all who joined in the day and of course all our sponsors.

Conclusion: The two events, the Walk and Bike Ride raised approximately £2,000 for church funds and both sponsors and those taking an active part are thanked for their valuable contributions. In 2020 it was not possible, of course, to hold our Summer Fete and Christmas Fayre which normally raise between 3 and 4 thousand pounds in total.

*David Farrar*

## **Tiny Tots Toddler Group**

As with all other events this year of Toddler Group came to a rapid halt as lockdown arrived in March. However, we were extremely fortunate to be able to meet in the churchyard several times throughout the year as lockdown restrictions lifted (following the socially distant, Covid-secure guidelines laid out for meeting within Church). Being able to meet outside was a true bonus as it brought us together at a time when our normal lives had had to change rapidly, however we could offer a degree of ‘normality’ by supporting the families who need encouragement and young children who still need entertainment! Father we thank you for the lovely weather that allowed our meetings to go ahead. Amen.

*Alison Read*

## 1<sup>st</sup> Sandon Scout Group

Well, what a strange year it has been! Almost a year since we have had face to face scouting. The Scouts have managed 3 weeks late last year and then lockdown again.

We have been having Zoom meetings within the three sections and as a group. The scouts have organized activities and badgework over Zoom, the Cubs are doing Chinese New Year this week (17 Feb) and Beavers yet to start.

During the first lockdown, each member of the group including leaders were given a biodegradable plant pot and sunflower seeds and we had a competition was great to see the progress of the sunflowers on our Facebook page. The winners were: -

Beavers Will Kirby 5' 8"

Cubs Thomas Pike 9'

Scouts Jake Dale 10'

Leaders Edward Wood 8'

Well done to all.

We hope it will not be too long before we can return to face to face scouting and to church parades.

Stay safe everyone. Yours in Scouting,

*Jean Blake, Group Scout Leader*



## **2021 Vestry, Annual Parochial Church and First PCC Meetings**

The meetings were held in St. Andrew's Church and via Zoom on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021 at 11:30 am

### **Minutes for 2021 Annual Vestry Meeting**

- 1 Opening prayers were said by Revd Terry Brown.
- 2 Appointment of Clerk. Richard Cecil was appointed.
- 3 Apologies were received from John Gruby, Alison Read, Lesley Worboys, Mike Worboys.  
Eileen Bartrup, Nick Bobeldijk, Judy Cecil, Richard Cecil, Beryl Darbon, David Farrar, Gill Haddington, Gill Hodge, Kate Hollows, Claire Jefferies, Christine Mennie, Brenda Moyse, Pam Norrington, Michael Puffett, Janet Terry, George Turner, Kay Tyler, John Weir were present in church.  
Attending online were Liz Bobeldijk, Andy Horne, Cathie Horne, Rosemary Mackay, Stuart Mackay, Pat Salmon, Barbara Underwood, Ian Underwood and Janet Underwood.
- 4 Approval of the minutes of the year 2020 Annual Vestry Meeting  
Proposed by Gill Hodge and seconded by Claire and agreed by all.
- 5 Election of two Churchwardens  
Claire Jefferies had been proposed by Judy Cecil and seconded by Alison Read and Richard Cecil had been proposed by Claire Jefferies and seconded by Andy Horne and were duly elected.
- 6 Date of Next Meeting –  
provisionally Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022 circa 11:00 am

## Minutes of 2021 Annual Parochial Church Meeting

(to follow immediately after the Annual Vestry Meeting)

- 1 Notice Convening the Meeting had been displayed on the door and indeed on the website page for services for the prescribed period.
- 2 Apologies for absence and those present were as the Vestry Meeting.
- 3 Election of Tellers. None were required.
- 4 Approval of the minutes of the year 2020 Annual Parochial Church Meeting  
These were proposed by David Farrar, seconded by Judy Cecil and agreed by all.
- 5 Reports
  - 5.1 Electoral Roll Report. Liz Bobeldijk was thanked for her work with this.
  - 5.2 Annual Report. Terry commended this report whose adoption was proposed by David Farrar, seconded by Christine Mennie and agreed by all.
  - 5.3 Financial Report. Nick pointed people to his written report particularly highlighting why more had been spent than received in the previous calendar year. David thanked Nick for his work as treasurer.
  - 5.4 Fabric Report was noted.
  - 5.5 Deanery Synod Report was noted.
  - 5.6 Compass Churches Report was noted.
  - 5.7 Christians Together in Chelmsford. The report was noted.
- 6 Election of Deanery Synod members for 2 years.  
Andy Horne offered and was elected having been proposed by David Farrar and seconded by Richard Cecil.  
Richard agreed to continue representing Sandon at the Deanery Synod too.
- 7 Election of PCC Members  
Judy Cecil had been proposed by Valerie Grimwood and seconded by Christine Mennie.  
Liz Bobeldijk had been proposed by Nick Bobeldijk and seconded by Michael Puffett.  
Both were duly elected for 3 years.
- 8 Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer. Liz Bobeldijk was confirmed in this post.
- 9 Appointment of Parish Safeguarding Officer.  
Alison Read was confirmed in this post.
- 10 Appointment of Independent Examiner. Jeremy Watson had agreed to do this again.

11 Appointment of Sidesmen and Sideswomen

Colin Bryan	Gill Hodge	Valerie Grimwood
Joan Bridger	Christine Mennie	Eileen Bartrup
David Farrar	John Gruby	Pam Norrington
Kim Davies	Judy Cecil	Alison Read
Kate Hollows	Gill Haddington	

were all considered suitable should they wish to be included.

12 Reports from other Organisations were noted.

At this point the Zoom connection failed and those on Zoom were effectively disconnected except via a single relayed telephone connection.

13 Rector's Report

The Rector gave a precis of the following report.

As it has only been 7 months since our last APCM in October there are few reports to bring to this meeting.

The impact of COVID on our society and therefore how we express our life together as a worshipping community has continued to present a challenge to us this year. The duration of this pandemic, I suspect, has been greater than any of us expected. When we were able to open the doors of our church it was to a very limited expression of worship and fellowship. This context continues as we look forward to a time of freedom and restoration. However, whilst we may have largely left our buildings, God has not left the church and has continued to work in and through us by His Holy Spirit. For some of our church family there has been the ultimate loss of loved ones. There was Dennis Terry who gave so much to the church and community over the years. Not only Church, but the scouts and the Samaritans. We will be holding a memorial service for Dennis on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 2 pm in church. We remember Ron Wood who died in December. He gave so much to the music of this church for a long time. He will be greatly missed by not only the choir but all the congregation. We will be holding a memorial Service for Ron later this year when restrictions may have been lifted. At the last count there are 4 organists who are hoping to take part in this service. We also lost our brother Reg Horscroft. Such a lovely man who loved our Lord. Our hearts go out to all who daily carry the heavy burden of grief. Whilst we have lost them from our fellowship, theirs is the far richer experience of presence in the 'house of the Lord'.

Loss has been a feature of this past year for us all to a greater or lesser extent. It is a reality that we continue to live with alongside uncertainty as to how and when we can resume being the Body of Christ in communion and fellowship with one another.

And yet as a people of Hope, we are called to continue to worship, pray and



witness to our faith in the risen Lord Jesus whatever the circumstances of our lives.

I would like to thank you all for your faithfulness to Christ as the mission and ministry of the church has continued through these times. As the body of Christ, we all have a part to play in service and mission.

If I were to thank you individually this would be a very long report as there would be so many people to thank but you know who you are and you serve for an audience of One, to please and bring glory to Jesus who gave himself so fully for each one of us.

So many of you give of your time, energy and finance to see the Kingdom of God advance. Thank you for your continuing ministry and service.

Here are just some of the ministry activities we have been able to continue, using the technology available to us to adapt to new ways of working:

- 13.1 Sunday Zoom services indebted to Richard, Judy Andy and Cathie
- 13.2 Weekday Celtic Morning Prayer and Night Prayer
- 13.3 Christmas When all looked like we could not hold services we thought outside the box and we had a successful Drive in Carol Service, A family treasure hunt around the parish and a Crib service on Christmas Eve which brought 100 adults and children together in our churchyard singing away in a manger. Something not to forget. Many thanks to Gill and Mike for the splendid Manger and figures of Mary and Joseph set up in the churchyard.
- 13.4 Ministry to Baycroft residential homes particularly them joining us on Zoom every Sunday morning as well as our monthly Tea with the vicar.
- 13.5 Pastoral care for those in our community
- 13.6 Funerals
- 13.7 Maintenance of our buildings and churchyard throughout this season
- 13.8 For our Easter celebrations of Palm Sunday, Zoom Holy week of Stations of the Cross and Morning Prayer.
- 13.9 Again, Mike and Gill installed the three crosses and the garden tomb in our churchyard. It was great to see some of our children bringing flowers to the tomb and the wonderful 6am sunrise service on Easter day at the tomb.

Thank you to you all who have contributed to make the ministry and mission of our Church possible in these challenging and extraordinary times.

Whilst I cannot thank everyone the role of Church Warden carries a legal responsibility and therefore, I would like to give special mention to Michael Puffett who is stepping back as Church Warden. Michael has been twice

churchwarden and was one of the churchwardens at my interview nearly 8 years ago. We have hugely appreciated all the support you have given over these years. Thank you.

As we look ahead to the future still not fully knowing how things may yet look, may we look with confidence, keep our eyes on Jesus and trusting ourselves and the life of our church to him.

7 Prayer points:

- 13.1 Please pray that there will be a restoration to the full expression of our life together which we so miss.
- 13.2 Pray that we will be able to welcome lots of new people to our church.
- 13.3 We as a church engage in praying for the roads of our parish.
- 13.4 Pray our provision for children and young families many that have been lost to us over the past year.
- 13.5 Pray for the music provision in our church. As we move forward.
- 13.6 Pray that as a church we will move forward as an Eco Church.
- 13.7 Pray that we will all recognise that Jesus calls us to full mobilisation. That we all have a part to play in serving the church and building God's Kingdom and therefore resourcing the ministries that God has entrusted to us.

As the apostle Paul wrote to the church in Corinth;

'Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourself fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain'

- 14 Concerns / Questions to be Expressed / Asked  
There were none.
- 15 Date of Next Meeting –  
provisionally Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022 after the Annual Vestry Meeting
- 16 Closing Prayers were said by Terry Brown.

## **Minutes for 2021-22 First Parochial Church Council Meeting**

(which followed immediately after the Annual Parochial Church Meeting)

- 1 Appointment of Vice Chairman  
Claire Jefferies was proposed by Judy, seconded by Christine and agreed unanimously.
- 2 Appointment of PCC Treasurer  
Nick Bobeldijk was proposed by Janet Terry, seconded by Christine Mennie and agreed unanimously.
- 3 Appointment of PCC Secretary. Judy Cecil offered to do this but not be on the Standing Committee. This was proposed by Claire, seconded by Christine and agreed unanimously.
- 4 Next meeting dates  
Mondays 5<sup>th</sup> July, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021

