

From: [REDACTED]
To: [East Anglia ONE North](#); [East Anglia Two](#)
Subject: Deadline 10 Submission
Date: 06 May 2021 08:09:31
Attachments: [Friston annual report spring 2020 TOPRINT LR.pdf](#)

Attached are the 2020 Annual Report and Financial Statements for The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Friston which is threatened by the development proposals and cumulative effects locally.

It demonstrates a living church, even in these most difficult times, striving to meet the needs of the community.

As we approach the easing of lockdown restrictions and anticipate the joys of our landscape and the Spring and Summer, our landscape has been destroyed by the advent of investigation groundworks which will extend throughout the summer.



In the cause of climate change and renewable energy
- the land has been poisoned
- we have lost spring wildlife and birdsong
- we have lost walking routes.

Simon Ive
Secretary and Treasurer
Friston Parochial Church Council

Refs: 20023636 / 20023639

Annual Report & Financial Statements for the year 2020

St Mary's Church, Friston



INTRODUCTION

AND A SPECIAL THANK YOU ALL!

Friston has survived a tumultuous year (Covid-19 and the National Planning Inspectorate Examination of the energy projects) for which we express our sincere gratitude to everyone who contributed; to our:

- Clergy led by Revd Mark and supported by Revds Sheila, Nicky, James and Jo;
- Innovative and hard-working Elders, Martin and Emma;
- Churchwardens, Peter and Carole and the lay members of the Parochial Church Council

But also, and importantly, all those within the community who give so much time and effort to sustain and maintain our church:

- Readers and sidespersons
- Cleaners
- Flower arrangers.

And not least our regular donors who maintained their support and without which the life of the church would have been at risk.



Our year can be best summed up in these words from our Elders, Martin and Emma:

The sudden closure of the church building in March of last year came as a shock and caught us all by surprise - the planned Holy Week and Good Friday Services were cancelled and there were no celebrations of the Church's important Festivals of Easter and Pentecost. And then came the discovery of Zoom! Initially just our weekly Compline Service went online and numbers grew from our 4 regulars to regularly 17 or 18!

As the lockdowns were repeated our Sunday Service of Zoom Morning Prayer was born, feeding the spiritual needs of locals and friends further afield from Chislehurst to Colchester and Cambridge. Contributors have included poets, painters, actors and composers; symphony orchestras, cathedral choirs and gifted young musicians; and of course, all 5 of our clergy! We have zoomed our cameras into people's gardens, across fields and up the church path with the result of warm, colourful, varied, moving and surprising Worship enjoyed by all who have fellowshiped together during these otherwise difficult months. The initiative now is to use the best of what we have learnt to take Friston Church forward, upward and outward in ministry, worship and mission.

God moves in mysterious ways his purposes to perform!!

Pastoral work has been possible under the government guidelines but in practice this has mostly taken the form of simple neighbourliness, telephone calls, shopping trips and of course, prayer.

This Report and Financial Statements provide much more detail but the message is clear

Forward, upward and outward

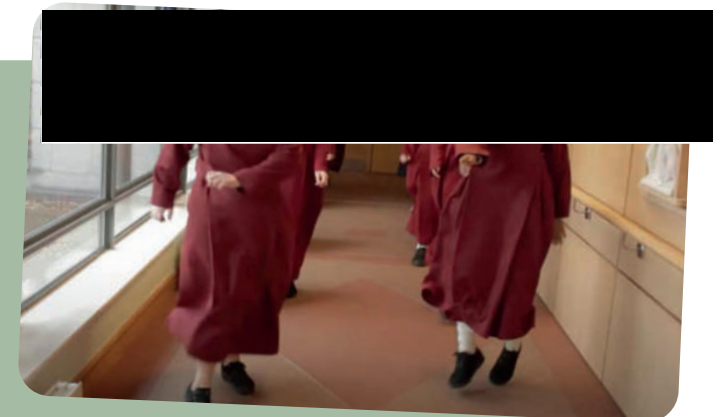
albeit we of a certain age might wish to delay the 'upward' for a while yet!

Finally, some light relief
chosen by Revd Nicky!

Nimble nuns at enclosed
monastery perform viral dance
'to cheer people up'

To watch visit:

<https://www.classicfm.com/music-news/videos/nuns-enclosed-monastery-viral-jerusalem-dance/>





GENERAL INFORMATION:

Church Address:

The Church of St Mary the Virgin
 Church Road
 Friston
 Saxmundham
 IP17 1PX

Rector, Alde Sandlings Benefice

Revd Mark Lowther



Bankers:

HSBC – UK
 20 High Street
 Saxmundham
 IP17 1DB

Secretary and Treasurer:

Simon Ive



Examiner:

Anthony Morley
 Resident of Friston

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

St Mary's Church is situated in the middle of the village of Friston. It is part of the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, and Saxmundham Deanery. It is linked with Knodishall and Buxlow, Aldringham with Thorpe and with Aldeburgh with Hazlewood as part of the Alde Sandlings Benefice

PCC Members who have served from 1 January 2020 until the date this report was approved are:

<i>Rector:</i>	The Revd Mark Lowther	Chairman
<i>Assistant Priests:</i>	The Revd Sheila Hart The Revd Nichola Winter	
<i>Assistant Curates:</i>	The Revd Johanna Mabey The Revd James Marston	
<i>Elders:</i>	Mr Martin Steadman Mrs Emma Steadman	
<i>Wardens:</i>	Mr Peter Fife Ms Carole Edwards	
<i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod:</i>	Mrs Christine Ive Ms Carole Edwards	
<i>Representative on the Diocesan Synod:</i>	Ms Carole Edwards	
<i>Elected Members:</i>	Mr Simon Ive Mr Alan Thomas Mrs Carole Morley Mr Martin Steadman Ms Marie Szpak	Secretary and Treasurer Electoral Roll Secretary

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2011 and is a charity currently excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or are elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees 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.

The full PCC met 4 times via Zoom during the year with an average attendance of 75%.

The PCC has a standing committee which has not met in the past year.

SAFEGUARDING

The PCC recognises that the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults is paramount and that we have a duty of care when they are in our charge. We will do everything that we can to provide a safe and caring environment whilst they attend our activities.

We have a Parish Statement of Safeguarding which is exhibited in the Porch of the Church and copies of which can be obtained from the PCC Secretary. This takes note of the Church of England national policy and practice guidance and that of our own Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich. Our policies and implementation are reviewed regularly by the PCC. Marie Szpak holds a watching brief on the application of Diocesan policy and will be in contact with the Benefice Safeguarding Officer, based in Aldeburgh, should the need arise.

Reviewing our activities and policy we consider that the PCC has complied with its duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR)

It has long been our concern how to maintain contact with supporters and reach out to residents who do not reside full-time in the village. That is especially important with the energy projects and the need for our community to be aware and updated. Consequently, we maintain a Church Contact List and have a Privacy Policy so we ask for formal letters of consent to be completed and signed. Please apply to the PCC Secretary if you wish to be added to the list. (simonive@aol.com).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

St Mary's PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the Rector in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibility for the Church at Friston.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

Friston is a relatively small village community with many retired, and those in employment working outside of the village and it is estimated that around half of the properties are of weekend/second home owners.

The concerns of and challenges for the PCC, therefore, are how to ensure

- our worship and pattern of services are inclusive and meet the needs of our community of diverse needs and ages;
- pastoral care for members who are unable to attend church owing to sickness or age;
- care and support for our community threatened by the current Covid-19 crisis and then the Scottish Power Renewables and National Grid infrastructure projects.
- we maintain contact with second home owners and visitors to the parish;
- being a 'living' church in promoting events which bring together members of the community and further afield including those who may not necessarily attend church regularly and visitors to the area;
- support for local organisations such as the Village Hall;
- promoting links with our fellow churches in the benefice;
- developing and maintaining a sustainable church and ministry within Friston and the wider community;
- we facilitate this work by proper maintenance of the fabric and grounds of the church.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship

The impact of Covid-19 has made tremendous demands on the physical and mental strength of our clergy. Revd Nicky had the additional responsibility of Chaplain at Aldeburgh Hospital and Revd Sheila is Rural Dean for Saxmundham.

Fortunately, the expanses and beauty of this area have limited the spread of the virus relative to other parts of the UK and made day to day life tolerable. However, the restrictions imposed nationally created all manner of challenges but which were surmounted.

The closure of churches for public services and private prayer, along with limitations on numbers at funerals and weddings caused great sadness and frustration to many.

However, Zoom has revolutionised our spiritual lives as we have sought to exploit the opportunities of technology to enable us to access services on-line.

And as the Church has found nationally, we have expanded our congregation both at Friston and across the Benefice as we have been able to enjoy each other's services.

In part this has been attributable to the experience and expertise of Claire Turner, the Parish Administrator for Aldeburgh Church.

She has helped to provide technical advice on streaming services from homes and churches. She has also co-ordinated a weekly Benefice newsletter which incorporates news and events across the Benefice with links to the individual Church services for each week.

Consequently, friends and visitors and others unable to be at the church can keep in touch and not feel isolated and the numbers participating have increased. That especially applies to Friston.

Accordingly with that experience we are able to livestream our regular Sunday (9.45am) and Wednesday Compline (6pm) services.



Contacts:

Please contact Claire at admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk if you would like to receive the Benefice newsletter each week.

For Friston, we have two websites:

- The Church of England website 'A Church Near You'. To access type ACNY in the search bar to obtain the link. Click on the link and insert the Church postcode, IP17 1PX for all information about Friston Church and there is also
- fristonchristian.com

Both provide news of Friston and its services and events and you can obtain links for services from [REDACTED]

Music

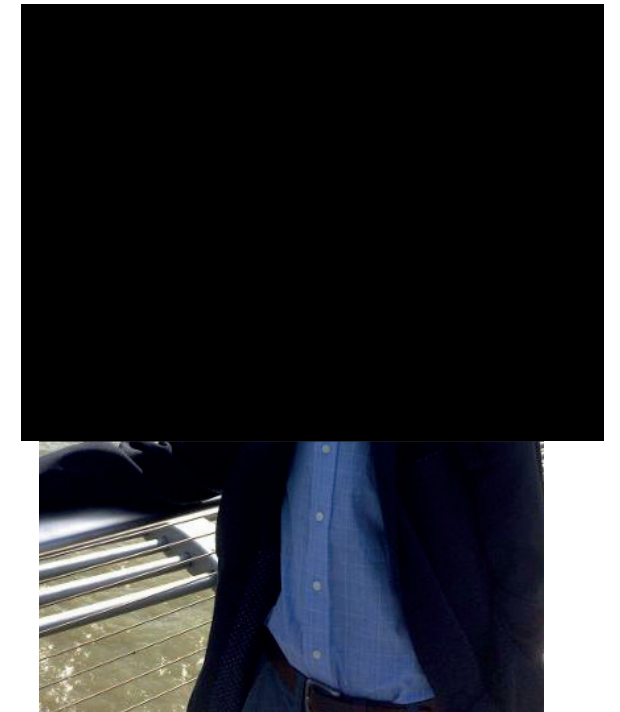
We have a congregation which loves to sing and that has been a considerable loss during the covid restrictions.

Fortunately, we have excellent audio equipment so our services have been enlivened by diverse genres of ecclesiastical music mostly chosen by Emma and Martin who are both musical. Emma has missed playing the organ but has compensated as Church DJ!

But how fortunate we are to have our own 'Composer in Residence'! Alan Bullard (www.alanbullard.co.uk). Alan and his wife, Jan, who is also musical have acquired a home in Friston and are supporters and members of the congregation.

He has been writing music all his life. His choral music, both sacred and secular, has been performed in a wide range of venues in the UK and USA.

He is opposed to the energy projects and has composed a moving piece, 'Friston Moor' an elegy to Friston for symphony orchestra. The beautiful landscape and music YouTube film can be accessed via his website.



Alan Bullard

The Friston landscape
looking towards the sea.



THE ROLE OF OUR CHURCH IN THE COMMUNITY

Beyond our spiritual and pastoral care, we seek to reach out and participate actively within the community.

Sadly, we have had to curtail/suspend our important programme of events owing to Covid restrictions – a safety-first approach to avoid transmission – namely Easter Art Festival, Car Boot Sale, Open Gardens, Classics on the Green and Christmas Fayre.

However, we have adapted to changing restrictions and managed smaller scale events which have benefitted charities which have been hurt by the pandemic:

- Plant Stall in May managed by Marie in pouring rain over two days raised £400 for St Elizabeth Hospice.
- We hosted two concerts in the grounds of the Church in August. These were for Beth Spendlove's Kingfisher Quartet and Chamber Group. Donations to St Elizabeth Hospice were generous.

Acts of Remembrance have long been a key feature for the residents of Friston.

2020 marked the 75th Anniversary of the ending of the Second World War. VE Day on Friday 8th May was commemorated by a socially distanced gathering in the churchyard with prayers led by Revd Nicky and the tolling of the church bells. These were recorded and subsequently relayed on Radio 3 Sunday Morning 17th May followed appropriately by Britten's Nocturne from his Serenade for Tenor, Horn and Strings. Puts Friston on the map!

A similar gathering occurred to remember VJ Day on Saturday 15th August. Again, the bells were rung as part of the nationwide 'Ringing and Crying Out for Peace'. Ann and Margaret Savage designed a simple but meaningful 75th plaque for both occasions.



Suffolk Historic Churches Trust 'Ride and Stride

Once again Ian Shipman, on his own this time since Mary was busy writing submissions opposing the energy projects, undertook this cycle ride for the Trust and church. He cycled to Southwold and back via Blythburgh raising a record £1,220. This is split between the Trust and our church. Ian has to go 'knocking on residents' doors to raise these funds so we are grateful for all your support for his efforts and this worthy cause.

Friston Church has always supported this event and much pleasure is derived from welcoming participants who much appreciate the beauty of our church and grounds.

Friston Swift monthly newsletter

Members of the PCC were active in the development of this initiative following the difficulties of meeting and keeping in touch during the restrictions and the suspension of the Benefice Parish Magazine. Part financed by private donations and Friston Parish Council it has become almost indispensable.

- It establishes for those who are vulnerable and might need help in isolation in a contact point – fristonvillage@gmail.com and provides
- Communications from the Council, Church, contributors and updates on the energy projects and not to be missed
- Friston wildlife watch. We are all getting good at identifying the flourishing bird life and hedgehogs in Friston!

Three members of the PCC have been active participants in the Friston SASES action group opposing the energy projects. (See below).

Church Chancel Renovation Project

We have long suffered a recurring 'damp' problem in the east facing wall which is damaging the internal decoration. This decoration is unique and dates back, we think, to Victorian times. In addition, the decorated ceiling needs to be examined for resilience before it is restored.

This will be a huge project which will extend over a number of years.

An initial professional study was undertaken in early 2020 which identified a need for a specialist architectural feasibility study and the need to devise a progressive programme of work.

This was initiated by Carole Morley in her role as our 'buildings officer' and her passion to restore our church. She has been joined by Carole Edwards and they will take this project forward in stages.

Churchyard

Our churchyard is now a source of pride after years of clearance and now regular professional maintenance over and above the voluntary efforts of Martin and Mike Lewis.

We want to show that it is 'cared for' and everybody has responded positively to that

- It is a popular part of the walking path through the village.
- It is appreciated by the many who come to tend the graves and
- Visitors who can often be found resting on 'Sade's Seat' enjoying the views and the peace and tranquillity.

Deanery Synod

The Revd Sheila Hart continues as Rural Dean for the Saxmundham Deanery and she continues to serve our own Benefice.

We have two members of the PCC who are our representative on the Saxmundham Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. It is also helpful for the dissemination of policy and best practices in the ongoing changes to legislation and safeguarding. Its ability to meet has been limited during the restrictions.

Pastoral Care and Mission

Much of the pastoral care in the village happens on an informal basis and having two members of the benefice clergy team resident in the village means that this is not too difficult. The Rector is always happy to visit individuals (once this is legal as restrictions are lifted!) and he and the rest of the clergy team will also be happy to bring anyone home communion on request. There is a weekly bible-study group meeting in the village (it has been meeting on 'Zoom' during lockdown) and, under normal circumstances, the parish will join with others in the benefice for Lent and Advent courses. It should be mentioned, though, that all the members of the congregation care for their neighbours in the village community. It is regarded as an important part of our mission.

The Potential Impacts of Energy Projects in Friston

The church building, in its beautiful prominent setting in the village is, of course, threatened by the proposed developments by Scottish Power Renewables and National Grid. The view from the church would be ruined and access made very difficult, if not impossible, during the construction period. The lives of the villagers would be changed forever and members of the church community have been very active in resisting the plans. They have contributed both verbal and written submissions to the planning enquiry and drawn up detailed documentation highlighting the appalling effect that the plans, if given the green light, would have on the village, its surroundings and its whole population. They have spent a great many hours researching, consulting, writing..... and praying. That work continues as the uncertainty continues and huge thanks are due to those who have made such valuable contributions.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

INTRODUCTION

The Treasurer is pleased to report that despite the loss of physical services and collections and the cancellation of our events we still managed to achieve an operating surplus which is wholly attributable to the continuing support of our regular donors by banker's standing order and the increasingly important Parish Giving Scheme. This is a major issue for the future as is discussed below. Meanwhile, we are indebted to their support and generosity.

Also, what every Treasurer dreams of – we had a legacy! So, without being complacent, he sleeps better at night! The legacy was bequeathed by a lady who used to visit the churchyard to remember her brother who is buried there. Like many who value their visits, she appreciated the quietude of the surroundings. Contact was maintained when she was no longer physically able to visit. Happily, her own ashes are now interred in the churchyard.

OVERVIEW

Please refer to the following:

- General (Unrestricted) Fund Receipts and Payments Account
- Restricted Funds Receipts and Payments and Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2020.

In summary:

- Total Operating Receipts	£20,184
- Less Total Payments	- £16,362
- Operating Surplus	£ 3,822
- Add surplus on Restricted Funds	£72
- Add Legacy Received	£50,016
- Total Surplus for Year	£53,910

Our operating receipts were down year on year by £8,927 which is almost entirely attributable to the loss of our events income and associated donations.

Our total expenditure was down by £6,331 attributable to reduced expenditure on the churchyard (previous year included the renovation of the path up to the porch) but at £2,070 still a considerable commitment. The Diocesan Share remained at £8,750 (Contribution to Head Office support services and facilities) but reduced expenditure whilst the church was unable to open for services.

The Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2020 shows total monetary assets of £135,769.

That provides reassurance but is no reason for complacency and you are asked to reflect on the Risk Management appraisal below.

RISK MANAGEMENT

1 - Ageing!

There is the ongoing need to keep striving to expand the number of regular donors who contribute by standing order or the Parish Giving Scheme:

- Over 80% of our existing donors are over 70 years old.
- Almost 50% of the total sum is from just 4 donors.
- 80% of our donors are not regular churchgoers. Hopefully they recognise our efforts in the community.

If you are not already a regular donor, please consider donating through the national Parish Giving Scheme.

Look at the inside cover of this report and you will find three easy ways to join:

- Online
- By telephone or
- Gift Form which the Treasurer can provide.

In each case you will need to advise the scheme of

- The parish name – St Mary the Virgin, Friston and
- The Parish Reference Number: 330633468 in addition to your own bank details etc.

We have also acquired a contactless payment terminal in the church for donations, collections at services and can be used at events.

2 – Maintaining Outreach and Events.

This is related to ageing above! Our events normally contribute around £6/7,000 annually. They are of a reasonably large scale to attract visitors from the surrounding areas of the East Suffolk Coast and beyond. Accordingly, they require substantial numbers of volunteers to provide operational support; refreshments in the village hall which leverage the income from events; parking; collectors et al.

So, if you are fit and healthy, please volunteer – except on the day, they are not too time consuming.

3 – Impacts of the energy projects.

We just do not know how all these will map out if consented. The construction periods could stretch out to ten years at the same time that Sizewell C is being constructed. How will our lives and that of the church be affected? Will people still wish to move and visit here? Village life relies on a steady influx of new residents to sustain its institutions – the Old Chequers, Parish Council, Village Hall and Church.

4 – Maintaining the church fabric and churchyard.

- Chancel refurbishment.
As described earlier in the Report the scale and nature of the project means it will be spread over a period of years. The work programme needs to be clearly defined and broken down into stages and the financial stage payments built into our budgets. The availability and size of grants is uncertain and will often require the discipline of matching funds from the beneficiary.
- Quinquennial, repairs and maintenance.
A historic building always encounters substantial, unexpected, expensive costs, the robust strength notwithstanding. We are subject to a Quinquennial review by the designated church architect who identifies priorities and a programme of works. We aim to keep on top of its recommendations and ensure our church – a Grade II* listed building – cared for our future generations.
Similarly, we shall endeavour to maintain our churchyard.

5 – Health and Safety

We have been most careful to comply with UK Government and Church of England restrictions and guidelines throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, especially social distancing and sanitising.

But we do miss singing together!

Our general policies on health and safety are kept under review. Fire safety equipment is inspected and tested annually. Our insurers conduct their own risk assessments and provide reminders and updating guidance. The Quinquennial and electrical testing are key components of striving to ensure the safety and protection of our church, congregation and visitors.

6 – Financial Management and Reserves

The Treasurer prepares an annual budget which is presented to the PCC for approval. Performance is measured against plan and a progress report presented at each meeting of the PCC.

The priority is to ensure that the church can pay its bills and the receipt of the legacy provides a cushion there. The aim and discipline though is that annual operating expenditure is more than covered by income.

The legacy has also allowed for us to consider and start planning for the interior refurbishment subject to careful weighing of the relative risks.

Following from the above we have transferred £10,000 from unrestricted funds to the Restricted Fabric Fund. We have been building up this earmarked reserve through annual transfers – a policy which has been approved by our Independent Examiner.

We are conscious of the need to monitor the management of our monetary assets. Our Treasurer is conservative and wary of the volatility of financial markets. These are church community funds and we eschew speculative investment. Our Treasurer considers aspects of investment, inflation, credit, timing and liquidity risks hence the current emphasis on maintaining our cash balances.



ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, FRISTON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

GENERAL (UNRESTRICTED) FUND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	2020	2019
	£	£
RECEIPTS		
Voluntary Receipts:		
Planned Giving	14,530	14,734
Collections at services	113	429
All other giving/voluntary receipts	1,258	2,384
Gift Aid recovered	2,133	2,616
	18,034	20,163
Activities for generating funds	610	7,793
Investment income	199	362
Church activities	1,341	793
TOTAL OPERATING RECEIPTS	20,184	29,111
Legacy Received	50,016	
TOTAL OPERATING RECEIPTS	70,200	29,111
PAYMENTS		
Church Activities		
Diocesan Parish Share	8,750	8,750
Church Running Expenses	4,694	4,617
Clergy Expenses	398	858
Cost of organist	225	1,424
Church Repairs and Maintenance	nil	667
Churchyard Maintenance	2,070	5,197
Mission Giving and Donations	225	1,180
TOTAL PAYMENTS	16,362	22,693
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS (DEFICIT)	53,838	6,418
ADD SURPLUS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS ON RESTRICTED FUNDS (SEE OVER) (DEFICIT -£)	72	84
TOTAL EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS	53,910	6,502

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, FRISTON
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

CHANCEL FUND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT -
RESTRICTED FUND

		2020	2019
		£	£
RECEIPTS	CBF Income Fund	15	14
	Interest	3	7
PAYMENTS		NIL	NIL
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS		18	21

CHURCHYARD FUND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
- RESTRICTED FUND

RECEIPTS	Interest	NIL	NIL
PAYMENTS		NIL	NIL
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS		NIL	NIL

FABRIC FUND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
- RESTRICTED FUND

RECEIPTS	Interest	52	60
PAYMENTS	Major Works	NIL	NIL
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS		52	60
	Transfer from Unrestricted Funds	10,000	6,000

GANNON AND LAMBERT CHARITIES - RESTRICTED FUNDS

RECEIPTS	Interest	2	3
PAYMENTS		NIL	NIL
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS		2	3

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Fund	Total 2020	Total 2019
CASH FUNDS				
Cash in Hand			NIL	NIL
Bank Current Account	52,645		52,645	23,991
Bank Investment Account	55,051	28,073	83,124	57,868
Total Monetary Assets	107,696	28,073	135,769	81,859

(£107,695 Unrestricted, £698 Restricted Chancel Fund,
£220 Restricted Churchyard Fund, £26,762 Restricted Fabric
Fund, £394 Gannon and Lambert Charities)

NOTE TO THE ACCOUNTS:

The sum of £10,000 has been transferred to the Restricted Fabric Fund to provide for major works outstanding from the Quinquennial Fabric Review in 2017 and to build reserves for the restoration of the chancel.

Approved by the PCC on 5th May 2021 and signed on their behalf by
Revd Mark Lowther (PCC Chairman) and Mr Simon Ive (PCC Treasurer)

Revd Mark Lowther, Rector and Chairman

Simon Ive (PCC Treasurer)

Independent Examiner's Report to the members/trustees of the Church of St Mary The Virgin, Friston, Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020 which are set out on the attached pages.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent 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 Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Mr Anthony Morley

Date: 15 April 2021

Thank you again!

We hope that you have enjoyed reading this report, the production of which is privately funded.

Amidst the regulatory requirements and the fears arising from the potential impacts of the energy developments, we try to convey a welcoming and living parish church. One which values the help and support we receive from our community.

If you are 'new to the village' or a visitor, please visit us at our Sunday or Wednesday service and also support our activities.

And we remind you how much we rely on regular giving, no matter how modest. The Parish Giving Scheme details are below.

If you have any comments or queries, please contact the Secretary and Treasurer,

A church has stood on this site for over 1,000 years and we want to maintain it for the enjoyment and appreciation of future generations!

PARISH GIVING SCHEME

GIVE TO YOUR LOCAL PARISH
IN THREE SIMPLE WAYS

St. Mary the Virgin, Friston
REF. 330633468

Website: www.parishgiving.org.uk
Email: info@parishgiving.org.uk | Tel: 0333 002 1260

- 1 GIVE ONLINE**
A few quick and easy steps to set-up regular giving on our website:
www.parishgiving.org.uk
- 2 GIVE BY TELEPHONE**
Between Monday and Friday, 9am - 5pm, you can give to your local parish by calling the PGS team on:
0333 002 1271
- 3 GIVE BY A GIFT FORM**
You can pick up a gift form from your PGS parish representative. Simply fill in the details and we'll do the rest.

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