

**THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS' MARCHAM WITH ST. LUKE'S GARFORD**  
**(registered charity no. 1140057)**

**ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

Administrative Information

The Parish of Marcham with Garford is part of the Diocese of Oxford within the Church of England. The correspondence address is:

Parochial Church Council (PCC) Secretary  
c/o All Saints' Church, Church Street, Marcham, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX13 6NP

Church members who have served from 1 January 2021 until the date this report and the financial statements were approved are:

<b>Vicar:</b>	Rev Nick Weldon (licensed 20 October 2021)	
<b>Permission to officiate:</b>	Rev. Kevin Mentzel, Rev. Mark Newman, Rev Rosemary Siebert	
<b>Authorised to lead and preach:</b>	Professor James Allan, Dr Mary Embleton, Mrs Debbie Flint, Mr. James Gilbert, Dr Tim Jack, Mr Martin Poon, Mrs Jill Rowe	
<b>Children and Families Minister:</b>	Jill Rowe	
<b>Youth Worker:</b>	Rob Finch	
<b>Parish Administrator:</b>	Tamsin Gilbert	
<b>Chaplain to the Parish:</b>	Rev Mark Newman (until September 2021)	
<b>Safeguarding Officer:</b>	Ruth Atkins	
<b>Electoral Roll Officer:</b>	Chris Nutman (from April 2018)	
<b>Churchwarden:</b>	Neil Rowe (from April 2018) Tamsin Gilbert (From April 2018)	
<b>Deputy Churchwardens:</b>	Debbie Flint (from April 2010) Chris Nutman (from 2015) Tim Jack (from 2017)	
<b>Deanery Synod Rep:</b>	Tim Jack Caroline Manders (April 2018)	
<b>Elected PCC Members:</b>	Ruth Atkins (PCC Secretary) Chris Nutman Cathie Little (until April 2021) Alicia Davies (until April 2021) Charles Gaisford (until April 2021) Chrystal Poon Danni Grady Barney Stevens Ann Southwell Pamela Carter Moore Alison Lyndon (from April 2021) David Lunn (from April 2021) Jonathan Boardman (from April 2021) Carolyn Whiting (from April 2021)	
<b>Co-opted Members:</b>	Jill Rowe, Carolyn Whiting, Rev Mark Newman (until September 2021), Rev Kevin Mentzel (until October 2021)	
<b>PCC Officers:</b>		<b>Independent Examiner:</b>
Chairman	Rev Nick Weldon (From Oct 2021)	Mike Grieg (2020-)
Vice Chairman	Neil Rowe	

Secretary  
Treasurer

Ruth Atkins  
Bryan Eccles

### Structure, Governance & 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. The PCC was formally registered with the Charity Commission on 26 January 2011. Lay members of the PCC are appointed in accordance with the provisions of the Church of England. All eligible church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. In April 2021, the Electoral Roll stood at 142 members (2019: 131, 2020: 138).

The PCC met monthly during the year (on Zoom until May 2021 then in person) and the churchwardens met with deputy wardens and staff regularly until the appointment of Rev. Nick Weldon as vicar.

Health and Safety, Child Protection and other pertinent legislation is adhered to. The PCC also encourages its members to attend training events and money is set aside in the budget to facilitate this. Since the pandemic struck all church activities have been risk assessed as required by the government and all necessary measures to prevent and limit transmission of the Covid-19 virus have been taken.

### Objectives

The PCC has the primary responsibility of promoting with the Vicar the whole mission of the church in the parish of Marcham and Garford. This includes pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical ministries to all in the parish by 'Serving Christ Together.'

The PCC seeks to be renewed and empowered by God's Spirit. Whilst recognising the responsibility to be prudent stewards of our resources, seeking and responding to God's will as revealed in the Bible and in line with the traditions of the Church of England is a key component in how the PCC manages its affairs.

### Reserves

The PCC operates within a budget determined by its annual income and reserves and approved by the PCC. The agreed reserves policy is to hold three months basic operating costs in the general fund. This is to allow the church to continue to meet its financial obligations in the event of a disruption to its income stream. The church family are invited annually to review their regular giving and special appeals are launched for special projects as appropriate.

### Public Benefit

The PCC is aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit and have regard to it in their administration of the Parish. The PCC believes that, by fulfilling its responsibility to work together with the incumbent in the Parish and cooperate in all matters of concern and importance for the promotion of the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, it provides a benefit to the public by:

- providing resources and facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers;
- promoting Christian values, and service by members of the Churches in the Parish to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

### Review of the Year – Activities and Achievements (1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021)

2021 was another remarkable year as the Covid-19 pandemic progressed and the church continued putting services online and finding ways of adapting activities to fit in with the imposed restrictions. The parish also advertised for, interviewed, and appointed a new vicar who was licensed in October 2021.

### Services:

During the year we continued with a mixture of in-person and virtual services depending on government guidance. Over the course of the year the number attending in-person services has increased and the number tuning in to online provision has diminished, but has remained an important lifeline for those who remain vulnerable.

St Lukes Church, Garford: Over the course of 2021, the members of St. Lukes in Garford have continued to engage with their community with great effect. On Easter Day there was a sunrise service in person in the churchyard which was well attended. On Remembrance Sunday a Covid-safe Act of Remembrance was attended by many of the village at the War Memorial. At Christmas there was a Crib and Carol service in the church and Carols on the green. There have also been other services including a Plough service and Harvest festival. The church continues to be open weekly on Sunday mornings to provide a quiet space for parishioners to reflect and pray.

Other regular activities: The church supported and promoted activities which included:

*Children & Youth Work*: Marcham School (governors, classroom, R.E., assemblies and services); Friday Club for 5s-11s and termly Family Friday events; Mid-week Youth drop-in ; Children’s and Young people’s groups on Sundays (during services and in the afternoon/evening); Over the course of the year as Covid restrictions changed, these increasingly reverted to being in-person. A new initiative started in 2022 has been a weekly session of activity on the outdoor MUGA courts at the Marcham Community Centre.

*Older Persons support*: Care for the older people within our parish has continued to some extent through volunteers. In 2022 a fortnightly Games morning was introduced that is popular amongst older generations. The vicar has also made a point of visiting many of the people who were isolating due to the pandemic. The church has sought to do what it can to enable older members of the congregation to return to services and activities by providing transport and support.

*Spiritual study and prayer*: Due to Covid-19 these groups have continued in a hybrid model (online/ in-person): Fellowship groups; Weekly prayer meetings; the Prayer Chain; Prayer for the persecuted church; Prayer Triplets. The Midweek Holy Communion has now reverted to being in-person and after a brief period in the new centre is once again meeting in the lounge at Duffield Place. A women’s Bible Study has also been meeting monthly.

*Community activities*: The parish has continued to run a variety of activities open to the whole community including Men’s Beers, Tiddlypeeps (baby and toddler group) and Remembrance and Christmas Events and Services. We also started doing our monthly All-age service in the Marcham Community Centre in September 2021.

*Other Church activities*: a website ([www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk](http://www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk)); a Facebook page managed by Ruth Atkins; Choir

*Charitable Fundraising*: The church has continued to be involved in charitable fundraising, in particular for Agape, and Send-a-Cow.

Church Maintenance: The PCC has undertaken routine maintenance and improvement works to the church buildings during the year. Further information can be found in the fabric report.

#### Financial Review of 2020

The PCC seeks to be good stewards of the financial resources placed in its care through the generous giving of church members and other income it receives in the form of grants and fees.

Total income for 2021	£150,887	(2020	£169,414)
General Funds	£138,366	(2020	£158,323)
Restricted Funds	£12,521	(2020	£11,091) Send-a-Cow, MML, Building Fund
Total expenditure for 2021	£162,635	(2020	£155,642)
General Funds	£144,755	(2020	£144,512)
Restricted Funds	£17,880	(2020	£11,130)
Deficit 2021	<b>£11,748</b>	(2020	£13,771)
Unrestricted	<b>£6,389</b>	(2020	£13811)
Restricted	<b>£5,359</b>	(2020	£ 39) (MML, Send a Cow, Building)

Cash in hand and at the bank at 31st December 2021 was £175,806 (2020 £187,759)  
This is split between the general fund: £167,384 (2020 £173,990) and the restricted funds £8,422 (2020 £13,769)  
(Send-a-Cow, Marcham Moldova Lifeline, Building Fund, Mission Partners general)  
£82,523 (2020 £22,495) of the general fund is held as reserves in a deposit account (see Reserves on pg 2)

Overall planned giving eligible for gift aid fell by £20,620 during 2021 (2020 £2,600)  
Gift Aid consequently fell by £5,284. (A time bound donation of £16,000 pa came to an end in 2020)  
Planned giving not eligible for gift aid increased by £2,931 during 2021 (2020 £150)  
Three one-off gifts of £5,737 £1,000 and £4,000 were received in 2021 (2020 none)  
One legacy of £2,000 was received during 2021 (2020 none)  
No grants were received from Marcham Parish Council, Abingdon Deanery or VWHDC in 2021 (2020 £1,400)

34% of the expenditure in 2021 relates to the Parish Share £55,484 (2020 35% £54,836)  
26.75% of the expenditure in 2021 related to staff wages £43,530 (2020 29% £44,690)  
During 2021:-  
£10,788 was spent on replacing the boiler at All Saints  
£6,143 was spent on internal repainting at St Luke's  
£405 was spent on replacing the altar cushions at St Luke's  
£3,465 VAT was recovered through the Listed Places of Worship Grant  
£7,000 of accumulated funds in the Send a Cow account were donated to SAC's Migori Kenya Project as there were no opportunities for matched giving in 2021.  
£2,528 held in the Café account were donated to Thirsty Café.

Risks and Uncertainties

The main financial risks to the church are perceived to be where:

- a) Giving to the church reduces or stops
- b) One or more significant donors stop giving
- c) Parish Share increases over and above the anticipated increase that comes with the appointment of a full time vicar in 2021
- d) Unexpected damage to the church buildings occurs

Coronavirus COVID19 during 2021

Covid 19 had little impact on regular donations to the church but did affect visitor cash gifts and hall hire.  
Heating costs were reduced,

The PCC looks to manage these risks by holding reserves and appropriate insurance policies.  
The PCC also budgets for the year ahead and further ahead for some items of expenditure.

Approved by the Trustees on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

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