

St John the Baptist, Tidebrook
Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council
for the year ended 31st December 2020

1. TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020

Our aims and purposes as a charity

Tidebrook Parochial Church Council (the PCC)'s purpose is to work with the incumbent in promoting the mission of the church. Our Parish Vision is 'Taking Christ to the local community through service and pastoral care'. Part of the PCC's responsibility is to maintain the fabric of the church in good order.

What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives

While planning our activities for the year, our incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'.

For 2020 we planned the following activities to fulfil our aims and objectives:

1. *Worship*: Maintain regular Bible-based worship of God according to the Church of England; supporting and working with the Vicar, Rev Dr Paul Ratcliff.
2. *Community*: Provide practical care as appropriate for all residents of Tidebrook Parish.
3. *Learning and growing in faith*: Encourage and strengthen Tidebrook residents of all ages and those connected with Tidebrook in turning to and following Jesus.
4. *The church and churchyard*: Maintain and improve the church's facilities for the benefit and enjoyment of the whole Tidebrook community.
5. *Sustainability*: Reduce the carbon footprint and improve the environmental stewardship of the church and churchyard.

What we achieved and how we affected the lives of beneficiaries

Although Tidebrook is a small hamlet, we welcome people for worship at Tidebrook Church almost every Sunday. We are a friendly, warm hearted and prayerful community. From March, the coronavirus pandemic government restrictions allowed us to hold services for only part of the year under strict Covid-19 prevention protocols. The church building remained open daily for personal prayer from July. Refreshments were not permitted following worship services, but we sought to keep in touch with members of the community in other ways, e.g.

- Community Meals Scheme: The church's Tidebrook Elderly Action project teamed up with local cook Joss Donald to help provide ready-made frozen meals without charge to isolated people who were unable to leave their home under the severe coronavirus restrictions in the spring and early summer. This service was much appreciated by at least twelve people.
- Tidebrook Art Club: Ten people benefited from the Art Club led by Betty Payne in the church and churchyard during late summer. Materials and equipment were provided for a small charge and coronavirus protocols were followed. The participants said how wonderful it was to meet and to do something joyful and creative together, when they had been deprived of social contact during the pandemic.

These two examples show how people in Tidebrook benefitted from some of the church's activities this year.

1. Worship

- We are grateful for the leadership offered by the vicar, two Lay Readers, occasional preachers and visiting clergy who serve in the three parishes of Wadhurst, Tidebrook and Stonegate.
- The Covid-19 pandemic brought about drastic changes in our corporate life as all services were suspended and church buildings locked for 3 months from March.
- The vicar organised recorded services for the three churches of the benefice every Sunday from 22nd March, which have continued without interruption into the following year. Tidebrook members shared in them by readings and intercessions.
- Live services in church resumed from 2nd August – except for another lockdown in November – following strict protocols, e.g. wearing face coverings, sanitising hands on entry, observing social distancing and without communal singing.
- Average attendance at services was 23, whereas 35 attended the festival service on Christmas Day under Covid-19 social distancing restrictions.
- The current number of people on the electoral roll was 63, a decrease of two.
- No baptisms or weddings were recorded, with one funeral in church, one at the crematorium and one burial of ashes in the churchyard.

2. Community

- Prayer for local people in need or unwell was included in ‘live’ services. Prayer was offered by telephone following recorded services.
- We published the Tidebrook Newsletter and delivered it monthly with *Focus* magazine to more than half the homes in Tidebrook.
- Tidebrook Elderly Action provided assistance in the form of meal vouchers and help with the cost of providing personal alarms to elderly residents living alone.
- We continued to give financial support to Alun and Debbie Burt – Crosslinks mission partners in Capetown – and ten other charitable causes.
- Tidebrook Church Fete could not be held this year because of the pandemic.

3. Learning and developing together

- Tidebrook home group met weekly on zoom throughout the year and studied material common to the other 11 groups that met at Wadhurst and Stonegate.
- The topic of the Pilgrim Course, held in Lent, was ‘The Bible’.

4. The church and churchyard

- The large wall-mounted TV screen was installed above the pulpit in January and proved to be a huge benefit for showing images, videos and text when live services resumed during the pandemic, as service sheets and books were not permitted.
- The vestry and undercroft were refurbished and shelves provided to create more flexible storage space.
- Members of the Tidebrook community continued to be involved in flower arranging, decorating the church for festivals and maintaining the churchyard.

5. Sustainability

- The church continued to participate in A Rocha’s Eco Church programme
- The Church of England Parish Giving Scheme was promoted to facilitate giving in support of the church’s fabric and mission.
- We reviewed the PCC’s safeguarding policy and procedures.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The PCC is a charity but is exempted from registering with the Charity Commission within the meaning of Section 30 of the Charities Act 2011. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 21956.

Pastoral Reorganisation

The Bishop of Chichester approved the formation in June 2020 of the new Benefice of Wadhurst, Tidebrook and Stonegate, with the Rev Dr Paul Ratcliff confirmed as vicar.

Membership of the PCC

The PCC held four meetings during 2020 – three via Zoom during lockdown - with an average attendance of 87%.

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent/priest in charge, curate, lay readers licenced to officiate in the church, patrons), the churchwardens and members of the Deanery or General Synods and 9 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible. In addition, the PCC has the power to co-opt members. During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

<i>Incumbent:</i>	Rev Dr Paul Ratcliff	(Chairman)
<i>Churchwarden:</i>	*Mrs Anne Stordy	
<i>Churchwarden & Reader</i>	*Mr David Payne	(Vice-Chairman)
<i>Readers:</i>	Mr Peter Thompson	(chose not to attend PCCs)
<i>Deanery Synod reps:</i>	Mrs Rosie Pearson	
	Mr Gary Davies	
<i>Patrons:</i>	Mr Michael Hardcastle	
	Mr Michael Toynbee	(died October 2020)

ELECTED MEMBERS

Mr David Barker	
Mrs Beverley Boylan	
Mr Philip Cheung	
Mr Anton Glanville	
*Mrs Christine Glanville	(Secretary)
Mrs Vicki Soutar	
*Mr Stephen Stordy	

CO-OPTED MEMBERS

Mrs Caroline Cox	
Mrs Betty Payne	(Safeguarding Officer)
*Mr Mark Pearson	(Treasurer)

* indicates members of the Standing Committee.

Standing Committee: As legally required, this Committee has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given to it by the Council.

Family Service Committee: This meets to plan the service held on the first Sunday of the month and invites visiting preachers and readers to those services.

Fete Committee: An *ad hoc* Committee which reviews the form and future of the annual Fete.

Safeguarding

The PCC has complied with 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).

Signed

Date

2. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND REVIEW FOR 2020

Receipts

Collections and donations: Collections were down from the previous year, reflecting the limited numbers attending services during the pandemic, but were still a significant contribution considering how few live services were held. General donations were encouraging and specific donations to our Covid fund meant that we were able to offer support to many who needed it. A generous legacy was received from the Estate of Penny Owen.

Fundraising events: Tidebrook Fete could not be held because of Covid-19 restrictions. A well-supported wine-tasting evening was held just before lockdown.

Payments

All of the above meant that we were able to fund repairs to the church fabric including refurbishment of the vestry and undercroft, and maintenance of gutters, and install the large display screen above the pulpit, as well as increasing the church's charitable giving.

The PCC made the following Charitable donations in 2020:

Crosslinks	900
A Rocha Uganda	250
Wadhurst Burundi Link	250
Diocesan Family Support Work	300
School Pastors	150
Chichester Cathedral Trust	50
Immanuel Church, Bethlehem	300
Hospice in the Weald	200
Life & Soul	200
The Bridge Trust, Tunbridge Wells	100
Open Doors (<i>The Persecuted Church</i>)	250
Pastoral Assistant for Children & Families	500
TOTAL	£3,450

Bank balances at 31 Dec 2020:

CBF Deposit	207,070
Current account	18,367
Freewill Lloyds	11,472
Freewill Natwest	<u>32</u>
Total	236,941

Lambrinudi Fund – Annual Movement

The Lambrinudi Fund is formed from a bequest “to help older people unable to live in their own homes and to provide for the upkeep of the Parish Church.”

The funds currently sit within the CBF Deposit Account.

Balance 1 Jan 2020		200,000
Expenses: Repairs & Renewals	11,287	
Tidebrook Elderly Action	<u>628</u>	<u>-11,915</u>
Balance 31 Dec 2020		188,085

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, TIDEBROOK

Dec-20

RECEIPTS

From Donors

	2020 ACTUAL YTD	2019 ACTUAL
Planned Giving	9,194	8,863
Income Tax recovered (general donors)	2,996	4,007
Collections	1,661	3,984
Donations (General)	1,240	1,280
Covid Support donations	1,015	
Legacy	22,811	0
	38,917	18,134

From Fund Raising Events (General)

Summer Fete	0	3,330
Wine tasting	285	0
Parish Walk	0	0
Wine tasting	0	313
Chair Hire	0	25
Harvest lunch/Tidebrook has Talent	0	0
Fundraising event 2	0	0
Parking Area - Donations	0	0
Parking area - Fundraising Income	0	0
	285	3,668

From Bank Interest

From Fees 1,153 1,543

Income From Parish Room Hire 1,326 1,908

Transfer from Lambrinudi Fund 100 230

VAT reclaim for roof 0 0

0 4,516

2,579 8,197

Total Receipts **41,781 29,999**

PAYMENTS

Legacy transfer to Savings account 0 0

Charitable Donations

3,400 2,790

For the Work of the Church

Parish Contribution	12,240	12,000
Clergy Expenses	205	751
Curate's Expenses	0	0
Ministry Expenses	0	500
Training	0	0
Ministry Support	125	1
Church Utilities	926	2,487
Church Insurance	1,605	1,647
Upkeep of Services	708	1,113
Organists & Organ maintenance	278	1,135
Repairs & Renewals	11,287	2,117
TEA Fund	628	1,376
Covid support expenses	1,138	
Upkeep of Churchyard	243	1,146
	29,383	23,772

For Fund Raising

Summer Fete	0	1,202
Wine tasting	230	87
Harvest lunch	0	0
Parish Walk	0	0
Parking Area - Expenditure	0	0
Parking area - Fundraising Expenses	0	0
	230	1,289

For Church Management

Administration, Printing & Stationery 1,908 72

For Parish Room Hire consumables 0 6

Kneeler costs 0 0

Total Expenditure **34,921 27,929**

Excess/ (Shortfall) of Receipts over Payments 6,860 2,070

Opening Balance receipts/payments 22,979 20,911

Closing Balance receipts/payments 29,837 22,979

Annual movement **6,858 2,068**

We confirm that to the best of our knowledge that the above statement is a true statement of the financial position of St John the Baptist Church, Tidebrook

Mark Pearson,
Honorary Treasurer

Adrian Whitton, FCMA, FCGMA,
Independent Examiner