

**THE PARISH OF WHITEHAVEN**

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH  
MEETING**

**Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023**

**in St. James Parish Hall  
at 11.30 am**

**Minutes of the previous APCM  
held on Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

**Financial Statements for the  
Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

**Reports for 2022**

**PARISH OF WHITEHAVEN**

**THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

**TO BE HELD IN ST. JAMES' PARISH HALL**

**ON SUNDAY, 23<sup>rd</sup> APRIL 2023, AT 11:30 A.M.**

- 1. To elect** The Churchwardens by the joint consent of the Minister of the Parish and those Parishioners attending (including Churchwarden's Measure 2001)
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**2. Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

- (a) Minutes of APCM held on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2022.
  - (b) Election of Parochial Representatives of the Laity as follows:
    - 1) Deanery Synod – two vacancies for a 3-year term
    - 2) To the Parochial Church Council – up to four members for a 3-year term, three vacancies for a 2-year term and one vacancy for a 1-year term
    - 3) For the Election of Sidespeople
  - (c) Reports
    - 1) A report on the electoral roll.
    - 2) Annual report on the proceedings of the council.
    - 3) Annual report on the financial matters of the parish and representation of the audited accounts of the parish
    - 4) Appointment of Independent Examiner
    - 5) A report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church
    - 6) A report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod
    - 7) Church Organisation Reports
    - 8) Safeguarding Policy Annual Update
    - 9) Lay Chairman's Report & Remarks
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**PARISH OF WHITEHAVEN**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING HELD ON**  
**SUNDAY, 24<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2022, AT 11-25A.M. IN**  
**ST. JAMES PARISH HALL, WHITEHAVEN**

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) was chaired by the Rev'd Robert Jackson (RJ). The list of attendees and apologies is provided in Appendix 1.

The meeting opened at 11.25am following morning worship.

**PART 1.**       **To elect** the Churchwardens by the joint consent of the Minister of the Parish and those Parishioners attending (including Churchwarden's Measure 2001)

RJ thanked both Alan Naylor and Richard Last for their service over the previous year.

There had been two nomination forms for Churchwarden received. **Richard Last** was proposed for re-election by Carrie Stewart, seconded by Paul Cox and **Paul Cox** was proposed for election by Jane Nicolson, seconded by Anna Jones.

There were no other nominations or opposing votes. All present agreed, there were no abstentions, and therefore Richard and Paul were duly appointed to continue to serve the parish as Churchwardens for the next 12 months.

RJ led a prayer for Richard and Paul as they take up the Churchwarden role for the coming year

**PART 2.       Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

**(a) Minutes of APCM held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2021.**

The minutes of the previous APCM held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2021 have been available to all as part of the APCM papers pack since mid-March. The minutes were proposed and accepted as a true record of the proceedings with no abstentions. There were no amendments requested, and no matters arising from the minutes.

**(b) Election of Parochial Representatives of the Laity**

**b.1) To the Deanery Synod (3 vacancies)**

The term of **Anna Jones** as serving parish representative to the Deanery Synod (in addition to Robert Jackson) remains valid, and Anna has indicated that she intends to continue.

**Dave Flitcroft's** term of service to the Deanery Synod ends in 2022, and he was renominated by Jane Nicolson, seconded by Ripley Steele, for a further term of 3 years.

The governance structure of Synod was explained, and that there are 3 seats available from the parish (representing an Electoral Roll of 167). As there were no other nominations for Deanery Synod, 1 vacancy remains.

**b.2) To the Parochial Church Council (4 vacancies)**

There were four vacancies for the PCC, to satisfy a council membership of 12 (representing an Electoral Roll of 167), all for a 3-year term.

Pat Adair, Lindsay Edmiston and Michele Smith have decided not to renew their terms on the PCC and were thanked for their service.

There was 1 nomination for election to the PCC. **Donna Flitcroft**, proposed by Jane Nicolson; seconded by Ripley Steele.

The nomination was unanimously agreed for a 3-year term.

4 vacancies remain.

### **b.3) For the Election of Sides-people**

The following names were proposed as sidespeople by Churchwarden Richard Last.

Gordon Coldrick	Linda Davey	Joyce Fearon	Dorothy Graham
Judith Jordan	Susan Kitchen	James Last	Eric McGowan
Jane Nicolson	Alan Naylor	Alan Webb	

There were no additional names presented at the meeting, and all agreed the election of the named individuals as proposed.

RJ thanked all sides-people for the important role of welcome that they carry out.

### **(c) Reports**

- 1) A report on the electoral roll.  
In accordance with Church Representation Rules, Electoral Roll has been closed for a period of 3 weeks ahead of this APCM. Paul Cox (Electoral Roll Officer) reported the number on roll to be 167.

The following reports have been made available in the published APCM papers since mid-March 2022 and made available both in Church and as a download from the parish website.

- 2) Annual report on the proceedings of the council.
- 3) Annual report on the financial matters of the parish and representation of the audited accounts of the parish
- 4) A report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church
- 5) A report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod
- 6) Church Organisations' Reports  
St Nicholas Cafe  
Parish Hall/Community Centre  
Mothers' Union  
Messy Church/St James Infants  
Bellringers
- 7) Safeguarding - Annual Update
- 8) Rector's Report

RJ invited any questions or matters arising from the content of any of the reports. There were none raised.

The reports as presented in the APCM pack were unanimously accepted.

### **Safeguarding**

RJ explained the increasing vital importance of safeguarding as part of the life of the church, and the responsibility of all of us. A safeguarding piece is to be included in the Parish magazine for May.

The Parish Safeguarding Policy and the ethos behind it had been discussed and agreed at the PCC Meeting held 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022, in line with the diocesan guidelines.

Each parish should have a Safeguarding Officer, which has been undertaken by RJ since DF had to step down to allow time for him to begin his work in preparing for ordination.

**Donna Flitcroft** volunteered to take on this role going forward, which was gratefully accepted by all at the meeting. All the necessary training will be provided from the diocese.

### **Parish Accounts**

Jane Nicolson had presented the accounts included in the APCM pack to the PCC at the meeting held 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022.



Points to note for this year are that the costs and income have just about balanced due to increased income from offerings and cost savings in the parish share, resource cost savings and prudent purchasing. At the same time, an incredible £23,000 has been raised to pay for the paintwork restoration work at the east end of St James Church.

Finances will remain a challenge going forward as we are committed to increase the parish share, and the balance of income and outgoings

The accounts for 2021, have been independently examined by Derwent Management Services and Jane Nicolson proposed acceptance of the 2021 audited accounts as presented in the APCM pack. This proposal was unanimously agreed.

### **Independent Examiner**

Jane Nicolson proposed Derwent Management Services be appointed as the Independent Examiner of accounts. This proposal was unanimously agreed.

### **Chairman's Remarks**

Much of this meeting is about looking back over the previous year, but there needs to be a thought for the future. The financial challenges that families in our community are facing due to changes in the economic climate are leading to increasing foodbank use and requests for help, some coming in through our schools. Mental health issues and loneliness are increasingly prevalent as we emerge from the pandemic into further uncertainty and situations which trigger anxieties. We need to be proactive in meeting these challenges, supporting our community wherever we can and pushing ahead with our befriending scheme.

We also need to maintain momentum in our work towards carbon net zero. We have received the bronze Eco church award, and now need to make the necessary commitments to achieve a silver award. This not only means energy use considerations for our churches, but also for the other buildings that we have responsibility for and in our individual living.

The world is in need of prayer for all of these things.

Thanks to all who serve the parish and its work in whatever way.

### **AOB**

There was no further business.

The meeting closed at 11:50am.

CS 24.04.2022

**APPENDIX 1: Attendees of the APCM held on the 24<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

R Jackson (Chair)      C. Stewart (Secretary)

P. Cox	E. Dawson	C. Devine	P. Dixon	M. Donnan	D. Flitcroft
DL Flitcroft	D. Graham	E. Goodwin	V. Greaves	J. Jordan	S. Kelly
S. Kitchen	A. Last	E. Last	J. Last	R.Last	E. McGowan
M. McGowan	V. Milling	M. Moore	A. Naylor	J. Nicolson	M. Railton
A. Redhead	M. Stalker	A. Webb			

**Apologies**

A. Jones      J. Whinn      M. Whinn

# **Electoral Roll Report APCM 2023**

As of 31Dec 2022 the number of parishioners on the electoral roll stood at 165 .This is compared to a figure of 167for previous year ending.

Between 1 Jan 2022and 31 Dec 2022, no additions were made to the electoral roll, and twonames were removed. The reason for their removal was that they unfortunately died.

Paul Cox  
Electoral roll officer

**PARISH OF WHITEHAVEN**  
**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**23rd APRIL 2023**

**PCC SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

All ordinary PCC meetings held during 2022 and the APCM were chaired by the Rev'd. Robert Jackson, Priest in Charge of the Parish of Whitehaven.

During 2022, there were six meetings of the PCC. Meetings were held as follows;

- 24<sup>th</sup> January – ordinary PCC Meeting
- 21<sup>st</sup> March – ordinary PCC Meeting
- 24<sup>th</sup> April – APCM, followed by PCC Meeting to appoint officers and discuss urgent business
- 27<sup>th</sup> June – ordinary PCC Meeting
- 26<sup>th</sup> September – ordinary PCC Meeting
- 28<sup>th</sup> November – ordinary PCC Meeting

In October 2022, Rev'd Jackson announced that he would be leaving the parish in early 2023. There were two special meetings of the PCC held in 2022 to discuss the arrangements for the period of vacancy and steps towards making a new appointment. These were chaired by Ven. Richard Pratt, Associated Archdeacon.

- 17<sup>th</sup> October – special PCC Meeting
- 17<sup>th</sup> November – special PCC Meeting

Meetings of the devolved special-interest groups took place throughout the year, and all were reported to the next following PCC meeting to make recommendations for endorsement. These groups are as follows:

- Finance
- Buildings
- Mission Community
- St. Nicholas & Gardens
- Social & Fundraising.

It remains that an emergency meeting of the full PCC could be convened if there was any urgent PCC business emerging from the special-interest groups or elsewhere between the scheduled meetings.

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) 2022**

At the time of closure of the electoral roll prior to the APCM 2022 there were 167 names listed.

The APCM for Whitehaven parish was held on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2022. At this meeting,

- Richard Last and Paul Cox were elected to serve as Churchwardens.
- Donna Flitcroft was elected as a PCC member for a 3-year term.

In June 2022, Val Milling gave notice of resignation from the PCC due to relocation.

At 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 the PCC comprised 7 elected members (representing an electoral roll of 167), 4 ex-officio members and 1 clergy (Appendix 1).

Carrie Stewart  
Secretary to the PCC

**APPENDIX 1. The Parish of Whitehaven PCC Members at 31 December 2022**

**Clergy**

Rev'd Robert Jackson (Chair)

**Lay Vice Chairman** – Richard Last

**Lay Representatives**

Anna Jones  
David Flitcroft  
Richard Last  
Paul Cox

**Retiring**

Reader & Deanery Synod Representative  
Deanery Synod Representative  
Churchwarden  
Churchwarden&Electoral Roll Officer

Jane Nicolson  
Dorothy Graham  
Carrie Stewart

2023 (Treasurer)  
2023  
2023 (Secretary)

Alison Last  
James Last  
Alan Webb

2024  
2024  
2024

Donna Flitcroft

2025

**Five further vacancies remain**

**Deanery Synod Representatives** – **Clergy** Rev'd Robert Jackson

**Lay (3 representatives)**

Anna Jones (2020 - 2023)  
David Flitcroft (2022 - 2025)

**One further vacancy remains**

## **Finance Report for Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

*The Financial Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 are presented to the APCM.*

*An extract from the consolidated accounts and a summary of all the accounts held by the PCC are provided. A full set of the accounts will be available to view at the meeting.*

*Derwent Management Services have carried out the examination of the accounts under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the Regulations") and section 154 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act").*

### **General Account and Unrestricted Funds**

The general account ended the year with a small deficit of £1,400. This was better than we had planned. FWO/Collections were higher than planned and we made some significant one off cost savings on staff salaries due to vacancy/maternity leave.

At the start of the year we received a legacy of £110,000 which was put into our business reserve accounts. It will ensure that we can continue to maintain our buildings, spend the money we need to on reducing our carbon footprint and increasing our Parish Offer.

We made a transfer of £25,000 from general reserves towards the cost of the work on the east end repairs and repainting.

Unrestricted reserves at the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 were £174,778. These funds are available for general projects/development.

### **St Nicholas, St James Parish Hall/Community Centre, Flower Guild (Designated Funds)**

St Nicholas centre had a good year financially. The café generated £17,300 income and the coffee mornings brought in another £1,200. This meant that the centre broke even which was a great achievement. £1,000 was spent on safety repairs to the hardstanding and the boundary wall. St Nicholas reserves at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 are £14,555.

The Parish Hall also had a good year. The hall is used daily, and this generated income of £11,850. Like St Nicholas the parish hall also broke even. £3,500 was transferred to the general account. £2,500 was spent on installing new LED lights. The current account reserves at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 are £4,510.

The Flower Guild had a net inflow of £788 in the year and held a balance of £1,210 at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022.

### **Friends of St James, St Nicholas Gardens, St James Community Centre, Mission Community (Restricted Funds)**

Work on the repairs to the east end wall of St James started in March 2022 and during the year we paid out £57,812. We claimed grants of £10,000 from National Churches Trust/Wolfson Trust and claimed £10,161 of VAT from the Listed Places of Worship

Scheme. The work is currently 95% complete. The reserves on the 'Friends of St James' account at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 are £15,530.

The St Nicholas Gardens account brought forward a figure £520. There was no expenditure in the year. The balance of funds remaining at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 is £520.

Whitehaven Town Council continue to provide financial support to the maintenance of the flower beds. Copeland Borough Council carry out the grass cutting and litter picking. The Parish is grateful to the Councils for their contribution.

Restricted reserves of £15,666 are held against St James Community Centre. These were the retained reserves held by St James Community Centre Ltd at 31<sup>st</sup> September 2020 when the management of the premises reverted to PCC control.

The Parish holds the bank account for the Mission Community. The balance at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 is £3,444. A further £960 is held on behalf of Food Share and £621 on behalf of Haven Saints.

#### **Investment/Trust Funds**

The Carlisle Diocesan Board of Finance holds a number of investments on behalf of the PCC. The main investment is an endowment with a valuation of £89,640 as at the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022. The terms of the endowment permit only for the interest from the investment to be used.

#### **Summary**

Overall reserves increased by £68,350. The reserves at the end of the year were £238,167.

#### **2023**

Each year the PCC sets a budget. For 2023 the PCC has committed to increase our Parish Offer from £50,000 to £55,000. Our biggest challenge for 2023 is another potential doubling of our utility costs. The PCC took the decision in December 2022 to move the Sunday worship to the community centre for January – March and to suspend the Tuesday services. This has saved us some £3000 - £3,500, which is a significant saving. We applied for and was granted a figure of £6,300 from the Church of England Energy Bill Relief fund. Given this the 2023 budgets now show an overall deficit on the general account, St Nicholas and Parish Hall of £26,500 before any repairs/improvement to our buildings.

The Parish holds unrestricted reserves of £174,800 so this level of deficit can be covered. The PCC continues to be committed to challenging our costs and looking for ways to increase our income so that in future years our level of deficit is reduced.

Jane Nicolson, Treasurer, 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**Parochial Church Council  
Parish of Whitehaven  
(Charity Number 1130849)**

**Statement of Financial Activities**

For the year ending 31 December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>						
Voluntary Receipts	2a.	62,487	1,223	787	64,497	63,838
Legacies	2b.	110,162	-	-	110,162	-
Grants	2c.	-	-	20,161	20,161	10,690
Investments/Dividends	2d.	3,035	19	47	3,101	2,594
Church Activities	2e.	6,707	29,388	-	36,095	15,795
Fund Raising		2,024	1,196	1,503	4,723	23,420
Other Income		-	-	-	-	51,569
Charitable Giving	2f.	834	-	-	834	345
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>185,249</b>	<b>31,826</b>	<b>22,498</b>	<b>239,573</b>	<b>168,251</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>						
Utilities		5,528	11,780	-	17,308	9,268
Payments to Diocese	3a.	50,000	-	-	50,000	46,800
Salaries	3b.	8,396	2,799	-	11,195	13,272
Expenses to Clergy		809	-	-	809	718
Church Activities	3c.	-	4,743	-	4,743	2,742
Church Running Costs	3d.	17,617	7,296	107	25,020	24,941
Major Repairs	3e.	-	3,500	57,812	61,312	20,206
Charitable Giving		836	-	-	836	345
Other		-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<b>83,186</b>	<b>30,118</b>	<b>57,919</b>	<b>171,223</b>	<b>162,428</b>
<b>NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS, LOSSES AND TRANSFERS</b>		<b>102,063</b>	<b>1,708</b>	<b>(35,421)</b>	<b>68,350</b>	<b>5,823</b>
Transfers	4.	(28,242)	4,000	24,242	-	-
Gains on Investments on revaluation		-	-	(11,944)	(11,944)	7,946
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>73,821</b>	<b>5,708</b>	<b>(23,123)</b>	<b>56,406</b>	<b>13,769</b>
BALANCES B/FWD 1 JANUARY		100,957	14,568	157,123	272,648	258,879
BALANCES C/FWD 31 DECEMBER		174,778	20,276	134,000	329,054	272,648



**Parochial Church Council  
Parish of Whitehaven  
(Charity Number 1130849)**

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>						
Tangible		-	-	-	-	-
Investments						
Endowment Funds	5a.	-	-	89,641	89,641	101,601
Trust Funds	5b.	-	-	1,246	1,246	1,230
		-	-	<b>90,887</b>	<b>90,887</b>	<b>102,831</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>						
Debtors (Tax Recoverable)		1,215	981	10	2,206	2,508
Cash		-	20	-	20	-
Bank/Building Society		29,468	20,765	43,103	93,336	63,197
Deposits		145,637	-	-	145,637	100,440
		<b>176,320</b>	<b>21,766</b>	<b>43,113</b>	<b>241,199</b>	<b>171,002</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
Creditors falling due within one year						
Accruals for utilities and other costs		1,542	1,490	-	3,032	1,185
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)</b>		<b>174,778</b>	<b>20,276</b>	<b>134,000</b>	<b>329,054</b>	<b>272,648</b>
<i>Distributable Earnings</i>		73,821	5,708	(11,179)	68,350	5,823
Prior Year Retained Earnings		100,957	14,568	54,292	169,817	163,994
	6.	<b>174,778</b>	<b>20,276</b>	<b>43,113</b>	<b>238,167</b>	<b>169,817</b>
<u>Undistributable Earnings</u>						
Share Revaluation		-	-	90,887	90,887	102,831
<b>PARISH FUNDS</b>		<b>174,778</b>	<b>20,276</b>	<b>134,000</b>	<b>329,054</b>	<b>272,648</b>

The notes on pages 8 to 14 form part of this account

Parish of Whitehaven Summary of Accounts  
31st December 2022

	Opening Balance	Total Receipts	Total Expenditure	Surplus (Deficit)	Transfers	Closing Balance 31.12.2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted Accounts</b>						
<b>Parish of Whitehaven General Account</b>	18,643	74,718	83,186	(8,469)	7,075	17,249.08
This account covers the day to day running costs of St James Church and administration of the Parish of Whitehaven. Funds are generated from free will giving and church activities.						
<b>NatWest Bonus Saver</b>	1,866	26		26	10,000	11,891.28
<b>Church of England Deposit Account</b>	316	214		214	99,683	100,213.39
<b>NatWest/Santander - Deposits</b>	80,132	110,291		110,291	(145,000)	45,423.88
<b>Designated Accounts</b>						
<b>St Nicholas General Account</b>	3,737	18,563	18,274	289	1,000	5,025.98
<b>St Nicholas Bonus Saver</b>	510	19		19	9,000	9,529.26
Covers the cost of day to day running of St Nicholas centre along with maintaining the fabric of the building. Funds are generated by the Café						
<b>St James Community Centre General Account</b>	9,898.06	12,050	11,438	612	(6,000)	4,509.72
Covers the cost of day to day running of St James Parish Hall along with maintaining the fabric of the building. Funds are generated by hiring the hall to local community groups						
<b>Parish of Whitehaven Flower Fund</b>	423	1,193	405	788		1,210.67
This account is for floral decorations. Funds are generated by specific memorial donations and other general donations.						
<b>Restricted Accounts</b>						
<b>Parish of Whitehaven Friends of St James/Restoration</b>	26,829	21,196	57,812	(36,616)	25,317	15,530.17
This account covers specific restoration or improvement projects associated with St James Church. Funds are generated through specific fund raising events, individual or business donations and grants. Funds are restricted to St James Building fabric projects						
<b>St Nicholas Gardens / Memorial Garden / Bells</b>	520	1,256	0	1,256		1,776.23
This account covers funds raised for the maintenance of St Nicholas Gardens						
<b>St James Community Centre - Business Reserve</b>	15,667	39		39	2,500	18,206.23
This account covers funds transferred from Management Company. Funds are restricted to the maintenance of St James Parish Hall						
<b>Parish of Whitehaven Pastoral Account - Bonus Saver</b>	6,145	6		6	(3,575)	2,575.74
This reserve account holds legacies for use on specific pastoral activities within the Parish of St James. These funds are restricted under the terms of the legacies						
<b>Ecclesiastical Charity Account</b>	0	0		0		0.24
This reserve account is for the furtherance of pastoral work within the parish						
<b>Sub Total Parish of Whitehaven</b>	164,686	239,572	171,116	68,456	0	233,141.87

<b>Restricted Accounts</b>						
<b>Parish of Whitehaven Pastoral Account - Mission Commu</b>	3,550	0	107	(107)		3,443.52
This account holds funds for the Whitehaven Mission Community. Each church in the MC contributes to the funds and expenditure is for joint Mission Community Events						
<b>Parish of Whitehaven Pastoral Account - Fare Share/Food</b>	960	0		0		959.99
This account holds funds for Fare Share/Food Share. The funds are used to support the ministry of Fare Share/Food Share. The ministry is jointly run through the Mission Community						
<b>Parish of Whitehaven Pastoral Account - Haven Saints</b>	621	0		0		620.56
This account holds funds on behalf of Haven Saints						
<b>Sub Total Mission Community</b>	5,131	0	107	(107)	0	5,024.07

<b>Grand Total All Accounts</b>	169,817	239,572	171,223	68,349	0	238,165.94
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**Investments/Trust Funds**

<b>L Joyce Endowment</b>	89,641
<b>Trust Funds</b>	1,247
	329,054

## **Buildings**

During 2022 we started to address the issues from the quinquennial reports we received in 2021. By far the biggest job was the refurbishment of surface of the East Wall of the church. By the end of the year this work was nearly completed, but a little further work is required.

During 2023, as well as finishing East End work we intend to do some work to tidy the nearby memorial gardens, clearing the planted areas (but not the grassed areas) and laying down gravel on which memorial pots can be placed. (The interred ashes will not be disturbed.). We also intend to do work in 2023 to improve some of the lead work on the roofs to limit the chance of future flooding in the event of prolonged heavy rain. Other projects include changing the remaining lighting over to LED to reduce energy usage.

At the time of preparing this report. the front doors are in need of some urgent repair. We are in the progress of arranging local carpenters to do this repair. by the time of the APCM this work will have been hopefully done.

### **Fixtures, Fittings**

We conducted our annual inventory with nothing significant to report

Richard Last

# Deanery Synod.

30<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at St Bridgets Moorsby

Guest speaker should have been Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor, Jo Van Lachterop.

Reports were also given from General and Diocesan Synods, and Network Youth

## **Network Youth reports highlights**

### . Secondary Schools work

The aims of secondary schools work are as follows:

- To enable local church to remain 'present and engaged' with local secondary school through leading or facilitating regular work of ecumenical teams.
- To enable young people and staff to encounter God through our listening to and loving and serving of staff and students.
- To give opportunity for the young people and staff at the school to explore discipleship in a context appropriate way.
- To signpost young people to further opportunities to be part of local church, whether Network Youth Church, time honoured church, or other fresh expressions.

It has been a busy time in schools. At West Lakes Academy, we have re-established our weekly break-time club craft for the younger students thanks to the support of the school and the ecumenical team. At the time of writing, I am exploring how to re-engage the 'Knitting Nannas' who are keen to come back, but I need to check carefully the safer recruiting safeguarding requirements needed. At Whitehaven Academy, we (another ecumenical team) have succeeded in establishing two lunch clubs during which we offer craft activities and a 'thought for the day' which is based on a biblical theme and includes an invitation to pray. In addition, I have been working with a staff member who has been running 'games clubs' and I have been supporting two or three times a week.

Ignite Friday Night at St Andrew's Church Mirehouse.

The aim of this group is to enable the young people of the area aged 11-18 to:

- encounter God through our listening, loving and serving of them
- encounter God through our exploration of discipleship together in context appropriate ways
- hear and respond to God's invitation to become disciples of Jesus Christ

The Network Youth Leader also talked about the finances on Network Youth

### **Highlights on the Report to Calder Deanery Synod on Carlisle Diocesan Synod**

Held on Saturday 5 th March 2022 at Newbiggin Village Hall, Penrith

#### **Opening Remarks**

Bishop James mentioned that we are encouraged to give to the Ukraine crisis – he suggested that at present it would be pertinent to give to the Disasters and Emergency Committee or the European Council of Churches but we would be updated via the diocesan e-news as the situation evolved.

#### **Living in Love and Faith – Update**

The Rev'd Cameron Butland updated us on LLF

The Rev'd Nicki Pennington asked if there would be an opportunity for reflective learning for those who have engaged already. It was suggested by Cameron that a synod member might like to take this forward.

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#### **Palestine Motion**

Update- it's now the twelfth diocesan synod motion in special agenda list – expected to be debated in 3 years time. Val Hallard provided a flyer so we can stay updated.

#### **Discussion Vacancy in See of Penrith**

Archbishops' interim report on social care – Archbishops' Commission on Reimagining Care

Discussion about whether church schools should stay in church led MATs

Property management

Report from General Synod

Canon Ben Carter – report on ‘Safeguarding Season’ at Carlisle Cathedral

Board of Education Scheme – motion carried to formalize relationship between DBF and DBE

God for All update from Bishop James

### **A special Deanery Meeting was held on the 20th July 2022**

The meeting began with a Eucharist Service .

This was followed by Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor, Jo Van Lachterop that should have been done in March. Over forty people from across Calder Deanery, including Synod members, Parish Safeguarding Officers, Church Wardens and others with specific concerns for church safeguarding. She began by outlining the particular risks connected with Church regarding safeguarding including the fact that we offer a safe place for people including those who are vulnerable and that often, church congregations have a higher percentage of vulnerable people among them in comparison with other social groups. Jo pointed out that those who had experienced abuse in the Church would be unable to regard it as a safe place, but that nonetheless, we are called to make sure the church is experienced as a safer place for this group than previously.

Safeguarding Training. Jo Highlighted forthcoming the ‘train the trainer’ sessions which would enable people to deliver ‘Basic Awareness’ and ‘Foundation’ training – the courses requiring completion by all PCC members and those involved in work with the vulnerable in any way. Jo advised that Church Wardens should do the leadership module particularly to cover periods when there was no incumbent. Jo who stressed that the training is due for renewal every three years anyway. Jo mentioned that she is running a Parish Safeguarding Officer’s induction course which was not just for those new in post – all PSOs were eligible to attend.



Finance The Rev'd Duncan Jackson circulated a copy of the latest financial information (attached at Appendix 1) for members to read. Of note, of the majority of the money recorded on the balance sheet, the majority was mainly allocated to Network Youth Church. It was also noted that in the last six months, the bank had charged £30 maintenance charges and additional small amounts for activity. It was agreed that these expenses should come out of the general balance, not the Network Youth funds, and it was further agreed that Duncan would continue to look for alternative banking options with lower charges and easier access. There was also a report from Network Youth

### **28<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

A Commemorative Service For Queen Elizabeth 2<sup>nd</sup> at St Bees Priory

It was open to all but the Deanery Synod and PCC Members were invited to attend

### **2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022**

This was last meeting for 2022 Calder Deanery Synod which was held at St Paul's Church, Frizington on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022. the Diocesan Director of Vocations, Revd Canon Peter Clement was the guest speaker. He was speaking on the recent changes to selection and training of candidates for ordination. Followed by a General Synod report from Revd Nicki Pennington and a Network Youth Church report.

### **St Nicholas Café**

Our thanks go to our marvellous team of volunteers who staff our café. We continue to open on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The café is well used both by our regular customers as well as by visitors to the town. Those that visit always find a warm welcome from our volunteers.

The coffee mornings have been well attended and again our thanks go to the volunteers who organise these.

Spring and Christmas fairs were held in St Nicholas. Both were well supported.

The gardens played host to a number of events organised by Whitehaven Town Council and we are grateful to Whitehaven Town Council and Copeland Open Spaces Team for their work/support in maintaining the gardens.

*Jane Nicolson*

### **Parish Hall/Community Centre**

The hall continues to be well used. Our user groups include dance groups, karate, St John's Ambulance, Indoor Bowling, keep fit groups. We continue to employ a cleaner to keep the hall clean and tidy. During the year we replaced our old light fittings with LED lights. This is a step towards reducing our carbon footprint.

*Jane Nicolson*



## **MOTHERS' UNION REPORT**

The committee continue to run the branch and work well as a team, sharing the jobs of treasurer, secretary and branch leader. The support and generosity of the members is greatly appreciated as we work to ensure the branch survives in challenging times. None of us would like to see the branch fold as some around us are having to do.

### **Membership**

Sadly, two members, Elaine Pekarek and Pat Jackson died last year. This year we had 30 members paying annual subs. At our annual Advent Carol Service the Rev. Robert Jackson enrolled two new members, Ann Sayle and Irene Shuttleworth. Membership is something we would love to see increase but it is difficult, especially recruiting younger members. We have considered some more informal meetings perhaps in a pub or a different venue or a different time. Deb Lee our diocesan President has asked us to focus on recruitment this year. She has persuaded the Bishop of Carlisle to be enrolled as a member on the 12<sup>th</sup> March at St. John's Church Keswick and has asked branches throughout the diocese to try and enrol new members on Mothering Sunday.

### **Financial Outreach**

Our annual subs support the fantastic work MU does nationally and worldwide. This branch has responded generously to Deanery and Diocesan events like: Cont Your Blessings, a Lenten project, Summer of Hope Appeal, Deb Lees Sponsored Bike Ride, Away From It All and Overseas Aid. We continue to support knitting for the WCH and Maureen McGowan still makes crosses in pockets that are used at baptisms and at the West Cumberland Hospital.

### **Branch Celebrations**

The highlight of 2022 had to be the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. We were asked by Alan Webb to take ownership of the refreshments. It was a daunting task but then along came Charlotte Wood to the rescue with food boxes from Karen's Bakes. They were a triumph! The day was a very happy occasion enjoyed by everyone. The generosity of members was amazing. Another happy event was the enrolment of two new members by the Rev. Robert Jackson at our Advent Carol Service.

### **Prayer**

Prayer is the heart and soul of all that we do here in Whitehaven and our hope and prayer for the future is that we continue to support this wonderful worldwide organisation in all that it does in so many ways in so many places.

Sheila Kelly (Branch Secretary)

Family Ministry /Messy church

St James Infants School

Collective Worship is done weekly in the infants following the Christian value for that term. I have taken on the Christian Value table in the entrance hall as the TA who used to do it has retired . The new Head has settled in nicely and is keen to have interaction with the church members. So a group of ladies went over to help with some prayer stations which we had set up in the playground on reflection it would have been better set up somewhere quieter . Mrs Moore requested a link with church members to come and read the Bible to Years 1 and 2. A rota was organised and volunteers came on a Wednesday afternoon for 20 minutes to read starting with the Old Testament.

A wellbeing group was organised and I was asked to take half a dozen children for half an hour once a fortnight . These children do not need to be on an official list but just need some time out. We have started to develop the garden in the court yard. This gives the children an opportunity to chat but also to know that this is their work. So far we have successfully planted bulbs which are looking splendid and primroses. Our next plan is to grow some wild flowers in pots. When its too horrible to go out we do some crafts like painting our pots ready for the wild flowers to be sown.

The development of the Parish Pantry came from a conversation at a meeting between Robert Dave and myself after both Robert and I had been involved in providing emergency bags of food for families in Junior School and Infants. We are hoping that this will be a dignified way of helping those families who are struggling or anyone who may know of someone who needs some help could also take it from the Parish Pantry. The Parish Pantry is not manned so that people can help themselves without any questions asked.

We have a Christian Ethos meeting with Mrs Moore, the Chair of Governors Pat Smith and myself once every six weeks to discuss progress and any matters that we may need to address.

We held a very successful Christmas experience in church both the infants and Juniors attended which meant we had roughly three hundred children had a chance to experience the true meaning of Christmas. Thanks to all those volunteers who turned up to help.

Messy Church after school club is continuing to be popular we have a regular attendance of 20 children for an hour on a Monday starting at 3:15pm. Mrs Franklin continues to support and help with the children which is greatly appreciated. We have six week blocks of Messy church which are based around seasonal moments in the Church calendar. Christmas Messy church was on Christmas around the world. The children learnt about traditions from places like Sweden and Italy and other places. Snacks were from the country we looked at where possible and a craft too from the country for example the children made St Lucy crowns. An enjoyable time was had by all

Pastorally I am available for any of the staff who may need some support and a chat . I tend to join them occasionally in the staffroom to have a cuppa with them so we can get to know each other and build up that relationship.

I continue to be a foundation governor in the school .

Anna Jones

## **Bell Ringers Report 2022**

Numbers are still down in the Belfry. A number of ringers have, often for reasons of health or age, not managed to come back following the pandemic. By the end of 2021 things had more or less returned to normal in the belfry, but it was early 2022 before we could start teaching again. During the year we had a few potential recruits but none of them stayed the course.

As well as ringing for services we rang for special occasions during the year, including the happy occasion of the Queen's platinum Jubilee and the much more somber occasion of her passing and the new King's accession.

We have been continuing to develop plans to install a training "dumb bell" in memory of Jack McTear who died at the end of 2020. This diocesan guild project will give us the option of training new ringers in a way which is a little safer and doesn't disturb the neighbours. It will also provide a way to develop the listening skills of our more experienced ringers.

Richard Last

## ***APCM Safeguarding Report for 2022***

### ***The Parish of Whitehaven***

I am pleased to say that there have been no Safeguarding issues in the Parish of Whitehaven during 2022.

The Parish of Whitehaven is compliant and up to date with all guidance for Safeguarding set out by the Church of England.

Contact details for the Safeguarding team are listed on the website and also on our policy which is in plain view for all to read in several locations. If you have any questions or concerns, please follow the directions in our Safeguarding policy.

Donna Louise Flitcroft

## **Lay Chairs report.**

At the start of 2022 we were still in the final stages of the influence of the Covid 19 Pandemic. Normal social events had not yet resumed and masks were still being worn in church. As the year went on things went nearer to normal, although by the end of the year we were still doing communion by tincture and waving rather than shaking hands at the peace. As well as this we had not restarted home communions, although plans are in place to restart these in the spring of 2023.

During the year social events restarted, with the most notable events being a celebration of the Queen's platinum jubilee in June and the "big sing" event as Christmas approached.

As our accounts will show, we made good progress over the last couple of years at reducing our operating deficit and making quota payments to the diocese at a level that match the cost of employing a full time clergyman. The impact of international events on energy prices threaten to derail this. Towards the end of the year the PCC made the decision to save money and reduce our energy consumption by holding services in the community centre.

Towards the end of the year Robert announced he was leaving us to move to another parish near Manchester. We are trying to recruit a replacement but for most of 2023 we will be operating with a vacancy. Visiting clergy will help by leading many of our services but we as a congregation have to stand up and take more responsibility during this period. We pray that God will guide us with the decisions we make during this year, from the small decisions about how we operate to the major decision about who will follow Robert as the leader for his work in this parish.

Richard Last