

ALL SAINTS' COTTENHAM with RAMPTON - ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING Sunday 15th May 2022

AGENDA

- 1 Minutes of the Annual Vestry meeting held on Sunday 30th May 2021
- 2 Matters arising from the minutes
- 3 Election of Churchwardens for 2022 - 2023
4. Cottenham Charity Accounts 2021
5. Rampton Charity Accounts 2021

1. Minutes of All Saints' Cottenham with Rampton Annual Vestry Meeting held on Sunday 30th May at 11.30 in All Saints' Cottenham. **Minutes of this meeting found in Appendix 1.**

2. Matters arising from the minutes

3. Election of Churchwardens for 2022 - 2023

4. Approval of the Charity Accounts 2021 - 2022

Church and Causeway Charity (started with a £20 bequest in 1515): The income from this charity is from property and land rent which had increased slightly during the year and the interest from the Charity Official Investment Fund (COIF) which committed to invest in ethical funds as much as possible. A proportion of funds is transferred into the Church Estate Charity whilst the remaining Causeway element goes to the Parish Council for the two burial grounds, All Saints' churchyard, and the Dissenters' cemetery. John explained that Trustees for this fund included Parish Councillors.

Church Estate Charity: The Church Estate Charity is used for repairs and maintenance and comes from the Church and Causeway Charity. Money was now in a Virgin Deposit account, following advice from Robert Ward last year. This account had been used to pay the large amount for the recent wall repairs. The Trustees are the Incumbent and the Churchwardens.

Dr John Fitzwilliam Charity (started in 1696): Half of the monies from this charity go to promote Christian faith in Cottenham, covering books and printing, whilst the other half provides a fund for the poor. In past centuries this charity included many properties but there were none in 2016.

The Goode Bequest: Half the money originates from the Church and Causeway Charity that is sent to the Parish Council is then returned to us and placed in the Goode Bequest account. Burial Fees also feed into this account. This bequest is used for churchyard expenses. Payment from the Parish Council was late last year, so two amounts were shown in the 2015 accounts.

Ivatt Bequest (from 1953): This charity can be used for anything. It has £6000 invested and currently pays for the photocopier lease and stationery.

Sarah Anne Wallis Bequest (from 1920): This fund exists to benefit the poor of the parish. In the main, payments from this bequest were for Christmas 'food' parcels (All Saints' partner with Cottenham United charities for the provision of these food parcels). All requests have to be approved by the trustees. Monies are given for food parcels and also for other requests. There was an ongoing need to use this money in ways appropriate to the 21st century.

Although much of the money in these accounts is invested via the COIF, any cash sits in a Virgin account getting 1% interest, and interest is allocated on a pro rata basis.

Accounts by John Unwin, Clerk of the Charity Accounts can be found in Appendix 2.

5. Rampton Charity Accounts 2021

A summary of All Saints' Rampton Trust Funds can be found in Appendix 3. Full accounts are available on application to the Parish Administrator.

**AGENDA OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING held on Sunday 15th May 2022
at 11.30 am in All Saints' Cottenham**

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) held on Sunday 30th May 2021
3. Matters Arising from the minutes
4. Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church 2021
5. Treasurer's Report 2021
6. Safeguarding
7. Electoral Roll Report 2021 - 2022
8. Report as circulated
 - a) Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) 2021
 - b) Report from the Deanery Synod 2021
 - c) Action Groups and Church Activities 2021
9. Rector's Report
10. Elections for the PCC
11. Appointment of Assistant Churchwardens
12. Appointment of Independent Examiner for Accounts
13. Any Other Business

The new PCC will meet immediately after the APCM to appoint officers.

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Minutes of Annual Parochial Church Meeting 30th May 2021**
Found in Appendix 4
- 3. Matters Arising from the Minutes**
- 4. Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church Report 2021 – 2022 Chris Lowe and Lesley Maile**

In early May 2022, the churchwardens inspected the goods and ornaments of All Saints' Cottenham as listed in the church property register (the terrier). There were no issues arising from this inspection.

The churchwardens are also confident that there are no issues with the goods and ornaments of All Saints' Rampton as listed in the Rampton terrier.

General Fund**Payments - £117,845.93**

This was slightly lower than last year's total of £123.4k, but higher than what we used to think of as normal expenditure (around £90k). Significant expenses included the cost of the projector and screen (£16.9k), a loan repayment of £5k to the Cambridge Historic Churches Trust (for the repairs to the church tower) and salaries of £4.2k. The ministry share of £66.9k was paid in full.

Receipts - £95,729.06

Receipts to the General Fund were around £8k higher than last year. We did not claim any back-dated Gift Aid (£18k claimed in 2020), but we received £14.8k in grants for the projector and screen (thanks as always to Edward Kramer), and £5k from the Church and Causeway charity towards the loan repayment to CHCT. Fees were up by £5k. There was also a legacy of £1,000.

Hall Fund

The hall generated £7.4k in income last year, which was comparable with last year. Most of that income was generated in the second half of 2021. There was also a grant of £1.3k from South Cambridgeshire District Council. It is encouraging to see that bookings in 2022 seem to be returning to pre-lockdown levels.

Organ Fund – restricted - £43.6k

This was a specific donation, invested in the CBF Fund until 2019 and since then in the COIF Fund. The Fund earned £1.5k in dividends in 2020. The market value of the investment at 31.12.20 was £57,260.11.

BALANCE SHEET**Investment, valued at cost price - £210k (General Fund)
£40k (Organ Fund)**

The majority of this investment represents the money that was realized on the sale of the house left to us by Marian Bicheno. It now also includes the organ fund. The total dividend in 2020 was £9.3k. The market value of the investment on 31.12.20 was just under £362k.

Cash at bank

The total is £50.5k, of which just under £20k is in the current account.

Other monetary assets

Most of our 2021 Gift Aid has been claimed through the Parish Giving Scheme. Most of our back-dated Gift Aid has been claimed up to date.

Liabilities

We owe £5,757 in assigned fees to the diocese.

IN SUMMARY

Although Covid restrictions meant that income was lower overall in 2021, there was a reassuring improvement in the second half of the year. Nevertheless, total expenditure exceeded total income by around £20k. As life gets back to normal next year, we can expect to reduce the shortfall by around 50%, but we are still on target for a deficit of around £10k at the end of 2022.

One reason for this is the annual sum that we pay to the diocese, known as the ministry share, which currently stands at £68k. This sum represents the cost to the diocese of providing our parish with a minister. It does not represent the Rector's salary, but includes pension, housing, and contributions towards the training of future clergy and towards central support services.

Ideally, our annual income should cover the ministry share, plus the costs of utilities, insurance and normal repairs. At All Saints' we already give generously. If we gave just a little more, we could realize our aim of balancing our books and look forward with confidence to a sustainable future.

Notes

Trust Fund R001 Rampton (White)

The income from this fund has been routinely and consistently used for the purposes stated in the will, i.e. 'for the repair of the church and churchyard so long as the grave space and Monumental Cross beneath the East Window is maintained in good order.'

Staff Costs

The hall has been managed on a voluntary basis. The hall manager has received a small financial gift as an expression of our gratitude to him for the long hours of voluntary work involved. We are fortunate now to have the services of a Parish Administrator on a part-time basis. The PCC also continues to employ a cleaner for the hall. Aside from clergy expenses, church members have been reimbursed for legitimate receipted expenses.

All Saints' Cottenham Accounts found in Appendix 5 and 6. (*Appendix 6- Statement of Financial Activities in hard copy only, electronic copy as an attachment*).

All Saints' Rampton Accounts and notes by Michael Hastings can be found in Appendix 7.

6. Safeguarding

Margaret Edwards

Promoting a safer church

The care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of the Church.

Over the past year

The new guidance relating to Safer Recruitment and People Management were approved in April 2021 to be implemented from the 1st January 2022. This means DBS checks are now on a three year cycle when they must be updated. Our focus during the past few months has been to ensure that all those who are due to complete a refresher training module for Safeguarding are booked onto the courses offered by the Diocese and all DBS Certificates are up to date.

This includes all PCC members completing both the Basic Awareness and Foundation Safeguarding modules.

Safeguarding training.

I am delighted to report that despite the pandemic the Ely Diocese Safeguarding Team have provided some excellent Zoom training sessions. There are also quarterly meetings with Parish Safeguarding Officers to update them on current procedures and address any concerns the group may have.

Our ALM's have recently completed their Leadership (C2) refresher training.

I have also completed the Leadership (C2) training and undertaken two modules covering Safer Recruitment and Domestic Abuse during the past twelve months.

Parish Dashboard

We continue to use the Parish Dashboard (an online tool) which supports each Parish as they aim to meet the requirements of the national safeguarding policy and practice guidance.

It also produces an action plan highlighting the next steps and any actions that we need to take.

The feedback from the PCC and the Diocese and has been extremely positive. We did have some outstanding actions relating to activities suspended as a result of the Omicron Strain. These include Little Saints and Fellowship Tea. However, it is so encouraging to see Little Saints and Messy Church up and running again and all outstanding actions relating to these activities have been completed.

The Future

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continuing support and commitment to the safeguarding of our children, young people and adults who make up our unique Church family.

7. Electoral Roll Report for 2019 - 2020

Emma McCaughan

Seven names have been removed from the electoral roll as they have died or moved away.

Three names have been added. This brings the total to 130.

8. Parochial Church Council 2022

Matt Unwin-Riches

The PCC is a legal body, made up of people who have legal responsibility for All Saints' Cottenham with Rampton, the churchyard and the church's money. The PCC also has responsibility for working with our rector, Lynda, on matters of general concern and importance to the parish, and for promoting the whole mission of the Church in the parish. The PCC has met five times during the year and these were via Zoom. It tends to meet every other month with the Standing Committee usually meeting before each PCC Meeting to plan the agenda.

Members of PCC 2022

Matthew Unwin-Riches	2019-2022		
Lesley Maile	2020-2023	Church Warden	ex-officio
Chris Lowe	2020-2023	Church Warden	ex-officio
Frances Horgan	2020-2023	Treasurer	
Sue Hooks	2020-2023	PCC Representative on Standing Committee	
Edward Kramer	2020-2023	Deanery Synod representative	ex-officio
Graham Maile	2020-2023	Deanery Synod Representative	ex-officio
Nicholas Nourie	2020-2023		
Cheryl Lowe	2021-2024	PCC Secretary	
David Ward	2021-2024		
Alison Wedgbury	2021-2024		
Graham Appleby	2021-2024		
Cara Stratford	2021-2024		
Gavin Cameron	2021-2024	PCC Representative for Rampton	

Other Church Officers

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Margaret Edwards

Electoral Roll Officer: Emma McCaughan

Clerk of the Charity Accounts: John Unwin

The Standing Committee which meets usually one week before each PCC meeting consists of Lynda Davies (Chair), Marie Lucchetta-Redmond (Curate), Chris Lowe (Churchwarden- Vice Chair), Frances Horgan (Treasurer), Lesley Maile (Churchwarden) and Cheryl Lowe (PCC Secretary) and Sue Hooks (PCC Representative).

The Standing Committee plans the agenda of each PCC meeting, is responsible for the smooth running of the PCC throughout the year and can make swift decisions about unexpected or urgent matters that arise in between PCC meetings.

Assistant Wardens: Margaret Edwards, Graham Maile, Jennie Steer, David Woodcroft

Sidespeople: Maggie Appleby, Margaret Edwards, Robert Jones, Graham Maile, Lesley Maile, Boyd Rose, June Rose, Sarah Roussouw, Philip Saunders and Jennie Steer.

During 2021, we baptised:

Zara Muncey
Amelia-Rose Barber
Violet Deacon-Drewry
Joel Deacon-Drewry
Aimee-Leigh Soars
Samantha Soars

We married:

Thomas Eales and Charlotte Gregerson
Edward Heathcock and Jessica Davies
Amy Gardner and John Daly
Rachel Fenner and James Northfield

We said goodbye to:

Gladys Bransom
Kay Wilson
Richard Gautrey
William Hornett
Mary Waldock
Pamela Dean
Michael Saxby
Cyril Waldock
Dorothy Brannan
Doreen Davies
Jean Rogers
Sybil Coupland
Robert Ward
Marion Copping
Cynthia Haird
Emily Parsons
Pamela Wilcox
Ken Wilson
Sharon Bull
Teddy Wagstaff
Michael Marsh
Betty Moss
Margaret Horgan
James Duncan
Frances Clarke
Richard Graves
Reg Young
William Wenham
Timothy Lyes-Robinson
Barry Herd

9. Report from the Deanery Synod 2021 North Stowe Deanery Synod

Edward Kramer

Our representatives are Graham Maile and Edward Kramer. In addition, Edward serves as Lay Chair and is a member of the Standing and Pastoral Committee. Meetings and other activities were reduced due to COVID-19 restrictions however much progress was made with the Deanery Development Planning Process.

All fifteen deaneries in Ely diocese have been asked to produce a Deanery Plan. This is to ensure that all available ministers (clergy and lay) are deployed in the most effective way. The Standing and Pastoral Committee decided that the best way to proceed was to establish a Deanery Working Group with members drawn from the different areas of the deanery and offering a range of skills. It was recognised that it might be difficult to find someone willing to chair this group, but we were very fortunate that Cheryl Lowe volunteered to take on this task, one for which she is well-qualified and

suited, having served in a similar role in another part of this diocese. The Working Group has already met under Cheryl's chairmanship.

As a diocese we are in a much stronger financial position than many others so this is not about reducing the number of clergy. Our deanery has 8 FTE (Full-time Equivalent) posts and each deanery and each benefice in the deanery should aim to cover the total cost of ministry – about £76,000 for a full-time clergy post. The deanery plan is expected to have a life of 10-15 years; it will not be fully implemented immediately but over that time-span. Much new housing is being built in Northstowe (expected population 25,000) and up to 8,000 new homes are planned for Waterbeach so this deanery will look quite different in fifteen years' time and ministry needs will change as well.

10. Action Groups

Faith and Discipleship Group

Cheryl Lowe

This group supports Lynda and Marie in planning and delivering activities to help members of the church family deepen their faith.

During 2021 this included the ribbons on the church gate during Lent, these created a clearly visible sign of the people we were all missing as a result of the pandemic, the Easter Garden was also a visible external way to mark Lent as we were unable to be in church in the weeks leading up to Easter. These activities and weekly meditations attached to trees in the churchyard provided ways for the community to engage with the church while the building was not open.

Later in the year we discussed ways to safely celebrate Christmas with the community, repeating the popular outdoor live nativity and celebrating an outdoor carol service as the traditional indoor version was still not possible.

While regular, in person bible study has not been possible there have been 3 fixed period study groups, during Lent 2021 Frances led a very popular series of online studies on Daniel, in Advent Sarah led a series of online studies and in Lent 2022 Alison and Cheryl have coordinated hybrid studies using material from Isabelle Hamley which is being widely used in church.

The group has also reviewed the provision of prayer support in church. We have stopped offering prayer during communion at the 10.30 and now offer prayer after the service on request, there is also a 'hotline' so people can call if they want prayer urgently during the week. Weekly prayer meetings on a Saturday morning, using Celtic Morning Prayer continue though numbers are low – all are welcome to join us at 9am in church!

ii) Resources

Chris Lowe

The group has met in person and discussed things online in order to coordinate a range of activity through the year.

A number of activities have taken place:

- Refacing and repairing the clock – though the initial repair failed, this was remedied early in 2022
- New lighting controller in the church - there is further work to be completed on the lighting
- Projector and Screen installed.
- Work on trees in church yard lifting the bottom branch level to improve light and view
- Hall lights replaced.
- PCC approved repair to window frames by door of hall though a contractor has yet to be identified.
- Repainted gates of churchyard
- Lots of tidying and cleaning – special thanks to Luke who was on DoE

Work has started on eco-church accreditation, this will continue through 2022, though having a grade 1 listed building makes some of the actions challenging.

Thanks to all the members of the group and others in the congregation for their work at workdays and on other occasions to maintain our beautiful building.



There were several good developments during 2021 and into the early part of this year, not least of which was the return of the services including a communion service in October to dedicate the restored South Aisle Window and Midnight Communion on Christmas Eve.

The year-end accounts for 2021 show regular expenditure for the year at £4,291.25 and income of £4,863.23. Additionally, there was expenditure of £19,824.41 towards the South Aisle Window Restoration work, which was covered by donated funds from the Friends of All Saints Rampton.

The Rampton Action Group has been active in looking after the maintenance and upkeep of the Church including the following.

1. North-East Chancel Window repair and subsidence monitoring

During 2021, a stone block in the arch of the north east chancel window had become loosened and was in an unsafe state (i.e. at risk of dropping out). The architect advised that the issue with the window was a symptom of movement on the east wall and not isolated failure of the window itself. So a plan was put together by RAG to repair the window and put in place a program of subsidence monitoring on the east wall of the church. The repair was successfully completed by the RAG maintenance team (without the need to call in outside contractors) so the window has been made safe. In addition, RAG is now working with the Diocesan structural advisor and monitoring pins have been installed in the external walls to enable a series of measurements during 2022 to check for movement on the wall.

2. Laying out old gravestones on the north side of the Churchyard

A project was undertaken to lay out the old gravestones at the northern corner of the Churchyard. These stones had long since been detached from their burial plots and appear to have been discarded in a heap in the northern corner during an earlier period of clearing in the churchyard (we think the 1930's). Over the course of a few weeks, the stones were uncovered and laid out in a series of rows, so they have a proper place in the church yard and can now be seen by visitors again.

3. North side of Churchyard cleared, and the Jubilee Hedge planted

As a follow on, the northern side of the churchyard has been entirely cleared of scrub and old brambles, which has had the effect of substantially opening up the north side of the churchyard and visibility into the fields beyond. This restores the open view of the Church from the north side which villagers would historically have had. As part of the work, the Parish Council very kindly agreed to fund the purchase of native hedge plants which were planted by the RAG maintenance team along the 50m strip of fencing at the northern side of the Churchyard. The hedge completes the restoration work in this part of the churchyard and has been dubbed the Jubilee Hedge to mark this year's platinum jubilee for the Queen.

11. Report of All Saints' Church Activities

a) Pastoral Care - Authorised Lay Ministers (ALMs)

Maggie Appleby and Sue Hooks

During the past year with Covid visiting restrictions in place, the ALMs have continued to make contact with congregants through regular phone calls rather than home visits. Where help has been requested for shopping, pharmacy collections etc., we have been able to assist as needed.

Recently with the easing of restrictions home communion has been reinstated in people's homes as requested. At the current time, following Diocesan guidelines for home communion, the Sacrament is given as Bread only.

April saw the ALMs, along with Alison (LLM) return to Fitzwilliam House residential home to deliver a themed service to their residents. This was very well received especially the singing of familiar hymns, and the saying of familiar prayers. We will be continuing to visit Fitzwilliam every other month alternating with the Baptist Church.

Currently we are making contact with Cottenham Court nursing home in the hope that we can restart our visits and hold a service there.

If you would like home communion or a visit, please do not hesitate to contact Sue 250560 or Maggie 200035.

b) Children's Work

Alison Wedgbury



Junior Church has thrived and indeed grown over the last year, facing down Covid in all sorts of ways. At all times we have matched the Bible stories and themes of the main 10.30 service, whether online or onsite.

We have benefited from great interactive resources suggested at All Saints' or from the Ely Diocese Children's Ministry. From January to May 2021 we met on Zoom, on more Sundays than in 'normal' times. We delivered monthly materials to homes and a regular number of families joined in from home at the earlier Sunday time of 9.30am, usually comparing breakfasts as they logged in! We explored what we could do differently online,

including video and sharing an activity, for example a craft demonstrated by one family or the challenge of a scavenger hunt in the house.

When services started back onsite in April, we provided a weekly pack for younger children to do where they sat with family in church. In June and July 2021 Junior Church regrouped and made the most of the sunshine, enjoying activities outside the church building during the 10.30 service. Then there was the usual break in August 2021 with the aim of getting 'back to normal' in September. So we did, meeting with Covid precautions in the Cottenham hall again (and also once in the Rampton Village Hall).

Since then, there have regularly been between 6 and 12 children and young people taking part on a Sunday, with ages ranging from 2 to 15, along with parents and leaders, totalling 18 families in all. It has been a privilege to see the youngest children growing in participation, enjoying parachute and other games, acting out Bible stories, making colourful collages and much more. It is also extremely rewarding to hear from the older group who have great maturity in their insights about the Bible, in the responses they make and the prayers they write.

Thank you especially to Sarah Ward for leading the younger group and to all the parents and other church members who have helped in sessions, making a joyful noise, and encouraging faith with fun.

c) Choir and Music

Frances Horgan

..... is going to be rather briefer than usual. 2021 was not one of our vintage years. Covid took a heavy toll. We were unable to practise or sing in church between January and March. And even after Easter, singing continued to be badly affected by the rule of 6 and by the absence of key choir members owing to illness or vulnerability.

However....

.....there were moments of joy. On March 25, Lynda informed us that we *might* (no promises) be allowed to sing on Easter Sunday. On March 27, the good news was confirmed, and we convened on the following Thursday (April Fools' Day) to practise (no surprises) *This Joyful Eastertide*. Joyful was the word.

There were moments that seemed almost normal. We began to practise regularly again and prepare anthems for Sunday communion. It was a particular pleasure to attend the Ascension Day service and to sing the beautiful Tallis anthem *If ye love me, keep my commandments*. This should become a regular event.

There were moments of grief. On October 1st, we gathered in church for the funeral of Reg Young, who had been a member of the choir for 55 years and who kept his fine tenor voice to the very end. He is greatly missed.

There were moments that verged on the miraculous. After weeks of careful preparation for Christmas carol services in Cottenham and Rampton, the rise in the number of Covid cases meant that both had to be cancelled. Lynda decided to hold one service in Cottenham churchyard on Christmas Eve. It was a risky decision. How would we read the carols in the dark? How could the singing be accompanied? What if it rained? (The weather forecast was sure that it would.)

Oh we of little faith! The football club provided floodlights. Junior Prime Brass turned out in force. And it did not rain. A wonderful congregation sang carols to the rousing accompaniment of our splendid brass players. For the choir, veterans of many carol services, it was a most moving experience.

As we look forward to next year, we are grateful still to be singing together. We are also delighted that our rector, Lynda, sings regularly with us, and that our new curate, Marie, an extremely competent and experienced musician, has also joined us. It goes without saying that new members are always welcome.

Venite cantemus

d) Christians Together in Cottenham (*including Holiday Club*)

Reverend Lynda Davies

Unfortunately the ongoing pandemic prevented much of the usual CTiC activities throughout 2021, such as the popular Holiday Club.

The Cottenham Ministers (Lynda, Kate and Paul – now joined by Marie) have remained in contact with each other, and were able to co-lead the annual Remembrance Service, heavily scaled back to avoid large crowds.

In 2022, CTiC will be represented at the Fen Edge Festival, and an ecumenical service is planned to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on Sunday 5th June. However, the Holiday Club will not be returning due to a lack of leaders.

e) Church Hall

Matthew Unwin-Riches

The hall has naturally remained closed in the early part of 2021 but as we arrived at the spring things started to improve. We were able to provide space for some essential meeting and training, but it was really as we entered April when we started to see our regulars return.

The summer saw a slight increase in bookings as people were allowed to do more, but it was not really until September when we saw booking back to the level we had seen pre-COVID.

In November we were very pleased to welcome a permanent tenant into the Samuel room who is now using this space daily as an office. As the upstairs rooms are rarely fully booked this is invaluable regular income for the hall and some added security when the rest of the hall is empty. The tenant is very pleased to be using the Samuel room and we will review the tenancy agreement annually.

As part of church life, having such a lovely hall to meet in is very important, so the biggest positive about 2021 was that we were once again able to provide a comfortable space to enjoy coffee and fellowship after the service each week. In addition to this we hosted Tea, following the 'Time to Remember' service, a Macmillan coffee morning, and the re-launch of Little Saints to name a few!

We have also kept on top of maintenance within the hall and used the time it was less busy to get this done.

f) Little Saints

Little Saints was re-launched in September 2021 with a new core team of Revd. Lynda Davies, Revd. Marie Lucchetta-Redmond, Judi Middleton, and Lesley Maile.

The group of parents/cares, babies and toddlers has a new structure with each session starting with breakfast and free play (for the first hour), followed by a children's Bible story, rhyme, and song.

Over 30 families accessed Little Saints during 2021 with an average of 15 families attending a session. Feedback has been very positive with some good friendships being formed. It can be a challenge telling a Bible story to lively toddlers, but our efforts appear to be well appreciated. There is a lovely feel amongst the group, and it is a wonderful outreach opportunity, with several families choosing to access other events/activities such as the Live Nativity.

Reverend Lynda Davies



g) Tower Captain's Report

Kit Kilgour

Covid has had significant impact on the band, which was already facing a reduced size pre-Covid. Lack of online or in-tower activities during Covid meant that several of the band re-prioritised their activities towards family or other hobbies with an associated reduction in regular attendance and following on from the re-start of ringing we do not currently have enough ringers to ring regularly for practice or Sunday service. We are, however, in a process of rebuilding with two new learners, one from Rampton and one from Cottenham, plus a member of the Oakington band who comes over to join us, and we would of course welcome anyone else who wanted to learn or restart ringing - an activity that brings exercise, friendship and a range of opportunities in producing 'performance art'. It is good news that the tower set of handbells is now back in use, with a tune ringing group being revived under the initiative of Jo Ison, meeting on a Monday in the Ringing Room, and I wish them all success.

The ringing in 2021 included ringing for two weddings (one at Rampton, one at Cottenham), a quarter peal by a visiting band, and the tolling of the tenor bell in the 'Nine Tailors' on four occasions: once in thanksgiving for life of the Duke of Edinburgh, and three times in thanksgiving for the lives of members of the congregation who had passed away. We will always endeavour to respond to requests to ring for special occasions.

12. Rector's Report

Reverend Lynda Davies

We began 2021 with yet another lockdown due to the ongoing pandemic (Covid-19). Services at All Saints', Cottenham returned to a mix of recorded services (on YouTube) and a weekly Evening Prayer via Zoom; Junior Church continued to meet via Zoom.

With significant safety measures in place to avoid transmission of Covid-19, we returned to church at Easter. Initially, approximately two-thirds of those who had been attending regularly prior to lockdown returned to church for Easter Day. This grew as the year progressed, with, by the end of the year, normal Sunday attendance at 80% of its pre-Covid level. During the pandemic, a number of very elderly parishioners became too frail to attend, and five sadly died.

At All Saints', Rampton, services were held at Easter; a special Evensong with Prosecco in the summer to celebrate the completion of the South Aisle window; Harvest Festival; and Holy Communion on Christmas Eve. Attendance was good.

In July, we gained a curate - Revd. Marie Lucchetta-Redmond, who has become a real asset to the church and a welcome colleague to Lynda. Marie had previously been a Licensed Lay Reader in a Cambridge benefice, so came with lots of experience.

In Sept 2021, the PCC agreed an action plan for 2021/22 (in keeping with the themes of the Ely 2025 strategy) that included the following elements. Alongside each, I've provided an update.

To **engage** fully and courageously with the needs of our communities, locally and globally:

- Engaging with the Living in Love and Faith material through a sermon series and small group
- Install a projector and screen to support church services but also increase the use of the building to local groups
- To be aware of those who might need more support in whatever way because of Covid-19 and refer/signpost to appropriate agencies/resources.

We had a 3-week LLF sermon series in September and a small group is planned for 2022.

The projector and screen was installed in November and has been well received.

A Ministry Team, consisting of ordained and lay ministers, has been established to co-ordinate support to those in need. It meets approximately every other month.

To **grow** God's church by finding disciples and nurturing leadership:

- Review the activities we provided prior to lockdown to assess what we want to do in the future; to do a few things well at Christmas
- Re-launch Little Saints with a Christian identity
- Hold a Back to Church Service, preceded by a community butterfly project
- To have a more active church presence at FEF 2022.

The review of activities is ongoing. Only Little Saints has returned so far - see separate report. At Christmas, we had one big event aimed at children and families (Live Nativity), and one outdoor carol service. Both were well attended and positively received.

We held a Back to Church Service on Sunday 31st October with over 80 in attendance. The Butterfly Project was well supported with hundreds of butterflies created. It was lovely to welcome year 1 and 2 children from Cottenham Primary School for school visits who also took part in the project.

Discussions are underway with the other Cottenham ministers re. our presence at the FEF.

To **deepen** our commitment to God through word, worship and prayer:

- To continue to produce a Pastoral Letter, connecting with those unable to physically come to church
- To extend our offering of home communion to those who have become frailer during the lockdown
- Relaunch the 20s and 30s group.

The Pastoral Letter has continued, now on a monthly basis. It is important to a number of people, particularly those who are housebound.

The Ministry Team co-ordinates home communions.

The 20s/30s group has re-started.

We need to be open to what God is doing within our church and community and amend our plans accordingly. For example, we have been blessed with new members throughout 2021. Some of those are new to the Christian faith. We need to consider offering a seekers group sometime during 2022 but we need to resource this.

Services

Whilst all restrictions relating to Communion were lifted in July 2021, the Rector and PCC did not feel that the congregation was ready to return to the shared chalice. In line with Church of England guidance, the PCC agreed to implement the practice of communicants receiving communion in both kinds through the minister intincting the wafer in the wine immediately prior to giving to the individual. Everyone who currently takes communion has chosen to receive in this way and it has worked well. Some churches in the Ely Diocese have returned to the shared chalice, however there are no plans to do so at All Saints whilst the rates of the Omicron variant remain high.

Pastoral Care

With safety measures in place, I, and the lay ministry team, have continued to visit people in their homes when needed, ministering to the sick, the dying, and the bereaved. We have kept in contact with those unable to attend church due to increased frailty/mobility issues, offering home communion where appropriate.

Discipleship

With Bible Study unable to meet in person, Frances Horgan led a lively Lent series on the book of Daniel using the resource 'Singing in Babylon' by Jeff Lucas, also the subject of a sermon series. A small group, under Cheryl Lowe's leadership, met during Advent on Zoom.

It was lovely to welcome Bishop Dagmar in November for the baptism and/or confirmation of five people when none of the other churches in the deanery had any candidates. This is a great sign that people in the parish are committed and growing in their discipleship.

Statistics

In the main, the annual statistics confirmed what we already knew about attendance and the worshipping community:

- The total number of people attending at Easter was 89, down from 155 in 2019 (church was closed in 2020)
- The total number of people attending at Christmas (Eve and Day) was 115, up from 84 in 2020
- The average weekly count (recorded in October) was 60 adults and 10 children, compared with 51 and 5 in 2020, and 74 and 9 in 2019
- The total number of people in our worshipping community (attending regularly or would do so if not prevented by poor health/frailty) fell from 173 to 154, however we continue to see new people at church most weeks
- The number of baptisms and weddings held steady but we saw a 50% increase in the number of funerals the church was asked to take in 2021, in particular funerals in the church (from 4 in 2020 to 20 in 2021). This explains in part why our Time to Remember Service was well attended in October 2021.

Successes

Whilst 2021 was again an incredibly challenging year, we have much to thank God for. In particular:

- The arrival of a Curate in July and the many gifts that Marie brings; the arrival of an ordinand, Chris Burrows and his family, in October
- The way in which the church family has remained connected with one another, providing much mutual support and encouragement
- The success of the online services and the knowledge that we are reaching people who struggle to come in person but who can now join in online for Evening Prayer on a Sunday (average weekly attendance of 16)
- The re-launch of Little Saints
- The baptism/confirmation of five people in November
- The addition of a projector and screen at Cottenham, and the many small projects at All Saints' Rampton to maintain the building and repair the Chancel Window
- The many new members who joined us through 2021
- The invitation from Cottenham Primary School for the Rector to become a Community Governor thus strengthening our links with the school.

Plans for 2022 and challenges ahead

Whilst much has returned to normal at church, there is still an understandable nervousness about sharing the Peace, returning to the shared chalice, and mixing in large groups. Whilst we have the vaccines and the current strain of Covid isn't as life-threatening as previous strains, the virus is still very much with us. A couple of people are still shielding, so not attending Church, and a few still choose not to take Communion. I very much hope that things improve by the summer.

With new housing developments springing up in Cottenham, there is still a need to reach out to new people in the village. Pop-up events, such as BBQs, were planned for 2020, and hopefully can take place this summer. As a parish, we intend to engage with a new resource produced by CPAS - 'How to Nurture a Faith-Sharing Culture'.

We continue to struggle to balance our outgoings with our income. We are adrift by approx. £10,000 and the shortfall is met by the legacy that Marion Bicheno left. It goes without saying that giving needs to increase over the next year.

As usual, I'm deeply grateful to those who contribute to so much within the Parish: our Curate Marie; our Churchwardens Lesley Maile and Chris Lowe; the PCC and its officers; our Parish Administrator, Matt Unwin-Riches; Alison Wedgbury in coordinating and leading Junior Church, and her many volunteers; Alison, Cheryl Lowe and Sarah Rossouw in leading the Evening Service; Emma McCaughan,

Frances and Robin Horgan in leading us in sung worship; the many pastoral volunteers (ALMs Maggie Appleby, Sue Hooks and others) who have helped the church to stay in contact with one another; the work of the Action Groups, particularly in maintaining two beautiful ancient buildings; and everyone who has mopped, hoovered, baked, read, led prayers, welcomed people on the door, made coffee, and so much more. Thank you all!

Revd. Lynda Davies



Carol Service held outside Christmas Eve 2021

Appendix 1

Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting held on Sunday 30th May 2021 at 11.35 in All Saints' Cottenham

1. Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting on Sunday 30th May 2021

The minutes were unanimously accepted as accurate: proposed by Graham Appleby and seconded by Frances Horgan.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3. Elections of Churchwardens for 2020 - 2021

Two nominations had been received:

Chris Lowe proposed by Graham Maile, seconded by Jennie Steer;

Lesley Maile proposed by Graham Appleby, seconded by Alison Wedgbury.

Chris and Lesley were unanimously elected as Churchwardens.

Graham Appleby was thanked for his hard work during the six years he had served as church warden. He was presented with a gift to express the gratitude of the church.

4. Cottenham Charity Accounts 2019

The Charity Accounts were unanimously accepted; proposed by Peter Wilbourn and seconded by Chris Lowe. The Reverend Lynda Davies thanked John for all his work as Clerk.

John commented how fortunate All Saints' Cottenham was to have the Charities as they provided money used by All Saints' in many ways. He thanked Deb Swan for verifying the Charities Accounts. The accounts will be different next year as Bob Ward, who had been living in a house owned by the church, passed away in 2021. Decisions will have to be made about what to do with the house in the future.

Rampton Charity Accounts

The Accounts were compiled by Michael Hastings and approved by the Rampton Action Group. They were accepted at the meeting having been proposed by Gavin Cameron and seconded by Graham Appleby.

The meeting closed at 11.42.

Appendix 2

Vestry Meeting All Saints' Cottenham Charity Accounts

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2021						
Summary for APCM						
CHURCH AND CAUSEWAY CHARITY						
INCOME		£	PAYMENTS		£	
Jan.1	Balance brought forward	33755.87		Property management	206.19	
	Property rents	4050.00		Cottenham Parish Council TFR for 31-12-2020	6000.00	
	Interest	10.75		Church Estate Charity TFR for 31-12-2020	4000.00	
	COIF dividends	5282.30		Costs involved in property sale (other than solicitors)	1085.00	
	Sale of 18 Denmark Road	400179.80		COIF investment	400,000.00	
	Rebates on utilities	409.70		TFR to Church Estate from Virgin	10114.00	
			Dec.31	Balance carried forward	22283.23	
		<u>443688.42</u>			<u>443688.42</u>	
CHURCH ESTATE CHARITY						
INCOME		£	PAYMENTS		£	
Jan.1	Balance brought forward	6332.38				
	TFR from Church and Causeway	4000.00				
	TFR from closed Virgin account	10114.00				
	Interest	0.75	Dec.31	Balance carried forward	20447.13	
		<u>20447.13</u>			<u>20447.13</u>	
DR. JOHN FITZWILLIAM CHARITY						
INCOME		£	PAYMENTS		£	
Jan.1	Balance brought forward	3252.87		Printing (photocopier)	1003.15	
	COIF dividends	4102.18		Stamps, etc. for mailings	165.18	
				Bibles, books, etc	103.44	
				Amazon - office supplies	498.33	
				Items for the Church hall bought through the office	76.04	
				Christmas "food parcels"	2000.00	
			Dec.31	Balance carried forward	3508.91	
		<u>7355.05</u>			<u>7355.05</u>	
GOODE BEQUEST						
INCOME		£	PAYMENTS		£	
Jan. 1	Balance brought forward	3244.67		Churchyard cutting	3072.00	
	PCC - burial fees	2000.00				
	Cottenham Parish Council	3000.00				
			Dec. 31	Balance carried forward	5172.67	
		<u>8244.67</u>			<u>8244.67</u>	
IVATT BEQUEST						
Jan. 1	Balance brought forward	777.30		Church service supplies - candles, communion wafers,	331.60	
	COIF dividends	256.75		Incumbent expenses - books, stationary, recourses, etc.	381.67	
			Dec. 31	Balance carried forward	320.78	
		<u>1034.05</u>			<u>1034.05</u>	
SARAH ANNE WALLIS BEQUEST						
INCOME		£	PAYMENTS		£	
Jan. 1	Balance brought forward	1232.23				
	COIF dividends	340.02				
			Dec. 31	Balance carried forward	1572.25	
		<u>1572.25</u>			<u>1572.25</u>	

Appendix 3

Vestry Meeting- Rampton Charity Accounts

		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Rampton All Saints' Beneficial Trusts													
R001	Repair Church & Churchyard	£1,118	£1,053	£1,158	£1,293	£1,362	£1,381	£1,534	£1,672	£1,647.15	£1,955.25	£2,089.70	£2,388.65
R004	R & M of Parish Church	£745	£702	£772	£862	£908	£920	£1,012	£1,115	£1,098.10	£1,303.50	£0.00	
R005	General purposes (not perm trust)	£4,369	£4,400	£4,439	£4,464	£4,487	£4,511	£4,532	£4,545	£4,567.60	£4,601.94	£4,621.48	£4,623.89
R006	General purposes (not perm trust)	£1,743	£1,642	£1,805	£2,016	£2,123	£2,152	£2,391	£2,607	£2,567.61	£3,047.89	£3,257.48	£3,723.48
R008	1976 No Trust details	£10,608	£10,683	£10,777	£10,838	£10,893	£10,952	£11,003	£11,034	£11,089.22	£11,172.57	£0.00	
R009	General PCC deposit fund	£675	£680	£686					0.83 pence?				
R010	General purposes Vicar & Cwardens	£8,491	£8,551	£8,626	£8,676	£8,719	£8,766	£8,808	£8,832	£8,876.32	£8,943.04	£8,981.01	£8,985.69
	Grand Total	£27,749	£27,710	£28,262	£28,149	£28,492	£28,682	£29,280	£29,806	£29,846.00	£31,024.19	£18,949.67	£19,721.71
	Increment/loss		£-39	£552	£-113	£342	£191	£597	£526	£40.41	£1,178.19	£401.55	£772.04
	% change		-0.14	1.95	-0.40	1.20	0.67	2.04	1.77	0.14	3.80	2.12	3.91
	Interest income for information									£141.86	£145.44		
	Liquidated April 2020												

Appendix 4

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of Sunday 30th May 2021 held at All Saints' Church, Cottenham

Attending: Reverend Lynda Davies, Graham Appleby, Maggie Appleby, David Bradley, Gavin Cameron, Martyn Davies, Peggy Heap, Margaret Edwards, Edwin P. Hall, Michael Hastings, Ken Hewitt, Frances Horgan, Paul Horgan, Ron Horgan, Sue Hooks, Christopher Kilgour, Edward Kramer, Gill Kramer, Cheryl Lowe, Chris Lowe, Jennifer Macbeth, Emma McCaughan, Graham Maile, Lesley Maile, Kristi Nourie, Nicholas Nourie, Sarah Rossouw, Jennie Steer, John Unwin, Lynda Unwin, Matt Unwin-Riches, Sara Varty, Jane Webster, Joe Webster, Alison Wedgbury and Peter Wilbourn.

1. Apologies: Iain Campbell, Wendy Campbell, Amanda Kilgour, Anna Marsh, Mike Marsh, David Ward and Sarah Ward.

The meeting opened at 11.43 am.

2. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of Sunday 4th October 2020

The minutes were unanimously accepted: proposed by Cheryl Lowe and seconded by Margaret Edwards.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church 2020

The report, having been previously circulated in the APCM Booklet, was accepted. Thanks were given to the church wardens for compiling the report.

5. Treasurer's Report: Financial statements independently examined for the year ending 31st December 2020

Frances Horgan reported that the detailed financial accounts of All Saints' Cottenham give a clear picture. A large amount of back-dated gift aid helped us this year but this will not happen again. All Saints' must find how to pay its way. There is a £10,000 difference between outgoings and income. Frances concluded by saying, as last year, that a healthy church's giving needs to exceed its outgoings.

The Reverend Lynda Davies thanked Frances for all her work on the church's finances. The report and accounts, having been independently examined by Malcolm Dee and circulated in the APCM Booklet, were unanimously accepted; proposed by Lynda Unwin and seconded by Sue Hooks.

Michael Hastings provided the Rampton Accounts. He warned that Rampton's finances look healthier than they actually are because they've yet to pay the bill from the contractors who have been working on the building. Lynda thanked Michael for his work on the Accounts. They were unanimously accepted; proposed by Alison Wedgbury and seconded by Chris Lowe.

6. Safeguarding

Safeguarding training has continued on Zoom during the pandemic. Margaret Edwards was thanked for her difficult role as safeguarding officer. Her work is valued and greatly appreciated.

7. Electoral Roll for 2020 - 2021

The report, having been previously circulated in the APCM Booklet, was accepted. The Reverend Lynda Davies thanked Emma McCaughan for all her hard work keeping the electoral roll up to date and accurate.

8. Report of the Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for 2019 – 2020

The report, having previously circulated in the APCM Booklet, was accepted. The Reverend Lynda Davies thanked Lesley Maile for her work as PCC Secretary.

9. Report from the Deanery Synod 2019 -2020

The report, having been previously circulated in the APCM Booklet, was accepted. The Reverend Lynda Davies thanked Edward Kramer and Graham Maile for their continued representation of All Saints' Cottenham with Rampton at the Deanery Synod.

10 and 11. Reports from the Action Groups and Church Activities

The written reports, having been previously circulated in the APCM report, were accepted. Many thanks were expressed for all the hard work done in so many different areas of church life during the pandemic to make it the growing, flourishing church it is by dedicated and committed members of the church family of All Saints' Cottenham with Rampton.

12. Rector's Report

The Reverend Lynda Davies wrote a comprehensive report about our church family's year, previously circulated in the APCM Booklet. In this time of Covid 19 the Bishop asked us to keep our APCM as brief as possible for health reasons and so Lynda delivered a brief summary of her aims for the future; we must find ways to support a return to on-site worship; we must continue with our on-line presence; we must carefully consider, in the light of lessons learned during the pandemic, what the church will be like in the future.

13. Elections for the Parochial Church Council 2020 – 2023

There were six nominations for a place on the PCC. Graham Appleby was proposed by Alison Wedgbury and seconded by Graham Maile. Gavin Cameron was proposed by Michael Hastings and seconded by Judi Middleton. Edwin Hall was proposed by Graham Appleby and seconded by Alison Wedgbury. Cheryl Lowe was proposed by Peter Wilbourn and seconded by Jennie Steer. Cara Stratford was proposed by Graham Appleby and seconded by Jennifer Macbeth. David Ward was proposed by Sarah Ward and seconded by Edward Kramer. All were elected unanimously.

14. Assistant Churchwardens

The assistant churchwardens Maggie Appleby, Margaret Edwards, Graham Maile, Patricia Sawers, Jennie Steer and David Woodcroft were approved.

15. Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2020 -2021

Malcolm Dee was proposed as the independent examiner and elected. The nomination was proposed by Frances Horgan and seconded by Sue Hooks.

17. Any other business

Chris Lowe thanked Lynda for all her hard work made especially more difficult during the pandemic.

The APCM closed at 12.01.

Appendix 5

End of Year Accounts All Saints' Cottenham

All Saints' Church
Charity Commission Registration Number 1177838
Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	<i>Total 2020</i>	<i>Note</i>	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>2021</i>					
Cash funds					
Bank current account	13,720.32		16,352.10	3,630.61	19,982.71
Lloyds PCC	9,231.95		7,105.96		7,105.96
Hall account	20,063.83		23,391.20		23,391.20
Reordering account	35.62		35.62		
	-----				-----
	43,051.72				50,515.49
	-----				-----
Investment assets					
Investment fund shares.		3			
at cost			210,005.74	39,994.26	
250,000.00		275,000.00			
	-----				-----
Assets retained for church use.		2	120,000.00		
120,000.00		120,000.00			
	-----				-----
Liabilities					
Assigned fees			5,757.00		
5,757.00		4,699.00			
Other			368.08		
368.08		315.82			
	-----				-----
6,125.08	5,014.82				-----
	-----				-----

Notes

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.
2. Fixed assets retained for church use is the church hall, at cost.
3. The remainder of the proceeds of the sale of Marian Bicheno's house, together with the organ fund, a restricted fund which represents a donation, are invested in the COIF fund. The market value of our investment at 31.12.21 was £361,718.96.
4. The movements in designated and restricted funds during the year were:

	Bal b/fwd	Receipts Bal c/fwd	Payments	Transfer
Designated	-----	-----	-----	-----
Mission and Charities	0.07	-		-0.07
Prayer resources.	150.00			-150.00.
0.00	-----	-----	-----	-----
	150.07			-150.07
0.00	-----	-----	-----	-----
	0.00			

The Mission and Charities fund, which was purely administrative, was closed. The balance of the Prayer Resources fund, which represented a gift from a parishioner, was transferred to the General Fund to cover expenditure on prayer resources.

Appendix 6

Cottenham Statements of Financial Activities (*hard copy only, electronic copy as an attachment*)

Appendix 7

End of Year Accounts All Saints' Rampton

			RAG regular	Restoration
Opening balance 1st January		£31,688.64		
	Of this:		£3,133.73	£28,554.91
Income			£4,863.23	£3,334.52
Expenditure			£4,291.25	£19,824.41
Totals by December 31st			£3,705.71	£12,065.02
Accounted balance, total			£15,770.73	
Statement balance			£16,226.23	
Variance			£455.50	
Uncleared chqs				
	C Humphryes Elect sundries	Chq 504	£43.00	
	Cotts W Ramp B Moss	Chq 505	£412.50	
			£455.50	

ALL SAINTS' RAMPTON RAG Account (Under Cottenham with Rampton PCC)**Statement of assets and liabilities at 31st December 2021**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Cash Funds	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Current account	£2,810	£13,124	£9,134	£3,627	£31,188	£15,771
TOTALS	£2,810	£13,124	£9,134	£3,627	£31,188	£15,771
CBF investments	£29,291	£29,806	£29,846	£31,024	£18,950	£19,722

There are no out-standing debts.

Signed
Rev. Lynda Davies

Date

Signed
RAG Treasurer, Michael Hastings

Date

Notes on the Accounts**Mike Hastings**

Income:

Regular:

Regular giving with GA. 2 X £10 per month, 2 X £50 per month, 1 X £120 annually.
Nb BM donation £30 per month passed on to Cotts w Ramps PCC.

Ad hoc donations of £2,000 (£1,000 GA) Verger fees, recycled expenses, wall safe.

Income for Friends' wine tasting returned to them

Gift Aid rebate and investment interest

Restoration

DCMS Vat rebate

Expenditure:

Regular:

Electricity, water, heating oil, organ service

Major outgoing: insurance

Miscellaneous repair expenses, electrical testing

Repaid Cotts w Ramps re. BM regular giving (twice).

Restoration:

Contractor final payment and architects' fees.

Nb with the significant donations, the regular element of the account was positive for the year and sits at £3.7K.

Nb. The restoration element of the account sits at £12K but not sure about how VAT rebate may impact of donation from the Friends. (2020 Trust funds received £13K, £22K from Friends).

You will see we made 2 payments to Lodge and Son.

Lodge 2020 payment £4,493.62
Lodge 2021 payment £19,236.41
Lodge Total £23,730.03

So that exceeds the £22K and hopefully these invoices will be suitable for the audit.

But, we also secured a partial reimbursement of VAT for late 2020 and 2021 bills (I could not get VAT rebate from earlier bills, including the first 2020 Lodge and several early Architect bills).

This rebate was £3,334.52 and included VAT for Lodge 2021 and various Architects' bills.

Of this, the Lodge share of rebate is £3,206.07
So, in all we have paid Lodge (net) £20,523.96

Given that the Friends donated £22K, that exceeds the net building work costs by £1,476.04.

How would you wish to proceed with this?

Now that the dust is settling, I'd be very comfortable in reimbursing The Friends that balance, and so would the rest of RAG, I'm sure.

An alternative is that we have now called in the Architect (more fees already) to start arranging the repair of the north east window. The £1,476.04 could remain with RAG and we'd ring-fence it for building costs, not architect costs, for that future window repair.

Personally, I'd rather we clear the decks by returning the £1,476.04, but it's a Friends decision.

Full Accounts are available on application.