

St Mary's, Hardwick

**Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31
December 2016**



Team Vicar

The Reverend Alison Myers
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St Mary's Hardwick is part of the Lordsbridge Team of 11 parishes.



Purpose of the PCC

St Mary's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Team Vicar, the Revd. A Myers, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church: pastoral, evangelistic, socials and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church building and Churchyard.

Organisation of Church and PCC

PCC members 2016

Incumbent & chair:	Revd. Alison Myers
Assistant Minister:	Revd. Howard Bigg
Assistant Minister (Pioneer Curate)	Revd. Dr Beth Cope (from July 2016)
Church Wardens:	Thelma Westbury Chris Ford
Deanery synod rep:	Thelma Westbury Lois Frettsome
Team Council rep	Sue Cornwell (to APCM 2016) Peter Cornwell (from APCM 2016)
Elected members:	Michaela McNeill (until APCM 2017) (Secretary) Clare Bigg (until APCM 2017) (Treasurer) Peter Cornwell (until APCM 2019) Sue Cornwell (until APCM 2016) Lois Frettsome (until APCM 2019) Jeff Jones (until APCM 2019) Jana Callus (until APCM 2017) Naomi Roy (until APCM 2018)

The method of appointing the PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election on the PCC. There were fifty-four on the Electoral Roll in 2016.

The Local Ministry Team

The local team consists of Alison (the vicar), Chris and Thelma (churchwardens), Beth Cope (Pioneer Curate), Michaela McNeill (Authorised Lay Minister), Howard Bigg (Associate Minister) and Clare Bigg (LLM trainee). The team meets every month to oversee the week-by-week running of the church: primarily organising services, pastoral care, and the coordination of other church-run activities; and to pray together for church and community.

The Events Committee

The Events Committee consists of Anne Jones, Caroline Edgley, Thelma Westbury, Sue Cornwell, Joan Segrave and Lois Frettsome. As vicar, Alison is an ex-officio member. It meets around 5 times a year to plan fundraising and social events.

The Community Hall and Funding Team

The members of this team in 2016 were Alison Myers, Alison Marcus, Peter Cornwell, Tonio and Jana Callus, Jeff Jones and Clare Bigg, with Chris Brown as minute secretary. Meetings are held monthly to monitor progress on both the plans for the building and fundraising, and to agree actions for the next steps.

The Standing Committee

This is the only committee of the PCC required by law and consists of the Team Vicar, the churchwardens and two representatives of the PCC. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions of the Council. Meetings of the standing committee are called only when required.

The Team Council

This body of lay and ordained people from across the Lordsbridge Team now meets about three times a year in the Coton Parish Room. It has responsibility for communicating best practice and as a council of reference for whole team projects. Coton is represented by the Team Vicar and a lay person.

The Bourn Deanery Synod

Bourn Deanery Synod meets three times a year, and is made up of clergy and representatives from the parishes in the Deanery. Hardwick PCC is entitled to two lay representatives on the Deanery Synod.

There were three meetings in 2016, At the first one in **February** there was a talk by Reverend Ed Olsworth-Peter from the Mission Department who gave a lively presentation about Fresh Expressions. He gave full and open answers to questions. In **June** There was a report from Deborah Spencer on her recent visit to Rwanda. And Alison reported on the Area Mission Partnership that was set up as a working group as part of our Deanery Plan. The group is ecumenical and primary looks to providing Christian communities within the new and proposed housing developments.

In particular Bourn Deanery needs to consider the implications of Cambourne West development, and the proposed development of the Bourn Airfield Site. There was an update regarding this in November and Beth Cope is presently meeting regarding the Cambourne and Bourn developments.

Also there have been conversations with South Cambridge District Council regarding provision of Families and Children's support by the church communities along with other agencies. This is in response to the reductions of local authority social care budgets.

Susie Thompson gave a presentation on the work of WYCCM that introduced a discussion on our wider involvement in local school as visitors and governors since 1992 various youth workers have worked with WYCCM either through being directly employed by WYCCM or in partnership with local churches.

Reports were given at the meeting from the Cambourne, Lordsbridge and Papworth representatives, and reports from the Diocesan Synod and the General Synod. We also heard in that our Rural Dean and Team Rector was to take up the new post of Bishop's Officer for Charge in Market Towns in October. It is with sadness that we say goodbye to Mike, but we look forward to what new plans God has in store for the team and for Mike.

PCC Meetings

In 2016 the PCC met 5 times for a full evening meeting. Business included regular review of worship, and updates on finance, Sunday Club activities, local church & community events, and the maintenance of the building.

Worship and prayer

Beth and Howard writes:

Two of the “Characteristics of St Mary’s” (as set out by the PCC) are that we are

- A church that prays
- A church that meets for worship – teaching, inspiring, involving – with our focus on Jesus.

Prayer

Prayer provides the bedrock for all that we do, whether it be the prayers that open every local ministry team and PCC meeting (often taking the form of “dwelling in the word” – listening for God’s voice in Scripture), or the mid-week ecumenical morning prayer on Wednesdays (usually 6-8 people from Hardwick Evangelical and St Mary’s gathering at 9am to read the bible together and pray for the world, our community, and individuals, using a seasonal cycle of liturgies). We have a weekly prayer diary, covering local groups, streets, and individuals. This inform both Sunday morning and Wednesday morning intercessions, and this year we have started sharing these prayer-topics on our Facebook page. Prayer has also been a particular focus for Sunday Club this Autumn. Across the year, the prayers during Sunday worship have taken a variety of shapes, led by different members of the community (including the Sunday Club), and incorporating words, silences, reflection on our stained glass, and even paper airplanes and strings of lights.

There have been several opportunities for focused prayer, including a morning to pray for the new church hall, and prayer stations on Good Friday.

We also encourage our community to join with the wider Lordsbridge Team for termly ‘Sacred Space’ gatherings (including contemporary sung worship and multi sensory prayer stations), the Annual Prayer Pilgrimage, and the national ‘call to pray’ at Pentecost.

A Pattern for Worship

Our regular gatherings for worship take place on Sunday mornings at 9.30, with additional seasonal services as appropriate. The second Sunday of the month is usually an All Age service, encouraging intergenerational and more multi sensory worship. On

other Sundays, the Sunday Club start by worshipping with the wider community in the church building, before move across to the Cabin to continue their worship, teaching, and prayer in a more child-focused style.

Where there is a 5th Sunday in the month, we join with other churches in the Lordsbridge Team, worship being hosted by different church communities each time. We also joined the annual ecumenical West Cambridge Joint Service in Comberton Village College to celebrate Christ the King.

Our liturgies are shaped by the church calendar, and draw on resources from Methodist, Baptist and Celtic sources to complement the core material in Common Worship. Using the same words and prayers for a 'season' before moving on helps us focus in turn on different aspects of our faith. Repeating this for several weeks gives a familiarity that allows us to be confident in what we are saying corporately.

This year, we have also had a particular focus for each 'term' as we have sought to teach, inspire and involve everyone in worship that focuses on Jesus.

On Ascension Day, we hosted a joint service when the speaker was Peter Wood, director of mission in Ely diocese. This was followed by participation in the annual prayer pilgrimage, when some of us walked, drove or cycled around churches in the Lordsbridge group to pray and pause in each one. This was part of the Archbishops' call to prayer 'Thy Kingdom Come'.

Through the summer our focus was on being a welcoming community, inviting people to join with us and to meet with God in our "A Season of Invitation". Of particular note was a special outdoor service in September, where we explored what it meant to "find God in Creation". This combined liturgy, music, and scripture with prayer stations around the churchyard, as well as a liturgical welcome to a baptismal family.

As the Autumn term started, we explored the theme of prayer. In particular, the Sunday club looked at thank you, please, and sorry, bringing their prayers to our Harvest Festival. They then explored how it is fun to be church together – fun to be friends, to worship, and to help others.

Our Advent theme was "God has promised..." looking at PEACE, HOPE, JOY, and LOVE (linking each to a candle on the wreath). We also promoted the Bible Society Advent challenge.

The Christmas season provided opportunities for a number of special 'invitational' events and services, including:

- Guides', Brownies' and Rainbows' Carol service
- School's Christmas assembly in the church building
- Carols around the camp-fire (rain drove us inside, but the atmosphere was wonderful)
- Carol Service (focusing on God's promises, especially LOVE)
- A stall asking "What does Christmas mean to you?" at the Hardwick Bazaar
- Exploring the perfect Christmas and asking "what if you had been at the stable?" at the Christmas fun morning.

- A Scratch Nativity (Using the Bible Society materials and involving everyone - adults and children alike – whether through dressing up or ‘congregational lines’ to the story.)
- Christingle (followed by the ever-popular tea in the Cabin)
- A Christmas Midnight Service, with poetic reflections on the angel’s message of “PEACE on EARTH”
- Christmas morning concluding our “God has promised” series with a worshipful festive celebration

Statistics for St Mary's Church, Hardwick 2016

Usual Sunday attendance (average across the year) excluding specials – 34 adults, 8 children

Number who came to church for Easter Day – 44

Number who came to special services in Advent

The number who came to special services which were for the community as well as the congregation – 175

Number who came to services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day – 65

Organisations – School event, uniformed organisations – 185

Baptisms, weddings and funerals

There were three baptisms, five weddings and four funerals in Hardwick.

Statistics for St Mary's Church, Hardwick 2015

Usual Sunday attendance (average across the year) excluding specials – 35 adults, 8 children

Number who came to church for Easter Day – 50

Number who came to special services in Advent

Public – Carol service, Fun morning, Christingle, Carol singing – 210

Organisations – School event, uniformed organisations – 310

Number who came to service on Christmas Eve/Day – 100

Baptisms, weddings and funerals

2015 saw only two weddings at St Mary's. The church held six baptisms, the highlight being Ben Ince's adult baptism. The year saw four funerals.

Pastoral care

Michaela writes:

We have continued to offer Home Communion to Hazel Basham and Michaela has been visiting her once a month. When she has been unable to do so, Michaela has kept in touch with her by phone. It was good to see Hazel with her daughter Karen and son in law Terry at the All Souls Service to remember those that had passed away. The All Souls Service was well attended by those that had lost dear ones during the past year.

Michaela is still going into Gracefields Care Home with the Evangelical Church along with Lois Clark of Dry Drayton. Both Michaela and Lois attended a conference in March with regard to dementia care in the area. Again this was run by the Pilgrims Society who hope, in the future, to build a Christian care home in the area. This was well attended by various churches in the Cambridge area and there were some good speakers which included people from the Pilgrims Society and various other fields of expertise.

Hardwick as a Training Parish.

Beth writes:

St Mary's role as a training parish has continued to grow this year. In the most fundamental sense, St Mary's aims to disciple and equip all those who are part of our community to grow in their faith and gifting. This means giving opportunities for people to explore new roles during Sunday worship (e.g., readings and intercessions), in our activities throughout the week (e.g., youth and children's works, pastoral visiting), and, perhaps most significantly, in seeking to support us all in the places we spent time throughout the week (e.g., the pub-based Lyfe course focussed on missional living, and This Time Tomorrow interviews during February). More specifically, St Mary's has also continued to identify and support ALMs and LLMs as they participate in diocesan training and enrich our community life here in Hardwick.

We have also welcomed a second ordinand and his family on attachment while training at Ridley Hall. Their training includes 'up front' areas such as preaching, leading, reading, and leading intercessions during Sunday worship, as well as encouraging them to utilise their other gifts, such as music, youth work, or engaging with 20s and 30s, and immersing themselves in the wider life of the church. We were also joined on a summer placement by an ordinand from Westcott House.

In July, St Mary's welcomed the new Team Pioneer Curate as Assistant Minister. Her role means that she spreads her time between several villages in the Team, but with a particular focus on being part of the worshipping community here in Hardwick. As a Pioneer, she has had particular training in connecting with those currently unconnected with traditional church, and brings a community- and outward-focused enthusiasm as she joins us.

A group of those 'in training' – including a variety of ALMS, LLMS, ordinands and curate – have started gathering regularly for 'active learning' discussions about various aspects of mission and ministry in Hardwick. They are also able to benefit from being part of the wider Lordsbridge team, learning from and ministering in some of the other local villages.

Looking ahead, we pray that God will continue to nurture all those in our community, and equip us all to grow us disciples.

Churchwardens' Report for 2016

Thelma writes:

We would like to give a heartfelt thanks to everyone for all the hard work and support we have received during the last year. It is always difficult to single out any group of people, but we would especially like to thank all those who act as sides-people, readers, and chalice-bearers, or lead intercessions, arrange the flowers or do the cleaning each week.

We are also very grateful to the LOTS group and others who look after the churchyard and cabin, all who support our events, the members of the PCC, the events committee and our organists Sue and Howard. Howard also takes the service on a regular basis. We thank all those musicians and choir members, who accompany our various special services – the playing and singing is very much appreciated. And last, but not least, we thank Janet for printing the pew sheet each week. Thelma would particularly like to thank Michaela and Lois who took on her duties while she was absent. To all those who work quietly in the background, we hope that they know how much they are appreciated, and we could not achieve half of what we do without their help

The LOTS group are again maintaining the churchyard and parking area, and the bulbs are bursting into bloom heralding spring. We are still managing to keep the cabin habitable, but long for the day when we have the new building, for which everyone is working hard with planning and fundraising.

We have had the Brownies, Cubs, and Beavers making good use of the grassy area at the back of the car park, and the uniformed groups have joined us for the Harvest thanksgiving service, for which they, together with other groups, decorate the church windows, There was also the annual carol service for the uniformed groups, again with them contributing to the service, with prayers and putting together the crib.

Looking forward to 2017 we sense a fresh enthusiasm, with new members joining our congregation, the Sunday Club raising money for charities, the success of Pippins, and after so long the distinct possibility that the New Community Hall is really attainable.

This is due in no small part to the enthusiasm and support from Alison and her family, and not forgetting Beth the new Pioneer Curate, and our ordinands Luke and Timmy, and their families, all of whom are making enormous contributions to the life of St. Mary's.

Fabric of the Church

Jeff writes:

There have been no major issues with the fabric of the church, but another Quinquennial Inspection, due in 2017, will undoubtedly highlight the necessary work of the previous report and probably more. It was decided that the project to remove the pews at the rear of the church (left of the door), the provision of better storage facilities in the base of the tower and the procurement of better chairs, should proceed, but in three separate phases. A request to remove the pews is currently with the Diocesan Advisory Committee.

Churchyard and LOTS team

Jeff writes:

The LOTS group has had another very successful year caring for the graveyard and the adjoining area and has received numerous compliments on the appearance of the churchyard. An End of Project Report was well received by South Cambridgeshire District Council for the £1500 grant from its 2015 Community Chest Fund. The anonymous donation of a ride-on mower has transformed the time taken to mow the

graveyard and a water butt to collect roof water has been installed for the use of people tending graves.

St Mary's Church Sunday Club

Peter writes:

As ever, thanks must go to the excellent group of adults who support the work of the Sunday Club and to the teenagers who are following the tradition of providing role models in the process of helping the younger children. We are indebted to Clare Bigg, Lizzy Bennett, Lois Frettsome, Ben Ince and Ali Marcus. Ben has made a wonderful contribution to the club in the past and has now moved forward to take his place among the adult leaders. Both Clare Louise and Renata, the teenagers, have been most faithful in their attendance and have impressed in the way that they have stepped in when necessary.

Numbers have increased a little on last year ; on a good week we can have as many as eight plus the teenagers. We have certainly moved on from the days when leaders were looking anxiously around to see whether the Hardings had arrived.

We are indebted to Alison Myers for the time who she gives us in starting off the planning process. The leaders generally meet with her to establish a broad outline for the term ahead.

We all meet up with the teenagers for a three course planning meeting at the beginning of each term. It has to be the tastiest planning ever. As the term progresses the individual leaders take on the planning of the fine detail. A good rota has been established with one adult leading and one supporting each week. Peter accompanies the group to the cabin each week for the first ten minutes or so, in order to provide continuity and to lead the music.

There have been four main themes this year: the Cross across the World, Great Christians, exploring prayer and it's fun to serve, worship and be together. The highlight had to be looking at the various interpretations of the cross across the World and particularly the work which we started with the congregation and the table cloth based on the Asian cross.

God has blessed us with a great group of people, young and older. It is a privilege to be part of it.

Welcoming children and the community

Peter writes:

Easter and Christmas fun mornings and Summer afternoons at St. Mary's are good examples of the congregation as a generous and visible people of Jesus. Here is the congregation giving up time, in some instances during the working week, to host and support these events in increasing numbers and with great generosity. It is service to a collection of people who are largely not members of the congregation, nor do the events feed into the congregation or Sunday Club.

It is a perfect example of St Mary's looking outwards and answering a need; on the Summer afternoons, for young Mums to get together to lessen the effects of isolation

sometimes felt when stuck at home, for children to have a safe, interesting and challenging environment where they can play in spaces which are bigger than their gardens at home, where older people can mix, with those of their own age and with younger people: community cohesion at work.

Historically the money from the donations after expense box goes into the Sunday Club coffers.

Youth Report 2016

Luke writes:

In youth work related news, Emma Slater, Lordsbridge Team Youth Worker gave birth to a delightful little girl in September 2016 and is currently on maternity leave. Emma's maternity leave has led to a few changes within the youth provision.

Illuminate, the monthly youth cafe that took place on a Sunday evening in Harlton and was attended by some young people from St Mary's, came to an end early in the year. St Mary's has continued to be involved in Wednesday Club, a group run for young people of St Mary's and Hardwick Evangelical Church. During the latter stages of the year, Wednesday Club went on a detailed study of John's Gospel, following material produced by UCCF.

People from St Mary's have also continued to be involved in the bi-weekly Friday evening youth club in the community room at the primary school. This youth club aims to provide a safe and positive space for young people in the village to come and hang out and develop positive relationships with one another and with the team.

Over this past year young people from St Mary's have been involved in activities run by WCCYM, including Thirst, a monthly youth service. A number of young people from St Mary's also attended Soul Survivor, an annual Christian youth festival in Somerset.

We look forward to seeing young people develop and deepen their faith over the coming year.

Events Committee report

Sue writes:

Our events this year have always been successful, both in terms of fundraising and in attracting not only the Church congregation but people from the wider community. We are always looking for new ideas for fundraising and extra people to help at events - both would be very welcome. We would like to thank all those who have baked, served, washed up, manned stalls, put up and taken down tents, gazebos and marquees, carried tables and chairs and supported us in many ways. We look forward to continued goodwill in 2017.

Money for the Fabric Fund was raised at the Quiz night in March. Once again Shirley and John Nicholson, Debbie McGarrerty and Graham Clarke had us scratching our heads and we are very grateful for all their hard work in preparing the questions and running the evening for us.

In April, a tea party was held in the school to say goodbye to Douglas and Mary Skipper who have now moved to Oulton to be near their son. We were sad to see them go but

delighted that they have settled into their new home. Both had been members of the events committee and great supporters of all events.

We have had such cold, wet and miserable weather for the Fêtes held in June, so we decided to revert to May this year. It was still cold (very!) but at least we had some sunshine and no rain. We had hoped to attract more schoolchildren with competitions being well advertised - however, we had little response. Parachuting teddies from the Church tower proved much more popular and helped us to raise over £1800, more than in the last few years.

There was no safari supper last year as we felt support was waning. After several people said they had missed it, we held another in July and it proved a very enjoyable evening.

In September we organised Cream Teas around the Church for the Sunday afternoon following the first Hardwick Play park Committee's sponsored fun run which we helped to marshal. We hope to repeat this in 2017.

We were able to book the Cambridge University Ceilidh Band for the Harvest Supper in October - always an enjoyable family event.

Again, we provided the refreshments for the Christmas Bazaar at the end of November - more cake baking, serving and washing up!

Unfortunately, inclement weather meant that the carol singing which should have taken place around the bonfire ended up as carol singing in the Old School! About 50 people squeezed in, sang lustily and enjoyed mulled wine, mince pies and other nibbles and even managed to play Tiddlywinks!

Lordsbridge Team Council

A personal report from a new member of the council who has attended only two meetings

These have been impressive meetings: interesting people, interesting discussion and an interesting point in the history of the council. With Mike Booker moving on, the vacancy for Team Rector occurred. Much of the first meeting was taken up in discussing the nature of the job and the skills and attributes needed. There was much calm, thoughtful contribution and debate before leaving the Lay Chair, Felicity and Rebecca to formulate the paper work.

I did not know Felicity but her death in between meetings was clearly deeply felt among the Team Council members.

The second meeting was largely focused on prayer and each of the churches contributed to the initial discussion by detailing the prayer practice within their own congregation. It was a perfect example of the team council in action, as good ideas were shared in a simple way. We shared a video from Justin Welby about the forthcoming initiative on prayer : Thy Kingdom Come. It can be found on YouTube and the Diocesan web page.....highly recommended.

Perhaps if a few people from St Mary's watch it, we shall be better able to answer the questions: How do we pray more? How do we pray better? How do we support each other? What can our Hardwick congregation do?

Pippins

Anne writes:

Pippin's opened in June 2014 so we celebrated our second birthday in June 2016! We continue to open on the first Saturday of every month from 10am – midday and it is very popular, as we cater for all ages. There is always a good atmosphere, friendliness and a real buzz, with lots of chatter! It has gone from strength to strength and it has been known for people to be queuing outside the door to come in. We have a very keen team of 21 bakers and 28 helpers who offer their services each month. Nearly all of them have achieved the Level 2 Food Safety in Catering Award. We sell Fairtrade tea and coffee and all our cakes and biscuits are home-made. The bakers claim the cost of the ingredients only, which enables us to keep our costs down as we are a non-profit making enterprise. Any profit that is made will be used to further improve our facilities. We celebrated its success with a meal in the Blue Lion in January which was a very pleasant evening. The Steering Committee consists of Alison Myers - Chairman (St Mary's Church), Steve Gaze – Vice Chairman (Evangelical Church), Anne Jones (Community Association), Ruth French (Hardwick Community Primary School) and Gino Starace – Treasurer. The Management Team consists of Anne Jones, Clare Bigg and Julie Coulson.

"Pippins is a real success story and a welcome addition to the things that go on in the village."

St Mary's Church Community Hall

Ali writes:

This year, the building project team and funding team have merged together with the hope of getting more hands available to write grant applications. Thus, Ali, Clare, Alison, Peter, Jeff, Jana and Tonio are all now working together and have been kindly supported by Christine Cauldwell-Brown who has been writing meeting minutes.

Last year we told you we were getting ready to address the planning conditions imposed on the Community Hall project. Unfortunately, it proved to be a long and tortuous process and although Gawn Associates helped us, it took a very long time. We finally submitted detailed plans indicating our responses to the conditions in the autumn. After further dialogue with SCDC, we are still awaiting further details of the hard and soft landscaping of the site to be added to the detailed plans by Gawn Associates. Whilst we continue to chase Gawn Associates, it seems that they are no longer the right people to take us further in the project.

In the Autumn we also sent copies of the detailed plans off to 10 local building firms for tender which would then give us detailed costings to enable the funding team to apply for grants to help fund the project. Unfortunately, all are reluctant to give detailed quotes of the building costs because there is no concrete funding in place and a very open ended time-scale for the project. The steep inflation of building costs especially in the Cambridge area, and time involved in making a detailed quote means it is not a high priority for them. There are too many other projects-with-funds-in-the-bank out there for them at the moment! This has led to a chicken and egg situation where despite making good progress with the business plan and justification for the building, we cannot apply for grants without the detailed costings and we cannot get those costings without grants in hand. We were beginning to feel that the project would never get past this sticking point!

With Gawn Associates unable to lead us through the building process, we felt we lacked the expertise to take us safely through the final design and building of the project. We take very seriously the responsibility of ensuring the money is spent wisely and ensuring the building will be fit for the future. Thus, we set about trying to identify precisely who we needed on board to advise us and lead us. Looking out at our (more specifically Alison's) network of contacts, we arranged a meeting with Stephen Terrell in early 2017, as we knew he had had a career in the building industry. We thought he would be able to give us advice on which professional/s we needed to hire and give us a better understanding of what needs to be done when during a building project.

To cut a long story short, after listening to our story, Stephen confirmed that we are not alone in the position we are in and offered to put us in touch with Coulsons builders who have devised a specific scheme to help local charitable organisations such as ourselves. He introduced us to Graham Watts of Coulsons and we are very glad we did. Basically, Coulsons can work closely with us to plan and cost the project using an open book policy for scrutiny by an independent quantity surveyor which has been considered an acceptable alternative to tendering by granting bodies in other church projects. Jointly, we can establish a maximum price for the project and they would commit to carrying out the works for us at that price. They can hold project on their books without putting a time limit on the start of the project enabling us to source the funds in our own time and we are not committed to working with them right up until the funds are secured. They are willing to trust us to stick with them for the build phase if we are willing to trust them to give us a good price (which we can have independently assessed in their open books). Additionally, we can benefit from their in-house expertise pro bono.

To us, this seemed like a win/win situation and we shared our plans with them to enable them to cost the project and help us discharge the planning conditions that are pending as a first step to building a relationship of trust that will be needed throughout. Given we have no contract with them yet and the work will be pro-bono, we felt we had nothing to lose by this. More importantly, they have given us a detailed draft budget for the project which includes the big unknown which we have not before costed in the project i.e. the comprehensive ground works for the drainage. They have given us a figure of close to £350K as the maximum price. Clearly this is more than we previously thought and deserves a sharp intake of breath but this should be followed very rapidly by remembering it includes the cost that we were going to have to have of employing the expertise of building project manager, the huge amount of groundwork not before properly costed and the inflation of building works since we started two years ago. Having consulted with the PCC and received their permission we will now continue to build a relationship with Coulsons and start to scrutinise and refine the budget so that we can then start to submit grant applications.

As a result of the new larger budget, we have also announced a new funding strategy which accompanies this report which we launched on Sunday 12 March 2017.

Treasurer's Report by Clare Bigg

The Head Line News!

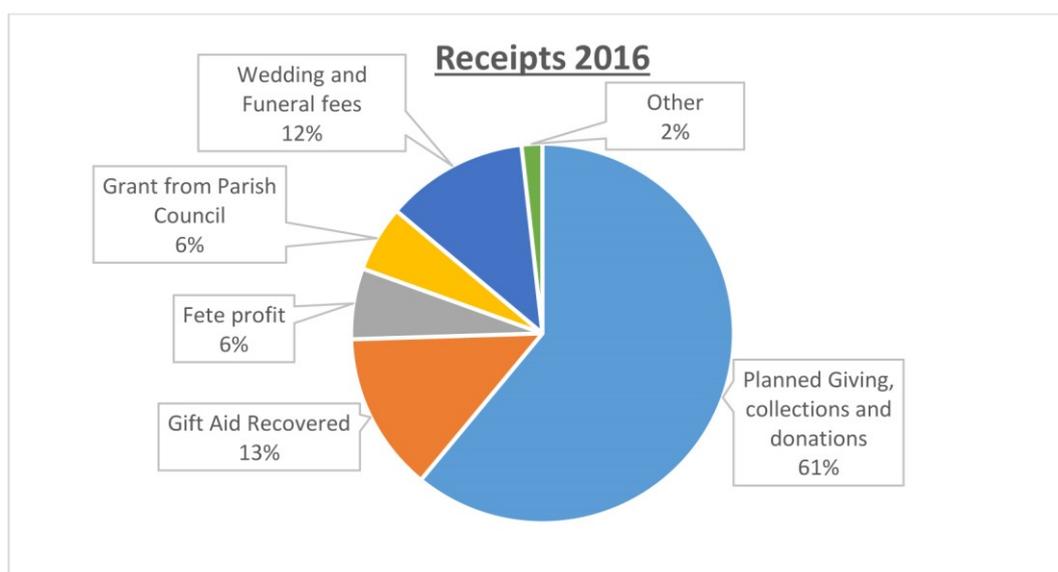
<u>Our Fund Holdings as at 31st Dec</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
General Fund	£7,982	£5,485
Fabric Fund	£9,660	£5,977
Community Hall fund	£33,090	£21,216
Total	<u>£50,732</u>	<u>£32,678</u>

As you can see, all three of our funds grew in 2016. Many thanks to everyone who gave generously and worked hard to make this happen!

The General Fund

We use this fund to pay for the day-to-day running of the church.

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Planned Giving, collections and donations	£17,159	£16,256
Gift Aid Recovered	£3,816	£3,467
Fête profit	£1,701	£1,491
Grant from Parish Council	£1,584	£1,451
Wedding and Funeral fees	£3,395	£2,278
Other	£496	£765
<u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u>	<u>£28,151</u>	<u>£25,708</u>



As you can see, three quarters of our income comes from giving of one kind or another, plus Gift Aid. Thank you. It is very helpful that many people now give regularly via their bank standing order or by using the envelope scheme. This helps to make planning possible. The Parish Council kindly gave us a grant again to cover insurance costs.

<u>PAYMENTS</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Charitable Giving	£718	£880
Parish Share	£16,731	£16,381
Clergy & Admin Expenses	£2,545	£2,100
Mission, publicity & youth expenses	£1,167	£799
Keeping the church going	£3,493	£3,323

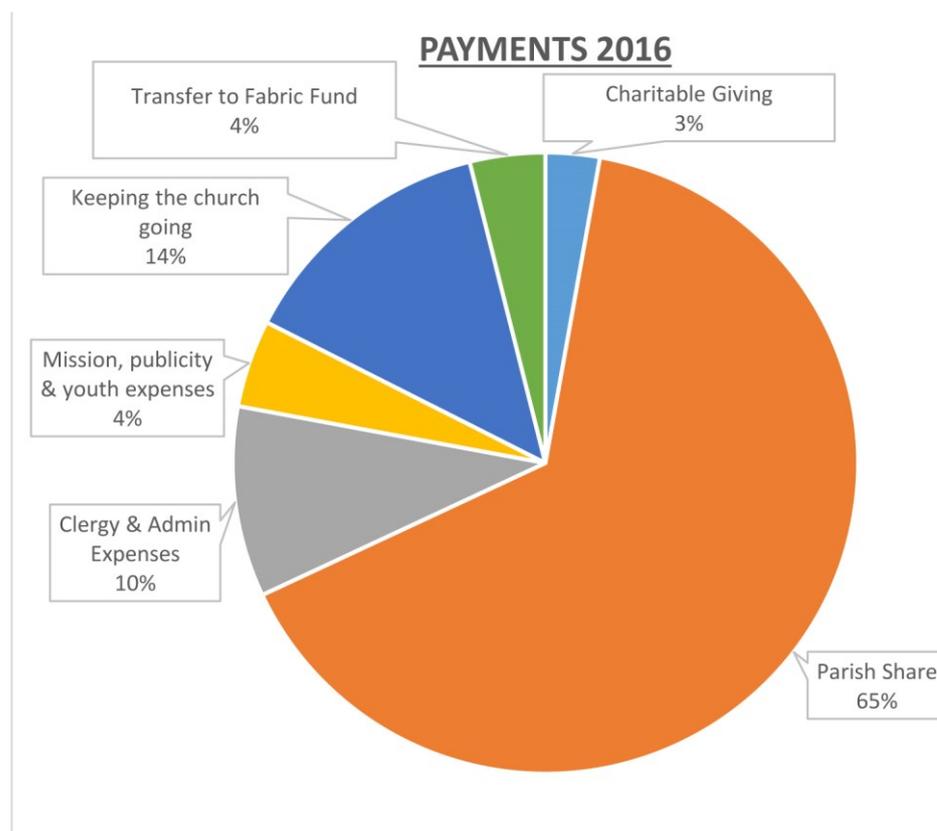
Transfer to Fabric Fund

£1,000

TOTAL EXPENDITURE

£25,654

£23,484



Three quarters of our expenditure goes on the ‘Parish Share’ (which is our contribution towards the cost of our clergy) and reimbursing their expenses – money well spent! Keeping the church going is our next biggest expenditure: insurance, electricity, many candles, fire extinguishers, petrol for the mower – it all adds up! The Mission, publicity and youth pot includes our contribution to the Lordsbridge youth worker and the Lordsbridge Mission Project: Gateways. Because we had a surplus last year, we were able to transfer additional funds into the Fabric Fund.

Our charitable giving comprises:

The Children’s Society	£50	Hope Cambridge Homeless Project	£125
Tear Fund Yemen Appeal	£163	Water Aid	£260
		Action Aid	£120

Fabric Fund

This fund is used for larger expenses relating to the buildings and churchyard. We did not spend any of this money in 2016.

The fund now stands at £9660. It was augmented by £3683 comprising:

Event Fundraising	£2347
Transfer from General Fund	£1,000
Donations	£300
Bank Interest	£36

Many thanks to the Events Committee, and everyone else who supported some very enjoyable occasions.

Community Hall Fund

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
<u>Balance of Fund at 1st Jan</u>	<u>£21,221</u>	<u>£1,756</u>
<u>Receipts</u>		
Interest	£124	£38
Donations from congregation	£3,813	£8,437
Donations from wider community	£852	£2,339
Fundraising	£3,882	£6,168
Gift Aid claimed	£2,077	£1,753
Grants	£1,500	£1,500
<u>Total</u>	<u>£12,248</u>	<u>£20,235</u>
<u>Payments</u>		
	<u>£379</u>	<u>£770</u>
<u>Balance of Fund at 31st Dec</u>	<u>£33,090</u>	<u>£21,221</u>

The growth of the fund has been slower this year, perhaps inevitably. Any ideas and offers of help for further fundraising will be gratefully received!

If you would like to see a copy of the full accounts, please ask Clare Bigg.

Acknowledgements

Alison Myers, Beth Cope, Howard and Clare Bigg, Michaela McNeill, Peter and Sue Cornwell, Luke Bacon, Anne and Jeff Jones, Thelma Westbury, Ali Marcus

