

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WATERINGBURY



**REPORTS FOR THE
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
28TH MARCH 2017**

A Message from your Churchwardens

We are pleased to provide this booklet, comprising our Annual Reports, in advance of our Annual Parochial Church Meeting on **Tuesday 28th March at 8pm** here in Wateringbury Church. Please try to read the reports as this will save us a great deal of time at the meeting and allow for a more meaningful discussion to take place on issues which warrant more of our attention. If you have any queries or comments to make there will be ample opportunity during the course of the evening. We hope that once you have finished reading this report you will be very impressed by all that is taking place and we hope it will provide you with some real food for thought! It may prompt that question “Is there anything I could be doing for my Church?”

There is such a great deal happening within our church life and we trust that you will continue to pray for each other as we serve Christ in all that we do!

Peter Bond & Liz Gummer
Churchwardens

Parish Church of St John the Baptist Wateringbury

Annual Parochial Church Meeting to be held on Tuesday 28th March 2017

AGENDA

Annual Vestry Meeting

1. Prayers
2. Presentation of Notice convening the meeting
3. Minutes of the Vestry Meeting of Tuesday 5th April 2016
4. Election of Churchwardens

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Presentation of Notice convening the meeting
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Tuesday 5th April 2016
4. Submission of Electoral Roll

5. Annual reports

- a) PCC
 - b) Church Wardens
 - c) Building Committee
 - d) Worship and Mission Group
 - e) Pastoral
 - f) Deanery Synod
 - g) Benefice Mothers' Union
 - h) Prayer Chain
 - i) Choir
 - j) Toddler's Praise
 - k) Sundays Cool
 - l) WATCH Club
 - m) Wateringbury School
 - n) Flower Arrangers
 - o) Holy Dusters
 - p) Bellringers
 - q) Fairtrade
 - r) Coffee Break
 - s) Weekly Newsletter
6. Audited Accounts for the financial year ended 31st December 2016
 - 6a. Election of Auditor for the current year
 7. Elections to Deanery Synod
 8. Elections to Parochial Church Council
 9. Election of Sidespersons
 11. Any other business
 12. Date of 1st PCC Meeting

Parish Church of St John the Baptist Wateringbury

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting of the Parish of St John the Baptist held in the Church on Tuesday 5 April 2016

1. PRAYERS

The Meeting opened with prayers.

WELCOME

Barry Fisher welcomed all to the meeting and thanked them for coming.

2. PRESENTATION OF NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING

Barry explained the format and purpose of the Vestry meeting, and confirmed that the appropriate notice had been posted outside the church at the correct time.

3. MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING OF 21 APRIL 2015

The minutes of the previous meeting were taken as an accurate record, and were proposed for acceptance by Eddie Scarlin, seconded by Joy Searle, and all were in favour. They were signed by Barry Fisher.

4. ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS

Barry explained that he could only take written nominations for the role of Churchwarden and nomination forms for the office of Churchwarden had been received as follows:-

Peter Bond proposed by Mike Pursey, seconded by Eddie Scarlin.

Liz Gummer proposed by Barry Fisher, seconded by Mike Pursey.

Barry proposed that we accept the nominations for these candidates, and he thanked Peter and Liz for standing for the forthcoming year.

Peter and Liz were willing to serve as Churchwardens and were duly elected for the year of office 2016-2017. Barry thanked them both for volunteering and confirmed that Liz will be formally sworn-in shortly.

Barry went on to thank Peter for all his hard work in the role over the last year and assured Liz that she wouldn't regret standing for election. He thanked them both for standing this year and wished them well.

The Vestry meeting was then closed.

**Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
for the Parish of St John the Baptist Wateringbury
held in the Church on Tuesday 5 April 2016**

1. PRESENTATION OF NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING

Barry opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for attending the meeting. He confirmed that the appropriate notice had been posted outside the church.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Hilary Cayzer, Mrs Audrey Allen, Ted & Mrs Jane Bates, Alastair & Mrs Christine Byron.

3. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF 21 APRIL 2015

The minutes of the previous meeting had been checked by the PCC and issues arising had been addressed by the PCC over the year. The minutes were taken as an accurate record and proposed for acceptance by Gordon Self, seconded by Alan Searle and all were in favour. They were signed by Barry Fisher.

4. SUBMISSION OF ELECTORAL ROLL

Hilary Fisher provided a report on the Electoral Roll. The electoral roll has been updated and there are 93 persons on the roll. Last year the roll was 91. There were the following changes – 2 people have moved away, and there are 4 new members. Barry thanked Hilary for all her work with the Electoral Roll.

5. ANNUAL REPORTS

Barry introduced the annual reports by explaining that by issuing the report pack before the APCM, it allows the congregation time to read it in advance of the meeting. The pack is also on the website.

He gave heartfelt thanks to everyone for keeping the show on the road during the interregnum. It was particularly pleasing to see new initiatives for example the Saturday coffee mornings starting during this period.

The first report was from the PCC and Barry gave thanks to the members of the PCC. He also thanked Sheena Stewart for her hard work on the PCC.

Turning to the Churchwarden's report, Barry thanked Joanna Fyson in her absence for her hard work during 2015. She has been a great support to Peter Bond while he learnt the ropes. Barry also thanked Eddie Scarlin and others for their support which was much appreciated.

Mike Pursey said that he felt Peter had settled in very well and that he was doing a great job, and that he felt Peter will be a good tutor for Liz. Joy Searle thanked Debbie Bond for supporting Peter especially at baptisms.

Barry thanked Revd Alan for his ministry not only at Wateringbury but also at East Malling and Teston. As a non stipendiary minister he has presided at weddings and funerals and his input allowed Revd Jim to extend his ministry in other directions.

Moving onto the Buildings Committee report, Barry thanked Liz Gummer for her hard work on the spire works project. There has been good support from the Friends of St John's for this project. Liz thanked the other members of the Committee for their work.

Under the Worship & Mission Report Barry took the opportunity to outline the interview process for recruiting a new incumbent and explained who was on the interview panel. There are two reps from each parish – Barry and Kate Millar, with Bob Bowie as substitute from Wateringbury, Dawn Page and Ros Hutchins from Teston, and Sue Payne and Nick Ashbee from East Malling.

Arranging dates for the interviews has proven to be challenging due to diary commitments. Kate is unable to attend the revised interview date so Bob will join the group. The advert will be in the Church Times on 8th and 15th April, and interviews will be on 8 June. Barry said he would try to keep everyone up to date. He also thanked Kate for her contribution so far and felt it was a great shame she would miss out on the next stage, and she will be missed.

Turning to the School Liaison Group it had been decided to extend the size of the group by adding Kate Millar and Bob Bowie to continue Revd Jim's good work. The SIAM school inspection which is similar to an Ofsted report but focussing on the religious aspect had recently been carried out. Chris Clark confirmed that the outcome was 'good with outstanding qualities.' There was praise for the school Head Teacher and the link with the church. There are two Foundation Governor vacancies at present and Barry outlined the opportunities to get involved.

Barry thanked Joy Searle and all on the Pastoral Group as it is working well at present.

The Deanery Synod meetings are very positive at present and Sheena has drawn up a schedule of available resources in the Deanery to encourage sharing.

The MLT team are carrying on as before in the interregnum.

Barry thanked Mike and Jan Pursey for their continued good work and co-ordination of the Prayer Chain.

Thanks were given to Tessa Fyson and Luca Wilson-Green for filling in on Sundays when Hilary Fisher is not available. Thanks also go to Anthony Le Fleming who has also filled in for weddings and funerals. He has offered to do a concert in the church and arrangements will be made in due course.

The Toddlers Praise is going well and Barry thanked Edna Craig as Senior Toddler. She confirmed numbers are increasing again. Turning to the Sundays Cool group Barry said it was encouraging to hear at the end of the service what the children have been doing. Kate Millar is setting up a group to stretch the older ones and it is planned to trial this on the first Sunday of the month.

The Watch Club is still running on alternative Sundays. Barry thanked Chris Clark for providing the report on Wateringbury School. The Holy Dusters group are back to full strength again.

One of the new reports is from the Coffee Break group which provides good fellowship as well as lots of spin offs. Pauline has met a lady who does painted stones and she is trying to arrange for her to come to one of the meetings.

One of the new ventures this year has been the Monthly coffee mornings on Saturday run by Ruth and Richard Dunn and these are developing well. There is a tombola at the next event.

The weekly newsletter is now very much part of our worship and Mike was thanked for his hard work with this.

Unfortunately Bob Bowie was unable to attend the meeting to give a report from the Poverty Action Group. This group was created following last year's Lent Course and has good practical potential.

6. PRESENTATION OF AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2015

The Treasurer Richard Dunn was asked to present his report.

Richard presented the accounts to the meeting and explained that last year we had ended the year with a net surplus of £11,200. He thanked everyone involved in fund raising and said that it made an important contribution to the funds.

Richard explained that Unrestricted funds was money we could spend as we want. We have ear-marked some funds as Unrestricted Designated funds as this may help us obtain grants for the spire works.

The budget and accounts have been approved by the PCC.

6. APPROVAL OF FISCAL REPORT AND ELECTION OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Peter Mitchell is happy to continue as auditor until his potential house move and so his reappointment was approved. Richard confirmed that he has given Peter a gift in line with the tradition.

It was proposed by Mike Pursey that we re-elect Peter Mitchell as auditor for the accounts, seconded by Peter Bond, and all were in favour.

7. ELECTIONS TO DEANERY SYNOD

Jack Tate has decided to step down due to ill health leaving a vacancy for the second representative for the parish. Barry is the other parish rep and explained that the Deanery Synod brings a perspective of what is going on in other parishes. Discussions have included church growth, and a presentation by Alice Dunstall on School Chaplaincy. As there were no volunteers, Sheena Stewart who already attends the meetings as the co-opted secretary will cover the position until the next full elections in April 2017. This was agreed by all who attended.

8. ELECTIONS TO PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Emma Palmer stood down during the year, and Jack Tate and Patricia Berry have asked to stand down from the PCC at the APCM. David Wilson-Green was proposed by Suzanne Rowlinson and seconded

by Gordon Self, and Trudy Bailey was proposed by Kate Millar, and seconded by Hilary Fisher and are willing to join the PCC.

Nominations for members of the PCC were as follows:-

Bob Bowie, Mrs Christine Byron, Richard Dunn, Mrs Kate Millar, Eddie Scarlin, Mrs Joy Searle, Gordon Self, Mrs Sheena Stewart, David Wilson-Green, and Trudy Bailey.

Barry Fisher, Revd Alan Searle, Peter Bond, and Liz Gummer are ex-officio members.

The members were proposed by Jan Pursey, seconded by Colin Craig, and all were in favour of electing the members en bloc.

9. ELECTIONS OF SIDESPERSONS

The secretary read out the list of sidespeople's names and noted that Liz Gummer had stepped down due to her new role, and Eddie Scarlin had volunteered to join. Barry thanked Eddie for offering, and also thanked Liz for all her work on the rotas.

Nominations for Sidespersons were as follows:-

Mrs Jane Bates, Mrs Patricia Berry, Percy Billinge, Mrs Debbie Bond, Mrs Kate Millar, Mrs Cathy Miller, Mrs Mandy Mitchelmore, Mrs Jan Pursey, Mike Pursey, Eddie Scarlin, Mrs Joy Searle, Gordon Self, Mrs Gillian Sessions, Mrs Sheena Stewart, Mrs Dawn Underwood, Mrs Maria White.

These names were accepted. These nominations for the sidespersons were proposed by Alan Searle, seconded by Richard Dunn, and all were in favour of electing en bloc.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Hilary Fisher felt that the book stall run by Richard Dunn was very successful and a good fund raiser.

12. DATE OF 1st PCC MEETING

The first PCC meeting of the new parochial year will be on Tuesday 17 May 2016.

Barry thanked everyone for coming and supporting the many good works being carried out in the church. He closed the meeting with the Grace.

ANNUAL REPORTS

PCC

Wateringbury PCC numbers 16 this year including ex-officio members. We were pleased to welcome Rev Nick to his first PCC meeting in October. During the year our often lively and challenging debates covered many important areas of church life such as:

Interregnum and appointment of a new vicar
Changes at Wateringbury C of E Primary School
Church finances, budget and fund raising
Events
Building projects – spire and church meeting room
Poverty action
Health & Safety

The re- shingling of the church spire is our biggest project for some time and we are grateful to the Buildings Committee led by Liz Gummer and to the Friends of SJB for their support and encouragement in raising the required funds.

Sheena Stewart
PCC Secretary

Churchwardens

The main event of the past year has, of course, been the arrival of Rev'd Nick and Family in the Benefice, and we would like to extend a slightly belated welcome to them all, and hope that they are settling happily into their new home and surroundings.

We would like to thank everyone involved in preparing and producing our Parish Profile, and of course Barry, Kate and Bob for their time and effort in the subsequent selection process.

During the interregnum and while we finalise the service pattern we have enjoyed visits from many of the local retired clergy and would like to thank them all, especially Derek Carpenter, for keeping us going during that period. We have also been blessed by the services of our outstanding Worship and Mission Team of lay people to lead our services, and run Sundays Cool and, the newly formed Senior Division, and we continue to rely on them for many of the services when Nick is at either East Malling or Teston. A very big Thank You is due to them all.

Our thanks are also due to Sandra in the Parish Office for all her background admin, and ensuring that we did indeed have a priest when needed for our Communion services.

It is so encouraging that numbers have remained constant over the past year and much of this is due to the dedication and commitment of those mentioned above. It does of course, also provide a great base from which to build!

So many members of our Church Family are involved in so many activities, that we are wary of trying to name everyone in case we miss someone. It is testimony to the love and commitment of the whole Church, that so many people give so generously of their time and talents.

However, we must give thanks to all those who enable the services to run so smoothly. To our dedicated Worship and Mission team; to the Readers; Servers; to those on sound; the Sides people who meet and

greet the congregation; those on Chalice; after service refreshments and the Holy Dusters for ensuring the Church is so well presented. To the wonderful music that enriches our worship so much; to Hilary and Luka on organ, to our Choir and not forgetting the Bell Ringers. To Ros who tirelessly runs and promotes the Fair Trade stall. To Mike and Denise for producing the weekly Newsletter, and Mike and Jan for running the Prayer Chain, and Gillian as Verger.

To Lisa and her team for doing such great work with the Youth (WATCH) Club; to Edna for her many branches of her pastoral work; to all the members of the PCC for all their time and commitment throughout the year, especially those holding office; Richard as Treasurer and Sheena as Secretary.

We have had a series of excellent events throughout the past year, and thanks are due to everyone involved in organising, running and helping on all these occasions, especially as there is no longer a separate Events Team. We have a very good mix of events, allowing for both fund-raising and outreach in the community. Where else could you see a most enlightening and poignant talk about the Somme one month and the next see teddy bears descending on a zip wire!

We are the custodians of an ancient and much loved Church building. Its upkeep is crucial to ensure it is fit to welcome regular worshippers and visitors alike. A regular programme of maintenance was carried out this year with thankfully no major items needing addressing. Of course this does not include the Spire which had been one of the main focuses for the Church this last year. Further details can be found in the Buildings Report but particular thanks to all the Building Committee members for all their time and effort as well as our grateful thank to the Friends of Wateringbury Church who so far have pledged over £20,000 for the Spire and have already set a new target for 2017. This is an incredible total and reflects all the Friends' time and hard work. We are also grateful to the Parish Council for ensuring that the Churchyard is regularly maintained along with the troop of volunteers that twice yearly tidy the Churchyard in time for Easter and Remembrance Sunday, not forgetting the Wateringbury Cubs for maintaining the 'garden' graves.

Looking ahead, some changes are underway. It has not been easy to go from having the services of four priests down to one. We have looked at several possibilities regarding how services could best be organised in the Benefice to allow Rev'd Nick to preside at as many services as possible, without "spreading him too thinly" however with goodwill all round we are confident we will find the best way forward.

Having mentioned above that our Church is built on the commitment and love of so many people it is nevertheless appropriate to single out Barry. Barry has been at the centre of so much during this interregnum year. He has shouldered many of the issues, concerns and tasks that inevitably appeared and ensured that they were resolved through many, many hours of time and commitment. The fact that the year ran so smoothly was down in no small part to Barry. Barry thank you!

This next year promises to build on what is already a vibrant and active Church. Every effort is being made to ensure that 2017 is the year that we have a new Spire to take us into the future and to ensure that our Church remains at the focus of village and worshipful life in Wateringbury. It is with real gratitude that we thank everyone for their support of the Church and its work during 2016 and it is with great excitement that we start our journey under the leadership of Rev'd Nick in 2017.

God bless

Liz Gummer and Peter Bond

Buildings Committee

The need to replace the wooden shingles on the spire remains the major buildings issue for the past year. It has been decided that we should replace the cedar shingles with oak ones, the lifespan of the latter being in excess of 80 years, compared with 30 for cedar. The Friends of Wateringbury Church have been doing wonderful fund raising work on our behalf and have pledged us a magnificent £21,000. We have also been awarded two grants (£1,500 and £7,500) towards the project. We are very grateful for all this support and to everyone who has become involved in whatever capacity.

At the time of writing, there are five outstanding grant applications awaiting decisions. There is a possibility that if more funding becomes available we may be in a position to undertake the work during the summer of 2017. We will endeavour to keep you all informed of progress.

Enormous thanks are also due to everyone within the Church Family who have organised and/or hosted fund raising events throughout the year.

As always, thank you to the faithful band of workers who turn up to help out with our twice yearly work parties. If you haven't volunteered in the past, do try it – they are sociable occasions and a lot of different jobs get done – there is something for everyone (including refreshments)!

Other minor maintenance works have been carried out, and I am grateful to all members of the Buildings Committee for their support and assistance, and also to Peter Bond who is not technically a member of the Committee but who works hard to rectify all the little things that go wrong throughout the year, and to ensure regular maintenance work is carried out.

Liz Gummer

Worship and Mission Group

The group's membership includes the authorised Lay Ministers with responsibility for leading worship: Becky Bowie, Alastair Byron, Barry Fisher and Pauline Welch; retired former Non Stipendiary Minister Rev Alan Searle and co-opted members Joy Searle, Susan Levett, Kate Millar (who shares in leading worship at the Family Service along with Ruth Dunn), Ros Diment (Mother and Toddler Group) and Hilary Fisher (organist).

It is a cohesive and creative group which works collaboratively to ensure that half the worship each month at St John the Baptist church on the 1st and 3rd Sundays takes place.

It also ensures that special celebrations are organised to mark key festivals e.g the outdoor service at the school last year to celebrate Pentecost. This year the Rogation Service on 21st May is planned to be held at the school.

A great debt of thanks is owed to Becky who in addition to planning and leading the Family services also leads Sundays Cool. We said farewell this year to Sally and Nikki who helped with both activities as well as the Easter Project.

Of particular encouragement has been the formation in September during the interregnum, of the Secondary Division of Sundays Cool for the older age children. The group meets in the vestry on the 1st Sunday each month

Without the commitment, enthusiasm and creativity of the members of the Worship and Mission group the church's life would be much diminished.

Barry Fisher

Pastoral

The team has met regularly in 2016 and were pleased that Trudy Bailey joined us.

During the year we have endeavoured to make pastoral visits in the village to those who are ill, bereaved or housebound. We have also organised various outreach activities:

Christian Aid House to House Collections were organised in May 2016 after which Gillian Sessions and Cathy Miller stepped down as Organisers. During the 10 years they have been in post £10,000 has been raised. The organisation will in future be handled by Pastoral Assistant Becky Bowie.

Harvest We organised the distribution of the gifts from the congregation and school harvest celebrations. Fifty gifts were delivered to individuals, this year we aimed to spend more time with each recipient. We were pleased the congregation responded so well to our requests for flowers and treats such as chocolates and biscuits since many visited live alone or are struggling with illness and the problems of advancing years rather than economic need. The tins and staple foods were distributed equally between the Village Blessings Bags and Maidstone Christian Care for the Homeless. We supported the organisation of an invitation Harvest lunch in the Church.

Christingle The pastoral team organised the preparation of the 100 Christingles for the annual service on 4 December which also raises awareness of the work of the Children's Society. We are grateful to Farmers Farm Shop for donating the oranges.

Posada We set up the Posada event and organised the figures to travel round the village, where people were housebound the team arranged to take and collect the figures.

Cribs and Angels Weekend Following the success of last year's event we organised a repeat in early December; it is a quiet weekend which allows people to reflect on the meaning of Christmas.

Parish Christmas Card We organised this year's card which detailed all Christmas Services and thank Rostrum village magazine distributors for distributing the cards to each house with the December magazine.

Parish Remembrance Book

Joy Searle liaised with families and arranged for new entries in the book.

Baptisms

The team were delighted that Rev Nick would like Lay help with Baptism preparations and members look forward to working with Baptism Families in 2017.

*Pastoral Team: Edna Craig, Pauline Welch, Trudy Bailey, Christine Byron,
Joy Searle and Gillian Sessions*

Deanery Synod

The Deanery has held its customary 3 meetings over the last year more than ably supported by Sheena Self, the Secretary, whose major contribution is the updating of the Deanery Audit of resources available in parishes (both human and material) which she originally set up.

The Rural Dean (Rev Matthew Buchan of Leybourne) established a working group to review the organisation of parishes in the Deanery. This was in response to the Bishop's letter about the financial position in the Diocese which meant that less money was available to fund clergy.

The group also became aware from information provided by the Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council that there could be a 72% increase in the Deanery's population over the next few decades.

Responding to this growth, in the context of there being no increase in the number of clergy, would require fresh ways of ministering across parish boundaries and the creative use of Lay Ministry as well as the gifts of the retired clergy of whom there are currently a dozen in the Deanery.

Sheena is a member of the group and has commented that in the way we have worked to become a welcoming church, especially with the Craft and Coffee Wednesday project which has gone from strength to strength, and the use made of our Lay Ministers and lay people with particular gifts, we as a parish are at the leading edge of things.

At the February meeting Claire Boxall, the 'Strategic Framework Manager' for the Rochester Diocese, gave a presentation on the Diocesan initiative 'Our conversation; our future'.

This is a consultation process seeking guidance and wisdom for the church's future life and mission and is focussed on 3 questions:

1 What may the Holy Spirit be saying to us about our area?

2 What do we currently spend our energy and resources on?

3 What do we need to change about who we are and what we do?

Copies of the consultation document will be available at the annual meeting: responses, individual or group, to the Diocese need to be made by Easter.

Barry Fisher

East Malling, Wateringbury & Teston Benefice Branch of Mothers' Union

- Our branch currently has 19 members, on average we have around 10-12 members at our monthly meetings.
- We have been knitting squares for blankets to pass on to needy people both in the UK and abroad and knitting for premature babies
- We have requested funding for one family under the Rochester Diocese AFIA (Away From It All) scheme for 2017

We have had a number of interesting meetings some with speakers on a variety of topics:

2016

- Feb: Lunch at our Treasurer's house with bring & buy and raffle
- Mar: Rosemary Kempell spoke on "being an MU President"
- May: Lunch in the tearooms and a guided tour of Aylesford Priory
- July: Susan Brooker came to talk to us at our annual garden party and fund raising event
- Sept: Eucharist Service followed by coffee
- Oct: A talk on Domestic Abuse from "Choices"/North Kent Women's Aid
- Nov: A talk on the Bethlehem Carol Sheet from "Embrace the Middle East" charity
- Dec: "Make a Christmas Table Decoration" demonstration & activity 2017
- Jan: New Year's lunch at the North Pole Pub, Teston

My thanks go to Audrey Allen (Committee member) & Liz Allen (Treasurer) for helping to plan and run our Benefice Branch of Mothers' Union. Also to all those who tirelessly help with opening up the churches and providing refreshments at our meetings.

Frances Selman (Secretary)

Prayer Chain

The membership of the Prayer Chain is now a healthy 32, new members are always welcome, no training is necessary!

Nor do you have to be a Wateringbury Residentwe have members abroad!

There are no boundaries or limitations as far as the Prayer Chain is concerned, for God makes no discriminations; our prayers have gone out for folk in many countries, not just in the UK.

Nor are there restrictions on age, we pray for everyone, from unborn babies to those approaching the end of their lives on earth.

We pray for healing, for guidance, for acceptance of what cannot be changed, and always for those held in prayer to be aware of the infinite love and peace of Our Lord.

We know that Our Lord hears each prayer, even though the answers do not always come immediately, nor in the way we had expected - we have always to remember "Thy Will Be Done" - but we do know that He hears us, and so often we are able to report back on answered prayer and good news.

This is extremely heartening, as often the requests for prayer are very distressing to us all, being a 'Prayer Warrior' is not for the faint hearted, but it is so worthwhile.

During the year 2016 a total of forty seven requests for prayer were sent around the chain, as well as a number of 'updates' on the progress of those for whom we had prayed. As always, there are occasions when several requests appear in one message, so the number of souls held in prayer is countless – but known to God.

The need for prayer is always with us.

If you feel called to pray for others, do join the Prayer Chain, just speak to either of us, we'd be very happy to include you.

Mike & Jan Pursey

Choir

The choir continues to gather for regular practices on most Thursday evenings throughout the year. Membership currently stands at sixteen (including our choir leader, Barry Fisher) - with a split of 5 bass/tenors, 3 altos and 8 sopranos. In November we were pleased to welcome David Cope to the choir and his dulcet tones have added volume to the men's section. At the time of writing, two members are taking sabbaticals for personal reasons.

As well as helping to lead worship in song at the Sunday services, choir members endeavour to support congregations at weddings and funerals, particularly at those occasions involving parishioners.

Friendship plays a harmonious part amongst our members and last summer we enjoyed another sun-filled afternoon sharing food and drink in the glorious garden of Jill and Michael Stubbs. In November a trip to the local theatre was arranged to see "The Mousetrap" and this was attended by about a dozen members/spouses.

Ladies in the choir continue to provide tea, coffee and biscuits after the Sunday morning services; both a welcome refreshment and an important time for fellowship between all attendants.

Hymns are usually sung from Mission Praise and Hymns Ancient & Modern together with more lively songs at the Family Service. On Palm Sunday some choir members from St John the Baptist joined other choristers from East Malling and Teston churches to practice and sing The Lenten Cantata by Handel.

During the past year, sheet music has been sorted and filed into reasonable order. Although there is more to do as further envelopes have been discovered in the organ loft!

Trudy Bailey

Toddler's Praise

Monday afternoons from 2 o'clock until 3 o'clock is for Mum's, Carers, and Toddlers to have fun, games, and most important to learn about Jesus, and to remember to say "Thank You" for all His gifts to us. Our numbers have decreased over the last years as the little ones start school, or need a sleep after lunch, and other activities have opened locally for them to enjoy.

Our team of four is always on hand, and enjoy the exercise of marching with the tots, and when needed, take advantage to nurse a new baby while the mother looks after the older child who may be distressed. After fun, story and a short prayer, we have refreshments with a sit down to recover before going home, or to school if there are older children to collect.

We are very grateful to the Scouts and the Guides for the valuable use of their Headquarters, which allows the toddlers the freedom to run around.

From the Senior Toddler and helpers.

Sundays Cool

"Remembering Jesus' instruction to 'let the little children come to me', we run our Sunday school with the aim of bringing children closer to Jesus, developing their Christian faith and understanding of the Bible. We do this both through what we teach and how we behave, modelling the Christian values of love, care and forgiveness."

We now have around 12 children who attend Sunday School regularly and a further group (about 11 more) who attend from time to time. One new child joined us this year; our average attendance over the whole year was just over 9 children and our maximum attendance was 18 (Easter Sunday). These figures are lower than last year's APCM report.

One of the reasons for this is because the children are growing up (hence the new Secondary Division) but this is also due to a changing demographic with new families with younger children not engaging with Church as previously. The team gives considerable thought to how to encourage new children to join however this is challenging and it is a priority for the whole Church to consider how we might welcome and encourage new young families.

Over the past year our Sunday School team has reduced from 10 to 8 teachers – one team member moved away and another had increased work commitments. We were not able to find anyone to replace them, so I am grateful to the remaining team members who have agreed to increase the number of sessions they each run in order to cover the shortfall. We continue to work in pairs on a rota-basis.

The Sunday School team has continued to provide good quality sessions during Holy Communion services (2nd and 4th Sundays, and 5th Sundays where needed) over the last year, using the Roots materials that we subscribe to. These are lectionary-based so that we are usually covering the same readings as the rest of the congregation. We have continued where possible to provide sessions during the school holidays, although attendance during the summer holidays was low this year.

We continued to take a collection during Sunday school sessions, which the children donate to voluntarily. The aim is for the children to choose themselves which charity they would like their money to be given to. Most recently the children purchased several charity gifts in November from the Family Food Bank and Oxfam, including shares in a farmyard.

Currently we are unable to run split sessions for older and younger children simultaneously without a second space. The need for this has increased greatly as the age gap between teenage members and preschool Sunday school children widens. A possible future temporary building would facilitate split sessions for communion services. For the present we set up Secondary Division to run the first Sunday of the month, so that existing Sunday school children who had reached secondary age may have one Sunday morning age appropriate experience per month. To date we have run 7 sessions, with up to 8 teenagers. I am very grateful both to new team members who have joined to help lead this initiative, and existing Sunday school teachers who have taken on extra sessions. This is of course still a new group who are getting to know each other and are beginning to share with each other. It is our hope that as we go forward Secondary Division will provide a space where our teenagers can mature in faith, feel recognised and valued as members of our Sunday morning worshipping community and be encouraged and supported in taking up responsibility and leadership alongside other generations at church.

Each Sunday School team meets to work together, planning collaboratively in keeping with best practice.

At the Christmas Bazaar Sunday School ran a craft stall for pocket and the Secondary Division ran the Teddy Bear Zip Wire. We also ran a Teddy tombola stall at the Village Fete in June. Young Sunday school members also assisted Ros Diment in running a Fair Trade stall at that Fete.

In July, we held our fourth annual Sunday School picnic, held again on this occasion by kind permission in the grounds of Mereworth Castle. We played an Olympics-themed scavenger hunt, lots of team games, enjoyed the spectacular surroundings and shared fellowship over food and drink. It was another really special and popular day, and the Sunday school picnic tradition seems to have been firmly re-established.

Christmas was also a busy time for Sunday School. We held our usual children's Nativity during the December Family Service, and were extremely grateful to Ruth Dunn for her organisation of the performance. We also celebrated with a Sunday school party.

Sunday School are grateful for the funding we have continued to receive from the church for our materials and resources. Money raised through running stalls has also allowed us to give the children small birthday gifts and to fund food and games for the Christmas party; an important aspect of showing our love and care for each of them.

I am always happy to answer any questions about our plans for nurturing the Christian faith of the children at St John the Baptist, Wateringbury, and sharing Jesus' love with them.

Becky Bowie

Pastoral Assistant

On behalf of the Sunday School team:

Debbie Bond
Ros Diment
Ruth Dunn
Kate Millar

Suzanne Rowlinson
Carolyn Scott
Natalie Wright

And on behalf of the Secondary Division team:

Bob Bowie
Alice Dunstall
Kate Millar

James Scott
David Wilson-Green

The WATCH Club

The youth group which was formed in 2011, meets fortnightly in term time at Wateringbury village hall and sometimes at St John the Baptist, on a Sunday evening between 4-6pm in British Wintertime and 5-7pm in Summertime. This year we changed the times as many of the Youth walk to the group, and we felt an earlier start during the dark winter sessions was safer.

We have over 30 children on our register, but the average is 20 youth who attend a meeting. Ages ranging from 10-19 years .

The aim of the youth group is mainly to provide a safe, fun environment where the youth can discuss and learn more about the Christian faith and Christian living.

We also have lots of fun and often very messy games, many of which link into the discussion topic for that week. We regularly try to break world records and have our own Youth Group record book of our own achievements.

We enjoy playing large games making the most of the Village Hall facilities by playing games such as dodgeball etc.

During a normal session we always have a craft table set up with an activity from modelling to card making, this area is always very popular.

We also have board games out, table tennis, air hockey, pool, and badminton most weeks when we are in the village hall, unless we have a planned activity.

Last year's activities included an activity day with an inflatable assault course, an Egyptian Craft event, First Aid training, indoor curling, and Jaws and Claws organised through our affiliation with Young Kent. We hope to do more events like this over the next year. Some are already booked in.

A local chef visited in November and taught us how to make Sausage rolls and tomato soup with the aim of teaching us how to prepare a value, but nutritional meal. The end results were really enjoyed by us all!

Last Spring/Summer we had a visit from Georgina who is a missionary from Brazil where she works with the street kids (mainly boys) She shared her story, and showed us a slide show of her works. Georgina shared how street dance has been an activity that she teaches in Brazil which the children love and respond to, and provide her with opportunities to share the love of God. Georgina then taught us how to street dance and even some parents joined in at the end!

Last March, as we do each year, we raised money for Sport Relief/Comic Relief. We held a café, run by the youth with some amazing cakes made by our young bakers. We held a skip-a-thon at the same time, as last year was Sport Relief... this year is Comic Relief and we plan to do something similar.

Each June we hold a Watch Club's Got Talent Show, and each year we are blown away by the exceptional talent within our group, from dancing, acting, clarinet playing, gymnastics, drum playing, magic shows to remote control helicopter flying. This is always such an exciting evening and a wonderful way of thanking God for all the different gifts and talents he has given us.

This year we are also looking forward to having special visits from Rev Nick Williams in March and Jerry Palmer who is a pilot, and is visiting when we celebrate Ascension! He might even be able to help our Youth Leader, Rod get his kite off the ground this year, when we go Kite Flying at the park that day.

During every session we eat supper together, before we eat we say Grace and thank God for His provision. Eating together is a Biblical model that Jesus used himself when teaching and fellowshiping with disciples. We value this time as a group to listen to one another. But because we also meet over teatime and teenagers tend to feel hungry most of the time food is essential ! Both actual and Spiritual.... And our youth do display a wonderful Spiritual Hunger which is very exciting. Together we have times of fun and times of serious discussion and prayer. As ever, Watch Club this year has been a place of love, acceptance, encouragement, Spiritual growth, friendship and a lot of fun.

We have the same 6 regular leaders, who are amazing and continue to work with such passion and love to this group of special young people. It is a privilege for me to work alongside these inspiring leaders who all bring so much to the group. The Youth leaders devote so much of their own time to dealing with the administration and preparation of the Youth Group, and there is a lot, and I am so thankful for the gifting of the different leaders within the group. These leaders also give their time along with the youth to raise funds for the youth group. In the last year we had a toy stall at the village fete, a café, and sold vintage jewellery at the Church Christmas bazaar.

And again I can honestly still say that I never laugh as much, or feel as moved as on those youth group nights. As a Church we are so blessed to have such wonderful youth, who are so caring towards one another and have a hunger to learn all about Jesus and I thank God for that, and pray that God will continue to bless , guide and build on this group.

Lisa Glasscote

Wateringbury School

The Foundation Governors are Chris Clark, Richard Dunn, Suzanne Rowlinson, Steve Wright and Kathryn Millar. Chris Clark was re-elected Chair and Mark Warren (LA Governor) Vice Chair in September 2016. Our parent Governors are Gail Isted and Tom Sewell and Staff Governor Abi Woodhouse (Deputy Head Teacher).

We were very pleased to welcome Father Nick Williams in his role as Ex Officio Governor with his extensive experience of school governance.

We are very fortunate to have the benefit of such a committed group of governors with a broad range of skills and experience.

We currently have two vacancies for Foundation Governors. This is not currently limiting the work of the governing body however is not sustainable in the long term and we will be working on this issue later this year.

The Year 6 Keystage 2 results for 2016 were the first to assess the new, more challenging national curriculum which was introduced in 2014. Results are no longer reported as “levels”, and each pupil receives his or her result in reading, grammar/punctuation/spelling and maths as a scaled score between 80 and 120. The expected score for children is 100 or above.

Our average scaled scores were 105 in reading and maths (above the national average of 103) and 104 in GPS which was the same as the national average.

Another important measure is the amount of progress a child has made from the end of Year 2 to the end of Year 6. This is now reported as a value-added measure. There is no ‘target’ for the amount of progress an individual pupil is expected to make, though the school sets ambitious expectations for each pupil. The amount of progress a pupil makes contributes towards the school’s overall progress score. Our scores put us in the average category along with 60% of schools nationally.

In terms of attainment, which indicates the percentage of Wateringbury children who achieved the expected level in each subject compared to the national average, all our scores were above the national averages.

Our most recent SIAMs inspection was carried out on 11th March 2016 (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools). The inspector rated our Christian Distinctiveness, Collective Worship and Religious Education as Good and Leadership and Management Outstanding. Overall the school was rated as Good in a positive report.

FOWPS (Friends of Wateringbury Primary School) continue to be an invaluable support to the school as well as providing a great social forum. Their main purchases in 2016 were outdoor covered seating areas and a new audio/lighting system for the hall.

The schools 40th Anniversary celebrations were a great success and helped kick start our capital campaign for improvements for the library windows and roof which need replacing. The event was attended by the Major, local councillor, our MP, previous head teachers and staff, previous pupils as well as current staff, pupils and parents.

Chris Clark, Chair of Governing Body

Church Flowers

In 2016 the ladies of the flower rota arranged flowers in the Church week by week.

Also, we helped Teston Church, East Malling Church and West Peckham Church with their flower festivals.

We arranged flowers for the only wedding held in the Church.

We still have 8 ladies on the flower rota and, as ever, more help would be very welcome.

We are looking forward to arranging flowers for our only wedding this year in April.

Gillian Sessions

Holy Dusters

I am pleased to report that the 7 "Holy Dusters" cleaning teams have, as always, been working hard during the year to maintain the cleanliness of the main body of the church, the servery, w.c., entrance etc. It is not possible for the weekly teams to engage in more "deep" cleaning but this is generally dealt with when we undertake the bi-annual major cleans when there are more people to undertake areas that are nor normally tackled on a weekly basis.

As always I would like to say a huge thank you, on behalf of the Parochial Church Council, members of our congregation and people who visit our Church to all our teams who do a splendid job keeping our Church clean week by week.

Two major Church cleans have been carried out during the year and I would like to thank everyone who attended on these occasions to help tidy the Church yard as well as carry out a more "deep clean" in the Church itself. The major clean that was carried out prior to Remembrance Sunday was particularly challenging for everyone who attended, particularly those working in the churchyard, due to the dreadful wet weather. However, despite that a good number of people attended and much was achieved, so a huge thank you to everyone who gave up their time.

Many thanks again to everyone on our cleaning rota for their dedication and hard work – it is very much appreciated.

Hilary Cayzer

Bellringers

It hasn't been a good year for the campanologists as one of our regular and accomplished bell ringers decided to stop coming. Despite several overtures nobody's managed to persuade him to return. So that leaves us with four ringers on Sundays at best, occasionally supplemented by a couple of ringers who have moved away but visit from time to time. Regrettably it's also the first year in a long time that we've failed to hold an AGM or organise a ringing outing. Plans are in place however to reinstate both this year. I hope also to have the time in 2017 to set up the long promised website or Facebook page to increase our visibility, a project that has been on hold pending my retirement now in July. Having said all that we are still managing to hold successful practices every second or third Tuesday supported by regular ringers from other towers.

Justin Southwell
Tower Captain

Fairtrade Stall

A huge thank you to everyone for their continued support for Fairtrade by their generous shopping. The stall is open after most Sunday services and at church events when appropriate.

At a stock take at the end of January 2017 we had goods to the value of £359.30, all invoices had been paid and cash in hand of £20.92.

Sales from the stall 7th February 2016 to 31st January 2017 amounted to £2149.72 enabling £350 profit to be given to the PCC Treasurer in December 2016.

During Fairtrade Fortnight 2016 the stall took part in Traidcraft's Big Brew by sponsoring the after service refreshments. Thanks to your voluntary donations £50.50 was raised for Traidcraft Exchange. This is a charity which reaches out to farmers and producers in developing countries, providing the training and resources needed to increase their income to feed their families, send their children to school or access basic healthcare.

This year Fairtrade Fortnight is from 27th February - 12th March and again we are taking part in The Big Brew on Sunday 12th March.

Thanks to those who signed the "Justice Matters" petition last year an amazing 20,108 signatures were handed in to 10 Downing Street last November calling for changes in the law so that large UK companies can be prosecuted if they cause severe harm to people abroad.

A big thank you to Rachel Webster who last September promoted, and now manages, an after school Fairtrade Tuck Shop at Wateringbury School, bringing the Fairtrade message to young people.

The new Spring Catalogue is now available for you to take and browse. You will find that there are some grocery price rises due to increased costs of imported ingredients but Traidcraft hope you agree that their range continues to offer real value for money and quality.

New products are introduced whenever possible, however if there is a product you require or wish to see on the stall please contact Ros who is happy to help.

My heartfelt thanks to all the many helpers and to you all for supporting Fairtrade.

Ros Diment

Coffee Break

Coffee Break is open to everyone and our numbers are growing. We have continued to meet once a fortnight in the Church but, during January, we met every week as it's a quiet month after the busyness of Christmas. We managed well with extra heating and lots of layers.

We continue to share our craft knowledge and have made more hats for the homeless, more blankets for the orphanage in Swaziland, knitted angels for the Angels and Cribs weekend, glittery hedgehogs for the craft stall at the Christmas Bazaar, twiddle muffs for people with dementia and teddy bears for the village fete. We also supported the Macmillan Nurses with a special coffee morning. Apart from all that, Eddie has made one and a half rugs and Sheena has sewn many badges on to her camp blanket.

We still have tea or coffee and homemade cake at every meeting. Members do not need to pay for this but they usually insist which has enabled us to support Maidstone Christian Care by buying sleeping bags and underwear with the money plus some of the wool used for knitting.

We have enjoyed a trip to Coolings Garden Centre, we went to see the Grotto at Brookside and recently enjoyed a morning at Sheena's house.

Our Evangelist, Pauline, whose initiative Coffee Break was, continues to look after us and find new crafts to try and people who we can help. We have another project in progress, but this will be kept under wraps until next year.

Pauline Welch

Weekly Newsletter

The Newsletter is published for every Sunday of the year. It contains items of news and other happenings relating to our lovely Church at Watringbury and is circulated by email to no less than 77 addresses in and beyond our Benefice.

Recipients are not necessarily regular church-goers nor are they necessarily residents of this Country – we spread our net far & wide!

In addition, 25 hard copies are printed for the benefit of our Church-goers who are not connected to the internet

The following is an idea of what goes on behind the scenes and is a good opportunity to thank contributors for their invaluable help and support:

Special thanks to Sandra Corby who each week sends to the editor a sheet of notices with details of Services and events for the forthcoming week within the Benefice together with a Prayer for the week and the Readings. Warmest thanks too, to Denise Tate for having the hard copies printed (at her own expense) and for delivering them to the Church; and to Jan for proof reading. Fact gathering, typing and formatting is down to the editor.

The process starts every Wednesday when the editor collates items of interest which have come to notice since the previous publication. With these he types and formats the content together with any other items of interest which are received up to the closing time of 9.00am on the Thursday. The finished product is then emailed to Denise who arranges for the hard copies to be printed after which she delivers them to the Church ready for distribution on Sunday.

On Saturday the editor emails copies to the 77 addresses in two batches under the Bcc facility to preserve confidentiality and security of addresses.

The weekly newsletter is produced at no cost to the PCC but is a useful means of communication and publicity, and is a valuable form of pastoral outreach.

Mike Pursey
Editor

The Church of St John the Baptist Wateringbury

Annual Report

and

Financial Statements

of the

Parochial Church Council

For the year ending 31st December 2016

Bank

Nat West PLC
Swan Street
West Malling
Kent

Honorary Treasurer

Richard John Dunn
Wateringbury
Kent

Independent Examiner

Peter Mitchell Esq.
Wateringbury
Kent

St John the Baptist Wateringbury Parochial Church Council

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2016 (INCLUDING 2017 BUDGETS)

All reports have been produced using Excel spreadsheets.

The Budgets for 2016 were formulated for the Standing Committee and then presented to the PCC on 24th January 2016 and were approved for presentation to the ACPM. In addition to submission of a budget it is a requirement for us as a PCC to submit a 'Reserves Policy' for 2017, a copy of which is included in the Annual Report.

I am pleased to report that during 2016 Wateringbury PCC expenditure was **£ 5,374.85** below that budgeted. In addition our income for 2016 was **£ 16,557.85** more than our expenditure (including transfer of £2,200 to our RDBF Church Repair Fund). This compares to 2015 when our income was £11,211.73 more than our expenditure.

You will see from the accounts that our **total income in 2016 was £ 47,423.00** compared to the income in 2015 of £ 60,574.84, a decrease of £ 13,031.72, due in part to a decrease in income from weddings and a decrease in income from giving and fund raising.

The PCC's overall expenses including capital expenditure in 2016 was **£ 30,865.15**, a decrease from 2015 of £18,497.96, due largely to the interregnum.

Our Parish Pledged Offer to the Diocese for 2016 was **£ 8,405**. The PCC have agreed to increase this by 2.5% in 2017.

Wateringbury PCC's share of the joint Benefice expenses for 2016 was **£ 4,608** relating to approximately 33% of the joint Benefice expenses. This figure comprises our Stipend contribution for 2016 (reduced due to the interregnum) together with our Benefice contribution. Wateringbury PCC's share of the Benefice pledged offer to the diocese for 2017 will be £16,440, agreed at the Meeting of the Benefice Treasurers and Wardens on 29th November 2016. This figure includes a 2.5% increase in stipend contribution.

Gift Aid and covenanted donations in 2016, including income from regular standing orders of **£ 21,118**, amounted to **£ 23,864.39**, compared to a total of £ 25,054.44 in 2015.

Our total collection income was **£ 2,922.94**, compared with £ 3,160.91 in 2015. We are still allowed to recover tax on this collection income.

A decrease in the number of weddings in 2016 meant that this income, less expenses, was just **£286.80** compared with £ 3,181 in 2015.

The income from funeral fees in 2016 was **£ 1,586.20**, compared to a total of £ 1,261 in 2015.

During 2016 the PCC held £9,000 in 'unrestricted designated funds' towards the cost of a cabin as premises for Sundays Cool. This has been put on hold until funding for work to the church spire has

been raised, with the help of the Friends of Wateringbury Church. Depending on grants obtained for the church spire project this fund may have to be diverted to the spire project starting in 2017.

At the end of the 2016 fiscal year the PCC reserves have increased by £2,200 in the RDBF Church Repair Fund to **£ 8,034.43** with **£ 2,275.25** in the RDBF General Deposit Account and **£ 492.26** in the RDBF Loan Account. The PCC's Business Reserve Account had a balance of **£ 30,103.05** at the end of 2016.

It can be seen from the Statement of Assets and Liabilities that the PCC held total assets as at the 31st December 2016 of **£ 46,361.38**, an increase of **£ 18,757.91**, which relates to the interregnum period.

In the Budgets for 2017 our income is projected to be some **£ 82,020** and it is anticipated that the PCC general expenditure is likely to be some **£ 40,886**. In addition the PCC have budgeted capital expenditure of **£ 72,650**, including £ 70,000 for the church spire project and £ 2,200 to the RDBF Church Repair Fund.

The PCC wish to thank you all for your generous Covenants during 2016. In addition they would also like to thank those of you who have organised fund raising events during the year. It is hoped that these efforts will continue into 2017 with more people coming forward with both event ideas and the running of these events, however small.

The members of the PCC are pleased that the 'Friends of Wateringbury Church' continue to raise funds to support future capital expenditure required to improve the fabric of the Church and particularly in promising **£ 21,000** in 2017 towards our church spire project. Our thanks go to all those who have supported the Friends of Wateringbury Church and especially to William English and his committee.

My thanks also go to Gordon Self for his hard work during the year as Gift Aid secretary and in submitting our annual tax refund claim. Also to our Benefice treasurer Suzanne Rowlinson.

In addition my thanks go to Church Wardens Peter Bond and Liz Gummer and all the members of the PCC for their help and support during 2016.

In conclusion I would like to draw your attention to the Budgets for 2017 and the Reserves Policy included with this Report and would request your formal approval to the Fiscal Report as presented.

In addition we need to formally approve the appointment of Peter Mitchell who has again agreed to be our Independent Examiner, if available, for the 2017 Accounts.

Richard Dunn (Honorary Treasurer)

Wateringbury Parochial Church Council

Wateringbury Parochial Church Council

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER
2016

	Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Designated Fund	Restricted Designated Fund	Total
	2016	2016	2016	2016
	£	£		£
RECEIPTS				
Voluntary Receipts:				
2 From Collections	2,922.94			2,922.94
1 From Covenants and Gift Aid	23,864.39			23,864.39
3 All other giving/voluntary receipts	0.00			0.00
4 Tax Recovered - Gift Aid	7,412.98			7,412.98
Other Receipts:				0.00
14 VAT Recovered	0.00			0.00
6 Funeral Fees	2,115.00			2,115.00
6 Wedding Fees	748.00			748.00
6 Fees Other	10.00			10.00
5 Fair Trade Received	350.00			350.00
6 Donations Specific	53.00			53.00
6 Donations Received	0.00			0.00
5 Fund Raising - General	698.79			698.79
5 Plant Sale	911.05			911.05
5 Cream Teas	387.70			387.70
5 Lent Lunches	327.04			327.04
5 12th Night Quiz	110.00			110.00
5 Sunday Coffee	350.00			350.00
6 Giant Christmas Card for Save the Children	370.50			370.50
5 Christmas Bazaar	1,696.62			1,696.62
6 Toddlers Praise	100.00			100.00
5 Coffee Morning	650.80			650.80

5	Ride + Stride	0.00	269.75	269.75
5	East Peckham Silver Band Concert	686.00		686.00
5	Sale of Church Book	86.50		86.50
6	Wateringbury Players	400.00	600.00	1,000.00
5	Book Sales	157.61		157.61
5	Angels & Cribs	206.50		206.50
6	McMillan Coffee Morning	165.95		165.95
3	Spire Shingles Appeal	0.00	1,732.00	1,732.00
15	RDBF Church Repair Fund - Interest	20.42		20.42
15	RDBF Loan Account - Interest	1.96		1.96
15	RDBF General Deposit - Interest	9.00		9.00
15	Business Reserve - Interest	8.50		8.50
		44,821.25	0.00	2,601.75
				47,423.00

PAYMENTS

8	Donations Paid	1,388.34		1,388.34
8	Rostrum	105.00		105.00
7	Fund Raising & Publicity	311.00		311.00
7	Flower Festival	148.90		148.90
7	Christmas Bazaar	160.00		160.00
13	Wedding Expenses	461.20		461.20
13	Funeral Expenses	528.80		528.80
11	PCC Expenses	1,856.96		1,856.96
10	ETW Joint Benefice Expenses	4,608.00		4,608.00
11	Ecclesiastical Insurance	4,007.38		4,007.38
13	Training	120.00		120.00
9	Parish Share/Pledged Offer	8,405.00		8,405.00
11	Church Repair & Maintenance	1,030.39		1,030.39
12	RDBF Church Repair Fund	2,200.00		2,200.00
13	Sunday School Expenses	99.00		99.00
13	Youth Group	382.46		382.46
13	Holiday Club	100.00		100.00
13	Salaries	780.00		780.00
11	Electricity	2,541.58		2,541.58
11	Water & Drainage Rates	78.48		78.48

13	Printing	85.54			85.54
10	Sequestration Account	204.00			204.00
8	WPS Yr 6 Bibles	217.47			217.47
8	Leaving/Retirement Gifts	370.00			370.00
8	Friends of Kent Churches	10.00			10.00
8	Friends of Rochester Cathedral	10.00			10.00
11	KCA Bell Ringing	1.00			1.00
11	Royal School of Church Music	99.00			99.00
11	Church Music Licence & Copyright	141.76			141.76
8	Bishop of Rochester's Fund for Ordinands	413.89			413.89
11	Petty Cash Top Up	0.00			0.00
		30,865.15	0.00	0.00	30,865.15

16 FUNDS

At 31 December 2015	23,147.72			23,147.72
Incoming Receipts	38,543.12	9,000.00		47,423.00
Outgoing Payments	30,865.15	0.00		30,865.15
At 31 December 2016	30,825.69	9,000.00		39,825.69

Wateringbury Parochial Church Council

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER
2016

		Unrestrict ed Funds	Unrestrict ed Designat ed Funds	Restricted Designate d Funds	Total
	Note	2015	2016	2016	2016
RECEIPTS					
Planned Giving	1	25,054.44	23,864.39	0.00	23,864.39
Collections at Services	2	3,160.91	2,922.94	0.00	2,922.94

All other giving/ voluntary receipts	3	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,732.00	1,732.00
Gift Aid Recovered	4	7,378.08	7,412.98	0.00	0.00	7,412.98
VAT Recovered	14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Activities for Generating Funds	5	6,057.33	6,618.61	0.00	269.75	6,888.36
Church Activities	6	18,896.68	3,962.45	0.00	600.00	4,562.45
Fees Other		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		60,547.44	44,781.37	0.00	2,601.75	47,383.12
Interest from Accounts	15	27.4	39.88	0.00	0.00	39.88
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		60,574.84	44,821.25	0.00	2,601.75	47,423.00
PAYMENTS						
Cost of generating funds	7	227.32	619.90	0.00	0.00	619.90
Donations	8	2,044.31	2,514.70	0.00	0.00	2,514.70
Parish Share	9	8,200.00	8,405.00	0.00	0.00	8,405.00
Joint Benefice Expenses	10	16,341.00	4,812.00	0.00	0.00	4,812.00
Church Running Expenses	11	15,635.95	9,756.55	0.00	0.00	9,756.55
Transfer between funds	12	1,540.00	2,200.00	0.00	0.00	2,200.00
Church Activities	13	5,374.53	2,557.00	0.00	0.00	2,557.00
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		49,363.11	30,865.15	0.00	0.00	30,865.15
NET INCOMING RESOURCES		11,211.73	13,956.10	0.00	2,601.75	16,557.85
Total Fund Brought Forward						
at 01.01.16		14,851.74	18,603.47	9,000.00	0.00	27,603.47
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD AT 31.12.16	16	26,063.47	32,559.57	9,000.00	2,601.75	44,161.32

Wateringbury Parochial Church Council				
BALANCE SHEET				
AT 31 DECEMBER 2016				
		Unrestricted Funds	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted Designated Funds
	2015	2016	2016	2016
<u>Current Assets</u>				
Prepayments	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Petty Cash	£100.00	£80.06	£0.00	£0.00
Bank Current Account	£8,838.36	£2,774.58	£0.00	£2,601.75
Bank Reserve Account	£10,094.55	£21,103.05	£9,000.00	£0.00
RDBF Loan Account	£490.30	£492.26	£0.00	£0.00
RDBF Church Repair Account	£5,814.01	£8,034.43	£0.00	£0.00
RDBF General Deposit	£2,266.25	£2,275.25	£0.00	£0.00
<u>Total Current Assets</u>	£27,603.47	£34,759.63	£9,000.00	£2,601.75
<u>Current Liabilities</u>				
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
<u>Current Assets less Current Liabilities:</u>	£27,603.47	£34,759.63	£9,000.00	£2,601.75
<u>Represented by :</u>				
<u>Capital & Reserves</u>				
General Fund Brought Forward	£14,851.74	£27,603.47	£0.00	£0.00
Surplus Brought Forward	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Income Expenditure Account	£11,211.73	£4,956.16	£9,000.00	£2,601.75
Transfer to RDBF Church Repair Fund	£1,540.00	£2,200.00	£0.00	£0.00
Previous Year adjustment				
TOTAL RESERVES	£27,603.47	£34,759.63	£9,000.00	£2,601.75

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - Year to 31st DECEMBER 2016				
	INCOME 2015	INCOME 2016		
Collections	£3,160.91	£2,922.94		
Covenants/Gift Aid	£25,054.44	£23,864.39		
Tax Recovered	£7,378.08	£7,412.98		
VAT Recovered	£0.00	£0.00		
Funeral Fees	£1,261.00	£2,115.00		
Wedding Fees	£6,497.00	£748.00		
Fees - other	£63.00	£10.00		
Donations Received - Specific	£298.68	£53.00		
Donations Received - General	£2,120.00	£0.00		
Church Repair Fund - Interest	£14.90	£20.42		
RDBF Loan Account - Interest	£1.95	£1.96		
RDBF General Deposit -Interest	£9.04	£9.00		
Fund Raising - General	£7,559.23	£698.79		
Plant Sale		£911.05		
Lent Lunches			£327.04	
Remembrance Book	£612.00	£0.00		
12th Night Quiz			£110.00	
Christmas Bazaar	£1,971.24	£1,696.62		
Toddlers Praise	£603.80	£100.00		
Coffee Mornings	£301.00	£650.80		
Quiz Night	£541.00	£0.00		

Cream Teas			£387.70	
Giant Christmas Card for Save the Children			£370.50	
McMillan Coffee Morning			£165.95	
East Peckham Silver Band Concert			£686.00	
Sale of Church Book			£86.50	
Book Sales		£208.47	£157.61	
Angels & Cribs	£228.00	£206.50		
Ride & Stride	£239.79	£269.75		
Fair Trade	£300.00	£350.00		
Sunday Coffee	£380.00	£350.00		
Wateringbury Players		£1,000.00		
Spire Shingles Appeal		£1,732.00		
Retirement/ Leaving Gifts	£1,769.80	£0.00		
Business Reserve Account Interest	£1.51	£8.50		
Total Income	£60,574.84	£47,423.00		
	EXPENDITURE 2015	EXPENDITURE 2016		
Grants and Donations Paid	£524.51	£1,388.34		
Rostrum			£105.00	
Fund Raising & Publicity	£227.32	£311.00		
Ecclesiastical Insurance	£3,864.65	£4,007.38		
Wedding Expenses	£3,310.00	£461.20		
Funeral Expenses			£528.80	

P.C.C. Expenses - General	£1,778.68	£1,856.96		
ETW Joint Benefice Expenses	£16,341.00	£4,608.00		
Training	£0.00	£120.00		
Parish Pledged Offer	£8,200.00	£8,405.00		
Church Repair and Maintenance	£2,130.59	£1,030.39		
Salaries	£775.00	£780.00		
Electricity	£1,355.19	£2,541.58		
Printing	£101.78	£85.54		
Water & Drainage Rates	£139.00	£78.48		
Flower Festival	£0.00	£148.90		
Youth Group	£300.00	£382.46		
Holiday Club	£0.00	£100.00		
Sequestration Account			£204.00	
Year 6 Bibles			£217.47	
Church music Licence & Copyright	£237.64	£141.76		
Christmas Bazaar	£0.00	£160.00		
Sunday School Expenses	£98.49	£99.00		
Friends of Kent Churches			£10.00	
Royal School of Church Music			£99.00	
Friends of Rochester Cathedral			£10.00	
KCA Bell Ringing			£1.00	
Book of Remembrance	£589.26	£0.00		

Retirement/ Leaving Gifts	£1,374.80	£370.00		
Bishop of Rochester's Fund for Ordinands			£413.89	
Capital Expenditure	£8,015.20			
Total Expenditure	£49,363.11	£28,665.15		
Transfer to RDBF Church Repair Fund		£2,200.00		
SURPLUS/ (- DEFICIT)	£11,211.73	£16,557.85		

The Church of St John the Baptist Wateringbury

Financial Statements for 2016

Budgets for 2017

And

Reserves Policy for 2017

of the

Parochial Church Council

BUDGET PLAN 2017						
	Actual	Budget	Actual		Budget	
	2015	2016	2016		2017	
Bequests and Legacies	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	I	£0.00	
Collections	£3,160.91	£2,000.00	£2,922.94	I	£2,000.00	
Covenants & Gift Aid	£25,054.44	£24,000.00	£24,024.39	I	£24,000.00	
Donations Unspecified	£2,120.00	£0.00	£100.00	I	£0.00	
Fees Received (others)	£63.00	£50.00	£10.00	I	£0.00	
Friends of Wateringbury Church	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	I	£21,000.00	
Fund Raising General	£12,032.53	£4,000.00	£7,211.32	I	£5,000.00	
Funeral Fees	£1,261.00	£0.00	£2,115.00	I	£0.00	
Interest received on PCC Acc's	£27.40	£20.00	£0.00	I	£20.00	
Donation Specific	£298.68	£200.00	£916.49	I	£200.00	
Tax Recovered from Gift Aid	£7,378.08	£7,000.00	£7,412.98	I	£6,800.00	
Fair Trade	£300.00	£300.00	£350.00	I	£300.00	
Wedding Fees	£6,497.00	£1,746.00	£748.00	I	£0.00	
Remembrance Book	£612.00	£0.00	£0.00	I	£0.00	
Retirement/ Leaving Gifts	£1,769.80	£0.00	£0.00	I	£0.00	

BUDGET PLAN 2017						
Spire Shingles Appeal			£1,732.00	I	£0.00	
Kent Churches				I	£7,500.00	
Bridges Trust				I	£15,000.00	
VAT Recovered	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	I	£0.00	
	£60,574.84	£39,316.00	£47,543.12		£81,820.00	
Books	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	E	£0.00	
Church Repairs & Maintenance	£2,130.59	£1,500.00	£1,030.39	E	£1,500.00	
RDBF Pledged Offer	£8,200.00	£8,405.00	£8,405.00	E	£8,616.00	
Parish Share	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	E	£0.00	
Benefice Expenses	£16,341.00	£11,500.00	£4,608.00	E	£16,440.00	
Electricity	£1,355.19	£2,500.00	£2,541.58	E	£2,750.00	
Fund Raising & Publicity Costs	£227.32	£200.00	£619.90	E	£300.00	
Grants & Donations Paid	£524.51	£685.00	£1,546.81	E	£700.00	
Insurance Premiums etc	£3,864.65	£4,200.00	£4,007.38	E	£4,200.00	
Office & General Stationery	£0.00	£30.00	£0.00	E	£30.00	

BUDGET PLAN 2017						
PCC General Expenses	£2,016.32	£1,800.00	£2,301.72	E	£2,000.00	
Petty Cash	£0.00	£100.00	£0.00	E	£100.00	
Postage & Carriage	£0.00	£20.00	£0.00	E	£20.00	
Printing & Publications	£455.34	£250.00	£85.54	E	£250.00	
Sunday School	£98.49	£100.00	£99.00	E	£200.00	
Salaries	£775.00	£780.00	£780.00	E	£780.00	
WPS Y6 Bibles	£235.70	£0.00	£185.00	E	£200.00	
Training	£0.00	£50.00	£120.00	E	£100.00	
Youth Group/ Holiday Club	£300.00	£500.00	£482.46	E	£500.00	
Water & Drainage	£139.00	£150.00	£78.48	E	£200.00	
Leaving Gifts	£1,374.80	£0.00	£370.00	E	£0.00	
Funeral Expenses	£0.00	£0.00	£528.80	E	£0.00	
Wedding Expenses	£3,310.00	£870.00	£461.20	E	£0.00	
Bishop of Rochester's Ordinand Fund		£413.89	E	£0.00		
WiFi & Audio Visual Improvements			E	£2,000.00		
	£41,347.91	£33,640.00	£28,665.15		£40,886.00	

BUDGET PLAN 2017						
BUDGET SURPLUS/ DEFICIT	£19,226.93	£5,676.00	£18,877.97			£40,934.00
Church Quinquennial Works	£0.00	£200.00		E		£250.00
Tree Works	£600.00	£200.00	£0.00	E		£200.00
Weather Vane	£5,875.20		£5,875.20	E		£0.00
Weather Vane			-£5,875.20	I		£0.00
Church Spire						£70,000.00
RDBF Church Repair Fund	£1,540.00	£2,200.00	£2,200.00	E		£2,200.00
	£8,015.20	£2,600.00	£2,200.00			£72,650.00
Expenses	£49,363.11	£36,240.00	£30,865.15			£113,536.00
Income	£60,574.84	£39,316.00	£47,543.12			£81,820.00
Surplus/ Deficit	£11,211.73	£3,076.00	£16,677.97			-£31,716.00
Current Account						£5,376.33
Reserve Account						£30,103.05
Church Repair Fund						£8,034.43
Diocesan Loan Fund						£2,767.51
TOTAL YEAR END FUNDS						£14,565.32

St John the Baptist Watringbury Parochial Church Council

RESERVES POLICY 2017

In conjunction with our proposed budgets for 2017 the PCC has agreed a Reserves Policy to ensure that our church and related services to the Parish can be maintained at an acceptable level during the coming year.

At present the Parish's financial reserves, excluding designated and restricted funds are approximately **£ 34,759.63**. Unrestricted designated funds total **£ 9,000**, restricted designated funds, **£ 2601.75**. This is money set aside by the PCC towards the cost of re-shingling the church spire and providing more suitable accommodation for the youth of the church, whose ages range from 3-15. The PCC will require some **£ 40,886** in 2017 to cover the running of the church, including the Benefice expenses, the Pledged Offer to the Diocese, salaries and general PCC expenses (including WiFi introduction and audio visual improvements). It does not include any capital expenditure in relation to the church fabric. This is higher than in 2016 due to lower costs during the interregnum.

The majority of our income is derived from collections, Gift Aid donations and fund raising activities which in the past, together with use of our reserves, have been able to meet the growing deficit between income and expenditure. The church reserves in 2013 had been reduced to such a point that it was necessary to undertake a Stewardship Campaign to raise additional regular income to meet the annual running costs of the church. Although our fiscal state is now much healthier, capital projects to re-shingle the church spire and provision of a cabin for Sundays Cool to meet will mean that by the end of 2017 our reserves may well be considerably depleted, depending on any further grants the PCC are able to secure. We are also very grateful to the Friends of Wateringbury Church who have promised £ 21,000 towards the spire project and to church members who have organised fund raising events during the year. These activities are the back bone of the church which is dependent on this income in the future.

The PCC have budgeted that our income from regular covenants and collections in 2017 should be at least **£ 26,000**. Additional income from fund raising activities, recovery of tax, fees and donations is estimated to be in the region of **£ 13,000**.

The total projected income should allow the PCC to cover the general running costs for the Parish and our share of the Benefice without having to eat too much into our reserves in 2017, apart from capital expenditure.

Wateringbury PCC is committed to continue regular fiscal reviews throughout 2017 to ensure that expenditure is maintained within the budgets parameters and if necessary review amend the budgets.

Richard Dunn (Honorary Treasurer)

Independent Examiners Report to the PCC of St John the Baptist Church Wateringbury

This report on the Wateringbury Parochial Church Council Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2016 which are set out on pages 4 to 9, and the Benefice Expenses Accounts is in respect of an examination carried out under Charities Act 2011

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and it is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of this Act.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under Terms and Regulations as set out in the Charities Act 2011

The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and the comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiners statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with The Charities Act 2011
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Peter Mitchell ACMA

18, Leney Road
Wateringbury
Maidstone
ME18 5DQ

Dated: