

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WATERINGBURY



**REPORTS FOR THE
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
26TH APRIL 2018**

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 **Thursday 26th April at 7.30pm** 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 Thursday 26th April 2018

AGENDA

Annual Vestry Meeting

1. Prayers
2. Presentation of Notice convening the meeting
3. Minutes of the Vestry Meeting of Tuesday 28th March 2017
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 28th March 2017
4. Submission of Electoral Roll

5. Annual reports

PCC

Building Committee

Worship and Mission Group

Pastoral

Deanery Synod

Benefice Mothers' Union

Prayer Chain

Choir

Toddler's Praise

Sundays Cool

WATCH Club

Wateringbury School

Flower Arrangers

Holy Dusters

Bellringers

Fairtrade

Coffee Break

Weekly Newsletter

DBS & Safeguarding

6. Audited Accounts for the financial year ended 31st December 2017

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 28 March 2017**

1. PRAYERS

The Meeting opened with prayers.

WELCOME

Rev Nick Williams welcomed all to the meeting and thanked them for coming.

2. PRESENTATION OF NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING

Nick 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. He reminded everyone that anyone can vote at the vestry meeting, but only those on the electoral roll or who live in the parish can vote for the APCM.

3. MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING OF 5 APRIL 2016

The minutes of the previous meeting were taken as an accurate record, and were proposed for acceptance by Eddie Scarlin, seconded by Gordon Self, and all were in favour. They were signed by Nick Williams.

4. ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS

Written nomination forms for the office of Churchwarden had been received as follows:-

Peter Bond proposed by Richard Dunn, seconded by Eddie Scarlin.

Liz Gummer proposed by Eddie Scarlin, seconded by Alice Dunstall.

Nick explained that as there were no other candidates, there was no need for an election and so Peter Bond and Liz Gummer are now Churchwardens. He thanked Peter and Liz for standing for the forthcoming year.

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 28 March 2017**

1. PRESENTATION OF NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING

Rev Nick Williams 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 Rev & Mrs Alan Searle, Mrs Trudy Bailey, Colin Craig, Mrs Rosemary Skinner, Mrs Kate Millar.

3. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF 5 APRIL 2016

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 Barry Fisher, seconded by Eddie Scarlin and all were in favour. They were signed by Nick Williams.

4. SUBMISSION OF ELECTORAL ROLL

Hilary Fisher provided a report on the Electoral Roll. The electoral roll has been updated and there are 87 persons on the roll consisting of 36 men and 56 women. Last year the roll was 93. There were the following changes – three people have moved away, two people asked to be removed from the roll, two people have died, one person no longer worships here, and there are three new members. Nick thanked Hilary for all her work with the Electoral Roll.

5. ANNUAL REPORTS

Nick introduced the annual reports 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.

Referring to the choir report Barry Fisher noted that the parish is blessed with an organist with two speeds. He has long believed music enhances worship. There is a strong social side to the choir who enjoy working and playing together, and the choir is a huge strength in our church. Barry felt it was something to be proud of and it was a positive thing that we are open to all-comers.

Nick said he had only been here for approx. four months but it was clear that numbers of people were involved in a lot of things. He thanked all who have worked very hard and he hopes to know many more names and who does what by the next APCM.

He also thanked those who help with the weddings and gave particular thanks to the Holy Dusters for making the church look the way it does. It is a joy to have brass work that is kept polished.

6. PRESENTATION OF AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2016

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 approx. £16,000. The surplus was in part due to the interregnum and all figures were pre spare costs. The budget for 2017 shows a deficit of £2,500, and so fund raising this year will be very important. He gave particular thanks to Mike and Jan Pursey for their efforts and to everyone else involved. He thanked everyone involved in fund raising and said that it made an important contribution to the funds.

Mike Pursey thanked Richard for his detailed report. He was very impressed with the work Richard does for the church as treasurer and proposed a vote of thanks to Richard.

The budget and accounts have been approved by the PCC. Alastair Byron proposed that we accept the accounts, and Eddie Scarlin seconded this, and all were in favour.

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 Barry Fisher that we re-elect Peter Mitchell as auditor for the accounts, seconded by Mike Pursey, and all were in favour.

7. ELECTIONS TO DEANERY SYNOD

Nick explained that Alastair Byron and Barry Fisher were willing to continue as the Deanery Synod reps for the parish. As there were no other candidates, they were re-elected.

8. ELECTIONS TO PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

There were no nominations for new members of the PCC. The existing members of the PCC were as follows:-

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

Nick Williams, Alastair Byron, Revd Alan Searle, Peter Bond, and Liz Gummer are ex-officio members.

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

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

9. ELECTIONS OF SIDESPERSONS

The secretary read out the list of sidespeople's names and noted that Clara Wilson-Green had volunteered to join.

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, Mrs Clara Wilson-Green.

These names were accepted. These nominations for the sidespersons were proposed by Lisa Glasscote, seconded by Percy Billinge, and all were in favour of electing en bloc.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Hilary Fisher asked if the PCC would, at their next meeting, consider giving Luca Wilson-Green a gift in recognition of all he has done to cover her on the organ. She said he was 12 years old and brilliant. Sheena offered to speak to Clara Wilson-Green to find out what might be suitable. At the next meeting the PCC would agree how much to spend for the gift.

12. DATE OF 1st PCC MEETING

The first PCC meeting of the new parochial year will be on Tuesday 16 May 2017.

ANNUAL REPORTS

CHURCHWARDENS

Rev'd Nick has now been with us for a year. It has been good to get to know him and his family better, and we trust that they all now feel happily settled in East Malling.

We have managed to maintain the previous level of services with only minimal change. Our excellent lay ministers have filled the gaps when Nick could not be with us. Despite Becky putting down some of her duties whilst undergoing teacher training, we have been blessed to have both Ruth and Kate step into some of that role so that our services continue to run smoothly. Sundays Cool continues to run on the first and fourth Sundays, whilst the Secondary Division takes place on the second Sundays in the month. We would sincerely like to thank Nick, for his ministry; and Barry, Alastair, Becky, Ruth, Kate and Pauline for ensuring that our services take place so faithfully week after week.

Music forms such an essential part of our worship, and our enormous thanks go to Hilary and Luka on the organ, and to the choir for their wonderful contributions. Our thanks are also due to the bellringers, who announce our services each week.

We also need to thank all those who take part in our services in other ways – readers, intercessors, chalice assistants, sound operators, sidespeople and servers; not forgetting those who clean the church, prepare and serve tea and coffee, arrange flowers, and a myriad of other little jobs that just get done behind the scenes, but which we would soon notice if they got forgotten. Our thanks also go to our vergers – Gillian and to Jan for joining her in this role.

One big task lies in producing the weekly newsletter, and we say a special “thank you” this year to Mike Pursey, who has faithfully carried out this job for probably longer than he would care to remember, but has now stepped down. Thank you also to the Team (currently Alastair and Christine) who have taken it on, together with Denise for arranging the printing each week, and those who have helped us to maintain our website, and our Facebook page – Bob Bowie and Alice Dunstall. Our thanks are also due to Sandra in the Parish Office for all her hard work – she does much more than most of us realise.

Thank you to all those who have given of their time and talents to run events, not to mention Ros for running the Traidcraft stall week in week out (and involving the young people too).

We owe Richard an enormous debt of gratitude for all his hard work as Treasurer and to Sheena as PCC Secretary, and thanks go to all members of the PCC for their time and work.

Thank you to Edna for her wonderful and quiet ministry among us, to Pauline and Gillian for the running of the coffee and craft mornings and the many other contributions that they make to our church life.

Looking at activities aimed at our younger church family – firstly, our new initiative - thank you to Ruth for starting up a monthly Messy Church for the benefice, together with her helpers. It got off to a good start in January, and we pray it will go from strength to strength. We appreciate the time that many of our young people also put into Messy Church – it's great to see such enthusiasm and commitment.

Toddlers' Praise continues every Monday (apart from Bank Holidays), and we are so grateful to the team who run this, Edna, Sandra, Ros and Ruth. Each Easter we are treated to Easter Fun with Faith, run by Debbie and her army of helpers – no mean undertaking, and very well supported and loved – thank you, Debbie. And grateful thanks also go to Lisa for WATCH Club and our annual Shining Bright Party – the antidote to Halloween – thank you, Lisa.

We are blessed with such a church family full of committed and hard-working folk, that we are in danger of forgetting to mention some – as we said earlier, many little jobs just get done – thank you all.

We are privileged indeed to be the current custodians of an ancient and much loved Church. Regular maintenance was carried out this year with thankfully no major issues. We must thank the Parish Council for ensuring the Churchyard is regularly maintained along with the army of volunteers who twice a year give up their Saturday mornings to ensure the church looks its best for Easter and Remembrance Sunday. Not forgetting the Wateringbury Cubs and leaders who maintain the 'grave gardens'.

Back in 2015, the quinquennial report highlighted the need to re-shingle the spire. Since then this has been the focus of planning and fund raising. We are delighted to report that as we write, the work to re-shingle the spire is scheduled to commence on 3rd April 2018. This has only been possible thanks to so many people's efforts but we must specifically thank the Building Committee for all their hard work. We are also indebted to the Friends of Wateringbury Church (FOWC) for their unceasing and generous effort in donating such a magnificent sum. To all our benefactors no matter how large or small their contribution - we thank you all.

As mentioned in the opening sentence, Rev'd Nick joined our Benefice just over a year ago ending a year of uncertainty and allowing us to 'move forward' again in our mission. As many of you are aware, the breakup of the current Benefice has been proposed in the Deanery Consultation paper with Wateringbury proposed to join with West Peckham and Mereworth. The breakup of the current benefice will be difficult for some as we have forged some strong links with both East Malling and Teston over the years. At present, we don't know what the outcome will be, however whatever it is, we believe that Wateringbury will remain strong as a parish church, it will rise to the challenges and embrace the opportunities to further God's work whatever the outcome.

We thank you all for your support in the last year and we look forward to an exciting future whomever that shall be with.

God Bless

Liz Gummer and Peter Bond

PCC

Wateringbury PCC numbers 16 this year including ex-officio members. During the year our often lively and challenging debates have covered many important areas of church life such as:

- Church finances, budget and fund raising
- Events
- Building projects – spire and possible church meeting room
- Changes and improvements to the church website
- Communications and audio visual upgrades

Sadly David Wilson-Green resigned from the PCC during the year due to work pressures and commitments.

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. We look forward to the work commencing shortly.

Sheena Stewart
PCC Secretary

Buildings Committee

As last year, the re-shingling of the spire has remained the major issue for the year. Since last year's report, two further grants towards this work have been secured. We are very grateful to The Rochester Bridge Trust and to Church Care (Wolfson Foundation), who have pledged us £15,000 and £5,000 respectively. We are also immensely grateful to the Friends of Wateringbury Church who have continued to fund-raise, and have now raised their pledge to a magnificent £25,000. Well done, and thank you to everyone who has been involved in our own fund-raising over the past year.

Our quinquennial inspecting architect, Karen Butti, has overseen the obtaining of tenders for this work, for which we received three. The PCC unanimously agreed to award the contract to Cater Roofing, who have carried out work for us before, and with whom Karen has worked in the past. In order to avoid possible problems with bats in the spire, the work needs to be carried out in either spring or autumn, and we are delighted to say that this will now commence in April – exact date unknown, at the time of writing (it might all be very evident when you arrive for our APCM!). The entire project will be overseen by Karen Butti, and we have been given a timescale of 12 weeks for the actual work – scaffolding may be on site for slightly longer.

Most other items fall into the category of maintenance. As always, huge thanks go to all those who faithfully turn up to help out with our twice yearly work parties. Come and join us, if you haven't already done so in the past – they are very sociable events as well as getting a lot of work done.

I am so grateful to all the members of the Buildings Committee for their support and hard work, and once again to Peter Bond who so often looks after the regular maintenance issues. Thank you all.

Liz Gummer

Worship and Mission Group

The group has met over the year at key times of the church's calendar to review the services and activities that have taken place and also to plan for future requirements especially that people are on hand to lead Services of the Word. A report is made to the subsequent PCC meeting.

It is a welcome opportunity to share thoughts and ideas with colleagues involved in preparing, leading and assisting with the worship at half of our services each month on the 2nd and 3rd Sundays. Our thanks go to Rev Alan and Joy Searle for their continuing hospitality in hosting our meetings.

The group also organises the Advent and Lent courses and our thanks go to Bob Bowie for setting up the Midwinter Prayer Meetings on alternate Mondays: a quiet informal evening prayer with reflection on scripture.

Barry Fisher

Pastoral

The team has had a busy year.

Baptisms: There were 5 baptisms in 2017 and members of the team were happy to help in baptism preparations.

Christingle: The pastoral team organised the preparation of 100 Christingles for the annual service in December which also raises awareness of the work of The Children's Society. We thank Farmers Farm Shop for donating the oranges.

Harvest: We are grateful to the congregation and the school for their donations. We organised the distribution of 63 harvest gifts. Deliverers tried to spend time with each recipient since many visited live alone or are struggling with illness and the problems of advancing years rather than an economic need. Through the generosity of donors we were also able to donate tins and staple groceries to the Village Blessings Bags and Maidstone Christian Care for the Homeless and give some treats to Lisa for the Christmas Hampers she prepares for Blessing Bag recipients. We supported the organisation of a free Harvest lunch in church which was greatly enjoyed. Over 20 thank you letters and cards were received.

Parish Christmas Card: This year the front of the card incorporated the village sign and the Holy family. The card details the Christmas Services. We thank Rostrum village magazine distributors for distributing the cards to each house with the December magazine and to graphic designer Heliana Pacheco.



Pastoral Visits: We made house visits throughout the year and thank members of the congregation who also visit and support members of the community.

Posada: Once again we organised the rota for Mary, Joseph and the donkey who made their way round the village in Advent spending a night or two in each home.

We thank the church family for their practical and prayerful support of SJB's pastoral care in 2017 and for their continued support in 2018.

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

Deanery Synod

The main focus has been on the consultation document 'Future strategy for mission and ministry in the Malling Deanery'

Prepared by a Working Group of 3 clergy and 3 laity formed in 2016 and with input from the Archdeacon of Tonbridge and the Bishop, it took into account the following factors:

- The expected population growth of 70% over the next 30 years in certain areas; the retirement of 30% of the clergy over the next decade and the Bishop's Mission Order creating the new parish of St Gabriel's Kings Hill with its own incumbent which reduces the population served by Mereworth and West Malling parishes.
- The Diocesan deployment indicators guiding decisions when parish vacancies occur, the main ones being: size of population served; capacity to contribute the Parish Pledge and Usual Sunday Attendance.

All clergy, lay ministers, church wardens and treasurers were invited to attend a presentation of the plan at a Synod meeting on 7th February 2018 and copies were distributed to all parishes for PCCs to consider and form their responses to the Deanery Synod which meets in June to consider them.

The Bishop will consider and decide on any proposals recommended by the Synod.

Barry Fisher

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

- Our branch currently has 20 members, on average we have around 10-12 members at our monthly meetings.
- We have been making blankets for babies in Malawi and knitting for premature babies
- We have raised funds for AFIA (Away From It All caravan holidays for families in Rochester
- We continue to support the work of Mothers' Union around the world with daily prayers

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

2017

- Feb: Talk on Dementia by Min Stacpoole, tea, bring & buy & raffle
- Mar: A talk from "Women at the Well" by Caroline Hattersley from London
- Apr: "Diocesan Links" by Canon Brian Stevenson
- May: "From Cell to Ward" A talk on Prison Chaplaincy by Jean Brown
- June: Healing Service and lunch at Burrswood
- July: Julia Jamieson came to talk to us at our annual garden party and fund raising even at Audrey Allen's house, Larkfield
- Sept: Discussion Afternoon with Poems, Prayers and Hymns
- Oct: A talk on the work of Kent Association for the Blind
- Nov: A talk on Hospital Chaplaincy by Jean Brown
- Dec: Christmas lunch with partners and friends at Spadework in Offham

2018

- Jan: New Year's lunch at the North Pole Pub, Teston
- Feb: Afternoon of Bible Reflection with Fr Nick Williams

My thanks go to Audrey Allen (Committee member) & Liz Allen (Treasurer) for helping to plan and run our Benefice Branch of Mothers' Union, and also to Rachel Arundell who has undertaken a number of administration tasks in the last year. Also to all those who tirelessly help with opening up the churches and providing refreshments at our meetings.

Frances Selman
Secretary

Prayer Chain

In 2017 there were 61 requests for our prayers; this is considerably more than in the past few years. We now have 33 members of the Prayer Chain, all of whom are dedicated to offering prayer for anyone in any kind of need.

The need for prayers is constant, not only for those in our community, but for others in different parts of the country and abroad.

The Prayer Chain of St John the Baptist is only one of many hundreds, but our method is perhaps different to many in that we have no set rules for our members as to how and when to pray.

We ask only that they do pray, and leave it to them and to the Holy Spirit to decide what form their prayers take.

Thus some will pray daily for some time in response to a request, while others might simply echo the message with “Amen”.

Either way is perfectly acceptable to God, He listens to even the briefest prayer, and always responds, although not always in the manner we expect.

Needless to say there is always room for more Prayer Warriors !! If you are interested in this particular way of serving God, please talk to us, it won't commit you to anything, but we know that those who pray for others find it spiritually strengthening and often, very rewarding.

Requests for prayer arrive in various ways, usually by email but also on scraps of paper, by phone, swift conversations, and very, very, occasionally, via the box in church labelled “Prayer Requests”.

We try to send the requests out as soon as we can, although we know that God will hear a prayer for someone even if it comes days after everyone else has asked – He works to a different time scale to us, so prayer is never wasted!

So, if you have a request for prayers for anyone at all, you can be assured that we shall do our best to ask our members to pray as soon as possible, and more importantly, be assured that God will hear and respond.

Mike & Jan Pursey

Choir

It was with great regret that we said farewell last year to our oldest member Tessa Fyson (90) who moved to live with her daughter Joanna and this year to Margaret Robinson who for reasons entirely beyond her control has had to move from Wateringbury: at least she's closer to her daughter and granddaughter.

To balance that Clara Wilson Green has joined us and Chloe Chalk and Alice Yelf have expressed an interest in participating.

If we attract new recruits (as we have done to the congregation itself) then we must be doing something right. I think the clue lies in how we are welcoming, work together well and enjoy our singing.

We hold our longest serving member Rosemary Skinner in our thoughts and prayers following her husband David's death.

The Psalmist makes numerous references to singing praises to the Lord e.g Psalm 95 v1-3 ‘Come let us sing for joy to the Lord..... let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song’. The Royal School of Church Music has published a short course for churches ‘Inspiring music in worship’ which stresses that music should enhance worship without dominating.

A word of thanks to our organist Hilary for achieving that through her choice of hymns and other music especially in a year which has seen the need for the organ seat to be adapted with a support following the compression fracture in her lumber area.

We continue to flourish whatever the 'slings and arrows of outrageous fortune' throw at us.

Barry Fisher

Toddlers' Praise

According to some records, Toddlers Praise first started at our Church of SJB with Revd Jim Brown in the year 2002, but this was not a very convenient venue, as young mums were a long way from school to collect their other children. Father Jim then organised for the use of the Guide and Scout Headquarters on Monday afternoons from 2.00pm to 3.00pm which has proved successful and we are very grateful to them for their co-operation.

In the past six months numbers have varied as toddlers commence school at a younger age and other activities for pre-school children have been introduced in our village. Four helpers are generally present every week to welcome mums or carers, even if only one toddler is brought to our venue, we continue with our routine and have fun with refreshments to follow.

At holiday times and half term, previous toddlers come along and we are pleased to see them. Recently twin girls have joined us which is a great delight. We are not down hearted and we will continue and expect the numbers to increase when the weather improves.

Senior Toddler and Helpers

Sundays Cool, Secondary Division, and Messy Church

Currently we are unable to run sessions for all age groups of children simultaneously, not even with a second space! The need for this has increased as many of our cohort are now at secondary school but equally we have a number of much younger children. A possible future temporary building would facilitate split sessions for communion services and our new venture of Messy Church and their parents, but equally provide a platform to introduce new families into our church.

As from September the oversight of Sunday Cool changed with Ruth Dunn taking over from Becky Bowie, while Becky takes on her teacher training and with Bob Bowie taking forward the Secondary Division so that there can be an age-appropriate experience at least once a month for the older ones and twice a month for our primary school age group.

Sunday Cool is now on the first and fourth Sundays of the month, far from ideal but we also have a very accessible family service on the third Sunday, and the Secondary Division meet on the second Sunday. Roll on the time when we have an alternative venue so we can choose when and how often we meet! The children now go into the beginning of communion and after taking communion or receiving a blessing they finish off activities at their beloved table! It seems to work well after initial issues raised by one of the young people. Now they all sit together in the front pew.

We still have eight leaders looking after the twice a month sessions so we come afresh to each session we take and of course the children and young people get a varied input. Likewise the seniors are led by six leaders. I feel privileged to have such support and know I am able to leave each pair to prepare and

deliver exciting and varied sessions based on the Roots material. This is our main outgoing as we receive booklets for this and All-age Worship along with a subscription to the Roots website.

In Sundays Cool our numbers fluctuate quite a bit. We have said goodbye to Freya whose grandmother has moved away to Coulsdon to be nearer the family. We wish the family well. Freya made a card saying, "Thank you for opening up my heart to God". This was all from Freya with no input from adults. I think that says a great deal.

Our secondary division has up to eight teenagers who experience age-appropriate prayer, discussion and activities, led by six leaders. These sessions seek to 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 in church. Four of this group have volunteered to help with Messy Church which I am really grateful for. They also run the Teddy Zip Wire at the Christmas Bazaar, help with the sound system and take an active part in our family service.

In the summer time Sundays Cool aims to have a picnic for all the families. Although Mereworth Castle has been a fantastic venue there are no toilets available so this year it was decided to go to Teston Country Park. This year we are hoping to use the Bishop's garden!

Before Christmas, toys were collected along with gifts for mothers and were taken to the Maidstone Women's Refuge. They distribute the toys and gifts to other refuges and are always really grateful. We also had a good number of toys from children at Watlington Primary School.

Our Nativity is always an event the church look forward to but although it hasn't been difficult to find a script which can be adapted to our situation it is difficult to find enough younger children who will dress up to participate. Our young people make great narrators and this year we had a combination of speaking parts and narration. Comments were extremely favourable! Next year, all being well, we will have many more children for this event! Alice Yelf brought the school orchestra and gave us a great rendition of Little Donkey. We have invited them to come again.

Which brings me on to our new venture, Messy church. At the time of writing we have only had two sessions. We had nine children plus parents/grandparents the first session and ten children (three different from the first session) with parents/grandparents on the February session. I am so lucky to have a fantastic group of helpers, five adults and four of our young people and I think I can say for all of us, we have had great fun! May our numbers grow and grow!!

Ruth Dunn

WATCH Club Youth Group, Holiday Club & Shining Bright party

The **Youth Group** continues to meet twice a month on a Sunday evening during term time, where the youth take part in fun and often very messy games (many of which link into the discussion topic for that week), regularly try to break world records for entry into our Youth Group Record Book, make things at our craft table (which is always very popular) or play board games, table tennis, air hockey, pool, or badminton.

The year's activities have included an Easter Egg hunt, a talk by a commercial airline pilot, the WATCH Club's Got Talent Show, our very popular Summer water fight, Archery Tag and Zorbing

(booked through Young Kent, now MYTrust), a games night, a cooking demonstration from a local chef, our Christmas Party, and at the time of writing, for Sport Relief, we will soon be welcoming Louise and her Swing Train class.

The 6 amazing leaders continue to provide a safe, fun, loving, caring, environment for the youth to enjoy.

The **Holiday Club** continues to bring both Christian and non-Christian families together for 3 mornings in August in the school, to hear Bible stories, play games and make lots of craft items, all in a safe and loving environment. A big thank you goes to all the volunteers who come from all different denominations, uniting for a common cause - to spread the Good News.

The **Shining Bright Party**, our alternative to Halloween, is as popular as ever. Children from all over the Benefice, and from villages beyond, come along to enjoy an evening of fun, crafts, music and of course food and lots and lots of sweets!

We would like to say thank you to the PCC for its kind generosity for supporting these events financially, but if anyone on the PCC would like to be more involved by helping out at these events, please let Sandra or Lisa know. We would love to see you.

Wateringbury School

The Foundation Governors are Chris Clark, Richard Dunn, Suzanne Rowlinson, Steve Wright, Kathryn Millar and Sarah Cooper. Father Nick Williams is Ex Officio Governor. Chris Clark was re-elected Chair and Mark Warren (LA Governor) Vice Chair in September 2017. Our parent Governors are Gail Isted and Tom Sewell and Staff Governor Abi Woodhouse (Deputy Head Teacher). We are very pleased that Sarah Cooper has joined as a Governor this year having been an Associate Governor previously.

We continue to be very fortunate to have the benefit of such a committed group of governors with a broad range of skills all of whom, as volunteers, generously give their time and experience.

We currently have one vacancy for Foundation Governors. This is not currently limiting the work of the governing body however, is not sustainable in the long term and we continue to work on recruitment.

Our long-awaited Ofsted inspection took place in November 2017 and we were delighted to receive a solid Good rating across all areas. Significant improvements have been necessary to move our school to 'Good' and the drive and determination of the staff led by our Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team has been instrumental in moving the school to our best Ofsted judgement for a decade. The hard work of the headteacher and staff in achieving this result cannot be understated.

As reported last year 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.

Education funding continues to make the headlines. Our school has done everything it can to lower costs across all budget areas in a process overseen by the Governing Body. We cannot cut anything else without it having a detrimental impact on the education on offer to every child at Wateringbury. Instead,

we have focused on increasing our income through donations and grants. In September, the school launched a Voluntary School Fund to help fund resources and equipment which directly support children's education or improve the teaching and learning environment. The generous donations received so far have enabled the school to bring in two authors during Art and Book Weeks.

FOWPS (Friends of Wateringbury Primary School) continue to be an invaluable support to the school as well as providing a great social forum.

After much thought I have decided not to stand for election as Chair of Governors again next year (September 2018). It is a privilege to be Chair of Governors and particularly so of a group of such committed people as we have at Wateringbury School. I have communicated my intentions to the governing body so that succession planning can progress. I intend to complete the remainder of my current term as a Foundation Governor.

Chris Clark
Chair of Governing Body

Church Flowers

The eight ladies who form the Church Flower Rota have continued to decorate the church each week.

This year there has also been a wedding, funerals and special festivals for which they have arranged flowers.

This coming year looks like being quieter than usual with no weddings in the pipeline but in November, we plan to assist in the making a carpet of flowers to commemorate the ending of the First World War. As ever, more help would be very much appreciated.

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 not normally tackled on a weekly basis.

Unfortunately Gillian Sessions had to stand down during the year leaving Pauline Welch to carry on assisted by other members of the Holy Dusters. I would like to say a huge thank you to Gillian for the dedicated work that she carried out during her time with the Holy Dusters. It does mean that we have a vacancy for a willing person to join Pauline so that we can maintain 7 teams, this does spread the load over the course of the year!! I would be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to help in maintaining the general cleanliness of our Church.

As always we have had 2 major Church cleans during the course of the year. These "major" cleans are vital in tackling areas of the Church and churchyard that are not dealt with on a weekly basis and they really do make a difference. It is a shame that the number of volunteers does seem to stick at a very dedicated low number and so I am making an appeal that as soon as the major Church clean dates are

published in the newsletter we all make a note on our calendar/diary to come along for just an hour or two – every little bit helps and refreshments are provided!!

The cleaning of our Church is a vital part of Church life and I know that it is much appreciated by the Parochial Church Council, members of our congregation and visitors so thank you to everyone on the “Holy Dusters” teams for their dedicated service.

Hilary Cayzer

Bellringers

Tuesday practice continues every other week with heavy reliance on imported ringers from other towers, Fran and Dave from Leigh and Richard from Yalding in particular. Nevertheless it's enjoyed by all and we're still attempting to learn new ringing methods. However on Sundays we're often down to three ringers these days, occasionally four subject to work commitments. When there's no Tuesday practice at Wateringbury we've started supporting the Yalding ringers on their Wednesday practice nights.

The Kent County Association of Change Ringers reinstated their Tower Captains annual meeting in January after a gap of several years and it was notable that the average age of attendees was pretty high, another reminder to redouble efforts to encourage younger learners if church bellringing is not to become an uncommon activity. In that context we've just completed the installation of a remote CCTV camera over the bell chamber wired to a screen lower down where we ring. This should be a great aid to teaching new bellringers and potentially useful to safely demonstrate working of the bells during open days and the like.

After missing our annual outing in 2016 we toured East Sussex in October last year ringing at Colemans Hatch, Hartfield, Fairwarp, Newick and Dane Hill, with a fine lunch at the Forester's Arms, Fairwarp.

Earlier this year Michael Collins, husband of ringer Sue spent several months constructing, sign-writing and painting a “peal board” to record a peal (nearly three hours of method ringing), rung in 1986 to mark the 100th anniversary of rebuilding of the steeple and recasting of the tenor bell after destruction by fire. A quarter peal was rung at the end of December on installation of the peal board. The band included four of the 1986 band two of whom having long since moved out of the area.

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 on 7th February 2018 we had goods to the value of £314.76, all invoices had been paid and cash in hand of £2.38. Sales from the stall 4th February 2017 to 4th February 2018 amounted to £1991.05 enabling £322 profit to be given to the PCC Treasurer in December 2017.

During Fairtrade Fortnight 2016 we took part in Traidcraft's Big Brew and your kind donations raised £76 for Traidcraft Exchange. This is a charity which reaches out to farmers and producers in some of

the world's poorest countries, providing training and resources needed to provide a better future for themselves, their families and their community.

This year Fairtrade Fortnight is from 26th February to 11th March and again we are taking part in The Big Brew on Sunday 4th March. All voluntary donations will be doubled by the UK Government and support Traidcraft's Hidden Entrepreneur Appeal, funding their work in Kenya Senegal and Bangladesh.

The new Spring Catalogue is now available for you to take and browse, where you will find some new, and some revamped, products showing the label WFTO (World Fair Trade Organisation) instead of the usual Fairtrade logo. A letter giving a full explanation can be found on the stall.

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 for the many offers of help with the stall, either to set up, cashiers, or pack away which is much appreciated and to everyone for supporting Fairtrade.

Ros Diment

Coffee Break

Coffee Break is open to everyone and our numbers are still growing. We continue to meet once a fortnight in the Church, but in January once again we met every week as it's a quiet month after the Christmas celebrations. Despite the cold outside, we managed to keep warm with extra heating and extra layers.

We continue to share our craft knowledge and have made more hats for the homeless which were delivered in time for Christmas, more blankets for the orphanage in Swaziland, hats for premature babies, various items for the craft stall at the Christmas Bazaar, teddy bears for the village fete and knee blankets for people with dementia. At the moment we are also making woolly sheep for Hadlow College. Eddie continues to work on his rug and I think Sheena has just about finished sewing on badges to her camp blanket.

Some of us are planning a trip to Pembury Hospital to take our hats for premature babies and recently we went to Maidstone Hospital to see what we could do for them. Again we supported Macmillan Nurses with a special coffee morning.

We still have tea or coffee and homemade cake at every meeting. As members usually insist on making a donation for this, we have once more been able to buy sleeping bags for Maidstone Christian Care and buy wool for knitting projects.

Recently, we have celebrated some milestone birthdays and a big wedding anniversary.

We are looking forward to our big event which will be seen in November. Work for this has been going on for the last three or maybe four years. We also look forward to visiting Sheena's new house and garden, a special garden in Farleigh and hopefully the RBLI site.

Pauline Welch

Communications Team

(Trudy Bailey, Christine Byron, Peter Bond, Bob Bowie, Kate Millar)

During the year a PCC Communications sub-committee was formed to look into improving all types of communication within the church. So far we have:

- Reviewed the church website (wateringburychurch.org.uk) and updated the information and contents
- Created a page for Wateringbury Church on the official Church of England website A church near You and a Facebook Page for the Church
- Taken over the responsibility for the weekly newsletter

Ongoing projects are:

- Reviewing the audio visual provision in the church
- Looking at ways to improve communication within SJB and within the benefice

Weekly Newsletter

The PCC Communications team took over the responsibility for producing the weekly newsletter from Jan and Mike in January. We owe them a huge debt of gratitude for their hard work in developing the newsletter over the years.

The letter will now be produced by teams of two people on a rota basis. So far we have two teams of volunteers. The letter is now emailed to 86 people each week. This allows regular members of the congregation as well as friends of SJB throughout the world to keep in touch on a regular basis.

It is also more environmentally friendly for most of the congregation to have e copies of the newsletters rather than printing lots of hard copies each week.

Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) and Safeguarding

This year is going to be a busy one for all those involved in Safeguarding and DBS applications, myself as Lead Recruiter, and Debbie Bond as St John's Safeguarding Representative.

Up until now, I have been responsible for a total of 17 DBS for St St John's, (35 in all for all the Benefice) via the Churches Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS) ensuring that best practice is always used for our application and checking processes.

As you may be aware, this number is due to increase to include those on the PCC who currently do not have a DBS. Based on the PCC members at present, this will take the total DBS required to 26.

DBS certificates do not expire, but the Diocesan rules state that all DBS must be renewed every 5 years. Debbie will now be responsible for handing out the relevant application forms for renewals, and new applicants, when needed (ensuring they are completed correctly) and will then forward them to me, where I will obtain the references and take the DBS application forward.

In addition to the extra roles that now require a DBS, the roles that require a level of safeguarding awareness has also been added to, and now includes roles such as Choir members, Refreshment helpers, Bell ringers, Welcomers, PCC members etc.

The first two levels of safeguarding, C0 Basic Awareness and C1 Foundation, are predominantly done online. The C2 Leadership Training and C3 Clergy & Lay Ministers Training courses are run by the Diocese in various locations.

The level of safeguarding that will need to be obtained will depend on the role carried out within the church. I will be contacting everyone individually to tell them what level/course they need to complete.

The 19 people with existing DBS have already been advised of the courses relevant to them. At the time of writing this report, 5 have completed all their courses, 8 have partially completed, and the remaining 6 have yet to confirm. Admittedly, the online courses can take some time to complete, but it is possible to dip in and out of the course, at a pace that suits, if it is not possible to complete it one go.

In view of the additional roles now requiring safeguarding training, I will be contacting an additional 30 people at St John's to advise them what Safeguarding course(s) they need to do. As you can imagine this will be quite a task (as I also have to do the same for East Malling and Teston) so everyones co-operation would be greatly appreciated.

I am aware that some people do not have access to a computer, and those people are more than welcome to come along to "Parish Office" at my home, to use the Benefice iMac to do their course(s). Please contact me on 01622 815218 if this will be of help to you.

Finally, I would like to say a big thank you to everyone for their help, support, friendship, and kind words throughout the year.

Sandra Corby
Lead Recruiter and Administrator for the Benefice

The Church of St John the Baptist Wateringbury

Annual Report

and

Financial Statements

of the

Parochial Church Council

For the year ending 31st December 2017

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 2017
(INCLUDING 2018 BUDGETS)**

All reports have been produced using Excel spreadsheets.

The Budgets for 2017 were formulated for the Standing Committee and then presented to the PCC on 10th January 2017 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 2018, a copy of which is included in the Annual Report.

I am pleased to report that during 2017 Wateringbury PCC expenditure was **£ 1,932.30** below that budgeted. In addition our income for 2017 was **£ 5066.37** more than our expenditure (including transfer of £2,200 to our RDBF Church Repair Fund). This compares to 2016 when our income was £16,557.85 more than our expenditure.

You will see from the accounts that our **total income in 2017 was £ 46,670.07** compared to the income in 2016 of £ 47,423.00, a decrease of £ 752.93.

The PCC's overall expenses including capital expenditure in 2017 was **£ 41,603.70**, an increase from 2016 of £10,738.55, a consequence of the interregnum period finishing.

Our Parish Pledged Offer to the Diocese for 2017 was **£ 8,616**. The PCC have agreed to increase this by 2.5% again in 2018.

Wateringbury PCC's share of The Joint Benefice expenses for 2017 was **£ 16,440** relating to approximately 33% of the Joint Benefice Expenses. This figure comprises our Stipend contribution for 2017 together with our Benefice contribution. Wateringbury PCC's share of the Benefice expenses for 2018 will probably be £16,736. This figure includes a 2.5% increase in stipend contribution. Gift Aid

and Covenanted Donations in 2017, including income from regular standing orders of **£ 20,868.00**, amounted to **£ 23,394.50**, compared to a total of £ 23,864.39 in 2017.

Our total collection income was **£ 2,388.42**, compared with £ 2,922.94 in 2016. We are still allowed to recover tax on this collection income.

Income from weddings in 2017, less expenses, was **£637.00** compared with £ 286.80 in 2016.

The income from funeral fees in 2017, less expenses, was **£ 1,526.30**, compared to a total of £ 1,586.20 in 2016.

During 2017 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 completion of the spire re-shingling. Due to the efforts of the Buildings Committee and in particular its chair, Liz Gummer, grants for the spire have been obtained to the value of £30,000, either received or promised. Work is due to commence in April 2018.

At the end of the 2017 fiscal year the PCC reserves have increased by £2,200 plus interest in the RDBF Church Repair Fund to **£ 10,262.04** with **£ 2,284.36** in the RDBF General Deposit Account and **£ 494.24** in the RDBF Loan Account. The PCC's Business Reserve Account had a balance of **£ 33,108.17** at the end of 2017.

It can be seen from the Statement of Assets and Liabilities that the PCC held total assets as at the 31st December 2017 of **£ 53,627.75**, an increase of **£ 7,266.37**.

In the Budgets for 2018 our income is projected to be some **£ 88,020** and it is anticipated that the PCC general expenditure is likely to be some **£ 41,177**. In addition the PCC have budgeted capital expenditure of **£ 74,326**, including £ 72,126.60 for the church spire project and £ 2,200 to the RDBF Church Repair Fund. It has been necessary to make a small number of expenditure reductions in some budget headings for 2018 so that we have a sensible reserves policy.

The PCC wish to thank you all for your generous Covenants during 2017. In addition they would also like to thank those of you who have organised fund raising events during the year, in particular Jan and Mike Pursey. It is hoped that these efforts will continue into 2018 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 **£ 25,000** in 2018 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 2017.

In conclusion I would like to draw your attention to the Budgets for 2018 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 for the 2018 Accounts.

Richard Dunn (Honorary Treasurer)

Wateringbury Parochial Church Council

Wateringbury Parochial Church Council

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017		Unrestrict ed Funds	Unrestrict ed Designa ted Funds	Restrict ed Designate d Funds	Total	
	2016	2017	2017	2017	2017	
	Note					
RECEIPTS						
Planned Giving	1	23,864.39	23,894.50	0.00	0.00	23,894.50
Collections at Services	2	2,922.94	2,388.42	0.00	0.00	2,388.42
All other giving/voluntary receipts	3	1,732.00	0.00	0.00	4,120.92	4,120.92
Gift Aid Recovered	4	7,412.98	6,785.53	0.00	0.00	6,785.53
VAT Recovered	14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Activities for Generating Funds	5	6,888.36	5,200.16	0.00	177.50	5,377.60
Church Activities	6	4,562.45	4,059.22	0.00	0.00	4,059.22
Fees Other		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		47,383.12	42,327.83	0.00	4,298.42	46,626.25

Interest from Accounts	15	39.88	43.80	0.00	0.00	43.80
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		47,423.00	42,371.65	0.00	4,298.42	46,670.07
PAYMENTS						
Cost of generating funds	7	619.90	320.80	0.00	0.00	320.80
Donations	8	2,514.70	1,295.02	0.00	0.00	1,295.02
Parish Share	9	8,405.00	8,616.00	0.00	0.00	8,616.00
Joint Benefice Expenses	10	4,812.00	16,440.00	0.00	0.00	16,440.00
Church Running Expenses	11	9,756.55	8,776.81	0.00	1333.50	10,110.31
Transfer between funds	12	2,200.00	2,200.00	0.00	0.00	2,200.00
Church Activities	13	2,557.00	2,621.57	0.00	0.00	2,621.57
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		30,865.15	40,270.20	0.00	1333.50	41,603.70
NET INCOMING RESOURCES		16,557.85	2,101.45	0.00	2,964.92	5,066.37
Total Fund Brought Forward						
at 01.01.17		27,603.47	32,559.57	9,000.00	2601.75	44,161.32
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD AT 31.12.17	16	44,161.32	34,661.02	9,000.00	5,566.67	49,227.69

**Wateringbury Parochial Church
Council**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER
2017**

Unrestrict ed Fund	Unrestrict ed Designated Fund	Restricted Designated Fund	Total
2017	2017	2017	2017
£	£		£

RECEIPTS

Voluntary Receipts:

2	From Collections	2,388.42		2,388.42
1	From Covenants, Bequests and Gift Aid	23,894.50		23,894.50
3	All other giving/voluntary receipts	0.00		0.00
4	Tax Recovered - Gift Aid	6,785.53		6,785.53

Other Receipts:

1 4	VAT Recovered	0.00		0.00
6	Funeral Fees	1,876.30		1,876.30
6	Wedding Fees	1,322.00		1,322.00
6	Fees Other	0.00		0.00
5	Fair Trade Received	322.00		322.00
6	Donations Specific	206.92		206.92
6	Donations Received	604.00		604.00
5	Fund Raising - General	91.50		91.50
5	Plant Sale	736.45		736.45
5	Cream Teas	544.40		544.40
5	Lent Lunches	427.10		427.10
5	12th Night Quiz	124.00		124.00
5	Sunday Coffee	230.00		230.00
6	Giant Christmas Card for Save the Children	0.00		0.00
5	Christmas Bazaar	1,352.25		1,352.25
6	Toddlers Praise	50.00		50.00
5	Cello Concert	400.50		400.50
5	Ride + Stride	0.00	177.50	177.50
5	Innominata Concert	524.50		524.50
5	Remembrance Book Fees	207.00		207.00
6	Wateringbury Players	0.00		0.00
5	Book Sales	240.46		240.46
5	Angels & Cribs	0.00		0.00
6	McMillan Coffee Morning	0.00		0.00
3	Spire Shingles Appeal	0.00	4,120.92	4,120.92
1 5	RDBF Church Repair Fund - Interest	27.61		27.61

1 5	RDBF Loan Account - Interest	1.98		1.98
1 5	RDBF General Deposit - Interest	9.11		9.11
1 5	Business Reserve - Interest	5.12		5.12
		42,371.65	0.00	4,298.42
				46,670.07

PAYMENTS

8	Donations Paid	804.02		804.02
8	Rostrum	240.00		240.00
7	Fund Raising & Publicity	240.80		240.80
7	Flower Festival	40.00		40.00
7	Christmas Bazaar	40.00		40.00
1 3	Wedding Expenses	685.00		685.00
1 3	Funeral Expenses	350.00		350.00
1 1	PCC Expenses	2,148.37		2,148.37
1 0	ETW Joint Benefice Expenses	16,440.00		16,440.00
1 1	Ecclesiastical Insurance	1,973.67		1,973.67
1 3	Training	0.00		0.00
9	Parish Share/Pledged Offer	8,616.00		8,616.00
1 1	Church Repair & Maintenance	2,215.78		2,215.78
1 2	RDBF Church Repair Fund	2,200.00		2,200.00
1 3	Sunday School Expenses	192.50		192.50
1 3	Youth Group	400.00		400.00
1 3	Holiday Club	100.00		100.00
1 3	Salaries	780.00		780.00

1 1	Electricity	2,006.99		2,006.99
1 1	Water & Drainage Rates	187.08		187.08
1 3	Printing	114.07		114.07
8	WPS Yr 6 Bibles	231.00		231.00
8	Friends of Kent Churches	10.00		10.00
8	Friends of Rochester Cathedral	10.00		10.00
1 1	KCA Bell Ringing	1.00		1.00
1 1	Royal School of Church Music	101.00		101.00
1 1	Church Music Licence & Copyright	142.92		142.92
1 1	Spire Shingles Project	0.00	1,333.50	1,333.50
1 1	Petty Cash Top Up	0.00		0.00
		40,270.20	0.00	1,333.50
				<u>41,603.70</u>
1 6	FUNDS			
	At 31 December 2016	30,825.69	9,000.00	39,825.69
	Incoming Receipts	42,371.65	0.00	4,298.42
	Outgoing Payments	40,270.20	0.00	1,333.50
	At 31 December 2017	<u>32,927.14</u>	<u>9,000.00</u>	<u>2,964.92</u>
				<u>44,892.06</u>

**Wateringbury Parochial
Church Council**

BALANCE SHEET

AT 31 DECEMBER 2017

		Unrestrict ed Funds	Unrestrict ed Designated Funds	Restricted Designated Funds	Total
	2016	2017	2017	2017	2017
<u>Current Assets</u>					
Prepayments	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Petty Cash	£80.06	£94.69	£0.00	£0.00	£94.69
Bank Current Account	£5,376.33	£4,419.33	£0.00	£2,964.92	£7,384.25
Bank Reserve Account	£30,103.05	£21,506.42	£9,000.00	£2,601.75	£33,108.17
RDBF Loan Account	£492.26	£494.24	£0.00	£0.00	£494.24
RDBF Church Repair Account	£8,034.43	£10,262.04	£0.00	£0.00	£10,262.04
RDBF General Deposit	£2,275.25	£2,284.36	£0.00	£0.00	£2,284.36
<u>Total Current Assets</u>	£46,361.38	£39,061.08	£9,000.00	£5,566.67	£53,627.75
<u>Current Liabilities</u>					
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
<u>Current Assets less Current Liabilities:</u>	£46,361.38	£39,061.08	£9,000.00	£5,566.67	£53,627.75

Represented by :

Capital & Reserves

General Fund Brought Forward	£27,603.47	£34,759.63	£9,000.00	£2,601.75	£46,361.38
Surplus Brought Forward	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Income Expenditure Account	£16,557.91	£2,101.45	£0.00	£2,964.92	£5,066.37
Transfer to RDBF Church Repair Fund	£2,200.00	£2,200.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2,200.00

TOTAL RESERVES **£46,361.38** **£39,061.08** **£9,000.00** **£5,566.67** **£53,627.75**

WATERINGBURY PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - Year to 31st DECEMBER 2017

	INCOME 2016	INCOME 2017
Bequests & Legacies		£500.00
Collections	£2,922.94	£2,388.42
Covenants/Gift Aid	£23,864.39	£23,394.50
Tax Recovered	£7,412.98	£6,785.53
VAT Recovered	£0.00	
Funeral Fees	£2,115.00	£1,876.30
Wedding Fees	£748.00	£1,322.00
Fees - other	£10.00	£0.00
Donations Received - Specific	£53.00	£206.92
Donations Received - General	£0.00	£604.00
Church Repair Fund - Interest	£20.42	£27.61
RDBF Loan Account - Interest	£1.96	£1.98
RDBF General Deposit -Interest	£9.00	£9.11
Fund Raising - General	£698.79	£88.00
Plant Sale	£911.05	£736.45
Lent Lunches	£327.04	£427.10
Remembrance Book	£0.00	£207.00
12th Night Quiz	£110.00	£124.00
Christmas Bazaar	£1,696.62	£1,352.25
Toddlers Praise	£100.00	£50.00
Coffee Mornings	£650.80	£0.00
Quiz Night	£0.00	£0.00

Cream Teas	£387.70	£544.40
Giant Christmas Card for Save the Children	£370.50	£0.00
McMillan Coffee Morning	£165.95	£0.00
East Peckham Brass Band Concert	£686.00	£0.00
Sale of Church Book	£86.50	£3.50
Book Sales	£157.61	£240.46
Angels & Cribs	£206.50	£0.00
Ride & Stride	£269.75	£177.50
Fair Trade	£350.00	£322.00
Sunday Coffee	£350.00	£230.00
Wateringbury Players	£1,000.00	£0.00
Spire Shingles Appeal	£1,732.00	£4,120.92
Innominata Concert		£524.50
Cello Concert	£0.00	£400.50
Business Reserve Account Interest	£8.50	£5.12
Total Income	£47,423.00	£46,670.07

	EXPENDITURE 2016	EXPENDITURE 2017
Grants and Donations Paid	£1,388.34	£804.02
Rostrum	£105.00	£240.00
Fund Raising & Publicity	£311.00	£240.80
Ecclesiastical Insurance	£4,007.38	£1,973.67
Wedding Expenses	£461.20	£685.00
Funeral Expenses	£528.80	£350.00
P.C.C. Expenses - General	£1,856.96	£2,148.37
ETW Joint Benefice Expenses	£4,608.00	£16,440.00
Training	£120.00	£0.00
Parish Pledged Offer	£8,405.00	£8,616.00
Church Repair and Maintenance	£1,030.39	£2,215.78
Salaries	£780.00	£780.00

Electricity	£2,541.58	£2,006.99
Printing	£85.54	£114.07
Water & Drainage Rates	£78.48	£187.08
Flower Festival	£148.90	£40.00
Youth Group	£382.46	£400.00
Holiday Club	£100.00	£100.00
Sequestration Account	£204.00	£0.00
Year 6 Bibles	£217.47	£231.00
Church music Licence & Copyright	£141.76	£142.92
Christmas Bazaar	£160.00	£40.00
Sunday School Expenses	£99.00	£192.50
Friends of Kent Churches	£10.00	£10.00
Royal School of Church Music	£99.00	£101.00
Friends of Rochester Cathedral	£10.00	£10.00
KCA Bell Ringing	£1.00	£1.00
Book of Remembrance	£0.00	£0.00
Retirement/Leaving Gifts	£370.00	£0.00
Bishop of Rochester's Fund for Ordinands	£413.89	£0.00
Capital Expenditure - Spire Shingles Project		£1,333.50
Total Expenditure	£28,665.15	£39,403.70
Transfer to RDBF Church Repair Fund	£2,200.00	£2,200.00
SURPLUS/ (-DEFICIT)	£16,557.85	£5,066.37

**The Church of St John the Baptist
Wateringbury**

Financial Statements for 2017

Budgets for 2018

And

Reserves Policy for 2018

of the

Parochial Church Council

BUDGET PLAN 2018

	Budget 2017	Actual 2017		Budget 2018
Bequests and Legacies	£0.00	£500.00		£0.00
Collections	£2,000.00	£2,388.42		£2,000.00
Covenants & Gift Aid	£24,000.00	£23,394.50		£22,000.00
Donations Unspecified	£0.00	£604.00		£0.00
Fees Received (others)	£0.00	£0.00		£0.00
Friends of Wateringbury Church	£21,000.00	£0.00		£25,000.00
Fund Raising General	£5,000.00	£4,898.60		£4,500.00
Funeral Fees	£0.00	£1,876.30		£0.00
Interest received on PCC Acc's	£20.00	£43.82		£20.00
Donation Specific	£200.00	£206.92		£200.00
Tax Recovered from Gift Aid	£7,000.00	£6,785.53		£5,500.00
Fair Trade	£300.00	£322.00		£300.00
Wedding Fees	£0.00	£1,322.00		£0.00
Remembrance Book	£0.00	£207.00		£0.00

Spire Shingles Appeal	£0.00	£4,120.92	I	£0.00
Kent Churches	£0.00	£0.00	I	£7,500.00
Bridges Trust	£0.00	£0.00	I	£15,000.00
Church Care/Wolfson Foundation	£0.00	£0.00	I	£5,000.00
VAT Recovered	£0.00	£0.00	I	£0.00
	<u>£59,520.00</u>	<u>£46,670.07</u>		<u>£87,020.00</u>

Church Repairs & Maintenance	£1,500.00	£2,215.78	E	£1,500.00
RDBF Pledged Offer	£8,616.00	£8,616.00	E	£8,831.00
Benefice Expenses	£16,440.00	£16,440.00	E	£16,440.00
Electricity	£2,750.00	£2,006.99	E	£2,750.00
Fund Raising & Publicity Costs	£300.00	£320.80	E	£250.00
Grants & Donations Paid	£700.00	£825.02	E	£600.00
Insurance Premiums etc	£4,200.00	£1,973.67	E	£4,200.00
Office & General Stationary	£30.00	£0.00	E	£20.00
PCC General Expenses	£2,000.00	£2,306.92	E	£2,000.00
Petty Cash	£100.00	£85.37	E	£100.00
Postage & Carriage	£20.00	£0.00	E	£10.00
Printing & Publications	£250.00	£354.07	E	£200.00
Sunday School	£200.00	£192.50	E	£200.00
Messy Church			E	£100.00
Salaries	£780.00	£780.00	E	£780.00
WPS Y6 Bibles	£200.00	£231.00	E	£250.00
Training	£100.00	£0.00	E	£100.00
Youth Group/Holiday Club	£500.00	£500.00	E	£350.00
Water & Drainage	£200.00	£187.08	E	£200.00
Funeral Expenses	£0.00	£350.00	E	£0.00
Wedding Expenses	£0.00	£685.00	E	£0.00
WiFi & Audio Visual Improvements	£2,000.00	£0.00	E	£2,000.00

	£40,886.00	£38,070.20	E	£40,881.00
BUDGET SURPLUS /DEFICIT	£18,634.00		E	£46,139.00
Church Quinquennial Works	£250.00	£0.00	E	£0.00
Tree Works	£200.00	£0.00	E	£200.00
Church Spire	£70,000.00	£0.00	E	£68,692.00
Architects Fee		£1,333.50	E	£3,434.60
RDBF Church Repair Fund	£2,200.00	£2,200.00	E	£2,200.00
	£72,650.00	£3,533.50		£74,526.60
Expenses	£113,536.00	£41,603.70		£115,407.60
Income	£59,520.00	£46,670.07		£87,020.00
Surplus/ Deficit	£54,016.00	£5066.37		-£28,327.60
Current Account				£7,384.25
Reserve Account				£33,108.17
Church Repair Fund				£10,262.04
Diocesan Loan Fund				£2,778.60
TOTAL YEAR END FUNDS				£25,145.46

St John the Baptist Watringbury Parochial Church Council

RESERVES POLICY 2018

In conjunction with our proposed budgets for 2018 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 **£ 39,000**. Unrestricted designated funds total **£ 9,000**, restricted designated funds, **£ 5,566.67**. 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 **£ 40,000** in 2018 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 not done in 2017). It does not include any capital expenditure in relation to the church fabric. This is higher than in 2016 as the interregnum period is now over.

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 Sunday Cool to meet will mean that by the end of 2018 our reserves may well be considerably depleted. We are also very grateful to the Friends of Wateringbury Church who have promised £ 25,000 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 2018 should be in the region of **£ 24,000**. Additional income from fund raising activities, recovery of tax, fees and donations is estimated to be in the region of **£ 10,000**.

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 2018, apart from capital expenditure.

Wateringbury PCC are committed to continue regular fiscal reviews throughout 2018 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 2017 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: 16.01.2018