

St Michael and All Angels Church



ANNUAL REPORT

2022

**Wadenhoe
Parochial Church Council**

St Michael and All Angels Church, Wadenhoe

Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2022

1. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

St Michael and All Angels Church stands on an ancient site at the top of a hill, isolated from the village of Wadenhoe which lies below by the river Nene. It is part of the Diocese of Peterborough within the Church of England and is listed as number 1227141 on the Register of the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) as a Grade II* historic protected building. The church address is Church Street, Wadenhoe, Peterborough, PE8 5ST.

The Church is registered with Code 628316 in the Diocese of Peterborough in the Parish of Wadenhoe, and the Parish is registered with Code 280316.

A. Address for correspondence:

PCC Secretary
Manor Farm
Wadenhoe
Peterborough PE8 5SX

B. PCC Members who have served from 1st January 2022 until the date this report was approved:

Incumbent:	<i>Position vacant – Interregnum</i>	
Licensed Benefice Assistant Priest:	Revd Dr Beatrice Brandon	<i>Ex-officio (From 01/09/2022)</i>
Churchwarden 1:	Mr Rodney Sinclair	Chair & Treasurer
Churchwarden 2:	<i>Office not filled.</i>	
Deanery Synod Representative:	<i>Office not filled.</i>	
Elected Members:	Mr Stephen Hall Mrs Faye Henchy Mrs Andra Van Hasselt	PCC Secretary Electoral Roll Officer

C. General:

Patrons: (The right of presentation is exercised jointly.)	The Wadenhoe Trust Peterborough Diocesan Board of Patronage The Society of Merchant Venturers The Bishop of Peterborough
Bankers:	Barclays Bank plc Oundle Branch, 2 New Street, Oundle PE8 4EB
Investment Funds:	CCLA Investment Management Limited One Angel Lane, London EC4R 3AB
Legal Advisers:	Hunt & Coombs Solicitors 4 New Street, Oundle PE8 4ED
Insurance Company:	Ecclesiastical Insurance Beaufort House, Brunswick Road, Gloucester GL1 1JZ
Independent Examiner:	Mr Andrew Kemp 3 St Andrews Lane, Titchmarsh, Kettering NN14 3DN
Church Architect:	Mr Jeremy Lander MA(Cantab) Dip Arch RIBA AABC 77 North Street, Burwell Cambs CB25 0BB

2. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

St Michael and All Angels is a church which is the responsibility of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) duly constituted under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended, and the Church Representation Rules.

The Parochial Church Council of Wadenhoe is a charity for the purposes of the Charities Act 2011 and is currently exempted by Statutory Instrument from registering with the Charity Commission.

The method of appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules. The membership of the PCC consists of the Rector, the Churchwarden and members elected by those on the electoral roll of the parish, as well as any clergy licensed to the Benefice as ex-officio members.

All members of the PCC are considered to be Charity Trustees. All newly elected PCC members have signed the PCC Member Trustee Eligibility Declaration and the HMRC Fit and Proper Persons Declaration to confirm eligibility to act as Charity Trustees.

It was agreed by the PCC that there was an insufficient number of members to warrant a Standing Committee.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial instruction into the workings of the PCC.

3. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

St Michael and All Angels' PCC has the duty and responsibility with an incumbent to consult together on matters of general concern and importance to the Parish and to cooperate in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

This responsibility is reinforced by the Mission Statement commitment, namely, "*The Church exists to make the Gospel relevant to everyday life and to serve the whole community by strengthening the fellowship, practice and heritage of Christian life and worship*".

The PCC has maintenance responsibilities for the Church of St Michael and All Angels in Wadenhoe and also the responsibility for a wide range of matters affecting the Parish, which include compliance with legislation in regard to Health and Safety, Fire Risk and Safety, Disability Access, Data Protection, Dignity at Work Harassment and Bullying and also with the Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults. Appropriate training is provided, when necessary.

Matters for Attention in 2022. The work to re-lead the poor condition windows and the replacement of window guards was finally completed.

In October 2021, the Church Architect carried out the Quinquennial Inspection of the church and submitted his report. No major problems with the church fabric were found. Some maintenance matters have been highlighted requiring attention over the next two to five years and are receiving attention.

4. PARISH SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES.

Parish activities are usually well supported, co-ordinated and carried out by regular churchgoers as well as several villagers of other faiths and non-churchgoers. The PCC thanks the following for their help.

Lessons Schedules. The Churchwarden liaises with the officiating minister and acts as principal lesson reader but whenever possible others from the congregation are encouraged to read.

Sidespersons. All members of the PCC.

Sacristan's and Verger's Duties (*No one appointed*). Preparation of the church for all services and briefing the minister is normally carried out by the Churchwarden and members of the PCC.

Bell Ringing (Arthur Dicks). Bellringers from around the Benefice support the bell ringing team.

Eucharist Assistant. No one appointed.

Cleaning. Currently members of the PCC clean the church. It would be appreciated if volunteers would come forward to help with the cleaning of the church twice a month, i.e., before services, at a time to suit their convenience. This will involve dusting, sweeping the floor and vacuum cleaning the sanctuary carpet.

Daily locking and unlocking of the Church. In the past, the church had always been unlocked during the day. Regrettably, since the start of the Covid problem, it has not been possible to do so daily. Nevertheless, there is a strong feeling within the PCC that now the Covid infection threat has mostly passed, the church should again be opened every day. Not only is the church a spiritual place where passers-by can pray in peace, but it is also one of the tourist attractions of Wadenhoe village. However, at present, for reasons beyond our control, it has not been able to open the church on a daily basis.

Organists. Jean Wignell, Sofia Line and Vincent Davy play the organ for the regular Holy Communion and Evensong church services and for other special occasions. Our thanks to them.

Churchyard – Grass Cutting (Stephen Hall). Thanks to Stephen and the other volunteers for mowing the difficult uneven sloping ground of the churchyard. Help is always needed and much appreciated.

Pink Sheet Newsletter distribution (Rodney Sinclair). Copies of the Pink Sheet newsletter were delivered to all the households in the village.

Refreshments after morning Services (Rodney Sinclair/Daphne Hall). Coffee and biscuits are available after each morning communion service. This continues to have a strong bonding effect and encourages people to stay behind and to meet with others who are not seen regularly within the village.

5. ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Tribute to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth 11

(21st April 1926 – 8th September 2022)



Her Majesty the Queen was a bastion of stability and continuity in good times and bad. As Defender of the Faith of the Church of England, she devoted her life to our service. God Bless Her. She will be sadly missed.

As a mark of respect and to honour her memory, the ringing of muffled bells in churches across the country took place at 12 Noon on Friday, 9th September 2022. Sue Groom tolled Wadenhoe Church's muffled tenor bell 96 times - one toll for each year of her life.



Student Cross – Easter Pilgrimage to Walsingham. As they have done for the past 40 years, the Kettering Leg of the Student Cross undertook the 120-mile Holy Week pilgrimage from Desborough to Walsingham in the week before Easter. On the first day of the journey, Saturday 9th April, they arrived in Wadenhoe and stayed overnight in the Village Hall.

The next day, Palm Sunday, they assembled in the church for prayers, led by Paul Wilkinson, a retired clergyman and leader of the group, before continuing their journey to Walsingham. Unfortunately, this year, because of Covid problems there were only 8 'pilgrims' plus Paul Wilkinson. As a result, the large wooden 'Pilgrim Cross' would not be carried by the pilgrims on their journey other than on the final day, Good Friday, when entering Walsingham and to the Anglican Shrine of our Lady of Walsingham.



The Pilgrim Cross laid down in the Church for prayers

Services during the year.

Palm Sunday:	10 th April 2022
Harvest Thanksgiving Service:	9 th October 2022
Remembrance Day Sunday Service: (<i>At War Memorial</i>)	13 th November 2022
Crib Service: (<i>Including a procession of a donkey and two sheep into the church</i>)	24 th December 2022
Weddings:	
	<p>16th July 2022 Eleanor Anne Mary Smith and James Alexander Phillips</p>
<p>23rd July 2022 Emily Lisa May Boyd and David Jonathan Faulkner</p>	
Baptisms:	17 th July 2022 - Arthur Peter Harry Hall and Beatrice Betty Rose Hall 14 th August 2022 – Lotte Ward
Funeral Service & Burial:	22 nd April 2022 – Margaret Briggs
Funeral Service/ Cremation:	<i>None</i>
Confirmations:	<i>None</i>

Special Church Services

- **Sunrise Service** held at 6.30 am in the churchyard on Easter Sunday (17th April 2022). Some 18 people attended the service.
- **Patronal Festival Service.** A special Evensong Service to celebrate the Michaelmas/ Feast of St Michael and All Angels was held on 25th September 2022.
- **Christmas Eve Crib Service.** The PCC wrote and thanked Jane Woodbridge and Martin Wallis for bringing two of their sheep to the church and for providing the straw that was strewn on the floor and also wrote to Caroline Grange thanking her for providing the donkey for this special service. Thanks too to Stephen Hall for erecting the ‘stable door’ in the church which set the scene for the service and to Faye and Nick Henchy and Rodney Sinclair for providing the refreshments (mulled wine and mince pies and for the children, sweets, and soft drinks) that were enjoyed after the service. Attendance this year was exceptional, about 270 people – 60 children and 210 adults.

Church attendance. Normally, Wadenhoe has two services per month with a Holy Communion service on each 2nd Sunday at 10.30 am and an Evensong service on each 4th Sunday at 6.00 pm. The average Church attendance at the morning Communion service is usually 14/15 adults, but much larger at Easter and Christmas festivals. Average Evensong attendance is usually some 8 adults.

Electoral Roll. When the Church Electoral Roll was revised in 2022, there were 16 parishioners on the Roll, three of whom were resident outside the parish.

Fund Raising - Ride and Stride Event. This event on 10th September 2022 raised £125 in sponsorship. This will be divided equally between the Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust and the PCC. The Church was visited by 19 cyclists/walkers.

Wadenhoe Church Website (<https://www.wadenhoechurch.org.uk>) (Faye Henchy).

The website is linked to the “A Church Near You” Website
(<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/16673/>)
and to the Oundle Deanery Website
(<https://www.oundledeanery.wordpress.com/>).

Many thanks to Faye Henchy for maintaining the church website.

Online and Text Donations (Faye Henchy). To help with fundraising for the preservation and maintenance of the ancient building, the Church is registered to receive ‘Online’ and ‘Text’ Donations.

- To make an online donation, visit - www.easydonate.org/WADEN
- To make a £5 Text donation, - Text: **WADEN** to **70970**

6. REVIEW OF THE YEAR

Appointment of new Rector. To fill the vacancy created when the Revd Canon Brian Withington retired, an advertisement inviting applications for the position of Rector was published in the Church Times on 15th October 2021 with a view to interviewing applicants in February 2022. The advert for a new Rector received two applications. However, one applicant withdrew his application before the interview and the other was unsuccessful at the interview. Since then, further adverts for the position have not received any applications.

Revd Liz Waller. Liz retired at the end of April 2022. She was licensed as Assistant Priest in the Benefice on 14 September 2008 to take care of our spiritual needs. We thank her for all she has done for our parish and wish her a long, happy, and healthy retirement.

PCC Meetings. The PCC met four times during the year plus the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). There were also several matters considered and approved by the PCC using the email system of communication.

Policy and Procedures for Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults. The full Policy was updated and approved by the PCC on 28th November 2022. The PCC complies with both the duty of care to ensure the protection of the vulnerable in the church community and the duty to have “due regard” to the House of Bishops’ Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

During the year the role of Parish Safeguarding Officer became vacant. Efforts are being made to find someone willing to take on the role.

General Data Protection Regulations 2018 (GDPR). The PCC is committed to respecting the privacy of all those for whom it holds personal information which is kept and processed in accordance with GDPR legislation. Personal information is always treated as confidential and, in compliance with our legal responsibilities, will only be shared for lawful purposes associated, but not restricted, to church business.

Review of the Church’s other Policies. The following policies were also reviewed and found to comply with statutory, etc., requirements:

- Fire Safety Risk Assessment
- Health and Safety Policy
- Disability Access Audit
- Dignity at Work Harassment and Bullying Policy
- Reserves Policy
- Legacy Policy
- Conflict of Interest Policy
- Complaints Policy

Church Fabric (Rodney Sinclair/Stephen Hall). The church building and churchyard generally are in reasonable condition.

Testing of Memorials in Churchyard (Rodney Sinclair). The memorials were tested in 2022 and none were found to be at risk of failing.

Harvest Supper. This event was cancelled due to Covid restrictions.

7. CHURCH PROPERTY REGISTER

The lists of Church properties, goods and ornaments scheduled in the Church Property Register have been checked and corrections or additions noted and are certified as correct to the best of our knowledge. The check was carried out on 28th December 2022 by the Churchwarden.

The oak Litany Desk (prayer kneeling desk) with blue cushion borrowed by the Revd Jim Mynors several years ago for use on a temporary basis by Aldwinckle church is still with them on loan and used by clergy during services.

8. CHURCH LOG BOOK

The Quinquennial Inspection of the fabric of the Church was carried out in September 2021 and a full Report in this connection had been received from the Architect. In view of this inspection, a full detailed examination of the fabric was not again carried out. Instead, a brief overview inspection was carried out on 28th December 2022 by the Churchwarden. Nothing untoward was found.

A note has been made in the Logbook relating to the annual service of the church fire extinguishers, the repair of the stained-glass leaded light and the provision of two new window guards.

9. FINANCIAL REVIEW

Independent Examiner's Report on the Financial Statements of the PCC. The Church Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022 were examined by Mr Andrew Kemp in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and approved by the PCC.

Planned Giving/Collections. Receipts from the Diocesan Planned Giving Scheme through banker's orders and the Parish Giving Scheme through direct debits amounted to £3,000 (£3,020 in 2021).. Receipts from collections at services, gift aid and donations, amounted to £3,180 some £430 more than that received in 2021.

Parochial Fees. The sum of £1,000 was received in statutory parochial fees in 2022 from two weddings and a funeral.

Charitable Giving. The sum of £50 was given to the Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust and £50 was also given to the Royal British Legion, part of which covered the cost of the wreath that was placed on the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday.

Parish Share. The cost of maintaining the worship, ministry and mission of the Church in the Diocese is shared by its parishes and congregations. The sum that the parishes in the Benefice have to find is calculated according to a formula that is based mainly on the Diocesan ministry establishment (75% weighting) and the average Sunday attendance figures (25% weighting) together with any Deanery adjustment that has been made (at present a benefit of £1,000 for the Benefice). The Parish Share is a major cost to the Benefice - £48,536 for the half-time stipendiary post. Wadenhoe's share of this charge in 2022 amounted to £6,795. Regrettably, Wadenhoe was not able to pay its share in full. The PCC decided to withhold the sum of £3,595 as receipts during the year were insufficient to fully cover the cost. Every effort will be made to pay the share in full in 2023 which is unchanged at £6,795.

Church Stained Glass Windows. The cost to repair the South aisle East window and the provision of two new window guards (South Chancel -East and West windows) amounted to £1,135.

Insurance. The building and contents insurance premium for 2022 was £1,392. The renewal premium for 2023 will be £1,530 which includes Insurance Premium Tax of £164. The policy premium benefits from a 10% discount based on a commitment to a 3-year Long Term Undertaking and Rate Stability Agreement which expires on 31st December 2025.

Financial Results Summary. As detailed in the financial statements, total receipts in 2022 for the combined Unrestricted and Restricted Accounts amounted to £8,475 and total expenditure to £8,290.

The net result for the year was a ‘Surplus’ of £185.

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Receipts: <i>(Collections, Gift Aid, Donations, Statutory Fees, etc.)</i>		£ 8,340	£ 7,030
LESS: Payments: <i>(Day-to-day running expenses – Parish Share, Insurance, Electricity, etc.)</i>		-£ 8,290	-£ 8,530
Net Totals		£ 50 <i>Surplus</i>	-£ 1,500 <i>Deficit</i>
	<u>Restricted (Fabric) Funds</u>		
Receipts: <i>(Donations, CBF Interest)</i>		£ 135	£ 5
LESS: Payments: <i>(Quinquennial Fee in 2021)</i>		-£ Nil	-£ 700
Net Totals		£ 135 <i>Surplus</i>	-£ 695 <i>Deficit</i>
Combined Net Overall Results		£ 185 <i>Surplus</i>	-£ 2,195 <i>Deficit</i>

Assets/Cash Funds at 31st December 2022.

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Balances</u>	
Unrestricted Funds:		
Current Account	£ 659.10	
CBF Deposit Fund	£ 196.28	£ 855.38
Restricted Funds:		
Current Account No. 2 Account	£ 4,005.94	
CBF Fabric Fund	£ 10,309.52	
Business Saver Account (Closed)	Nil	£14,315.46
Total		£15,170.84

10. RESERVES FUND POLICY.

It is PCC policy to try and hold in reserves unrestricted funds, including that held in the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund, that equates to at least three months' general running costs/unrestricted payments. This is equivalent to £2,900. It is intended to be retained to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow. A further £2,000 should be kept for possible unforeseen emergencies.

It is PCC policy that the balance in the restricted fund, including that held in the CCLA Church of England Fabric Fund, is retained towards meeting the upkeep of church premises and to cover the costs of work required to be carried out arising from the Quinquennial Inspection.

At the end of each financial year, the PCC will review the policy to consider how to use any funds remaining after allowing for these provisions.

NOTE. At 31st December 2022,

The funds available in **unrestricted funds (£855)** were insufficient to be able to place enough on one side in reserves (**£4,900**) as a buffer to cover ongoing church running costs or unforeseen events.

The funds presently available in **restricted funds (£14,315)** were also insufficient to cover the cost of making good all the matters listed in the Quinquennial Inspection Report, estimated by the Church Architect at **£23,000**.

Approved by the PCC on 7th February 2023.



‘Stable’ Scene for Christmas Eve Crib Service