

The Parish of Penarth and Llandough

Reports to the Annual Vestry Meeting 2021



CHAIR'S REPORT

The Parish of Penarth and Llandough

From the Caerau, Plymouth and Leckwith woods in the north to Flat Holm in the south we are

Telling a joyful story.

Growing the Kingdom of God.

Building our capacity for good

AN OVERVIEW

Many thanks for taking the time to read this overview of the life of our parish, officially covering the period from April 2020 to April 2021. We also make reference, in places, to events of the year April 2019 to April 2020, as no AVM could be safely held in March/April 2020, due to the Covid19 pandemic.

It is essential that this year's AVM takes place, but as significant restrictions on public gatherings are still with us, this meeting must take place online. This is not ideal, but we have given notice of the meeting far earlier than required so that people can get in touch with us to discuss any problems that they might have in taking part, so that we can help in any way that we can.

This report has many very positive aspects, which I would like to share with you. It would however be remiss of me not to say that April 2019 to April 2021 has also been a period of perhaps the most significant challenges in the life of our churches in living memory.

1. Clergy changes: There have been significant, permanent drops in availability of retired clergy, through sickness and other reasons, over the past few years – but we have continued to maintain, (outside of Covid times) our current service pattern –although it has been a very significant struggle, behind the scenes, to do so. We are indebted to Revd Margaret Stark for helping out every Sunday since Rose left in 2020– it is only with Margaret's help, and the shorter, said services for Covid, that our current pattern of services on a Sunday is possible at all.

Magnificent service in our parish by Revd Prof Richard Griffiths and Revd Rosemary Hill came to an end in the summer of 2020. We had to hold a leaving 'do' for Rose online, because of the Covid restrictions, and she was similarly also licensed online to her new parish. We hope to mark Richard's service to us with an event when lockdown restrictions are lifted further, perhaps later this year.

2. Parish Changes: To ensure that the church is more adequately-equipped to deal with the challenges of the present and the future, significant structural changes have been introduced throughout this Diocese, and will take effect at the end of the year. All of the parishes of the Llandaff Diocese (which are not already Ministry Areas) are being merged into 30-odd Ministry Areas on the 1st of January 2022. Our current working agreement with All Saints Parish, signed in summer 2019, has been fantastic, and has enabled us to be well-ahead of others in coming together. In January 2022 there will be a full legal and financial union of the two parishes: legally, we will have the structure of a Rectorial Benefice –but importantly, we will be known as the **Penarth Ministry Area** in all communications.

The words "Ministry Area" implies not only a merging of structures, but a new way of working - with greater lay involvement, because that is not only the healthiest option for any parish, but will also enable us to continue to do things as clergy numbers, nationally, fall. The coming together of the two very large parishes in our area, with a combined number of attendees of somewhere between three and four hundred people (depending on how you count them!) - is not a simple matter, but has been broken down into projects undertaken by people with considerable skill and dedication. Both parishes

are also charities in their own right, and the task is therefore both more complex than a normal merger and is also time-limited. However, coming together structurally is only the first step.

A real change in hearts and minds, and ways of doing things, are also needed to ensure that lay people are more fully engaged in how we do church in the future. The two permanent clergy (and one minister in training) in the Ministry Area will continue to need the active support and encouragement of the three to four hundred lay people in doing church differently - and better - in the future!

3. Dealing with Covid: It is impossible, in reviewing the past year and a half, not to mention Covid. We have had to close (and open!) our churches (and do so again!) during National Covid 19 Lockdowns, to keep our churchgoers safe. We have had to learn how to do church differently, and safely, when we were allowed to meet in person. We had to learn how to take church online for those who were 'shielding' or isolating, or when the transmission rates were too high to make any safe gathering possible at all. Church hasn't had to deal with anything like this for centuries – but we got through it! Thanks for all your support!

Members of our congregations have been affected by Covid, and the after effects of the disease ('long Covid'). We have lost valued members of our church family - and in an area like Penarth & Llandough, where there is a larger proportion of retired people than in many other places - we all know someone who has died.

In an area with 12 residential and nursing homes, a university hospital, a hospice, and a large vulnerable population, providing pastoral care for people has been challenging, under the restrictions. There have been no home communions, by order. Visiting people in their gardens was allowed at one stage, then prevented from happening, and looks likely to be possible again sometime soon. Visits to bursting hospitals and residential homes were similarly stopped, but are not yet restored at the time of writing. My voluntary chaplaincy at the Cardiff & Vale Hospice ended apart from *imminent* end-of-life care on an emergency callouts basis.

In 2021, my first working day without carrying out a funeral, planning a funeral, or caring for a bereaved family, came in the third week of March. It has been an exceptionally busy time, and many local funeral directors, their staff, and healthcare workers, are exhausted.

St Dochdwy's church, near University Hospital Llandough, was lit up with yellow spotlighting on 23rd March, to remember those who have lost someone, or suffered, or cared for people, during Covid.

4. Interregnum. There was also the matter of an interregnum within our Ministry Area, beginning in February 2020 following the retirement of Revd Peter Cox and lasting until 7th March 2021, with the appointment of my new colleague, Revd James ('Jimmy') Young. As Revd Ali Reeves' Training Incumbent, I was very pleased to offer her support and practical guidance as she magnificently dealt with the practicalities of an interregnum (and during Covid) for All Saints' parish - for which she deserves a huge amount of credit.

5. Financial Crisis. Finally, to complete the list of major challenges over the past year or so, we lost a great deal of income from loss of Hall bookings, services, weddings, etc. & etc. But we got through it, and are financially, now in a significantly better place. Thanks to you all for your continued contributions when churches and the Parish Hall were closed.

In ending this overview, I would like to pay personal tribute to all those people with whom we have worshipped, over the years, who are no longer with us. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen. And so we now turn to look at the life of the parish that they loved, in more detail.

Ministry Areas

It may seem as though I've been bombarding you with information, to keep you up-to-date on this topic! But this is not something that can be ignored, or left unprocessed. We are, literally, talking about the *future of our local churches*. The establishment of effective Ministry Areas, on firm foundations, will help us to ensure that we have the future that we all pray for. The consequences of getting it wrong could be very significant.

As of 7th March 2021, the clergy team is now assembled; we have a great Lay Chair and an experienced and gifted accountant, willing to be Treasurer (if appointed, as expected, by both new PCCs). The other members of the Team, the Ministry Area Council, will be decided by your votes in the April elections. That's why you need to pay attention to the regular information updates. The PCCs you vote for in April will also sort out what each local Church Council will look like, and how it will do things.

We are also working at the moment on creating a joint magazine, website, Parish Office, etc. & etc., and there are a number of things to do with contracts, employment matters, charity law, financial systems, software and other matters to deal with. But we are confident of being ready for January 2022. Other information on Governance matters, taking us right up to 2022, has come out as a detailed multipage article in the Parish magazine, as a summary article in the Pewsheet for Easter, and other information is also available online. Please ask if you need further clarification.

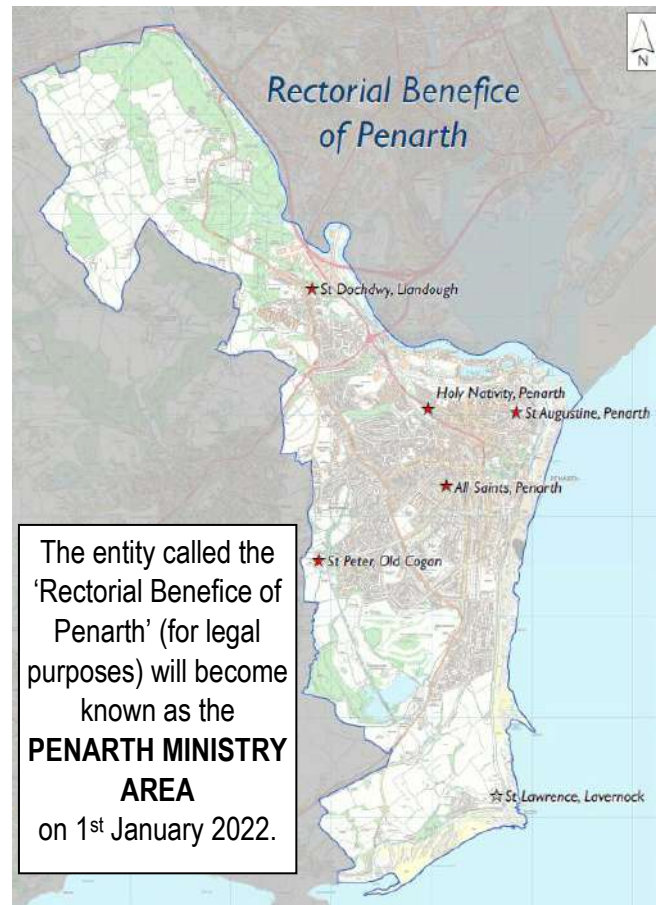
Hellos & Goodbyes since the last AVM

Since I started here, at the end of October 2015, I have regularly reported back on how increasingly difficult it has been, year-on-year, to keep the large number of services at our 3 churches going. The normal complement of priests for this parish since 2014/15 has been one. I keep trying to remind people that Rose was a one-off placement, and that both parishes in the Ministry Area will only *share* curates in the future.

We have a historic over-demand for services, and a chronic under-supply of people who can deliver them, locally. Four services on a Sunday (2 happening simultaneously), and 3 midweeks (knocking out the best part of 3 mornings - for *one* parish!), is clearly unsustainable in the long term. However, we will go on for as long as we possibly can with the current model. In the short term, our situation, strangely, has been helped by the Covid restrictions - shorter, said services on Sunday mornings mean that I can currently get from St Dochdwy's to St Augustine's, for example, without changing the start time in Llandough - and it may be that new sources of retired clergy will open up in the future, as vacancies in permanent clergy are filled nearby.

It cannot be overstated how much our service pattern over the decades has depended on a diminishing number of retired priests. They have given superb service over the years, and deserve our gratitude. I have already mentioned our current gratitude to Revd **Margaret Stark**, whose work makes the current service pattern possible. I also want to thank Rev Prof **Richard Griffiths** for all the things that he has done over many, many years of service. We hope to be able to say thank you to Richard for his past service properly, later in the year, when restrictions on gatherings have eased.

The commitment to an ongoing permanent supply of curates to this parish, year-on-year, ended well before I arrived, and we went between 2015 and 2018 without a curate able to take Eucharistic services. **Revd Rosemary Hill** ended that: she provided us with 35 months of great pastoral service between July 2017 and June 2020, and 23 months where she rejoiced in being able to lead us in Eucharistic worship. Rose's exuberant personality and talents helped her to stand out, not only as the first female curate, but one of the best curates the parish has ever had. I have already written extensively on this period, so won't repeat myself here. It was lovely for me to



have a colleague to work with, and train up, once again, but for *some* people (not all!), I'm afraid that having a curate pop up, just as everyone was just starting to get used to the idea of the parish running with a single clergyperson, did not help them to adjust to the new reality of the significant reduction in clergy availability since 2014/15.

One of the advantages of the Penarth Ministry Area is that both current parishes will be able to secure the shared services of a curate in the future, as there is a commitment to a 3 cleric model for the Ministry Area. However, the vastly reduced number of available retired clergy, means that there are still significant implications for the delivery of services in the future.

When our first **Ministry Area Youth Worker, Shavonne Erlandson**, who started in 2017, moved to St Asaph Diocese for her husband's Curacy, there was a period of a few months before the appointment of **Mel Saunders**, who took post in late 2019. Mel has done a great job in keeping PLYG (the Penarth and Llandough Youth Group), the under 12s group, and other activities going -online, or in other safe ways - during the Covid crisis.

Ali Reeves was ordained Deacon in July 2019, and was made Assistant Curate of All Saints, and is licensed to our parish too. Her ordination to the Priesthood was conducted in a Covid-secure manner at Llandaff Cathedral in 2020, by which point she had already been doing great things in keeping matters going so well at All Saints for several months. Her contribution has been fantastic. Following Peter's retirement in February 2020, I was fortunate to be Training Incumbent to two very able and dedicated curates simultaneously- but neither have suffered too much from exposure to me!

Peter Cox retired in February 2020, and it was the end of an era for All Saints. I thank Peter for his gentle and collaborative attitude, which meant that we could get on well, and achieve much in bringing these two parishes closer together. It seems difficult to recall now, but once the two parishes were a little suspicious of one another, and relationships in the past were not always easy. But as a result of our common approach, we shared special services, occasions and events together; the clergy met up almost daily during the week to worship together, and we were successful in raising funds for a joint Ministry Area Youth Worker. For a number of years now our parishioners have met, and learned from one another, at Lent Courses and shared Confirmation classes, and have shared Holy Week and Confirmations together. There is much more to do, of course, but Peter's willingness to work with me, collaboratively, has meant that we were together able to set firm foundations for the future, and break away from the past.

And that brings us up to the present. My newest colleague, **Revd James (Jimmy) Young**, took up his new post on the 7th of March. I am very glad to say that we've already formed a good collaborative relationship, and we both look forward to laying firm foundations for the Penarth Ministry Area together, ready for its birth on 1st January 2022.

Ecumenical

This parish continues to take its responsibilities within Cytun seriously, and in normal conditions, leads two of the monthly sessions each year, also participating in joint worship and in other joint initiatives, whenever possible.

Our very special partnership with Llandough Baptists, with us attending one another's services throughout the year, and for special occasions - such as the Epiphany service and meal - continued as strongly as ever through the early stages of the reporting period - but the death of Revd John Garland, and Covid closing the Chapel down, has left the future of this very special link uncertain at the time of writing. There appears to be a significant gap in the local leadership, and my invitations for them to come and join us at St Dochdwy's, in Covid-compliant worship, for as long as they wish, for the time being, have gone unanswered.

Refugee Family

The Syrian family who rent Church House and who *Croeso Penarth* look after so very well, continue to thrive. The 4 children seem to be settled and happy, and the family is far more independent these days.

The Musical Life of the Parish

The work of our talented Bell ringers is described elsewhere. The many high-quality concerts and special events that we usually host have of course been affected by the shutdown of churches and the bans on singing,

performances, etc. I would also like to pay tribute to all of our current organists and choir members in this report. Their dedication and skill is appreciated by us all.

Financial matters

A full report is available from our Treasurer, Roger Owen, who is also liaising with Chris Salisbury on handover matters to do with finances for the formation of the new Penarth Ministry Area.

I want to say a special thank you to all of you who contributed financially whilst the churches and the Parish Hall were closed. We lost a significant amount of regular income, and quite simply, your continued contributions enabled the parish to survive. We are also indebted to the regular and *substantial* financial support of the Llandaff Diocese, who came up trumps during the Covid crisis. Perhaps we need to remember this when we moan about Share! I also want to mention grant awards, and the efforts of staff in keeping salary and other costs down.

We now expect to come out of the Covid situation without being too badly-affected, and are in the black. All Saints' Parish will also, at their AVM, report being in the black, which is good news for us all as we come together. There is full transparency between the parishes on financial matters. Thanks to everyone for their efforts in getting us through this most significant challenge to our finances for generations.

Work with Local Schools and Nurseries

The Nightingales Pre-School continued to come to St Augustine's, or I went to them, for Covid-safe services at Harvest and Christmas. I also visited the Pre School with knitted puppets to tell the Christmas story. These visits were all very enjoyable, and well-organised, and we value our connection with them.

We continue to support RE in local schools wherever we can during these Covid times. I usually do 4 sets of schools' assemblies, on a rotational basis, but of course schools have not been having assemblies as usual during Covid. I was able however to get involved with Albert Road School, without being physically present, where the children 'interviewed' me for a piece of extended non-fiction writing on what it was like being a Vicar! I concentrated on the (usually) nice things which happen!

The *Beating the Bounds* service and walk for Llandough Primary School took place in 2019, but was cancelled in 2020, of course. It is unclear whether restrictions will be lifted in time for the 2021 Ascension-tide event, bringing church, school, Llandough Community Council, bystanders at the hospital and allotments, and members of the general public, together.

Environmental Work & Our Stewardship of the Natural World:

I want to thank all those who are engaged in environmental work in the Parish. Naturally, we are still working towards the Silver Award of the Environmental Charity, A Rocha, due to the lockdown. Many thanks to all those individuals and groups who are involved in maintaining the grounds (5 churchyards) and buildings (3 churches, 1 parish hall) throughout the parish. Thanks to all involved with the local nature groups, and in some of the activities, such as the establishment of homes for insects, protecting places for bats to roost, and putting up boxes for swifts. Anglicanism is famous for balance in all things!

St Augustine's grounds continue to be developed on a rotational cutting management scheme that benefits local wildlife. Over 50 people (churchgoers and non-churchgoers alike) are now involved in the project, and the grounds are looking fantastic! Many thanks to all involved. Thanks too to the group of ex-offenders and their supervisors who are regularly doing grass cutting in St Dochdwy's and St Augustine's, when Covid allows, as part of giving something back to the community.

Holy Nativity Improvements

Extensive Work on the, previously-dangerous boundary wall of Holy Nativity was completed when working restrictions allowed this, making the whole area safe again for generations.

The improved visibility of Holy Nativity from the road means that younger and middle-aged Penarth residents now know that there *is* a church on the corner of Windsor Road and Plassey Street! The removal of trees causing structural damage, and those with chronic infection, has been a necessity. The removal of the Cypresses (that

shouldn't have been there) and which were blocking out so much of the light means that we now have a blank canvas for new native planting.

I want to thank Penarth Town Council for their agreement to help out with things in the future, and to a couple of local groups for their ideas and offers of help. Ideas put forward currently for the cleared area include a flower meadow and planting of native tree species as part of a 'green corridor' through to the Pier. These ideas will encourage greater biodiversity in the future, as well as making the site, at the entrance to Penarth, look more attractive. The increased light and visibility has also meant that there has been a substantial reduction in drug and alcohol use on church property, and of anti-social behaviour.

The more-open space also enabled a lit Christmas tree, financed by Penarth Town Council, to be placed in December 2020 at this significant site at the 'Penarth Gateway'. Once again, thanks to everyone involved in these projects, and especially to Huw Williams and the team.

Cross-Parish services and events

A Working Agreement, signed by the Wardens and Clergy of both parishes, and countersigned by Bishop June, was entered into at an Evensong service at St Augustine's on 19th June 2019. We now take this on to the next stage, with a full integration of the parishes, on 1st January 2022. Pulpit Swaps with All Saints' Parish were started by Peter and myself in 2017, and were a regular feature up until lockdown, but resumed, virtually, in 2021. We hope to have physical swaps of preachers in 2021.

The 2020 Lent Course was curtailed as we entered the first National lockdown. None of us had heard of Zoom back then! However, the 2021 Lent Course, with an environmental theme, took place with enthusiastic participants from both parishes, on the now-ubiquitous Zoom online platform!

Official and Unofficial Chaplaincy

I continue the work of former incumbents in being Chaplain of the Llandough & Leckwith Branch of the Royal British Legion. I also continue my work as Chaplain to the Penarth RNLI branch and the crew of the lifeboat, although there was no Sea Sunday Service in 2020. We have an unofficial, periodic relationship with our local Traveller Community, through frequent baptisms, and occasional large and fascinating weddings! I continue in my capacity as volunteer chaplain to the Cardiff and Vale Marie Curie Hospice in Penarth. They have had no Chaplain of their own since 2014/15. The problems of the past, where I was being called out for everything, at the drop of a hat, have been amicably resolved since my previous AVM report.

The former St Lawrence's, Lavernock

Our good relations with SALT continue, and there have been a number of times where we have done things together over the course of the years, or helped each other out. Services continue to be jointly-planned to carefully avoid each other's events. Ven. Peggy Jackson is scheduled to preach at Lavernock this month before retiring.

So, in conclusion, I want to thank you all for your contribution to this wonderful parish - and the many ways it is Growing the Kingdom of God, Building the Capacity for Good in this Community, and Telling a Joyful Story – one full of Hope and Love.

God bless.

Revd Mark Jones

FINANCIAL REVIEW

It goes without saying that 2020 was a most unusual year for many reasons but it was all due to the Covid 19 Pandemic. As a result of the Lockdowns and other restrictions the Parish finances have suffered. With help from Parishioners as well as the Diocese we have managed to survive without having to dip into reserves.

Planned Giving was kept at virtually the same level as 2019 but the lack of services meant that Open Plate Collections were reduced by £5000. Another result was our Tax Refunds were also reduced, and two significant sources of income were also affected – Fund Raising was reduced by £8000 and Hall Hirings were down by £13000. The use of churches for weddings and funerals was severely restricted and consequently fees were down nearly £5000. Overall the Parish Income was reduced by nearly £40,000 but we managed to survive.

As a result of the generosity of the Diocesan Board of Finance we received rebates of the Share amounting to £12,000. Other Parish outgoings were reduced due to the restrictions on the use of the Churches. The overall result was that our outgoings were less than our income and there was a surplus of £3668 at the year end.

I would like to thank all Parishioners who have continued to support the Parish during this particularly difficult time in the life of the whole country. Without this support we would not be in the financially stable position at the start of what will undoubtedly be another testing time for all.

Roger Owen

GIFT AID & PLANNED GIVING

In this parish the majority of donors give to the parish through the Gift Direct scheme which means that the donations and the tax on the donations from tax payers goes directly into our bank account. A few give by standing order and others by envelopes in the Planned Giving scheme. Other donations such as for flowers, also can be gift aided and the Gift Aid Secretary collates all these for the tax reclamation every quarter. The gift aided envelopes are passed by the Secretary to the Parish Recorder to enter into a ledger manually and the two records are compared for accuracy before the quarterly claim is completed. The Parish Recorder also orders the envelopes, marks them up and distributes the boxes to each church in late November.

John Henderson was the Parish Recorder for many years and since his time there have been a few other recorders, to whom we are grateful. The last one, Celia Topping, took it over with a time limit but in fact went on longer. Many thanks go to her. She was very efficient, as indeed all have been, and I am sure that this will continue. From January 2021 we have a new recorder – Kay Brinkworth, who due to lockdown, has not started the job as we could not meet to pass over the ledger and other items. This will happen soon as restrictions ease.

At the Easter vestry meeting I will hand over my role as Gift Aid secretary to a new parishioner in St Augustine's – Jane Broad who has kindly offered to take over from me. Whilst we have not been able to meet for me to pass over the paperwork, I have been able to pass information about the job and send spreadsheets for her to prepare for taking over during April. The Parish Gift Aid secretary will continue as now when the ministry area comes into being, but the uploading of the claims will be done by someone else as Roger Owen will no longer be doing that.

We are grateful to parishioners during the last year for continuing to support the parish financially with their donations. Those coming into the bank account have continued to do so with few changes, so this has been a big help to our treasurer for budgeting and paying the bills that do not stop coming because we are in lockdown.

A number of our envelope donors have also made sure that their donations either come to church or are sent to the office where Rachel has kindly dealt with them and passed the envelopes and information to me; so the quarterly Gift Aid returns have been made as usual in 2020. Thank you all for that, it has been a big help to the parish

D. V. Liles 27/3/2021.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE: The full signed accounts will be available from Mr Roger Owen

Statement of Financial Activities at 31st December 2020					
		General Funds	Restricted Funds	2020 Total	Previous Year
Incoming Resources/Receipts					
Voluntary Income	Planned giving	39,261	0	39,261	41,553
	Loose Collections	1,844	331	2,175	7,204
	Donations	7,500	0	7,500	82,116
	For Mission	257	0	257	1,679
	Tax Refunds	10,306	0	10,306	31,600
	Legacy gifts received	0	1,000	1,000	1,000
	Grants	9,000	0	9,000	5,000
Generated Income	Money Raising	2,476	0	2,476	10,478
	Fees	1,870	660	2,530	7,145
Investment Income		9,822	19	9,841	10,775
Other Incoming Resources		13,850	0	13,850	42,428
Total Incoming Resources/Receipts		96,186	2,010	98,196	240,978
Resources Expended/ Payments					
Support for Ministry	Parish Share	41,485	0	41,485	53,605
	Parochial Expenses of Clerics	3,282	0	3,282	4,172
	Other	475	0	475	675
Parish Activities	Maintenance of Services	3,960	0	3,960	8,446
	General Parish Expenses	11,134	0	11,134	16,654
Church Property	Maintenance of Churches	15,335	378	15,713	25,946
	Maintenance of other property	11,335	0	11,335	20,726
	Exceptional expenditure	0	0	0	0
Grants and Financial Support	Parish	1,499	0	1,499	1,496
	Home/World	3,360	0	3,360	4,487
Other Resources Expended	"Capital Payments"	0	0	0	0
Other Expenses		2,028	0	2,028	11,193
	Cost of Money Raising	257	0	257	671
Total Resources Expended/Payments		94,150	378	94,528	148,071
Net Movement in Funds		2,036	1,632	3,668	92,907
Transfers between Funds					0
Total Funds brought forward		160,248	6,884	167,132	74,225
Total Funds carried forward		162,284	8,516	170,800	167,132

Parish of Penarth and Llandough
Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2020

	General Funds	Restricted Funds	2020 Total	Previous Year
Cash Funds				
Cash balances				
Bank Current account Parish	107,990		107,990	103,154
Bank Current account Parish Hall	5,942		5,942	8,868
Other Monetary Assets				
Investment Assets				
COIF Deposits	48,352	8,516	56,868	55,110
Common Investment Fund				0
Other- Parish Hall	0		0	0
Less: Liabilities				
RBofCIW Loan	0		0	0
Total Assets	162,284	8,516	170,800	167,132
Represented By				
Accumulated Fund at 1st January	160,248	6,884	167,132	62,874
Surplus / - Deficit for the year	2,036	1,632	3,668	11,351
	162,284	8,516	170,800	74,225
Notes to the accounts				
1. The accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the provisions of the Charities Act 2011 and the Church in Wales accounting regulations.				
2. Churches, churchyards and vicarages are vested in the Representative Body of the Church in Wales, and are not Parish assets.				
3. Trust Funds held by the Parish or the Representative Body: 3,424 Common Investment Fund shares Other Assets held in trust for the Parish: Parish Hall, Albert Road, Penarth and Church House, Windsor Road, Penarth				

ADMIN & EVENTS IN THE PARISH 2020

Revd Mark Jones continued as priest-in-charge assisted by curate Revd Rosemary Hill until she left in May 2020 to take up her new post as Vicar of Pontyclyn, Talygarn & Llanharry. Retired priest Revd Richard Griffiths also continued to take some Sunday and midweek services until March 2020. From August, Rev Margaret Stark has very kindly taken on one Sunday service at week, alternating between St Dochdwy's and Holy Nativity.

CLOSURES AND RE-OPENINGS within the Parish

18 March 2020	All churches closed (by Govt order)
Mid July	St Augustine's & St Dochdwy's open for 2 hours midweek for private prayer
16 August	Churches open for Sunday services plus continued private prayer
25 Oct – 8 Nov	All churches closed (by Govt order)– Remembrance and All Souls' services cancelled
25 Dec 2020	Churches closed due to steep rise in Covid cases
14 Mar 2021	Churches open for Sunday services

Measures were put in place to ensure 2m social distancing between people at all churches; communion of one kind only was given. Regular Morning and Evening Prayer services were streamed on Facebook or recorded for YouTube by the Ministry Area clergy. Some Sunday services were put on YouTube and usually Fr Mark was able to record a Sunday sermon for YouTube.

Weekly newsletters continued to go out by email or hand delivered to those not on email by a team of distributors. Many thanks go to the volunteers who took on this task.

Electoral Roll –at Easter 2020, there were 152 names on the roll. At Easter 2021 this had reduced to 142 mainly due to a number of deaths.

UNITED SERVICES – Epiphany only.

	2019	2020
Baptisms	Total- 21 baptisms – 19 at St Augustine's, 5 at Holy Nativity & 7 at St Dochdwy's	2 baptisms at St Augustine's
Weddings	12 weddings – all at St Augustine's.	No weddings
Funerals	11 at St Augustine's, 4 at Holy Nativity, 8 at St Dochdwy's, and 8 others at a funeral home or crematorium.	7 at St Augustine's, 1 at Holy Nativity, 0 at St Dochdwy's, 11 at a crematorium and 2 at a funeral home or elsewhere
Burials	1 at Lavernock, 2 at Penarth Cemetery	
Interments of ashes	1 at St Augustine's, 1 at St Dochdwy's, 1 at Lavernock, 1 Penarth Cemetery	1 at St Augustine's, 4 at St Dochdwy's, 1 at Lavernock, 3 Penarth Cemetery

Events during the year

January - March

Epiphany Service & supper with Llandough Baptist church
 Christingle at St Dochdwy's with Llandough Primary
 Llandaff Branch of the Bellingers Association annual service and AGM
 Pancake tea at Llandough
 Joint Lent Group with All Saints

October – December

Nightingale's Nursery Harvest service at St Augustine's
 Nightingale's Carol Service recording

Concerts (at St Augustine's)

Sat 29th Feb Côr Godre'r Garth and Côrddydd - Requiem by John Rutter

FABRIC REPORT 2019-20

All statutory inspections and equipment servicing has been completed at the various premises at nominal costs.

- **St Augustine's**
 - A consultation with the congregation was done on improvements to St Augustine's. Most people wanted improved toilet and kitchen facilities and perhaps an additional meeting room/Sunday School room. Plans were subsequently submitted to the DAC, but none were approved.
 - Permission has been granted to install outside solar lights to the paths and vestry steps.
 - Plans have also been made to install handrails along the North path to improve safety.
- **Holy Nativity**
 - New lights have been fitted inside after a number of old ones failed.
 - Extensive work has been done to rebuild the boundary wall at the junction of Plassey Street and Windsor Rd.
 - Diseased and overgrown trees and vegetation have been removed or trimmed to open up the space.
 - A plan is being drawn up for landscaping the area to improve appearance and encourage wildlife and pollinators.
- **Parish Hall**
 - New improved main hall lighting has been installed
 - New curtains have been fitted
 - Upgraded, more powerful hand-driers have been installed in the Ladies, Gents & disabled toilet
- **St Dochdwy's**
 - Work has been done on the entrance gates
 - Plans are being made to improve safety at the entrances to the underground rooms by erecting a fence.
 - A new barrier has been placed in front of the stile to improve safety.

PARISH SOCIAL & FUNDRAISING EVENTS 2019-2020

2019 - Main events we had this year were:

- ✳ Spring Plant sale – 30th March – raised £300
- ✳ Spring Fair – 18th May - raised – raised £1042
- ✳ Llandough Village fete – raised £425
- ✳ Open Day at St Augustine's July - raised £423
- ✳ Autumn Fayre – 16 November – raised £972
- ✳ Christmas Tree Festival refreshments & sales – raised £1550
- ✳ Repair Cafe refreshments – £570

There were also a number of events raising money for other charities.

2020 – No official fundraising events could take place. However, money was raised in other ways:

- ✳ Cakes and preserves sales by Ann Lush – over £800
- ✳ Plants by Rachel Elder, Andrew Davison & others – about £475
- ✳ Parish Calendar – about £183

Many people also gave one-off donations during the year, for which the Parish is very grateful.

Thanks to all those who worked to so hard to achieve this.

PARISH HALL

The Parish Hall is an important asset for the Parish. It provides an essential income stream, as well as providing a wonderful space for many people to use.

In 2019 the Hall continued to be used by lots of people taking part in classes, and community groups. We had the following regular groups:

Line Dancing	Children's ballet school	Yoga
KarateFit (adults)	Kickboxing/Karate (children)	Zumba
Ballroom Dancing	Extend (until July 2019)	Penarth & District Quilters
Tiny Talk (until Aug 2019)	With Music in Mind (From Sept 2019)	Penarth Civic Society
Parish groups		
Mothers' Union	Tea, Toast & Tots	Friends of St Augustine's

The hall was also used for lots of children's parties and family parties, plus some charity or fundraising events.

2020

With the pandemic, the Hall had to close from late March until the beginning of September, then 23 Oct – 8 Nov. It then closed again after 16th December 2020 because of the Govt regulations and will probably not open again until May 2021. Income has been hit badly because of this.

When the Hall was open, most groups who were able to meet came back, although in limited ways due to space restrictions. We fortunately gained 2 new groups but some were not able to return at all. We have not been able to hold children's parties at all since March 2020.

MOTHERS' UNION

2019 - As no volunteers had come forward by October 2019 to take over as officers of the St Augustine MU branch an EGM was called for November. At the EGM it was decided that the St Augustine led meetings should be delivered by 2 volunteer groups and another 2 volunteers would undertake Deanery and Diocesan related matters. At this time our branch had 31 full members with 2 home members and we continued to work in partnership with the All Saints MU branch. Fr Mark Jones ensured that a service of corporate communion was offered at St Augustine's on the second Wednesday of each month and or members could join All Saints MU for their corporate communion service on the fourth Thursday of each month.

2020 - A full programme had been planned for 2020, with many events shared between St Augustine's and All Saints, but they had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. The Wave of Prayer was held online in January 2021, with members invited to take part in private prayer at home.

PENARTH REPAIR CAFÉ

The Penarth Repair Café was launched in June 2018, and continued monthly through 2019 and into 2020. In the 3 hour sessions at the Parish Hall they saw around 50 to 65 items each time. Things successfully repaired in the past include hoovers, music systems, toaster, kettles, wooden furniture, garden tools, costume jewellery, laptops, clothing, bicycles, children's toys and many more.

Unfortunately it had to close after February 2020 but has managed to move some events and tutorials online. It's not known yet if or when in person sessions can resume.

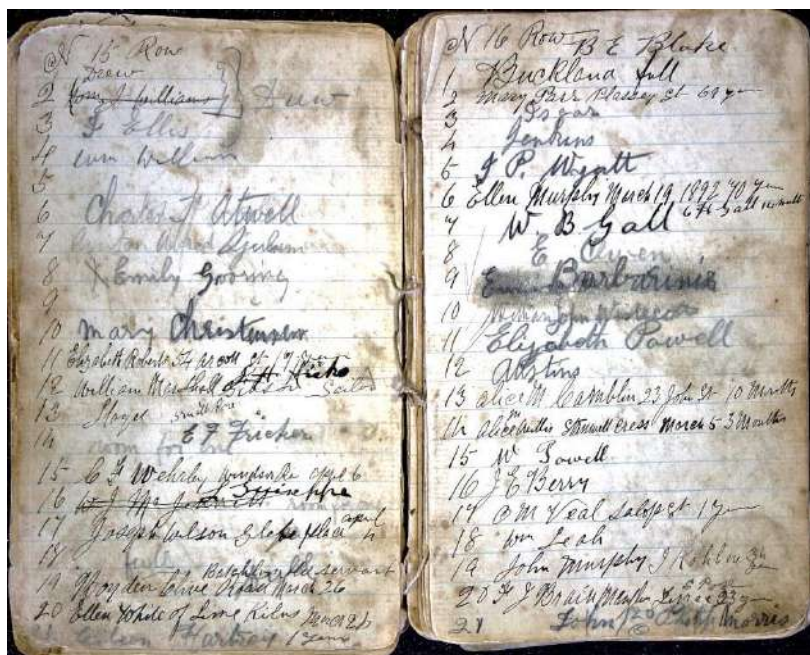
Rachel Elder

ARCHIVE REPORT

During the first lockdown last year, I had a number of enquiries about where people were buried in the churchyard as people started to research their family history. These have been fewer recently as there is now a great deal of information online, some from subscription sites and some from free ones, but there is less about burial grounds.

This parish has been involved in two burial projects. The first started in 2016 when St Augustine's churchyard was chosen as one of four in the Diocese to upload data onto a Burial Ground Management System run by Atlantic Geomatics. AG conducted a drone survey of the churchyard and over 7,000 burial records from our burial books were uploaded onto the system. These records ran from 1813 to the present day. Photos of the memorials were then taken and the burial records have been linked to the images as far as possible. In fact there are records from 1724 which we want to include as well if possible. Having completed all this, the site is due to 'go live' this summer meaning that the information will be able to be accessed by the general public.

The second project started in October 2018, when a notebook [a double page is pictured below] was passed to me which I realised was a burial record written by a sexton. This notebook was photocopied, [the original was deposited in the Record Office], and typed up over the following months together with information found in a burial book produced by the Glamorgan Family History Society who had also produced a book on the headstones in the churchyard recorded by volunteers in the early 1990's.



Above on the left, no 16, has the first name crossed out and L Guiseppe written in darker ink. I first assumed that a mistake had been made, but later realised that both had been buried in that grave, often years apart. B.G often appeared and this meant it was a brick grave

Work was needed to change the format of what I had typed up so that more data could be added. The sexton's book listed areas with rows of names of varying length but very little other detail but if a headstone could be found and identified in an area, then in due course a map could be produced.

I visited Glamorgan Record Office on day in October 2019 looking for more information about the churchyard and saw that a burial book was listed in the catalogue, so ordered it. When it arrived and I opened it I was delighted because here was a much better sexton's book in date order, with not only names and addresses but also the grave location in many cases. The Friends of St Augustine's paid the Record Office to copy this and so it is now on a few computers and there is also a 'hard' copy version that I have at home for working on this project.

Each section has been dealt with in turn – there are 9 in total, adding information taken from the two sexton's books, the family history society's records of inscriptions, burials and a few baptisms as well as from the burial books covering 1813 – 1921. It is slow work but eventually it will mean that we shall have a record of many of the unmarked graves and their location in the churchyard. This is a project that has grown like Jack's beanstalk!

What has become obvious is that the north side of the churchyard was mainly used for townspeople of all denominations or none, and parishioners were mostly buried on the east, south and west sides of the church as was common practice in many churchyards. The second sexton's book covers 1889 – 1909 and I estimate that there are over 2,000 burials recorded in it. This was a time when the earlier development of the docks and railways had meant the town's population had grown considerably as there was work here, and one sees in the burial book, especially in the 1880s, a very large number of burials - sometimes 3 /day, many being children.

It is hoped to complete the north sections and prepare those for publishing a booklet with the details and a map, this summer, and then complete the other areas later as there is more work to do on these sections.

D. V. Liles 27/3/21.

Below is a single page of the better sexton's book. The book has 60+ pages with 2 columns per page. The fees disappear after 1893; 13/- was the grave fee and 4/6d the rector's fee. The numbers in the right hand column refer to the burial book entry number for that person but the next person in the burial book may well be buried in a different section of the churchyard.

1891		1891	
March 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 2 months 571	13	4/6
" 19	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 2 months 572	13	4/6
" 21	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 14 years 573	30	20
" 25	Wm Griffiths, 11/11 St. 38 years 574	146	307
" 18	W. E. Coombs, 11/11 St. 14 months 575	13	4/6
" 26	Joseph Harris, 11/11 St. 14 months 576	13	4/6
" 28	M. E. Barry, 11/11 St. 16 months 577	13	4/6
" 28	M. E. Barry, 11/11 St. 16 months 578	13	4/6
April 1	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 17 years 579	13	4/6
" 1	Wm Griffiths, 11/11 St. 18 years 580	13	4/6
" 3	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 18 months 581	1	10 2/6
" 3	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 18 months 582	13	4/6
" 5	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 19 years 583	13	4/6
" 6	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 20 years 584	2	14 3/4
" 8	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 21 months 585	13	4/6
" 7	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 22 years 586	13	4/6
" 14	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 23 years 587	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 24 years 588	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 25 years 589	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 26 years 590	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 27 years 591	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 28 years 592	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 29 years 593	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 30 years 594	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 31 years 595	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 32 years 596	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 33 years 597	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 34 years 598	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 35 years 599	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 36 years 600	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 37 years 601	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 38 years 602	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 39 years 603	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 40 years 604	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 41 years 605	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 42 years 606	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 43 years 607	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 44 years 608	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 45 years 609	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 46 years 610	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 47 years 611	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 48 years 612	13	4/6
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" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 55 years 619	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 56 years 620	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 57 years 621	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 58 years 622	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 59 years 623	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 60 years 624	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 61 years 625	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 62 years 626	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 63 years 627	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 64 years 628	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 65 years 629	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 66 years 630	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 67 years 631	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 68 years 632	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 69 years 633	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 70 years 634	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 71 years 635	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 72 years 636	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 73 years 637	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 74 years 638	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 75 years 639	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 76 years 640	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 77 years 641	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 78 years 642	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 79 years 643	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 80 years 644	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 81 years 645	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 82 years 646	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 83 years 647	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 84 years 648	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 85 years 649	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 86 years 650	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 87 years 651	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 88 years 652	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 89 years 653	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 90 years 654	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 91 years 655	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 92 years 656	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 93 years 657	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 94 years 658	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 95 years 659	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 96 years 660	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 97 years 661	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 98 years 662	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 99 years 663	13	4/6
" 18	E. W. Coombs, 11/11 St. 100 years 664	13	4/6

FRIENDS OF ST AUGUSTINE'S – REPORT 2019/20

Overview

Ironically, 2019-20 was a particularly busy year for The Friends, with a full programme of events and activities celebrating the unique features of St Augustine's church and its churchyard. In February 2020 members met at The Pilot for the annual Friends Lunch and the committee was busy planning our programme for 2020-21.

Then in March 2020 lockdown happened and everything was put on hold. The Church and the Hall were closed and it soon became clear that, because our programme consists of bringing people together for fundraising events, outings, talks, open days etc. we would simply not be able to function as normal.

Governance and Finance

The first casualty was our AGM in April, so a report and accounts went out to members, but there were no committee elections. The existing Trustees/committee members have continued in post: Tricia Griffiths, Cathy Grove, Linda Guilfoyle, Jane Higley, Margaret Knight, Caroline Lamb, Steve Lavender, Michael Lawrence, Jane Williams.

Officers continuing from 2019 were as follows: Cathy Grove (Chair), Jane Higley (Vice Chair), Linda Guilfoyle (Minutes Secretary), Steve Lavender (Treasurer), Tricia Griffiths (Membership Secretary). In March/April 2020 Tricia Griffiths handed over membership matters to Chris Higley, whose impressive computing skills will be of great benefit to us. Many thanks to Tricia for all her input over the years; she is a founding Friend and we know she will still contribute whenever she can.

We must also thank our Treasurer, Steve Lavender, who has kept the finances ticking over despite there being very little income; and also those loyal members who have renewed their subscriptions, despite there being no events to attend!

Sons of Penarth

2020 marked the 100th anniversary of the unveiling of the Roll of Honour in St. Augustine's Church, and also the end of the Roll of Honour Project. The Roll's conservation was The Friends' first major project in 2014 and during the following years Kathleen Guy and the project team continued to research the lives of individual men on the memorial. In autumn 2020 the results of their research became a beautifully produced publication, 'Sons of Penarth'. Sadly the planned launch event on Remembrance Sunday could not go ahead, but the book has been distributed widely and much appreciated.

'Sons of Penarth' was funded by individual donations, the Penny Galey Bequest and the Friends. Soft cover A5 copies are available at £9.99 from Griffin Books.

Habitat and Heritage

Although meetings and events could not be held during 2020, work has gone on behind the scenes. Devoted members of the churchyard maintenance group have worked in the churchyard when they could, cutting grass, clearing graves and planting bulbs; Steering Group members have continued preparation of information for the interpretation boards; and tremendous dedicated work has been completed by Linda Guilfoyle and Viv Liles on the Burial Ground Management System, so that it is ready to go live this summer. (See the Archivist's Report for this AVM for further details).

Conclusion

As soon as we are able, The Friends look forward to gradually developing a programme of events; welcoming visitors and returners to St Augustine's; and rebuilding our teams of dedicated volunteers from the congregation and the wider community.

For updates and details of all Friends events, see our website www.friendsofstaugustines.org.uk

Cathy Grove

Chair, The Friends of St Augustine's

30th March 2021

CHURCHYARD VOLUNTEERS REPORT

Over the last year we have seen a huge improvement in the appearance of the churchyard at Saint Augustine's, partly due to the lockdowns giving some people more free time. The volunteers, who previously met on the last Saturday morning of the month, decided that we would meet each Tuesday afternoon. The increased time resulted in our being able to cut and maintain the grass in areas where, through time constraint, was not possible previously. We were aided in our endeavours by a group of scythers, several new volunteers who joined the team and workers from the probation service.

As well as maintaining the area, the volunteers have made improvements to the bug hotel, erected a hedgehog house, repaired gravestones, planted wild flowers and hundreds of crocus and daffodil bulbs. We have more nesting boxes to erect and are discussing provision of more nesting boxes for swifts with local ornithologists. A more extensive programme of wild flower planting will be undertaken this year and the volunteers will be continuing their work on Tuesday afternoons in the coming year.

Thank you to the many volunteers, both regular and occasional, who have given their time to the project.

Andrew Davison

BELL RINGING AT ST AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH

Following a recent inspection of the bell tower, the bells seem to be in good working order despite hardly being used since the start of Covid 19 in February 2020. There are some ongoing problems with damp in the walls which also affects the electrics from time to time.

Prior to Covid, St Augustine's had a strong band and regularly rang to a good standard for Sunday Service and Wednesday practices. There has been practically no ringing since the first lockdown in March 2020. From 15 August 2020, ringing for Sunday Service recommenced. Following the guidelines, only four bells were rung, allowing for social distancing between the four ringers. Masks were worn and ringing was only for 15 minutes from 10:30am. Sanitising gel was available at the door to the tower stairs and in the ringing chamber. A log of the individual ringers was maintained each Sunday.

Service ringing kept going until 13 December prior to the second lockdown just before Christmas 2020. Ringing has not been able to restart despite services having recently recommenced, as the Central Council of Bellringers advice is not to ring until restrictions allow 'rule of six' indoors, likely to be in mid-May. However, we put together a band of vaccinated ringers, with the usual precautions, for Easter Sunday service as this is such a special event.

Outside of the church we have kept in touch virtually with a weekly social on Zoom. A virtual ringing tower has also been invented so we have been ringing 'bells' each week together online. To date all the ringers are well and looking forward to meeting again in person.

Martin Batten, Tower Captain.

Helen Kerbey, Secretary

April 2021

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING 2019

held on Sunday 7th April 2019 in the Parish Hall at 3pm

1. ATTENDANCE

Revd Mark Jones chaired the meeting.
There were 23 people present.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Marguerite Lewis, Cathy Grove, Jan Cullen, Richard Griffiths, Miranda Aldhouse-Green, Kath Williams.

3. PRAYERS – Rev Rose Hill opened the meeting with prayers.

4. CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

Revd Mark Jones welcomed everyone to the meeting. He thanked everyone for coming and for all they had done over the past year.

5. MINUTES

The minutes of the last Annual Vestry Meeting held on 22nd April 2018 were circulated. They were approved and agreed as a true record of proceedings.

6. CHAIR'S REPORT

Fr Mark highlighted some of the points that had been made in his report, which had been previously circulated.

- a) Pastoral: There had been a higher than normal loss of people closely connected to our churches during the year, about 13 or 14, many who had been on the home communion list. It had therefore been a busy year on the pastoral front. Fr Mark appealed for new volunteers to help with pastoral visiting.
- b) Staffing: Rev Rose Hill will be with us for just over one more year. A new curate, Alison Reeves, will be coming to All Saints in July, cross-licensed to our parish, but she won't be able to take Eucharistic services until ordained as priest. As Canon Peter Cox retires next February, there will be a period of vacancy at All Saints. This may increase the difficulty of finding cover for services.
The number of retired priests available to help with service cover has decreased further during the year. Fr Mark said there were no plans to reduce the number of services, but we would have to wait and see what happens.
- c) Work with children & young people
Youth Group - The joint youth group PLYG is attended by about 30 young people each week, with about 40 on the roll. Youth Worker Shavonne Erlandsson will be leaving in the summer, but a replacement has been identified.
Sunday Schools are continuing to develop in the parish. St Dochdwy's has 3-6 children & their families, all of whom had no previous connection with the church. St Augustine's is small but developing slowly. We need to be prepared to change in order to integrate the new families into the life of the church, appreciating that they could make a noise and may not understand the liturgy, but we need to be welcoming. Fr Mark thanked Rose for all the work she is doing in this area.
Tots groups are visited regularly by the clergy and are reaching out to the parish eg pop-up Easter Sunday School at Llandough.
Schools – Both Mark & Rose do regular assemblies at Llandough, Cogan and Albert Primary Schools.
- d) Ministry Area
There had been further discussions through the past year on the form of Ministry Area we would like. The PCC had preferred a Rectorial Benefice as this would avoid legal problems to do with financial matters. However, the Bishop has now stated that we should follow a Ministry Area path were we and All Saints remain separate parishes but with co-operative working. We had received written assurances that we would not have to have a joint bank account or transfer money between charities to pay our Share (which was not legal). We can therefore go ahead with the Ministry Area inauguration service on 14th July.

- e) Donations: a generous donation of £77,500 had been received from the Earl of Plymouth estate, following the reversion of the money from the sale of the former CiW School site in Penarth some years ago. This is restricted to being used by the Penarth Churches. So far no projects have yet been decided.

7. ELECTORAL ROLL – this had decreased to 154, down from 161 last year. Mainly this was due to the death of parishioners, but we have gained a few newcomers during the year.

8. PCC ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

This had been prepared and submitted by Roger Owen, Treasurer.

- Total Income was £152,240 which was an increase from last year of £3141 (£126,940)
- Total expenditure was £141,978 which was an increase of £26,236 on last year. (£115,742)
- There was currently a surplus of £11,000, but £8000 of that was from hall income (same as last year).
- Planned giving & loose collection were slightly down but donations were up; fund raising was slightly lower.
- Legacies received totalled £1000.
- Expenditure –Parish Share had increased over £4000 (but this includes £5k towards our curate) and maintenance of churches was over £9000 higher. Most other expenses were higher than last year.
- Reserves have been increased from £42k to £47k by careful financial management.
- The bank balances and reserves at the year-end totalled £74,223.

Future

Our Parish Share has increased to £52,000, as the Diocese's transition phase subsidy had come to an end. We need to cover this with planned giving or we would be struggling financially.

Thanks were given to Roger Owen for all his hard work, and also to Viv Liles as Gift Aid Secretary.

The accounts had been audited by Mr Derek Day. They were approved by the meeting.

9. FABRIC REPORT

- a) Linda Guilfoyle reported that St Augustine's had been refused a faculty for heat curtains. It may be possible to appeal to the Chancellor.
- b) Holy Nativity Boundary Wall. A recent structural survey showed the section of the wall at the bottom of Windsor Road is out of plum and considered unstable. This is a part that had not previously been rebuilt. The Vale of Glamorgan Council had been informed and we had received notification that something must be done about it. Immediate work would need to include removing vegetation which is displacing the stonework and removing soil from behind the wall. A meeting with VoG Regeneration Team is planned for next Friday to discuss the setting of Holy Nativity within the proposed improvements to the roundabout and approach into Penarth.
- c) Keith Watts reported that he would be working on the priorities of action needed as shown in the various Quinquennial reports. He was thanked for all his hard work on the fabric of our buildings during the year.

10. OTHER PARISH REPORTS

Reports had been circulated before the meeting on Social Events, Hall, MU, Friends in Faith, Repair Cafe, Archives, Friends of St Augustine's, Music & Choir, Bellringing, Diocesan Conference and Area Deanery Conference. Fr Mark thanked everyone for their contributions during the year.

11. ELECTIONS

Church Wardens

The following were accepted by the meeting as People's wardens without election:

Mr Andrew Davison (St Augustine's)

Mr Roger Owen (St Dochdwy's)

Miss Louise Cooke (Holy Nativity)

Rector's wardens (appointed by Revd Mark Jones)

Mrs Linda Guilfoyle (St Augustine's)

Mrs Jan Cullen (St Dochdwy's)

Mrs Kath Williams (Holy Nativity)

PCC

The following were accepted by the meeting (no election)

St Augustine's – Mrs Viv Liles, Mr Jan Knight, Mr Michael Lawrence, Mrs Miranda Aldhouse-Green

Holy Nativity – Mr Huw Williams (one vacancy)

St Dochdwy's – Mr Keith Watts, Mr Dave Taylor

Sidespersons for St Augustine's

Evan Davies, Andrew Davison, Molly Evans, Hilary Griffiths, Linda Guilfoyle, Mary Howells, Philip Jenkins, Helen Knight, Jan Knight, Marguerite Lewis, and Mal Pugsley.

12. APPOINTMENT OF HON. AUDITOR

It was agreed to appoint Mr Derek Day as auditor. Mr Day was thanked for his work as auditor of the parish accounts.

13. WARDENS' THANKS

On behalf of the Wardens, Linda Guilfoyle thanked Fr Mark and Rev Rose for all their work over the past year, much of it unseen by most people. A small gift of appreciation was given to each of them.

Fr Mark thanked the Churchwardens & Subwardens, the PCC, the Parish Administrator and everyone else who had helped with the running of the parish.

The meeting closed at 4.15pm with the grace.

NO ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING WAS HELD IN 2020 DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC