



# Christ Church, Warley

## Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021

**Incumbent:**

Revd Stuart Hull CF  
79 Mount Crescent  
Warley  
Brentwood CM14 5DD

**Bankers:**

Nat West  
46 High Street  
Brentwood CM14 4AL

**Independent Examiner:**

Neville Reid BA, ACA,  
19 Mills Grove  
Poplar  
London  
E14 ORH

**Christ Church, Warley, Brentwood**  
**Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council**  
**for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

**PCC Foreword**

**Administrative Information**

Christ Church is situated at Warley Hill, Warley, Brentwood, Essex, CM13 3AA. This is also the address for correspondence. It is part of the Diocese of Chelmsford within the Church of England. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956 and Church Representation Rules 2006). It is charity registered with the Charity Commission (CC registration number 1138758).

**Aims and purposes**

Christ Church Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the church complex at Christ Church, Warley.

**Objectives and Activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at Christ Church. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups which live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community by

1. Worship, bible study and prayer, learning about the gospel and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
2. Provision of pastoral care to people living in the parish
3. Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of Christ Church. This section of the report focuses on finance and governance matters. The activity reports elsewhere show how the PCC achieved the above objectives in 2021.



## **CHRIST CHURCH WARLEY ACTIVITY REPORTS FOR 2021**

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## **1. Priest in Charge review of 2021**

The last year presented many challenges as well as new opportunities for the ministry of Christ Church. In seeking to adapt to an ever-changing Covid situation the "every member ministry" dynamic of the church became key in supporting our church family, reaching out into our community and sharing the hope of the gospel.

- From January the church was mindful of the need to provide online services and other forms of ministry during strict covid rules. Numerous services were live-streamed from both the church building and the vicarage.
- The church resumed regular worship from Easter Sunday, holding the majority of the service inside, with singing outside. This presented a good opportunity to worship in full view of the community.
- Kidzone slots were introduced into services when a separate Sunday school was not possible. Once it was possible to run Kidzone again it was a real blessing to the church to see this great group starting up again. The group has been well organised, engaging, and has been greatly appreciated by our young people and families, and it remains a core element of our regular worship.
- The Toddler group has had a noticeable impact on the church's outreach to young families. In addition to good attendance on Fridays it has also contributed to families with young children feeling comfortable attending Sunday worship, due to the provision of a Toddler learn and play area in the meeting space.
- As part of the church's strategy in emerging from lockdown the priest-in-charge proposed a measure by which the church could reach out to the community - Outreach, Retention, Discipleship.
- The church conducted a parish wide leaflet drop, in addition to utilizing more online advertising. Numerous visitors in following months mentioned the leaflets as a good way to find out more about the church.
- The church launched two significant initiatives - Messy Church and Café Church.
- Messy Church (1<sup>st</sup> Sundays of the month, 4pm) has welcomed many new families as guests of the service and has received positive feedback.
- Café Church (held in the hall) enabled the church to worship in a different way, with the hope of enabling more social time together after the long isolation of lockdown. Café Church had a high attendance of over seventy people, with positive feedback. However, this was largely due to a small group of volunteers in the kitchen. More volunteers would be needed to make subsequent café churches viable.
- The church conducts regular fellowship groups on Thursday evenings - centered on a time to socialize, read the bible together, and pray for each other and our church. This has offered an opportunity for church members from both Christ Church and St Mary's to offer some pastoral support to each other through prayer and fellowship.

## **2. Electoral roll**

The Electoral roll stands at 75 of whom 31 are not resident in the Parish.

Membership is open to all who call Christ Church their spiritual home, are over 16 and have been attending Christ Church for 6 months or more.

### **3. Activities of the PCC**

#### **3a Overview of the PCC's Year**

During 2021 despite the Covid-19 lockdown, we still managed to hold 5 meetings; 4 via zoom, and 1 in person, with an average attendance of 12 members.

The sub-groups didn't meet in their normal manner, but work continued via phone calls and zoom Leadership Team Meetings.

Discussions during the year included continuing Ministry both on-line and in person, outreach, finances & Church Centre hire fees, Café Church and Messy Church.

#### **3b Gp2 Buildings, Health & Safety**

The general maintenance and upkeep of the Church buildings, grounds and its appliances was carried out by the Building's Group (a sub-committee of the PCC), which consists of Mark Townsend, Harry Stimpson, Robin Baker and Brendon Horrocks with additional help from Tony Marriage.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic there were no major works completed in 2021, however throughout the year the church buildings and grounds continued to be upkept as usual, with regular checks and minor repairs carried out, grass mowed during the summer months and gutters and drains cleared when required. We held one working party in October and thanks to some outside help the beech hedge along the north boundary was cut back and the garden waste heap significantly reduced.

#### **3c Gp3 Admin & Communication**

Communications continued to be important through 2021 with the restrictions placed on worship and attendance at church due to the pandemic

Over the past Calendar year, specific actions we have undertaken include:

- Brendon publishes our Pew Sheet with services, notices and prayer page. A number of sheets are printed ready for Sunday services and the Pew Sheet is also distributed electronically (please e-mail Fiona Townsend [admin@christchurchwarley.org](mailto:admin@christchurchwarley.org) to be included).
- We continue to review and develop our church processes to comply with GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation)
- Centre/Church bookings and calendar are administered by Louise Kearns ([admin@christchurchwarley.org](mailto:admin@christchurchwarley.org)).
- Our Church Website is updated periodically and is intended to communicate our worship schedule and services we provide
- Our Facebook page is maintained with day-to-day activities of the Church and hosts our live broadcast of services during the pandemic restrictions.
- Jan Broderick maintains the Electoral Role

Thank-you to all those involved in keeping our church family and the local community informed of our beliefs, our services and our other activities.

### **3d Gp4 Pastoral Care and over 75's**

Pastoral Care has changed significantly over the last 2 years, for several reasons, but most notably due to the pandemic restrictions and to the changing needs of our congregation. Visits to local care homes have been suspended due to Covid precautions as have the majority of home visits. We have, however been able to continue to support our congregation through phone calls and emails.

The evening Memorial Service at the end of October was an opportunity for those in the parish to remember their loved ones and the Walter Boyce Carol Service was greatly appreciated by both the staff and their customers.

We are hoping to re-introduce more ways to care for our church family for the current climate including prayer support following the morning service and a prayer request list, to be shared only with a dedicated prayer team. We have also striven to embed pastoral care more fully within our existing church ministries, via Zoom and in-person meetings, constituting prayer and fellowship groups. We are seeking ways to equip the church family with the resources needed for this "every member ministry".

Louise has almost completed her training course to become a Pastoral Assistant and hopes to become more involved in this valuable ministry in the coming months. Do please contact her if you know of anyone who would appreciate pastoral support.

### **3e Gp5 KidZone**

We began 2021 in lockdown and were able to provide a monthly Kidzone video featuring Bible stories, prayers, craft ideas and a short talk. These regularly had over 50 'views'.

Once we were able to meet back in church, Kidzone continued to deliver Bible teaching sessions to a core group of children on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month. Where restrictions allowed, and following social distancing guidelines we gathered for a short time of welcome and worship together followed by the teaching session in which we investigated the Bible through a selection of drama, craft, discussion or games. Our themes in 2021 have included: Understanding who Jesus is, through looking at the Gospel of John and The character of God from 1 and 2 Samuel.

We have continued to meet as one mixed-age group with children ranging in ages from 4 to 17 years. The number we had at each session was quite small when we first came back to church but slowly began to grow. By the end of the year we averaged about 10 attendees each session from a list of about 17 regular attendees. The children work well together, are supportive and inclusive and get involved in all the activities.

One thing the group particularly enjoyed last year was preparing, rehearsing and performing a service in which the Christmas message was based around online shopping! This production was key in attracting two recruits from Toddler Group (who then stayed) as well as involving some children who had not attended for a while. Our thanks go to Olive for all her hard work in making this happen.

We have been encouraged by the growing numbers at Kidzone and more recently with some interest being shown by people wishing to help. As always, we would welcome any new volunteers to join our team; either as a leader or a helper and we would appreciate your continued support for us in your prayers as we seek to determine the best way forward for the young people of our church.

### **3f Gp6 Church Finance**

For more detailed information and figures please refer to the separate report entitled Annual Report and Financial Statements.

## **4. Fabric and ornaments of the Church**

### **Fabric Report**

Our Quinquennial Inspection was carried out in September 2021 and we are pleased that there were no major findings in the state and repair of Christ Church. Most of the work can be carried out 'in house', over the next few years.

The Buildings Group are to be thanked for their good maintenance of Christ Church as they regularly check on the state of the buildings and surrounding grounds, carrying out necessary works and repairs as required. See Buildings Report for more details.

60 new pew bibles were purchased with anonymous donations, given for that purpose, from three members of the congregation. We thank them for their generous gifts and the opportunity to update our reading of God's Word.

### **Tree Report**

The horse chestnut trees along the south boundary have been pruned and the branches that protruded over Warley Hill and obscured street lighting have been removed.

## **5. Deanery Synod**

There were four meetings of the Brentwood Deanery Synod in 2021, mostly over Zoom. Much time has been given to discussion of the formation of Ministry and Mission Units (MMU) within the Deanery and what benefit they might be. This discussion now seems to be largely on hold and remains without conclusion.

The pandemic has brought challenges to the Chelmsford diocese, particularly in terms of significantly reduced income which, in turn, has necessitated looking at reducing clergy numbers. The Brentwood Deanery has been asked to manage with fewer clergy and this has been managed, for now, with the combining two parishes into one benefice, and retirement due to illness. This will continue to be a live issue in the diocese in the coming years and it is important that Christ Church maintains its parish share payments to ensure we are not faced with losing our incumbent.

Deanery presentations have included: Reaching Carbon Net Zero - by The Archdeacon of Chelmsford, The Venerable Elizabeth Snowdon, and a presentation on The Cursillo Course, run by Chelmsford Diocese for those wanting to further explore their faith. We have also

shared our church pandemic experiences and difference we have made in our communities including the Daily Bread café and Manna Meals. It is very encouraging to see what a large part the church has played and continues to play in helping our community in times of need.

## **6. Occasional Offices**

There was 1 wedding and 2 baptisms during 2021.

## **7. Child and Adult Safeguarding**

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Brendon Horrocks

During 2021 there were no safeguarding issues and the PCC have 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).

- PCC reaffirmed the Christ Church Parish Safeguarding Policy (revised Feb-2020) for the 2021 calendar year
- Safer recruiting processes are in place with defined job descriptions and training requirements for all roles. At end-2021 we had 21 paid / voluntary workers supporting church activities covering 39 distinct roles.
- During 2021 the Chelmsford Diocese adopted the Church of England training available at <https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/> which consists of
  - Basic Awareness (online) - recommended for anyone wanting or needing a Basic Awareness of safeguarding
  - Foundation (online) - required for anyone in a role which involves work (paid or unpaid) with children and/or vulnerable adults
  - Safer Recruitment (online) - required anyone involved in the recruitment of Church Officers (employees, elected members, and volunteers)
  - Leadership - Required for anyone who has safeguarding responsibilities/is leading activities/groups involving children and/or vulnerable adults

As workers training elapses (after 3years) workers will transfer to the CofE training.

Any questions or concerns regarding safeguarding at Christ Church please contact Brendon Horrocks or Rev'd Stuart.

## **8. Christ Church Toddlers**

Baby and Toddler group continues to be a place of outreach and friendship to both church and non church families (up to 15 families each week). As well as mums, there are regular grandparents and dads. Some families have little support network locally; the open, welcoming atmosphere is much appreciated by all.

The Hulls attend most weeks - this provides a great opportunity for conversations as well as welcome support with story-telling and music. I am also hugely grateful to the volunteers who help in the kitchen on a rota basis (Louise K, Jan B, Jacqui and Stuart B) as well as Olive who fills in as well as dressing up as all the characters in the Christmas story while telling it! (Thanks also goes to the Hulls' dog Fenris, guest of honour at the Christmas Special). All who



come are therefore regularly meeting welcoming Christians from the church (as well as a couple of families from other churches). From the conversations I have witnessed I would say that God is at work.

There is now crossover between Toddler group and church itself, with several families from toddler group regularly joining a new 'Little Ones' Kidzone group on a Sunday, and at least one new church family joining Toddler Group. Most of the Toddler Group families have signed up to receive the church's weekly email bulletin. Our group's private Facebook group (accessible from the church's Facebook page) serves as a 'memory board' which can give an overview of where we have come in our story-telling, as well as notification of events to come.

We continue to provide a distinctive Christian theme each week, with the Autumn term following an SU Tiddlywinks series called 'All About Me' (our senses etc.) which included parables of Jesus' healing. We looked at Christmas over three sessions and next term will cover events in Jesus' life and stories he told, leading up to three sessions on Easter. The theme of the week runs clearly throughout the session from the songs to story to the craft. When the weather is good we go into the lovely grounds and courtyard. Otherwise the church itself is frequently used for an activity - the children love to explore and it then becomes less daunting for a family to think of attending a service. Free books to take away are often provided e.g. SU children's bible reading books, copies of Mark's gospel, or 'Seven Reasons to (re)consider Christianity' by Ben Shaw.

Families give an optional donation of £2 per visit, the vast majority of which is then passed to the church. Roger Gammon kindly looks over the accounts each September.

Thank you for your prayers for this dynamic aspect of the church's outreach. Anyone from church who is free on an occasional Friday morning in term time would be warmly welcome to help in getting to know the families, serving refreshments, reading a story or setting up / packing away. Please contact me at [heathereileenbradshaw@googlemail.com](mailto:heathereileenbradshaw@googlemail.com) if you are interested. Also do invite any friends and neighbours with 0-4 year olds to the group, we'd love to see them.

(Photos with permission)



## **9. Christ Church Centre**

Due to lockdown our centre was still closed for part of 2021 and most of the previous hirers are no longer meeting. The uniformed organisations are now using the Hall regularly and the Townswomen's Guild meet monthly. In addition we have a few "one-off" hires for parties etc but would welcome more regular hires, which would generate a more significant and predictable income, in order to offset the rising cost of maintaining and heating the Centre. We have therefore started advertising our facilities locally to generate some interest.

## **10. Christmas Market**

Due to the uncertainty of the ongoing covid situation, it was decided that instead of organising a full-scale Christmas Market we would hold a 'mini market' after one of the morning services in December. This was held on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December.



We were able to put together a tombola stall thanks to the wonderful generosity of donations by everyone at Christ Church. In addition we had a lovely 'home-made' jams & chutney stall, as well as a craft and activity stall where you could decorate some yummy gingerbread stars. We also had a lucky dip and craft stall which Alison put together.



The 'mini' market was so well attended and we were able to raise c.£600 for the church. Thank you so much to everyone who either donated items, helped to run a stall or do refreshments or who came along and supported us on the day. We couldn't have done it without you.

We are looking forward to 2022 when we will hopefully be able to hold a full-scale Christmas Market towards the end of November/beginning of December. Date to be confirmed.

## **11. Supported Charity - Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust (BSCWT)**

During the pandemic the BSCWT managed to keep providing resources for schools in the form of videos and paper resources. All the major projects were reproduced as films and many assemblies provided.

The schools were keen to have chaplaincy support resumed as quickly as restrictions would allow, with many needs arising from the effects of lockdown on the children. Gradually other opportunities have arisen.

Christmas projects needed rethinking, to encourage schools to engage in person rather than choosing to use the video resources they already had. The year 6 project was reshaped as a reflection on the Christmas story, with zones to move round, more like a prayer space. I am always staggered by the fact that some of these children have never heard the Nativity story as they prepare to leave primary school.

As BSCWT continues to regrow it's ministry in schools. Please pray for more volunteers to help bring God's word to our children and teachers in School. More information is available from [www.bscwt.org](http://www.bscwt.org)

Separately from BSCWT, we have hosted our own school visits here at Christ Church. In the summer, children from reception and year 1 came from Warley Primary School to look around the church and find out what goes on here. They were very excited to have their first ever school visit anywhere! Later in the year, we welcomed years 2 and 3 three from Holly Trees, It has been a real privilege to reconnect with this school after a long break.

### **Walter Boyce, Christmas Service**

It was lovely to welcome back the clients and carers at the Walter Boyce Centre for a Christmas Carol Service and a tea in December. They all really enjoy coming over and participating in the service, which was a truly joyous occasion. We are hoping that next year we can invite family members again.

### **12. Boys Brigade**

The last year (our 133<sup>rd</sup> year!) has been very difficult with covid and the lack of members attending. This has meant we could only provide a restricted programme.

Unfortunately, Jim Smith, who has been an officer for 40+ years, is no longer able to come along as he has to nurse his wife who is suffering with dementia.

We currently only have 4 members and are looking to run an advertising campaign to recruit members in 2022.

### **13. 1st Warley Rainbows**

Warley Rainbows continued to meet through the pandemic via Zoom. Most of the girls participated in these meetings and we had two amazing volunteers who delivered craft packs to the girls each week. This meant many of the parents got involved. We made it as fun as possible, including making slime, launching fizzy rockets and playing endless treasure hunts. We even had an online Duck race! We had some lovely comments, including from a mum who said that this was the only time her daughter saw her friends, because all school learning was watching pre-recorded clips and worksheets.

After Easter we were allowed to meet Face to face and took our meeting outside. We met at King Georges and re-enacted the Queen's coronation. On another meeting the girls bandaged up teddy bears and dolls and then themselves. We held campfires at The Pines. The fresh air and being together was an important step, before the summer holidays.

From September we met back at Christ Church. It had been 18 months since the routine of a meeting and we had to reteach our ending song, let girls know where to put their things again as those who remembered were now in Brownies. In some ways it was like starting a new unit all over again and some girls have found being back to 'normal' quite hard mentally. Our girls are only 5-7. For a five-year-old most of her living memory has been spent under Covid-19. Leaving parents to go to any extracurricular activity is a brave step for them and we make it as much fun as possible, but have to be considerate of their mental needs too.

We are looking forward to 2022, with Rainbows nationally celebrating 35 years and our 10<sup>th</sup> year at Warley too.

#### **14. 1st Warley Brownies**

1st Warley Brownies started the year still only meeting on Zoom every week. We had approximately 17 girls regularly enjoying our weekly online meetings. We were virtually visited by dance teacher who taught the girls a lovely dance to the Beauty and the Beast theme tune.



With lots of help from mums we celebrated Burns night by sewing a Scottish Thistle, as leaders we were all happy we didn't have to keep helping the girls thread their needles!

We enjoyed crafts for Valentines Day and Easter, but we're all really happy Girlguiding allowed us to start meeting up outside again after the Easter holidays.

After Easter we had 7 new girls join us, and we were able to form new Sixes (groups) again. We would either meet in the grounds of Christ Church or at The Pines, Girlguiding campsite. For our final evening before we finished for the summer holidays, we had a fun evening playing crazy golf in King George's Park. After we gathered in the park and our new starters made their promises and our new Sixers were presented with their badges.

Thankfully, after many risk assessments and bottles of hand gel, we were able to start meeting up inside Christ Church again in September. We have enjoyed different crafts and cooking, especially making rice crispy cakes over tea light candles.

We had a lovely joint evening with rainbows and Guides dancing for Children in Need. We finished our term at playing Christmas games. 3 girls finished their Brownie adventures at Christmas and moved up to Guides.

We are looking forward to next year, having lots of new adventures.

#### **15. 1st Warley Guides**

2021 was again a quite different year for us. We continued our meetings via zoom for the spring term and by adapting the programme resources, we were able to support the girls meeting their challenges and still gaining badges. Activities included looking at how braille is used, learning sign language and the use of emojis in modern life and the Phonetic Alphabet. We went on a virtual visit to India and visited the Guide World Centre called SANGAM. Afterwards the girls decorated paper hands with henna designs. All part of our International theme and badge work. We ended the term with making Easter cards and sock bunnies.

From the end of April we were allowed to meet in person as long as it was outdoors and less than 15 members. Again, not ideal, but an improvement on zoom meetings. We divided the girls into 2 groups who met on alternate weeks. We did a walk around Warley, taking photographs towards the Photography Badge, met at Thriftwood Scout site where the girls tried archery and flying through the air on a zip wire, and built dens in Thorndon Park.

For the second half of the summer term we were able to meet as one group. This was great and we would normally meet outdoors for this time, so was able to continue as 'normal.' We met at the Guide camp-site for several weeks, lighting fires and cooking with most girls gaining their outdoor cook badge, the girls had challenges and games evenings. We also used the Stubbers activity site for paddleboarding, an activity postponed from 2021 and went 'tubing' at Warley ski slope.

The highlight for this term was a special evening to present Amy Horrocks with her Gold Award. This is the highest award in the Guide section and Amy worked extremely hard to gain this. We were all immensely proud of her as this was the first Gold Award in the Unit since it had been changed from the previous top Award of the Baden-Powell Award.

Thankfully, September saw us able to meet as one group and back in the Centre, provided we met all the risk assessments and precautions. As we were again welcoming new members we spent a couple of weeks playing games and trying activities to get to know each other. We had a great evening when some people from a local organisation called Exotic Explorers visited, bringing a range of animals with them including tree frogs, lizards, African snails and even a snake! We took lots of photos and later presented each girl with a framed photo so they could prove how brave they had been.

We spent time catching up on missed badge work, trying new activities and nearer to Christmas, some crafts using candy canes.

In the past, we have taken the girls away for a 'Christmas week-end' but as this wasn't possible, we condensed a week-end into a long day. They still had time for 4 craft sessions, including making chocolate logs, a full Christmas lunch and a time for a special version of bingo before going home with lots of goodies and hopefully, memories.

We ended the term with a meal out at Nando's to complete a busy term and year.

2021 was another year where we hadn't been able to take the girls camping or holiday indoors, but fingers crossed for 2022!!

## 16. Financial Statements

See separate document

## 17. Appendix

2021 Gift Aid Declaration (see overleaf)





Christ Church, Warley  
Warley Hill  
Brentwood  
Essex  
CM13 3AA

**REGULAR GIVING**

If you are a UK tax payer, Christ Church is able to reclaim the tax paid on any donations you make as part of your regular giving. This amounts to an extra 25 pence on every £1 that is given.

To enable us to do this, please complete this declaration form and return it to one of the people listed below.

GIFT AID DECLARATION - Commencing: 6th April 2019

Until I notify you otherwise, please treat all donations made to **Christ Church, Warley**, as eligible for Gift Aid.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in a tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify as Income Tax.

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return form to, either:  
Mr John Kettlewell,  
or Mr Brendon Horrocks

**Please notify Christ Church if you:**

- Want to cancel this declaration
- Change your name or home address
- No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment Tax Return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.