



Ripon Cathedral Annual Reports 2020

PARISH OF RIPON CATHEDRAL WITH LITTLETHORPE

Annual Vestry Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Thorpe Prebend House (and Zoom) ● Monday 24th May 2021 ● 7.30pm

1. **Preparation – applies to both meetings**

1. Opening prayers
2. Apologies for Absence

2. **Annual Vestry meeting**

1. Election of 2 Churchwardens – Ripon Cathedral
2. Election of 2 Churchwardens – St Michael’s Littlethorpe

3. **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

1. Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 12th October 2020
2. Presentation of the revised Electoral Roll
3. Presentation of the Annual Parish Report
4. Treasurer’s Report and approval of accounts for 2020
5. Elections
 - To the Parochial Church Council: 4 representatives
 - To the Deanery Synod: 1 representative
6. Appointments
 - Sidesmen and sideswomen
 - Auditor
7. Any Other Business
8. Closing Remarks from the Chair

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89695510788?pwd=ajNpNnpQYi85Um5leDJPa1h3ZktZz09>

Meeting ID: 896 9551 0788

Passcode: 165225

PARISH OF RIPON CATHEDRAL WITH LITTLETHORPE

Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Thorpe Prebend House (with others joining by Zoom) ● Monday 12th October ● 7.00pm

	<p>Present</p> <p>In the Chair: Dean John</p> <p>In attendance (for both meetings) John Groves; Nigel Rawlinson; Jean Dunn; Hugh Dunn; John Baldini; Freda Bottomley; Michelle Dearlove; Sue Eddleston; Sue Gill; Janet Slater; Janina Harrison; Richard Knockton; Richard Coad; Liz Thomas; Graham Jelley; Janet Jelley; Victoria Richardson; David Wells; Dorothy Taylor; Yvonne Jefferies; Fiona Pearman; Anne-Marie Tarter; Loretta Williams; Sarah Hobbs and Canon Ailsa.</p>
1	<p>Preparation (applies to both meetings)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Opening prayers were led by the Dean2. Apologies for absence were received from: Juliet Balme; Michael Ring; Iris Alderson and Sarah Swift
2	<p>Annual Meeting of Parishioners</p> <p><i>Election of Churchwardens</i></p> <p>Richard Knockton, proposed by Liz Thomas and seconded by Fiona Pearman; and Fiona Pearman, proposed by PB Jeffries and seconded by Tricia Knockton were duly elected unopposed to serve for the next year. The Dean thanked Nigel Rawlinson for his service as Churchwarden with sincere gratitude as he steps down from the position.</p> <p>Iris Alderson and Peter Moss had been nominated and approved as churchwardens for St Michael Littlethorpe at that annual meeting and they were duly elected by the meeting.</p>
3	<p>Annual Parochial Parish Meeting</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Minutes of the Annual meeting held on 29th April 2019. These were unanimously accepted as a true record by the meeting.

2. **Presentation of the revised electoral roll.** Hugh Dunn reported the Electoral Roll had been updated monthly and now stood at 390, an increase of 20 from last year. This represents an increase in membership (partly due to weddings) but a net increase overall, once removal of names is taken into account. No deaths were recorded due to Covid-19, but we have lost several members this year including Sister Helen Robinson, John Wimpres, Mr & Mrs Harker, Barrie Evason and Juliet and James Ramsden. Hugh presented the revised roll to the Dean.
3. **Presentation of the Annual Parish Report.** This was taken as read. The Chair particularly highlighted the importance of safeguarding in the life of the church. He also expressed his thanks to people who are stepping down from roles: Anne Woods as Captain of the Bellringers, Canon Richard Cooper at St Michaels Littlethorpe and Rev'd Caitlin Carmichael-Davies from the Eco-Group.
4. **Treasurer's Report.** Our income in 2019 held up, coming in only slightly lower than expected due to less giving over the Christmas period. We closed the year with a £1.5k deficit also due to liturgical expenses and an increase in mission giving. 2020 income has been steadily accumulating despite the pandemic. Last year, we had made our full Diocesan contribution, but that is unlikely to happen in 2020. The Chair thanked the Treasurer, the PCC and the congregation for their continued financial support.
5. **Elections to the Parochial Church Council**
 - a. Liz Thomas, proposed by Loretta Williams and seconded by Sarah Hobbs
 - b. Sue Eddleston, proposed by Juliet Balme and seconded by Simon Balme
 - c. Marion Long proposed by Dorothy Taylor and seconded by Ruth Deeth

These were duly elected unopposed. Dorothy Taylor, whose term of office had come to an end, was co-opted onto PCC.

Elections to the Deanery Synod

 - a. Loretta Williams, proposed by Janina Harrison and seconded by Liz Thomas
 - b. Janina Harrison, proposed by Sarah Hobbs and seconded by Loretta Williams
 - c. Michelle Dearlove, proposed by Susan Fisk and seconded by Janina Harrison
 - d. Kenneth Ridley, proposed by Iris Alderson and seconded by Peter Moss
 - e. Sarah Hobbs, proposed by Fiona Pearman and seconded by John Groves
6. **Appointments**
 - a. Sidesmen and women listed on the attached sheet were proposed by Liz Thomas and were elected en bloc.
 - b. Auditor. Andrew Walker was appointed again to continue as auditor.
7. **Any Other Business.** There was no other business.
8. **Chairman's closing remarks.** The Dean expressed his sincere gratitude for our continued success. He prayed that our eyes of faith be opened to see how

	<p>God is working through us and to help us examine the needs of the people around us both in the Cathedral and the wider community. He talked of his pride in the way the Cathedral has responded to the pandemic and how everyone has pulled together, in particular to provide streamed services and an amazing ministry of prayer.</p> <p>The meeting ended with the Grace</p>
--	--

THE PCC IN THE LAST YEAR

Through the medium of Zoom and a small number of face-to-face meetings, the PCC has continued to work hard together to conduct its business and to find ways to serve the broader Cathedral community. Each quarter we have continued to meet, joined by representatives from all the benefice churches, St Michael's Littlethorpe, St Mary Magdalen's and St John's Bondgate. Between our meetings, where they were able, sub-groups gathered to work together on different areas of ministry including: Adult Ministry, Children's Ministry, Youth Ministry, Cathedral Community Connections (C3), Community Building Committee and Finance. Those groups bring their latest news back to our main meetings. Seeing our usual work finding new expressions and ways of flourishing has been a privilege and joy.

The Standing Committee, which also forms the Growth Committee, meets before each PCC meeting to set the agenda and to review growth and mission strategy.

Iris Alderson and Peter Moss continued as Churchwardens for St Michael's Littlethorpe. At the Cathedral, Fiona Pearman continued in her role as Churchwarden and was joined this year by Richard Knockton. After many years of dedicated work in post, John Groves stepped down, although his continuing role as PCC Treasurer is very much valued and appreciated.

In 2020, Marion Long was elected, and Dorothy Taylor was co-opted onto the PCC and Sue Eddleston was re-elected for another term of office. The re-appointment of Sarah Hobbs and John Groves into the role of PCC Secretary and Treasurer respectively were also confirmed at a PCC meeting following the main APCM.

Sarah Hobbs
PCC Secretary

SELECT VESTRY OF CHURCH WARDENS

The Select Vestry has continued this year to support the Cathedral's ministry of welcome albeit not always in person. We have stood down during the Cathedral's Closure from April to August and again at the beginning of 2021.

In March, when life was still "normal" we were fortunate to be able to hold our Sponsored Bible Reading using the Gospel of Luke. Many people took part, reading, collecting sponsors and helping serve tea and cake. We were delighted to raise £540 from sponsorship and £105 from the Pop-up Café. This enabled us to sponsor 2 choristers and the balance was given to the Development Trust.

During closure Select Vestry and Sidespeople helped in many ways including keeping contact with each other and the more vulnerable members of the congregation. This continued throughout the year as many of the congregation were shielding or in the more vulnerable category.

When services resumed in July we had 4 regular members of the Vestry and 18 sidespeople so instead of having separate rotas we agreed to join together and work as a team. This worked well and will be continued in the foreseeable future. Some tasks we cannot do at the present time, e.g. handing out service sheets and information sheets, taking collection and setting out the creche. What we can do is to ensure that people coming to worship at the Cathedral are made welcome and feel safe.

Thankfully we were open for the Christmas Services. Between Advent Sunday and Epiphany the "Team" were present at ten services. With the help of Joe Priestley and his lists all went well following the guidelines and restrictions. Thank you to Joe – a great addition to the "Team".

Thank you to the Select Vestry and the Sidespeople for your help this year. Your willingness, enthusiasm and cheerfulness, no matter what you were asked to do, was great.

Liz Thomas
Chair

DEANERY SYNOD

During the course of the lockdowns, meetings have been held by Zoom, so friendly conversation and Deanery news has had to be replaced by smiles and waves!

The Chair of Synod is now the Rev'd Tony Collins.

Loretta Williams
Lay Chair

PLANNED GIVING REPORT

Planned Giving is making a regular finance commitment to Ripon Cathedral PCC enabling us to manage our finances effectively.

This Year we held a Stewardship Campaign “Giving in Thanksgiving”. We had 98 responses involving 112 people. The figures are reflected in the details below. Any new giving or increased giving did not fully come into action until August/September.

We also enrolled in the Parish Giving Scheme a national project allowing people to give by Direct Debit.

Figures for the period January – December 2020 (2019 figures in brackets)

Classification	Number At 31/12/20	Amount Given	
		2020	(2019)
Parish Giving Scheme	44	15,451.00	n/a
Standing Orders	67	67,455.00	(73,537.00)
Planned Giving Envelopes	18	15,552.00	(19,946.00)
Gift Aid Envelopes (planned)	0	704.00	(1499.00)
CAF	5	5,820.00	(2,291.00)
Totals	134	104,982.00	(97,273.00)
Number able to Gift Aid their Donations	108	yielding a further 24,305.00	(24,957.00)

During 2020

Number started giving	15
Number stopped giving	9
Number increased their giving	26
Number reduced their giving	2

Liz Thomas
Planned Giving Officer

CATHEDRAL SERVERS

The Cathedral serving team, unsurprisingly, saw many changes during 2020. When public services resumed in July, following the first lockdown, the liturgy was much simplified to allow for social distancing. We have also not been able to have a MC or thurifer since March for the same reason. Initially the team was much reduced by some members having to shield.

I was very grateful to our two boatgirls, Petra and Thora, who stepped up to acolytes to help to fill the rota. Slightly later in the year we also welcomed Eva and Jessica to the team. It is very good to have some youngsters on the team. We have been very impressed how confident they have all become.

During the year we also welcomed Gail McMillan and Jack Wilson to the team. We were sad to lose Bobbie Spedding from the serving team for health reasons. We hope that the very reliable Bobbie will be back with us before too long.

The increased numbers on the team meant that we were able to provide a crucifer and acolytes for all of the four Carol Services as well as the Midnight and Christmas Day Eucharists.

I am very grateful to all the members of the team for their ability to adapt to the many changes that have occurred during the course of the year.

*Edward Scott
Head Server*

CHILDREN'S MISSION AND OUTREACH REPORT

Children's Church

At the beginning of Lockdown 1, we decided that we should try to keep our little community together as we have worked so hard to welcome new families and Children's Church was being well attended. The solution was to follow our planned programme virtually which was very successful. It was wonderful to maintain communication with our families. The format was similar to that of our regular sessions with an introduction, story and short homily followed by a craft activity and a prayer. The children shared their artwork via photographs. We have come a long way since then, having learned as we went along, our more recent efforts have included some Zoom sessions. The success of our endeavours was rewarded when the children were allowed back for live sessions and we had even gained new families!

Hopefully we will continue to flourish and grow. It is very encouraging that Petra, Thora, Eva and Jessica have graduated to become Altar Servers and Eva has joined Rory as a junior leader.

Cathedral Primary School

The school is to be highly commended for the wonderful way they dealt with two lockdowns. The staff taught all the children to use Google Classroom when they were briefly allowed back into school and Chrome Book computers and iPads were loaned to all pupils who did not have their own hardware. Teachers have worked a "mixed economy" of virtual and live learning. The school has been open throughout and ensured that key worker children and those identified by the school as vulnerable, have been able to attend. The

school also delivered food parcels to vulnerable families to ensure that all of our children were well nourished.

It has been a massive logistical endeavour and our school is to be congratulated for ensuring that purposeful learning continued to take place. The whole staff has worked incredibly hard and even managed to keep the school open during snowy weather, largely thanks to our teaching assistants and administrative staff. They are a wonderful team and we should be very proud of them.

Amazingly the school managed to maintain daily worship and I think some of the parents dropped into these sessions too. The vast majority of our families were wonderful at supporting their children's learning at home. We are very blessed to have such a strong school community. Mr Holmes, our headteacher, will not thank me for singling him out but he drove the engine of the team's magnificent efforts.

Since returning to school, staff are in the process of doing continuous assessments to identify any gaps in learning so that long term needs are met.

Children and Family Worker

We are very fortunate to have been able to appoint Darcy Allen to the post of Children and Family Worker. She is very enthusiastic and brings youth and vitality to the team. She has undertaken some excellent work already done and has great plans for future ministry. I know she is very frustrated that most of her operations so far have been held virtually but I know that everyone will make her very welcome.

Jean Denney

GOD TALK

God Talk, our discussion group for children and teenagers from year 6, continued in the early months of 2020 in the sermon slot of the sung eucharist on Sundays. It was appreciated by a variety of choristers and non-choir young people but had to be suspended when the first lockdown was announced. We did not attempt to put it on-line and at the time of writing plans to re-start it are under discussion.

Canon Ailsa

MESSY CATHEDRAL

Messy Cathedral for parents and small children is held about a couple of times a term at 4.30pm on Sundays and attracts sometimes a large group of up to 50 children with the same number of adults and sometimes relatively few. Advertised widely, it is usually run without families needing to book so can be hard to plan for the correct numbers. It seems to be appreciated by families and attracts a different group from those attending Children's Church. We were able to hold two sessions in the winter before lockdown but didn't attempt to put it on-line in the first lockdown. In the autumn we put work into running a

socially distanced Harvest themed Messy Cathedral service which went well for the (thankfully) fairly small group who signed up to come.

Then Messy Cathedral went on-line on Zoom (with Darcy Allen working hard on the materials and their distribution to families before the session). Booking continued to be essential. Many thanks go to the loyal group of volunteers who help with it since the start and without which it would be impossible to run, particularly to Victoria Kirkman, Freda Bottomley, Victoria Bishop and Sarah Hobbs and to Tracey Kendrick, as Music Outreach Co-ordinator, who has in recent sessions provided the music. We hope, now Darcy is in post, that we can take this work from strength to strength.

Canon Ailsa

PASTORAL VISITING GROUP

For most of the year pastoral visiting has not been possible. Instead, we have tried to keep in touch with people by phone. I spent time early in the first lockdown setting up a network of people, including the pastoral visiting team, to keep in touch with other members of the cathedral community to offer friendship and chat and to combat loneliness in all of us. Loretta Williams and Nina Harrison, who take responsibility for the visiting in care homes, conducting services there, kept in touch with the management as the best that could be done, assuring them of our prayers.

In addition, the clergy tried in the first lockdown to ring round the whole of the cathedral membership database regularly, dividing the list between them, as another means of keeping in touch. A particular concern was for those people who do not regularly use internet and so would not be able to participate in on-line services. I prepared mailings of materials to those people and this was supplemented by a group putting together a Christmas present of cakes and biscuits to send round to people with the pre-Christmas mailing. So, we have worked differently, but effectively I think and, at the time of writing, the pastoral visiting group is getting ready to meet to discuss how to resume pastoral visiting and to develop other ways of keeping in touch which we have learnt through the lockdowns.

Canon Ailsa

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility in the cathedral, although primary responsibility rests with the Dean and Chapter. We take it seriously and have systems in place both safely to recruit staff and volunteers and to manage risk in the activities we run, so that everyone can stay safe. We are keen to ensure that the safeguarding of both vulnerable adults and children visiting the cathedral or within the cathedral community is paramount in all our minds and so this is not just about a 'tick box' exercise but rather one where we are working to embed the principles of safeguarding in our culture. Lockdown has of course presented its own challenges, particularly about face-to-face training and now lockdown is easing, we are running some training sessions again for those who are not able to do on-line training.

Should you ever have a concern about the safety of a child or adult who may be vulnerable (or have a disclosure of abuse made to you) you should contact me or Julia Barker as soon as you can. Remember it is better to err on the side of caution as something that may seem minor may prove to be more when seen in the light of other facts.

Canon Ailsa

C3: CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

This year we have continued to work with our partner charities (The Salvation Army Food Bank, Ripon City of Sanctuary, Dementia Forward, Jennyruth Workshops, Christian Aid, Ripon Community Link/ The Walled Garden, Ripon YMCA, the Cathedral Chaplains) but in very different ways due to the Covid Pandemic.

We only were able to hold two in-person events prior to the imposition of a national lockdown, and subsequent shielding of vulnerable people. The first of our in-person events was a Dementia Friendly service that was held on the 7th of January. The Decibelles Women's Choir sang, and it was a very moving service about baptism at which all attendees were invited to renew their baptismal vows. A lovely tea, supplied by The Walled Garden, completed the afternoon.

The last of our in-person events was the city-wide celebration of The Sights and Sounds of Ripon on the 7th March. It was to be the last city event before the national lockdown was imposed the following week. This annual event has really grown thanks in part to the involvement of the Cathedral as it provides an easily accessible venue for local charities to display their activities to a large number of people. A record number of 19 organisations were involved, with 7 local choirs performing and a new family craft workshop to join the very popular Lego workshop and Bell Tower tours. The Dean opened the event, and the Ripon City Morris Dancers and Betty Lupton Dancers finished the afternoon. Refreshments were once again provided by The Walled Garden's pop-up café.

Due to Covid restrictions and the vulnerability of many of the members of our partner charities, we were no longer able to provide any in-person support. The one exception was the outstanding work undertaken by David Riley who has kept the Cathedral donations going to the Food Bank throughout the year, including a spectacular contribution to the Christmas offerings to families in need. Many thanks too to the members of the congregation who so faithfully contributed all year.

What we have been able to provide has been excellent publicity for the various fund-raising efforts of our partners. Thanks must be given to the work of the Communications Team at the Cathedral for all their work in 'getting the word out'. Members of the Cathedral took part in a promotional video for Dementia Forward to make people aware of the telephone and online support still available. Cathedral publicity for several charities' online sales and awareness raising activities have been greatly appreciated. The Cathedral was instrumental in getting the information about Covid resources out into the community.

This year we sadly had to say goodbye to one of our founder members, the wonderful Barry Evason who died on the 29th February. Barrie was a great inspiration to all of us and we will miss his commitment and vision for the needs of the most vulnerable.

*Anne Marie Tarter
Yvonne Jefferies*

MUSIC GROUP

The music group met weekly at Thorpe Prebend during the first three months of 2020 and provided the music at the monthly Distinctive Cafe Church Service. We were very well supported by Andrew Bryden who accompanied our weekly rehearsals and played at the monthly services. During this time we had 12 regular committed and enthusiastic members. The last time we sang together was at the Distinctive Service in March. A highlight of our time together last year was taking part in the Sights and Sounds of Ripon Event in early March at the Cathedral. We joined with singers from other local churches under the direction of Phil Wilby and sang some items together and some items for our group alone.

During the lockdowns, we have met several times outdoors (when the weather was good last summer) and kept in touch regularly by email. We have not sung together since March 2020. We have two new members waiting patiently to join us when we resume our weekly rehearsals.

Sue Gill

MEDITATION PRAYER GROUP

This group continued to meet in the wonderfully tranquil softly lit setting of the empty cathedral in the evening of the first Monday of each month in the early months of the year but since that time it has not been possible to re-instate it. It is hoped to re-start it in the autumn but, as some people who regularly attended now are too frail to attend or have moved away, we need first to assess the market for such a group and how to reach it with publicity materials.

Canon Ailsa

MOTHER'S UNION

It has certainly been a quiet year for our Ripon Cathedral Branch of the Mothers Union. Like most organisations our meetings were suspended early in the year due to the pandemic. The members have kept in touch and supported each other in different ways. Telephone calls, cards and letters and some who live alone forming a "bubble".

There have been opportunities across the Diocese to attend ZOOM meetings, trainings and streamed services. The Ripon Episcopal Area meetings on ZOOM have been a great success and have resulted in members in our remote areas being able to attend and get to know one another in a way which would not have been possible without the technology. This may be the way forward for some of our future Area meetings although there is nothing like meeting face to face at least on some occasions.

Our outreach work has continued. We have supported our AFIA (away from it all) holiday scheme financially as the site fees, insurance etc for the caravan has been ongoing even though families have been unable to use them this year. Members have continued to knit for the women's refuge, provide for the needs of prisoners and their families, sew scrub bags for the NHS and contribute to the emergency financial appeal which was needed to keep our organisation afloat.

Everything the MU achieves is underpinned by prayer and that has been evident more than ever throughout this difficult time.

We have had enquiries from potential new members waiting to join us when we can meet again. We can't wait!!!!

Josie Birley

THE FLOWER GUILD

Despite the year of lockdowns, the Flower Guild has had a surprisingly busy and fulfilling year. At the start of the first lockdown in March, the North East Area of NAFAS (National Association of Flower Arrangers Society) invited members from all over the county to make 'Rings of Hope and Appreciation' to show our support for the NHS and essential workers. The Flower Guild joined this effort and made lovely rings covered in green (for new life) and blue (for the NHS), some of which were hung on the front doors of the Cathedral – a symbol of hope on the locked doors.

From July the Guild was able to resume doing some arrangements whilst observing social distancing guidelines. Using silk flowers with fresh garden foliage, we were able to provide flowers at key positions in the Cathedral without having to use any shop flowers. In November when the second lockdown took effect, the Guild managed to do Remembrance arrangements of poppies using the soldier silhouettes and also pedestals at the high altar and Nave.

Despite all the restrictions the Guild was able to provide a beautiful floral display for Christmas using the traditional colours of red, gold and green. The regular team was supplemented by the talents of Pat & Tony Hutchinson, John Hawkrige, Jackie Barber, Mavis Hammond and Suzie Wimpress. The flowers were highlighted in the credits of the Cathedral's online service 'Carols of Comfort and Joy'.

This year has been very difficult for the flower guild members and I would like to thank each and every one of them for their continued support and hard work that has gone into ensuring, that where possible, arrangements can be in the cathedral to help lift people's spirits at this very strange time. There were only two weddings for which we provided flowers this year.

Sadly, Caroline Eason who was one of our team members passed away this year. She was a valued member of the guild and will be sadly missed by all.

CATHEDRAL PARISH LUNCH

It is hard to realise that after having organised the Parish lunch for the last 10 years, Covid-19 put a stop to this important part of our parish life. The last one was held in February 2020 and we very much hope to start again before too long. Restarting will delight the 25-30 people who come regularly – not just to have a good home cooked meal but to make new friendships and for many to enjoy good conversation. We hope to renew our 'regulars' (from other parishes, care homes and Ripon residents) and it would be useful to welcome some Cathedral members too.

As ever, I am grateful for all of the time and ideas members of the team offer, so thank you to Jean Dunn, Trina Knockton, Anne Lancaster, Wendy Richardson and Carolyn Sands.

Loretta Williams

THE BOOK BOX

This has not been available for the past year. That books change owners is always a good thing but the financial loss to Parish Mission Giving is the sad thing. There will be lots of good books available when the box appears again in 2021!

Loretta Williams

ST MARY MAGDALEN – THE LEPER CHAPEL

Due to the various lockdowns and the imposition of a wide variety of regulations, the Chapel's activities have been significantly restricted.

Following the lifting of the second lockdown on the 2nd December, worship was able to resume at the beginning of Advent with Cynthia and Peter quickly organising the Advent wreath. The system of holding two Sunday services per month, each with pre-assigned seats, meant that every member of the congregation who wanted to, has been able to come to church to receive communion whenever it was deemed safe to open. Unlike many churches this meant that the chapel was open at Christmas. The possibility of unexpected visitors arriving without booked seats made it unwise to hold a midnight mass. Instead, Christmas day was celebrated in style at both services.

The beginning of 2021 was saddened by the death of our dear friend and sister in Christ, Jean Head. Jean died on the 5th of February and her funeral was later held here in the chapel that she loved so much.

At the end of 2020, Cliff Bowman stepped down as Chaplain but owing to the third lockdown starting on the 6th January, he agreed, alongside the Dean of Ripon Cathedral to continue to circulate his weekly 'Collect, Epistle and Gospel pew leaflets' as well making arranging a clergy rota or stepping in to lead worship until Easter or alternative

arrangements could be made. At the outset of 2021, this work was handed over to Canon Barry Pyke who will act as interim pastor until such time as a new chaplain is appointed.

Cliff recorded his personal thanks to all those who love the chapel and who work hard to see it flourish as a centre of worship and spiritual growth. He said that, 'the chapel's past is interesting, but its future is what really matters.' Canon Barry Pyke added his personal and sincere thanks to Cliff for all he has done as Chaplain to the Chapel.

Sarah Swift

MAGDALEN FELLOWSHIP

The Fellowship has adapted to a new way of working to support the prayers for healing for the Cathedral. Once lockdown was imposed and we were no longer able to meet together in the Chapel, we began sending out a weekly reflection written by one of the members, together with a list of prayers typed up from the slips left in the Cathedral that week. These were emailed to most of the members, except a few that were posted to those who had no computer access. As well, the group started weekly Zoom meetings during which we had a chance to chat a bit, and then read together the Litany of Healing. Cliff Bowman has written a beautiful version of the traditional Liturgy of Healing which included specific references to the Covid pandemic, its victims and their families, the NHS staff and other front-line workers, and the governments of the world as they all tried to tackle this global crisis.

Once the Cathedral was opened for private prayer, and then for services, the number of prayer requests sky-rocketed, reflecting the national level of anxiety in this crisis. The sheer volume of prayers was humbling for us all, and we felt a deep sense of commitment in offering up our own prayers on behalf these people and their needs.

One of our founder members Patricia Whaling was very seriously ill with Covid in hospital in March but thankfully has recovered. Another long-standing member of the Fellowship, Diana Dell, died peacefully at her home at the age of 96 on the 19th March. We will remember always Diana's passionate enthusiasm for living life to the fullest. She inspired us all.

Anne Marie Tarter

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHAPEL BONDGATE

A service is held each Sunday alternating between Eucharist and Morning Prayer. When this was stopped because of Covid restrictions, services by Zoom were tried. These proved to be mostly unsuccessful, apart from an excellent Remembrance Day Service.

It was decided to set up a pastoral team to keep in touch with the regular members of the congregation by telephone or email with of course their permission. The team praying for them and meeting by Zoom on a regular basis to discuss any issues. The chapel committee also continued to meet virtually. A monthly prayer meeting open to all, also met by Zoom.

When restrictions eased services took place in the chapel with social distancing etc. Revd Dan Sladden resigned as St Johns Chaplain and finished his time with us after leading the Christmas Services. The congregation presented him with gifts and thanked him for his time with us.

Dorothy Taylor
Lay Committee Chair

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, LITTLETHORPE **Chapel of Ease of Ripon Cathedral**

There is very little to report this year, as due to Covid we were only open for 24 Sundays during the year.

There are 41 on the Electoral Roll but, because of the age profile, many were shielding or anxious and unable to attend the services.

Thanks to Judith, and the cathedral clergy, our rota works well, and we have continuity, During lockdown we organised a telephone 'buddy' system for the isolated members of our congregation. We promoted all the cathedral streamed services and Canon Richard wrote a monthly letter which was very well received.

Our thanks go to congregation and villagers, who have helped in any way to keep an eye open for anything untoward.

Iris Alderson,
Churchwarden

CHRISTIAN AID 2019

Christian Aid, a UK charity, works globally to support people vulnerable to poverty and inequality. This aim is worked towards through seven programmes which are:

- Community health – nutrition, malaria, and HIV treatment; maternal and child welfare.
- Inclusive markets - giving poor people access to markets and better prices.
- Voice and governance- to fight structural power imbalances.
- Resilience and climate - so that poor people keep more of the wealth they make.
- Gender power and inclusion – to end pervasive inequalities between men and women.
- Humanitarian – responding to world emergencies.
- Violence to Peace – working to end destruction of thriving societies.

The Covid-19 pandemic dramatically disrupted the actions of Christian Aid. Christian Aid had to respond to Covid- 19 and cope with a reduced income as fundraising activities were curtailed. Christian Aid week was quite different.

In Ripon in January 2020 Holy Trinity church organised a fundraising breakfast donating £791.48. On 7 February there was a quiz which raised £957. The cathedral cheque collection for CA week in May yielded £515. A collection at the Ripon Cathedral for the horrific and shocking explosion in Beirut totalled £581.

There were changes in people. Sarah Jane Meyers became the CA contact officer. Christina Hoare stood down from her role at the Cathedral in December. Her replacements are Elaine Gisbourne and Dorothy Gray. It is fitting to note here thanks and appreciation for voluntary service from Christina. We are grateful to for the support of the Cathedral congregation and PCC.

We look forward to working on new ways of raising awareness and attracting donations including electronically and drop off envelopes in CA week 10 to 16 May 2021. One can donate via the Ripon Just Giving page <http://www.justgivin.com/RiponChristianAidWeek>. There will be a Harvest supper at the Cathedral on 25 September 2021

Elaine Gisbourne and Dorothy Gray

SPACE QUIET DAYS

SPACE was founded to provide days of silence and guided reflection for people of all stages of the spiritual journey. Due to the Covid pandemic, it was not possible to hold a meeting of people in the relatively small space of Thorpe Prebend House and so it was decided to cancel all Space days for this year.

Anne-Marie Tarter

CATHEDRAL READERS' REPORT

As for many, 2020 proved to be a challenging year for ministry requiring flexibility, adaptability and invention. The team of Cathedral Reader's usual ministry of conducting in-person services, preaching, administering communion, taking funerals were affected by the many lockdowns and by necessity were put aside. Despite this, commitment to the service of the Cathedral and its daughter churches in the local area and ministry further afield continued.

The unusual circumstances created by the pandemic and its associated lockdowns has brought people together in leading the church. Over the course of 2020, an even greater growth in the sense of partnership between clergy and Readers has been experienced, particularly in support of the Cathedral's linked Chapels. The Readers would like to offer their thanks to the many members of the clergy, who have continued to include them within on-line meetings, services and events as well as acting as a source of support, patience and encouragement. Particular thanks are offered to Rev Dan Sladden, Rev Jeremy Trigg and Rev Richard Cooper.

In addition to those duties, Readers have continued to support online courses, Advent events, Chaplaincy work, pastoral work, keeping links to care homes, Deanery Synod, PCC meetings and more. Work with charities through the C3 committee has continued where it can, supporting the work of Ripon City of Sanctuary and Dementia Forward, for example. During this difficult time, supporting Refugees and Asylum seekers with clothing and stationery collections from schools has been very much appreciated.

Thanks also go to the lay leaders, Churchwardens, church staff and members who have supported the Readers in their work. Judith Bustard's hard work has been particularly appreciated as has the ministry of Myles Hartley. Myles' organ playing at St John's, in difficult times due to there being no singing allowed in church has brought a sense of normality, whilst allowing time for reflection. Finally, Iris Alderson, Churchwarden at St Michael's Littlethorpe was cited for keeping us updated on the wellbeing of this congregation.

2020 closes with a greater sense of team amongst the Readers. As well as the more formal events organised by Bob Matthews, Assistant Warden of Readers, our Readers have supported and encouraged each other. We have maintained a sense of faith, enthusiasm and calling, building resilience to support the church as it begins its journey of reopening and normalising across the course of 2021.

John Baldini, Michelle Dearlove, Nina Harrison, Loretta Williams, John Whelan and Yvonne Jefferies

PARISH REPORT

The annual Wedding Preparation Event was held in January 2020, with eight wedding couples represented. However, because Covid-19 restrictions then affected much of the rest of the year, only two weddings took place in the Cathedral in 2020. Seven Cathedral weddings and two St John's Bondgate weddings originally booked in for 2020 were cancelled or postponed.

There were four baptism services at the Cathedral in 2020. Eleven were cancelled or postponed between April and July, and it was also not possible to hold a Baptism Matters event, bringing together a group of baptism families, as in previous years.

13 funerals were conducted at the Cathedral, 13 at St John's Bondgate, 2 at Lister House and 16 at Stonefall Crematorium. The 2020 Fallen Leaves service was held on November 1st, and the families of those whose funerals had been held during the previous year at the Cathedral, St John's Bondgate, Lister House and Stonefall, were invited to attend. Those present also remembered all who had died of Covid-19 and gave thanks for the devotion of key workers.

Victoria Richardson

CANON PASTOR'S REPORT

What a lot has happened since December 2019. So much that was unpredicted and unpredictable.

In many ways we have weathered the COVID-19 storm well. We have varied our practices in our work in the ministry teams and learnt from that experience. One question we have to address now is how we take what we have done differently onwards, benefitting where we can from changes which enable the growing of God's Kingdom.

It was hugely important for our work with children that we were able to appoint Darcy Allen as our children's worker in November 2020. Darcy hit the ground running, despite starting as lockdown two was announced. She immediately worked hard to take forward the excellent work Jean Denney had been doing through lockdown one and to develop further on-line provision. The group of children who attend the cathedral grew in different ways in the lockdown and communicating through their parents by email allowed some deepening of relationships. I think parents too appreciated the support of the regular, high quality YouTube videos Jean offered and a listening ear on the end of an email to help them through difficult times.

We are still processing what the digital changes to our ministry mean for wider church growth of adults within the cathedral community. Many people have appreciated on-line worship (with the flexibility it brings) but it is undoubtedly much harder to form relationships with people in an on-line community. It was good that our 'The Way of Faith Explored' group of younger adults had already started their discussion groups by Zoom before the first lockdown hit us. So that group could continue without a break and it was with great joy we saw 10 of them confirmed by Bishop Nick in October. For the future some work will inevitably continue to exploit the variety and ease of on-line communication whilst benefiting too from the unquestionable human pleasure of being able to meet face to face. So, we are looking at a mixed economy of on-line and face-to-face offer which is likely to work the best.

In our care of adults, we learnt much from developing our network of people phoning round others and the Pastoral Visiting Group will be taking this forward, looking at how we provide routine pastoral care for people both by visiting and by other means.

For the future, children's work has gone well through lockdown three. Now the challenge is to convert that on-line presence of children and families into physical presence in the worshipping community, whilst keeping our on-line work alive and well. That is good both to extend our offer beyond the face-to-face and to enable us, should the need arise, to revert to on-line work if a further lockdown is necessary.

It has been such a tough year in so many ways for so many people: whether it was coping with isolation or the loss of regular contact with family members, on the one hand, or on the other being pulled every which way by competing demands of work, childcare, and everyone on top of each other at home. And then there is the grief: grief for those lost to COVID-19 and grief for those who died for other reasons but who we were not permitted to mourn in our usual ways. So, we have the burdens of 2020 with us, but burdens are better shared. Moving onward, sharing those burdens of the past year, placing our trust in God in whose providence we live and move and have our being, learning from the past we can hope for the future, and thrive as we grow God's Kingdom.

Canon Ailsa

Ripon Cathedral Parochial Church Council

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2020 £	2019 £
Current assets					
Debtors and prepayments					
Prepayments		100	-	100	-
Debtors		1,250	-	1,250	1,250
Cash at bank and in hand					
Current account		47,060	-	47,060	47,794
Deposit account		471	-	471	468
		<u>48,881</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,881</u>	<u>49,512</u>
Liabilities					
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year		2,833	-	2,833	3,052
		<u>46,048</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46,048</u>	<u>46,460</u>
Net assets					
Parish funds					
Unrestricted		46,048	-	46,048	23,014
Restricted		-	-	-	23,446
		<u>46,048</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46,048</u>	<u>46,460</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 20th March 2021
and signed on its behalf by:

Mr R Knockton
Church Warden

Mrs F Pearman
Church Warden

Ripon Cathedral Parochial Church Council

Financial summary for the year ending 31st December 2020

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	£	£
Funds brought forward				
1st January 2020				
Current assets	49,512	-		
Creditors	(3,052)	-		
	46,460	-		46,460
Add: PCC income	166,181	-	166,181	
Less: PCC expenditure	143,147	23,446	166,593	
Increase / (Decrease) in cash funds	23,034	(23,446)		(412)
31st December 2020				
Current assets	48,881	-	48,881	
Creditors	(2,833)	-	(2,833)	
Funds carried forward	69,494	(23,446)		46,048

Ripon Cathedral Parochial Church Council

Income and expenditure for the year ending 31st December 2020

		Incoming resources				
		Unrestricted	Restricted	2020	2019	
	Note	Funds	Funds	£	£	£
		£	£			
Voluntary income						
Planned giving		105,715	-	105,715	100,343	
Income tax recovered on gift aid		24,305	-	24,305	25,947	
Parish collections		14,149	-	14,149	35,966	
Donations to PCC funds		-	-	-	1,063	
		<u>144,169</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>144,169</u>	<u>163,319</u>	
Activities for generating funds						
Fund raising activities	A	1,958	-	1,958		2,335
Restricted funds						
Specific donation to PCC Funds	B	5,800	-	5,800	-	-
Contributions to Parish share						
Littlethorpe		10,000	-	10,000	10,000	
St John's		3,000	-	3,000	2,500	
St Mary's		1,250	-	1,250	1,250	
		<u>14,250</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,250</u>	<u>13,750</u>	
Interest on bank deposit account		4	-	4	2	
		<u>166,181</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>166,181</u>	<u>179,406</u>	

**Income and expenditure for
the year ending 31st
December 2020**

	Resources expended					
	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	2020		2019
		Funds	Funds	£	£	£
		£	£	£	£	
Voluntary contribution to the diocese		51,250	-	51,250	85,000	
Pastoral care and cathedral						
Contribution to cathedral running costs		88,000	-	88,000	85,000	
Grant to communications officer post		-	-	-	-	
Adult ministry and liturgical expenses		239	-	239	4,581	
C3 expenses		69	-	69	474	
Family ministry		418	-	418	481	
		<u>88,726</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>88,726</u>	<u>88,726</u>	
Other PCC expenses						
Support for parish organisations	C	155	-	155	155	
Stationery and postage		-	-	-	264	
Parish retreat		276	-	276	130	
Fund raising activities		-	-	-	487	
Miscellaneous expenses	D	740	-	740	1,822	
		<u>1,171</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,171</u>	<u>1,171</u>	
Donations to mission and charities						
From general funds	E	2,000	-	2,000	2,524	
From restricted funds						
Donation to Chapter		-	23,446	23,446	-	
		<u>143,147</u>	<u>23,446</u>	<u>166,593</u>	<u>180,918</u>	

Ripon Cathedral Parochial Church Council

Notes to the financial statements for the year ending 31st December 2020

1. Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current Statement of Recommended Practice and Reporting by Charities (SORP2005).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and include all transaction, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Funds

Restricted funds represent (a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted purposes intended by the donor, and (b) revenue donations or grants received for a specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund.

Unrestricted funds are general funds which are to spent on the PCC's general purposes.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resources to which they relate are received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitled to use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts are reasonably quantifiable. Interest is accounted for when receivable. All other incoming resources are recognised when received and accounted for gross.

Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share expected to be paid over is accounted for when due. Amounts received specially for mission are dealt with as restricted funds.

All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Ripon Cathedral Parochial Church Council

Notes to the financial statements for the year ending 31st December 2020

	£
A Activites for generating funds	
Parish lunches	171
Special events	1,450
Refreshments	229
Book sales	108
	<hr/> 1,958 <hr/>
B Donations to PCC Funds	
Donations made not included in collections.	<hr/> 5,800 <hr/>
C Support for parish organisations	
Ripon Deanery Synod	50
Friends of Ripon Cathedral	25
Ripon Churches together	80
	<hr/> 155 <hr/>
D Miscellaneous expenses	
Leeds Faith in Schools (donation in lieu of of accountancy fee 2020)	500
Planned giving envelopes	100
Zoom and minor expenses	140
	<hr/> 740 <hr/>
E Donations to mission and charities	
The Children's Society	500
Bethlehem School for the Blind	500
Christians against poverty	500
Dementia Forward	500
	<hr/> 2,000 <hr/>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF RIPON CATHEDRAL

Independent Examiner's Report to the members of Ripon Cathedral, Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020 which are set out on pages 1 to 6.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF PCC AND EXAMINER

The members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and they consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those of the records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the managing committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an opinion as to whether "a true and fair view" is given by the accounts and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Andrew Walker BA ACA
9 Avenue Victoria
Roundhay
Leeds
LS8 1JE

Dated: 16 March 2021