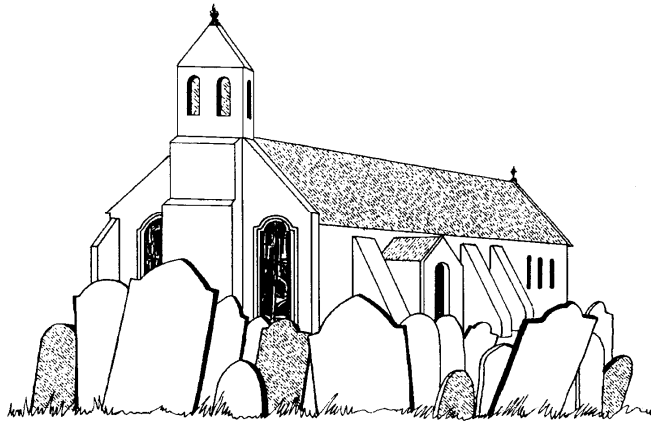


# **St Michael's Church**

## **Bowness on Solway**



Annual Report  
and  
Financial Statements  
of the  
Parochial Church Council  
For the year ending  
31st December 2019

Interregnum

Jan - Dec 19

## St. Michael's Church – Bowness on Solway Annual Report for 2019

St. Michael's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Priest in Charge in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church ; pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has the maintenance responsibilities for St. Michael's Church building and furnishings in Bowness on Solway. The PCC is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission. The former Rector, The Revd P Blackett resigned for the ministry in Dec 18 and the Parish has been in Interregnum since. During the Interregnum, the Rural Dean, The Revd N Beer was involved in the running of the Parish.

### **Membership**

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church presentation rules. The Vestry Meeting held immediately prior to the Annual Meeting, elects Church Wardens.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

<i>Incumbent</i>	Vacant	Chairman
<i>Church Wardens</i>	Mr R H Wills Miss A M Little	
<i>Deanery Synod Reps</i>	Vacant Vacant	
<i>Elected Members</i>	Mr R Irving Mr I Graham Mr C R Wills Mrs R Bryant Mrs B Morton Mrs C Servantes Ms Diane Ellis-Jones	Vice Chair Treasurer     Secretary

### **Bankers etc.**

Current account	Barclays Bank Carlisle Branch The North & West Cumbria Group PO Box No 115 Carlisle CA3 8JS
Invested Funds	CCLA Investment Management Ltd CBF Funds 80 Cheapside London EC2V 6DZ
Independent Examiner	Mr Peter C Day 30 Naworth Drive Lowry Hill Carlisle

## **Standing Committee**

The officers and churchwardens transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council

## **Church membership, services and attendance**

The Church Electoral Roll for the year stood at 72 . During the Interregnum, Holy Communion services were held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays and a Lay Service on 2nd Sundays . Despite being in Interregnum, attendance at church has been steady throughout the year (21 on a typical Sunday). There has ,however, been a significant reduction in the number baptisms, and there were no weddings. A reduced number of funerals were held .

## **General**

During the Interregnum the Parish has been greatly assisted with Holy Communion services by two retired clergy , namely The Revds Dorothy Derrick and Peter Streatfeild. In addition, we have had assistance from two lay ministers , namely Rob Cook and Tim Hazard. Our three local lay teams also assisted , however, due to the departure of Catherine Bartlett , the teams have now been reduced to two .

The decision was taken in 2019 to close the resident clergy post in Kirkbride and to absorb the Parish into the Benefice of the Barony of Burgh. The Revd Tudor Boddam - Whetham has been actively involved in running the Parish since Nov 19 , and on completion of the legal process will soon be appointed Priest in Charge.

The Churchyard Extension project remains stalled, due to deliberations by archeologists on significant finds in the proposed extension area, dating from the Roman Period. The PCC remains hopeful that an area adjacent to the existing churchyard, will be made available for future burials. If the Churchyard is not extended , then on present usage it will have to be closed within five years.

Our involvement with Bowness Primary school continues , with the school participating in several church events throughout the year.

Margaret Wills and Rosie Bryant continue to play the organ, with Rosie taking the major share of the load. Choir practices have continued , and anthems are sometimes sung at the services.

There has been further discussion on Diocesan activities including " God for All" and " Mission Communities " with no definite proposals affecting this Parish.

Only minor maintenance tasks were competed on the fabric in 2019, with the Church remaining in a generally good condition. A Five Yearly Inspection is due in 2020, with a new architect Alastair McGregor now appointed . The PCC approved in 2019 the installation of a new sound system , and this has now been commissioned. The PCC has also obtained Diocesan approval for the installation of a memorial garden, for the scattering of ashes in the churchyard.

Visitor numbers were similar to last years, with visitors continuing to make generous donations to the Alms Box. The box has been emptied on a weekly basis throughout the year . The high standards of churchyard maintenance has again been commented on by visitors.

## **Finance**

From a financial viewpoint, St Michael's had a reasonable year in 2019 , considering the reduced activity during the Interregnum. The PCC managed to pay the 2019 offer of £10400 in full, however, it was considered prudent to reduce our offer for 2020 to £8000. The current account balance was reduced by £1117 during 2019.

**St.Michael's Church , Bowness -on- Solway**  
**Financial Statement for period 1 Jan –31 Dec 19**

<b><u>Receipts</u></b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
Donations - Gift Aided	3490.00	(4700.00)
Donations - Other	2115.52	(22201.78)
Collections	3069.04	(3364.23)
Tax Refund	2016.82	(1929.65)
Invest Income	3075.64	(3267.32)
Fees	1830.00	(1517.00)
Magazine	2709.50	(3003.50)
Events	579.20	(2814.28)
Mission Charities	2843.47	(2156.33)
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>21729.19</b>	<b>(44954.09)</b>
<b><u>Payments</u></b>		
Parish Share	10400.00	(11250.00)
Rector Expenses	0	(662.85)
Running Expenses	3556.04	(3009.14)
Magazine	1228.60	(1162.72)
Investments	0	(20000.00)
Utilities	1625.05	(1586.44)
Mission Charities	2842.62	(2156.33)
Staff Grants	2544.00	(2544.00)
Fabric	614.68	(632.00)
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>22810.99</b>	<b>(43003.48)</b>
<b>Excess of Payments over Receipts</b>		<b>- 1081.80</b>
<b>CCLA Investments Accounts as at 31 Dec 19</b>		
Fabric ( Restricted )	33920.92	
Organ ( Restricted)	4937.76	
Churchyard ( Restricted )	40011.41	
<b>Total</b>		<b>78,870.09</b>
<b>Barclays Current Account as at 1 Jan 19</b>	5892.79	
<b>Cash in hand as at 1 Jan 19</b>	13.11	
<b>Barclays Current Account as at 31 Dec 19</b>		<b>4775.80</b>
<b>Cash in hand as at 31 Dec 19</b>		<b>48.30</b>
		<b>I.Graham</b>
		<b>Treasurer</b>

## **Notes to Financial Statement for Period 1 Jan to 31 Dec 19**

**Investment Income** This is made up of a legacy from the late Mrs Nelson of a half share in the rent of High House Farm Fingland , and interest from the Fabric, Organ and Deposit Funds ( managed by CCLA Investments).

**Tax Refunds** A gift aid tax refund of £1072 was received in Jun 19 from HMRC for the period 1 Jan-31 Dec 18. A payment of £944 was also received in respect of GASDS on the collections.

**Mission Charities** This was money collected for onward distribution to other charities. and church staff. Charitable donations were: Mission to Seafarers £113.00, Friends of Kirkbride Surgery £475.92, Great North Air Ambulance £700.73, NSPCC £254.71, and Macmillan Cancer Research £254.71 .

**Grants** The following grants were paid to church staff :

R.Bryant - Organist- £770.00

B.Morton - Verger - £550.00

H.Rochester - Grass cutting - £1224.00 ( £612.00 grant received from Bowness PC )

### **Parish Offering to Diocese**

The Parish Offering of £10,400 to Carlisle Diocese was paid in full.

### **Running Expenses**

Electricity	£378
Oil	£1004
Water	£244
Insurance	£2040

## **Independent examiners report to the PCC St Michael's Church , Bowness on Solway**

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 Dec 2019 , is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 (" the Regulations" ) and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 ( "the Act" ).

### **Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner**

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. You consider that the audit requirements of the Regulations and section 43(2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations .

### **Basis of this report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7) (b) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance , 2006 Edition, issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishop's Council. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequentially I do not express an adult opinion on the view given by the accounts .

### **Independent examiners statement**

1. In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act, and to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations have not been met, or
2. to which , in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Peter Day  
30 Naworth Drive  
Carlisle  
CA3 0DD

7th February 2020