

**St. Nicholas' Church,
Blundellsands**

Financial Statements of the
Parochial Church Council
for the year ended 31 December 2020

Registered charity number 1158819

Parochial Church Council of St. Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

Financial Review

2020 of course was a perfect storm for everyone, not least the church's finances. The Covid lockdowns immediately drained the Church of income from services, hall income and fundraising events. Hall income has been shoring up our finances for many years, and it fell in 2020 from £31,000 in 2019 to £15,000 in 2020. There was a further blow when our insurers won a legal test case which meant we were not insured for any Covid losses. We lost our fundraising income almost entirely.

But the Church rallied and found new ways of giving – digitally, by bank transfer, Just Giving, and even cheques and cash arriving through the door during lockdown. Overall we increased our giving by 9%, and the government chipped in nearly £7,000 via the Job Retention Scheme. The Diocese also agreed to a rebate of over £4,000 on our Parish Share for both 2020 and 2021. Some costs of course also fell whilst the Church was closed.

The Parish Giving Scheme continues to grow and new joiners in 2020 have helped to swell the income from this source, together with existing givers who increased their Parish Giving Scheme monthly donations in response to this crisis.

Somehow we have ended 2020 with a loss of only £1,217, for which we must be grateful as many churches will have fared far worse, but as we write in 2021 during another even more extended lockdown for the church we need to look for a way forward together to face another substantial and prolonged loss of income in 2021.

Reserves policy

The church maintains a number of reserves some of which are restricted in nature where the PCC needs to use the funds as laid down by the donor of the funds, and some of which are unrestricted where the PCC has full discretion over their use. Attached in notes 9 (church restricted fund), notes 5 & 10 (church endowment fund) and notes 11 (school endowment fund) are full details of the funds, their history and some indication of the purpose for which they are held. This policy sets out the four reasons for the PCC holding the level of unrestricted reserves shown in the financial statements:

- (i) To assist with the maintenance of the church and hall which is a Grade II listed building. The 2019 quinquennial inspection report of the Church and hall identified expenditure requirements well beyond the PCC's reserves. The PCC's response to the inspection report is to undertake the urgent repairs identified and continue to seek other sources of funds to assist with the major ongoing restoration needs.
- (ii) Therefore, the first call on unrestricted reserves is to undertake such urgent repairs as they arise.
- (iii) To undertake periodic refurbishments and upgrades to the internal fabric of both the church and the hall, such as redecoration, electrical maintenance or furniture replacements which are too large to be undertaken from the church's income.
- (iv) To be available for any major school projects where the church has a legal responsibility to contribute to the cost.

To be available should a deficit occurs, a target figure of £15,000 has been set for the Special Maintenance Reserve as a contingency to cover deficits. For many years during the last two decades deficits have been incurred. Currently the total deposited in this account stands at just over £15,000.

Agent Transactions

The PCC acted as a financial agent for the following people and organizations:-

- The Children's Society - £1,564 was paid from Christingle collecting boxes and candles and £64 from USPG boxes in 2019 and forwarded to the charities.

Parochial Church Council of St. Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

- £2,857 was received as Assigned Fees for weddings and funerals. This money was forwarded to the Diocese of Liverpool. Fees amounting to £527 relating to funerals and weddings during the interregnum were placed in a sequestration fund and paid to the Diocese in 2020. A further £2,137 was paid to the Diocese at the end of 2020 when the sequestration fund was closed. Following closure of the fund a further £534 was paid to the Diocese for fees in the fourth quarter of 2020. £460 was received in respect of organists and vergers and passed on to the appropriate individuals.

Performance of Investments

The performance of investments has been stable this year, with the church's endowment funds increasing in value slightly from £16,107 to £16,229.

Fundraising and Giving

Giving eligible for Gift Aid rose by £10,202 compared to 2019. There was however a drop in pledge giving of £931. Loose plate was down from £7,058 to £2,228. Overall income from giving before tax recovery was up by 9%, compared to a fall of 2.6% the previous year.

Parish giving from unrestricted income continued to support the Church Missionary Society work by £100 per month. A further £5,489 was distributed to charitable causes, purchase of the Holden memorial bench, and trees for the garden from special collection giving, together with grants from Sefton Council (trees) and the Deanery (Mission and Growth Fund).

General fundraising events contributed only £117 to unrestricted funds (compared to £3,671 in 2019) with an additional sum of £148 raised for organ restoration.

Approved by the PCC on 22nd March 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Derek Parkinson (Churchwarden)

Parochial Church Council of St. Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

Statement of responsibilities of PCC members and Governors as Trustees of a charity

The Parochial Church Council, is a charity. As a charity, its members are trustees, its property is charitable and it is bound by charity law.

PCC members have full responsibility for the Charity and must:

- act together and in person and not delegate control of the Charity to others;
- act strictly in accordance with the charity's governing document;
- act in the Charity's interest only;
- manage the Charity's affairs prudently and take a long-term as well as a short-term view;
- not derive any personal benefit or gain from the Charity of which they are trustees; and
- take proper professional advice on matters on which they are not themselves competent.
- PCC members are responsible for all of the operations of the Charity, especially in:
 - managing the Charity's finances;
 - applying the Charity's income for charitable purposes only;
 - managing land or buildings;
 - investing funds;
 - employing people;
 - appealing for funds;
 - ensuring that all the Charity's property is under the control of the trustees;
 - and collection of all money owed or due to the charity.

The PCC is responsible for all parish finance, its management and control, including the appointment of a treasurer. While it may delegate some of its duties, this does not remove its legal responsibilities. These include:

- a) Keeping 'proper accounting records', which must be sufficient to show and explain all the PCC's transactions. The records, together with the annual financial statements, must be preserved for at least six years from the end of the financial year to which they relate. These records must be sufficient to:
- show and explain all the PCC's transactions;
 - disclose the PCC's financial position at any time with reasonable accuracy;
 - enable the required accounts to be prepared;
 - show on a day-to-day basis all receipts and payments and what they were for; and include a record of all assets and liabilities.
- b) Ensuring that the finances of the PCC are under its control and only delegated if the PCC can ensure that its wishes will be followed.
- c) Preparing an annual account (financial statement) and report which shall be presented to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the requirements of the Church Representation Rules.
- d) Arranging for a suitable independent examination of the financial statements.

Parochial Church Council of St. Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St. Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands

Report to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Nicholas Church Blundellsands on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020, as set out on pages 6 to 15 of your Annual Report.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent Examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the PCC concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act

Or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

D G Roughley FCCA

2 Crondall Grove
Liverpool L15 6XA

30th April 2021

Parochial Church Council of St. Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ended 31 December 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Endowment Funds	Funds	Total Funds 2020	2019
		£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Voluntary income	1(a)	71146	2701	-	73847	74102
Activities for generating funds	1(b)	16151	-	-	16151	36175
Income from investments	1(c)	100	-	-	100	435
Other incoming resources	1(d)	650	2948	-	3598	21828
		88047	5649	-	93696	133080
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Cost of generation voluntary income	2(a)	-	-	-	-	315
Church activities	2(b)	87140	7550	-	94690	121019
Church management and administration	2 (c)	2125	-	-	2125	3239
Church school	2(d)	-	-	-	-	359
Restricted funds – restoration works/organ	2(e)	-	600	-	600	6851
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		89265	8150	-	97415	131783
NET INCOMING (OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES	-	(1218)	(2501)	-	(3719)	1297
Unrealised gains (losses) on investments	-	-	-	122	122	(55)
NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS		(1218)	(2501)	122	(3597)	1242
BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1 JANUARY 2020(2019)		15394	36591	16107	68092	66850
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER 2020(2019)		14177	34090	16229	64496	68092

The notes on pages 8 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

Parochial Church Council of St. Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 December 2020

	Note	2020	2020
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Investments (endowment funds)	5	16229	16107
Debtors/ prepayments	7	5270	1607
Short term deposits		31744	31610
Cash at bank and in hand		13990	21080
		51004	54297
LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	8	(2737)	(2312)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		48267	51985
TOTAL NET ASSETS		64496	68092
PARISH FUNDS			
Unrestricted		14177	15394
Restricted	9	34090	36591
Endowment	10	16229	16107
		64496	68092

The notes on pages 8 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 22nd March 2021 and signed on its' behalf by:

Mr Derek Parkinson (Churchwarden)

Mrs E Sinker (Honorary Treasurer)

Parochial Church Council of St. Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

Notes to the financial statements

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, together with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 2005.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, 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

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

Restricted funds represent (a) income from trusts of endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest, and (b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent 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 can be used for PCC ordinary purposes. The purpose of any restricted funds is noted in the accounts.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised on a receivable basis. Revenue grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Capital grants are accounted for on a receipts basis but the capital commitment is disclosed by way of a note to the financial statements. All incoming resources are 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 is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by S 96(2) (a) of the Charities Act 1993. Moveable church furnishings, held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are inalienable property listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements.

Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,000 per annum so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Parochial Church Council of St. Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

Notes to the financial statements

Likewise, all expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings and movable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off.

Investments are valued at market value at 31st December.

Current assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees or other income are shown as debtors less any provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the Central Board of Finance or at the bank.

Parochial Church Council of St. Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

1. INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	
				2020	2019
	£	£	£	£	£
1(a) Voluntary income					
Planned giving					
Gift aid	46594	-	-	46594	36392
Income tax recoverable on gift aid	11091	-	-	11091	11601
Pledges not subject to gift aid	889	-	-	889	1820
Collections (open plate) at all services	2227	-	-	2227	7056
Gift day and special collections	-	2701	-	2701	16409
Sundry donations	3,429	-	-	3429	824
Job Retention Scheme	6916	-	-	6916	-
	71146	2701	-	73847	74102
1(b) Activities for generating funds					
Fetes and fundraising events*	117	-	-	117	3671
Magazines*	78	-	-	78	283
Church Hall use	15250	-	-	15250	31005
Fees	650	-	-	650	1393
Fellowship teas*	39	-	-	39	297
Children's activities – JUICE, 3F4U	17	-	-	17	66
	16151	-	-	16151	36715
1(c) Income from investments					
Interest from deposits	100	-	-	100	435
Interest from endowments	-	-	-	-	-
1(d) Other incoming resources					
Organ fund income plus interest	-	148	-	148	2351
Restoration fund – interest	-	-	-	-	15
Restoration fund – Grant from Heritage Funs	-	-	-	-	-
Restoration fund – sundry fundraising and donations	-	-	-	-	-
Grants – non Heritage Lottery	-	-	-	-	-
Special maintenance reserve	-	66	-	66	116
Special Purposes Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Sequestration Fund	-	2734	-	2734	527
Insurance recov	650	-	-	650	12707
VAT recoveries	-	-	-	-	6112
	750	2948	-	3698	21828
Total incoming resources	88047	5649	-	93696	133080

*See note 2 for any corresponding expenditure

Parochial Church Council of St. Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

2. RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	2020	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
2(a) Cost of generation voluntary income					
Costs of fetes and fundraising events*	-	-	-	-	315
2(b) Church activities Charitable giving					
<u>Missionary</u>					
UPSG – boxes	-	64	-	64	108
Church Missionary Society	-	-	-	-	383
CMS Mission Partner	1200	-	-	1200	1200
Mission and Growth Fund	-	43	-	43	-
<u>Relief & Development Agencies</u>					
Children's Society Boxes and Candles	-	1564	-	1564	878
Christian Aid donation	-	20	-	20	80
Salvation Army	-	200	-	200	133
Foodbank	-	431	-	431	-
<u>Home missions & Other Church Societies</u>					
Choir stall lights	-	-	-	-	7
Church furniture -2020 Holden Bench	-	1250	-	1250	1942
Heritage Sefton for Good Grant	-	90	-	90	511
Church Heating	-	-	-	-	10201
Flower Vestry	-	-	-	-	135
Clergy Leaving Gifts	-	-	-	-	1210
Youth Worker	-	-	-	-	149
Memorial Gardens and Sefton Tree Grant	-	627	-	627	-
Sequestration Fund (payment to LDBF)	-	3261	-	3261	-
	1200	7550	-	8750	16937
Other church activities					
Parish share	52548	-	-	52548	53000
Ministry:					
Vicar's expenses and phone	382	-	-	382	1454
Council tax and water rates	-	-	-	-	3206
Vicarage maintenance	-	-	-	-	-
Visiting preachers	-	-	-	-	-
PAYE	1298	-	-	1298	1368
Parish Assistant and Administrator	6145	-	-	6145	7068
Reader and curate incl housing	129	-	-	129	5058
<i>The bridge/3F4U/Toddler Ch/Hol Cl</i>	-	-	-	-	65
Church:					
Heat and light	4590	-	-	4590	6078
Liturgy wine and wafers	665	-	-	665	1048
Other sundry expenses	844	-	-	844	899
Cleaning	274	-	-	274	656
Maintenance	3710	-	-	3710	4361
Organ maintenance	840	-	-	840	1171
Water rates	352	-	-	352	760
Fellowship teas*	-	-	-	-	(8)
Parish entertaining /events	83	-	-	83	130
Hall maintenance and broadband	1199	-	-	1199	2005
Magazine expenditure*	105	-	-	105	420
Caretaker and verger	3718	-	-	3718	5939

Parochial Church Council of St. Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

Choir and organist	1623	-	-	1623	1927
Insurance	6028	-	-	6028	5853
Hall secretary	1407	-	-	1407	1624
	87140	-	-	87140	104943

2 (c) Church management and administration

Printing and stationery	1975	-	-	1975	3089
Independent examiner	150	-	-	150	150
	2125	-	-	2125	3239

2 (d) St Nicholas' School

Leaver's gifts	-	-	-	-	359
	-	-	-	-	359

2(e) Restricted funds

Organ restoration	-	-	-	-	-
Restoration works	-	600	-	600	6851
	-	-	-	-	6851

Total resources expended

89265	8150	-	97415	131783
--------------	-------------	---	--------------	---------------

3. STAFF COSTS

During the year the PCC employed an Organist, two Caretakers, a Hall Secretary and a Parish Assistant and a Parish Administrator whose gross earnings, including employers' national insurance, were as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
Parish Administrator	4763	5424
Caretaker	3718	5939
Organist	1511	1778
Parish assistant	1382	1644
Hall secretary	1407	1584
	12781	16369

There were no other employees and therefore no employees earned £40,000 or more during the year. Together these employees equate to less than one full time employee.

4. PAYMENTS TO PCC MEMBERS DURING 2019

	2020 £	2019 £
Elizabeth Sinker: Hall Secretary	1407	1624
	1407	1624

5. FIXED ASSETS

	2020 £	2019 £
Investments (endowment funds)		
Treasury stock 5.5% 2008/12 – CR Taylor Bequest	1229	1107
CBF Deposit funds – Mellor Bequest	15000	15000
	16229	16107

Parochial Church Council of St. Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

6. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
2020				
Fixed assets	-	-	16229	16229
Current assets	16914	34090	-	51,004
Current liabilities	(2737)	-	-	(2737)
	14177	34090	16229	64,496
2019				
Fixed assets	-	-	16107	16107
Current assets	17706	36591	-	54297
Current liabilities	(2312)	-	-	(2312)
	15394	36591	16107	68092

7. DEBTORS

	2020 £	2019 £
Prepayments	-	-
Other debtors	5270	1607
	5270	1607

8. LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2020 £	2019 £
Accruals	-	1677
Other creditors	2737	635
	2737	2312

9. RESTRICTED FUND

The restricted fund at 31st December comprises the following:

		2020 £	2019 £
Organ fund	-funds donated to refurbish the organ	16314	16166
Special maintenance reserve	-the original donor set down conditions that the fund could only be used at the discretion of the Treasurer and Finance Committee and with the formal approval of the PCC, for major unavoidable deficits and to assist with the PCC's contribution to major projects at St. Nicholas' School	13829	13763
Special purposes	-given by church organisations and individuals for special projects in the church	784	784
Memorial Thanksgiving	-funds given in memory of parishioners	771	771
Sequestration Fund	- fee for funerals and wedding during Interregnum	-	527
Restoration Fund	-funds collected for major restoration schemes	15	615
Special Collections	-funds donated during the year to specified charities	2377	3965
		34,090	36591

Parochial Church Council of St. Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

The Organ Fund

The organ at St Nicholas' is the single most expensive item in the church. The replacement cost would be in the region of £1,000,000. The organ has a general tune twice yearly. This only gives time for the organ builders to attend to the most urgent pipes. There is currently no provision for maintenance; occasional repairs, cleaning etc. An instrument of this size and quality should really have 3 full-day tunes per year.

Repairs are needed as follows:-

Phase 1 – £16,215.00 Transmission System. COMPLETED

- o New electrical works to the console

Phase 2 - £10,856 Repair to the great and choir bellows. URGENT

- o Restoration of the choir and great bellows with repairs to woodwork and leatherwork as required. They are currently held together with 'gaffer' tape!

Phase 3 - £11,068. Piston Capture System. URGENT

- o Installation of a new electrical system at the console. Old electric wiring and contacts are corroded and not fit for purpose.

The organ gives a false impression at the moment! It works and sounds great but at any given moment it could be decommissioned; if the bellows don't work, no sound is produced, if the console electrics don't work, no sound is produced.

Phase 4 – Complete overhaul of woodwork and leatherwork and general clean and repair -

£80,000+. This would leave the instrument modernised and in great repair for the next 100+ years.

The organ fund currently stands at £16,166. Further work is needed to access grant funding.

Report on restoration and buildings for the 2020 annual financial report

Yet again, this has been a very challenging year for the maintenance of the building due to financial restrictions. The contract signed by myself on behalf of the PCC with the National Heritage Lottery Fund is a legal document which committed ourselves to maintain the building for ten years as a Place of Worship alongside its role as a Heritage Centre. The majority of this has been completed.

During the last year however, the church building has had less use. Despite this, the independent heating systems for both the church and hall, the roof alarm and fire extinguishers have been serviced. The organ has been tuned twice and portable appliance testing has been completed. It was not considered financially viable however to service the electrically operated glazed doors owing to limited use during the various lock downs.

The general maintenance has also been limited due to the impositions of the pandemic. Men's Working Party operations were cancelled except for basic routine tasks. Our caretaker, Eric has completed some tasks when not being on furlough. The neglect of not clearing rainwater goods can have a devastating impact on a building of this size. Consequently, the North and South aisle roof gutters and hoppers were cleared along with all the grids. We experienced abnormal rainfall in 2020 which could have had dire consequences without basic maintenance and the benefit of our new drainage system installed in 2018.

An invitation to MWP members to volunteer to address minor maintenance tasks in safe but small socially distanced groups has been circulated. This suggestion, if taken up, is more favourable than waiting for official restrictions to be lifted the date of which is vague. Regular maintenance reduces the possibility of unwanted expensive costs. The absence of hall users gives us an opportunity to safely carry out worthwhile tasks which would be challenging with them being present.

Storm Ciara on the weekend of 8/9th February and Storm Dennis, one week later resulted in several slates becoming dislodged and the church suffered from severe water ingress through the roof. A loss adjuster was appointed to handle the claim. He sanctioned the costs of a high-level inspection of the bell tower. On the scheduled date of the inspection, a

Parochial Church Council of St. Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

mechanical fault with the vehicle resulted in the inspection being cancelled. The next day, a national lock down was announced. Six months later, the inspection took place using the company, Hylift Access, and our architect was able to photograph inside the tower to identify the problem. It was full of bird guano. This has blocked the two small outlet pipes designed to divert rainwater away from the tower. A claim was made to our insurers through our architect's report that the pipes were inadequately sized. Our claim was unfortunately rejected on the grounds of "lack of maintenance". Bird netting had been installed in 2008 but should have been present when the tower was erected.

Thankfully, however, the storm damage claim to the roof was approved and the architect was sanctioned to invite three tenders for the repairs. A suitably accredited company, Fulwood Roofing, are expected to commence the works on the 18th March 2021, and they are expected to take 4-6 weeks to complete. The costs of over £34,500 are governed by the necessity to install scaffolding across both North and South roofs with the protection of both lower aisle roofs.

During the Christmas break, the tiled flooring around the area of the car park entrance fire exit and WC area was removed. The mastic adhesive used to lay them had been identified as containing an asbestos compound. The tiles were safely removed, bagged and identified following H&S guidelines. They have been replaced with Amtico vinyl tiles which had been purchased at low cost several years ago intended for the disabled WC area.

The dawn to dusk car park security light has been replaced with an effective and efficient LED unit.

The Health and Safety policy has been updated, approved by the PCC and duly signed by our vicar Beth. Steve Bailey is to be thanked for this laborious, mandatory requirement as our church is a public building governed by national, insurance and diocesan guidelines.

The restoration application to the East end of the church (the altar end), and St. Barnabas' chapel has been suspended following information from the National Heritage Lottery Fund. Their grants programme had been impacted by the pandemic and the rules and priority of applications have been changed.

The restoration committee have recently recommenced meetings and are adjusting the application to reflect the impact of the pandemic now and in the future as required by the NHLF guidelines.

We are still on the Heritage at Risk register which prioritizes listed Places of Worship as being in danger.

We are hopeful that our application will reflect the huge amount of work which has gone into our heritage programme alongside the three recent phases of restoration. Any lengthy delay or application rejection would diminish the previous financial support we have been granted in our mission to complete the repairs.

Stephen Green, Chair, Building and Premises Committee

10. ENDOWMENT FUND

The endowment fund at each year-end comprises the balances listed in note 5 above.

The CR Taylor bequest was provided in order to generate some income for the benefit of the Parish and its curate, but the income can be used whether or not a curate is in place. The stock is held by Liverpool Diocesan Board of Finance (LDBF) as custodian trustee.

The Mellor bequest is invested in the Deposit Fund of the Central Board of Finance. Under JDH Mellor's will, the bequest was made as "to the Vicar and Churchwardens for the time being of the Parish of St. Nicholas, Blundellsands upon trust for such religious purposes in the said parish as the said Vicar and Churchwardens shall in their absolute discretion think fit". Interest from the trust is credited to PCC unrestricted income, as directed by the said Trustees.

Parochial Church Council of St. Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

11. ENDOWMENT FUND – St Nicholas' School

The endowment fund represents the proceeds of the sale of the former school building at Warrenhouse Road. The investment in Treasury Stock is held by Liverpool Diocesan Board of Finance as Custodian Trustee.

	2020	2019
	£	£
Investment (endowment funds)		
Deposit fund – Control Board of Finance	1189	1189
Treasury stock % 2001 – Warrenhouse Road	6,916	6680
	8105	7869

Parochial Church Council of St. Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

Annex not forming part of the Financial Statements

Simplified income and expenditure account (unrestricted fund only) For the year ended 31 December 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
Income		
Gift aid	46,594	36,392
Tax recovery	11,091	11,601
Pledges	889	1,820
Loose plate	2228	7,056
Use of hall	15,250	31,005
Fees	651	1,393
Job Retention Scheme Payments	6,916	-
Just Giving donations	1,389	-
Fundraising events	117	3,671
Mission and Deanery Grant	1,000	-
Interest and other income	1,923	14,612
Total income	88,048	107,550
Expenditure		
Parish giving (out of income)	1,200	1,200
Parish share	52,548	53,000
Clergy, curate and reader expenses	511	9,718
Heat and light, internet	5,107	6,432
Maintenance of Buildings	5,231	7,032
Insurance	6,028	5,853
Caretaker, organist and Parish admin	12,672	14,784
Visiting preachers	-	-
Other costs	5,968	11,176
Total expenditure	89,265	109,195
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(1,217)	(1,645)
Surplus brought forward	15,394	18,377
Less balancing transfer to restoration fund		(1,338)
Surplus carried forward	14,177	15,394