**ANNUAL REPORTS and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

for

**The Parochial Church Council**

**Hoole Parish Church St Michael’s and All Angels**

**Liverpool Old Road Hoole PR4 5JQ**

**As at 31st December 2016**

**The Rector**

Rev Derek A Baines

16 Middlefield

Leyland

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**Bank:**

The Royal Bank of Scotland

78 Liverpool Road

Penwortham

Preston

**Independent Examiner**

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[**www.hooleparishchurch.com**](http://www.hooleparishchurch.com)

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**Rector’s Report**

2016 has been an excellent year in so many ways in spite of a horrible start with the flooding. Our two Church Wardens, Jock Davidson and Robert Hawthornthwaite, assisted by Bill Carr, CW Emeritus, have worked hard in maintaining the church and working with insurers and contractors in the early part of the year. Jock has carried on with maintaining the impetus of the drainage project with many hours spent working with Robert, the architect and contractors in surveying and determining the requirements of the church drainage. Robert has maintained oversight of the churchyard with maintenance work ongoing.

Thanks go to them for the heavy workload which carries on quietly behind the scenes.

Barbara Wood, our treasurer has had a difficult year as HMRC changes have meant that we, even as a charity, are now treated as employers and she has worked tirelessly with Mr Neil Latham (Accountant), Jock and me to bottom out the issues surrounding church volunteers who receive an honorarium. Our thanks go to her for her dedication.

At the end of 2015 we re-formatted the way that our standing committee (SC) work and this has affected the way that PCC is run. Thanks go to Andrea Susnik who not only acts as PCC secretary but now looks after the standing committee notes as well. The SC now meets a few weeks before the PCC for a couple of hours and delivers reports to the PCC for questions and actions, this saves a great deal of repetition and enables the PCC to run more smoothly. Thanks to members of the PCC for continuing support and a good attendance record at meetings. We have had a resignation from the Deanery Synod and need to replace Eunice Houghton. Many thanks to her for her hard work, also to say thank you for her work as a foundation school governor over many years as she ends her work in that group.

Within our worship we continue to say thank you to our music group as they enjoy leading our worship and occasionally singing anthems. Our thanks must also go to Carole Wilson and Phil Norton for their musical support and guidance in worship. The music for liturgy is now chosen by an active group of people both from the choir and from the pews, an exercise that has opened eyes as to its occasional complexity but is always carried out with great jollity.

Our thanks go to Rona McClure, the parish Pastoral Assistant in her continuing work with visiting, home communion to the housebound and her help at Baptism preparation and the services.

I am very pleased to be able to report that Margaret Kirkman is developing a marvellous ministry with children and families; this will be developed over time. We are exploring other vocational ministries with Margaret.

The PCC have offered support to Marie Johnson who is to ‘train’ as a Pastoral Assistant supporting Rona and Derek in this ministry. This will not take place until later in 2017.

The PCC also support Alan Johnson who has been accepted by the Bishop of Burnley to explore Reader Ministry and will be going through the selection process this year.

So much hard work goes on behind the scenes, with church decoration with flowers and collages, help with liturgy, Baptism preparation and so on, that it is impossible to name all who help so a thank you to all who give their time so freely and willingly.

We now have 2 study groups using the “Pilgrim” course format. We have set one in an evening with good attendance and interesting discussions and in Early January we commence a lunchtime session at Old Mill Court where we hope that attendance will be high with congregation members joining the community.

The church now opens for prayer twice a month, once in an evening and once at lunchtime.

**Rector’s Report (cont)**

During the year we carried out 7 weddings, 25 Baptism of children, 19 funerals and 10 interments of Cremated remains.

Our average weekly attendance has dropped to 64 with 6 children, lower than 2015 but the numbers reflect the state of church attendance throughout the land. Messy church attendance averages at 8 children and 13 adults which includes team, parents and families.

Unfortunately we have said goodbye to some of our regular members who have died during the year but we have seen a couple of new families who have joined us after moving into the area.

Michael’s club is encouraging children and we have a core of 14 children. See the separate reports.

Work has been ongoing to try and ‘recruit’ a coordinator for our Messy Church as we say goodbye to Jean Dewhurst who has been carrying out the role for 2 years. Thanks go to her for her guidance.

The Community worship event was a huge success and our thanks go to all who helped both from St Michael’s and the Methodist Chapel with support from St Michael’s School.

Finally we celebrated 50 years of scouting in the Hoole Villages with a full church and a talk linking the Gospel of service & preparation to that of the scouting ideals. Our link with the scout group continues.

We look forward to an equally exciting 2017.

**Derek Baines**

**Epiphany 2017.**

**The Churchwardens’ Report**

We started the New Year the same as we ended the old one, by continuing to dry out the Church. This continued throughout the month of January.

February saw the congregation rally round for the big clean up after the flood. A very big thank you to all who participated in this task. Thankfully we managed to get the Church ready for our first wedding of the year, well done.

In March this year we hosted The Women’s World Day of Prayer, which was very well attended. The theme this year was based on Cuba. We are also pleased to report that the number of men who attended had increased. It was an enjoyable afternoon.

The Rev D Baines, J Davidson, B Carr and B Wood, attended a course on How To Care For A Listed Building, which was held in Pendle. It was an interesting and very informative course; we all got something from it. We now ask you the congregation to report anything unusual in the structure of the building or the fabrics in the Church to either Revd D Baines or one of the Church Wardens.

April also saw the Revd Marc Wolverson, Vicar of Leyland St James, appointed as the Area Dean of the Deanery of Leyland. Marc was licensed and commissioned on the 14th April by The Bishop of Blackburn, The Right Revd Julian Henderson. We wish Marc well in his new appointment.

**The Churchwardens’ Report (cont)**

The confirmation service for candidates from St Michael’s and Penwortham St Leonard’s took place on Sunday 17th April. There were 14 children and 2 adults between both churches. The Right Revd Julian Henderson,

Bishop of Blackburn, officiated. This was followed by a Parish Lunch in the school hall. We were delighted that Bishop Julian and his good lady wife Heather were able to join us on this occasion.

The Bishop’s visitation took place on 10th May at Preston Guild Hall. The Revd D Baines, R. Hawthornthwaite, B Carr and J Davidson were in attendance. All Church Wardens were sworn in along with the, Vision 2026 Champions, Cross Roads Deanery Coordinators, and the PCC members. There was a congregation of approximately 2000; it was a most enjoyable evening.

To celebrate the Queen’s official birthday several members of the PCC along with Revd D Baines attended St Michael’s school and handed out copies of “The Servant Queen and the King she serves” to all the pupils and staff. Members of the church congregation also received a copy.

During the months of June and July we welcomed the Reverends Nick Mansfield, John Scott and Frank Kendall, who all did a magnificent job while Revd Baines was on holiday.

On Sunday 9th October, St Michaels and All Angels Parish Church held a combined Community Worship Event with The Methodist Chapel of Hoole. It was held in the Hoole Village Hall, where we had displays depicting the Young peoples Church which includes all the family and the Ladies Floral displays. Also included was Hoole’s experience with mixing “science and religion in communion”.

This was followed by a short Songs of Praise when we were joined by the choirs of St Michael’s Church of England Primary school.

The afternoon ended with tea coffee and cakes. We were blessed with some good weather and as we put the last chair and table away we had a small shower. I am glad to report that the numbers were up on last year; we had 80 adults and 25 children in attendance which is very encouraging and gives us hope that the trend will continue in the future.

We welcomed the Rev’d Patricia Belshaw to lead us in prayer when Rev’d D Baines was away. As well as leading us in prayer at the 0900am and 1030am services Rev’d Belshaw also carried out a Baptism. We thank Rev’d Belshaw for her leadership and look forward to seeing her again.

Sunday the 13th November was Remembrance Sunday. The flower ladies have to be commended for their floral arrangements round the Church. A special mention has to be made with reference to the display on the Altar. Lisa and her team made a magnificent display of poppies, with Marie Johnson’s collage of a soldier in the back ground. Ladies you have done us proud.

I feel I have to mention the attendance on this day, we had 179 adults and 19 children. My question is this, where are they for the remaining 364 days? Sunday 11th December the 1030 service was Family Praise combined with a celebration of 100 years of Cub Scouting and 50 years of Scouting in the Hoole Villages. This was well attended by Scouts present and past and their families.

Once again on Thursday 15th December we met at the Smithy Inn for “Lancashire Sings Christmas”. We made our way to the Village Hall where we met up with Radio Lancashire. Everyone had a good sing song and a very enjoyable evening.

**The Churchwardens’ Report (cont)**

The Advent and Christmas Carol Service was held on Sunday 18th of December. This was a very well attended service where we sung our hearts out. This was followed by tea, coffee and cakes. A very hearty thank you to the Ladies who provided the cakes and biscuits.

On Thursday 22nd of December St Michael’s School held their School Carol service. There was standing room only in the Church. I attended this service for the first time and I had a most enjoyable afternoon. I would recommend anyone who has not been to try and attend next year. A big thank you to Mrs J Duxworth and her staff for the hard work they put in to get the children ready.

On Christmas Eve at 1700hrs we had our Crib Service; again, another extremely enjoyable service which the children and adults enjoyed.

We celebrated Christmas Holy Communion at 2330hrs on Saturday 24th December when again we had a full church.

On Christmas Day we celebrated the birth of Our Lord with Family Communion. Again we had a very full church.

**Extracts from the Church Log Book 2016**

**Friday 1st January 2016**

J Davidson inspected the church, no major worries at this time.

**Saturday 2nd January 2016**

J Davidson inspected the church, there were no problems.

**Sunday 3rd January 2016**

Services were held in church, doors open.

**Monday 4th January 2016**

J Davidson inspected church. Pumped the water from the boiler house .Carpet around the Font was removed by Revd D Baines and J Davidson. It was found to be extremely damp underneath.

**Wednesday 6th January 2016**

Heavy rain. J Davidson inspected the “Sump” concern over the level of water in the “Sump”.

Ian Hodge was contacted.

**Thursday 7th January 2016**

Tempest (Drying Solutions) arrived. Discussed the need to circulate the air in the church to help the drying out of the building. It was decided that blowers should be installed instead of dehumidifiers. Extra wiring was installed to our circuits for this purpose. Antimicrobial spray throughout the church.

**Friday 8th January 2016**

Revd D Baines and J Davidson removed ‘roofing felt’ underlay around the Font- very damp and mouldy in places.

Harry Jackson (builder) arrived to decide what action was required to ensure the circulation of air under the pews and to prepare a quotation

**Extracts from the Church Log Book 2016 (cont)**

Ian Hodge(engineer) arrived and inspected the drain chambers and the sump. All filled to within a few inches of the top. Called in Hydrotech to jet out the drains and assess water removal from site.

**Saturday 9th January 2016**

Hydrotec at the church for most of the day. Telephone report from I Hodgson that they had great difficulty in clearing the drains. So they brought in rods and cameras which showed that there was a total blockage of the United Utilities drain under Liverpool Old Road.

United Utilities were contacted and clearing job planned for Sunday 10th January.

**Sunday 10th January 2016**

United Utilities cleared the blockage and reported all drains were clear.

**Wednesday 13th January 2016**

Hand rails fitted in the Belfry (Mobility Care Services) in accordance with health and safety requirements and advice from the insurance company.

**Thursday 14th January 2016**

J Davidson inspected the boiler house. Water had subsided considerably. Remaining water was pumped out.

Engineer from Tempest (Drying Solutions) could not investigate under the Chancel with the cameras as it was found to be a solid floor.

**Thursday 21st January 2016**

Revd D Baines and J Davidson met with the engineer from Tempest(Drying Solutions). Damp meter reading showed one or two spots were still damp. Otherwise the church is drying out okay. Blowers left on for another week.

**Wednesday 27th January 2016**

Members of the church congregation cleaned the upholstery and pews after the drying out process from the floods.

J Davidson sprayed the flagged footpath outside the church with Algon.

**Monday 1st February 2016**

All electrical appliances in church were tested to P.A.T. standards.

**Wednesday 3rd February 2016**

Advised by Tempest (Drying Solutions) to run the blowers 2 days on and 2 days off. This is to enable the building to settle back to normal.

**Monday 19th February 2016**

Revd D Baines and J Davidson met with the engineer from Tempest (Drying Solutions). It was decided the church had dried out sufficiently to enable the removal of the blowers.

A final report will be forwarded when all information is collated.

Fire extinguishers were inspected and serviced by A B Fire Extinguishers. A Safety Certificate was issued.

**Thursday 22nd February 2016**

J Davidson and W Carr replaced 2 bulbs in the Chancel, 1 bulb in the Chandelier, 1 bulb above the Altar, and 2 bulbs on the North wall.

**Extracts from the Church Log Book 2016 (cont)**

**Thursday 3rd March 2016**

J Davidson pumped the water from the boiler House and the Sump.

The Electrician from Tempest (Drying Solutions) disconnected the additional wiring from the fuse box which was installed while the blowers were in use during the drying out process.

**Wednesday 16th March 2016**

Revd D Baines and J Davidson met with Derek and Natasha from Ecclesiastic Insurance to discuss our claim. They said they would seek further advice on the type of material and work to be carried out on the floor.

All electrical equipment belonging to the church which is stored in the school for the use of the Messy Church were tested to P.A.T. standards.

**Friday 1st April 2016**

A new shelf was fitted in the church to accommodate the statue of Jeremiah Horrocks.

**Tuesday 19th April 2016**

Lightening Conductors were tested and passed to P.A.T. Standard

**Wednesday 5th May 2016**

A faculty has been applied for to enable us to fell an Ash tree in the Church graveyard which has Ash Dieback disease. Also the Beech tree next to the flagpole requires several branches trimming back as they are damaging the flags.

**Monday 13th June 2016**

Due to recent break-ins to cars parked on the car park several signs were erected, warning the public to remove all personal belongings from view. There was also a disclaimer sign to remind the public the Church was not responsible for any damage caused.

**Thursday 16th June 2016**

P Crabtree (Tree Surgeon) Felled the Ash Tree in the Churchyard which had Ash Dieback. He also trimmed the branches on the Beech Tree adjacent to the Flag Pole. This was to prevent damage to the flags.

Lee Holmes (Plumber) repaired the leaking cistern in the vestry. New washer was required.

**Thursday 28th July 2016**

Church clock was serviced and checked to P.A.T. standard by, Smiths of Derby, all okay.

**Monday 8th August 2016**

The church Organ was serviced to P.A.T. standard by, Allenorgans.co.uk. The Terz key on the key board required repairing. A new battery was also fitted.

**Wednesday 26th October 2016**

S Tighe fitted a new lock on the Church Donations box fixed to the back of the end Pew.

**Friday 4th November 2016**

S Tighe fitted a new shelf above the sink in the toilet in the Vestry.

**Thursday 17th November 2016**

Bill Carr and electrician from Busfields ( electricians) repaired the flood light under the Lych-Gate enabling the car park to be illuminated.

**Extracts from the Church Log Book 2016 (cont)**

**Friday 18th November 2016**

Harry Jackson (builder) found there was inadequate over lap on the slates on the Sanctuary roof, and this was the cause of the leaks. On further inspection he found that there was insufficient slates, there would appear to be one row missing. He made a repair to the roof for the time being. However he advised that we may have re-lay part or all of the roof in the future.

**Tuesday 22nd November 2016**

The water heater in the kitchen kept fusing leading to us not having any hot water. G Miller (plumber) inspected it and immediately condemned it; water had been leaking onto the electrics for some time causing the heater to continually fuse. A new one was installed by G Miller and is working fine.

**Thursday 24th November 2016**

The organ recording system was updated from recording on floppy discs, to a Midi System which enables us to record all our music onto a Memory stick. There is a note book for Carole and Phil to make a note of the Hymns they record for future reference.

**Jock Davidson JP and Robert Hawthornthwaite**

**Church Wardens**

**Legal and Administrative Information**

The Parish Church of Hoole St Michael is located on Liverpool Old Road, Much Hoole, near Preston.

The address for correspondence during 2016 was 16 Middlefield Avenue, Leyland, PR26 7AE.

**The Members of the Parochial Church Council**

Chairman: Rev Derek Baines

Vice Chairman: Jock Davidson

Churchwardens: Jock Davidson

Bob Hawthornthwaite

Secretary: Andrea Susnik

Treasurer: Barbara Wood

Pastoral Assistant: Rona McClure

Synod Reps: Jane Elphick, Eunice Houghton, Jock Davidson

EX Officio: David Turner, Phil Norton, Julie Tanham, Jean Dewhurst

Members: Bill Carr, Kathleen Leigh, Ted Hopkins, Pearl Read, Jean Smallwood, Margaret Kirkman.

None of whom received any payment for their PCC services and were elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting or co-opted at a PCC meeting at a later date.

The PCC is a charity with Excepted Status given by the Charity Commission.

The names of the main bankers are Royal Bank of Scotland, Penwortham Branch, and Barclays Bank

**Aims and Organisation of the PCC**

The aim of the PCC is to co-operate with the Rector in promoting in the Parish the whole mission of the Church; pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. For the Mission Statement refer to Appendix A.

The PCC is structured with officers of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer; policy decisions being taken by the whole of the members after discussion. There are two subsidiary organisations with designated status:

* The Friends of St Michael’s and Development Committee – see Appendix B
* Hoole St Michael’s Messy Church – see Appendix I

**Electoral Role and Average Attendance**

The number on the Electoral Roll is 110 – no change from 2015.

Our average weekly attendance is 62 with 6 children.

**Objectives and Activities**

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

When planning the activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Commission’s guidance on public benefit, and in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. The PCC tries to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of the Parish community through:

* Worship, prayer; learning about the Gospel and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus
* Provision of pastoral care for people living in the Parish
* Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Michael’s which falls within the working remit of The Friends of St Michael’s and Development Committee, which operates under the guidance of the PCC.

**Review of the Activities of the Church**

Issues discussed fully by the PCC include:

* Arrangements for our main festivals throughout the Church’s year;
* The welfare of parishioners, including those with any special needs;
* The progress of Michael’s Club is reported, the Minister also giving an overview of his involvement with the local Church and county schools;
* Financial issues affecting not only our own Parish and Diocese but the broader mission of the Church in general, incorporating wherever and whenever possible overseas assistance;
* The maintenance and improvement of the Church and Churchyard;
* Any issues arising from the Deanery Synod reports;
* Arrangements for regular ecumenical services throughout the year

**Main Events in the Life of the Church**

Voluntary help is willingly given by many members of the Church and community, in the preparation and implementation of the main events in the church year. This includes the compilation and distribution of a monthly magazine for the benefit of Church members, the wider community and others interested in the life of our Church. Details of the events of this year are covered in the various reports presented elsewhere in this report.

Appendix A St Michael’s Church Mission Statement

**Your God, Your Church, Here for You!**

Founded in the grace of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ, celebrating the love and service of the Lord and life; we the people of St Michael’s will share Christ’s love and values with people of all ages so that through prayer, teaching and sharing we will grow together in the love of God our creator.

We invite you to join us in

Our Worship

Our Faith

Our Fellowship

Our Mission

**May The Lord Bless You And Keep You**

Appendix B PCC Treasurer’s Report

In 2015 I produced a report for the first time to be included in this document. It set out the processes to be followed and the information to be provided for a year end report.. Please refer to that document if you need to refresh your memory.

We began the financial year struggling with our profit and loss levels – in other words we were spending more than we had coming in and on two occasions had to “borrow” from the savings account totalling £5,000 in order to keep the cash flow moving**.** This was as a direct result of an outstanding claim for Gift Aid from 2015 not being submitted. This was due to volunteer staffing problems and their availability to action this claim (no fault of their own). To this end, this is a timely reminder to you all, that our Gift Aid Recorder (Phil Norton) wishes to retire from this role and is looking for a replacement. I am also looking for help in the role of Treasurer to spread the workload.

You will be pleased to know that I have had three separate enquiries for different aspects of the financial roles available and each is being followed up.

To put the above into perspective:

* The projected Gift Aid tax claim for 2015 is £5,348.00
* The projected Gift Aid tax claim for 2016 is £5,406.00

**Appendix B - PCC Treasurer’s Report (cont)**

I think these figures confirm how important our Gift Aiding is – so if you are reading this report, and you pay tax, and you donate to our Church or The Friends, please **please** make sure you are registered on our database.

**The Parish Share**

I can confirm that all debts were fully paid up at the year end, this includes the Parish Share we pay to the Diocese every year. In 2016 the Parish Share was £28,598. We achieve this by setting up a standing order of £2,000 per month, pay the diocese their share of wedding and funeral fees every quarter and in December carry out any adjustments if necessary. In fact in 2016, I accidentally overpaid by £335, but this will be reflected in the first statement received from the Diocese in 2017. The Parish Share for 2017 is £28,107. If anyone wishes to find out more on the Parish Share and Diocesan Budget, please refer to the Diocesan website of [www.blackburn.angican.org](http://www.blackburn.angican.org). and type in “parish finance” in the search box. There is also a booklet available from the Diocese – 01254 503075.

**Charitable Giving**

We gave a total of £6,332.71 to Charity this year direct from PCC funds as follows:

* FOMO £900. regular charity we support
* FOMO £474.05 Harvest Service collection
* SHARE £900 regular charity we support
* Okorum Village £900 regular charity we support
* 1st Hoole Scouts £900 regular charity we support
* Royal British Legion £100 Wreath and donation
* Barchester Fund £1309 paid twice yearly to support school projects
* Bishop’s Ordination Fund £148.85 collected at the confirmation service
* St Michael’s School £530.81 school bibles and Robinwood trip
* Michael’s Club £70 staff training
* St Michael’s Rainbows £100 start up costs

*(Sadly this group has folded now due to lack of volunteer leaders)*

We also held two special appeals where funds were raised by our parishioners and congregation – this money is not counted as church income or expenditure, hence they are listed separately below and not part of the accounts:

* Water Aid £520.00
* Hope for Haiti Appeal £173.06

**Donations Received Outside of Services**

Thanks go to all the family and friends who have donated to our church throughout the year in memory of their loved ones. When I have been provided with the information, individual letters of thanks and appreciation have been sent, either to individuals or their representatives. The majority of these donations have been given “in loving memory” of someone................:

**Gift Aided Not Gift Aided**

£1,544 (worth an extra £386) £1,893

**Restricted Donations**

Any donation that is given with a specific instruction on its use has to be classed as a Restricted Donation (brown ink entries). We regularly receive this type of donation for the maintenance of the churchyard from the Men’s Fellowship (£200) and Little Hoole Parish Council (£350) and for the 2nd year running a private donor has given us £500. We have also received a private donation of £600 for the maintenance and repair of the fabric of the Church which will be passed to The Friends in 2017.

**Appendix B - PCC Treasurer’s Report (cont.)**

**The Magazine**

There is quite a team behind the production of this every month.............

* The Editor Erica Penrose
* The Distribution Secretary Elsie Kirkham and her team of door to door deliverers
* The Advert Co-ordinator Margaret Clark
* The Printers Sharon Press

The efforts of the above, plus those who provide the content of the magazine (I dare not list them as I am bound to miss someone out!) all contribute their time, effort and skills to ensure the magazine is produced in good time with a varied and interesting content. This voluntary effort (except the Printers of course) ensures we produce the magazine at a profit. Can you spread the word, encourage new subscribers or even submit some editorial? Whatever you can do, would be good. Profit from 2016 was approx. £318.00.

**In Summary:**

A breakdown of any differences or possible anomalies between the 2015 and 2016 receipts and payments has been produced under separate cover for the members of the PCC and The Friends’ Treasurer. Copies of these explanatory notes will be distributed alongside the final and full copy of the year end report once approved by the examiner and hard copies will be made available at the APCM.

We have ended the year as we began, with a deficit as far as our day to day banking is concerned

**2016 2015**

Profit & Loss (surplus or deficit) -£234.41 £14,297.80

By making this statement, two things should immediately spring to mind and generate the following questions:

**Questions:**

1. Why did we have such a big profit in 2015 and a loss in 2016 – what caused this?
2. Why is there a profit of £210.38 showing on the accounts and the above states a deficit of -£234.41?

**Answers:**

1. In 2015 a backlog of Gift Aid Claims for 2013 & 2014 were submitted (£9,044); there was an increase in one-off giving (£2081); there was a one-off fund-raising Event – Band in the Park (£1,103) and a higher than average number of weddings & funerals (£2,101).
2. The 2016 deficit I have stated exists is governed by the RBS balance sheet and does not include the Savings account held with Barclays. However, the interest from our Barclays account (£444.79) is added to the total receipts for Diocese reporting purposes, thus resulting in a false “profit” of £210.38. Remove the interest from the receipt total and you will end up with an RBS deficit of £234.41. I hope this makes sense.

The £5,000 “borrowed” from the savings account has yet to be paid back.

Please note that if we had not been in a position to borrow that £5,000 our deficit would have been £5,234.41.

This will all be remedied when the outstanding GIFT AID claims are submitted.

I am sure it has now become very clear just how much we rely on our Gift Aided donations and the tax refund they generate.

We survive financially, only because of you and your generosity of giving, together with the support you provide in time, effort, skills and love.

Thank you

**Barbara Wood**

**Honorary Treasurer**

Appendix C The Friends of St Michael’s and Development Committee

The Friends have had a busy year working on four different areas of responsibility.  First and foremost, we have been liaising regularly with the Church Wardens and the Rector in regard to problems with the drainage and flooring around church - these having been exacerbated by the floods suffered on Boxing Day 2015.  Various issues have arisen and possible solutions remain under discussion.  We have attended meetings with the Church Architect and received reports from Diocesan Advisors to ensure we are well informed about possible cost implications for the Friends. Expenditure may be considerable, but at this stage all options are being carefully considered.

We have held two fund raising events, both of which were enjoyed by those who attended.  In September we held a dinner at the Dolphin Inn, where we were also entertained by a magnificent pipe and drum band in full Scots regalia.  In November we enjoyed music of a different type, when Lynda Campbell's Twin Flame performed a good variety of songs after our cottage pie and apple crumble supper.  Both events also ran successful raffles with impressive prizes, and we were well supported by church members and friends.  In total we raised just over £700 net for Friends funds.

Several of the committee have also been working hard this year to bring our records up to date and to ensure our databases are more accurate.  We are also preparing a leaflet to be given to visitors and occasional church users so that they can find out about the Friends and our activities.  We are very conscious that there are many people who wish to support our village church, and the Friends are keen to play our part in ensuring they feel welcome at St Michael's.

We were able to support the Social Committee by a contribution of £105 towards the cost of tables purchased in 2015 by this church group.

**Jane Elphick**

**Chair, of St Michael's.**

**Appendix D Messy Church**

The Messy church has been held on 6 Saturdays through the year. Our average attendance is 8 children, varying from 12 down to 6. We have a dedicated team of 12 adults who attend when they can, providing the children and families with a variety of activities set around a liturgical theme.

We acknowledge grateful thanks for the donation of £100 from the Social Committee.

Jean Dewhurst has acted as coordinator, receiving information from the CoE Messy Church website and magazine. She has now completed her time in this role and our sincere thanks go to her.

There is a willingness to continue with the messy church and we seek another coordinator. Recently we have altered our “advertising” strategy and hope that we will see an increase in numbers in the New Year.

**Derek Baines**

**Epiphany 2017.**

**Appendix E Michael’s Club**

From January 2016 there was a slight change to the Michael’s Club meetings to take into account Messy Church meetings. There is no Michael’s Club on the 3rd Sunday of the month, following Messy Church. This change was made because the number of children attending Michael’s Club following Messy Church was very low. However, there is now a Michael’s Club meeting on the Family Praise 4th Sunday. Michael’s Club starts at 10.15am and the children continue to join the church congregation approximately half way through the 10.30 am service.

The format of Michael’s Club continues with the use of a DVD set called ‘Friends and Heroes’. The children watch the videos which relate to Bible Stories. These are followed by lessons which are used in conjunction with the videos. The children read a prayer at the end of the 10.30am service, taken from the ‘Friends and Heroes lessons.

There are 14 children attending Michael’s Club, with most of the children attending on a regular basis. However, the attendances do fluctuate greatly from week to week.

Michael’s Club gave a total of £100 to charity as follows:

* Water Aid Appeal £50.00
* The Salvation Army £50.00

It is also planned to make a donation to the Penwortham Foodbank in the New Year. We believe it is essential for children to be aware of their Christian social responsibilities.

We acknowledge with grateful thanks the following donations received from:

* The PCC for staff training £70
* The Ladies Group £200 (this consists of the 2015 & 2016 donation)
* Social Committee £100

Above all, we aim to develop and encourage each other in the faith of God so that each one of us can honestly say **‘Thy Will Be Done’**

**Kathleen Leigh**

**Michael’s Club Leader**

**Appendix F The Ladies’ Group**

**Aims and Objectives**

* To promote friendship
* To introduce others into the fellowship of the Church
* To give practical service to both Church and Community

We were delighted that the large group membership was maintained during 2016. The programme of events was interesting and varied and included talks about St Catherine’s Hospice and Hotter Shoes, Hand Bell ringing and The Golden Age of Comedy, the last being an invitation from the Men’s Fellowship.

Following the success of our garden party in June, our main fund raising event, we were able to donate to local worthy causes including:

* St Catherine’s Hospice £50.00
* Cancer Research in Memory of Olive Woods £10.00
* McMillan Nurses £30.00
* Leprosy Mission £180.00
* St Catherine’s Hospice in Memory of Betty Gilkes £50.00
* Hoole Church Flower Fund £20.00
* Hoole New Village Hall fund £50.00
* St Michael’s C of E Primary School £50.00
* Tracey Taylor School of Dancing £50.00
* 1st Hoole Scouts Uniformed Group £100.00
* Michael’s Club £100.00
* Cancer Research £192.00
* Alzheimer Society £192.00

**£1,074.00**

Following our Christmas Coffee Evening at the beginning of December we sent donations to the Alzheimer’s Society and Cancer Research. (see above).

The group again ran a tombola stall at the Much Hoole Spring and Christmas Fairs and were pleased to donate the proceeds to the Much Hoole New Village Hall Fund (see above).

We hope for another successful year in 2017 and thank all the members for their continuing excellent support.

**Erika Penrose**

**Group Leader**

**Appendix G The Men’s Fellowship**

**Aims and Objectives:**

* To promote fellowship between the men of the Parish
* To give practical and financial help to both Church and community
* To provide financial assistance to both local and national and international charities
* To raise funds to carry out the above by, and through, annual subscriptions, raffles and the organisation of an annual race night, and to finance our monthly meetings.

The year began in much the same way as previous years with our monthly meetings and a mix of interesting guest speakers; one such meeting being our traditional joint meeting with the Church Ladies Group. At the AGM in May there was a continuing concern over the decreasing number attending our meetings, and a particular concern was the shortage of members available to run the annual race night (our fund raising event).

However on a positive note an approach had been made by the Wignall family – who are heavily involved in fund raising for the charity ‘Meningitis Now’, to organise a joint race night, the profits from which to be split between the Men’s Fellowship and Meningitis Now.

The meeting supported the continuance of directing funds to various charities and for churchyard maintenance, the amount for Meningitis Now to be added after the race night which this year was to be held in September. Due to the uncertainty of a joint race night we were possibly a bit cautious with our donations this year, in the end the event exceeded all expectations and was a really successful event.

The following donations and payments were authorised:-

* PCC St Michael’s Churchyard maintenance £200.00
* Church Flower Fund £40.00
* SCOPE supported regularly by the Men’s Fellowship £50.00
* Salvation Army Supported regularly by the Men’s Fellowship £50.00
* Meningitis Now Shared profit from the Race Night £750.00

**Total Donated £1090.00**

The following Committee members were re-elected at the AGM.

* Chairman: Bob Hawthornthwaite.
* Secretary: Stuart Tighe.
* Treasurer: Stan Pickles.
* Speaker’s Booking Secretary: Ted Hopkins.

The experiment of holding our meetings in the lounge of the village hall had proved to be a success and we continued this throughout the year. The only exception being that the joint meeting when we invite members of the Ladies Group will remain as an event held in school.

Our final gathering of the year was for our Christmas meal held for the third year at Bryn Cottage, this choice being widely acceptable to the membership, and all who attended enjoyed a pleasant evening.

Finally our year ended on a sad note with the death of one of our members – John Aughton. John was a foundation member and will be greatly missed by both the Men’s Fellowship and the Church in general.

**Stan Pickles.**

**Treasurer.**

**January 2017**

**Appendix H The Social Committee**

**Aims and Objectives**

* To promote friendship
* To introduce others into the fellowship of the Church
* To give practical service to both Church and community
* To give financial assistance to local charities by organising fund raising events during the year.

We started the year with a visit to the Pantomime “Robin Hood” at St Andrew’s Church Hall, Longton in January. It was a great production by the Longton Players and it was lovely to see all the children, as well as mums and dads and grandparents, having a very enjoyable evening.

On a Spring evening in May, “Parish Amblers” met at The Midge and enjoyed a short amble followed by welcome refreshments afterwards.

In July we enjoyed a sail on the Lancaster Canal. We “embarked” at Barton Grange and after meandering along the canal for a little while we had a lovely fish and chip supper. On the journey back along the canal a quiz was provided by the crew. We “disembarked” back at Barton Grange after a thoroughly pleasant evening.

The Harvest Supper on 13th October was once again a great success and very well attended. Hot pot and a delicious assortment of cakes were provided for the supper. Entertainment was by the very talented Mawdesley U3A Ukulele Group and we all enjoyed a great evening.

The committee also provided refreshments in church following the Christmas Carol Service.

The money raised from these events has enabled the committee to make donations of £100 each to the following:

* St Michael’s Sunday School
* St Michael’s Primary School
* St Michael’s Flower Fund
* Messy Church
* Hoole Scout Group
* Hoole Village Hall Fund
* Meningitis Now

We also received a donation from The Friends of St Michael’s Church towards the cost of trestle tables, purchased in 2015.

**Helen Ross**

**Treasurer**

Appendix I The Church Flower Fund

It has been another busy year for the flower group who work on a rota to decorate the church on a weekly basis, joining together at Easter, Harvest, Remembrance Day, Memorial and Community service and Christmas in celebration of the Christian year - all funded by local sponsors.

Weddings and funerals are also offered our services in the decoration of the lychgate, pew ends, pedestals, on a non-profit making basis, but many families donate more than we need.

The Flower Ladies also provide floral decorations outside of church services, such as for The Friend fund-raiser and the Harvest Supper.

We were also pleased to donate our services in the design of a very red floral arrangement, as a gift to the Rev Baines and Sharon his wife in celebration of their ruby wedding anniversary this year.

Easter begins the church flower year after a Lent with no flowers other than daffodils for Mother's Day.

For harvest the school children usually attend church with their baskets of food for their service before the church is decorated. This year they attended church after harvest so the church was kept decorated so that they and others from school could see it. This proved a success - I would like to recommend a repeat of this - decorating the church to fit in with both children's and Sunday Harvest service. Fresh produce was taken to St Catherine's Hospice - the chefs greatly appreciate it! Some of the baskets are delivered to local people and all other cans etc sent to the Penwortham food bank.

In October displays to symbolise 'Science and Religion in Communion' were created for the service with the Methodist church at the village hall.

At the service to commemorate lost loved ones anyone was invited to purchase a lily which was then labelled with their own words and available at the end of the service to take or leave at the church. This proved popular and comforting and was also successful, albeit accidentally, as a fund raiser.

The Church was decorated outside in the churchyard this year for Remembrance Sunday with hand knitted and crocheted poppies by many of the ladies from church - over 700 poppies! These have been washed and kept for next year. Inside the church was decorated with more poppies - some hand-crafted- complemented by a beautiful picture from the messy church and hand-crafted wall decorations by church members.

For Christmas, the use of baubles proved a success- fewer real flowers - enabling the arrangements to stay nice over the festive period. In 2015 a living Christmas tree was purchased and is still going strong- deserving a larger pot for next year!

Sincere thanks go to all those who sponsor the flowers, all individuals who donated regularly and on an ad hoc basis, together with grateful thanks to The Ladies Group, Men’s Fellowship and The Social Committee for this financial assistance.

Sponsor records have been up-dated aiming to provide flowers of personal significance as near to the sponsors wish as possible, aiming to provide comfort and inspiration to remind us all of the beauty of God’s gifts to us.

**Julie Bayldon**

**Leader – Flower Fund**

**Appendix J The Pastoral Team**

In conjunction with Rev Derek Baines I have visited house bound parishioners in either their own homes, hospitals or care homes. The visits are mainly Communion visits, but sometimes the visits are social as the church tries to be supportive in a time of need. Currently there are 9 people on my visiting list which changes according to individual parishioners differing circumstances.

I take part as Communicant Assistant during the outreach services held once a month by Rev Derek Baines at Old Mill Court. I see this as part of my pastoral assistant duties helping to form relationships within our wider church community.

I give support during Baptismal Preparation sessions and take part during Baptismal services where individual adults and families start their journey of faith. I see this as an integral opportunity to form links local families. Margaret Kirkman has become a much needed and valuable member of the Team, giving support during Baptismal Preparation meetings and taking part during Baptismal services and has given time and effort developing good relationships with the families involved. On occasions, when they can, several other members of our congregation have joined in helping during Baptismal Services and this has been a great help.

I look forward with pleasure to working with Marie Johnson when she joins the Pastoral Team as a Pastoral Assistant.

It would be lovely if any parishioners felt they could take part with Home Visits or help with Baptisms they would be most welcome. If so please see Rev Derek, me { Rona} or Margaret.

**Rona McClure**

**Pastoral Assistant**

Appendix K The Ministry Team

The Ministry team met twice in 2016.

St Michael’s has continued with its friendly approach to visitors and newcomers but we will need to develop a few things as the Church of England changes and also the role of Christianity in the world is altering. The Diocesan 10 year plan “Vision 2026” is now gathering pace & we look forward to a good spiritual 2016. The prayer for “Reform and Renewal” is read regularly at the end of worship and we aim to look at the ideals set by this project in the New Year. We still have no Vision Champion in the parish.

The prayer circle is now well established by Margaret Kirkman and other volunteers; the church now opens for prayer twice a month, once in an evening and once at a lunchtime.

The Ministry team agreed to set up a Community Worship event with our Methodist brethren following the success of the 2015 event. This was another great success.

We have looked at Discipleship and Ministry and intend to take a more detailed look at this in the New Year.

Membership continues to comprise a core of worshippers which is a little disappointing knowing how many ideas the congregations have about the future of our church and its place in the Deanery. 2017 promises to be a good year for the Diocese and we hope to participate and learn more about our personal journeys of faith.

**Derek Baines**

**Epiphany 2017**





















**Independent Examiner’s Report for the year ended 31st December 2016**

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2016, which are set out on pages 20-27 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 (using the receipts and payments method) and S.43 of the Charities Act 1993.

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 requirement of Regulation 3(3) and section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of Regulation 25.

Basis of this Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements 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 consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner’s Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has 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 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

1. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

# M.W. Harrison F.C.A.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

These accounts are to be promulgated at least 14 days in advance of the APCM (20th March 2017)

They will then be presented at the APCM and when signed will be accepted as a true and accurate record

The Chairperson: Rev Derek Baines \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Treasurer: Barbara Wood \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_