

Parish of St Michael & All Angels, Beetham



Agenda and Reports
for Annual Parochial Meetings 2019

The Annual Vestry Meeting and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

To be held on Sunday 28th April 2019
in the Parish Church at 11.15 am

Church Committees at April 2019

Church Wardens		Brian Smalley Jenny Marks Ian Stirrup
Parochial Church Council	Chair: Vice Chair: Secretary: Treasurer:	Brian Smalley (Church Warden) Vacant Dorothy MacLeod John Lomax
PCC Members	Ex-officio Churchwarden Ex-officio Churchwarden Ex-officio Churchwarden	Brian Smalley Ian Stirrup Jenny Marks John Lomax Katriona Field David MacInnes Sheila MacInnes Helen Montgomery John Montgomery Tess Rowlands Jill Smith
	Ex-officio Deanery Synod Rep: Ex-officio Deanery Synod Rep:	Dorothy MacLeod Vivien Stirrup
Finance Committee		Vivien Stirrup Tess Rowlands John Lomax
Friends of Beetham Church	Chair: Administrator:	John Lomax Brian Smalley Anne Clarke Sarah Easton Dianne Lomax Jenny Marks Sue Smalley Tess Rowlands Ian Stirrup Vivien Stirrup Dennis Wright
Fabric Committee	Chair: Secretary:	Jenny Marks Harry Parrott John Lomax Brian Smalley Ian Stirrup Dennis Wright
Foundation Governors for Beetham School		John Lomax (Chair of Governors) Jenny Marks Tess Rowlands Vivien Stirrup Rachel Wray Dennis Wright
Ex-officio (temporary during interregnum) Local Authority Nominated Governor		Sarah Easton Brian Smalley (Vice-chair)
Mission Community Representative		David MacInnes

Parish of St Michael & All Angels, Beetham

Agendas for Annual Parochial Meetings 2019

**The Annual Vestry Meeting
and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

Sunday 28th April 2019 at 11.15 am

Welcome and introduction

Opening Prayers

Apologies for absence

Agenda: Annual Vestry Meeting

Please note that only those on the Church Electoral Roll or those resident in Beetham Parish and on the Civil Electoral Roll are entitled to vote.

1. Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting held on 15th April 2018
2. Election of Churchwardens

Agenda: Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Please note that only those on the Church Electoral Roll are entitled to vote.

1. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 15th April 2018
 - a) Approval
 - b) Matters arising
2. Electoral Roll
3. Report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council 2018-19
4. Finance Report for year ending 31st December 2018
 - 4.1 Gift Aid report
5. Fabric Committee and Health & Safety Report
6. Kendal Deanery Synod Report
7. Kent Estuary Mission Community Development Group Report
8. Beetham CE Primary School Report
9. Safeguarding
10. Reports from Church Groups
 - a) Friends of Beetham Church
 - b) Social Events
 - c) Bell Ringers
 - d) Gateway and Community report
 - e) Bookstall
 - f) Church Flowers
 - g) Choir and Music
11. Churchwardens' Report
12. Elections and Appointments
 - a) Parochial Church Council Members
 - b) Sidespersons
 - c) Independent Examiner
13. Comments from the meeting for consideration by the PCC

Closing Prayers

Annual Vestry Meeting 2019

Agenda item 1: Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting held on 15th April 2018 (minutes of the meeting below in italics)

The Parish of St. Michael & All Angels, Beetham

Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting held in the church on Sunday 15th April 2018 at 11.15 am

Present: Brian Smalley (BS – Chair and Churchwarden), Dorothy MacLeod (DM – PCC Secretary), John Dugdale (JD – Churchwarden), Ian Stirrup (IS – Churchwarden) and 29 members of the congregation.
Apologies had been received from: Rita Higham, Alan Higham, Julie Clarke and Jenny Andrews.

The meeting was opened in prayer.

1. *Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting held on 23rd April 2017 were approved
Prop. Tess Rowlands, sec. Vivien Stirrup, agreed unanimously.*
2. *Election of Churchwardens: Four nominations had been received for the three posts of Churchwarden. The nominations were as follows:
John Dugdale – Proposed Rosalie Wood, seconded Pam Hardman
Jenny Marks – Proposed Wendy Nicholas, seconded Jenny Andrews
Brian Smalley – Proposed John Montgomery, seconded John Lomax
Ian Stirrup – Proposed Judith Peacock, seconded Dennis Wright*

A written vote was held, the voting papers counted and the following were duly elected to serve as Churchwarden for one year:

*Ian Stirrup
Jenny Marks
Brian Smalley*

BS thanked John Dugdale for standing for election and for his service as Churchwarden over the past 12 months and for the many ways he has served the church in earlier years. JD indicated that he would also relinquish his position of Electoral Roll Officer.

Close of Annual Vestry Meeting 2018

Agenda item 2. Election of Churchwardens to serve for the year 2019-20

Close of Annual Vestry Meeting 2019

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2019

Please note that only those on the Church Electoral Roll are entitled to vote

Agenda Item 1: Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held 15th April 2018 **(minutes shown below in italics)**

The Parish of St. Michael & All Angels, Beetham

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held in the church on Sunday 15th April 2018

(N.B. The following minutes should be read in conjunction with the 2018 printed reports)

A mistake in the list of PCC Members in the printed Agenda and Reports for Annual Parochial Meetings 2018 was noted at the start of the meeting and the name Ian Smith was corrected to Ian Stirrup, with apologies to Ian for the mistake.

1. *a. The minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held 23rd April 2017 were approved
Prop. Sue Smalley, sec. John Lomax, agreed unanimously*
b. Matters arising: Additional hymns books had been purchased by the PCC. This was funded by a generous donation. There is a need for additional service booklets for large services but it was felt that this should wait until the arrival of the new priest when the service books may be revised and additional copies printed.
2. *Electoral roll: 107 people on the Electoral roll at the time of the meeting. Since the report for the meeting was printed, there had been a recount of the electoral roll so the printed figure of 105 was amended to the correct figure of 107. BS thanked JD for his work in preparing the roll. JD indicated that he would relinquish the task of compiling the rotas for sidespersons, readers, the offertory and intercessors. The readers, offertory and intercessors rotas are complete until the end of May and the sidespersons' rota to October 2018. BS thanked JD for producing these rotas for many years.*
3. *Report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council 2016-17
Nothing to add. DM was thanked for producing the report and for her role as PCC secretary.*
4. *Finance Report for year ending 31st December 2017 (see separate report).
BS gave an outline to the report and indicated that when Graham Smith had resigned as treasurer during 2017 he kindly ensured that the accounts were complete to 31st October 2017. The accounts for the 10 month period to October 31st 2017 were scrutinised by the independent examiner, Helen Steele, who then stood down as independent examiner. The accounts from 1st November to 31st December 2017 were scrutinised by independent examiner David MacInnes who found them to be a true representation of the financial transactions for that period. Statements from both examiners were presented in the report. These accounts were accepted unanimously by the meeting. Helen and David were thanked for their work. Graham Smith was thanked for his work as treasurer and in producing the accounts to the end of October. The Finance team: John Dugdale, Tess Rowlands and Vivien Stirrup, with the assistance of John Lomax were thanked for taking over the financial responsibilities following Graham's resignation. There were no questions from the meeting for Graham Smith or the Finance team.*
 - 4.1 *Gift Aid report – On behalf of the church BS offered a big vote of thanks to Andrew MacLeod for his work as Gift Aid Secretary in reclaiming over £7,500 tax via Gift Aid for church funds, over the previous year, acknowledging that it is a complex and detailed task.*
5. *Fabric Committee and Health & Safety Report: The committee had provided a detailed report and there were no additional questions or comments. Speaking on behalf of the wardens, BS said that the very active fabric committee helps the wardens immensely. Care of the fabric of the church forms part of the wardens' responsibilities and the work of the fabric committee takes the weight off the wardens' shoulders. BS expressed thanks to Jenny Marks, Harry Parrott and all members of the committee.*
6. *Kendal Deanery Synod Report: Nothing to add to the detailed report. Vivien Stirrup and Dorothy MacLeod were thanked for the report.*

7. *Mission Community Steering Group: Nothing further to add to the report. David MacInnes was thanked for his report and BS indicated that the parish is indebted to him for providing "The still small voice of calm" when he represented Beetham at the meetings.*
8. *Beetham CE Primary School Report: Thanks were expressed to headteacher Wendy Nicholas for her detailed report and BS indicated how much the school displays and Easter Gardens in church were appreciated. There is a very strong co-operation between the school and the church. There followed a period of discussion: it would be good to see school families in church more frequently, but it was recognised that this is a matter of choice for the parents and that the headteacher can only encourage attendance at Sunday services. The demands of modern society with other weekend activities mean that Sunday service attendance is less likely than in the past. However church attendance is regular during school terms and the school frequently bring the children to church during the week. The headteacher and all involved should be particularly commended for ensuring that this continues to happen in the absence of a priest. It was noted that since the report was written, the school had undergone its Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) which takes place every 5 years and the school had been graded as 'Outstanding', a grade very rarely given in this inspection. In feedback the inspector said that she had rarely seen a school where links with a church are as strong as here. John Lomax commented that he couldn't remember a time when the governing body was as strongly populated by active members of the church as at present. It was noted that Beetham church has no Sunday school and that there is concern for the future of the church as the population ages. It was agreed that this is a general trend in all faiths and in other areas of life. It was noted that worship is held at the school daily and once a week this is open to all members of the community. Children engage in worship and understand its value. This is evident in the school and there is a very strong feeling of Christian ethos. The school also has its own services in the church and the wider congregation are invited to attend. At the recent Easter service the church was full with school families and members of the congregation – all are very welcome to attend future services. The new priest may have views on how to bring children into Sunday services. The SIAMS report indicates how important it is that children receive this religious background in school, even if they are not in Sunday services. Concern was raised that once the children leave primary education and move to secondary education and the school input ceases, they may be lost to the church.*
9. *Safeguarding: Sue Smalley was thanked for her report. Sue encouraged as many people as possible to attend the planned safeguarding training to make it worthwhile for the trainer to provide the session.*
10. *Reports from Church Groups: BS commented that in the annual report there are reports from 7 groups and that in the Gateway and Community report there are 10 separate sections – this indicates a very healthy community!*
 - a) *Friends of Beetham Church: John Lomax reminded the meeting of the concert to be held in church on 21st April and encouraged attendance. Tickets available or could be bought on the door.*
 - b) *Social Events: The Harvest Supper is to be held on 5th October*
 - c) *Bell Ringers: Nothing to add to the report*
 - d) *Gateway and Community Report: It was noted that five people will be confirmed on 13th May by Bishop Cyril Ashton. Three adult parishioners will be confirmed along with two young people currently in secondary education who were previously pupils at Beetham primary school, (reinforcing the significance of the school's Christian ethos in early education). Due to the high number of candidates, the Rural Dean and Archdeacon felt that it was important that a confirmation service should be specially arranged at Beetham , rather than waiting for the deanery confirmation service in November. Beetham's profile has been raised within the deanery because of its high number of candidates, which outnumbers all candidates across the deanery to date.*
 - e) *Bookstall: Nothing to add to the report*
 - f) *Church Flowers: Dianne Lomax was thanked for the report and she commented that the daffodils for Sandy's cross and the flowers for the Easter Garden in church had been purchased by a donation from the Revd. Linda Lonsdale. This was much appreciated by those present at the meeting.*
 - g) *Choir: Nothing further to add to the report.*

11. Churchwardens' Report: Nothing further to add to the report.

(12. No Priest's Report due to vacancy)

13. Elections and Appointments:

a) **Parochial Church Council Members:** There were two nominations for two vacancies: Katriona Field: proposed Vivien Stirrup, seconded Sarah Easton; and David MacInnes: proposed John Lomax, seconded Dorothy MacLeod. It was agreed unanimously that both nominees should be elected to the Parochial Church Council.

b) **Sidespersons:** The meeting agreed unanimously that all the sidespersons on the current rota should be re-elected. BS thanked all the sidespersons for carrying out this role.

c) **Independent Examiner:** David MacInnes acted as the Independent Examiner from November 2017, but since David had just been elected to the PCC at this meeting, he was no longer independent and therefore ineligible for the role. BS therefore requested that on this occasion the appointment of the Independent Examiner should be made by the PCC at a future meeting and this was unanimously agreed by the meeting.

Kathleen Dodd offered a vote of thanks to Brian Smalley for everything that he had done on behalf of the church and Brian responded that many people worked well together as a team and that it had been a pleasure to serve as lay chair.

14. Comments from the meeting for consideration by the PCC: Susie Villiers-Smith indicated that she had written to the wardens regarding the children's corner in church and asked if there had been any progress in this matter. BS responded that he had not yet been able to track the items referred to in the letter but that this would be pursued at the next PCC meeting

Additional comments from the chair:

BS said that he had stated in the churchwardens' report that so many people do so much in the church. It would take too long to name everyone and he didn't want to miss anyone out, but he especially wished to express gratitude to the following:

- The Revds. David Peacock, Geoff Turner, Tom Thompson, Colin Hill and Andrew Schofield – he is immensely grateful for all their assistance at weekly services, and weddings and funerals
- Vivien Stirrup, Chris Roberts and David Crabb for continuing the midweek communion services and taking communion to the residential homes.
- Dorothy MacLeod for her work in producing the reports, PCC minutes and dealing with correspondence (thank you also to the people who contributed their reports for the meeting)
- Tess Rowlands, John Dugdale and Vivien Stirrup – the finance team since Graham Smith resigned as treasurer, and John Lomax for his work in preparing the accounts for the meeting
- Graham Smith for preparing the accounts over a number of years and for preparing the accounts for 2017 to the end of October which gave the finance team a firm base to work from.
- Jenny Marks for playing the organ weekly at Evensong since Anne Lofthouse left the parish but taking no payment. BS is also immensely grateful for Jenny's contribution to the production of the Parish Profile – the layout and visual appeal being down to many hours of work. Copies of the profile were available in church for inspection but this may not yet be the finished version.
- John Dugdale for all his work in producing the rotas for the church.

The fabric committee wished to express their thanks to Susie and Rupert Villiers-Smith and the Dallam Estate for their work in removing the overgrown bushes near the church door.

Date of next PCC meeting: Monday 21st May 2018, 7.00pm at the school.

There being no further comments the meeting was closed with the Grace at 12.15pm

Close of APCM 2018

Agenda Item 2: Electoral Roll

Electoral Roll:	80
Lesson Readers:	Morning Service – 20 Evensong – 7
Intercessors:	7
Offertory:	17
Sidespeople:	Morning Service – 17 Evensong - 6

All numbers correct at April 2019. Thanks go to all who volunteer to be on one or more of the rotas, and who make alternative arrangements for cover when they are unavailable. Additional volunteers are always welcome throughout the year

Jenny Marks, Electoral Roll Officer

Agenda Item 3: Secretary's Report on the Proceedings of the PCC 2018-19

The PCC met on six occasions from May 2018 to March 2019. At the first meeting following the April APCM, Brian Smalley was elected Lay Chair, John Lomax as Treasurer and Dorothy Macleod as PCC secretary. We welcomed Jenny Marks who was elected to the role of Church Warden, Brian Smalley and Ian Stirrup who were re-elected as Church Wardens at the APCM. Katriona Field and David MacInnes were welcomed to their first meeting as PCC members.

Each PCC meeting included the following regular agenda items: reports on the parish finances and scrutiny of spending, Mission Action Plan (MAP) progress, reports from the Friends of Beetham Church, the Fabric Committee including health and safety matters, Safeguarding, Gateway and community outreach, reports from our Church Wardens, Mission Community representative and Deanery Synod members. Church fabric is of particular significance and the informative reports and updates from the fabric committee are always appreciated. PCC decisions on future maintenance and spending on the fabric of the church are guided by these reports. In addition to the regular agenda items the PCC discussed and has put in place procedures enabling the parish to comply with the new GDPR Data Protection regulations which came into force in May 2018. We approved repair and conservation works on the parish vestments worn by the priests during services. The parish offer was discussed and approved. The PCC approved an application for a grant to cover the cost of the 'There but not there' soldiers' silhouettes which provided such a touching presence in our WW1 commemorations and our Remembrance Sunday services (with many thanks to Tess Rowlands and John Lomax for their work in facilitating this). Organists' fees and fees for church flowers at weddings were discussed and approved. The PCC approved the appointment of a Foundation governor for the school and the reappointment of another. Charity recipients for Christmas fundraising were discussed and approved. Members of the PCC undertook safeguarding training.

Much discussion took place at various stages regarding the process for the appointment of a new priest, with two advertisements leading to no applicants for the position. Following meetings with the Archdeacon it was agreed that the vacancy at Arnside should be combined with Beetham and that a priest should be appointed to cover both parishes. Vivien Stirrup and Brian Smalley as parish representatives selected by the PCC have been fully involved in the appointment process. The PCC are extremely grateful to them both for undertaking these duties and to Jenny Marks for her immense work in preparing the Parish Profile which gives

an informative and illustrative picture of the parish. At the conclusion of the process the PCC warmly welcomed the news that the Revd. Andrew Norman has been appointed to fill the vacancy and we look forward to welcoming him to the parish. The PCC have expressed their sincere and heartfelt gratitude to the ministry team, visiting clergy and especially to the Revd, Canon David Peacock and the Revd. Geoff Turner for their continued and much valued ministry within the church. It has been a long interregnum but we have been greatly blessed in the meantime. The PCC have also expressed their sincere thanks to the wardens for their tireless and dedicated work on behalf of the church, particularly during the interregnum, to our treasurer and to all who help out in any way.

So 2018 was another busy and fruitful year for the PCC. Once again, I thank my fellow PCC members for their ongoing support in my role as secretary; for their attendance at meetings and for all their work on behalf of the church. I recommend PCC membership to others. The bi-monthly meetings are interesting and it is a privilege to play a role in shaping the church at this stage of its long history.

Dorothy MacLeod, PCC Secretary

Agenda Item 4: Treasurer's Report for the year ending 31st December 2018

As I write this report, Beetham Church is "on a high"! We have just been informed that the Priest vacancy is to be filled – we look forward eagerly to his installation – and the finances of the Church are in rude health. This is a reflection of the hard work and generous giving of the whole Church community – thank you all!

a) Receipts and Payments for the 12 months of the year to 31.12.18. Total Receipts for the year amount to £54,896.55 and Payments £53,920.30. These figures clearly indicate that, once again, the church's overall balances have increased. Total funds carried forward at 1st January 2019 stood at £61,302.25. It is worth noting that as recently as four years earlier, the comparative figure was just £30,599.49. We may attribute this doubling of apparent riches to the careful management of our finances by my predecessor, for which much thanks.

The figures alone do not tell the whole story. PCC decisions have been guided by our Mission Action Plan (MAP), which laid out agreed aims, most of which have been successfully accomplished. Prominent among these were:

- To allow for full payment of our Parish Offering to the Diocese. We have offered, and paid, a little more than the benchmark sum for a House-for-Duty Priest, despite the vacancy since August 2017. A letter has been received from the Bishop recognising this and thanking the Parish for its generosity.
- The MAP reflected a strong call to secure the place of music in our worship. Expenditure on organists has increased significantly because of our weekly-held Choir Practices. I am confident that many share my view that our decision to secure the services of our present Choirmaster and Organist has resulted in excellent results, reflected in worship attendances.
- Maintenance of the Church continues, under the watchful eye of the Fabric Committee, using self-help (=free labour!) whenever possible. There has been no need during 2018 to request funding from the Beetham Church Heritage Trust and the Architect's Quinquennial Report has not on this occasion, highlighted any urgent maintenance issues requiring "immediate" action.

St Michael & All Angels, Beetham

RECEIPTS		2018	2017
Collections & Donations		£24,392.32	£28,759.54
Gift Aid Tax recovered		£7,241.89	£7,590.16
Coffee Sunday mornings		£620.26	£570.46
Wedding & Funeral Fees Gross		£9,643.00	£5,169.00
Books		£797.83	£802.21
Wednesday Coffee & Cakes		£214.35	£380.30
CBF Interest		£48.37	£47.77
Wedding, Funeral & Baptism		£3,595.47	
Gateway advertising		£1,372.00	£1,572.00
Grants	SLDC	£540.00	£520.00
	Beetham Sports	£100.00	
	BCHT		£782.16
EIO Claim		£2,547.80	
Fundraising	Shrove Tuesday Supper	£116.80	
	Flower Festival	£479.80	
	Harvest Supper	£155.00	
	Hamper Raffle	£911.00	£2,748.08
Retirement gift collection			£690.00
Charity Efforts		£1,361.68	£433.14
Legacy		£200.00	
Diamond Wedding Gift		£250.00	
Visiting Bellringers		£71.45	
For Flowers		£80.00	£280.00
			£250.00
Deposit a/c interest		£157.53	
Total receipts		£54,896.55	£50,594.82
B/F			
Current Account		£9,373.63	£5,918.94
less uncleared cheques & including Cash in Hand (To bank)			
Community account		£815.00	£815.00
Deposit Account		£40,134.84	£40,134.84
CCLA Investment (At cost)		£10,000.00	£10,000.00
CBF Deposit		£2.03	£1.66
CBF Contingency		£0.50	£0.45
Total		£60,326.00	£56,870.89
		£115,222.55	£107,465.71

Receipts and Payments 2018

PAYMENTS	2018	2017
Upkeep of services	£1,008.95	£992.63
Organists	£4,365.00	£3,255.00
Heat, Light & Cleaning	£5,257.96	£3,936.06
Insurance premium	£3,993.85	£4,068.64
W & F Fees to DBF/organist/bellringers	£3,769.62	£1,207.00
Cemetery & Chyd upkeep	£2,591.35	£1,600.00
Maintenance & Fabric Schemes	£7,056.22	£3,111.75
Copier	£2,233.89	£2,197.60
Stationery	£608.24	£1,060.11
Parish Offering to Diocese	£20,310.00	£19,400.00
Charities	£1,870.52	£1,935.69
Priest-in-charge expenses		£1,400.08
Easter & Christmas	£271.14	
Other	£583.56	£914.35
Other fabric fees		£1,390.80

Retirement gift		£700.00
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Total expenditure	£53,920.30	£47,169.71
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B/F		
Current Account allowing for uncleared chqs etc	£10,180.04	£9,343.63
Petty cash in safe	£12.31	

Community account	£815.00	£815.00
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Deposit Account	£40,292.37	£40,134.84
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CCLA Investment (At cost)	£10,000.00	£10,000.00
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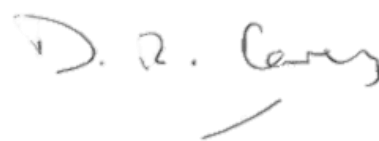
CBF Deposit	£2.03	£2.03
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CBF Contingency	£0.50	£0.50
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Total	£61,302.25	£60,296.00
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	£115,222.55	£107,465.71
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I certify that I have scrutinised the accounting documentation for Beetham PCC for the calendar year 2018 and found them to be a true representation of the financial transactions for that period.



David R Carey FCCA (ret'd)

Willowdene, 6 Chapel Close
Storth, Milnthorpe LA7 7BU

b) Cash / Investment balances at 31.12.18

The cash / investment balances after adjusting for unrepresented cheques at 31.12.18 were:-

	£
Community Account	10,191.04
Deposit Account	40,292.37
Former Gateway A/C	815.00
CCLA Investment Fund	10,000.00
Other CCLA funds	2.53
subtotal	61,302.25

LESS Restricted Funds:

Chancel Repair Fund		10,000.00
Maintenance Fund	<i>to be revised in the light of Quinquennial Report 2018</i>	8,920.00
subtotal		18,920.00

Total available funds **44,534.85**

c) Looking Ahead. The Mission Action Plan had suggested a renewed Stewardship Campaign, but it was agreed by PCC that this be deferred until the appointment of our new Priest. The appointment, too, brings new financial challenges as we will now become liable to meet our share of the Priest's expenses and the Diocese's indicative figure for a shared Stipendiary Priest is higher than that for a House-for-Duty Priest. No doubt, when Parish Offers for 2020 are called in by the Diocese later this year, we should like to be able to make a realistic and honest offer.

Further, we shall continue to develop the reordering options, now with the guidance of our new Priest. We know that we shall have the support of BCHT when called for, and we shall fully explore and exploit all grant-making bodies in this aim.

d) Finally. I am sure I speak for us all in reiterating our huge debt of gratitude to Colin and Julie Clarke who painstakingly count every coin and note and travel each week to the bank at Carnforth, now the nearest Barclays counter! We are enormously grateful to them.

We should also be aware of the quiet yet diligent undertaking of the role of Gift Aid Secretary carried out by Andy MacLeod – the figures are a stark reminder of the value of Andy's work for us!

John Lomax, Hon. Treasurer

Agenda item 4.1: Gift Aid report 2018

Summary

From donations given during 2018 we have been able to claim for church funds a total of **£7,041.72** in tax repayments under the two different Gift Aid schemes (compared with **£7,586.33** claimed in tax repayments under the two different Gift Aid schemes in 2017).

Gift Aid Scheme	Amount Given 2018	Tax Claimed 2018	Tax Claimed 2017
Gift Aid Donations	£20,877.05	£5,219.90	£5,713.42
GASDS (Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme)	£7,287.26	£1,821.82	£1,872.91
Grand Total	£28,164.31	£7,041.72	£7,586.33

Gift Aid Donations

During 2018 Beetham Church received a total of £20,877.05 given in Gift Aid donations, from which we successfully claimed tax rebates from HMRC totalling £5,219.90. Three claims were made throughout the year to assist church cash flow. The Quarter 4 payment was received from HMRC in January 2019 and therefore will not be shown as a receipt within the 2018 church accounts.

Quarter	Amount Given 2018	Tax Claimed 2018
Q1 & Q2 (Jan-Jun)	£10,875.81	£2,718.99
Q3 (Jul-Sep)	£5,197.27	£1,299.34
Q4 (Oct-Dec)	£4,803.97	£1,201.57
Grand Total	£20,877.05	£5,219.90

A total of 185 different individuals gave through Gift Aid during 2018 and have been categorised according to their main method of giving. A total of 28 used bank standing order, 18 used the numbered envelopes scheme and 139 completed the printed envelopes available in church, reflecting in part the large number of seasonal visitors and occasional donors. Grateful thanks are expressed to all who have undertaken to Gift Aid their donations and collectively make such a significant difference to church income.

GASDS (Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme)

Recently introduced by HMRC, GASDS allows a Gift Aid style payment from HMRC on cash donations of £20 or less, where no Gift Aid declaration has been received. For the tax year Apr-17 to Mar-18 the eligible cash limit was maintained at £8,000 and we were able to claim £1,821.82 from £7,287.26 given in eligible donations.

Andrew MacLeod, Gift Aid Secretary

Agenda Item 5: Fabric Committee and Health & Safety Report

"The committee has the responsibility for implementing the ongoing maintenance and improvement of the church."

Despite the pressures imposed by the Interregnum the committee has continued to report to Finance and PCC Meetings. Once again my thanks go out all members of the committee (especially to Jenny Marks our Chairperson) for all their hard work and dedication throughout the year.

Our church always looks immaculate, and special thanks must go out to the cleaning teams and brass cleaners who have worked so hard throughout the year to make this happen.

The committee has continued with Work Days to carry out routine maintenance items to the church, the old churchyard and the new cemetery; and we have now included the War Memorial to this list in an attempt to keep it tidy and free from mud following heavy rain. We have continued to manage the regular annual service and inspections which are needed to ensure that our church is safe and functions properly, and we have been busy with the following items:-

1. An upgrade to the roof security system which is awaiting a broadband connection
2. A proposal to reinstate the font cover above the font....detail plans being drawn up.
3. Proposal for the removal of pews at the back of the church....detail plans have been drawn up

Our 2018 Quinquennial Survey was carried out in June 2018 and we received the report in August. We were very pleased to see that there are no Category A items (those requiring immediate attention) included. However, there are many Category B items listed and we will have to plan to address these over the next years.

The Maintenance List below, which is updated at each meeting, provides an indication of the scope and diversity of works the committee is currently dealing with.

Maintenance Works required to Church:- No 35 date: 5.02.19

Item*	Description	FC or Contractor	planned	Complete/ Notes
04	Remove ivy from walls in new graveyard...try scorcher	FC	Annually Work days	Ongoing...next workday
11	Quinquennial Survey (QQ)	Architect	June 2018	Completed Priorities tbc
12	Re-ordering of Church Phase 1 Need to raise funds	Contractor	When funds raised	Investigative work ongoing
15	Treat Bell Tower wheels	FC	Annually	Ongoing
24	Investigate staining to external stonework by Lady Chapel	FC	For future	Fit polycarbonate grills...QQ
29	Gravestone Plan	FC	2018	In progress
30	Lay down delaminating headstones	FC/SLDC	For future	1 completed. Next Workday

33	Re-pointing to parapet over Porch PCC have approved cost	FC/Ronnie Jackson	May June 18	On hold...QQ and Ronnie
34	Leak to South Aisle...re-pointing	FC/Ronnie Jackson	May 18	On hold...QQ
44	Spray weeds to external walls	FC	Annually	Ongoing
46	Internal Surge Protection	Contractor		Awaiting Cost
47	Inspect bird grilles to tower	FC	Annually	2018 done
49	Clean Bell Tower	FC	Annually	Ongoing
51	Clean up War Memorial Provide sand bags	FC	Annually	2018 complete Ongoing
52	Repoint coping stones to kitchen roof	FC	April 19	Work day
53	Leaded Glass to bell tower door	FC	2019	Awaiting Cost
54	Check stone finials on tower	Contractor	Annually	2016 done
56	Additional sockets to vestry.	Craig Allen	2018	Awaiting Cost
57	Investigate use of LED bulbs in lanterns	Craig Allen	2018	Awaiting Cost
60	Additional light at rear of organ	Craig Allen	2018	Awaiting Cost
61	Remove dead trees in New Graveyard	FC	2018	Commenced. Next workday
63	Record details of Headstones	FC	April May 19	Work day
64	High Level Clean	FC	2019	Ongoing
65	Check stability of pergola	FC	2019	Ongoing
66	Woodworm in Crib	FC	2019	Work day
67	Woodworm in Clock Case	FC	2019	Work day
68	Woodworm in North Aisle Pew Top	FC	2019	Work day
69	Cut back laurel bushes by north gate	FC	2019	Work day

*41 items have been completed to date, and removed from this work-in-progress list

 REQUIRES APPROVAL FROM PCC

Harry Parrott, Fabric Committee Secretary

Agenda Item 6: Kendal Deanery Synod Report

The Kendal Deanery Synod has met on three occasions since the 2018 APCM. Beetham was represented at all three meetings and also at the Deanery Ascension Day service at Levens. Each meeting featured a key speaker, with additional business items and updates from various parishes following the speaker. During the year we warmly thanked the Revd. Angela Whittaker as she retired from service as Rural Dean and welcomed the Revd. Anne Pettifor who took up the role. The Revd. Rob Saner-Haigh is retiring as Assistant Rural Dean and his successor is yet to be announced.

The June meeting held at Old Hutton, focused on Christianity in Education. Jane Yates, Chair of the Cumbria Standing Council for Religious Education outlined the role and function of SACRE which, funded by the County Council, aims are to support high quality teaching and learning in RE and thoughtful, reflective experiences in collective worship. Deborah Smith the Diocesan Deputy Director of Education demonstrated the 'Understanding Christianity'

resources. The course material examines core Christian understandings and belief, built around: God; creation; fall; the people of God; incarnation; salvation and the kingdom of God. She explained how these core themes were treated in an age appropriate way at the various stages from Reception to key stage 7. The course is specifically designed to raise the quality of teaching and is being used to great effect in many schools in our diocese.

The October meeting focused on finance. It was opened beyond Synod members to all parishioners and was very well attended. The speakers were Derek Hurton, Diocesan Secretary and Sophie Hodge, Diocesan Stewardship Enabler. Derek opened by giving figures to provide a context, indicating that the diocese currently has an annual income of around £7.8m, of which the Parish Offer which generates approximately £5m (10% of which comes from the Kendal deanery). The key item of expenditure is local ministry, and this accounts for £5.8m of the diocesan spend, £683,000 of which is in the Kendal Deanery. In order to underpin the Parish Offer process, the Diocese had developed a fully transparent costing of local ministry. This includes the direct employment and housing costs and costs relating to training, professional development etc. The current unit cost is £60,934 for a stipendiary priest and £17,815 for a House for Duty priest. That cost specifically excludes central expenditure on items such as Bishops, Archdeacons, and diocesan staff etc. He concluded that the situation, whilst not easy, was God's purpose being worked out through our changing and challenging circumstances. Sophie introduced the topic of Stewardship, placing it in the context of a response to a generous God, which is rooted in scripture and enabling of mission and ministry. She examined several elements of best stewardship practice and outlined ways in which she can support parishes and PCCs in exploring the most effective stewardship methods to be used in our parishes.

The February 2019 meeting focused on Vocations. Maureen Stevens, Coordinator for Vocations Advisers in the Archdeaconry emphasised that the Vocations Development Team was there to support the widest interpretation of vocation – the call to service of the church, which applies to us all, not just those wishing to be ordained. She explained the role of the 10 vocations advisers in the Archdeaconry and how they relate, through her as co-ordinator, to Peter Clement as Development Officer and Director of Ordinands. Those who are exploring a path to ordination are required to pass through the process to Peter Clement. Others may use conversations with advisers (up to three one-hour sessions) and the resources they can identify, in order to discern a way forward that fits them, their skills and their potential contribution to building the Kingdom. She emphasised that “vocational roles” may be in the workplace, on the street or elsewhere as much as in more conventional church settings. The support on offer is therefore intended to ensure that like David, each person is appropriately equipped for whatever form of ministry they are called to carry out

Dorothy MacLeod and Vivien Stirrup, Deanery Synod Representatives

Agenda Item 7: Kent Estuary Mission Community Development Group Report:

Throughout the last year I have attended 5 of the 6 Meetings of the Kent Estuary Mission Community Development Group on behalf of the PCC.

The mission group had a difficult time for most of the period because there was only one church with a permanent incumbent throughout most of the year. This made taking forward mission activities difficult as the remaining churches were, during the period, hoping to find priests to take charge. Finally in February the Revd Bryan Kerr was appointed to the parishes of Levens, Heversham and Milnthorpe with responsibility for the Kent Estuary Mission

Community. We welcomed Bryan at our last meeting and he will be easing himself into his many roles.

Some of the actions taken by the KEMC development group in the last year are outlined as follows:-

- A. Efforts have been made to coordinate prayers for Mission Development throughout the community with an estuary wide prayer and preaching day on 25 November which seems to have been well followed. It is hope to build on this event using the *thykingdomcome.global* website
- B. There was a follow-on Meeting from Gossiping the Gospel in the God for All series, which was attended by about 60 people from all the churches.
- C. The development Group has met with the Christians Together groups in the estuary and established how we can work together to achieve our respective goals.
- D. The links with the Church of Rome are continuing to be developed.
- E. The provision of Dementia enablers in all the churches continues to be an aim but still to be secured by the group.
- F. There was a very successful Walking Nativity in Milnthorpe over the Christmas period which was quite a success.
- G. The group is managing the Bishop's Lent walk around Cumbria visit to the estuary community on 25 March where he will meet with Local Parish Councils, Local Government Officials and representatives of our local schools. The meeting will take the form of a lunch gathering for around two hours or so at the Corn Mill Beetham.
- H. Plans are well underway for a BIG PICNIC on June 8th in Heversham to which it is hoped all the churches will contribute.
- I. It is an aspiration to encourage our churches to take part in an ECO event using the *livinglent.org* website

As the group develops with the guidance of its own priest in charge it is hoped that we will see a more cohesive community in the Kent Estuary striving to take the Christian Mission positively to the community.

David MacInnes, KEMCDG Representative

Agenda Item 8: Beetham C E Primary School Report

The last twelve months have been a very exciting time for Beetham School, with some major changes taking place. In May 2018 we were delighted to receive the news that the purchase by the Diocese of part of the field in the village had gone through. This meant that the children at Beetham School had finally got the outdoor play space they have been so desperate for.

Michael Mill, Director of Education for the Diocese of Carlisle said:

'We are delighted to be able to support this fantastic village church school financially by purchasing the playing field. The governing body made a compelling case to take what was a once in a lifetime opportunity to ensure the school has sufficient outdoor space. We recognised the benefit of providing the space for developing the curriculum and also the potential health benefits.'

The field is now used regularly for sports lessons, running the Daily Mile and playtimes, all of which are greatly enjoyed by the children.

In August we saw the installation of our new classroom 'Beetham Lodge', which is situated in the garden. The Lodge has a teaching area, toilet and cloakroom/cupboard and is a much needed additional teaching space. It is a striking design and with its underfloor heating and picture windows makes a fabulous learning environment. We were delighted that Tim Farron came to perform the official opening and the daffodil bulbs that were planted on that day are now about to open.

During February 2019 half term we had 'Beetham Tower' installed in our back garden. This is a super new piece of play equipment for the children to enjoy, replacing some of our original adventure trail which was rather old and past its best.

In March 2018 the school had its SIAMS inspection. This is a rigorous assessment of the school's progress and achievements in the following areas:

- Christian distinctiveness and effectiveness
- How the Christian character of the school meets the needs of learners
- The Impact of Collective Worship
- The Effectiveness of RE
- Leadership and Management

We were delighted that the school was again judged to be Outstanding and were particularly pleased that the very positive and supportive links between the church and the school were recognised. These are the 'headlines' from the report:

- *Highly effective relationships across the school create a safe and nurturing environment. This contributes to pupils feeling safe and valued.*
- *Christian values are rooted in Biblical teaching and permeate all aspects of school life. They effectively support pupils' well-being. Pupils have an excellent understanding of the values as distinctively Christian.*
- *An exceptionally strong partnership with the local church enriches the lives of parishioners and pupils alike. Parishioners' daily visits to the school strengthen relationships between church and school.*
- *Collective worship makes an excellent contribution to spiritual development. Pupils' involvement in the leadership of worship has made a significant impact on its development.*

The school continues to grow both in terms of numbers and also in the breadth of curriculum and opportunities it provides for all its pupils. The Nursery is now very popular and is looking to extend its provision next term to offer 30 hours for children from the age of 3.

We have three new excellent members of staff – a part time teacher, full time teaching assistant and a school administrator, all who were appointed by the Governors in 2018. This again reflects the development and success of the school and greatly enhances the staff team, who are exceptionally committed and very hard working for the benefit of all the children.

2018 also saw the establishment of an official Fundraising group, Friends of Beetham School. This group now organises events to raise much needed funds for any activities and developments which cannot be covered by the school budget. However another important part of their work is to seek funding opportunities and grants which can be used for specific projects.

During the summer holidays the school library was reorganised and the old and age-inappropriate books were recycled. Several sections of the library now need restocking and the fundraising group (FOBS) are researching grants to help with this.

As always the children at Beetham have taken part in a wide range of activities during the last year. One of the highlights is always a residential visit, where the children are able to stay overnight with their teachers and friends. Yr 3 & 4 had two outdoor activity days at Tower Wood, taking part in different water sports and making the most of being on Windermere. Yr 5 & 6 had a four day visit to Edinburgh with the children from Old Hutton School, staying in a youth hostel and accessing all the amazing tourist attractions available in the city.

PE and Sport is an important part of education at Beetham. In addition to our PE lessons which cover games, dance, swimming and gymnastics, we also have regular sports activity days. Last year included canoeing, archery, orienteering, indoor caving, ropes courses and team problem solving. We also buy into the tournaments package from Dallam School, which enables our children to take part in competitive sport on a regular basis eg Cross Country, Tag Rugby, Football, Hockey.

Many of our children learn a musical instrument and greatly enjoy singing. This combined with their skills in dance make our Summer Performance, performed in the Heron Theatre, another highlight of the year. We are pleased to have developed a very positive relationship with the Heron Theatre and this enables the children to perform in a professional setting and learn the different skills relating to theatre production.

We greatly appreciate the support from Beetham Church - our use of the building for services, providing members for the governing body and in particular the many volunteers who come into school every week. We are very lucky that our school and church have such a strong mutual bond and that this enables us to work together for the benefit of us all.

Wendy Nicholas, Headteacher

Agenda Item 9: Safeguarding

The new and revised Church of England Safeguarding Policy arrived in September and we have been busy updating and attempting to get on top of all the requirements. As it is important for as many people as possible to be made aware of the implications of the new policy, we organised a workshop for all interested parties and invited other parishes in the Kent Estuary Mission Community to join us. Kaley Vaughton, the Diocesan Safeguarding Training Officer, agreed to come and lead the workshop which was organised for January 2019.

All members of the PCC and other church 'welcomers' have now been awarded their C0 and C1 level certificates. In addition, your Churchwardens and Safeguarding Officer have completed their C02 training. We now have to ensure that all paperwork is relevant and up-to-date and is kept secure.

Many thanks to the 22 members of the congregation who attended the training course and others who have completed their training on-line.

Sue Smalley, Safeguarding Officer

Agenda Item 10: Reports from church groups

(a) Friends of Beetham Church

Regular committee meetings were held in the year to plan social and fund-raising events.

Our Committee members as elected at last year's October AGM were John Lomax (Chairman), Brian Smalley (Administrator), Anne Clarke, Sarah Easton, Dianne Lomax, Jenny Marks, Tess Rowlands, Sue Smalley, Ian Stirrup, Viv Stirrup and Dennis Wright (Hon Treasurer, B.C.H.T.). After the retirement of Anne Lofthouse after many years' service, Ian and Viv Stirrup were elected in her place. New committee members are always welcome, either by election at the A.G.M. or otherwise by co-option. Our meetings are fun and they are productive – what more could one ask?

During the year 2018, almost £6,000 has been raised by our fund-raising events. This includes the sum of £2836.60 has been raised for the Beetham Church Heritage Trust for expenditure on maintaining the Church fabric. As in past years we have invested in notelets, cards and bookmarks to add to our fundraising potential. With generous donations of seasonal items from members of the congregation, we again assembled Christmas hampers for our Grand Draw which once more raised a record sum for church funds. Together with the sale of cards and notelets a total of £911 was raised for Church funds at the Winter Fair, held in conjunction with our Church School. The Duck Race, our main fund-raising event, raised the magnificent total of £1,111!

	BCHT	PCC
Shrove Tuesday Supper & Quiz		116.80
Lent Lunch		160.00 <i>for Christian Aid</i>
Jane Irwin Concert	520.00	
Duck Race	1111.00	
Dallam Open Garden Plant Stall	121.50	
Flower Festival		479.80
Beetham Sports Stall	211.10	
OttoVoce Concert	397.00	
Harvest Supper		155.00
Friends' Sunday Organ Recital	255.00	
Remembrance weekend		474.00 <i>half to Royal British Legion</i>
Regal Russia	221.00	
Winter Fair & Hamper Raffle		911.00
Carol Singing		525.00 <i>for Crisis & Manna House</i>
TOTAL	2836.60	2821.60

The PCC also benefits from the sale of cards, calendars, notelets, bookmarks and other items designed by this committee and sold from the Church bookstall. Figures for this are reported elsewhere. It should be noted that BCHT has further benefitted by means of Friends' subscriptions and donations, and 'dividend' from the Easy-fundraising website.

It is the same Committee – the "Beetham Church Task Force"(?) - that arranges for the PCC the many other social, charitable and fund-raising events on behalf of the Church – including the ever-popular Shrove Tuesday and Harvest Suppers (originally conceived as social events to break even, but seem somehow to make a surplus each time!), the Lent Lunch, Flower Festivals, the Remembrance weekend, Christmas Carol-Singing and many more. As is evident from the above, this has contributed almost £3000 to PCC income in the twelve months

of 2018. As you may well imagine, this is a fairly relentless task and I am greatly indebted to Committee members for their many hours of hard work in planning, preparing and carrying out all the various duties that make these events both popular and profitable. Please, everyone, continue to support us!

This year's Duck Race is to take place on Saturday 4th May (as ever, subject to conditions underfoot) at Ellers Meadow on the Bela River by kind permission of Mr & Mrs A.Gardner: tickets are now available. The support of the entire community is welcomed for this event, one of our major fund-raising activities each year. The event will, as in previous years, be supported by 'Duckorations' around the village.

Also in May, we have a concert to be given by Blackburn People's Choir (Saturday 11th) followed by the Plant Stall at Dallam Tower on 12th and at the end of the month our Annual Flower Festival. As ever, our Committee is looking ahead and we have further events in the planning stage for the summer months!

John Lomax, Chairman

(b) Social Events

The annual Harvest and Shrove Tuesday Suppers were held in the Heron Corn Mill Barn on Friday 5th October 2018 and Tuesday 5th March 2019 respectively.

Around fifty people on each occasion filled the Barn where they enjoyed an excellent supper provided by Alison Thompson of Ackenthwaite, followed by entertainment which brought hearty laughter from every corner.

The entertainment for the Harvest Supper was based on a sketch written by Sandy Lofthouse and edited by Anne Lofthouse and John Lomax and entitled "Mascus Radixae". We were delighted that Anne was able to be with us for the 'World Premiere' of this exceptional work. "In Beetham, in the year 1580, the Parson had to make sure the peasants continued to work and contribute to the Church's running costs, since the previous monarch, King Henry VIII, had declared 'Chexit' and crashed out of the Papal Union. Gardening was the chief occupation of the afore-mentioned peasants and so it came to pass, that one such gardener by the name of Will Shakespeare, wrote a play featuring Beetham's favourite food crop, the RADISH." His characters were to appear in many of his later plays. The said play featured a 'Giant Radish' competition with an excellent supporting cast of Fairies, who must surely be in line for nominations for an 'Oscar', and the whole was delightfully portrayed by our thespians and wandering minstrels much to the amusement of the assembled company!

The Shrove Tuesday Supper was followed by the Village Quiz. Our thanks go to Clive and Valerie Holden who put together an excellent selection of questions on a variety of topics which gave the 'grey matter' a good workout after we had all enjoyed plenteous helpings of cottage pie and pancakes.

Our very grateful thanks to everyone who took part in either or both events, including our very appreciative audiences, who thought and laughed and sang and clapped at all of the right places and in the right order!

For your diaries, the next Harvest Supper will be on Friday 4th October 2019 and the Shrove Tuesday Supper will be on Tuesday 25th February 2020. We look forward to seeing you there.

Dianne Lomax

(c) Beetham Bell Ringers

Our determination to keep the ancient art of bellringing alive continues to pay dividends at Beetham, with our numbers of towerbell and handbell ringers still growing. We have been delighted to welcome Ann Leftley and Graham Edwards as new ringers during the year, and both are already well on their way to mastering the weird and wonderful techniques and terminology associated with all things campanalogical - with thanks to Brian Smalley for teaching them. Congratulations also go to this year's winners of the Golden Bell Awards – Sue Smalley for handbells and George Heaton for towerbells. These were presented at the very enjoyable Annual Bellringers Dinner, held once again at the Strickland Arms in January.

This was the culmination of a very busy year. The towerbell ringers continued their 'World Grand Tour' in trepidation – crossing into the unknown territory of Yorkshire to ring at New Mill, Holmfirth and Armitage Bridge. Thank you to Sarah Easton for organising the trip, and the all-important pub lunch.

As well as ringing every Sunday morning we now also ring for Evensong, and the bells have also been rung throughout the year for weddings and for various anniversaries. The most poignant of these was joining in the special nationwide ring on the evening of Armistice Day. We are proud that this has been recorded in the national 'Battle's Over' tribute book, along with the playing of the Last Post by Phil Marks on an original WW1 Somme bugle.

The Beetham Handbell Ringers have also been busy, ringing in the summer at the Kent Estuary Songs of Praise on Milnthorpe Green, at the St Lazarus Garden Party in July, and the first public appearance of our new handbell (inscribed 'Beetham Sports Committee 2018' in recognition of the generous donation from Beetham Sports) at the Levens Methodist Strawberry Tea in August. The latter resulted in an invitation by the Methodist Women in Britain group to run a workshop for them in Grange-over-Sands, amid much laughter and concentration.

Next venue was National Trust property Allan Bank in November, where the ringers enjoyed entertaining staff, visitors, dogs and red squirrels for the afternoon. It was then a complete whirlwind through December with concerts at Hartland House, Lunesdale House, Elmsfield House, Booths Milnthorpe, and after the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols in church. Thanks go to the choir members who led the audiences in singing carols at all these events. Also a big thank you to Lorraine and Huw for continuing to welcome us into the Tea Room for our handbell practices (and cakes) during the cold winter evenings.

My thanks go to all the ringers for their dedication, enthusiasm, and friendship during the year, in calling people to church and taking the joy of music out into the wider community.

Jenny Marks, Tower Captain

(d) Gateway and Community Report

In August 2017 St. Michael & All Angels entered into a state of interregnum. Our new shared priest has now been appointed and will carry out an important role within our community and in upholding worship within our ancient church. During this period the work of the church has continued because of the efforts of a wonderful team of volunteers

- During the past 12 months, without a resident priest, we have held two services each Sunday, we have celebrated morning Eucharist and Evensong. Wednesday Eucharist has been celebrated on the first Sunday of every month.

- Communion is taken to local Residential Homes and communion by extension is carried out in homes whenever and wherever it is needed.
- This past year we have baptised one adult and five infants.
- Four couples have been married in our church.
- Nine funerals have taken place.
- Two young persons and three adults have been confirmed in our church by Bishop Cyril.
- All the Christmas services were exceptionally well attended

We reiterate our grateful thanks to Rev. Canon David Peacock and Rev. Geoff Turner as regular Celebrants on Sunday mornings and for their interesting and thought provoking sermons. We also thank all those who have willingly stood in when David or Geoff have been away. We thank the whole of the Worship Team who keep Evensong alive and well every Sunday. We are grateful to David Crabb for leading the Wednesday service. We are grateful to Jenny Marks for playing the organ on Sunday evening. We are grateful to all the people who keep our traditions alive – those on offertory duty, those on sidespersons duties, those who read the lessons and those who write and deliver the intercessions. We thank the cleaners, the brass polishers, the coffee makers, the cake bakers, the cashiers, the flower arrangers and the music makers. Particular thanks go to Geoff Field for his wonderful organ playing and for his skill as choir master. We especially thank our three Church Wardens for all the hard work that they put in to keep our church open, welcoming and safe and finally, we thank everyone who, with a generous heart, gives of skill, time and effort to keep our church the special place that it is.

Fund Raising: Our church takes seriously its obligation for almsgiving. Funds have been raised for many charities including Christian Aid, Manna House and the Children's Society.

Dementia: We are a Dementia Friendly Church with two Dementia Champions who are engaged in action throughout South Lakeland.

Pastoral Care: Many people from our church visit sick or vulnerable friends within our community. I would like to record my thanks to all those who are actively engaged in this form of pastoral care.

Flower Festival 2018: Our three day Flower Festival in May was a wonderful collaboration between the church and Beetham Women's Institute who were celebrating their centenary this year.

The Gateway: Under Jenny, The Gateway continues to flourish and is eagerly anticipated by all who receive it. Our thanks go to Wendy Nicholas, Head teacher of Beetham School for her 'school news' each month. We are grateful to all those who continue to produce such interesting front page articles each month. Thanks also to the folders and distributors. A massive thank you to Jenny, who spends an enormous amount of time each month communicating, compiling, arranging and photocopying each and every edition.

Church Website: The church website at www.beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk is kept up-to-date with news of 'What's On' each month, church services and rotas, 'Who's Who', the latest and past editions of The Gateway, our Parish Profile with information about the church

and community, our Mission Action Plan and plenty of other links and details. If anyone has any suggestions for improvements or any additional information, they're always welcomed.

Village Coffee Morning: A big thank you goes to Julie and Colin Clarke for organising the Village Coffee Morning which is held in church on the first Wednesday of each month. Members of the community regularly join in this social event, enjoying plenty of homemade cakes and a good chat. Many other visitors also drop in, and Parkside in Arnsdale often make arrangements to pop in to the coffee morning which becomes a much appreciated stop on their walking tours. There is no charge for coffee and cake but donations are welcomed for church funds.

Beetham Band: The Beetham Band was formed in 2017 by Tess Rowlands and continues to grow in numbers and repertoire. It meets every Saturday morning in church. The band offers an informal and social way for musicians of all standards to get together and have some fun. New members are always made welcome. With an eclectic mix of instruments, anything goes! The band has performed at the Flower Festival (in church), the St. Lazarus Charity Garden Party (in the sunshine) and at Beetham Sports (in gale force wind and rain), as well as playing carols at Christmas in church and at the Beetham Garden Centre. Our grateful thanks go to Tess for organising the music and to Sarah Easton for conducting the band.

The links between St. Michael & All Angels and Beetham CE Primary School: The links between Beetham Church of England Primary School and the church are strong and constant with 7 Foundation Governors on the Governing Body of the school from the church community. Volunteers from church help in school on a daily basis across a range of activities. Here are just samples of the collaborative activities which have taken place in the past 12 months.

- The children performed two productions of the Nativity play 'Nativity Rocks' within church in December to large audiences.
- A wonderful and interactive Harvest Thanksgiving service was held in church on 4th October 2018. The children brought in useful and practical gifts for Manna House. The service was well attended by parents, grandparents, carers and Foundation Governors
- On 19th October 2018 Foundation Governors went to the opening of the new classroom erected in the garden of the school. Tim Farron officially opened the classroom and daffodils were planted as part of the celebration.
- Celebration Assembly was held in church on Friday 9th November 2018. The children had created a wonderful display to commemorate the ending of the First World War and took the opportunity to look round the church at the WW1 exhibition and the floral displays. They also took the opportunity to question Ian Ashton, a Lancashire Fusilier Veteran who, along with his comrades, laid a wreath at the War Memorial. Ian arrived early to speak to the children and a wonderful and emotional message was received from Ian after the event saying how engaged and well behaved the children were.
- Foundation Governors continue to have a presence at Celebration Assembly each Friday in school and contribute by leading prayers.
- There are plans afoot for the school to hold more Celebration Assemblies in church during this coming year. There are also plans for other learning opportunities to be developed using the church as the learning environment.
- Volunteers from church continue to help out in a myriad of different ways on a daily basis within school and our heartfelt thanks go to them, not just from the PCC but also from Ms Nicholas.

Remembrance weekend: The church looked stunningly beautiful to commemorate the end of the First World War. There were many amazing floral displays and our thanks go to Dianne and all the flower arrangers who gave up so much of their time to provide and arrange the displays. Particular thanks go to Tess and Ned for the stunning archway of poppies at the entrance to the church. We are also grateful to Ian Stirrup who painstakingly made 200 handmade remembrance crosses.

In conclusion: St. Michael & All Angels is a thriving church in the fullest sense of the word. It's what people need it to be, it is a church for the community. It's a church that doesn't just function when services are being held, it's active, it's vibrant, it's hardworking, it goes out into the community because that's what a church should do and where a church should be. Whether it's carol singing, bell ringing, fund raising, supporting our school, upholding individuals and families in time of need or celebrating with them through joyful times, this church is whatever it's needed to be and there for whoever needs it.

Interregnum has been challenging for St. Michael & All Angels but it's not been our aim to simply survive during this period, it's been our aim to succeed and with the help of generous and loving people we have done just that.

The visitor's book is testament to how people are positively affected by this special place. It's not just the building that is special, our church is an integral part of our community, it belongs to our community and it serves our community.

2019 will bring other blessings and challenges. We welcome Rev. Andrew Norman into our church community and wish him our sincere good wishes for a happy time working with the people who make up St. Michael & All Angels, Beetham.

Vivien Stirrup and Jenny Marks

(e) Bookstall

The Bookstall continues to be a regular source of income; in 2018 we took over £700. Many thanks to all who contributed: John Lomax for producing the popular bookmarks and the booklets, 'Men of Beetham' and 'Reconciliation'. Both of these were very popular especially during the Festival of Remembrance, Recollection and Reconciliation. Thanks also to Jenny Marks for sourcing printers for the Christmas Cards and placing the orders. Our new Easter Cards will be on sale soon. Thanks to Sheila MacInnes for her books of poetry; I can recommend them as sources of inspiration. We are intending to introduce new brochures and cards during this coming year. And finally, thank you all for your continuing support of sales from the Book Stall.

Sue Smalley

(f) Church Flowers

Flowers have been arranged by a rota of twelve ladies in the Sanctuary, Lady Chapel and Porch throughout the year, excepting Advent and Lent. The team has been increased by the addition of four ladies and four gentlemen to decorate other areas of the Church for special occasions, the festivals and the Flower Festival. The Church has been especially decorated for the major festivals of Easter, Harvest and Christmas. Red and white flowers and poppies to go with the 'There but not there' figures, were arranged throughout the Church on the 11th November, Remembrance Sunday, to mark the end of the Great War on 11th November 1918.

Sixty small bunches of daffodils were again put together for distribution on Mothering Sunday. The Easter Garden was prepared and the Church decorated for the Easter Festival in the Spring colours of white and yellow. Autumnal colours were used at Harvest Festival. The Advent Wreath was prepared again and the Church decorated for the Christmas Festival with greenery and in white, red, silver and gold.

The Annual Flower Weekend was held on the 26th, 27th, 28th May 2018. This year we joined the Beetham Women's Institute in marking their Centenary. The W.I. staged an exhibition in the Lady Chapel and throughout the Church. The Beetham Band played songs of the time and teas were served.

Special flowers have been arranged during the year in memory of loved ones. Flowers have also been arranged for five weddings in June, July, August and December, as well as for the funerals of Margaret Long, Joe Richards, Anne Marshall-Lee, Joyce Halhead, Myra Watson and Margaret Cutress.

With the increasing number of requests for help with decorating the Church for weddings etc, a meeting was held to decide on a price to cover the cost of flowers, oasis, ribbon etc for pedestals, window sills and pew ends. We are very grateful to everyone who continues to help and arrange the flowers in the Church and for donations towards expenses.

The Church flowers remain an important part of the peace and tranquillity of Beetham Church and are much appreciated by the visitors, many of whom record their feelings in the Visitors' Book.

Dianne Lomax

(g) Choir and Music

It is always a pleasure making music in Beetham Church, as those who sing, or play an instrument, have such a great love and enthusiasm for their art, and those who listen always do so with much appreciation and encouragement.

The choir has sung every Sunday during the year, as well as for extra services at Easter and Christmas. The repertoire of anthems and service settings, sung by the regular and/or augmented choir, has grown steadily, and special evening services such as Sung Evensong, Harvest, Remembrance Day and the Carol Service were well attended by large and highly appreciative congregations. Weekly choir practices have contributed greatly to the confidence and musicality of the choir, and it is hoped to build on the success of this year's events with more of the same during the coming year.

As always we are very grateful to the talented organists who have accompanied our services, especially Jenny Marks, who plays for Evensong every week. Sadly we have recently lost two of our number in Margaret Cutress and John Falkingham. We remember with gratitude their talents, as well as the warmth of their personalities and their willingness to help out. They faithfully upheld the choral tradition at Beetham and both will be greatly missed. However, looking forward, this year particular mention should also be given to the two student organists who have accompanied services in church – Sophie Kirkby from Dallam School and Alex Peters from Ripley St Thomas. It is good that we are able to encourage, and offer opportunities to, the next generation of organists.

Geoffrey Field, Organist

Agenda Item 11: Churchwardens' Report

The Churchwardens Handbook lists the many and varied duties and responsibilities that are the lot of wardens, but they basically boil down to a requirement to ensure the smooth running of church affairs.

During an extended interregnum, this has at times been a challenge, but we have been blessed with the support of a great team of people who have kept us on our toes and ensured that the work of the St Michael & All Angels has thrived.

We must first of all record our thanks again to Canon David Peacock and the Rev'd Geoff Turner who have between them ensured that our worship has continued unbroken during this time without our own parish priest. Backed by the worship team, organised and marshalled by Viv Stirrup, we are proud to be able to claim that our commitment to both our own congregation and that of the wider community has thrived during the past twelve months. In addition to our regular worship, we have been host to four weddings (!!), six baptisms (including one adult), nine funerals. Three adults and two teenagers have been confirmed.

The day-to-day running of the parish and maintaining the church has continued thanks to the work of many people. We are, as ever, grateful to Dorothy MacLeod for her hard work as PCC Secretary ensuring that we have done all those things that we ought to have done (not least in complying with the new Data Protection legislation). We are grateful, too, for the sound wisdom and advice given by the PCC during a year in which, in addition to all the routine things, we had to produce a Parish Profile fit to attract a new priest. That we were unable to attract candidates in two advertising exercises was disappointing and does not, in our opinion, reflect either the quality of the Parish Profile or the attractions of Beetham and this church of St Michael & All Angels.

Sue Smalley has kept on top of the constantly changing requirements and essential work of ensuring that we are compliant with Safeguarding legislation. For this vital work we are extremely grateful.

We are indebted to John Lomax who has taken on the role of Treasurer and who has worked with the Finance Committee to ensure the smooth running of our finances. The church accounts which form part of this annual report indicate how successfully and with what attention to detail this work has been carried out.

Our thanks go to the Fabric Committee, under the leadership of Jenny Marks and Harry Parrott, which has continued to ensure that the fabric of our church is kept in good order. The success of their efforts over the past few years is shown in the Quinquennial report on the fabric of the building which has indicated that there is no urgent work to be undertaken.

We are indebted to the small army of volunteers who go about their work day by day, week by week, mostly without public acclaim, to clean, to polish, to dust, to Hoover, to arrange flowers, to make coffee (and wash up afterwards!), to wash and to iron, to trim the hedge, to empty the bins. And of course to those who read, who Intercess, who lead worship - and lots more besides.

And it would be remiss of us not to record our appreciation and thanks to Geoff Field for his work with the choir and as our organist. To sit in church on Sunday morning and be inspired by such glorious music is a delight impossible to quantify.

Elsewhere in this Annual Report you will find details of the many and varied aspects of our church and parish life, but there are two events we would particularly like to recall as highlights

of the year and which represent the very best of Beetham and the role this church plays in the community. Firstly, the Flower Festival in May, commemorating the 100 years of the Beetham WI. This event demonstrated the coming together of many areas of community life to produce a memorable weekend of spectacular flower arrangements, splendid displays of local and national history, with personal memories providing a real sense of immediacy and vitality, music from the newly formed Community Band as well as our own in house musicians. The constant flow of visitors throughout the three days and the tremendous atmosphere of collaboration and co-operation gave ample evidence of the church reaching out into the wider community and saying, 'Here we are'. Secondly, the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice in 1918 with our weekend of Remembrance, Reflection and Reconciliation again attracted attention from many people from different sections of the community. Culminating in the special service on the Sunday evening, attended by many visitors from the local area and further afield, the whole weekend was a fitting tribute to the Men of Beetham, and elsewhere, who answered their country's call in its hour of need. Almost as importantly, it reflected the pivotal role played by St Michael & All Angels in the past, present and future of the community.

It is impossible to name all those who contributed to the success of these two events (not to mention all the other activities that have taken place throughout the year), but not to mention some would be a dereliction of our responsibilities. So, to Dianne Lomax for organising the flowers, Sarah Easton for the facilitating the link between the WI and the church, to Tess Rowlands for organising the Armistice commemoration, to Sue Smalley for arranging the special service of commemoration, our thanks.

We look forward to the coming year with confidence and optimism. Thank you all for your support.

Jenny, Ian and Brian, Churchwardens

Agenda Item 12: Elections and Appointments

- (a) Parochial Church Council Members
- (b) Sidespersons
- (c) Independent Examiner

Agenda Item 13: Comments from the meeting for consideration by the PCC

Closing Prayers
