

Diocese of Winchester
Deanery of Bournemouth
Bournemouth Town Centre Parish



ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH

REPORTS FOR THE 2021 ANNUAL MEETING

**SUNDAY 28TH MARCH 2021
AT 12.30PM
VIA ZOOM**

**Agenda for the Annual General Meeting of St Stephen's Church
in Bournemouth Town Centre Parish
Sunday 28th March 2021 at 12.30pm via Zoom**

1. Opening Prayers
2. Present: Please sign the attendance sheet being passed around
3. Apologies for Absence
4. Approval of Minutes of meeting on Sunday 11th October 2020
5. Matters arising
6. Secretary's Report
7. Electoral Roll – present situation
8. Finance – Treasurer's Report and Accounts for 2020
9. Appointment of Examiner
10. Various Reports
11. Election of Officers:
 - Two Deputy Wardens
 - Ten DCC Members - of which the first five will also be PCC Members under the scheme of delegation
 - DCC Secretary
 - DCC Treasurer
12. Votes of thanks
13. Any other business
14. Date of the next DCC Meeting - Thursday 8th July, 6.30pm
15. Closing Prayer

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of St Stephen's Church
in Bournemouth Town Centre Parish
Sunday 11th October 2020 at 12pm approx.**

The annual meeting of St. Stephen's Church was held on 11th October 2020 following the Sunday celebration of Holy Communion at 10.45am. The Government and Church advice to keep at least 6ft apart and to wear facemasks was followed.

Permission to hold the annual meeting six months after the statutory period had been given nationally by the Church of England

1. **Present:** the Rector, the Revd. Ian Terry in the chair and 26 people as recorded on the attendance sheet.
2. **Apologies** were received from Paul Coote, Kathleen Murgatroyd and Brenda Price
3. **The Minutes** from 31st March 2019 ADCM had been circulated and were accepted by unanimous vote proposed and seconded by Adrian Scott and Malcolm Warwick.
4. **Matter Arising:** No matters arose.
5. **Annual Accounts** for the year ended December 2019 had been audited and circulated. Brenda Price was thanked warmly for her painstaking work. There being no discussion the Parish Warden, Jane MacDonald-Styslinger, seconded by Julian Davies, proposed that the accounts be received. This was carried unanimously.

Stephen Chappell had noted that the annual amount paid to the diocese had been reduced but the sum paid remained a substantial amount of St. Stephen' income and he suggested that sight of the diocesan annual budget for community might be helpful. The Rector suggested that the Asst Diocesan Secretary, Colin Harbidge, might be asked to a discussion with the PCC.

6. **Appointment of Examiner:** The examiner is:
James Shutler of "17TAX Accounting Ltd"

7. **Electoral Roll** kept by Paul Coote showed a total of 49 members. 7 members had departed from the previous Roll and 5 had chosen to join, the new total being 49. Paul Coote was thanked not only for keeping the Roll but for keeping in touch with people as they moved round and about.

8. **Election** of Officers: These took place all names on the voting papers were attested members of the electoral roll

The results were as follows to be referred to the PCC for ratification:

Parish Warden	None
Two Deputy Wardens	None
(Two Deanery Synod Members)	Stephen Chappell and Helen Holmes Re-election for next 3yr term
Five possible PCC Members	Paul Coote, Julian Davies, Diana Shiner & Ex-Officio members
(DCC Secretary)	Helen Holmes (to be nominated officially at the next DCC meeting)
(DCC Treasurer)	Brenda Price (to be nominated officially at the next DCC meeting)
Ten possible DCC Members	Paul Coote Julian Davies Brenda Price Adrian Scott Diana Shiner Carol Claxton

9. **Any other business:** There was no other business

10. **Closing Prayer:** at 12.30pm

Signed: _____

Date: 28th March 2021

List of Various Reports for the Annual Meeting

Secretary's Report	Helen Holmes
Electoral Roll Report	Paul Coote
Treasurer's Report	Brenda Price
2020 Accounts	Brenda Price
Deanery Synod Report	Helen Holmes
Pastoral Care Team Report	Sylvia Kraushaar
Music Report	Sean Tucker
Fabric Report	Adrian Scott
Parking at St Stephen's	Tony Clarke
Publicity Report	Leigh Hatts
Hall Report	Paul Coote
Rector's Report	The Rev'd Dr Ian Terry

Secretary's Report

The DCC met via zoom, BT lines permitting, and the dominant subject was the future of St. Stephen's hall and flat.

The Hall Trustees had asked for the views of the DCC and reluctantly they had agreed that the possibility of a long lease for use as a homeless hub should be explored with the BCP Council.

The accounts showed a loss through the pandemic, which also accounted for lack of tenants for the hall and little interest in working as Hall Manager.

Thanks were extended to those "faithful few" who week by week kept the church open through lockdown, provided flowers when appropriate, kept boilers going and temperature to keep the organ happy, income flowing from the car park.

Helen Holmes
St Stephen's DCC Secretary

Electoral Roll Report

At the beginning of the year the Electoral Roll stood at 47.

At the end of the year the Electoral Roll stands at 45. Three new members have been added to the Roll, three members have left the Parish and two have, sadly, died.

Significant praise continues to be due to Lisa, Parish Administrator for her maintenance of the electronic register and her succinct analysis of the requirements.

Paul Coote
Electoral Roll Officer

Treasurer's Report

As was expected, 2020 yielded an even bigger deficit than in previous years, with the hall closing, the car parkers working at home and no church services for a big part of 2020.

Our total income from giving is down by £6730. Grateful thanks are due to those who pay by Standing Order thus still giving us a regular income despite the lockdown. Thanks also for your Gift Day donations which were £5,790 initially and nearly £7,000 with Gift Aid, but significantly lower than in 2019.

The Hall Income that we did receive was from the tenancy of the Hall Flat. The Car Parkers were asked for a small amount to 'hold' their spaces.

Income from Fund Raising Activities of £295 included donations for refreshments during January 2020, sale of home-made marmalade and sale of Christmas cards.

The flower fund stands at £210

The Parish Share of £17,772 has been paid in full.

Our missionary spending was severely reduced in 2020, however we raised £664.00 for Lebombo – this included £83 that we were able to claim on relevant donations as Gift Aid.

Bank Charges have now been reduced to nil since we moved our banking to HSBC UK, and we have received interest on our HSBC UK community savings account.

As I mention above, standing order giving has been maintained throughout lockdown and some "envelope givers" have gone out of their way to maintain their contributions. The church, however, needs regular income even when closed. Using standing orders, over which the giver has total control, will help achieve this and reduce the risk to those who have to do the banking.

Please note that the full 2020 accounts are available overleaf.

Brenda Price
St Stephen's Treasurer

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Weekly Envelopes		3,320		6,338
Regular Giving		7,521		8,243
Church Collection		1,931		3,542
Casual Donations		705		2,084
Income Tax recovered on Gift Aid		4,976		6,920
Weddings and Funerals (net)		287		1,281
Hire of Church		-		300
Car Park Income		4,725		8,823
Hall Lettings		15,907		30,095
Fund Raising Activities		295		868
Gift Day Donations		5,790		7,270
Flower Fund (net)	-	50	-	135
Concert Account (net) (including May Festival)		66		4,638
Investment Income		774		1,110
Vicarage Trust		900		-
		<u>47,147</u>		<u>81,377</u>
EXPENDITURE				
Church Electricity, Gas and Water	9,161		10,262	
Church and Churchyard Repairs and Cleaning	5,420		11,914	
Church Insurances	7,568		7,350	
Church Hall				
Electricity, Gas and Water	4,318		6,496	
Maintenance, Cleaning and Caretaker	4,408		13,636	
Insurance	1,423		1,487	
Wi-Fi	468		459	
Miscellaneous	4,548		1,899	
Organists and Choir - Fees and Expenses	6,075		9,484	
Organ and Piano Tuning and Repairs	487		1,860	
Sacristy Supplies	-		738	
Diocesan Quota	17,772		17,771	
Parish Expenses	9,720		7,150	
Clergy Expenses	335		-	
Grants	83		1,369	
Advertising, Stationery and Postage	-		50	
Sundry Expenses	349		450	
Bank Charges	-		462	
		<u>72,135</u>		<u>92,837</u>
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		<u><u>- 24,988</u></u>		<u><u>- 11,460</u></u>

BOURNEMOUTH TOWN CENTRE PARISH
ST. PETER & ST. STEPHEN WITH ST. AUGUSTIN
DISTRICT CHURCH COUNCIL

ST.STEPHEN'S CHURCH
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

BOURNEMOUTH TOWN CENTRE PARISH
ST. PETER & ST. STEPHEN WITH ST. AUGUSTIN
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ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

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ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS				
Unrestricted Investments				
349 CBF Fixed Interest Fund		590		586
Tangible Fixed Assets		2		2
		<u>592</u>		<u>588</u>
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors and Prepayments	292		331	
Cash at Bank	<u>146,206</u>		<u>166,283</u>	
	146,498		166,614	
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Creditors and Accruals	<u>2,079</u>		<u>2,205</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS		144,419		164,409
NET ASSETS		<u>145,011</u>		<u>164,997</u>
FUNDS				
Balances brought forward		164,997		176,158
Excess for year - general		- 24,988		- 11,460
Excess for year - extraordinary		5,002		299
		<u>145,011</u>		<u>164,997</u>

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
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		<hr/>		<hr/>
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Advertising, Stationery and Postage	-		50	
Sundry Expenses	349		450	
Bank Charges	-		462	
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		72,135		92,837
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		<hr/>		<hr/>
		- 24,988		- 11,460

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£	£	£	£
EXTRAORDINARY INCOME				
Organ Fund		-		-
Project Appeal		-		-
Legacies		5,002		272
Insurance Claim		-		-
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		5,002		272
EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE				
Organ Fund	-		-	
Church - major works	-		-	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
		-		-
(Deficit) of Extraordinary Income over Extraordinary Expenditure		<hr/>		<hr/>
		5,002		272
Gains/(Losses) on Investments (net)		-		27
EXCESS/(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR		<hr/>		<hr/>
		5,002		299

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH
CALCULATION OF FUND BALANCES
AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£	£
<u>Restricted Funds</u>		
Opening Balance	164,997	176,158
Investment Income - Vicarage Trust	900	800
Organ Fund Activity	- 450	-
Project Fund Activity	-	-
	165,447	176,958
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		
	- 20,436	- 11,961
	145,011	164,997

Notes to the Accounts

- 1 The restricted fund comprises the Organ Fund and the Project Fund together with income derived from those funds and the Vicarage Trust.
- 2 The movements on the Organ Fund Appeal and the Projects Fund Appeal during the year were as follows:

	<u>Organ</u>	<u>Projects</u>
	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Fund</u>
	£	£
Income	-	-
Legacies	-	-
	-	-
Expenditure	- 450	-
	- 450	-
Balance as at 1 January 2019	27,657	136,165
Balance as at 31 December 2019	27,207	136,165

- 3 During prior years the General Fund borrowed £31,169 from the Projects Fund. No repayments have been made.
- 4 As at the year end there was a balance of £14,983 held within the Current Bank Account for the Concert Fund.

Deanery Synod Report for the year ended 28th March 2021

Since the "late" annual meeting of 2020 held in October 2020 there has been two Deanery Synod meetings by Zoom.

In January since the major re-structuring of the whole diocese, as part of the change in the whole country was still under discussion the item was postponed to March. Instead, the Synod heard of an activity in the North of England which could find a place in the south.

The former Vicar of Warrington introduced his programme "As One" which recalled the spirit of togetherness during World War II.

Members of local neighbourhoods who had got to know each other during the pandemic would continue with no more than three events a year, including a summer tea party for people who lived in neighbouring streets. The Local Councils in the north had paid up to £200 per parish to fund such tea-parties where new "friends" could offer chat to help assuage loneliness and grief. It was gently pointed out that BCP had 120 parishes and that multiplied by £200... No discussion and the matter faded away...

At the January Synod it was announced that the Bishop of Southampton and the Archdeacon were still in consultation with the Deanery Pastoral and Mission Committee. A special Synod would be held on Monday, 17 May 2021 when the plans for the Diocese would be announced. All churchwardens were invited to this meeting expected, to be by zoom at 7.00pm.

A children's mission project, now at the training stage, was announced by the Revd. Andy Macpherson which would use two full-time youth workers. The links would be made stronger between schools and churches. More would be announced later. The Bishop was encouraging financial support of new dioceses with which Winchester was linked, notably Chile. The point was made that it was financially difficult for parishes to donate more money and some were reluctant to withdraw from the Diocese of Teso which could not stand alone financially. The parish levy of £30 per person was agreed being no higher than previous years.

With a reminder that the Bishop of Southampton and the Archdeacon were due to announce diocesan changes on 17th May, the second year of this session of the Synod closed.

Helen Holmes

Deanery Synod Representative

Pastoral Care Group Report

As with most Parish groups, our Team was directly impacted by the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic and the subsequent lockdown in March 2020. Visits to the local Nursing/Care Homes of St. Anne's and Avon Cliff were suspended in line with Government instructions and will obviously not be reinstated in the immediate future. However, contact with them has been maintained and it is our hope that with the anticipated relaxation of restrictions, some form of pastoral service may recommence, although probably in a slightly different format. That would certainly seem to be their wish as indeed it is ours.

On the basis that if one door closes, there is always a window left ajar somewhere, we have used online and telephone communication to keep in contact with as many of our Church Family as possible. While this can in no way redress the very deep sense of deprivation of social contact and consequent isolation felt by so many during this extremely challenging time, it is our hope that these contacts have helped to reinforce the feeling both of belonging and being valued.

This has been and still is, a time when we have all had to draw deeply on our spiritual reserves. We may feel that we are not able to fulfil the goals and aspirations which we have set ourselves, but one great service we can offer to each other, to the Church, our Country and the wider world is the strength of our continued thoughts and prayers. This is a journey which we are all making together. There will be much grief, pain and many unresolved issues which will remain long after the pandemic becomes a memory. As a Team we trust that we will be given the opportunity to work towards healing and reconciliation in the months ahead.

My thanks as always must go to the members of the Lay Sacramental Team (Mary Durham, Sue Francis, Allison Mallows, Roger Marley, Kathleen Murgatroyd, Rob Sawdy, Malcolm Warwick) - to Adrian Scott and to all those who assist and support, in any way, the pastoral work within the BTCP. Also, to our Rector, Fr. Ian, both for his oversight and for the programme of Sunday Services delivered online week by week which has enabled many of us in the Parish to join together in worship.

Sylvia Kraushaar on behalf of the Pastoral Care Team

Music Report

The past twelve months has seen Saint Stephen's Choir singing whenever possible, around the periods of lockdown. Notably, we resumed choral services in early September, singing until the end of October, then again throughout virtually all of December.

Inevitably with the restrictions there were few highlights – even our Carol Service had to be cancelled. However, one particularly encouraging and brighter moment was our Patronal Festival, on 26 December. It was both pleasing and thrilling to see a good number of congregants present, and a choir of eleven, with a good balance between the four parts. The singing and the general atmosphere of this special service was most uplifting.

Now that better times appear to be approaching, I look forward very much to welcoming our choir members back to Saint Stephen's – including our newest members, Richard and Judith Watts and, it is to be hoped, those who kindly helped out during the season of Advent. I hope very much that they may be able to join with us as often as possible.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the choir, including those who sang with us during December, for their excellent efforts in these trying circumstances, unwavering support and loyalty, and to Fr. Ian, our retired clergy, and the church family at Saint Stephen's, for their continued support. And I look forward eagerly to the resumption of full choral services as soon as we are able.

Sean R. Tucker
Director of Music

Church Fabric Report

No major repair work has been carried out this year but a fine building such as St Stephen's needs constant maintenance. Here are some of the matters attended to:

Braidley Road ancient wall. A section was leaning, and this was dismantled, vegetation cleared and then the wall reconstructed. We were not allowed to remove the two trees compromising the wall.

The Car Park floodlight was renewed, and a new motion sensitive light installed outside the Vestry Door.

The church floor was re-sealed and polished and now looks very fine.

The heating system failed just before Christmas and two attempts were made before the fault was identified. The repairs were costly.

Rough Sleepers continue to make their home on the north side of the church. When they move on, they leave behind a lot of rubbish but often, before this can be cleared, new visitors arrive.

Further **broken and tilted flagstones** were replaced, a by-product of using the area for car parking.

Remedial electrical work required following the 5 yearly Electrical Installation Test was completed.

Additionally, **routine maintenance** included: gutter and drain clearance, fire extinguishers tested, replacement of light bulbs and grounds care by gardener.

We must not lose sight of the need for urgent repairs to the **Rose Window** which is beyond our means. At the moment it is netted and Faculty permission for this has been renewed.

Adrian Scott
Fabric Officer

Parking at St Stephen's

A useful source of income for St Stephen's has always been the money we receive from the 'business parkers' who donate to church funds in exchange for being allowed to park in our car park during the week.

Unfortunately, in March 2020, we were hit by not only the Covid pandemic keeping people working from home, but also the reorganisation of BCP council. Several of our parkers were relocated elsewhere in the BCP area and so numbers fell from 19 down to 12 and, of those 12, all were working from home. Consequently, income from this source fell dramatically.

Those working from home agreed to pay a retainer of £15 per month to keep their spaces, even though they were rarely using them, and for this we are grateful.

As soon as lockdown fully ends, we will be able to go back to charging our usual rates, and I will be able to start recruiting new parkers. Demand from BCP council workers is generally high, so I am confident that we will soon be able to restore our numbers.

Tony Clarke

Publicity Report

This has been a year of encouraging people not to come to St Stephen's.

Tweets have been occasional to highlight just very special days when there was a service such as Ash Wednesday. The Tweets and our 'Church Near You' website page have maintained a presence as a reminder that we exist and will reopen for growth one day. Our new Tweet followers include the Bishop of Southampton, some local parishes and Thinking Church. Our Church Near You page had 4,500+ views during the year of lockdown. Our Facebook presence highlighting the choir has not been able to have its usual greater reach due to restrictions to our worship and music.

Leigh Hatts

St Stephen's Hall Report

Covid restrictions have meant that the hall has been out of action for virtually the whole year. There has, therefore, been practically no letting income.

The HealthBus has, periodically, used the Ellen Berry room, primarily as a telephone triage centre but seeing patients where required. The HealthBus has equipment to sanitise the parts of the hall they use to maintain anti-Covid requirements. In March the DentAid bus was based at the hall for a day. It provides a fully equipped and staffed dental surgery thereby addressing a major issue for many rough sleepers.

A charity provides meals to rough sleepers two nights a week from outside the hall. They do not use the hall itself.

Routine maintenance has continued in terms of fire extinguishers, gutters, boiler servicing, etc. Rentokil continue to monitor the situation regarding vermin. The company who services and maintains the heating system in both the flat and hall was switched this year to reduce costs.

A repair to the main hall ceiling where plaster has fallen remains outstanding. The hall would not be useable until this repair has been affected.

The presence of asbestos in the projection room and the area under the stage is being managed by closing off the two areas. Resolution would be very costly.

Negotiations regarding a change in the future management of the hall with a third party collapsed without conclusion at the beginning of the first lockdown.

Negotiations with another entity are underway in attempt to secure the future of the hall instead of merely mothballing it.

Brenda Price merits our very grateful thanks for continuing to deal with invoices and payments in connection with the hall.

Paul Coote

The Rector's Report to St Stephen's Annual Meeting

This report covers a period of five months of extraordinary human history, in which churches have been closed on Sundays for four of those five months, and everyone has been subject to a mixture of restrictions and lockdown. Although stewardship of an inevitably depleted financial income has continued, as has the stewardship of church buildings and churchyards, to the extent that this has been compatible with clear government instructions to 'stay at home', the core business of our PCC trust, public worship, evangelism, pastoral care and working in partnerships with others for the common good of our town, and the alleviation of the suffering of the poor, have been inevitably compromised to a very large extent. Online services, reflections and meetings have proved to be imaginative ways of keeping us in touch with each other and with God in a digital form of public worship. We have held funerals in church and at the crematorium with very limited congregations, and the pastoral care associated with those deaths has been personal but sometimes a bit more distant than was our previous custom.

We are adapting and have learned many lessons. All churches will be trying a range of creative digital ways of being church online, as well as in person in the future. Churches will not simply go back to where they were before the pandemic.

Whilst our confidence in God, as shown in Jesus, remains unchanged, there is much grief, bereavement and shock still to be processed. In due course, this will need many forms of liturgical as well pastoral and theological expression.

God always goes ahead of us, we learn from the Resurrection stories in the Gospels, and so our task over these coming months and years will be to be alert and listening to discern what God is doing, and where God is leading us, and to join in as best we can. It will take time, and, as with any process of bereavement and new beginnings, there are no short cuts, and we must be gentle with each other as we wait on God and continue to keep others and ourselves safe.

This report, then, quite properly and inevitably, echoes and repeats the gratitude of previous years, whilst registering that much needs to be not just regained but reformed, indeed, resurrected.

As we move forward in that spirit, I seek, therefore, your prayers and patience, for and with each other as we move into the future that God has prepared for us.

My personal gratitude to you all...

Dear Friends,

Vision for Bournemouth Town Centre Parish 2020 and onwards:

(i) Our vision for Bournemouth town centre parish is simple and profound. It links with Winchester Diocesan priorities.

A: We want everyone to have fullness of life with God, through personal, passionate spirituality and diverse community relationship, with Jesus.

B: We want to join in transformational partnerships with others for the common good of our town, particularly working together to help the poorest and most vulnerable amongst us.

In a nutshell: it's about (A) friendship with Jesus and (B) active solidarity with the poor. In practical terms, our hopes are for developing increasing ecumenical and common good focused community partnerships in all three churches in Bournemouth Town Centre Parish.

(ii) Further, our vision is to be a beacon parish within the Diocese, to expand the outreach work, develop our mission and, with the established chaplaincies, provide contact with the young and the business communities that form part of the wider town centre ministry. We wish to maintain the strong link between the three churches which offer different but complementary styles of worship and to build on the links between other established churches in Bournemouth.

(iii) We have sought clarity, with Deanery leadership, PCC and DCCs, in establishing a bold strategic direction, predicated on strategic partnerships for the common good, with St Peter's offering a range of activities (eg -ethics forums, homelessness & common good consultations, pastoral care for those involved with the 88 nightclubs in our parish, etc), for the whole BTCP and resourcing, as appropriate, the wider church and partners.

(iv) I have enjoyed talking in 2019 with Canon Mark Collinson, who was centrally involved as a participant in the Common Good Building Day that I organised for 24th April, 2019, sponsored by Bournemouth University, and a major part of the empirical research into homeless, and the church in partnerships, that I am conducting through Winchester University;

(v) The trustees of St Stephen's Hall have explored with the Diocesan Registrar the legal (trustee) implications and liabilities of leasing that Hall to a local buildings management company to use, primarily, but not exclusively, as a hub of connectivity for work with the homeless. Dr Maggie Kirk (local GP)'s 'Health Bus' is at the centre of this development; bus loaned by YMCA; bicycles to be restored by homeless folk donated by

Dorset Police (via Chief Constable James Vaughan); relationship brokered with local community by LA Councillor Hazel Allen; RC Church also part of this partnership equation.

(vi) We have further developed, alongside our strong BTCP missional emphasis on the Common Good, an authentic pattern of evangelism and discipleship within BTCP. 'Sharp Edges' discussion and discipling groups are now a growth point each Thursday lunchtime, following communion, 1- 1.45. As resource material we used Krish Kandiah's 'God is Stranger', up to August, took a holiday break, and in autumn 2019 we used Michael Mayne's book, 'This Sunrise of Wonder'. Prayer, Bible-study, sharing of our journeys – all powerful tools for evangelisation and nurture.

(vii) Financial practice is now as it should be, online and transparent, throughout the team.

(viii) Canon Sue Wallace has helped us develop a monthly worshipping community at St Stephen's on Saturday evenings at 8pm, 'Lazy Compline', which has a regular twenty-odd people.

(ix) Our BTCP LLM Emeritus, Roger Marley, has retired from regular active ministry after a very splendid 35 years of service. We must celebrate with him, with warm gratitude, once it is possible to have larger celebratory parties!

(x) Lucinda, as an active LLM for BTCP, is busy with preaching and with hospital chaplaincy. She is a tremendous asset to the Parish.

(xi) Our Wardens and church representatives, particularly Jane and Chris (for the second part of 2020), ably assisted at St Stephen's by Adrian Scott, Paul Coote, Julian Davies, Stephen Chappell, Helen Holmes and Brenda Price, are a dedicated and gifted team, who with Lisa, our Parish Administrator, contribute great strengths to BTCP. Huge gratitude to them all.

(xii) I would be unable to keep worship going in our three churches without the gentle and generous contributions of a whole range of really excellent retired priests, to whom I am immensely grateful; in relation to St Stephen's in 2020: Paul Collins, David Lund, John Staples, Stephen Holmes, Steve Parselle, Joe Smith. To this generous and gifted group of ministers, including Roger and Lucinda, my heartfelt thanks.

The Rev'd Dr Ian Terry
Team Rector - BTCP