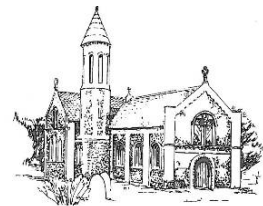




***The Parish of Mill End and Heronsgate  
with West Hyde***

# **Reports for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2020**



**Going Deeper into God   Transforming Communities   Making New Disciples**

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## **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 12 noon**

Opening Prayers

### **ANNUAL PARISHIONERS' MEETING**

#### **Agenda**

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the previous Meeting
3. Election of the Clerk to the Vestry
4. Election of the (Parish) Churchwardens
5. Reports on the Parish Charities

### **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL MEETING**

#### **Agenda**

1. Minutes of the previous Meeting
2. Reception and adoption of the revised Electoral Roll
3. Annual Report on the financial affairs of the Parish, presentation of Accounts and their submission to the Independent Examiner
4. Annual Report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the churches
5. Deanery Synod Report
6. Election of lay representative to Deanery Synod
7. Election of members of the Parochial Church Council
8. Election of sides-persons (usually delegated to the church committees)
9. Appointment of Independent Examiner
10. Reports on Parish Organisations
11. Any matters concerning the Parish
12. Closing Prayers

### **THE ANNUAL PARISHIONERS' MEETING &**

### **THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

**SUNDAY 7 APRIL 2019 AT 12.00PM IN ST PETER'S CHURCH, MILL END**

**Present:** Natasha Clifford, Tony Humphreys, Alison Drury, Maggie Owen, Rachel Smith, Nicki Milligan, Christine Bunce, Helen Ford, John Dunkley, Patricia Fryer, Elizabeth Woods, Anne Short, Phyllida Johnson, Alex Cutmore, Elaine Dobbs, David Cassidy, Julie Shepherd, Derek Cole, Dianne Harris, Christine Hart, George Hart, Fr Sam Frampton, Tony Funnell, Simon Cutmore (Chairman)

The meeting commenced at 12:16 with prayers led by Rev'd Simon Cutmore.

### **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISHIONERS MEETING 2019**

1. **Apologies:** Andrew Ross, Linda Watkinson, Patsy and Cherry
2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** The Minutes of the previous meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> April 2018 were agreed unanimously

3. **Election of the Clerk to the Vestry:** Natasha Clifford would act as Clerk and this was unanimously agreed.
4. **Election of the (Parish) Churchwardens:** Election of Parish Wardens to be postponed until the Extraordinary APCM which will be on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May
5. **Reports on the Parish Charities:** This was deferred to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

The meeting closed at 12:20pm

## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2019**

1. **Minutes of the previous Meeting:** The minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2018 were deemed to be accurate on the proposal of Maggie Owen, seconded by Dianne Harris and agreed unanimously.
2. **Reception and Adoption of the Revised Electoral Roll:** Elaine Dobbs reported on the Electoral Roll which has been completed renewed this year. This now totals 142 which is 4 up from last year. 18 members have been removed - 15 didn't return their form, 2 have moved away and 1 death. There are 20 new members plus 2 late ones, 17 in this run. Since the last complete revision in 2013 there has been an increase of 13, up from 129. Loraine and Michael voted on the roll. It was agreed unanimously on the proposal of Tony Funnell, Seconded by Sam Frampton.
3. **Annual Report on the Financial Affairs of the Parish, presentation of accounts and their submission to the Independent Examiner:** The quota is down this year due partly to electrical work carried out and the lightening conductors. Also due to St Thomas' house no longer being rented out. There is a tiny surplus for this year. Last year £6000 was given and we were just in the black. This year could be tight. Tony Funnell proposed the Accounts and Budget, John Dunkly adopted. All agreed. Simon expressed his heartfelt thanks to John, Tony and Anne for all their hard work. He also thanked others for their financial contribution and Gift Aid.
4. **Annual Report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the Churches:**  
Kenneth Lee carried out a Health and Safety Audit across the Parish. There were 560 recommendations, 351 to be resolved immediately and 136 to be done within 7-12 months. It is important this work is carried out for the benefit of those who use the facilities. Since his report great progress has been made. H&S is to be put on the PCC Agenda. A Risk Assessment has also been done.
5. **Deanery Synod Report:** All members are lay representatives. Simon stressed the importance of their work as a place of prayer and action which helps ensure that the parishes work closely and effectively together. The Deanery Synod Reps were thanked for all their hard work.
6. **Election of Lay Representative to Deanery Synod:** No election as members in their 2<sup>nd</sup> year.
7. **Election of Members of the Parochial Church Council:** Elaine Dobbs was re elected after her term expired and Christine Bunce and Anne Short will be joining the PCC. Nomination forms were received from all:

Elaine Dobbs

Proposed by: Alex Cutmore

Seconded: Abigail Back

Christine Bunce

Proposed by: Nicki Milligan

Seconded: Elaine Dobbs

It is important the PCC has representatives from all 3 churches, Messy Church and Play and Praise.

**8. Election of Side Persons (usually delegated to the church committees):** It was unanimously agreed that this would be delegated to the relevant church committees.

**9. Appointment of Independent Examiner:** It was unanimously agreed that Simon Merchant would continue to act as Independent Examiner. For the first time the reports were returned with no issues which is a great credit to the finance team. It was suggested we buy Simon a bottle of wine.

**10. Reports on Parish Organisations:** Simon expressed his huge thanks to all those who partake in the life of the parish and community. It was agreed by all that we should adopt the reports.

**11. Any other matters concerning the Parish:** There is a new parish action plan 'Outreach into the Community'. Isolation is the biggest issue for local people. A plan is being drawn up to tackle this issue. Simon asked if we can all co-operate with this plan. Dianne Harris asked, what is involved in the role of a parish nurse? These are registered nurses employed by churches to carry out pastoral care in addition to limited medical care. They act as a link between the church and surgery. They offer pastoral care to young and old on the Maple Cross Estate and there is a nurse based at the Maple Cross Club.

Alison Drury suggested we all make a big effort to invite people to attend special or seasonal services.

Thanks were given to present and future members of the PCC, St John's and St Peter's Committee, In Touch group and other groups. Thanks to the Church and Parish Wardens and Finance Team. Thanks to Kathy and Elizabeth for all their hard work. Simon expressed his gratitude to the Ministry team - Sam, Maggie, Helen, Anne and Paul for their time, talent and support. A formal thank you was given to Paul Palmer for his work as Safeguarding Officer. Thanks to Elaine who always goes above and beyond! And to everyone for the role they play in the life of the parish. Thanks especially to his family. Maggie Smith in return expressed her gratitude to Simon for everything he does.

**12. Closing Prayers:** The meeting closed at 13:20 with prayers.

## **Safeguarding report**

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.)

### **Responsibilities during the year:**

Parish Safeguarding Officer – Rachel Smith

DBS Administrator – Siu Palmer Cheung

### **Actions completed in the year 2019/2020:**

A formal statement of the adoption of the House of Bishops 'Promoting a Safer Church; Safeguarding Policy Statement' was added to our Safeguarding Policy and signed on behalf of the PCC in one of our meetings.

As a PCC we reviewed our policy on the recruitment of ex offenders.

We also revised our policy on the safe use of images.

Copies of the Safeguarding policy, contact details for the PSO, churchwardens and the Diocesan Safeguarding Team were displayed in our churches on the noticeboards.

Also displayed were a list of key helplines and information about where to get help with safeguarding issues.

Regular meetings were attended by the Safeguarding officer and DBS administrator to check the list of people who have received safeguarding training and may need a refresher course. Also those who need a renewed DBS check.

An Action Plan for Promoting a Safer Church was set up in the form of a Parish Dashboard system. This is an electronic check list to make sure that actions are completed.

**Actions proposed for 2020/2021:**

This summer many people will need to have their DBS checks renewed.

Looking ahead to March 2021 onwards many people will need to refresh their Safeguarding training.

Hire of the hall forms will have an additional line that states that the hirers agree to comply with our safeguarding rules and that leaders of groups eg; Brownies have been DBS checked by their own association.

To review a list of church activities and check that we have insurance cover for all taken in the name of the PCC.

**Report of the trustees and accounts**  
**for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**  
**for the Parochial Church Council of the**  
**Parish of Mill End & Heronsgate with West Hyde**  
CHARITY NUMBER: 1134153

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Mill End & Heronsgate With West Hyde ("the PCC") serves the benefice of the same name which has a population of approximately eleven thousand.

The parish has three churches: St Peter the Apostle, Mill End; St John the Evangelist, Heronsgate and St Thomas of Canterbury West Hyde and Maple Cross.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Charity Number**

1134153

**Principal address**

Berry Lane  
Rickmansworth  
Hertfordshire  
WD3 7HQ

**Trustees during the year 2019**

Ann Badhams (Parish Warden)  
Christine Bunce  
John Clifford  
Rev. Simon Cutmore (Vicar)  
Elaine Dobbs  
Alison Drury  
Angela Ford  
Helen Ford  
Sam Frampton (Curate)  
Trisha Fryer

Tony Humphreys (Treasurer)  
John Marsh  
Nicola Milligan  
Premi Mowll (Parish Warden)  
Anne Peat  
Andrew Ross  
Julie Shepherd  
Anne Short  
Alan Wills

**Independent Examiner**

Simon Merchant

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT****Governing document**

The PCC is a body corporate and is governed by the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Syndical Government Measure 1969 as amended). In 2009 the PCC was required to register as a separate charity and obtained charity number 1134153.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

**Risk management**

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

**Safeguarding**

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES****Objectives and aims**

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Priest in Charge in promoting, in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the church pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has responsibility for the management of the parish room and St Thomas House, Maple Cross.

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE****Review of the Year**

In September the Archdeacon's visitation made a successful inspection of all three churches, finding them well cared for and organised.

We continue to be grateful to the many people who give so generously of their time to serve by doing a multitude of tasks from cleaning and gardening to serving, making music, running groups, doing admin, fundraising and many other jobs. Much of what is done is unseen but you are a real blessing to the church and to those you serve. We would like to encourage more people to become involved in any of the many areas of ministry both as a way to serve but also as a way of become more integrated into our church family.

We are also grateful for our staff and ministry team. Although this year has seen some change

and transition we remain thankful that there is a great spirit and shared purpose across the team. To those who have moved on we say a big 'thank you' and pray God uses your talents to His glory in your new roles.

Without the financial support so generously offered by you, our churches would simply not be able function in the way that they do. On behalf of the PCC, thank you all for your faithful on-going financial support of our parish churches, which is needed now more than ever.

The Covid virus has brought all sorts of challenges, but we have managed to keep unity and faith through our ongoing online services and meetings, and through the communication of our pastoral network. Now that we are coming out of lock-down, it is heartening to have churches open for prayer and worship, albeit to a limited degree, and we look forward to more services being re-established in all churches in the near future.

Nicki Milligan  
Parish Warden

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Reserves policy**

The PCC has total reserves of £91,451 of which £11,266 is restricted for specific purposes.

### **Principal funding sources**

The major funding sources are the people who regularly attend services in the three churches to whom the PCC is extremely grateful.

### **ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:**

Premi Mowll – Parish Warden

Dated: 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 set out on page 10.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

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

### **Basis of the independent examiner's report**

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



## **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

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

Simon Merchant

Princes Risborough

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by:

Premi Mowll (Parish Warden)

Tony Humphreys (PCC Treasurer)

Dated 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020

## **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 as amended by the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and reporting by Charities' 2005.

### **Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared on a Receipts & Payments basis.

### **ST THOMAS' HOUSE**

The PCC is the Management trustee of St Thomas House, a property used to house curates during their tenure with the parish. When there is no curate, the property is let out on commercial terms. The estimated value of the property at 31 December 2013 was £250,000.

# The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of Mill End & Heronsgate with West Hyde

## Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2019 Total Funds	2020 Budget
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Collections	7,427	443	7,870	7,710
Donations	2,474	1,593	4,067	4,000
Envelopes	15,555		15,555	15,300
Standing Orders	16,899		16,899	16,730
Parish Giving	12,985		12,985	13,340
GA Tax Recovered	14,734	297	15,031	16,400
Fundraising Events	5,633	132	5,765	6,120
Deposit Account Interest	257		257	100
Wedding and Funeral fees	4,086		4,086	4,700
Other Income	769		769	700
Hall Hire	11,231		11,231	13,000
Chronicle	1,320		1,320	1,200
Toilet Fund Donations		4,777	4,777	3,000
Pastoral Aid Temporary Grant	6,000		6,000	
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>99,370</b>	<b>7,242</b>	<b>106,612</b>	<b>102,300</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Organist & Music	7,506	214	7,720	7,500
Utilities	6,695		6,695	6,990
Insurance	3,943		3,943	3,960
Church Running Expenses	2,627	500	3,127	3,300
Church Maintenance	4,857	3,724	8,581	27,800
St Thomas's House	1,975		1,975	1,500
Clergy Expenses	4,285		4,285	4,500
Subscriptions & Training	259		259	280

Diocesan Quota	50,652		50,652	52,392
Outward Giving	4,339	300	4,639	3,900
Wages & Office Costs	8,948		8,948	9,500
Hall Costs	1,214		1,214	1,200
Messy Church Expenses		1,032	1,032	1,100
Swag Youth Group/Junior Church	65		65	150
Sundries	2,140		2,140	1,650
Fundraising Costs	605		605	530
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>100,111</b>	<b>5,770</b>	<b>105,881</b>	<b>126,252</b>
Surplus/Deficit	-741	1,472	731	-23,952
Transfers to Toilet Fund	-1,750	1,750		
Brought Forward	82,676	8,044*	90,720*	
<b>Balance at end of the year</b>	<b>80,185</b>	<b>11,266</b>	<b>91,451</b>	
*Includes Messy Church balance of £1,652 on 31/1/20not shown in last year's accounts				
<b>Statement of Assets &amp; Liabilities at 31 December 2019</b>				
<b>Funds</b>				
Bank & Savings Accounts	80,899	11,413	92,312	
Cash	152		152	
	<b>81,051</b>	<b>11,413</b>	<b>92,464</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b> (Uncleared cheques)	866	147	1,013	
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>80,185</b>	<b>11,266</b>	<b>91,451</b>	

## Group: LOCAL MINISTRY TEAM

**Objective of the Group:** To bring the Kingdom of God and the love of Christ to all with whom we come into contact through our various ministries; and to support and share in the ministry of the Vicar in the parish and community.

**Members:** Revd. Simon Cutmore, Revd. Sam Frampton (clergy) Maggie Owen,( to Advent 2019) Anne Peat, Helen Ford (Readers); Paul Palmer (Reader in training/ Ordinand);

## **Actions completed 2019/20**

### *Of the actions proposed for 2018/19*

The LMT continued to support the pattern of worship introduced across the parish in November 2017, which entailed more commitments for the lay members of the team on Sunday mornings.

The team members have taken part in the Healing Ministry as it is offered at least once a month at services in the three churches in rotation.

The LMT has regularly reviewed a list of those in pastoral need across all three churches, and work in residential homes in the parish.

The LMT has not yet found new members.

The LMT continued to support Sam through his Curacy, and Paul Palmer through his training as a Reader, and more recently after his acceptance as an ordinand.

The LMT has continued to monitor and support our Fresh Expressions of Worship, Play and Praise and Messy Church.

## **Actions proposed for 2020/21:**

To continue to monitor the pattern of Sunday worship across the parish, and to keep the worship pattern as a whole under review, including provision at major festivals and other occasions, on Sunday evenings, on weekdays, and Fresh Expressions of Worship.

To support and assist Simon in the training of our Curate, Sam and to continue to support Paul in his training for ordination.

To support each other, and discuss the provision of worship online during the Covid19 epidemic, and to look ahead and discuss possible patterns of worship and pastoral care once we are allowed to hold public worship again.

To discuss the provision of care in residential homes, given the limits on staff and resources.

## **Comments/Observations:**

The group has met at roughly monthly intervals; since lockdown we have met online.

It had become more and more difficult to find a time to meet, since the clergy now had different days off, and members have regular commitments on other evenings in the week. It is slightly easier since none of us now have face to face meetings.

Our work regularly involved discussing and planning the leading of worship in all three churches, and planning the provision of services in residential care homes and sheltered housing in the parish (now only Dapplemere, Meresworth), as well as taking communion to those at home, and sharing pastoral concerns.

Since lockdown and the closure of church buildings, we have discussed the provision of worship services online, and worship resources to those who don't have access to the internet, and are beginning to look forward and consider what worship and the parish might look like when the epidemic is over.

## **FABRIC REPORTS**

### **St Peter's**

The following items have been attended to at St Peters and have either been resolved or are under consideration by St Peters Committee or the PCC:-

- The lightening conductor test was completed.
- PAT testing has been carried out.
- The gutters were inspected and cleaned, they needed attention mainly the hall but also one downpipe on the church. The repairs were carried out in December 2019.
- Work has been completed on all the recommendations from the Ecclesiastical Insurance company health and safety review except the fencing off the boiler room steps, this was only an advisory but a solution is in hand.
- An independent Health and Safety inspection was carried out and the list of recommendations has been prioritised and being worked through.
- A working party was held in the Spring and Autumn.
- The lighting in St Peters Church and the exterior of the Church and the hall still needs replacing. Two quotes were received during 2019 and a preferred contractor selected. They have provided detailed specifications and these were passed to the DAC for approval. The amended specifications are back with the DAC for final approval and it is hoped that the work can be started by the end of 2020.

During the COVID period I am indebted to those that have helped with the changing requirements at St Peters, in particular Elaine Dobbs and Anne Short. My continued thanks go to all who work so hard to keep St Peters running smoothly, the Cleaners, the Sidespersons and all those who willingly give up their time to help with Gutter and drain maintenance, gardening parties as well as those that help with specific maintenance tasks which are beyond my skill level.

Tony Funnell  
St Peters Churchwarden

### **St John's**

Objective of group – To support the running and upkeep of St John's so that regular worship can continue. To promote the pastoral care of the local community. To support the Ministry team and Parish as a whole.

Members – Rev. Simon Cutmore, Gillie Gordon, Basia Hargreaves, Sandra Lewis, Anneli Pope, John Pope, Andrew Ross, Alison Drury.

Actions completed 2019/2020 – The internal plastering and decorating to make good the damage caused by the floor collapse was completed. Extra light switch by the front door and repair to existing socket and extra socket at back of church to comply with Health and safety audit. The gates and border posts have been replaced and the chain has had to be replaced as original fragile and broke on removing. David Ward played the organ for an informal music event held in St John's church and Louise Drury ran a cup cake workshop in the hall, all ages

attended, both of which raised money and both enjoyed by all who attended. The Harvest produce was donated to the Peace Hospice. We have had two baptisms and have held two community tea parties. Both the Christingle, held at the beginning of December and the Carols by Candlelight were well attended and enjoyed by the wider community.

Actions proposed 2020/2021 – Our cake sale fundraiser in March has been postponed. We are hoping to hold a community tea party in May and our Thank you lunch in June. We intend to have a Christingle at the beginning of Advent and Carols by Candlelight before Christmas.

Comments and observations – Our small congregation continues to attend St John's regularly and the local community continues to support us by helping in the garden, doing the cleaning and flowers, by donating a Christmas tree and helping to set up the candles for Christmas. Helen continues to play the organ most Sundays, when she can. All of which helps the church to look lovely and the services to be enjoyed.

Alison Drury

## **St Thomas'**

Like the 2 other churches in our parish, this year has been exceptionally challenging.

We are soon to be due another Quinquennial report as the last one was in 2015 and at the time of writing we still have one item outstanding.... the soakaway. As it was originally to be dealt with "when funds become available" I sadly report that it still remains to be done. I'm sure it will be picked up on the new report and this time probably with more urgency.

Our priority at the moment is the repair of the War Memorial which became damaged and the top fell off earlier in the year during bad weather. Quotes have been obtained from some local stonemasons and it is hoped that it will be mended and back to full splendour very soon. Enquires have also been made to see if we qualify for a grant.

The congregation of St T's is extremely loyal and once again, a huge thank you to all who support this lovely church. Whether you are one of the "back room ladies and gents" who do things without others knowing, or whether you are one of the more visible helpers, Thank you all so much. We wouldn't be where we are without you.

Nicki Milligan

## **Group: ST. PETER'S COMMITTEE**

### **Chairman's Report 2020**

The committee has met on a number of occasions in the year. It comprised of: Fr Simon, Fr Sam, John Ridgeway (Chairman), Anne Short (Treasurer), Derek Cole, Trisha Fryer, Tony Funnell (Churchwarden), John and Kathy Marsh, Paul Palmer, Julie Shepherd, Dr Alan Wills.

Over the year a number of matters were discussed, including:

The financial position of St Peters reported on each meeting by Anne Short. The underlying need is our income to increase. **Please review the level of your giving and if you can increase it.**

Outward Giving

Lighting

Big Think

Bring and share lunches and curry evenings

St Peters general maintenance and gardening

Health & Safety

Christmas Crib Fair

I would take this opportunity to thank Simon for his faithful leadership, Parish Wardens, Church Wardens, Treasurer, for dealing with the finances, and all the members of the committee for their support over the year.

**We still need new people to join the committee and also a Secretary to take minutes.**

John Ridgeway

Chairman

## **Group: Deanery Synod**

### **Objectives:**

Strapline: "We are the Body of Christ." As the third tier of Synodical Government in the Church of England, the Deanery Synod is a representative body comprising clerical and lay members from each of the eleven churches in Rickmansworth Deanery, and sits between the lowest tier of individual PCCs and the second tier of the Diocesan Synod. Members act as the electoral colleges for their respective Houses in the Diocesan and General Synods, and conduct a range of business including responding to issues referred down from the General Synod via the Diocesan Synod. The year 2019/2020 was the third (final) year of the 17<sup>th</sup> triennium of Rickmansworth Deanery Synod. The Deanery Standing and Pastoral Committee (DSPC) assists the Rural Dean in determining priorities across the Deanery, and particularly where there is a vacancy in a parish; it also advises the Bishop in the selection of the new Rural Dean when an incumbent's tenure of the post expires. The Reverend David Hall, Vicar of Christ Church, Chorleywood, continues as Rural Dean and Duncan Kerr continues as Lay Co-Chairman. Duncan has indicated that he wishes to stand down at the start of the 18<sup>th</sup> triennium.

### **Members:**

1. The Reverend Simon G. Cutmore (House of Clergy, also on Diocesan Synod and parish representative on DSPC).
2. The Reverend Samuel Frampton (House of Clergy).
3. Mr. John Marsh (House of Laity).
4. Dr. Julie Shepherd (House of Laity).
5. Dr. Alan Wills (House of Laity).

### **Actions complete in 2019/2020:**

1. Three Business Meetings (June and September 2019 and January 2020).
2. Deanery Ascension Day Eucharist at St. Peter's Church, Mill End (May 2019).

### **Actions proposed in 2020/2021**

1. Inauguration of 18<sup>th</sup> triennium of the Deanery Synod, following elections at APCMs in Spring 2020, including confirmation of new lay Chairman.
2. Three Business Meetings (June and September 2020 and January / February 2021).

3. Possible launch of next phase of DMAP work Deanery Ascension Day Eucharist at St. Mary's Church, Rickmansworth (21<sup>st</sup> May 2020).
4. Deanery Quiz evening (February 2021).
5. Possible Deanery Choral Evensong (date and venue to be confirmed - action carried over from 2018/2019 and 2019/2020 proposals).

### Comments/Observations

The current phase of working on the Deanery Mission Action Plan (DMAP) came to an end during 2019/2020. The Diocese has launched an initiative to reinvigorate the "Living God's Love" mission 10 years since Bishop Alan first introduced it. It was agreed that the Deanery Quiz would not be held in February 2020, owing to inadequate preparation time by the prime organisers, but it will definitely return in February 2021! Synod has had presentations on "Messy Church does Science" (from the Reverend Dr. David Gregory, former Senior Minister at Croxley Green Baptist Church), "the Process for Refreshing Mission Action Plans (MAPs)" (from Harry Steele, Church Growth Officer) and "Everybody Called - Developing a Culture of Service" (from the Reverend Canon Dr. Tim Bull, Diocesan Training Advisor). Safeguarding issues have continued to exercise the Synod, and apart from the on-line training several parishes have already hosted the interactive workshops provided by the Diocese. Bill Seddon keeps the Synod up to date with the goings on at the General Synod. Attendance at Deanery meetings continues to be rather variable.

Dr Alan Wills

### **Group: Symeons**

#### Objectives:

1. To be a society of the men of the congregation of St. Peter's and their friends.
2. To maintain the corporate image of the Church.
3. To worship regularly.
4. To share in active service to the Church.

#### Committee 2019/2020:

1. Mr. John W. Ridgeway - Chairman.
  2. Mr. Anthony M. Funnell - Hon. Treasurer and Acting Bar Steward.
  3. Dr. Alan J. Wills - Hon Secretary.
  4. Mr. Allan D. Fryer - Hon. Membership Secretary.
  5. Mr. Paul Palmer - Acting Hon. Sports and Social Coordinator.
  6. Mr. Alan J. Brereton, Mr. Richard Hickson, and Mr. Russell Mardling.
  7. Fr. Simon Cutmore - Hon President.
- (Total membership approximately 23.)

#### Actions complete in the 2019/2020 session:

1. Annual Outing in September 2019 for senior citizens to Natural History Museum, Tring.
2. Annual Darts Tournament final in November 2019.
3. Annual Quiz Supper in November 2019.
4. Monthly Guest Nights with a variety of activities, including celebration of Chinese New Year in February 2019.
5. Maintenance activities and fund-raising (e.g., Tombola and Nativity display at Peterfair Christmas Community Festival) (Church and Parish Room).



6. Donations to various Church projects, including £1,600+ to the refurbishment of the external security lighting at St. Peter's Church and Parish Room.

Actions proposed for 2020/2021:

1. Annual Outing in September, Darts tournament final and Quiz supper in November and Christmas party in December.
2. Monthly guest nights.
3. Membership recruitment drive.
4. Continuation of maintenance activities and fund-raising.

Comments/Observations:

As with several previous reports to the APCM over the past few years, the Club's continuing recruitment drive has had minimal success. We have sadly lost two former members, Ken Cella and Chas Marchant through death and Matt Perry, until last year a Committee member of many years standing, has moved away to Dorset. Some of our peripheral members have failed to renew their subscriptions, although one person who has been attending on an occasional basis is considering seeking election to membership. It still seems extremely difficult to encourage younger members of the congregation to commit to parish organisations in general and the Symeons in particular. Despite this, the Club has continued to meet regularly on most Monday evenings (Bank Holidays and the Monday in Holy Week excepted), with variable attendances. The monthly guest nights continue to be reasonably well supported, although with advancing age and infirmities we have noticed some decline in attendance. The annual outing and the Quiz supper remain very popular events, and the Club also supports members who hold private functions in the Parish Room. Members undertake and/or commission various maintenance activities around the Church and the Parish Room, and the Club's fund-raising efforts enable donations towards the costs of such works. So, as with the "Curate's egg", the Symeons year has been good in parts!

Dr Alan Wills

**Group: M.U.**

**Objective of the Group:** To be a MU Diocesan Group of members

**Members:** 14

**Actions completed 2019/2020:** We continued our regular meetings on a Tuesday evening in 2019 which were varied in nature, for example a craft activity evening such as making coasters (a fun evening led by Ali Henley), or listening to a talk, or an organised event such as the Parish Advent Service which we hosted. Planning our 2020 programme we recognised that the number of our members who can attend our regular meetings during the winter months has dropped significantly. So, we held our usual reflective service in January (as always a thank you to Anne Peat for such a lovely service), followed by social time. We then focused on the once monthly, and well attended, Let's Get Together group which we host. A new spring/summer programme was in the process of being planned but was deferred in the present circumstances occasioned by 'the lockdown'.

**Actions proposed for 2020/2021:** On hold but some regular meetings and the Let's Get Together Group can hopefully resume meeting at a future date.

**Comments/Observations:** We hope to continue to meet as a Diocesan Group and to support the life of our Parish (for example, the Mothering Day posies were organised and 'set to go' but had to be cancelled).

Kathy Marsh

## **Group: In Touch Group**

**Objective of the Group:** To show by example that the Church is an organisation that cares for its parish, by being a listening and support resource for the bereaved.

**Members:** Maggie Owen (Chair), Diane Pitts (Secretary), Fr. Samuel Frampton, Tony Funnell, Nicky Milligan, Anne Peat, Sue Symonds.

**Activities of the group during 2019/20:** Members of the group have continued to offer and visit the bereaved in the parish if requested. In June the group organised and ran the annual service of remembrance at St Thomas' church.

Christmas trees and cards were supplied to St Peter's and St Thomas' and many parishioners were again able to hang the cards on the trees in remembrance of departed loved ones.

Sue Symonds continues to organise monthly lunches for the bereaved parishioners. We have a group of over 20 regular attendees who are transported to and fro by members of the group.

**Activities planned for 2020:** The group will maintain and continue its support for the bereaved. The annual services, lunches and Christmas activities will be continued as normal.

Maggie Owen

## **Group: Friendship Club**

Objective of the group:

To hold a monthly children's group where Christianity can be explored in a friendly and fun way within the church service at St Thomas' Church.

Members:

1. Rachel Smith
2. Christina Bessant

### Actions completed in 2019/2020

1. Monthly Friendship Club meetings at St Thomas' Church.
2. Varied fun activities linked to the church readings.
3. A flower display designed by Friendship Club at the annual Flower Festival at St. Thomas' Church.

### Actions proposed for 2020/2021

1. To continue with Friendship Club and trying to reach out to the children from Maple Cross School and the surrounding area.
2. To plan activities for very young children.
3. To include children and parents in the main part of the service after the offertory.

Comments/Observations:

The number of children attending friendship Club can vary from eight children to two. We always have enough resources to cater for the larger number of children. The children and their parents/grandparents seem to enjoy the activities and each other's company. The children return to the congregation after the offertory to sit with the adults and follow the service. They have settled well into this routine.

**Group: PeterRock**



# Let's Rock for God

Members: Adam guitar & vocal, Richard keyboard, Alan electric cello, Russell rhythm guitar, Matthew drums, John bass guitar & vocal, assisted by choir members vocals.

Actions completed 2019/20 - continued providing the music for most second Sunday services at St Peters. Richard returned to the band and we introduced a new Eucharist music settling. Actions Proposed - unfortunately we still have not found a sound engineer and have not played an outdoor gig ☹.

Actions Proposed 20/21 - continue to enhance the music and worship. Hold an outdoor service. Find a regular sound engineer.

Comments/Observations. We hope that the music we provide is enjoyed by the congregation and enhances the worship. Our biggest wish is to have a Sound Engineer so that we can be confident in the sound that you hear is what we hear – **could that be that you?**

John Ridgeway. [john@jwridgeway.co.uk](mailto:john@jwridgeway.co.uk)

## **Group: St Peter's Girlguiding Groups**



### **Objectives of the Group:**

#### **Girlguiding Mission:**

"Whoever they are, wherever they're from, girls and young women can do amazing things - we give them the chance".

### **Members of the Group:**

**Rainbows:** Tuesday 4.00 - 5.45pm

**Leaders:** Elaine Dobbs, Linda Yates,  
Zoe Wright & Emma Willicombe.

**Number of Girls:** 15

**6<sup>th</sup> Rickmansworth Brownies:** Monday 6.00 – 7.30pm

**Leaders:** Carol Paley & Michael Gruetzner

**Number of Girls:** 13

**8<sup>th</sup> Rickmansworth Brownies:** Friday 5.15 – 6.45pm

**Leaders:** Sally Funnell & Hazel Carmichael

**Number of Girls:** 25

**8<sup>th</sup> Rickmansworth Guides:** Friday 7.00 – 9.00pm

**Leaders:** Heather Rawcliffe, Claire Courtney,  
Katie Parslow & Natalie Truswell

**Number of Girls:** 17

### **Actions Proposed for 2019/20**

- Creating exceptional experiences for girls and young women.
- Developing a rewarding volunteer experience.
- Being more inclusive and creating a bigger impact.

**Rainbows:** This year at Rainbows has been full of fun and giggles! We have been continuing the new programme, making our own marble runs out of cardboard tubes, learning parlour games and playing karate tennis with balloons. Our storytelling skills have been improved and tried out painting with a roller (outside!). Out and about we've followed a trail through the Aquadrome and taken a survey of our local area. We have learnt about First Aid and how to make change for good causes and joined with the Brownies for a 4<sup>th</sup> of July party. We have enjoyed 2 sleepovers – a summer 'Mary Poppins' theme where we made and flew our own kites and had a tea party and a Christmas 'Frozen' theme, making peppermint creams and decorating trees with our home made Christmas tree decorations. *Elaine*



**6<sup>th</sup> Brownies:** We started the year working on our skill builder from the new programme. The Brownies went to the Chiltern Open Air Museum in May and had a great time learning about crafts and activities from the past. In the Spring we met with 1<sup>st</sup> Brownies at Lees Wood to practice our cooking skills. We made a very nice sausages & beans with a charcoal garnish! In June we joined up again for a Harry Potter themed Sleepover at Phasels Wood in Hemel Hempstead. The weather was lovely and we had fun on the activities and shelter building. We made wands, spell books and enjoyed paper crafts and cooking. We cast a few spell and made poisons, thankfully to no ill effect! In July we met again at the River Chess to go paddling and play games. In September we attended the District Day Out in Amersham. It was a lovely day and we had the chance to do some drumming, go on a scavenger hunt, learn bush crafts and build and fire a giant catapult. In December we went to Meresworth Care Home to sing Christmas Carols to the residents which they enjoyed and joined in with us. We also went to the pantomime to see Peter Pan which was excellent. *Carol*

**8<sup>th</sup> Brownies:** This year we have continued to work on our Skills Builder badges which have involved cooking challenges, learning to sew and planning and running a Mini Market, which was great fun!! The girls also had an evening of orienteering fun, took part in the Rickmansworth Week parade and completed the Spot the Intruder challenge. The girls loved the party with the Rainbows and 6<sup>th</sup> Brownies to celebrate 4<sup>th</sup> July. Our 'Be Well' skills builder involved a range of activities in which the girls were supported to have a healthy physical and mental wellbeing. They particularly enjoyed a visit from a Guide Dog.

In the autumn the girls were thrilled when Dusky and her wonderful toadstool cake featured on 'An Extra Slice' from the Great British Bake Off. Not only did they enjoy hearing all about her experiences but loved tasting the cake too! Dusky appeared in the local paper and was delighted when her article led to interest from a potential adult volunteer! They also attended the District Day Out and the Pantomime which were both great fun! More recently we have been finding out about Marie Curie and the work of the charity that takes her name. As part of the Daffodil Challenge the girls made and sold cakes after Church Parade and raised a fantastic £145.95 as a result of everyone's generosity. *Sally*





**Guides:** We enjoyed archery, outdoor cooking and lots of other outdoor activities during the summer term. We also had a Pee Party to raise money for the new toilets and also for Macmillan Cancer.

During the Autumn term we celebrated our 60<sup>th</sup> birthday as a Guide Unit with an indoor holiday at Paccarr camp site in Chalfont St Peters, where the Guides learnt about Guides through the ages, danced the night away with songs through the ages and challenged themselves to do the 'High All Aboard' jump! They also planted some daffodils and decorated the plant pots which are now outside the church. We went to see England Women Football Team play at Wembley and have been Bowling and to the Panto at Watersmeet at Christmas. We also took part in the 1<sup>st</sup> Mill End Community Remembrance Day Parade and also the Nativity scene competition. The guides made 3 in all – one depicting the past, one depicting what it would be like now and one depicting the future. We didn't win, however, much to the disappointment of the guides! We completed our Plastic Promises; a Girlguiding initiative to stop plastic waste and are

currently completing our conscious consumer badge. This involves a clothes swop, using ethically sourced food to make a meal and we have made our own beeswax wraps so we can stop using cling film.

*Heather*

### **PCC MEMBERS 2019-2020**

Rev'd Simon Cutmore

*Chairman*

Sam Frampton

*Curate*

Natasha Clifford

*Secretary*

Tony Humphreys

*Treasurer*

Premi Mowll

*Parish Warden*

Ann Badhams

*Parish Warden*

Helen Ford

*Reader*

Anne Peat

*Reader*

Sarah Brockton

Nicola Milligan

Christine Bunce

Andrew Ross

John Clifford

Julie Shepherd

Elaine Dobbs

Anne Short

Alison Drury

Rachel Smith

Angela Ford

Hannah Sutherland

Trisha Fryer

Alan Wills

John Marsh

Elizabeth Woods