

## ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH, BURWASH, EAST SUSSEX

### ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2016

#### 1. Administrative Information

St. Bartholomew's address is High Street, Burwash, East Sussex, TN19 7EH

St. Bartholomew's PCC was registered as a charity on 1 December 2009. Charity Number 1133028

The Independent Examiner is Mr. Alan Burton of 1 Wealden View, Burwash, East Sussex, TN19 9BW

#### 2. Structure, Governance and Management

##### 2.1 Constitution

The Rector, Churchwarden, Deanery and Diocesan delegates serve on the PCC ex officio. The Treasurer, Acting Treasurer and the Child Protection Officer are co-opted to the PCC. There are 11 elected PCC members.

The Standing Committee members are the Rector, Churchwarden, PCC Vice Chairman, Honorary Treasurer and the Buildings Manager (in attendance).

##### 2.2 PCC Members as at APCM 24 April 2016

	<b>Elected</b>	<b>Re-elected</b>	<b>Retire</b>	
Rev. Sally Epps	<i>Ex officio</i>			P-i-C from 2014/ Rector from 2015
Gary Churchill	2016		2019	
Ian Craston	<i>Ex officio</i>			Reader
Jonathan Gomer	2011	2014	2017	
Deborah Knox-Watson	2012	2015	2018	
Richard Maude-Roxby	2015	-	2018	
Paul McColl	2015	-	2018	
Charles Merchant	<i>Ex officio</i>			Deanery Synod & Vice Chairman
Celia Merchant	<i>Ex officio</i>			Deanery Synod
Lisia Muller	2012	2015	2018	
Vicky Patterson	<i>Ex officio</i>			Churchwarden from 2015
Lyn Ryan	2013	2016	2019	
Shirley Viney	2016	-	2019	
Sara Stonor	<i>Ex officio</i>			Deanery & Diocesan Synod
Sarah Walker	2014		2017	
Mary Westhead	Co-opted			Safeguarding Officer
Lesley Woodburn	2015	-	2018	
Christopher Woodburn	Co-opted			Hon. Treasurer from 2016

- 6 ex-officio members
- 2 co-opted members
- 18

### **2.3 PCC Committees**

Standing Committee  
 Worship Group  
 Young People's Group  
 Communications Group  
 Fund Raising Committee

### **2.4 Induction and Training of PCC Members**

All members of the PCC have their duties and responsibilities explained to them, including their duty of care and the implications of the Charities Act 2006 and Statement of Recommended Practice 2005. They are updated on regulatory and legislative changes as these arise.

### **2.5 Risk Analysis**

The PCC has put in place appropriate controls to minimise the likelihood of, or opportunity for, fraud or other malpractice. These are reviewed by the PCC from time to time.

## **3. Objectives and Activities**

St. Bartholomew' Church exists through the generosity of benefactors of an earlier age and continues under the supervision of the PCC, Churchwarden and the Rector and, with the continued generosity of local people, it provides Church of England Christian worship for the parish of Burwash.

Individual members of the congregation make donations to charity through specific collections both within and outside the Church.

During the year donations were made from the PCC to the Children's Society, Crisis, Voices in Exile, the Bishop's Harvest Appeal, the Disasters Emergency Committee (Yemen) and the Diocesan Association for Family Support Work. A collection was also taken in Church for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal on Remembrance Sunday. Donations given during coffee after services are given to individual chosen charities.

## **4. Achievements and Performance**

### **4.1 Church Attendance and Electoral Roll**

Electoral Roll as at APCM 2016: 126  
 Normal Sunday Attendance 71 (overall average 87 )  
 Easter Day 144  
 Christmas Eve/Day 337

### **4.2 PCC Meeting Attendance**

8 Feb 2016      16

14 Mar 2016	16
6 Jun 2015	15
5 Sep 2016	12
5 Dec 2016	13

### **4.3 Review of Activities**

2016 Has seen the establishment of a new United Benefice, bringing together St. Bartholomew's, St. Philip's Burwash Weald and St. Nicholas Etchingham, under the leadership of the Rector.

Once again the Church has been lovingly maintained through the commitment of many volunteers giving freely of their time and talent. Numerous fund raising events have also taken place again benefitting from the support of the parish and the hard work and sponsorship of organisers.

Both the Young Peoples' Group and the Choir go from strength to strength. The Choir has enjoyed a particularly successful year culminating in their singing at a Sunday service in Southwark Cathedral.

Planning consent has been received from Rother District Council for a ramp and new path in the Churchyard. Tenders are being sought for this work which will include an extension to the Garden of Remembrance. A Faculty will be applied for when the costs are known. During the year minor repair work has been carried out on the Church roof and arboreal work is expected in the Churchyard during 2017.

## **5. Financial Review and Future Plans**

The General Fund shows an excess of payments over receipts of £7612. The Broadsheet contributed a notable surplus following a review of its production, content and distribution. Planned Giving and collections in Church have maintained their 2015 levels. This year saw the successful launch of the Parish Giving Scheme. Donations and Fund Raising receipts were, however, considerably less than in 2015. Expenditure has been kept broadly in line with 2015 levels. Contributions from Curteis Fund dividends have helped to offset some building and maintenance expenditure.

Claims for Gift Aid totalling £9138 remained unsettled at the year end.

The Friends will be requested to help with the cost of the repairs to the Churchyard path and Remembrance Garden.

The level of reserves in the General Fund is not considered to be adequate.

## **6. Public Benefit**

In accordance with Section 4(6) Of the Charities Act 2006 and the Charities(Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 the trustees confirm that they have given due regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission when exercising their powers and duties during the period.