

## **Independent Examiner's report to the PCC of St Peter, Broadwater**

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, which are set out on pages 1 to 12.

### **Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner**

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

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

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Church Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church 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 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 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.



Name: Susan Viles  
Address: 14 St Marys, Gamlingay SG19 3ET  
Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018

# Parochial Church Council of St Peter's, Broadwater

## Annual Accounts

Year ending 31st December 2017

### Section A Statement of financial activities Section A

Recommended categories by activity	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £	Prior year funds £
<b>Incoming resources (Note 2)</b>					
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies (notes 2a-b)	79,132	23,125	-	102,257	117,110
Charitable activities (note 2c)	9,908	2,263	-	12,171	17,047
Other trading activities			-	-	-
Investments (note 2d)	269			269	247
Other (note 2e)	58	-	-	58	1,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>89,367</b>	<b>25,388</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>114,755</b>	<b>135,904</b>
<b>Resources expended (Note 3)</b>					
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities (notes 3a-c)	83,303	25,374	-		109,392
<b>Total</b>	<b>83,303</b>	<b>25,374</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>108,677</b>	<b>109,392</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)</b>	<b>6,064</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,078</b>	<b>26,512</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	-
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<b>6,064</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,078</b>	<b>26,512</b>
<b>Extraordinary items</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Transfers between funds (note 10)</b>	<b>2,262</b>	<b>-2,262</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses):</b>					
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use			-	-	
Other gains/(losses)		-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>8,326</b>	<b>-2,248</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,078</b>	<b>26,512</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward	100,854	31,924	-	132,779	106,267
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>109,180</b>	<b>29,676</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>138,857</b>	<b>132,779</b>

## Section B Balance sheet

The balances for 2016 have been restated.

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Endowment funds £	Total this year £	Total last year £
<b>Fixed assets</b>						
Tangible assets	(Note 5)	57,841	-	-	57,841	24,452
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		57,841	-	-	57,841	24,452
<b>Current assets</b>						
Debtors	(Note 7)	2,104	-	-	2,104	2,629
Investments	(Note 6)	234	-	-	234	232
Cash at bank and in hand	(Note 6)	52,769	29,773	-	82,542	119,713
<b>Total current assets</b>		55,106	29,773	-	84,879	122,574
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	(Note 8)	3,862	-	-	3,862	14,247
<b>Net current assets/(liabilities)</b>		51,244	29,773	-	81,017	108,327
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		109,085	29,773	-	138,858	132,779
<b>Total net assets or liabilities</b>		109,085	29,773	-	138,858	132,779
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>						
Endowment funds		-			-	-
Restricted income funds	(Note 6)		29,773		29,773	31,925
Unrestricted funds		109,085		-	109,085	100,854
<b>Total funds</b>		109,085	29,773	-	138,858	132,779
Signed by two PCC members on behalf of all the PCC		Print Name	Signature		Date of approval dd/mm/yyyy	

## **Parochial Church Council of St Peter, Broadwater**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

#### **For the Year Ended 31 December 2017**

#### **1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2015 together with the Charities Act 2011, and the Statement of

Recommended Practice for Accounting by Charities. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

##### **Funds**

Unrestricted funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general .

purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for the particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

##### **Incoming resources**

##### ***Voluntary income and capital sources***

Giving is recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised when received.

Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the associated income is recognised.

##### ***Other income***

Rental income from the letting of the church hall is recognised when rent is due.

##### ***Income from investments***

Interest is accounted for as earned. All interest earned is credited to the Unrestricted Fund unless monies are separately invested.

##### **Resources used**

##### ***Grants***

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

##### **Activities directly relating to the work of the Church**

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when it falls due.

##### **Fixed Assets**

##### **Consecrated property and movable church furnishings**

Consecrated property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by Part 1, Chapter 2 (10) of the Charities Act 2011. Even though it is not technically consecrated property, the Church Hall is not recognised in the accounts.

Movable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted for as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's Inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time).

Expenditure incurred on consecrated buildings or individual items under £5,000 is written off as incurred.

## **1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUED**

### **Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment**

Individual items of computer and office equipment are capitalised and written off over three years.

### **Current assets**

Amounts owing in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors.

Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the DBF, Church of England Funds or at the bank.

## 2 INCOMING RESO

7

### 2(a) Incoming Resources from donors

#### Planned Giving

Gift Aid Donations

55,576

-

55,576

49,540

\*Income Tax recoverable

15,476

-

15,476

13,530

Other planned giving

4,644

-

4,644

7,880

Loose cash at services

2,469

-

2,469

2,700

78,165

-

78,165

73,650

\*includes £24.36 for tearfund collection harvest appeal

### 2(b) Other Voluntary incoming resources

Donations, contributions, appeals etc

967

23,125

24,092

43,460

Cash received from previous years

-

-

-

967

23,125

24,092

43,460

### 2(c) Income from operating activities

Church Hall

6,012

-

6,012

9,296

Fees\*

1,667

1,988

3,655

5,042

Other

2,229

275

2,504

2,709

9,908

2,263

12,171

17,047



## 2 INCOMING RESOURCES (continued)

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL	
				2017 £	2016 £
2(d)	<i>Income from investments</i>				
	Bank interest receivable	269	-	269	247
		269	-	269	247
2(e)	<i>Other incoming resources</i>				
		-	-	-	-
	Other income	58	-	58	1,500
		58	-	58	1,500
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		89,367	25,388	114,755	135,904

\* Fees from restricted funds shown in note 2 ( c ) include £1988 in fees due to the Diocese in respect of set fees for weddings, funerals, baptisms etc.



	2017	2016
	£	£
<b>Church Hall Account</b>		
Income	6,012	9,296
Expenditure	3,370	7,756
Net Deficit/income	2,642	1,540
<b>Messy Church Account</b>	£	£
Income	484	547
Expenditure	96	127
Net income	388	420
<b>Tea &amp; Company Account (removed from Restricted Funds)</b>		£
Income	22	275
Expenditure	0	172
Net income	22	103
<b>Stepping Stones Account (removed from Restricted Funds)</b>	£	£
Income	1,196	1,693
Expenditure	1,016	1,102
Net income	180	591
<b>Love Stevenage Restricted</b>	£	£
Income	275	
Expenditure	161	
Net income	114	

### 3 RESOURCES EXPENDED

#### 3(a) Grants

Charitable giving:

International Charities & Causes

National Charities & Causes

Local Charities & Causes

Missionary giving:

International Charities & Causes

National Charities & Causes

Local Charities & Causes

Total Charitable and Missionary giving

#### 3(b) Activities relating to the church

Ministry : Diocesan parish Share\*

Clergy expenses

Funeral and wedding fees

Evangelism

Work with Children

Work with Youth

Pastor to the Elderly

Church running expenses

Church maintenance

Church Hall

Sub-Total

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL	
			2017 £	2016 £
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	5,495	-	5,495	5,800
	5,495	-	5,495	5,800
	382	-	382	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	382		382	-
	5,877		5,877	5,800
	56,455	-	56,455	56,335
	384		384	1,205
	250	1,988	2,238	3,020
	600	161	761	1,017
	1,342		1,342	1,554
	-		-	782
	1,470	-	1,470	4,358
	5,832	-	5,832	6,175
	3,459	-	3,459	1,502
	3,520	-	3,520	7,756
	73,312	2,149	75,461	83,704

### 3 RESOURCES EXPENDED

#### 3(b) *Activities relating to the church continued*

Brought forward from above

Training

Administration

#### 3(c) Church Management & Administration

Administrator / Vicar's secretary

Other costs

Printing & stationery

Examination Fees

Office telephone & internet

#### 3(d) Other depreciation

New Building

TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL	
			2017 £	2016 £
Brought forward from above	73,312	2,149	75,461	83,704
Training	-	-	-	-
Administration	125	-	125	663
	73,437	2,149	75,586	84,367
Administrator / Vicar's secretary	6,282	-	6,282	6,225
Other costs	1,563	-	1,563	1,725
Printing & stationery	1,043	-	1,043	1,190
Examination Fees	235	-	235	-
Office telephone & internet	434	-	434	445
	9,557	-	9,557	9,585
Other depreciation	8,639	-	8,639	4,121
New Building	9,018	-	9,018	5,520
	17,657	-	17,657	9,641
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	106,529	2,149	108,678	109,393

### 4 STAFF COSTS

Administrator/Vicar's secretary

Reader's Honararium

Cleaner

TOTAL FUNDS	
2017 £	2016 £
6,282	6,225
1,470	4,358
3,266	3,044
11,018	13,627

## 5 FIXED ASSETS

	<b>Kitchen £</b>	<b>Meeting Rooms £</b>	<b>Building roof £</b>	<b>Access for all</b>	<b>Total 2017 £</b>
<b>Cost</b>					
Brought forward	23,130	6,965	6,720		36,815
Additions	-	-	-	42,028	42,028
Disposals	-	-	-		-
Carried forward	23,130	6,965	6,720	42,028	78,843
<b>Depreciation</b>					
Brought forward	7,503	2,844	2,016	-	12,363
Charge for year	2,501	1,263	672	4,203	8,639
Disposal	-	-	-		-
Carried forward	10,004	4,107	2,688	4,203	21,002
Net Book Value 2016	15,627	4,121	4,704	0	24,452
Net Book Value 2017	13,126	2,858	4,032	37,825	57,841

## 6 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>TOTAL £</b>
Fixed Assets	57,841	-	57,841
Cash at bank and at hand	52,769	29,772	82,541
Short term deposits	234	-	234
	110,843	29,772	140,615

**7 DEBTORS**

Income tax recoverable  
Hall Hire  
Other Debtors

2017 £	2016
2,004	2,090
100	539
-	-
2,104	2,629

**8 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

Creditors  
Accruals  
Amount held for other parties

2017 £	2016 £
803	1,142
2,735	235
324	12,870
3,862	14,247

**9 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

1 Richard Brooks, a member of the PCC, was paid an Honorarium of **£1470** in 2017.

## 10 FUND DETAILS

### Unrestricted Funds

#### \* General Funds

### Restricted Funds

New Building

Diocese Board of Finance (DBF)

Stepping Stones (Locality Planning)

\*love Stevenage

Pinewoods

Winter Funds

Youth Outreach

Tea & Co

Other

agency

## TOTALS

### \*Restricted Grants

£125 LCB from Stevenage borough council

2016 £	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	2017 £
100,854	89,367	106,529	2,262	85,954
100,854	89,367	106,529	2,262	85,954
30,100	23,125			53,225
	1,988	1,988	-96	-96
570			-570	-
-	275	162		113
57			-57	-
326			-326	-
1,159			-1,159	-
29			-29	-
25	-	-	-25	-
-341				-341
31,925	25,388	2,150	(2,262)	52,901
132,779	114,755	108,679	-	138,855

2017 Report  
for the  
Parochial Church Council  
of  
St Peter's Broadwater, Stevenage

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING AND THE  
ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING OF PARISHIONERS HELD ON  
SUNDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2017**

Revd Kate Sharples	John Hollands	Kay Collier
Julie Owen	Wayne Sime	Annette Baillie
Susan Dungey	Louise Sime	Gordon Baillie
Paul Smith	Emma Coates	Janet Bell
Doris Cork	Gillian Gibbs	Susan Beer
Cathy Smith	Tony Withington	Jacqui Horbury
Barbara Cutler	Jill Adam	John Bell
Rodney Cutler	Ruth Pollard	Richard Brooks
Wendy Hills	Philippa Wheeler	Vi Martindale
Marion Burton	Lynne Lee-Diep	Andy Smith
Helen Henry	Andrea Kelly	Catriona Brenton
Maurice Gordon	Joan Ward	David Owen
Patricia Moreby	Busola Awani	Chris Russell
Brian Temple	Rosie Busfield	David Okoturo
Stephen Coates	Roger Busfield	Alan Russell
Carol Temple	Janice Brooks	Stella Harry
Tracy Dymond	Obi Eneli	Charles Harry
Paul Carter	Chris O'Neill	Ken Aknai
Liz Carter	Jean O'Neill	Rose Aknai
Wendy Newberry	Pauline Sharp	Ted Gammon
Pat Wood	Peter Sharp	
Emma Stilling	Connie Gammon	

She led a short period of prayer for them, commissioning them for their work in the forthcoming year.



## ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

### APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Barbara Blackwell	Jesse Draper	Elizabeth Harry
Pete Blackwell	Maurice Ballard	Jeremy Cutler
Joanie Gordon	Eileen Ballard	Karen Cutler
Roli Okoturo	David Archer	Claudia Davis Walters
Alan Walton	Helen Archer	Felicia Olaniyan
	Stephen Kelly	

### MINUTES

It was proposed by Barbara Cutler that the minutes were a true and accurate record of the meeting held on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2016, seconded by David Okoturo and agreed by all.

### ANNUAL REPORT ON THE LIFE OF ST PETER'S CHURCH

Revd Kate Sharples, the Vicar, reflected on how it had been an amazing year. The previous Vicar, Revd Tim Horlock had gone on sabbatical from April to July and returned to announce he would be leaving to move on to St Andrew's, Chorleywood. She, formerly the Curate, had been appointed as Vicar at the end of the year.

Barbara Blackwell had retired as the Parish Administrator and had been replaced by Lynne Lee-Diep, whilst Obi Eneli had been licensed as a Reader. Kate thanked all the Readers – Obi Eneli, Gordon Baillie and Richard Brooks - for all they do in the church.

Kate felt that the highlight of the year had been the way the church had pulled together and united in a new way, with some discovering new gifts. Some ministries have struggled, especially with the departure of Alex Horlock from Junior Church, Messy Church and Stepping Stones, but the leaders have stepped up and kept them going..

In February Kate, as Curate, had been on a one month placement in Belize and then she faced a big learning curve while Tim was on sabbatical. She gave thanks to God for sorting out the plans which fell into place.

Other highlights included the Bible Course, led by Wayne Sime and Tim Horlock; the Home Group social; and Love Stevenage social action. She thanked Jill Adam for assisting with the organisation of the event. The Christmas services had been wonderful, with 200 attending the Christmas Eve family service and an increased attendance at the Carol Service.

Kate looked back on the year with thankfulness. At the first PCC meeting she led in November she was drawn to the following verses from Isaiah 43:18-19 "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

She invited all to keep praying for the church and for each other.

### ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

Rosie Busfield, the Electoral Roll Officer, reported that the Electoral Roll had been revised, so there are now 131 names on the Electoral Roll, a reduction of 4 from 2015/16. Eleven new people had enrolled and 15 had been removed. Of those who are registered 45 are male and 86 female, with 69 people living in the parish and 62 outside the parish.

### ANNUAL REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE PARISH

Helen Henry presented the Financial Accounts for St Peters for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016. She opened by thanking all who give to the church by whatever means. Last year had started well with our regular income covering our outgoings. However, because of a combination of circumstances, regular giving decreased and we were £7,000 short by the end of the year which had to be covered by our reserves. We had been blessed by legacies in both 2015 and 2016 which have been set aside for current building work. Also a large gift had been received for future building work.

Expenditure had been reduced as far as possible. The largest expense was the Parish Share which covers our clergy costs and other diocesan services and activities. Helen advised that we do have money in our reserves but she invited everyone to prayerfully consider their giving.

She paid tribute to all the work that Betty Cockerton had done as book keeper for many years. She also thanked the other members of the finance team - Doris Cork, Barbara Cutler and John Hollands.

Kate thanked Helen for the immense amount of work she had done behind the scenes. She was pleased to announce that Helen had agreed to continue as Treasurer for the next year.

#### **BUILDINGS AND FABRIC REPORT**

John Hollands commented on how it had been a year of great change culminating in the appointment of Kate Sharples as Vicar. Decorating The Vicarage had been a big job and he thanked those who had done been involved.

The Access for All project will hopefully be going ahead in June/ July. We are able to pay about half of the £41,000 cost from our restricted reserves and a further £20,000 had been received from The John Apthorp Charity.

John thanked all those who dealt with the maintenance of the church, especially Roger Busfield. He also thanked Emma Stilling for cleaning the church and Richard Brooks and Rod Cutler for maintaining the grounds. He expressed his thanks to Sue Dungey, his fellow Church Warden.

Kate Sharples thanked Vi Martindale for arranging the flowers every week.

#### **ANNUAL REPORT ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE DEANERY SYNOD**

Jill Adam explained that she had been one of three Deanery Synod Reps from St Peter's, along with Kay Collier and Richard Brooks. The deanery embraced all the Anglican churches in Stevenage and Knebworth and was the tier below Diocesan Synod (the layer below General Synod) in the Church of England decision-making hierarchy. Clergy and lay reps had met three times during the year, hearing speakers on local youth ministries, General Synod and raising grants for church projects.

#### **APPOINTMENTS AS DEANERY SYNOD REPS**

Revd Kate Sharples advised that there were three 3 year vacancies, and as there were 3 nominations there would be no election and the following people would serve as Deanery Synod reps as follows:

Richard Brooks	nominated by John Hollands	seconded by Sue Dungey
Annette Baillie	nominated by Jill Adam	seconded by John Hollands
Wayne Sime	nominated by John Hollands	seconded by Janet Bell

#### **APPOINTMENTS TO THE PCC**

Revd Kate Sharples advised that there were six 3 year vacancies and there were 6 nominations for membership to the PCC. She summarised what each person had said on their application form about what they thought they would be able to bring to the PCC. Since no election was needed, the following people would serve the PCC as follows:

Louise Sime	nominated by Sue Dungey	seconded by Janet Bell
Gill Gibbs	nominated by Wendy Newberry	seconded by Busola Awani
Tony Withington	nominated by Sue Dungey	seconded by John Hollands
Helen Henry	nominated by Gillian Gibbs	seconded by Sue Dungey
David Owen	nominated by Julie Owen	seconded by Stephen Coates
Jill Adam	nominated by Annette Baillie	seconded by Sue Dungey

Kate thanked Gill Gibbs for her 2.5 years of service as PCC Secretary and Jill Adam for taking over from her. Philippa Wheeler, Chris O'Neill and Alan Walton are to serve another year on the PCC. Kate explained that PCC members represent the whole church and are part of the leadership of the church. She invited everyone to speak to PCC members about any relevant matters.

Kate thanked those standing down - Andrea Kelly and Rosie Busfield - and she invited everyone to pray for the new PCC.

## APPOINTMENT OF SIDES PERSONS/WELCOMERS

Revd Kate Sharples read out the list of sidespersons/ welcomers to be appointed: Susan Beer, Obi Eneli, Richard & Janice Brooks, Peter & Pauline Sharp, Janet Bell, David Okoturo, Wendy Hills, Sue Dungey, Gill Gibbs, Kay Collier, Joanie Gordon, Jacqui Horbury and Carol Temple.

## APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE PCC

Revd Kate Sharples asked the congregation for approval for the appointment of Sue Viles as the Independent Examiner and this was given by all.

## LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Kate wanted to share her vision for the future of St Peter's.

- a) church should be fun!
- b) We need to continue to **Go Deeper into God** through worship and prayer. As part of the national *The Kingdom Come* prayer initiative, we will be holding a *Windows into Prayer* event from May 30<sup>th</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> June when the church would be open daily for prayer from 9am to 9pm (Sat 1pm). There will be nine different prayer stations offering different ways of praying. The aim is for prayer to be taking place throughout these times. Kate invited everyone to sign up to spend an hour with God in prayer at the event. Children will be able to participate too.
- c) **Transforming Communities** is a priority, both within the church community and within our local community. On July 8<sup>th</sup> we will again be undertaking community action doing DIY and gardening for local residents and offering free tea and cakes.
- d) **Making New Disciples** is also important. Kate quoted from John 4:35 "Open your eyes and see! The fields are ripe for the harvest" We do a lot of sowing seeds, but we need to look more closely at how we harvest.
- e) **Making it Happen.** The Access for All project will be going ahead. We also need money to undertake our ongoing ministries; as we currently have a shortfall we will be holding a gift day on Sunday May 14<sup>th</sup> when all are invited to review their giving. We are invited to give cheerfully, remembering that it is God who provides.

## ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None had been received.

## QUESTIONS TO VICAR AND CHURCH WARDENS

Doris Cork expressed her thanks to the musicians who put so much effort into practice and ensuring we can experience wonderful worship. Kate echoed her sentiments.

Kate offered a big thank you to everyone for playing their part within the church. We are the Body of Christ together and all are important.

She expressed her appreciation of everyone's support.

## CLOSING PRAYER

Kate closed the meeting in prayer.

# **2017 ANNUAL REPORT**

## **FOR THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER'S, STEVENAGE**

### **Welcome from the PCC!**

2017 has been an exciting year in so many ways – it's quite difficult to pull out just a few highlights for this report.

- On Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb Revd Kate Sharples became vicar of St Peter's Church, previously being the curate. Many people worked hard to get the vicarage ready and there was a wonderful licensing service which everyone enjoyed. In May there was an open afternoon for everyone to admire the decorating skills and to eat cake.
- In March we were all saddened by the passing away of Betty Cockerton, a pillar of the church who was still counting the money and helping with the old folk right to the end. March also saw the birth of Joshua Coates – the youngest church member! This year we have also said good-bye to Andrea and Stephen Kelly who moved to Ireland, Philippa Wheeler who moved to be near family, and Jessie Draper.
- During May half term the church was opened for prayer with different prayer zones. It was so exciting to see the response of the church, with so many people coming to pray and experiencing God in powerful ways. The commitment of people to pray for our finances was also key to what happened this year.
- A particular highlight for this year was the Access for All project, which has provided an accessible side entrance to the church and hall and an accessible toilet. We are so thankful to God for his provision of money to complete this, and for the way he has provided for our finances in general this year.
- We really value the unity in the church and the way people work together on so many different teams. For the size of the church we do a huge amount of ministry and mission activities. It's also been encouraging to see the Holy Spirit working in people's lives, and that there's a sense that God is at work in St Peter's. So thank you everyone, for all that you do and for who you are.

Looking back on the year, the verse that came to me is Philippians 4: 4-7:

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

### **Aim and purposes**

St Peter's Parochial Church Council (PCC), in cooperation with the incumbent (that is, the church wardens during the vacancy, and then Revd Kate Sharples from 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017), is responsible for the whole ministry and mission of the Church to the parish of Broadwater. This includes pastoral, evangelistic, social action and

ecumenical work and involvement in initiatives across Stevenage with ‘Churches Together in Stevenage.’ The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church and hall buildings.

## Vision and Objectives

Our vision is to be a missional church – showing God’s love to the community – and to be a relevant and visible presence, providing pathways by which people can seek and know God.

We want to continue to be a welcoming community that loves people of all ages and cares for them.

We want to be “A Furnace” where people meet with Jesus, where lives are transformed by his presence, where miracles happen and where people are sent out by the Holy Spirit on fire for God.

We want to be a serving church at the heart of the community shining in the darkness holding out the word of life. (Philippians 2:16)

We want to be a church that enables people of all ages to become more mature followers of Christ and rely on him in prayer. (Ephesians 4:12-13)

We want to be able to meet the needs of the brokenness in our parish - including the broken relationships, debt and addiction; to support the youth who hang around the streets; and to be part of the bigger picture in what God is doing in the Nation and the World.

As a church in the St Alban’s Diocese, we have the 3 broad objectives of:

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

We also have our own specific objectives in the form of a Mission Action Plan (MAP). This plan was agreed by the PCC in November 2015 and shows what we aimed to do in the next three years.

1. Appoint a funded a Children’s and/or Youth worker for St Peter’s.
2. Develop the Pastoral Visiting Team – and extend to the more elderly and infirm.
3. Finalise our building plans with full consultation with the church, apply for planning permission and start our fundraising strategy.
4. Develop an effective regularly updated website which is relevant to those inside and outside the church.
5. To be a hub church for “Love Stevenage” 8,9,10 <sup>th</sup> July 2016

We reviewed this mission action plan this year, 2017, with the following conclusions about the individual objectives:

1. No progress has been made, largely due to a change in vicar

2. The pastoral team started in 2015 and really developed in 2016, so this objective has been completed.
  3. This year we started and completed the *Access for All* project. This has given us a new accessible entrance, accessible toilet, step-free access between the church and hall and a new storage cupboard. More details later in the report
  4. The new website was completed and more people are now involved in keeping it up to date
  5. *Love Stevenage* has been an extremely successful event in 2016 and 2017.
- So all our objectives have been achieved, except the first one which is under review. This means that a new MAP will be generated in 2018.

## Activities and Highlights - Going Deeper into God

### **Worship** *Kate sharples*

Our main worship service on Sundays at 10.30am continues to be well attended and it is encouraging to see new families joining us. We have experimented with slightly longer times of sung worship, and allowing space for the Holy Spirit to move. During the school summer holidays we had a series of "summer services" which were all-age, to give the children and youth leaders a break. The first part was child friendly, and then the children did activities at the back whilst the adults listened to the sermon. This worked really well. For harvest this year we had a "harvest breakfast" service, starting with bacon butties and Danish pastries, and activities for children, followed by a short all-age service. This worked well and drew in people from the fringes of church and we hope to do a repeat. Sunday mornings could not happen without all the willing volunteers who help each week. We say thank you to all those who serve in the music and prayer ministry teams, and those we do sound, AV, refreshments, welcoming, wardening, setting up and giving out communion, intercessions, readings and flowers. As a church for all ages it would also be impossible to run without the dedicated band of children's church and youth church leaders and helpers.

Thursday Communion at 9.30am continues to have a dedicated group of around 12-15 people who enjoy the more traditional service format and the refreshments afterwards.

### **Children and Youth Church** *Kate sharples*

We are so grateful to all those whose hard work results in a thriving children and youth church. A number of new children and youth have joined, and it's particularly encouraging to see a growth in the TOAST group which is for year 6 and up, with a consistent 7-9 children. Highlights for this group include seeing children making a commitment to Jesus and two reaffirming their baptismal vows. The main difficulty with this group is not having enough trained leaders and lack of continuity with leaders. Youth work is not easy – perhaps reflected in the comment of one TOAST leader, whose hope for the future is a paid youth minister!

The highlight in *Bubbles* (toddlers to Year 1) is the good attendance, with a group of children attending most weeks. It is good to build relationships between children and leaders and between the children as a group. There is now better and more

communication between leaders (not that it was a bad before) and having a similar format from week to week helps. They have also re-introducing singing, which was felt to be God's timing as it coincided with the music ministry moving forward. Hopes for the future are for more leaders and all the children deepening their relationship with God, feeling part of the Church and having fun!

**Bright Lights** (Years 2 – 5) renamed themselves at the end of the year to *Ignite*. They have had a turnover of children and the new group are younger and consequently they have had to adapt. The group also has a wider range of ability than before so there is a challenge in engaging all.

At the start of December a training day was held for all those working with children and youth in church which was well attend by nearly everyone involved. Nick Jackson from Power Pack Ministries, assisted by Linds, came and led some very inspiring sessions, all around helping children to move beyond knowing about Jesus to experiencing the Holy Spirit in their lives and developing a relationship with Jesus. It was practical with all sorts of suggestions that could be easily used. The challenge for all the leaders in 2018 will be how to put this into practice!

### **Prayer** *Kate sharples*

Prayer meetings were held on most Sunday evenings at 6.30pm in church until October when they moved to the vicarage. It's encouraging that this is a growing group. God has spoken to us in words and pictures and our prayers have been led in different directions on different Sundays.

In January a film morning was held with breakfast and a screening of "The war room". Although based on a fictional film it was all about how to have a prayer strategy for every area of your life. It was very well attended and many people were inspired to either pray more or pray differently.

This year we joined in with the "Thy Kingdom Come" initiative by opening the church up for prayer Tues- Sat during the week of May half term. There were 9 prayer zones set up each with a different theme, and people were encouraged to come and spend some time in prayer whenever they could. In total there were over 70 visits and there was an amazing sense of peace and God's presence in the church. Many people talked about having a powerful experience of God, and that it had helped them to pray like they never had before. On the Sunday – Pentecost Sunday - 12 of us went to St Alban's Abbey for final evening celebration service, which was wonderful.

### **Prayer Ministry** *Rosemary Busfield*

The Prayer Ministry Team continues to be available on a Sunday morning during communion and at the end of the service. We are humbled and privileged to be able to offer this ministry, sharing in the needs of those who come forward for prayer and we love to hear testimonies of how God has answered prayer and met with people.

Many of our prayer ministry team members continue to serve in other areas of church ministry sometimes restricting their availability for praying on a Sunday morning. However God is gracious and usually people are prayed for in a timely manner.

Philippa Wheeler stepped down from leading the team in the autumn, pending her move away. I would like to thank Philippa for all her hard work, passion, and commitment in leading this team. She has been an inspiration to so many people and we will miss her.

Moving forward into this new season, we will work with Kate to seek God as to how he wants this ministry to evolve. As a team we need to prayerfully support each other, as we are aware that in order to serve others, we need to spend time receiving from God ourselves. My heart's desire is to see God working even more powerfully in the days ahead as we stand with people in prayer.

## **Music Ministry** *Ken Aknai*

### Highlights of 2017

- Greater awareness of the Holy Spirit moving during our times of worship.
- Longer worship blocks of 4 or 5 songs with plenty of space for free expression of worship have been a good way of helping us become more open to the moving of the Holy Spirit.
- Moving the band forward to be nearer the congregation in morning worship has helped create a feeling of the band and congregation being one, enhancing the sense of corporate worship.

### Issues

- Shortage of worship leaders
- Adequate time for effective band practices

### Hopes for 2018

- To explore different service structures and "take risks" in allowing more freedom for the Holy Spirit to move during our times of worship, and to exercise the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- For God to raise up another worship leader.
- To find a more permanent solution for the band to be located nearer the congregation.
- Training/teaching in musical worship leading and band skills, and nurturing of new members.

Our ultimate hope is that our corporate worship will be acceptable and pleasing to God, and that we will know we have encountered the living God.

## **Home Groups** *Kate Sharples*

It's great to have 6 home groups at St Peter's with around 55 members. One meets on Friday mornings and the others are on either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday evenings.



Our home group has continued to flourish this year. Some members have moved on but new members have come to join us. Each week we meet to eat cake, chat, pray and study the Bible. This year we have worked through The Bible Course, we have looked at some Old Testament characters and seen how their stories can be applied to our lives, we have had several stand-alone studies and we have worked through the Discovering our Spiritual Gifts Course. One particularly inspired evening was when we wrote our own versions of the 23rd Psalm; the results were amazing and really touched us as we listened to them. We have enjoyed several social evenings which naturally revolved round food! I feel blessed to be one of the leaders of this group where all the members pray for and support each other. Our 'WhatsApp' group keeps us all linked in and means everyone gets to pray for any concerns and needs.

*Rosie*

*Hollands*

We have continued meeting regularly as a group, studying John's gospel together, interspersed with social events. We enjoyed the visit of Father Carl from Guyana one evening and his opening of the Scriptures with us. Several group members have had difficult times during the year, and it has been good to support these people throughout and to see God's answers to our prayers. We plan to study J John's book on sharing our faith later this year, and to continue our journeys of discipleship together.

*Janet and John*

*Bell*

The highlights for 2017 were: many answered prayers, group members taking turns to lead the studies, a good variety of study material and focussed prayer evenings. Group members have found it an enjoyable relaxing time and an opportunity to share and a safe forum for fellowship, bible study, & prayer. We have been able to share experiences and support each other through the year and there have been encouraging answers to prayer. The bond of friendship we have as a group continues to grow and strengthen, and it's a good opportunity to get to know a wide range of different people. It would be good to have one or two more people and more prayer nights in 2018

*Wayne Sime and group*

## **Activities and Highlights** –Transforming Communities

**Pastoral Care** *Rosemary Busfield and Sue Dungey*

The Pastoral Care Team continues to support the leadership of the church in providing pastoral care for those within St Peters. This can be for ongoing needs or short interventions.

We have currently 11 people on the team, and during this year we have both gained and lost members. However we have managed to provide a visiting service for all those that have asked, or whom we have perceived may need a visit or phone call. The amount of visits and input is prioritised on a case by case basis depending upon urgency of need and resources available. In a typical month we have visited or rung approximately 12 people.

Further training for the Pastoral Care Team has been planned for early March 2018 where we will discuss extra training for those who wish to offer home communion.

Issues to address:

- How to ensure all those who require contact from the Pastoral Care Team, come to our notice and that people are aware of how to get in touch with us.
- Enlist more people on the Team

### **Elderly Ministry** *Richard Brooks*

There are three of us (Carol Temple, Chris O'Neill and myself) who attend Roebuck Nursing Home every Tuesday to give an informal church service to residents and staff there. There are about fifteen people, including staff, who attend our service. We normally have an enjoyable hour of singing hymns, interceded with scripture readings given by Flora, a resident, who also shares some thoughts on the scripture reading, which gives rise to questions and thoughts on that reading which residents enjoy. Also there is poetry read by Carol which again encourages questions. The hymns and songs remind residents of times past and stir them to come alive and also evokes memories for them; the singing also calms residents if they become agitated.

It's wonderful that not only the residents benefit from our time together but also the staff who find their spiritual and pastoral needs met. The staff, and families and friends, are all very open to all that we do, and of course much more is said and enjoyed over tea and cake afterwards. There is no time limit put on what we do, as residents' needs come first.

We are always aware that at times there are end of life issues that have to be dealt with. Residents, and sometimes their families, just need someone to be with them at a time when life comes to an end. This at times can be difficult, as we minister to staff and residents who build relationships with each other. It is a wonderful privilege for each of us to serve those elderly people and God in all we do.

I regularly go to Walpole Court coffee morning to meet with residents there and to share with them in their concerns in life. I also visit other sheltered housing schemes when time allows. We have a growing elderly community which at times is getting more difficult to meet with all, but let's not forget that we just need to go and God provides the resources. Luke 10 v1.

### **Stepping Stones** *Annette Baillie*

We have continued to be a popular group, having 35-50 children accompanied by parents or carers attending each week. It is good to see parents building relationships with each other as we also continue to build relationships with the mothers and fathers, grandparents and carers. The team members work together well and we frequently get very positive feedback from those who come. Additionally we have been encouraged by the number of families who came to the Christmas Eve Service and Messy Church.

Occasionally we have had high numbers leading to a lack of space and resources and we are considering the best way to set a limit if the challenge persists. At times there have been insufficient able bodied people to help with resetting the church furniture at the end of the session.

We want to thank all of you who regularly pray for us. We need your prayers so that we remain focused on Jesus and serve Him as we continue our work with Stepping Stones.

We hope that provision for young families will continue into the future and relationships will grow further. However, for the group to be properly sustainable, an additional leader with the appropriate skill set is required to strengthen the team.

### **Love Stevenage** *Jill Adam*

At the beginning of the year St Peter's was invited to encourage wider participation by other churches in the planned Love Stevenage programme in the summer. We did this by speaking at a Sunday morning service at Holy Trinity and by running a training session for other churches, sharing our experiences of running a social action programme. In the end 12 churches took part, an increase on the previous year.

Once again we were blessed by good weather on Saturday July 8<sup>th</sup> for our social action activities. This year we had even more jobs to do for local residents, 22 in total, and we had over 40 volunteers, including some from Longmeadow Evangelical Church and St Paul's Methodist Church. The residents much appreciated our hard work. In afternoon the church was filled with folk from the local community who came to enjoy the tea and cakes.

Quotes from thank you cards received:

"Thank you so much, the five people who came made such a wonderful job of our garden which is now looking its best."

"Thank you so much for all the hard work you did for me in the garden on Saturday. I could never have done what you all did."

"A very special thanks to John Hollands and his team, for their great effort that has transformed my garden from a jungle to a haven"

As we plan ahead for this year's event, we pray for wisdom for the planning team and further development of our relationship with the Borough Council who have been valuable partners in delivering the programme.

This has been a steady year for Tea and Co, with typically 20-25 people coming to enjoy playing board games or just to sit and chat.

Anne, the local Police Community Support Officer, is a regular visitor to the group. She was instrumental in setting up a Silver Street Meets event in October, attended by many of the Tea and Co regulars. A range of advice was given by representatives of local organisations to help the elderly and vulnerable stay safe in their homes.

It has been good to see members of the group, who are not regular members of the congregation, getting involved in other events at St Peter's, like the Access for All opening event and the Love Stevenage community tea.

For the coming year we will be making renewed efforts to draw in new members to the group.

## Activities and Highlights — Making New Disciples

### **Links with Schools** *Kate Sharples*

This year it has been very exciting to be able to develop a relationship with Roebuck Primary School due to the openness of the new head teacher. I have been into the school to take several assemblies, including harvest, remembrance and Christingles. Also, I went into school to lead their lower school carol service, and then years 4-6 came to the church for their carol service.

Assemblies have continued with bridge builders in Shephalbury Park School and Christingle assemblies were also taken in Shephalbury Park and Longmeadow. The Four Seasons pre-school came into church for a harvest service and they also had a Christingle assembly.

Easter and Christmas Journeys were held this year, seeing hundreds of children come into church and hear about Jesus. We are very grateful to all those who volunteer for these. They are very hard work but equally rewarding.

### **Illuminate** *Julie Owen*

We changed the name of this mid-week group from Launchpad to Illuminate in September. It was previously supported by Bridgebuilders who provided the weekly material; the new group is now using material from Urban Saints which puts more emphasis on helping children grow in faith. The new program is working very well, at present working on characters of the bible. We get a steady number of children (who are from school years 3-6), from 9 to 12 per week, about half from church and half outside.

Our main issue is still needing more help, especially with setting up as it can be a bit tough sometimes.

Our hopes for 2018 are that more children come in and for more enthusiasm.

## **Messy Church** *Kate Sharples*

There are quite a number of families that now consistently come to Messy Church and it is developing into its own church community. So much so, that people stay and chat at the end and don't want to go. Relationships are being built and they are slowly being taken on a real faith journey. The children now engage brilliantly with the celebration part, and worship and prayer are becoming more real to them. We regularly have 60 guests which is an ideal number, and around 15 core team members, including the catering team who continue to do a fantastic job. A number from Messy Church came to the children's Christmas Eve service, and we had around 90 for the Christmas Messy Church.

We are very encouraged that we are now keeping some of the older children, but also aware that it is not really geared towards them. We have started thinking and praying about how we can best engage with them and talk about the questions they have about faith. We are thinking of starting some sort of extra group in 2018.

# Finance Report 2017

(to be read in conjunction with the Accounts)

2017 has been another year where we have watched God provide for His Church at St Peters. At the beginning of the year, the planning for the Access for All build was well under way and we had about half the money given from a legacy the year before but we were still short. The task of finding the rest of the money fell to Jill Adam, who prayerfully put in applications for just a few grants. The Lord was very gracious and the grants were given, over £23,000 which was just what was needed to complete the build.

By the middle of the year it looked like we would have an over spend of £7,000 on the budget when a cheque arrived from a lady, whom we did not know, who was obedient to what she heard God say. She sent us £6,000 which, with gift aid, is £7,500 covering our deficit.

The finance team are grateful to every person who faithfully gives to the Church each week or month, whether it is a few pounds or several hundred pounds. For those who gave at the gift day or who have increased their giving over the course of the year, thank you.

Our income from donations and gift aid from Church members was over £71,000. Rent from the hall and church brought in nearly £6000.

We are a mission based Church and aside from paying our parish share of £56,500 and utilities of £4700 we have given away nearly £6000 to the organisations and people we are supporting. In the first half of the year we were giving to Bridge Builders, The Living Room and Cornerstone, all of which we had supported for many years. During the year the PCC decided to look at this support and we have now committed to support financially and in prayer, the Owen family working with Africa Inland Mission in Tanzania, Oak Church reaching young people in our town and to continue supporting Bridge Builders in their work with the children in Stevenage. These are all 3 year commitments as we seek to see God's kingdom advanced here and abroad.

Our reserves policy remains the same and we have £25,000 set aside for emergencies and £30,000, given as a gift to go towards the next building phase, the front entrance. This leaves us with about £25,000 pounds.

We are grateful too, to those who donate 'financially' without money, who make the cakes and food for Messy Church or Junior Church; for the beautiful flowers that are so carefully arranged; to those who give of their time to maintain the Church and grounds that would otherwise cost us. When we give with a grateful heart, God uses those gifts and multiplies their worth.

Please continue to pray for the finances of St Peter's, that God will help us make wise decisions and that as we look to make new improvements to the Church to meet the needs of both the members and the community we seek to serve, that God will again provide for all we need.

*Helen Henry  
on behalf of the PCC's finance team*

# Making it Happen

## Buildings and Fabric *John Hollands*

### **Access for All**

This is our title for all the ongoing building work as it summarises the purpose of what we are seeking to achieve. We wish to modernise and improve our buildings to make them more user-friendly and suitable for both church and community activities.

Phase 2: in last year's report I said that I would love to complete this work in 2017, but it cannot start until we have the funds. Well, as you well know, God answered our prayers and we received all the funds needed and we now have our lovely accessible toilet and hall entrance. In November, Cllrs John and Joan Lloyd came and formally 'opened' the new facilities. We welcomed many people from the local community to celebrate the event, including local police and the Community Support Officers, and representatives of the local Co-op, one of our funders, and some of their customers.

Thank you to everyone who made this possible, especially to Jill Adam who spent time researching funding opportunities, drawing up presentations and sending off funding applications. The major external funder was the John Aphthorp Charity who gave us a very generous grant of £20,000.

### **Maintenance**

I would like to thank all those who have given time to maintaining the church buildings, but in particular I again have to thank Roger Busfield for all the finishing off jobs he did after the building work was complete and all the work he has done removing bushes from the garden and generally tidying it up. We are having issues with tree and shrub roots getting in the rain water drains so this is essential work. Also thanks to Tony Withington who finished the accessible toilet and cleaner's cupboard.

I would also like to say thank you to Emma Stilling for all her hard work in keeping the church buildings and toilets nice and clean.

## **Parochial Church Council (PCC)** *Jill Adam (PCC Secretary)*

We were pleased to welcome Revd Kate Sharples, our former Curate, as Vicar in February 2017. The short period of vacancy and her detailed knowledge of the parish made for a very smooth transition.

The PCC met seven times in 2017, with the main points of discussion at PCC meetings as follows:

- considering the role of the PCC and how we could make it more effective
- monitoring the church finances, ensuring the congregation were kept up to date of our financial position and taking action where necessary
- distribution of mission donations
- buildings upgrades (especially Access for All project)



- health and safety policy
- safeguarding
- youth work, including making St Peter's available to Oak Church for a new base
- children's work
- how we work with the Deanery

In September we held a fruitful PCC Away Day at Codicote Parish centre.

### **Safeguarding** *Rosie Hollands*

At St Peter's Church we recognise that the few who are determined to harm children or adults, deliberately seek out groups or organisations where they can meet children or other vulnerable people. The Church is particularly vulnerable to these people. Creating and maintaining a safeguarding culture will discourage them from becoming involved for the wrong reasons and make it difficult for them to harm or abuse children or adults if they do.

For this reason we have worked very hard to ensure that all leaders in our children and young people's groups, in our work with vulnerable adults and in our pastoral visiting team, are Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checked and have taken part in the diocesan safeguarding training. On March 25<sup>th</sup> 2017 we had our first Deanery safeguarding training at the church. Whilst relevant material was covered, there were some concerns about the overall quality of this training, which were fed back to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser. The training has since been overviewed and changes have been put in place, so we are now confident about the quality of training that our volunteers receive. The Parish Safety officer (PSO) Rosie Hollands – is now one of the Safeguarding Trainers for the diocese.

During 2017 Lynne Le-Diep - our church administrator – has been our Lead Recruiter and has worked very hard to ensure that all the DBS checks needed have been carried out.

We can report that the PCC has been fully compliant with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishop's' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

### **Stevenage Deanery Synod** *Wayne Sime, Annette Bailie, Richard Brooks*

Deanery Synod is valuable in that we all meet together for business and in a social capacity at each meeting, establishing relationships with other people and parishes. It is good that there is debate and nothing is just rubber stamped, but we also have to understand and accept that there are different views. Despite the differences, we need to pull together so that we as a deanery we can use each other's skills in the various activities each parish performs, so avoiding the duplication of resources.

#### Highlights of 2017

- Networking
- Establishing relationships across the deanery
- Discussion and debates, etc.



### Issues

The Church of England is indeed a broad church, clearly with differing understandings about issues such as same sex marriage.

### Hopes for the future

- More interaction (Wayne Sime has emailed the Rural Dean about how the Deanery Synod could be improved, more information regarding activities and increased social or task groups across the deanery)
- A greater sense of what God is desiring for the deanery and all the churches that are within it.

### **Electoral Roll** *Rosie Busfield*

The Electoral Roll was revised between the dates of Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March and Sunday 8th April 2018.

There are currently 122 names on the Roll; 1 name was added to the Roll and 10 names were removed. Of those who are registered 44 are male and 78 female. 69 people live within the Parish and 53 people live outside the Parish.

The average Sunday morning attendance is:

Under 16s - 830 in total making an average of 16 per week.

Over 16s - 3600 in total making an average of 69 per week.

## **Administrative information**

St Peter's Church is situated on Broadwater Crescent, Stevenage, part of the Marymead neighbourhood hub. It is part of the Diocese of St Albans within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Willows, Stevenage Herts SG2 8AN. Registered charity number 1152921

PCC members who have served at any time during 2017:

### **Ex Officio members:**

Incumbent: The Reverend Kate Sharples  
(Chair)

Mr Richard Brooks

Readers: Mr Gordon Baillie  
Mr Obi Eneli

Wardens: Mr John Hollands  
Mrs Sue Dungey

### **Elected members:**

Mrs Jill Adam, representative on Deanery Synod (until APCM) and PCC Secretary  
Mrs Annette Baillie, representative on Deanery Synod (from APCM)  
Mr Richard Brooks, representative on Deanery Synod  
Mrs Rosie Busfield (until APCM)  
Mrs Kay Collier, representative on Deanery Synod (until APCM)  
Mrs Gilly Gibbs  
Mrs Helen Henry (co-opted as Treasurer until APCM, then elected)  
Mr Chris O'Neill (Lay Vice Chair until APCM)  
Mr David Owen (from APCM)  
Mrs Louise Sime (from APCM)  
Mr Wayne Sime, representative on Deanery Synod and Lay Vice Chair (from APCM)  
Mr Alan Walton (until APCM)  
Mr Tony Withington (from APCM)  
Mrs Philippa Wheeler (until 29/9/17)

*Approved by the PCC on March 19<sup>th</sup> 2018*

*and signed on their behalf by the Reverend Kate Sharples (PCC Chairman)*

**VICAR**

Revd Kate Sharples,  
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