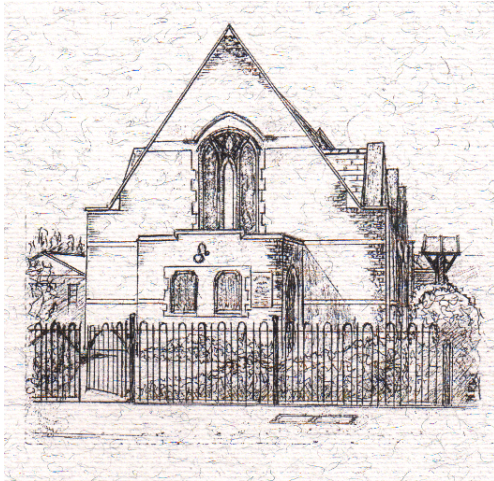


The Parish of Felixstowe, St John the Baptist with St Edmund
Diocese of Saint Edmundsbury and Ipswich

'Open to God Open to All'

www.felixstowe.church

Reg. Charity No. 1135596



Agenda and Reports
for the
Annual Meeting of Parishioners
and the
Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 7th April 2019 at 11.15 am

Agenda for the Annual Meeting of Parishioners

(Also known as the Annual Parish Meeting or Easter Vestry Meeting)

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on 18th March 2018
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes
4. Election of Churchwardens

Agenda for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 18th March 2018
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes
4. Reports of the PCC to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting:
 - (a) Electoral Roll
 - (b) Secretary to the PCC
 - (c) Financial Statement of the PCC for the year ending 31st December 2018
 - (d) Fabric Report
 - (e) Deanery Synod Report
 - (f) Church reports
5. Elections

A minimum of 3 members to serve for a period of 3 years on the PCC
6. Appointments
 - (a) Sides people
 - (b) Independent Examiner
7. A.O.B

any items to be raised must be notified in writing to the Chairman no later than 12 noon on Saturday 6 April 2019.
8. Closing Prayers

Structure, governance and management

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. Under the Church Representation Rules, the PCC is able to have a maximum of 12 elected lay members, and during the last year has been made up of 11 elected lay members; there are 3 vacancies to be filled at the APCM in 2018.

Objectives and activities

The purpose of the PCC is set out in the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956, and it states:

- (1) It shall be the duty of the minister and the PCC to consult together on matters of general concern and importance to the parish.
- (2) The functions of parochial church councils shall include—
 - (a) co-operation with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical;
 - (b) the consideration and discussions of matters concerning the Church of England or any other matters of religious or public interest, but not the declaration of the doctrine of the Church on any question;
 - (c) making known and putting into effect any provision made by the diocesan synod or the deanery synod, but without prejudice to the powers of the council on any particular matter;
 - (d) giving advice to the diocesan synod and the deanery synod on any matter referred to the council;
 - (e) raising such matters as the council consider appropriate with the diocesan synod or deanery synod.
- (3) In the exercise of its functions the parochial church council shall take into consideration any expression of opinion by any parochial church meeting.

Reserves policy

The Reserves policy was agreed by the PCC at the meeting on 15th June 2017. £60,000 is currently set as the level for the Parish Reserves. This will be reviewed by the PCC at the first meeting of the new PCC after each APCM. (This money will only be touched in great need.)

Church attendance

As of March 2018 there were 141 members on the electoral roll, a increase of 3.

Review of the year

The report of the Secretary to the PCC is included within this report

Financial Review

The report of the Treasurer to the PCC is included within this report

PCC information for the APCM

The Parish of Felixstowe, Saint John the Baptist with Saint Edmund

Annual Reports of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31st December 2018

Administrative Information

Saint John the Baptist's Church is situated on the corner of Orwell Road and Princes Road within the Felixstowe Conservation Area; and Saint Edmund's is on Langer Road. It is a part of the Colneys Deanery within the Ipswich Archdeaconry of the Diocese of Saint Edmundsbury and Ipswich. The correspondence address is The New Vicarage, 54 Princes Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk, IP11 7PL.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a registered charity number 1135596

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2018 until this report was approved are:

<i>Priest in Charge:</i>	Reverend Andrew Dotchin	
<i>Assistant Curate:</i>	Reverend Penny Brinkley	<i>Ex – Officio</i>
<i>Associate Priest:</i>	Reverend Philip Young	<i>Ex – Officio</i>
<i>Reader</i>	Mr Terry Gibb	<i>Ex - Officio</i>

<i>Wardens:</i>	Mr Terry Gibb	<i>Vice Chairman</i>
	Mrs Diane Flack	<i>Vice Chairman</i>

<i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod</i>		
	Reverend Penny Brinkley	<i>Ex-Officio</i>
	Mrs Gillian Berry	
	Mrs Jan Hickman	<i>Ex-Officio</i>

Elected Members:

Diana Barnard *	
Penny Brookes ***	
Edwin Candy**	
Graham Denny **	<i>Acting Treasurer to the PCC</i>
Mary-Beth Denny	<i>(until March 2018)</i>
Sheila Donald *	<i>Secretary to the PCC</i>
Kath George**	
Sharon Hume *	
Garath Jones**	
Celia Sims **	
Tricia Skirrow	<i>(until March 2018)</i>
Mary Trayler**	
Sonia Worrall ***	
***Term expires at APCM 2018	
**Elected in 2016 for 3 years	
*Elected in 2017 for 3 years	

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on Sunday, 18th March, 2018 in St. John's Church

The Revd. Andrew Dotchin welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Apologies

Susanne and Norman Barsby, Angela Bryant.

2. Minutes

Frank Atkinson proposed that the previous year's minutes be accepted by the meeting. Garath Jones seconded, and the 2017 minutes were agreed.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Election of Churchwardens

Andrew thanked the outgoing Churchwardens for their service. Two nominations had been received for new Churchwardens, Diane Flack and Terry Gibb, who were duly elected. Andrew said that the Churchwardens gave him great support.

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting Held on Sunday, 18th March, 2018 in St. John's Church

1. Apologies

Susanne and Norman Barsby, Angela Bryant, Ed Candy, Jeremy Prentice.

2. Minutes

Frank Atkinson proposed that the 2017 minutes be accepted by the meeting, Garath Jones seconded, and the minutes were agreed.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Reports of the PCC to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

(a) Electoral Roll

Twig Shrubbs was continuing as Electoral Roll officer and told the meeting that numbers had increased by three. The total was now 141. She warned members that in 2019 everyone would have to re-enrol. She hoped to start in January to get the forms back in time. Andrew encouraged members to come on the roll.

(b) Secretary's Report

There had been 8 Parochial Church Council meetings, and 2 Standing Committee meetings through the last year. The main areas of discussion had been:

- Finance - Stewardship, and the setting up of a Finance panel
- Mission – Lent courses, study courses, the Holiday club, and the setting up of the Pushchair Pitstop morning
- Church Fabric- particularly roof repairs, and the possible Tower corridor automatic glass door
- Safeguarding – particularly regarding visits up the Tower, and the new rules for 2018

Andrew thanked Sheila Donald for her work as secretary and asked for a round of applause.

(c) Treasurer's Report

Andrew apologised for the late availability of the 2017 accounts, but had received an email from the Independent Examiner approving them. He thanked people for their careful spending and generous giving.

The income for the year had been £118120.00, which was £39000 above that budgeted. Costs had been £117818.00, which was £13500 above the budget. Noticeable gains in income had come from

the Hall and Meeting room rent (£2000 over budget), donations (£1000 over budget), and the Gift Aid claim (which included one amount from 2016). Events had raised more than expected, and less had been spent on maintenance, as no major repairs had been necessary.

It was too early to assess whether there had been any benefit from the change of utility supplier as implemented by the finance panel, -that would be assessed next year. The aspiration for the church to cover day to day costs by the 'ordinary' income had been achieved during 2017 and it was hoped to continue to cover running costs in a similar way in the future. **(d) Fabric Report**

The roof repairs were still progressing slowly through the planning and quotation stage. It was hoped these would take place in 2018. they would be paid for from the Reserves. An asbestos survey had been done, and minimal removal was needed. The lightning conductor had been inspected and a small amount of work had been done. The flat roofs and guttering continued to be cleared each month at St Johns and St Edmund's to avoid previous problems with leaks in the Vestry etc.

Upgrading the lighting was continuing with Ed Candy and Garath Jones replacing low level bulbs with LED extra low wattage bulbs and our electrician working in other areas.

The Meeting room redecoration was postponed for a year but it will probably be decorated in the next 12 months.

A plinth with wheels was being made for the organ so that it could be moved before the roof repairs. This was in the original plan for the organ and will be useful for concerts etc.

(e) Deanery Synod Report

There were no questions on the Deanery Synod report.

5. Elections PCC members

Three places were available on the PCC. Andrew thanked Tricia Skirrow (who had chosen to stand down) for her three years' service. Three nominations had been received, as follows:

Sheila Donald, proposed by Diane Flack, seconded by Frank Atkinson

Sharon Hume, proposed by Diana Barnard, seconded by Terry Gibb and

Diana Barnard, proposed by Sharon Hume, seconded by Terry Gibb.

As there were no other nominations they were duly elected, and a round of applause was given.

6. Deanery Synod elections

Andrew was not sure whether these were due in 2018, but asked if the meeting would have any objections to the PCC dealing with this. Liz Watson proposed that the PCC should elect Deanery Synod members, Steve Kemp seconded, and the meeting agreed.

7. Any other business

There was no other business.

Andrew asked the new Churchwardens to come to collect their staves, and said a prayer. The meeting gave them a round of applause.

SECRETARY'S REPORT TO THE PCC 2018 – 2019

There have been 11 PCC meetings this year – 8 full meetings and 3 brief ones.

Matters under discussion have been:-

- Growing in God
- Church roof repairs
- The choice of a new church architect
- Finance – including possible economies, such as a cheaper photocopier rental
- Safeguarding, particularly the new regulations
- Social and worship events

Sheila Donald
PCC Secretary
March 2019

**St. John the Baptist with St. Edmund's
Felixstowe**

End of Year Financial Statements

Year 31st December 2018

**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WITH ST EDMUND, FELIXSTOWE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES (MEMBERS OF THE
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL)**

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2018 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the regulations') and the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and the Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 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 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 with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
 - a. to keep accounting records in accordance with the Act; and
 - b. to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act and the Regulations 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.

Signed 

Date 25.2.19

Philip Keeble, ACMA
5 The Cambria
Key Street
Ipswich
IP4 1FF

	Total Current assets	182,091	209,700
Reserves			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	(27,608)	—
Z01	Starting balances	209,700	209,700
	Total Reserves	182,091	209,700
	Represented by funds		
	Unrestricted	7,468	23,916
	Designated	121,995	133,329
	Restricted	52,627	52,453
	Endowment	—	—
	Total	182,091	209,700

Statement of assets and liabilities

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand						
Barclays Current Account	6,973	—	—	—	6,973	23,771
Browse Bells Restricted Account	29	—	52,627	—	52,657	52,393
CCLA Reserves Account	—	121,995	—	—	121,995	133,329
Totals	7,003	121,995	52,627	—	181,626	209,495
Current assets - Debtors						
Accounts Receivable	465	—	—	—	465	205
Totals	465	—	—	—	465	205
Grand total	7,468	121,995	52,627	—	182,091	209,700

Fund movement by type

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/losses	Closing
Bells - Browse Bells Account						
Restricted	52,453	173	—	—	—	52,627
Sub-total for Bells	52,453	173	—	—	—	52,627
CCLA - CCLA Reserves Account						
Designated	133,329	666	12,000	—	—	121,995
Sub-total for CCLA	133,329	666	12,000	—	—	121,995
General - General fund						
Unrestricted	23,916	104,604	121,052	—	—	7,468
Sub-total for General	23,916	104,604	121,052	—	—	7,468
Grand total	209,700	105,443	133,052	—	—	182,091

Analysis of income and expenditure

Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total This year	Total Last year
101 - Direct Credits	22,946	—	—	—	22,946	22,113
110 - Free Will Offerings	12,982	—	—	—	12,982	12,816
550 - Donations	1,510	—	—	—	1,510	2,067
701 - Legacies	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	37,439	—	—	—	37,439	36,997

Income from charitable activities

					Total	
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
1030 - Hall/Meeting Room Rent	12,540	—	—	—	12,540	12,028
1101 - Wedding/Funeral Fees	6,635	—	—	—	6,635	8,703
1210 - Book/Gift Sales	48	—	—	—	48	177
1220 - Other Sales	—	—	—	—	—	—
1260 - Magazine Sales	222	—	—	—	222	246
302 - Votive Candles	317	—	—	—	317	131
303 - 8am Collections	209	—	—	—	209	117
304 - 10am Collections	877	—	—	—	877	1,451
305 - Floodlighting	180	—	—	—	180	155
306 - Age UK Lunches	—	—	—	—	—	60
401 - Special Collections	5,252	—	—	—	5,252	1,702
405 - Baptism and Wedding Collections	432	—	—	—	432	372
410 - 'VAT' Refunds	—	—	—	—	—	—
420 - Insurance Claims	2,055	—	—	—	2,055	—
551 - Children & Young People Mission	269	—	—	—	269	203
601 - Gift Aid	—	—	—	—	—	9,060
650 - Income not allocated	7,290	—	—	—	7,290	6,375
901 - Other Funds Generated	7,975	—	—	—	7,975	9,455
905 - Utility Refunds	783	—	—	—	783	476
910 - Fund Raising Events	2,267	—	—	—	2,267	3,908
911 - Tea and Coffee funds	410	—	—	—	410	—
950 - Transfer of Funds	12,000	—	—	—	12,000	5,678
Total	59,767	—	—	—	59,767	60,302

Other income

					Total	
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
1020 - Bank Interest	89	666	173	—	929	953
1270 - Graham Court Rent	7,307	—	—	—	7,307	7,002
Total	7,397	666	173	—	8,237	7,956

INCOME TOTAL	104,604	666	173	—	105,443	105,256
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Expenditure on charitable activities

					Total	
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
1730 - Events	219	—	—	—	219	1,109
1830 - Special Collections	3,446	—	—	—	3,446	1,736
1901 - Parish Share	64,122	—	—	—	64,122	55,181
2050 - Administrator	3,276	—	—	—	3,276	3,276
2119 - D.White Expenses	—	—	—	—	—	—
2120 - P.Brinkley	1,080	—	—	—	1,080	601
2130 - E.Corker	400	—	—	—	400	—
2139 - P.Young	—	—	—	—	—	60

2140 - T.Gibbs	—	—	—	—	—	—
2141 - S.Middleton	—	—	—	—	—	—
2142 - A.Dotchin	4,206	—	—	—	4,206	4,921
2170 - Children and Young People	398	—	—	—	398	218
2172 - Donations Made	800	—	—	—	800	40
2201 - Parish Training	—	—	—	—	—	—
2301 - Insurance	6,403	—	—	—	6,403	6,579
2310 - Printing and Stationary	4,949	—	—	—	4,949	4,977
2320 - Organist Expenses	3,600	—	—	—	3,600	3,415
2331 - Cleaner	3,120	—	—	—	3,120	3,120
2340 - Vestry Expenses	1,144	—	—	—	1,144	1,288
2351 - St.John's Maintainence	6,139	—	—	—	6,139	3,616
2360 - St.Edmund's Maintainence	156	—	—	—	156	272
2370 - Subscriptions	90	—	—	—	90	90
2401 - St.John's Utilities	7,541	—	—	—	7,541	6,166
2410 - St.Edmund's Utilities	199	—	—	—	199	361
2430 - Wedding/Funeral Fees	210	—	—	—	210	601
2501 - Magazine Expenses	—	—	—	—	—	—
2520 - St.Edmund's Hall Maintainence	248	—	—	—	248	426
2530 - St.Edmund's Hall Utilities	1,239	—	—	—	1,239	1,578
2540 - St.John's Meeting Room	—	—	—	—	—	—
2550 - St.Edmund's Hall Insurance	—	—	—	—	—	—
2931 - Graham Court	1,709	—	—	—	1,709	1,261
2950 - Other Minor Costs	1,132	—	—	—	1,132	572
3000 - Transfer of Funds out	—	12,000	—	—	12,000	11,289
Total	115,835	12,000	—	—	127,835	112,764

Other expenditure

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
2329 - Roof Project	—	—	—	—	—	2,910
2330 - Church Fabric	3,006	—	—	—	3,006	2,654
2711 - Organ/Piano Expenses	2,211	—	—	—	2,211	101
Total	5,217	—	—	—	5,217	5,665
<hr/>						
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	121,052	12,000	—	—	133,052	118,430
<hr/>						
GRAND TOTAL	(16,448)	(11,333)	173	—	(27,608)	(13,173)

In addition the PCC has ownership of an apartments at Graham Court, Felixstowe with a freehold value i.r.o.£250k

This report dated: 24th February 2019

Financial Report

In the absence of a formal Treasurer the accounts have been completed and finalised through a combination of work by the Administrator, the Church Wardens and myself.

The following is an analysis of the final report, which was endorsed by the Independent Examiner.

Income

The income comparison for charitable activities during 2018 was remarkably consistent when compared to 2017.

In fact the overall difference was only a net -£535.

In addition, the 2017 figures included the Gift Aid reclaim of £9060, when none was received or consequently recorded in 2018.

This would mean that there was in fact a net increase in income from charitable activities of £8525 during the last year.

Transfer of funds from reserves totalled £12,000 during 2018 when compared to £5678 in 2017. However a proportion of this, £5217, was used for extraordinary costs for church fabric and organ costs.

Costs

The Parish Share costs were paid in full despite rising by £8941 from £55181 to £64112.

Many of our costs were maintained at roughly the same level in 2017.

We were able to operate fully but with less costs for the following:-

- A.Dotchin
- Insurance
- Vestry Expenses
- St.Edmund's maintenance
- St.Edmund's utilities
- St.Edmund's hall maintenance
- St.Edmund's hall utilities

Significant increases in costs were in:-

- St.John's maintenance
- Other minor costs – a combination of many smaller costs over the year.

Conclusion

At first glance the figures might show a gradual, but steady, erosion of the reserves. However the 'bottom line' figure of [£27,608] does not reflect the overall ordinary running costs of the church. Firstly the 2018 Gift Aid reclaim, which has since been made, reduces the figures to i.r.o £16,000 and, when coupled with the planned fabric, organ and maintenance costs of £5217, as mentioned above, the actual 'operational' deficit is in the region of £13,000 for the year.

As an observation there are many opportunities for the grants officer to obtain additional funding and the church is also able to reclaim the equivalent of 'VAT' on historic bills which are as yet to be made.

In addition the church owns the freehold on a property at Graham Court with sale valuation i.r.o. £250,000.

Graham Denny, P.C.C. Member

On behalf of the P.C.C. of St.John the Baptist with St.Edmund's Felixstowe.

13th March 2019

Fabric Report

Following the quinquennial inspection of 2015 damage to the roof tiles on the south facing aspect of the church was identified. The cost estimated at £40,000. By 2018 this had escalated to in excess of £90,000.

In 2018 Historic England launched the Taylor Review to help protect Listed Buildings. Two diocese were selected, Inner Manchester to represent an urban diocese and Suffolk to represent a rural diocese. This involved the appointment of a local Fabric Support Officer, a Community Development Adviser and grants of up to £10,000 towards repairs to listed buildings. St John's was one of the very first churches to be inspected and several repairs identified. This included replacing tiles on both aspects of the church, repairs and replacement guttering, new lightening conductor and repairs over the sanctuary to prevent pigeon access. First we were advised to change our architect and then obtain at least three estimates. As a result an estimate of £17,000 was accepted and after much form filing we were given a grant of £9000. The PCC then approved spending the remaining £8,000 and hopefully by the time of the APCM work will be well underway.

Historic England have also given advice and guidance on maintenance programs and involving the community in the life of the church

Further work undertaken was the staining of both front doors of the church, new light bulbs in the clock face, and light saving bulbs in other parts of the church. Our thanks to Garath Jones and Ed Candy for doing this work voluntarily.

The worn out dishwasher was replaced in the church kitchen.

Three new microphones were purchased for St John's.

The fire door at the parish hall was vandal damaged and replaced, thankfully paid for by our insurer.

The organ at St Edmunds has been removed and we are trying to make extra cupboard space for Pushchair Pit stop

The front door at St Edmunds has had a lock fitted to allow easier access and save people going through the playgroup playground when the nursery school is in progress in line with the C of E policy on child protection.

A log book was instigated and booking forms for people hiring the meeting room, St John's Church, St Edmunds Church and the Parish Hall in keeping with the new C of E regulations concerning safe guarding. Also a key inventory required by the insurance company

After the completion of the roof repairs meetings will take place with the architect and DAC to start work on the Glass Door in the church entrance and boxing in of all the electrical meters in the corridor

Terry Gibb and Diane Flack - Church Wardens

Deanery Report 2018-2019

The items of the running of Deanery Synod (general housekeeping) have been by-passed in this report and the highlights and speakers have been reported.

March Synod at St. John the Baptist in Felixstowe was opened by our Rural Dean who welcomed all present with a reading from Matthew about Peter stepping out of the boat. Mrs Anna Hughes the Diocesan Secretary was introduced and spoke of her role hoping for better communications and better planning. She urged all to sign up for the diocesan E news. The next speaker was Gavin Stone Diocesan Director of Strategic Planning who gave a presentation. The Rural Dean gave a presentation on Safeguarding which sparked off several debates but was then pacified by a statement from the Bishops Council declaring that completion of CO training was a diocesan requirement for anyone in the church holding a designated role.

July Synod was held at St. Michael and All Angels Martlesham where Rev. Toby Tate opened the meeting. Our Rural Dean spoke of Greening the Diocese. To encourage an eco church-that the Gospel is the Good News for Gods earth. An ECO survey was introduced.

November Synod was held at Ss. Peter & Paul Old Felixstowe where the Rev Chris Hood led prayers. Our Rural Dean updated ECO church status that the diocese was just two buildings short to be awarded "Bronze Status". The Taylor initiative grants from Heritage England were discussed. A progress report on Safeguarding was given. The Deanery plan was listed.

January 2019 saw a Safeguarding Officers' Breakfast was hosted at St. John the Baptist church in Felixstowe for Colneys Deanery.

February Synod was held at Christchurch Felixstowe. Our Rural Dean welcomed Leonie Rule the Diocesan Communications Manager who spoke of helping congregations to flourish by communicating well.

Safeguarding Report 2018-2019

from your Parish Safeguarding Officer Jan Hickman

What a year it has been!

Finally I can report that nearly all our congregation that came into contact with other members of our congregation (public facing roles) through being a sides-person to serving coffee to being a flower arranger to being one of our ministry team and all those in between has completed at least CO training whether it be face to face or on-line. A total of 57 of us did this training.

Well done and thank you.

It has not been easy for me as I have to report I have not liked some of the criticism directed my way but I know it is the right thing for the Church of England to achieve and I am guided by the House of Bishops that have stated "The Bishops' council agreed to make CO training a diocesan requirement.". Hot off the press at the March 2019 at the Diocesan Synod it was reported that 38 voluntary trainers undertook to teach CO training, this year 425 EXTRA people registered and obtained DBS status and that Safeguarding investigation and referrals numbering 113 were made.

As Parish Safeguarding Officer I have had to implement these changes and know more are on the way. Again I say " Please do not shoot the messenger".

Messy Church and Children`s Activities Report

We have a core base of families who regularly attend Messy Church, and there are often between 40 and 50 attendees. New families come via recommendations from friends and some who hear about Messy Church from Andrew and the Ministry team when discussing christening arrangements. Banners are displayed outside both St John`s and St Ed`s with the next session`s dates

Children attend from across the whole town (and beyond) and from various schools. During Messy Church sessions we follow the biblical theme of the month, guided by the official Messy Church publication.

As children arrive between 3.30 and 4.00pm we often start the session with a treasure hunt style game based upon that session`s theme, which the children enjoy. The parents/grandparents/carers join in as well and this is a fantastic way to get those new to St John`s to explore the church.

We introduce the biblical theme with a short reading or story followed by craft activities, which are set up in the main church based on the theme, allowing for the varying skills of the broad age range.

We draw together the activities and biblical story in the Lady Chapel where we hold the “Celebration story” before we all eat a shared meal together in the Meeting Room. There is a donations box at the back of church and the families give what they can towards the Messy Church session.

Not every family is available to attend church on a Sunday due to work or other commitments. A mid week Church session serves some families` needs well in bringing them together as part of the family we have at St John`s and St Edmunds.

The 2018 October Half Term Holiday club was a great success and we had over 25 school aged children attend across the week. The children enjoyed a wide variety of activities, following one of Scripture Union`s Holiday club publications, “Landlubbers” which had a pirate theme. There were lots of positive comments from the children at the end of the week.. some wishing that the event had been for whole days, rather than just the mornings.

We have re-introduced a monthly Sunday School session: Messy Sunday, following the Messy Church theme. We start off in the church for the beginning of the service then Penny and Sharon hold the session in the Meeting Room, following the gospel for the day, using prayer, a story and a craft activities. There are a few regular attendees who enjoy the sessions. We return back to church in time for Communion or a blessing.

The Crib Service “DIY Nativity” was well attended, it proves to be a popular event with children bringing friends and family along to watch. They all did a fantastic job on Christmas Eve.

Thank you so much to everybody who helps support Messy Church and young people`s events, they couldn`t happen without you! We are always grateful for volunteers, so if you would like to come along and help, even if you can`t stay for the whole session, please let one of the Messy Church leaders know.

Sharon, Andrew, Penny and Philip

St. John the Baptist Church Felixstowe

Servers report 2019

We have recently welcomed two new recruits to our team of servers at the 10am Eucharist, Leslie-Anne and Kate, giving us a total of 8 servers. Steve Kemp has been unable to serve during the latter part of this last year, due to his ongoing health problems. We look forward to welcoming him back when he is fully recovered. The 8am service continues to be covered by our loyal team of three, Alan, Bill and John.

If you have served in other churches you will be very welcome to join our team. If you have no experience of serving, then full training will be available for anyone who is prepared to make the commitment.

If you need any further information, please speak to myself at 8am, Sue at 10am or any of the Worship Team.

John Cardy (Sacristan).

Choir Report

I want to open this report by thanking all the choir for their dedication and reliability, and this despite personal and family health problems. When singers are needed for special occasions such as a funeral, a wedding, a service at St Edmunds, or one of the evening services such as Ash Wednesday, choir members give unstintingly of their time.

It has been a sad year for us with the death of Bob Bingham. Bob had a distinguished career as a chorister including singing as a lay clerk at St Bartholomew the Great, for the Cathedral choir at Bury St Edmunds, and for St. Mary le Tower, so we were very fortunate when the Bingham family moved to Felixstowe and joined the choir. Bob sang tenor or bass as needed, and shared with us, in his quiet fashion, his vast knowledge and love of music. I suspect he was welcomed at the Pearly Gates with a very special harp.

Our two young sopranos, Janelle and Annalie, have completed their first year with the choir and were confirmed in St John's in June, making it a very special service for all of us. It is lovely to have some younger voices singing with us.

Our thanks to Paul Bloomfield, Sue Farthing, Tracey Tipple and Philip Young who joined us for the Carol Service, for Angela Bryant who helped us at Midnight and Barbara Durrance who played the piano on Christmas morning.

I know that all the choir join me in our appreciation of Jeremy's skills, for a simple hymn played quietly during communion, or the 'last verses' of rousing hymns, when he uses the full power of the organ to raise our spirits from the mundane to the glorious.

St John's Mothers' Union Group Report 2018 (for AGM)

Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month throughout the year (excluding August) in the church meeting room at 7.30pm.

There are currently 18 members and visitors are always welcome at any meeting.

In January 2018 we began the year with the traditional mini- auction with a good selection of donated items and gifts raising monies for MU designated charities.

Other subjects at meetings were reflections and readings from the Iona Community for Lent, and a very interesting talk about the former St Audry's Workhouse and Hospital at Melton, Woodbridge. 'Weddings' was the topic at the June meeting followed by a fish and chip Supper in July at 'The Hut' on the promenade.

Other subjects included 'Baptism and Godparenting', an Advent themed evening with a Quiz, the journey to ordination of a priest, and teaching at the Kagera Christian Training College in NW Tanzania.

In addition to the monthly meetings Colneys Deanery MU held a Deanery Festival Service for the 7 Deanery branches at St Michael's Martlesham Heath in May, and we are invited to special events hosted by other local MU groups such as Quiet Days, Healing Services, and the annual MU holiday to the national conference.

We support Diocesan MU initiatives such as items for the Women's Refuge, knitted hats for Seafarers, and filling shoeboxes for Blythswood Christian Care's Christmas Appeal.

Gillian Berry
Secretary
St Johns MU Group

ST EDMUND'S GROUP REPORT FOR AGM

Members of the St Edmund's Group continue to enjoy a variety of activities and speakers at the monthly meetings – mostly in the comfort of the welcoming lounge at Mays Court, in Garrison Lane.

In September we had a most interesting talk by Richard Moffat (from 'Poor Richard's Bookshop') when he spoke to us about some of the old established buildings, residents, and memorable events in the town during past decades. The historical atmosphere was enhanced that day because it was the 100th birthday celebration for Kathy Eustace. Congratulations to her indeed.

We have had travel video shows about Uzbekistan, and closer to home about visiting the Scilly Isles. Speakers from the RNLI and the Town Pastors have proved very interesting, and we have been able to make donations towards the work of these hardworking charities. In the near future we look forward to hearing from the Chaplain for the Seafarers at the Port. Hats are still being knitted for the store that is kept at the Seafarers Centre for the hundreds of sailors who visit the docks in the colossal ships each week. We also sent a donation to the 'Embrace' charity to provide two individual 'loos' to help establish more hygienic conditions for some families in the poverty stricken Middle East.

Within the group we are glad to report that the two injured members, Pam and Edith, who have had to 'hobble about' due to leg and ankle injuries recently, are both on the mend and able to attend the meetings regularly now. We have been pleased to welcome three new members to the group this season and a warm welcome is extended to anyone who is interested in joining our informal gatherings at Mays Court on Tuesday afternoon.

Angela Bryant March 2019

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

On the musical side we have enjoyed an Organ Recital and concerts in aid of St Elizabeth Hospice, the Bach Choir, Last Night of the Proms and the Dorian Singers.

Coffee mornings for Christian Aid, Sea Cadets and Fairtrade raised large sums of money for their respective charities.

In June we celebrated Penny's Ordination with a tasty lunch in Church and had a delicious lunch on the Vicarage lawn on a sunny Saturday in July.

The annual Civic service in June was also followed by lunch in Church.

Our annual Victorian Christmas Market in December raised an amazing £2,300 and 42 members enjoyed a delicious annual Parish lunch at the Brook Hotel in February. This was followed by beautiful singing from the young Felixstowe Children's Choir.

Vicki Westren
March 2019.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF St. JOHN THE BAPTIST WITH St. EDMUND, FELIXSTOWE
Registered Charity no. 1,135,596

St. John's Flower Team report for the 2019 A. P. C. M.

Many thanks to small team of arrangers who make the church beautiful for our services during the year. There are only a few of us and would welcome new volunteers to join the team. The rota is arranged to meet your own circumstances, so you will only be asked to arrange flowers as and when it suits you. I have a modest Parish Flower fund, which is available to buy flowers (see below).

Flower room (North porch) Please may I remind everyone that the north porch is a designated emergency exit, not to leave old arrangements and other bits and pieces in the room, and to remove any finished displays out of the building and wherever possible re-recycle materials.

Thank you,

Jenny Holland
19th March 2019

St. John's Flower Fund Accounts for the Year ended 31st December 2018

RECEIPTS			PAYMENTS		
Date	Details	Amount	Date	Details	Amount
19 th April	Easter Lilies	£265.00	17 th April	Easter Lilies etc.	£436.29
19 th April	Coffee money	£245.00	24 th Nov.	Judy Saberton	£35.37
	Total	£510.00		Total	£471.66
				Excess receipts over payments	£38.34
		£510.00			£510.00

Represented in NatWest St John's Church Flower Fund Account by -

Opening balance 1/1/2018	£787.05
Excess receipts over payments	£38.34
Closing balance 31/12/2016	£825.39

Felixstowe CAP (Christians Against Poverty) Debt Counselling Centre news



We have been operating for just over a year and it's been a rewarding and a challenging time for us.

Fourteen people, struggling with debt, have asked for help. Seven have committed to follow the budget prepared for them and are now on the path to becoming debt free, another of our clients has already become debt free.

We ran the CAP Money course for 500 students in years 7 and 8 at Felixstowe Academy and 25 people attended our adult courses. The course teaches people a simple system for budgeting and managing their money. One attendee said 'After coming on the 3 sessions it was obvious I needed to increase my income. You gave me the push I needed to go and get a job and not to just rely on benefits. I now have more respect for myself and I am saving for a holiday.'

We are keen to have communities/groups host the course, if you would like to know more about hosting or attending a course please contact Mike – details below.

To celebrate all we have done we are having a thanksgiving and teaching weekend on the 27th and 28th April 2019 at Trinity Methodist Church Felixstowe. The speaker is Dr Gareth Jones who for over 25 years has been involved in leading and managing social projects in the private, public, and charitable sectors.

Saturday 27th April From 10:00 through to 12:30 teaching on ***Church connecting with community***. In the afternoon, from 1:30 to 3:30pm, there will be an opportunity to meet Gareth and share questions, ideas, and thoughts about the direction of community projects in which you're involved.

Sunday 28th April 3:00pm Celebration and Thanksgiving Service. Gareth will speak on how poverty affects and wounds people and how the church can be a source of restoration and healing.

Please contact Mike Peck to reserve your place for the Saturday morning sessions and/or to register your interest in attending the Saturday afternoon session.

All are welcome to any of these events.

Email: michaelpeck238@gmail.com Tel: 01394 279187

Post: 11 Looe Road, Felixstowe, IP11 9QB

If you are worried about debt and need help please contact 0800 328 0006.

Kath George
PCC (St John's contact for CAP)
March 2019