

All Saints' Church Curry Mallet – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31st December 2019

Administrative Information

All Saints' Church is situated in Curry Mallet, Somerset. It is part of the Diocese of Bath and Wells within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Rectory, Station Road, Hatch Beauchamp TA3 6AB.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

PCC Members who have served from 19 April 2019 until the date this report is approved are:

Incumbent: Vacancy since 31 October 2018

Associate Minister: The Revd Christabel Ager

Associate Minister: The Revd Stephen Jones

Warden: Mr Michael Bawler

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| Elected Members: | Mr Lionel Frazer | Chair |
| | Mr Mike Ive | Secretary retired due to Illness |
| | Mrs Marianne Townrow | Treasurer |
| | Mrs Lizzie Frazer | |
| | Mrs Sally Down | |
| | Mr Mike Pettitt | |
| | Mrs Angela Pettitt | |
| | Mr Justin Adams | |
| | Mr Neil Crafter | |

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The church holds its account at Lloyds, Taunton. Peter Hounsell, Hatch Beauchamp, is the Independent Examiner.

Objectives and activities

All Saints' PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the Ministry team during the interregnum, in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church. It also has the maintenance responsibilities for the church-building in Curry Mallet, Somerset.

Achievements and Performance

The Church electoral Roll is renewed every 6 years and in April 2019 parishioners were asked to sign up onto the new Roll and we now have 25. Attendance at Holy Communion services on the first Sunday of the month continues to average 18, this number often includes worshippers who come from outside the parish. The Worship 4 All service on the second Sunday was suspended in August due to a decline in attendance over the previous months,

especially children, and the sudden illness of Mike Ive leading to the team not being able to commit to leading the service every month. This will be reviewed when we get a new Rector.

Review of the year

In January a joint Benefice wide PCC Section 11 meeting was held at Hatch Beauchamp village hall to discuss matters arising regarding the vacancy. Curry Mallet PCC attended and was minuted. The full PCC met four times during the year, and many thanks to John and Sally Down for inviting us to use their home at Manor Farm as the venue for the meetings. Tim Frazer continues as chairman of the PCC during the vacancy. There were no applications for Rector after the post was advertised, the ministry team have worked very hard to cover the service pattern in the Benefice and are doing an excellent job. The position of Rector was re advertised at the end of the year and we are praying for a new Rector in 2020.

Festival services, Plough Sunday, Easter Sunday, Harvest festival were well attended. The School community Carol service was affected by the weather this year, with people unable to get through floods in the surrounding area. Never the less those able to attend with some of the school children gave us a good carol service. There were no Christmas services this year but services were held nearby. A Christmas service will return to Curry Mallet in 2020. A thankyou to all who provide altar-flowers and decorate the church with flowers and decorations for the festivals, and to the School who also bring art work to the services they hold in the Church.

The Church building was used during the year for a thanksgiving service for the life of Maurice Adams. A packed Church heard tributes from family and farming friends.

Giles Adams has decided to retire from playing the organ at the monthly services, but will continue to play at festivals and weddings and funerals if needed. The PCC are extremely grateful for his association with the Church for over 40 years.

Curry Mallet Bell-Ringers continue to struggle for ringers, but continue to be supported by Beercrocombe ringers to have the bells ringing for services.

Fund-raising from a spring plant-sale and a variety-show at the village hall were both successful. We thank those involved for all the hard work that went into these initiatives. As in previous years, as part of our service to the wider community, the PCC supported charities outside of the immediate church-community – further information in the financial review.

A spring and autumn clean was organised inside and outside the Church, many thanks to all who helped.

The Curry Mallet home group continue to meet once a week, usually at the home of Tim and Lizzie Frazer.

This report focuses on what the PCC has been doing over the year and the particular issues it has sought to address. There was of course much more happening in the life of the church that is not covered here, and the PCC acknowledges all that is done by people to help strengthen the Christian community in the parish.

M Bawler March 2020.

Financial Review

Total receipts to general unrestricted funds were £15,888 with £6,800 from Gift Aid and £1,632 from voluntary donations which, once again, included a generous donation from the Duke of Cornwall's Benevolent Fund. A further £2,007 was raised from tax refund on Gift Aid giving. Through the work of the Magazine Committee and the magazine distributors, £792 was received as the parish's allocation of the magazine surplus, which is distributed among the seven parishes in the Benefice. A Variety Show netted £327 and a bequest of £700 was received from the estate of the late Miss du Cros (sister of Primrose Mallet Harris). A Listed Places of Worship Grant of £287, equal to the VAT payments on repairs to existing timber flooring at the rear of the nave, exterior repointing, and repair work identified during the Quinquennial Survey & the annual maintenance and inspection of fire extinguishers was received.

£18,555 was spent from unrestricted funds to provide the Christian ministry from All Saints' Church. This included the contribution of £9,232 for the Parish Share payable to the Bath and Wells Diocesan Board of Finance. A discount of 1.25% was given as the Parish Share was paid in full by 17th January saving £117. The Parish Share largely provides the stipends and housing for the clergy. The overall sum that the parishes within the deanery have to find is shared between them according to a formula that is based on membership.

Payments were made to 4 charities – the Varanasi Welfare Foundation (£400), The Farming Community Network (£250), the DEC Cyclone Idai Appeal (£250) and Sightsavers (£100).

A payment of £3,670 was made for the repair to a section of the churchyard wall which collapsed. This was offset with receipt of £3,000 from Cornish Mutual, the damage being caused by cattle from the adjacent farm.

Ecclesiastical Insurance required the PCC to monitor cracks in some interior church walls. Glynwoods was employed to fit monitoring discs to these cracks (£340).

Work continued in mapping and identifying, where possible, all individual graves in the churchyard. Smooth Pixels took aerial photographs (£150).

The net result for the year was a deficit of receipts over payments of £2,667 on unrestricted funds. Adding bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balances carried forward at 31st December on unrestricted funds totalled £17,588.

Total receipts to the Fabric Fund were £2,851 which included a donation of £1,500, together with a tax refund of £375 on Gift Aid and £973 from fund raising (plant sale). The account balance at 31st December totalled £7,623.

Reserves Policy

To date the PCC has had no formal policy for reserves. For several years the balance on unrestricted funds has equalled approximately 12 months of unrestricted payments.

Fund balances are invested with Lloyds Bank.

M H Townrow, 26th January 2020.