

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH STOURPAINE ANNUAL REPORT 2018



The Holy Trinity Parochial Church Council(PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Belinda Marflitt, in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

PCC Membership – in Accordance with Church Representation Rules

Ex Officio members:

The Reverend Belinda Marflitt
Mrs Frances Bromley
Mr Christopher Brown
Mr Michael Warren
Mrs Jean Whittle

Rector, Priest in Charge & Chairman
Warden
Warden & Vice Chairman
Secretary & Deanery Synod Representative
Deanery Synod Representative

Members elected at the April 2017, or earlier, Annual Parochial Church Meeting(APCM):

Mrs Francine Rough
Mrs Jean Palmer
Ms Judith Jakes

Mr Carl Wyeth
Mrs Sue Atkinson

Members elected at the April 2018 APCM:

Mrs Caroline MacKay – Treasurer

Mr Alec Thomas

Committees

General:

The PCC meets at least four times each year and from time to time appoints working groups to perform specific tasks. Between meetings it operates, if necessary, through its nominated Standing Committee. Parish representatives to the Deanery Synod attend three meetings of the Synod. Here, subjects of more general nature are discussed and matters of concern to the PCC can be aired in a wide forum. If necessary these are brought to the attention of Diocesan Synod.

Standing Committee:

This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any direction given by the PCC itself. Members are: the Incumbent, the two Church Wardens, the Treasurer and PCC Secretary.

Church Attendance and Electoral Roll

The number of parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll in December 2018 was 53. Sunday attendance is often in the mid to high 20s for Sung Eucharist and Family services but lower for evensong. The number is much higher at festivals and for the 5th Sunday in the month Benefice services when held in Holy Trinity, Stourpaine.

Review of the Year

PCC Meetings and Membership. The full PCC met 4 times during the year. The APCM took place on 16th April 2018. All meetings covered the full range of subjects to do with the running of the wider church in Stourpaine. A Fabric committee was formed, headed by Christopher Brown, to address all matters to do with the church building and its infrastructure as well as building projects. The Committee includes non-PCC members. A fundraising committee was also formed, headed by Jean Palmer. Fran Bromley was appointed as Benefice Administrator with Stourpaine acting as the employing Parish and Caro MacKay acting as Treasurer for Benefice matters. The PCC has adopted measures to conform to the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulations, an up to date Policy Statement with regard to Safeguarding has been issued and a Health and Safety policy is being worked up together with associated Risk Assessments.

Capital Work. The DAC visited (Feb 18) and recommended that the WC should be best located in the organ loft. Planning continues towards installing a small servery and kitchen as well as the WC along the lines of the DAC recommendations. Following earlier work there has been some reduction in dampness in the church. We hope to make some storm drain and roof repairs for further improvements. During the year the archway was completed together with painting of the southern part of the church doors and rainware. There was some trimming of trees and shrubs in the churchyard.

Services and Mission. At Easter a Contemplative Hour at The Cross took place on Good Friday and the now traditional Easter Eve service – with bonfire - was held. The Benefice Pentecost service was held in Holy Trinity. The last Benefice service of the year, Holy Communion, was celebrated in Holy Trinity on 30th December. Holy Communion is held in Holy Trinity on Wednesdays. A thought provoking display of white doves was placed in the nave to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the end of the First World War. Midnight Mass was celebrated in Holy Trinity on Christmas Eve with a good turnout from Stourpaine and Durweston. Morning service on Christmas Day was also a great success. The PCC agreed to support Breakfast worship, to be held in Stourpaine Village Hall for the first time in March 2019. Similarly the PCC agreed to support the Open The Book initiative for the Benefice schools

Music. Alison Davies, our organist, in addition to playing – or finding a substitute – for services, continued to be active in encouraging people to sing in a Benefice Choir for Benefice services in particular at Easter, Pentecost and carol services in December.

Durweston Church of England, Voluntary Aided Primary School. The school continued to make good progress as measured against the OFSTED gauge. Mrs Nicola Brook, who had been acting as Head Teacher, has been appointed as full time Head.

Children's Work. The Children's Services on the second Sunday of the month continue to be vibrant although the number of children is not always very high. The Holy Trinity Babies and Toddler Group which runs every Monday during term time, remains immensely popular with Stourpaine residents taking preference over those coming from the surrounding villages and Blandford. The Friday Club which runs every Friday during term time has seen some exciting sessions. Like the Babes and Toddlers group, the popularity of the Friday Club has attracted members from outside of the village. A wide range of activities provides much interest and satisfaction to those taking part. In summary Children's work in the Parish continues to thrive with the help of hardworking volunteers.

Bell Ringing. Most services are preceded by ringing. Wonderfully, 4 learners started lessons in the Holy Trinity tower at the end of the year. Their target is to be in a position to ring for services by Easter 2019. Visiting bands of ringers are always very welcome and always enjoy their experience in the tower.

Deanery Synod.

In June, the PCC was invited, along with all PCCs from parishes in the benefices surrounding Blandford, to consider the best way forward with regard to incorporating changes in pastoral organisation prompted by reduction in available ordained priests. A Team Ministry based on Blandford was one option. Holy Trinity PCC recognised the need to accept change where change was necessary but wished to be made more aware of the details of the proposed models for change before opting for a particular ministry model.

Financial Review.

The Spring Plant Sale remains the most successful fundraising event of the year but circumstances meant that the overall takings for the April 2018 event were down on previous years. Additional fundraising activities did not manage to offset the considerable increase of the parish share and income has not met expenditure this year, albeit by a small amount. This is despite the parish having an income derived from the Clerk's Acre investment account.

The parish has met its full Diocesan Share for 2018 but is less certain of being able to do so in the future if the proposed further share increase comes to fruition.

Approved by the PCC on 14 Jan 2018 and signed on its behalf by Michael Warren, Secretary to the PCC

April 2019