



St. Peter's  
F I L T O N

*Serving God by serving you, your family and the community*

**ANNUAL TRUSTEES' REPORT  
AND ACCOUNTS**

**31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2018**

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# **St Peter's Church, Filton**

## **Annual Trustees' Report and Accounts**

### **31<sup>st</sup> December 2018**

As charity trustees, the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Peter's Church Filton has pleasure in presenting the annual report and accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018. This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 2005.

**Reference and Administrative Details of the Charity, its Trustees and Advisors**  
**Registered number 1131957**

**Parish Name:** Filton

**Address:** St Peter's Church  
Gloucester Road North  
Filton  
Bristol  
BS34 7BQ

#### **Trustees (Parochial Church Council Members)**

Revd Elizabeth L. A. Gregory (Chair)	Linda Keeble (Secretary)
Claire Eade (Treasurer)	Lindon Wooster (Church Warden)
John Chapman (Church Warden)	Amy Atkinson (Deputy Church Warden)
Louise Lyddon (Deanery Synod)	Judy Gore (Deanery Synod)
Anne Duke	Linda Rawlings
Angela Thompson	Alan Williams
Chris Leslie	Jenny Connor
Anne Williams	Rachel Williamson
Tom Leslie	Alison Chapman
Connie Shiridzinomwa	

**Independent Financial Examiner:**  
**Bankers:**  
**Child Protection Officer:**  
**Church Architect:**

Mrs Louise Russell  
The Co-operative Bank  
Anne Duke  
Steve Davis

## **Structure, Governance and Management of St Peter's Church, Filton**

Management of the parish is performed by the Rector with the assistance of a number of parishioners who form the Parochial Church Council (PCC). All governance, management, procedures and policies are maintained in accordance with the standard Church of England practice.

### **Appointment of PCC members**

PCC members are elected for a term of three years at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Candidates for election must be members of the church who following a conversation with the Rector and/or PCC Secretary (regarding the roles and responsibilities of such a position) have been duly proposed and seconded by members of the church, who are themselves registered on the electoral role.

At the end of three years, PCC members may choose to be re-elected for a further term of three years, after which they must step down. PCC members who have served for six years are not eligible for re-election for a period of not less than 12 months.

The Rector is a permanent member of the PCC.

The PCC Secretary and Treasurer are elected by the PCC.

Members of the congregation who have been elected to represent St Peter's at the Deanery Synod are also members of the PCC.

### **Organisation of the PCC**

The Rector takes the role of PCC Chairperson.

The PCC hold a minimum of four full meetings each year.

In addition to the full PCC there are a number of sub-committees with the objective of making recommendations on specific aspects of church life. These sub-committees are made up from members of the PCC, meet as required, and are:

- **Standing Committee** – covers general management and consists of the Rector, Churchwardens, PCC Secretary and Treasurer.
- **Finance, General Purposes** – oversees finance and general issues of the Church and Church Hall and is chaired by the Rector or another member of the Subcommittee. Membership includes the treasurer, churchwarden and others.
- **Mission, Ministry & Youth** – oversees mission, education and worship and is chaired by Rector or another member of the subcommittee. Membership includes the Rector, a churchwarden and others. The Youth Council feed into this subcommittee.

**St Peter's Church Filton, Objectives and Activities**  
*To serve God by serving you, your family and the community*

Our mission is to serve God in the community of Filton by proclaiming the Christian faith in Filton and to worship God: the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We aim to draw all people to the love and fellowship of the Christian faith by teaching, sustaining and nurturing the worshipping community, and by outreaching beyond the parish into the wider world. The factors we consider critical to the success of the strategy are: prayer; worship for all stages of spiritual development; pastoral care; nurturing vocations and encouraging lay ministry, being the spiritual hub of the community; using publicity and providing an organisational structure which will support these aims; and managing our resources effectively.

Within the context of daily life of the parish, personal prayer is heavily emphasised and this is enhanced by: regular teaching and practice; prayer and meditation; recitation of Daily Offices by the clergy, and open to all; and additional reflective worship during Advent and Lent, all of which enhances our spiritual journey.

Our worship is based on the Eucharist in which all are called to participate. We try to be liturgically innovative and spiritually challenging. We aim at musical excellence and try to involve our young people in worship as much as possible. In addition, in recent years we have identified particular times when a special service is appropriate, for example: Bereavement services; St. Francis' Day; Christingle Service; Animal Blessing Service; Washing of Feet Service. In addition to the traditional Common Worship services, we also provide a range of more meditative and contemplative services such as Taizé, Healing, Benediction and seasonally appropriate alternatives.

Pastoral care is a commitment shared by all members of the Christian community. The Rector is assisted in this by the Pastoral Care Team, made up of trained volunteers. Much visiting is done within the community, especially at times of crisis or special need.

The church aims to be the Spiritual Hub of the Community. We are actively involved in touching the lives of people of all ages and conditions in life, both in religious and non religious contexts. We do not seek to place barriers in people's way, aim to be accessible and approachable to all and hope to encourage people to undertake their own spiritual journey.

The church is carefully organised and run by its PCC with day to day control in the hands of the Standing Committee. There are many aspects of church life that this report emphasises, and we publish our work through the weekly pew sheets, our web site, our social media presence, and through the wider press.

It is the parish's policy to prioritise our payment of parish share, to maintain the church structures in as best a state of repair as we can, to further our presence in the Community to support external charities as need directs, and to make a commitment to the work of the Children's Society and Christian Aid.

**Reality of Strategy to date:** This strategy has resulted in St Peter's Church enjoying a strong congregation with well-nourished souls. Our Lord calls us to be planters and sowers, not merely gatherers, and this process takes time.

## Reports

### Rector's Report – Revd Elizabeth L. A. Gregory

2018 has been an encouraging year of steady growth and nurture. Initiatives that were started in previous years have continued to solidify their foundations and new structures that were put in place with regards to the governance of the church are coming to fruition. The culture at St Peter's continues to encourage lay involvement in various areas and this has continued to grow this year.

A summary of the year cannot be done without mentioning the sad death of Revd Canon Elspeth Desmond in July. A wonderful celebration of her life was held at the church she loved so much, and in her final days she was able to plan every detail of that service. As a church, her legacy will live on particularly in the Coffee Shop, and her pastoral care towards so many of us. It was extra special to continue another of her legacies as the church embarked on its sixth pilgrimage to Lourdes, in August, started by her over ten years ago.

The Lourdes pilgrimage was a great success, with many pilgrims coming for the first time. It was a time of spiritual growth, nurture and healing, and a wonderful opportunity to come before God as members of the same church family in this holy place. We look forward to another pilgrimage in 2020.

One of the highlights of 2018 has been a continuation of our provisions for the community, reaching out in Jesus' name. In June, we saw the launch of the Listening Ear Project, attended by local businesses, local Councillors, and charitable organisations. This has been available every weekday, staffed by committed volunteers, providing a safe space and referral service for people in any kind of need. 2019 will see up to a further 12 volunteers trained with the hope of extending the times of availability.

Throughout 2018 the PCC have been focusing on issues involving sustainability and planning for the future, ensuring an effective, thriving church presence is maintained. Part of this has been to look in depth at our existing Vision Statement and to update it, ensuring its relevance for today and the years ahead. This project has been underway throughout 2018 and will be published on St Peter's Day 2019.

We have continued to be a church that looks outward, carrying on our support of various charities. It is always nice to welcome speakers into church to hear the difference our contributions can make. Fundraising for both charities and the church has continued to go well. We had an excellent Christmas Fayre this year, which raised a record amount and was a wonderful event for all those involved. Our fish and chip supper was an opportunity for us as a church family to come together in fellowship with one another.

The links established in previous years with Southern Brooks and the Patchway, Filton and Bradley Stoke Hate Crime Committee have carried on and remain an important part of our role in tackling social injustice and supporting the most vulnerable in our community. With the continued cutbacks in Government social provision, I have been increasingly involved alongside Social Services to provide care for vulnerable individuals.

2018 saw a further two Ordinands on placement at St Peter's for the third year in a row. Our links with Trinity College continue and it is a pleasure to act as a training parish for those hoping to be ordained.

Our Lent and Advent courses provided an opportunity to deepen our faith and this has been supplemented by the lay-led course *Build on Your Christian Faith*, which has been well received. To further the teaching of the church, sermons are now published online and an informal discussion group – St Peter's in the Pub – has been set up and meets monthly out in the community. We have

tried to ensure we remain visible in the community through local publications, an overhaul of our website, and the continued use of social media.

The church has been well used for baptisms and weddings throughout 2018, and feedback from couples reflects the welcoming environment that we strive to achieve.

With the launch of our new Vision Statement in 2019, I look forward to what the Holy Spirit will do in this place. As a church and as individuals, I would ask that you continue to listen for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in your life and consider where your own discipleship will take you over the coming 12 months.

Thank you for all your help and support throughout this year.

With every blessing, Revd Lizzie.

### **Churchwardens' Report – Lindon Wooster and John Chapman**

This year has been a fairly quiet one with regard to the fabric of our Church buildings. The annual gas boiler service and safety check were carried out, but after 37 years of faithful service the effectiveness is reducing and it is time to consider how we replace our heating system.

The fire extinguishers and the organ have been serviced.

We are experiencing dampness/humidity issues in the Choir Vestry, and a more powerful dehumidifier has been obtained. The plaster beneath the window will be replaced.

The Council continue to cut the grass around our Church and Pete Golledge continues doing a great job of keeping the churchyard well maintained.

The usual health and safety audits were conducted during the year. Paul Oxley, (stonemason), clears and checks the gutters and downpipes.

The Church Hall requires some redecorating, including replacing loose plaster on the wall of the stage and cleaning of the light diffusers. The toilets have been repaired with new cisterns, and washers have been replaced in the ladies toilets. Replacement cartridges have been fitted to the gents urinals.

The Church Hall is well used with additional regular bookings. Unfortunately Willowbank Care have moved away due to difficulty in parking when the coffee shop is open.

Volunteers helped to deep clean our coffee shop which made a huge difference to the cleanliness of the St George's room, especially when the roof space cobwebs were dusted away.

Please note that volunteers with skills are always welcome and sheets are at the back of the Church to offer support.

### **Choir, including Autumn Leaves – Director of Music / Organist Viv Wilkinson**

**Objectives:** To enhance the worship in the Service in a thoughtful and prayerful way through music. To offer a wide variety of styles and spiritual music to touch hearts and souls.

**Activities:** Singing for services, especially the major services in the year. Singing for weddings and funerals when required. Fund raising through concerts and entertainment evenings, for church funds and charities.

Singing at the Diocesan Festival has been enjoyable and rewarding and it's hoped to continue to take part in the RSCM festival at Bristol Cathedral in November.

We have several singers now who join us for special services, and we continue to keep in touch with our past members who occasionally join us still.

Autumn Leaves monthly Saturday morning singalong continues to grow in strength and fellowship, and attracts all ages.

The new hymn books appear successful.

**Plans:** Encourage new members to join, recruiting 'seasonal' and 'offpeak' singers and encourage young people to sing in the church. Continue to nurture our pastoral care within the choir.

**Practice:** In the church every Friday evening 7-8.30pm. New members are welcome.

### **St Peter's Sunday Club – Youth Leader Debs Williams**

**Meeting Time:** Sunday Mornings during Service.

2018 presented another challenging year for the Sunday Club. Numbers continued to be low but we have enjoyed our time together. We attempted to trail some 'St Peter's Party' events to encourage new members but it didn't appear to be the right time. As we move into 2019, we are seeing a slight growth in number and are trying to ensure that we provide 'quality' opportunities to link the lectionary in craft. We have planned some exciting exploration of bible stories such as making kaleidoscopes and games. The Sunday Club are absolutely indebted to June Watkins who, every Sunday, makes every child in the cafe feel special, listened to and valued. Thank you June, and thank you to all other helpers and folks who pop in to share the peace with us during services.

### **Bell Ringers – Tower Captain David Haslum**

The highlight of the year was having twelve Filton ringers to ring the bells half muffled commemorating the end of the First World War after the Remembrance Sunday Eucharist. Details were entered on the National Armistice website and Filton was shown as a flag on the map of the UK. The tower received a certificate for this event. In the afternoon a quarter peal of 1260 Grandsire Doubles was rung in remembrance before Evensong. Earlier that week a quarter peal of 1260 Grandsire Doubles was rung by past and present members of the Bristol aerospace industry for a Service held in the Remembrance Garden outside Old Filton House.



Other quarter peals were rung by two visiting bands as well as three by Filton ringers.

Although not everyone has been able to attend all the time, we have managed to keep the bells ringing for the Sunday morning Eucharist and I am pleased to say that I am now regularly ringing for that following my recent operation.

There are usually sufficient people to ring at practice evenings and we continue to welcome visiting learners and ringers from other towers both at practice and on Sundays supporting them to develop their own method ringing as they support us.

### **Pastoral Care Team – Louise Lyddon**

St Peter's Church is committed to providing a high standard of pastoral care to:

- the worshipping community.
- those who are engaged in occasional offices (ie weddings, baptisms and funerals);
- users of the Coffee Shop and visitors;
- church volunteers and workers;
- and the wider community in the Parish of Filton.

As a member of the Pastoral Care team, we are acting as a representative of St Peter's Church, Filton and will be responsible for administering pastoral care to the above.

Under the guidance and supervision of the Rector, the pastoral care offered may take the form of:

- visit to the person's home
- visit with the individual in a neutral space
- telephone call
- hospital visit
- home Communion
- keeping a caring eye on that person's attendance at church / in the coffee shop.

We are a small team and meet about every 6-8 weeks to raise any questions, discuss any concerns and speak in confidence about those we have visited.

We can always be contacted via our Rector, Administrator or Church wardens.

Pastoral Care Team (PCT): Alison Chapman, John Chapman, Claire Eade, Louise Lyddon, & Lindon Wooster

### **Mothers' Union – Branch Leader Rachel Williamson**

Branch Leader: Rachel Williamson 07718 089474

Mothers Union lead theme for 2018: **In the Footsteps of Mary Sumner**

St. Peters Filton branch of Mother's Union continues to be part of the Bristol West Deanery of the Diocese. We are fortunate enough to have our Deanery Leader, Linda Rawlings as both a member of our church congregation and our MU branch. She is Secretary of the branch alongside Caroline

White as treasurer. The remainder of the committee is made up of Daphne Clutterbuck, Louise Lyddon, Beth Davidge and me. As a committee we meet bi-monthly. As a branch we meet every month on the second Thursday, 2pm in the afternoon. Our up to date programme can be found at the back of the church on the MU notice board. It is also in the hall on our board too.

Mary Sumner was the founder of MU and all that it stands for and achieves.

With the 2018 theme in mind Linda Rawlings has been very proactive in keeping us up to date with all new thinking coming out of Mary Sumner House and she and I have been involved in thinking of ways to bring MU into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. We are hoping that 2018/19 may bring some male members to the group as well as younger members.

This last year we had a good and varied programme, which is sometimes a challenge due to the average age of our membership. A good time is had at all meetings and prayerfulness and fellowship always are at the heart of our meetings and activities. However, the MU ladies are an excellent group who, when faced with adversity or challenge, all pull together to 'get the job done'. Highlights have included a Summer tea party; some Deanery celebrations for Mary Sumner Day and Advent; our October service in church when we pulled together as a branch to increase awareness of our work; an amazing craft stall and raffle at the Christmas Fayre and some wonderful involvement from membership prepping the items for sale.

We continue to run a monthly Bring and Buy sale, alongside our own card shop at our meetings to raise funds for MU projects. This, along with cake sales, craft tables and donations means that at the end of 2018 we are able to give approximately £250 to MU projects both within the Diocese and across the world. This is less than the previous year but continues to highlight the ongoing commitment of our branch to Christian charity work underpinned by prayer and fellowship. Our membership over the past year has experienced highs and lows with some meetings being well supported but others not so. This has been disappointing at times although I know there are valid reasons and its something that led me to the suggestion of running a service to raise the profile of MU in our church/community. A very successful outcome has become evident as a result of our October service, with us not only attracting some male members but also some younger members who will hopefully provide a nucleus for the future.

Its been a good year that has been tinged with sadness. Sheila Woods passed away peacefully at the end of the year; Jessie Lee fell and has now moved in with her daughter in Horfield. Sadly she is finding MU a little much at this time. It has been lovely however, to see other members return as they feel well enough, to welcome Diocesan members to our branch, and to have our first male member.

**The new lead theme for 2019 is LISTEN, OBSERVE, ACT – IN STEP WITH GOD**

Should you wish to know more please feel free to ask us. We should all be wearing a badge now for you to know who we are. Come along to any of our meetings. This is your open invitation. You will be made very welcome.

We are a great bunch of Christians working to the call of the Lord.

## **St Peter's Church Coffee Shop – Angela Thompson and Jean Pearce**

In 2018 the Coffee Shop celebrated a successful decade of introducing our church to the community through the Coffee Shop. At this time we remember fondly our coffee shop founder, Rev'd Elspeth Desmond, and know that she would be very proud that we have continued with her vision to open our church to the wider community through our Coffee Shop. We remember especially that Rev'd Elspeth's vision was for the Coffee Shop to be a special place of God's love and grace in our community.

Our congregation, visitors to the area, workers from local businesses, the elderly, the lonely and the most vulnerable have all enjoyed the warm and friendly atmosphere of the Coffee Shop. Throughout the year, the number of customers visiting the Coffee Shop has remained steady and constant. Our suggested donation per item has remained at £1 since opening our doors 10 years ago. This has remained the same although our day to day running expenses and the costs of opening our church on a daily basis, which include heating and lighting, has increased. During the new financial year (2019) we will look to review costs and also our suggested donation per item. Every year we have committed 10% of our takings to a charity that has been voted on by our group of volunteers. The chosen charity for 2018 is Sense, which is a charity for everyone living with complex disabilities and for everyone who is deaf blind. Sense aims to help people communicate and experience the world. The charity believes that no one, no matter how complex their disabilities, should be isolated, left out, or unable to fulfil their potential.

Our Coffee Shop facilities are used by the Listening Ear Project; the Bereavement Group; the Knitting Group; the Games Afternoon; and Tiny Tots. It has also been used for post funeral refreshments.

Underpinning the foundation of the Coffee Shop are the loyal team of coffee shop volunteers and cake makers; without them the Coffee Shop would not exist. They are all very highly valued and appreciated. We cannot thank them enough for all their hard work in making the Coffee Shop so successful and a valued asset to our community.

In 2019 we look forward to another successful year, when we will continue to provide a welcome to everyone, to come in and enjoy the happy and friendly environment that is unique to the Coffee Shop.

Finally we would like to thank all from the community who support us, and help us to continue our important work.

Thank you to all for what you do

Joint Coffee Shop Supervisors – Jean Pearce and Angela Thompson

### Open House Group – Leader Caroline White

**When:** Every Tuesday from 9.30 – 11am except Christmas Week

**Where:** St Peter's Church Hall

**Aim:** Company and friendship. Open to all ages.

We meet for tea, coffee and toast and Richard's home-made damson jam.

We meet for companionship and an antidote to loneliness. We all sit round the same table for togetherness. Over the last year we have managed two trips using 4 Towns Community Transport, one to Wells and one to Clarks Village and Street. One of our past members, Wally Froud, used to organize trips for us, until he was too poorly. It is lovely to start the trips up again in his memory. All are welcome to join us any time between 9.30 and 11am. Drop in when you are able to. You don't have to come every week, although many of our group do. Thank you to all my helpers.

### St Peter's Ladies' Group – Leader Jen Deeks

**Leaders:** Jen Deeks 0117 9041035 & Sheila Vickers 0117 9791408

**Secretaries:** Jane Curtis 0117 9699987 & Janet Porter 0117 9696958

**Meeting time:** 2nd and 4th Mondays in the month, 7.30pm

**Venue:** Church Hall

**Objectives:** To encourage friendship and companionship within the context of the Christian faith and to raise money for charities.

**2018 Activities:** We currently have 30 members from within the church community and also the wider community and have been glad to welcome new and returning members, friends and visitors to our meetings. The meetings have been varied with talks, visits, outings, social evenings and fund-raising events. Whatever we have done we have enjoyed the friendship and support of the group as a whole.

Twice a year, in September and a little before Christmas, our fellowship is celebrated in services held in the church. Revd Lizzie has led both our services, with many members contributing as well with readings and prayers.

Our programme included a talk by a former Lord Mayor of Bristol, which led to an invitation to tea at the Mansion house with the current Lord Mayor which we thoroughly enjoyed. We also joined other Deanery Ladies' Groups in a Deanery Quiz. Our group has responsibility for the Lady Chapel Flowers and we also had a stall at the Church Fayre which raised £300 for the church. We also support a different charity each year and our efforts in 2018 raised £1100 for the local hospital charity Above and Beyond.

**Plans for 2019:** We have another varied programme, including Brunel's Bristol; Faith, Feminism and Suffragettes; Medical Detection Dogs; Music in my life with Sue Weaver from Bristol Opera; The real Jane Austen; and meals out and outings. We will have a cream tea in July and a further event in August to boost the amount we raise for charity, which this year is the charity Headway.

Our programme is on the church website and evenings are highlighted in the weekly newsletter. New members and visitors are always welcome.

### **Tiny Tots – Leader Revd Elizabeth L. A. Gregory**

Tiny Tots continues to play an important role in our provision for children, especially those under the age of 5. We have a number of regular families who come together to enjoy Tiny Tots every other week. It has been wonderful to welcome Rachel Williamson (MU Leader) to support June Watkins and me in the running of the group. All baptism families are encouraged to attend and it is always lovely to see older siblings wanting to come back in the school holidays.

### **Uniformed Organisations – Leader Deb Wilkey**

Girlguiding launched a new programme in July 2017, that delivers the fun and varied range of activities that we expect from guiding, and of course, still with badges to earn. The new topics are Know Myself, Be Well, Skills for my Future, Take Action, Express Myself and Have Adventure, which will bring new skills and new ways for girls to broaden their horizons. So this a very exciting time for us as we are all starting to work on this programme.

All sections took part in the Poppy making for Remembrance Sunday in 2018.

Both Brownie units attended the County activity day at Woodhouse in July; had an activity weekend at a PGL centre; and the County sleepover at We the Curious. And with the Rainbows went on the County Santa Train at Bitton in November.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Filton Rainbows**

Since opening in September, they have worked on the Gromit Unleashed 2 challenge badge where they shared photos of the Gromit trail, made shaving foam pictures and had a rocket making evening. We made pig puppets for Chinese New Year. We had a big Promise celebration where all the Rainbows made their promise and the parents enjoyed eating cake! Trips outside of the meeting place are taking over the Zoo, Santa Special Train and watching Aladdin Panto at SGS College.

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> Filton Brownies**

The Brownies have worked on The Road Safety badge, where we had a walk around Filton singing Girlguiding songs and crossing roads safely. The Gromit Unleashed 2 challenge badge where they learnt how to draw Gromit pictures, moon walked, learnt how to speak Bristle and cheese tasting. The Brownies made poppy lanterns and bookmarks. They made up some good stories in groups, made a tent theatre and made Pig sock puppets for the Chinese New Year.

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Filton Brownies**

Have completed multiple challenge badges - unicorn, Disney, Gromit, suffragette, Night at the library badge and Mythical Creatures challenge badges.

During these badges they have made: unicorn slime, shaving foam Shauns, Moana beach party, Harry Potter and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory themed evenings, suffragette accessory making/ debates etc.

### **Guides and Rangers**

Guides and Rangers attended several camps – Gert Lush at a Scout site with other units – over 100 attending. Region boating weekend where they took part in Sailing, Raft making, Canoe, Rowing. Both units took part in a Scout and Guide monopoly run around Bristol. Orienteering at Blaise Castle, Ice Skating at the Mall at Christmas, Sponsored sleep in a box for a Bristol Homeless charity – we filled rucksacks for Christmas. Parliament week where we held debates and learnt about votes for women. Guides also attended a Science night at the University; County sleepover at We the Curious; Ready steady cook nights; games and crafts. Guides had a rowing session during Bristol open doors event .We are working on the region night in the library activity. Along with craft and cooking nights.

The Rangers took part in the County Ten pin bowling event, held a Murder Mystery night and we had a session for Digital games, along with cooking sessions. 8 Members achieved their Chief Guide award. And after a wet weekend on Dartmoor for their DofE expedition 3 have now completed their bronze level and 4 silver level.

What a year again!!! So many opportunities for our members, but these could not be achieved by the dedication of our guiding teams at St Peters.

### **Build on Your Christian Faith –Tom Leslie and Alan Williams**

The first block of ten sessions in our new course *Build on your Christian Faith* ran for ten successful weeks between late September and early December in 2018. The uptake was good with as many as twelve participants for a couple of the sessions, enabling fruitful discussions to flow around the subject matter. The content that we covered in this first block was entirely biblical. We took a chronological gallop from Genesis to Revelation, but weeks were centred on particular themes. For example, I led a session on the different forms of literature that are found within the Bible, from the priestly narratives of the Torah to the apocalyptic of Daniel and Revelation. Alan led a session on the person of Jesus Christ in which we considered his ancient context and the reception he was met with as revealed in the gospels. Alan and I were given some constructive feedback at the end of the tenth session from which it was understood that people enjoyed the course but perhaps would have liked some guidance on what to read beforehand to fully prepare for meaningful and enjoyable discussion. Alan and I will fully take this on board as we do hope to run a further ten sessions focusing on church history, dates for which will be confirmed in due course.

### **Children's Society – Church Representative Mandy Leslie**

This has been another good year of fundraising for the Children's Society. The house boxes were collected a little later in the year than usual, and in future the boxes will be collected in September - it's a more practical time for me to count and deposit the money. The boxes raised £310 - a fantastic amount from all that loose change. Small change may seem of little consequence - but it all adds up and raises £1.7 million for the society! - a fantastic amount.

The Christingle was also a great success. Giving out collecting candles as people come in and having an interactive service allowing children (and adults) to make their own Christingles raised

just under £330.

So very many thanks to all of you who have collecting boxes and who gave time helping at the Christingle - it really makes a big difference.

### **Social/Games Group – Leader Mary Naylor**

**Meeting Time:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month 2 – 4pm

**Venue:** Coffee Shop

**Objective:** To promote friendship and to have fun

The group is open to all ages, although recently we are mainly retired people, who often live alone. It's a good chance to use our brain cells, interact and have a chat over a cup of tea and a biscuit halfway through the afternoon. Scrabble, Quirkle and Rummikub are the favourites, with some people taking things more seriously than others. When we go home we have always had a laugh.

### **Time to Grieve – Leader Mary Naylor**

**Meeting Time:** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month 2 – 3.30pm

**Venue:** Coffee Shop

**Objective:** To give a safe space for people who are grieving to come together and find support.

The group is open to anyone whether or not they attend St Peter's. At present the group is small and all have been dealing with bereavement for a while. Eating alone, loneliness and depression are common themes with bereaved people generally. We are trying to address these issues. We all went out for a meal together before the December meeting and it was very enjoyable. My plan is for this to happen three times in 2019. Each person has a 2019 diary so that on a bad day they can record something worth getting up for. Supporting each other is key. My thanks to Maureen Rogers, who helped with the group before she moved away.

### **Rosary Group – Revd Elizabeth L.A. Gregory**

There is a small but loyal group of people who attend this prayerful time together. It is led by those who attend and we can continue in clergy's absence.

We meet on the second Thursday of each month in the Lady Chapel. Everyone is welcome and anyone new will be given clear instructions and teaching on how to use the Rosary and its place in Christian worship.

Linda Rawlings.



### **Christian Aid – Melanie Reed**

The 2018 annual Christian Aid Week raised £306.57. This was from a retiring collection plus individual envelope donations. It had been decided not to organise door to door collections. A collection for the Indonesia emergency appeal raised £288.57.

### **Traidcraft – Alison Chapman**

Traidcraft is the UK's leading fair trade organization, which is dedicated to fighting poverty through trade, to help people in developing countries transform their lives. By holding a monthly stall selling fair trade goods purchased through the Traidcraft website we at St Peter's are supporting this mission. During 2018 we purchased goods totaling £708.13 from Traidcraft (down from £1,961.37 in 2017).

### **Knitting Group – Mary Arnold**

A cheerful and inclusive group who meet every Thursday in the Coffee shop between 5 and 6.30pm. All are welcome, from experienced knitters to new casters-on, and we offer help to newbies. You don't even have to knit and you don't have to come every week. We will be happy to see you whenever you can drop in.

We continue to knit Christening bears for use within our own Parish, and Twiddle muffs which have been taken by and used within the Diocese.

### **Brabazon Belles – Leader Revd Elizabeth L A Gregory**

Set up in 2017 as an outreach project to fill a gap in our local community for a non-religious social group particularly for younger women in our community, Brabazon Belles has enjoyed a successful year. It provides an opportunity for women to get together, learn new skills, meet neighbours and build relationships with new people.

This year has seen a variety of activities, which has included learning the Charleston; self-defence; beer and food pairing; card making; relaxation techniques and chair yoga, to name just a few. The yoga session met a real need in the community and has subsequently established a permanent presence in Filton as a result.

The group is well supported and regularly attracts 40 members to each meeting with an additional 20 members on our books. Our members enjoy the chance to focus on themselves in a busy and stressful world, and it is wonderful to establish lasting relationships with members of our community who would not otherwise come to church.



## Deanery Synod Report

There have been 4 meetings of the Deanery Synod in 2018. The following subjects were either informed / discussed during the year.

- GDPR
- Creating Connections
- A Foundation of Prayer
- St Nicholas Resource Church
- Exploring Christianity
- Uganda Link: News from Uganda
- Parish giving scheme
- A Culture of Invitation
- Creating family-focused expressions of church

Your Deanery Synod representatives are John Chapman, Judy Gore, Louise Lyddon & Lindon Wooster.

**The financial report for 2018 is published here IN DRAFT ONLY as it is still with the Independent Examiner. The final version will be uploaded as soon as possible.**

# Parochial Church Council of St Peter's, Filton

## Annual Financial Report 2018

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 and signed on its behalf by the Reverend Elizabeth Gregory (PCC Chairperson)

### Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2018 £	Total Funds 2017 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>						
Voluntary Income	2a	82,178	574	0	82,751	76,005
Activities for Generating Funds	2b	3,404	0	0	3,404	2,728
Income from Investments	2c	69	0	0	69	49
Church Activities	2d	13,988	0	0	13,988	15,851
Other Incoming Resources	2e	0	0	0	0	253
Choir Funds		0	190	0	190	603
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>99,639</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100,402</b>	<b>95,489</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>						
Church Activities	3a	101,943	1,200	0	103,143	92,818
Cost of Generation of Voluntary Income	2b	158	0	0	158	163
Fund-raising Trading Costs	3c	0	0	0	0	0
Governance costs	3d	0	0	0	0	269
Choir Funded Expenditure		0	269	0	269	822
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<b>102,101</b>	<b>1,469</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>103,570</b>	<b>94,072</b>
<b>NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNIZED GAINS AND LOSSES</b>		<b>-2,462</b>	<b>-705</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-3,168</b>	<b>1,417</b>
Gains on investment assets:						
on disposal		0	0	0	0	0
on revaluation		0	0	0	0	0
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>-2,462</b>	<b>-705</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-3,168</b>	<b>1,417</b>
<b>BALANCES B/FWD 1 JANUARY</b>		<b>46,169</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>46,169</b>	<b>44,752</b>
<b>BALANCES C/FWD 31 DECEMBER</b>		<b>43,706</b>	<b>-705</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>43,001</b>	<b>46,169</b>

The notes on pages F3 through F12 form part of these accounts.

## Balance Sheet at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018

Balance Sheet		YTD 2018 £	EoY 2017 £
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible		0	0
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Current Account - Balance at Bank		17,188	21,909
Church Hall Bank Account		8,195	6,710
Deposit Account - Central Board of Finance (CBF)		17,637	17,550
		<u>43,019</u>	<u>46,169</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u>43,019</u>	<u>46,169</u>
<b>PARISH FUNDS</b>			
<b>Current Account Funds</b>			
Accumulated General Balance		3,519	5,024
Fabric Fund (Restricted)		355	355
Restricted Funds e.g.(Lent Box Appeal)		0	588
Other Restricted (e.g. Mission to Seafarers)		12,694	15,244
Choir Fund (Restricted)		619	698
<b>CBF Funds</b>			
General Reserves Fund		6,990	6,921
General Fund		0	0
Building Fund - Ex Vestry Roof - (Restricted)		6,000	6,000
Legacy Fund (Restricted)		4,629	4,629
<b>Other Accounts</b>			
Church Hall		8,195	6,710
		<u>43,001</u>	<u>46,169</u>

The notes on pages F3 through F12 form part of these accounts.

# **St Peter's Church, Filton - Notes to the financial statements**

## **For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018**

### **1. Accounting Policies**

#### **General**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the SORP 2005.

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

#### **Funds**

**Endowment Funds** are funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

St Peter's does not have any funds of this type.

**Restricted Funds** represent:

- (a) Income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in terms of the trust or bequest, and
- (b) Donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object.

The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Within St Peter's restricted funds usually relate to specific objects such as our lent box appeal or other specific charitable objects.

The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund.

Further details of the restricted funds held by St Peter's are given in these accounts.

**Unrestricted Funds** are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Further details of the unrestricted funds held by St Peter's are given in these accounts.

#### **Incoming Resources**

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognized when received.

Grants, legacies and interest payments due to St Peter's PCC are also accounted for only when received. In some charitable organizations it is common practice to accrue amounts such as this as soon as they are believed to be legally entitled, however we have had past instances where expectations have not been met and as the occurrence of such sums is very infrequent we have decided to account for them only on receipt.

Tax refunds are recognized only when received. This is again counter to the approach taken by many PCCs and other charitable organizations. This approach has been adopted because many of our parishioners are at, or near to, the income tax threshold and confirmation of their exact position is required immediately prior to our submission of the refund claim to the Revenue and Customs Department. It is believed that protection against an erroneous claim for the refund of income tax is more important than following an accruals process for this source of funds. An estimate of the impact of refundable income tax on our end of year financial situation is given in Note 6.

Any other income is accounted for when it is receivable.

All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

### **Resources Expended**

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over.

The diocesan parish share is by far the largest single item of expenditure within St Peter's and this is accounted for when payment is submitted.

Amounts received for mission or specific objects, such as the annual lent box appeal, are dealt with as restricted funds.

All other expenditure is generally recognized when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

### **Fixed Assets**

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to the year 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight-line basis whenever appropriate. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £500 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

### **Reserves Policy**

At the end of 2008 we proposed a new reserves policy. While this new policy reduced the level of reserve we were accustomed to holding, it was based on Church-of-England guidance and assumptions about the profile of our ongoing expenditure. This new reserves policy has the potential to free up funds for mission work within both the parish and the diocese. The policy is based upon the following:

1. Money should only be kept in reserve for specific reasons. Whilst the Bible clearly indicates that we should not hoard it is also clear that sensible planning for known events and responsibility for others is important.

2. It would therefore be prudent to keep two to three months running costs in reserve. For St Peter's this is approximately £4,000 to £6,000.
3. It is also prudent to have funds in reserve to cover future building work, especially in the case of emergency repairs. Consequently, at the end of 2008 we split the remaining General Reserve fund into two elements; a General Reserve and a Building Fund.
4. The level of reserve held is reviewed annually

### Year End Reserves Status

1. The Building Fund stands at £6,000.
2. The General Reserve stands at £6,961 as we now divert interest received within the CBF account into general use.
3. Our Legacy Fund in the CBF is currently £4,629.

### Incoming Resources

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2018 £	Total Funds 2017 £
<b>2a Voluntary Income</b>					
Planned Giving (PG)					
Gift Aid Donations	35,081	0	0	35,081	48,203
Tax Recovered	16,812	0	0	16,812	0
Other (i.e. Un-Gift Aided PG)	4,488	0	0	4,488	4,889
Collections (Open Plate)	4,215	0	0	4,215	4,527
Donations, Appeals, etc	21,582	574	0	22,156	18,386
Legacies	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>82,178</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>82,751</b>	<b>76,005</b>
<b>2b Activities for Generating Funds</b>					
Building Fund/Vestry Roof Appeal					
Donations	0	0	0	0	0
Grant for Vestry from SGC	0	0	0	0	0
Christmas Fayre etc	3,404	0	0	3,404	2,728
	<b>3,404</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,404</b>	<b>2,728</b>
<b>2c Income from Investments</b>					
CBF Interest	69	0	0	69	49
Current Account Interest	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>69</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>2d Church Activities</b>					
Fees	3,677	0	0	3,677	411
Trading (Magazine, Coffee Shop etc)	8,826	0	0	8,826	10,108
Church Hall Trading	1,485	0	0	1,485	5,332
	<b>13,988</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13,988</b>	<b>15,851</b>
<b>2e Other Incoming Resources</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>253</b>
<b>Choir Funds</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>603</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<b>99,639</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100,402</b>	<b>95,489</b>

## 2a Voluntary Income

- Total Voluntary income in 2018 has increased by £6,746 (+8.88%) There are several factors also need to be considered:
  - Around £2,000 from free will envelopes in October, November & December were not banked in time to be included in the income for this year.
  - One off donations totalling £300 have not been banked in time to be included.
  - Around £840 of plate giving has not yet been banked.
  - Gift Aid Reclaim for 2018 has not yet been received.
  - £1,200 of other donations, appeals etc have not yet been banked.

## 2b Activities for Generating Funds

- The only element in this category for 2018 represents the proceeds of our annual Christmas Fayre which raised £3,404 which was up by £676 (+24.78%) from the 2017 figure. This was a great result and we wish to express many thanks to all involved.
- There is also c£109 that was received and not yet banked which brings the total up to £3,513

## 2c Income from Investments

The only investment monies held by St Peter's PCC are those deposited in either the current account or the CBF Church of England Funds (CBF).

Due to the current financial climate, income from investments amounted to only £69 in 2018.

St Peter's does not possess an investment portfolio. The monies we use to run the parish and make our contributions to the diocese in the form of Parish Share are almost totally derived from parishioner giving.

## 2d Church Activities

- Fees include sums received throughout the year, principally for marriages and funerals. An increase of £3,266 on 2017.
- Trading relates to the magazine and bookstall and Coffee Shop activities.
  - Bookstall income has totalled £141 and includes income from items such as the Lent and Advent Prayer booklets. This is a decrease of £39. However, there is £14 due to be banked from the Advent "Walk With Me" books & calendars.
  - Votive candle income was £248, which is a decrease of £44. However, there is £73.43 due to be banked.
  - Our Coffee Shop had another fantastic year but fell short of the '10k barrier' with total gross income of £8,435, which was down by £1,200. There are costs associated with the running of the Coffee Shop, which were £1,794 in 2018 (£2,015 in 2017) and an annual £1,000 donation to local charities, which still has to be paid for 2018. There are still Coffee Shop donations totalling £1,097 due to be banked for 2018.
- Church Hall income is not accurate due to the issues of obtaining the bank accounts at NatWest. As at writing this report, the balance stands at £8,195. Church Hall trading is not managed by the PCC; it is managed by the Church Hall Committee. Church Hall accounts are available for inspection upon request.



## Resources Expended

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2018 £	Total Funds 2017 £
<b>3a Church Activities</b>					
Missionary and Charitable Giving					
Secular Charities	1,670	1,200	0	2,870	1,200
	<b>3,483</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,683</b>	<b>1,317</b>
Ministry					
Diocesan Parish Share	64,000	0	0	64,000	51,000
Other Ministry Costs	1,532	0	0	1,532	1,284
Upkeep of Services	3,252	0	0	3,252	1,270
Honoraria & Salaries	14,845	0	0	14,845	13,076
Church Running and Maintenance	7,229	0	0	7,229	7,941
Trading Costs	2,111	0	0	2,111	2,145
Upkeep of Churchyard	0	0	0	0	1,320
Church Hall Running Costs	0	0	0	0	4,972
Church Administration	5,491	0	0	5,491	4,732
Bank Charges	0	0	0	0	0
Major Costs	0	0	0	0	3,762
	<b>98,460</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>98,460</b>	<b>91,501</b>
<b>3b Cost of Generating Voluntary Income</b>					
FWO Envelopes etc	158	0	0	158	163
	<b>158</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>163</b>
<b>3c Fund-raising Costs</b>					
Christmas Fayre	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>3d Governance Costs</b>					
	0	0	0	0	269
	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>269</b>
<b>Choir Funded Expenditure</b>					
	0	269	0	269	822
	<b>0</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>822</b>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b>102,101</b>	<b>1,469</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>103,570</b>	<b>94,072</b>

### 3a Church Activities

- Missionary and charitable giving in 2018 totalled £2,870 excluding Parish Share. We usually donate £1,000 each year from the coffee shop to a local charity. At the time of writing I have not had the request for payment., so it will be paid in 2018. This category also includes donations to be made using collections made for specific uses, e.g. Lent boxes and Pet service. The collections made in 2018 have been distributed. Giving within this category relates directly to the following extract from the detailed management accounts:

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>£</b>
Historic Churches	£200
Southmead Hospital Charity	£600
No More Taboo	£600
Avon Riding for the Disabled	£100
The Willow Trust	£950
Headway	£120
SSAFA	£300

- Overall Ministry costs for 2018 were £66,630 a decrease (9.3%) from £73,466 in 2016:
  - We have not paid clergy expenses for November & December as documentation was not received before year end. This is anticipated to be around £600.
  - The Admin Assistant salary for December has been paid, however the cheque has not cleared. This equates to £270.
  - We made a £64,000 contribution to Parish Share which was our commitment for 2018.
  - Upkeep of services at £3,252 are £1,982 higher than last year as we have replaced all the hymn books.
  - Honoraria and Salaries were £14,845, an increase of £1,769. This is mainly due to payments made in respect of the Administrative Assistant not being made as documentation had not been received in 2017.
- Running and maintenance costs at £7,229 decreased by £712.
- Trading costs were £2,111 and increased by £34. Trading costs are primarily related to the coffee shop.
- Church Administration costs of £5,491 are an increase of £759. This includes a wide range of items such as toner cartridges, paper, flowers, communion gifts, etc.
- Cost of Generating Voluntary Income: This category is only £158 for the year as all activities relating to our income are undertaken by volunteers, many of whom undertake to cover any out of pocket expenses themselves. The £158 covers the costs associated with purchasing and distributing the Free Will Offering envelopes that many of us use weekly. This is down on last year due to the increase in use of the Parish Giving Scheme.
- There were no Fund raising costs for the year in 2018. This category is always low as all fundraising activities are performed by volunteers, many of whom subsidise the activities from their own funds.

The table which follows illustrates how each £100 of expenditure at St Peter's was allocated in 2017. Note: This table does not include Choir Fund or Church Hall Expenditure.

Category	Item	£	Per £100	% of Unrestricted Income
1003	Home Missions & Church Societies	1,813	1.76	
1004	Secular Charities	2,870	2.78	
2001	Diocesan Parish Share	64,000	61.95	<b>64.2%</b>
2002	Expenses Incumbent	1,532	1.48	
2004	Assistant Staff	0	0.00	
2005	Church Running Expenses	5,902	5.71	
2006	Church Maintenance	1,327	1.28	
2007	Upkeep of Services	3,252	3.15	
2008	Upkeep of Churchyard	0	0.00	
2009	Trading (Coffee Shop, Parish Magazine, Bookstall, etc)	2,111	2.04	
2012	Major Repairs & Expenses	0	0.00	
2016	Salaries & Honoraria	14,845	14.37	
2017	Support Costs	0	0.00	
3000	Fund Raising	158	0.15	
4000	Church Administration	5,491	5.32	
<b>Total .....</b>		<b>103,301</b>	<b>100.00</b>	

#### 4. Staff Costs

##### 4a. Employees

St Peter's PCC now employs an administrative assistant. Cleaner's wages related to the Church Hall Account are shown separately in that account. Non clergy work carried out within the church is either done by professional trades people employed for the task or by volunteers. Throughout the year the church has enjoyed the services of an organist with an occasional stand in, and a part-time youth worker. None of these individuals are considered to be an employee of the church but rather as providers of a service. These costs are shown in the table below.

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2018 £	Total Funds 2017 £
Honoraria & Salaries	14,845	0	0	14,845	13,076

##### 4b Payments to PCC Members

Membership of the PCC is voluntary and members do not receive any payments in the normal course of events. However, members of the PCC along with others who incur out of pocket expenses relating to church activities, e.g. Sunday Club, ministry expenses, etc. receive reimbursements which are recorded in the management accounts.

## **5. Assets**

### **5a Fixed assets**

The church possesses no fixed assets which can be held to have any market or balance sheet value.

The church owns office and sound reproduction equipment including desks, chairs, a photocopier, radio microphones etc. All of this equipment has been written off on purchase and has no balance sheet value.

### **5b Investments**

Current assets are primarily the funds deposited in the CBF and the COOP bank current account. The balances at 31<sup>st</sup> December are shown at the balance sheet on page F2. The opening and closing values of these funds can also be seen on the balance sheet.

As already stated, St Peter's does not possess an investment portfolio as such, the monies we use to run the parish, pay our utility bills and make our contributions to the diocese in the form of Parish Share are almost totally derived from parishioner giving.

## **6. Debtors**

The only debt of any significance outstanding to St Peter's PCC is the current amount of income tax recoverable relating to donations made in the current tax year. It is important to note that these funds are not liquid until the payment is made by HM Revenue and Customs, usually in the August time-frame. As a consequence, we have chosen not to show any accrual for debtors on the balance sheet as we believe this is a more realistic representation of our current position.

## **7. Liabilities**

Current liabilities include amounts falling due within one year. Apart from ongoing payments for utilities, insurance St Peter's currently has no major liabilities.

### **Parish Share**

During 2016 the Parish Share system was overhauled and parishes were given a target from the Diocese based on their published accounts from three years previous. For 2018, the PCC committed to a figure of £64,000. This was paid in full by the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018.

The share committed by the PCC for 2018 is £64,000 with a possible additional commitment of £2,000 to be reviewed in September 2019. This figure takes account of all the points discussed earlier in this report – falling income increased expenditure – and other essential work that needs to be completed, but the PCC believe this is achievable and supports the commitment we made to the Diocese to try to return to the level we maintained prior to 2016. We do ask everyone to understand how vital Parish Share is to the mission and work of our parish, the diocese and the wider church. Parish Share provides the Diocese with an essential source for the funds needed to employ and train clergy. Please consider this in your prayers regarding stewardship for 2019.

## **8. Funds**

A summary of the Endowment, Restricted and Unrestricted funds is as shown below.

Endowment Funds	0
Restricted Funds	24,297
Unrestricted Funds	18,704
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>43,001</b>

The way in which these funds are allocated is as shown on the balance sheet, page F2.

**Other Accounts**

***Church Hall:*** Funds relating to the Church Hall are not under the direct control of the PCC.

## **Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Peter's, Filton**

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018 which are set out on pages 1 and 2, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.43 of the Charities Act 1992 ('the Act').

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

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and s.43(2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

### **Basis of this report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s.43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC 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 any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all of the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### **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
  - a. to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
  - b. to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the 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 proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Date:

## **2018 DIOCESE OF BRISTOL report**

Across the Diocese of Bristol in 2018, there was significant and varied development and change. There was growth in ministry, vocations, discipleship, evangelism and service. This was supported by an increase in investment from within the Diocese and the national Church of England.

### **Leadership and vision**

Amidst this activity, the Diocese welcomed the appointment and arrival of a new Bishop of Bristol, Rt Revd Vivienne Faull, formerly Dean of York. On her appointment, Bishop Viv expressed her excitement at being “at the heart of this great, multicultural diocese” and her desire to “lead a diocese that continues its pioneering courage and shows the love of God of everybody, whoever they are”.

Parishes, chaplaincies and schools, continued to work out the diocesan vision of Creating connections – with God, each other and our communities, and focusing on the priorities of making disciples, growing leaders and engaging younger generations.

### **Ministry and mission**

This work was supported by the ministry funded and the support provided through the Bristol Diocesan Board of Finance, the central body that serves the Diocese as a whole.

In total, 201 clergy were licensed across the Diocese’s 200 churches and various chaplaincies and institutions, an increase of 10%. There was a 4% increase in incumbent (vicar equivalent) posts. 180 people were in post as Licensed Lay Ministers.

Supported by the Making disciples in your parish resources, parishes built on a foundation of prayer, and saw increases in developing a culture of invitation, attendees at evangelistic courses, people who were part of small groups and in helping people identify, develop and use their gifts.

Churches continued to run 200 social action projects and are involved in a further 300.

Numbers going forward for ordination continued to increase. 14 candidates were sponsored for ordination, greater than the 50% increase aimed for, and the cohort were younger and more diverse.

The Diocese launched two Resourcing churches – St Nicholas, Bristol and the Pattern Church, Swindon – with £3m grant funding over six years from the Church of England’s Strategic Development Fund. Resourcing churches exist to reach new people and resource beyond their own congregations and locations by growing and giving away disciples and leaders, planting and strengthening other churches and providing financial and other resources for mission.

### **Education and support**

The Diocese’s family of 70 church schools continued to develop, offering an authentically Christian education to 17,000 children. The Deanery CE Academy (secondary) in Swindon began to be built and will open in September 2019.

The Diocesan Support Services team sought to express vision, strengthen relationships, empower people, maximise resources and develop structures as they served parishes, ministers and schools. 4,600 people received training, a 7.5% increase on average rating it 8 ¾ out of 10.

### **Giving and finance**

The Diocesan Board of Finance increased significantly its investment in ministry and support, from £8.6m to £9m. This was in accordance with the Financial Plan approved by the Board of Directors and endorsed by the Diocesan Synod. It largely related to increases in ordinands, curates and ministers and was supported by increased grant income. However, Parish Share reduced slightly and, despite overall increases in parish income remains a challenge if the Diocese is to continue to invest in new ministries. Ultimately, the DBF sustained an operating deficit of £291,000.

### **The year ahead**

In 2019, the Diocese looks forward to welcoming new Archdeacons of Malmesbury (Christopher Bryan) and of Bristol and a new Director of Ministry Development. Liz Townend has taken up the post of Diocesan Director of Education. The Diocese will continue to work to its Creating connections vision, priorities and 2016-20 Strategic Plan. At the same time, it will review implementation of the plan and start to develop the next Strategic Plan (2021-5), and work to find ways to resource this vision and the plans that support it.

### **2018 DIOCESAN SYNOD report**

In 2018, the Diocesan Synod met for two full day meetings in June and November.

The June meeting in Bradley Stoke was the last of the last three year term.

- Bishop Ric Thorpe gave an inspiring presentation about the potential of church planting and the range of opportunities for fresh expressions. The distinctive purpose of resourcing churches was discussed and Revd Toby Flint, leader of St Nicholas, Bristol, was interviewed.
- The different ways churches can serve individuals and help transform communities through social and community action were shared, including a range of examples from the floor and the front.
- Exploring further the themes in the Setting God's People Free report, the Dean and David Lawrence from LICC provoked reflection and action in thinking theologically and practically about our common vocation to follow Christ and what it means to be an everyday disciple on the frontline.

The November meeting in Swindon was the first of a new three year term and had been preceded by an introductory session in September.

- The excitement about the growth and diversity of new vocations to ministry being discerned was outlined by Revd Chris North, Adviser for Ministerial Vocations, leading to constructive discussions about taking this forward.
- Revd Canon Mat Ineson and Revd Malcolm Strange shared the partnership work and mission opportunities beginning to bear fruit in Mission Areas.

The Diocesan Synod's role in approving the financial plans of the Diocesan Board of Finance was part of both the June and November meetings. The 2017-2020 Financial Plan that supports the Diocese's Strategic Plan was presented, discussed, noted and adopted in June.

In November, considerable time was given to debating the 2019 budget. This represented a significant increase in expenditure to support an increase in ministry. This investment is primarily in increasing the numbers of ordinands and curates with external funding increasing ministerial deployment in projects like the Mission Areas and resourcing Churches. The Synod approved the expenditure on the basis of the mission and ministry that had been shared earlier that day. This came with the challenge to increase Parish Share to enable this investment.

Finally, the Diocesan Synod received a new President in 2018 as Rt Revd Vivienne Faull took up her post. In June, Bishop Lee thanked the wider diocese for their contribution during the Vacancy in See and, in November, Bishop Viv used her first address to encourage us all to "get out more" as witnesses in the world.



## DIOCESAN SYNOD REPORT 2 March 2019

### **“Best Diocesan Synod Ever”**

In an engaging Synod, which was described by a number of people as the best Diocesan Synod they had attended, members participated with energy and generated a lot of questions.

A wide range of topics were brought before members, from local issues to global items. During the session, members were able to take part in discussions around the closure of Swindon's Honda plant, the celebrations of the Uganda Link's 50 years and raising awareness of action we can take in relation to the environment.

With a number of new members still settling in following the start of the new triennium, it was also an opportunity for many to learn more about aspects of wider governance, such as General Synod motions. There was a strong desire to engage with the process and it was encouraging to see constructive and challenging questions raised as members rose to the task of involving themselves in the discussions.

### **Creation Care and the environment**

Recognising the significant impact of climate change and the part which churches can play in caring for the environment is one of the Five Marks of Mission.

Sarah Wiggins, Global Advocacy Leader with Tearfund, talked about what individuals and churches can do to care for creation. She was supported by Martin Gainsborough, in his role as Diocesan Environmental Officer.

Sarah told Synod that the Church has a special role to play in protecting the planet. She said: *“Communities are looking to us to see how we will respond to the issues of our time. Time and time again, secular organisations say that Christians need to be in that space to talk about values.”*

*“God wants to reveal himself and his promises through nature. I believe there is hope, but all the work that we have done to eradicate poverty is at risk, because we are not taking care of God's world.”*

The Diocese has registered to become an EcoDiocese and there were lots of constructive ideas, particularly around renewable energy such as solar power in churches.

Simon Pugh-Jones, chairman of the DAC, told Synod: *“The DAC encourages parishes to demonstrate how they are engaging with environmental issues; we would like to be in a position where we insist that engagement with the environment is the default position.”*

Parishes are now being encouraged to take action to become EcoChurches and a policy and strategy is to be put in place. The Synod will look at this again in November.

### **Bristol-Uganda Link at 50**

As we celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Diocese of Bristol's link with Uganda, Chris Dobson gave an excellent presentation on the continuing ministry between the two places, with contributions from those who had experienced it.

He told Synod members: *“The link is about friendship and relationship building.”*

*“The point of going to Uganda is not to ask ‘what can we give?’ but ‘what can we learn?’ We go in order to learn and not to tell them what they should be doing.”*

Matt Holman, a youth worker from St Edyth's Sea Mills, and 16-year-old Emily Gwinn shared their experiences from traveling to Uganda with the Diocese last year as part of trip with young people.

Emily said: *“It is not something I could imagine myself doing but it is an experience I will treasure forever. It has helped me to grow in confidence and to become more involved in my own church.”*

Jones Mutemwakwenda, Priest-in-Charge at All Hallows Easton, is originally from Zambia. He echoed that, as an African, he was heartened by the desire of those in the link to focus on friendship and said that he would encourage everyone to take the time to nurture relationships with those in Uganda, as he knows how much it can mean to those in both countries.

Members considered how their own churches could engage with the link, with many commenting on the need to ensure young people were given the opportunity to go.

### **General Synod**

Ed Shaw, House of Laity, gave a report on the General Synod, which had met a week earlier. He outlined what had been described as “the evangelism Synod” with a focus on estates evangelism, Growing Faith amongst young people in churches, schools and households and the State of the Nation debate.

Ed explained that there had been some surprisingly lively debates (e.g. setting parochial fees and the workings of the Crowns Nomination Commission) whereas the Pastoral Principles on welcoming LGBTI+ were received warmly but without controversy. Ed himself is on the Pastoral Advisory Group.

Ed praised the involvement of young people, including Sophie Mitchell from Bristol, who stands on the youth council. Along with a other Bristol members, she was invited to speak twice in debates.

Elections for Synod reps will be in 2020, and Ed encouraged people to consider who might stand.

### **How Synods relate**

Following a question at the previous Synod in November, Oliver Home, Diocesan Secretary, explained the process of how a parish could raise a motion which could eventually be debated by General Synod.

Giving an idea of timescales, he spoke about how motions could be raised from the PCC to a Deanery Synod, then to a Diocesan Synod before being heard and debated by members of the General Synod.

Oliver also encouraged members to report back from Diocesan Synod to the PCCs and Deanery Synods, to help communicate the issues and topics being considered.

### **Question Time**

A number of excellent questions were raised by members during Question Time.

Following a question from David Tunley (Swindon), Bishop Viv said she would conduct a more wider ranging review over the possibility of House for Duty posts.

Bill Brookshaw (Kingswood and South Glos) asked about the implications of parishes not meeting parish share requests; Bruce Finnamore warned that it would have a serious effect on the Diocese’s ability to achieve its vision, particularly around vocations and growing leaders.

A written answer was given to a question around the setting of the salary for the new Director of Ministry Development post.

**Bishop’s Address by Rt Revd Vivienne Faull**

In her address to Diocesan Synod on 2 March 2019, Bishop Viv spoke of how churches across the Diocese can be safe places in times of turmoil and uncertainty.

Speaking of the announcement by Honda to close its plant in Swindon, Bishop Viv emphasised the role that the Church must play in providing support for those affected.

She said: *“Our churches can be safe places where people can express both their anger and their fears, whether in pastoral encounters or in worship.”*

*"It is in worship we proclaim our faith in what God in Christ wants our world to be, and where we lament at our failure to make Christ's rule a reality. So, with this news, we lament the loss of good jobs."*

Bishop Viv went on to explore the spiritual gift of lamenting, considering how it was exercised by prophets, by the Psalmist, by Job, and by Jesus as he wept over the city. But alongside this need to lament, she said that there must also be the offer of hope, of peace and of justice.

She said: *"For the coming many months may we, whether from South Glos or North Wilts or the city of Bristol, may all of us hold Swindon and its people close to our hearts, that they may know our care for them, and our holding out Christ's hope to and for them."*

*"For each of us, all of us, are the Diocese of Bristol."*