

**THE PARISH OF HOLY TRINITY, LEVERSTOCK GREEN
IN THE BENEFICE OF LANGELEI**

**REPORTS FOR THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
2020**

**TO BE HELD ON A DATE TO BE DETERMINED
BECAUSE OF CORONAVIUS LOCKDOWN**

Proceedings of the PCC, Safeguarding and Parish Activities

Audited Accounts for 2019

Fabric, Goods and Ornaments Report

Report of Deanery & Diocesan Synods

Secretary: Linda Cooke

linda3cooke@gmail.com

ELECTORAL ROLL – Norah Tattersall, Electoral Roll Officer

awaited

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PCC 2019-20 – Linda Cooke, PCC Secretary

The PCC meets every other month to consider and make decisions on all aspects of the practical running of the church. At every meeting it receives reports on the church's finances and once a year sets its budget. It also approves fundraising events and determines which charities are to be supported for the year. Of equal importance are reports from the Churchwardens, as the PCC is responsible for the church fabric and its contents. Safeguarding is another key responsibility and all PCC members are now required to be DBS cleared and undertake safeguarding training. The PCC plans future events and evaluates recent ones, with a view to ensuring the church follows its Mission Action Plan. We started to review our Mission Action Plan and this is work in progress, as described in Mike Hawtin's report set out further on in this report.

Following the APCM 2019 the following served on the PCC under Lizzie's Chairmanship: Rev'd Maxine Howarth, Beverley Burgess, John Walker, Mike Hawtin, Kathy Perry, Martin Chapman, Linda Cooke, Norah Tattersall, Pauline Lindsey, Colin Gage, Cathy Ayling, Pamela Batten, Jean Britt, Gillian Redman, Karen Ball and Miles Cooksey, Linda and Norah have been re-elected. At its meeting in May 2019 the following appointments were agreed:

- Tim Bourne's co-option in his capacity as Reader with licence to officiate
- PCC Vice-Chairs – Beverley Burgess and John Walker
- Treasurer - Martin Chapman
- Electoral Roll Officer – Norah Tattersall
- Deputy Churchwardens – Mike Hawtin and Kathy Perry
- Churches Together in Hemel Hempstead (CTHH) representative – Gillian Redman
- Health and Safety Officer – Jon Pegg
- Membership of the Standing Committee – Rector, Churchwardens, Deputy Churchwardens, Secretary and Treasurer

Many people work unseen to ensure our church is clean, safe, warm, and a place of safety and peace; we are all grateful to them. The PCC acts on behalf of you, our parishioners. The minutes of our meetings are displayed on the noticeboard in the Trinity Room. If you would like a concern raised, do speak to a member of the Council who will raise it on your behalf.

SAFEGUARDING REPORT – Pauline Lindsey

As Safeguarding Officer, I have reported to every PCC meeting with information about Disclosure and Barring clearance and training. Everyone who is involved in work with our children and in visiting parishioners on behalf of the church has received clearance. Those whose certificates had expired have all been renewed. Everyone has a current, valid certificate of training at the appropriate level. The renewal of training for those whose certificates expire this year has now been put on hold due to the current COVID19 outbreak; these will be completed once this current situation changes.

There have been no reported safeguarding incidents within Holy Trinity since the last APCM.

A bi-monthly report updating DBS applications and training are given to Lizzie.

Our annual review of policies was undertaken at our PCC meeting in March 2020, all were approved and signed off by Lizzie and me. All the paperwork in our four folders (LH, PL, Vestry and one on the bookcase in the Alban Room for public access) have all been updated.

We now have lists of agencies that can help on the walls of all three toilets, with small tear-off strips for anyone to be able to take in confidence if they need help.

PARISH ACTIVITIES 2019/20

Mostly –

COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL

Christmas Fair 2019 – Kathy Perry

Word of our event this year spread quickly and a queue had formed before we opened the doors. The weather was not on our side but that did not deter people both from the village and further afield. The church and stalls were festively decorated and well staffed even though this involved some pew entry issues!

Our bumper stalls were our very own Craft Group, catering provided by our Social Committee and the Felt so Good items kindly donated by a church member and brilliantly displayed to their best advantage. The atmosphere was very friendly and relaxed and was commented on by several people. The final figure for church funds was £2,565. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make this event a success.

Craft Group - Jean Britt, Jean Saunders, Jenny Chaney (Treasurer), Pauline Lindsey

We meet every Wednesday (with a few exceptions) at 2pm to 4pm to enjoy making items which we sell in aid of Church funds. Jenny thinks we have contributed at least £1,500 this past year. (Additional monies are paid directly to Church accounts.) Some beautiful and useful items have been made and sold at the various Church functions including the Flower Festival, the Christmas Fair and also at the LGVA Fete in July. Pop up sales at Saturday coffee mornings are popular too. Our group enjoys much friendship and we try to support one another especially those who otherwise would have little time away from home and family responsibilities. While the next few months will challenge us and curtail our fund raising activities for the church we hope to continue to craft at home to raise funds for Holy Trinity and to keep our spirits up. In the meantime we will enjoy a virtual cuppa at 11am every morning and keep contact on social media. We thank the church members for supporting our work.

Flower Festival and 170th Anniversary celebrations- Rev'd Lizzie Hood

The church was consecrated on October 30th 1849 by the Bishop of Rochester, in whose Diocese we were at the time. 2019 therefore marked our 170th anniversary. We celebrated the occasion by inviting the Bishop of St Albans, the Rt Revd Dr Alan Smith, to preside and preach at a Festal Eucharist on Sunday 27th October, and in the evening we held a Choral Evensong with our choir augmented by friends from the Benefice, singing music by composers who were alive in 1849. Over the same weekend we held a flower festival, planned by a committee comprising Pauline Lindsey, Beverley Burgess, Debbie Dix, Lynn Whitton and Lizzie Hood. Many others came together on the weekend itself and worked incredibly hard to mount a really lovely display. Our own flower arrangers as well as neighbouring churches, village organisations and local flower arranging clubs, used their imagination and skill to depict all the decades of our church's history. Maxine Howarth researched the events of the decades in local, national and international news, and these were displayed alongside the flower arrangements. To back up the historical theme John Walker and Rebecca Lawson produced a new church history booklet and guide, and local calligrapher Diana Knapp made a framed list of all the Vicars of the parish. Set-up took place over the Thursday and Friday, and the festival was open on Saturday and Sunday, 26th and 27th October. We welcomed many guests from the village and beyond, including VIPs the Mayor of the Borough of Dacorum, Councillor Terry Douris, and our MP the Rt Honourable Sir Mike Penning. As always, lunches and light refreshments were available in the Trinity Room, where there were a number of stalls including one from the Craft Group. As a fundraising effort we made in the region of £2,000, but besides that it was a wonderful celebration of the life of our church and its place in the community's history.

Friendship Teas - Pat Driver

The number of people joining us on the third Thursday of every month for the Friendship teas is increasing slowly. The afternoon seems to be appreciated by all who attend as an opportunity for a chat and a cup of tea with good cake. Everyone is welcome.

