

**ANNUAL MEETINGS 2020  
CHRIST CHURCH PURLEY**



**15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020 11AM ON ZOOM WEBINAR**

The Zoom invite will go to all on Electoral Roll on Saturday morning

**VESTRY MEETING**

1. INTRODUCTION
2. PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR WARDEN
3. ELECTION OF WARDENS (IF MORE THAN TWO NOMINATIONS)

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)**

1. INTRODUCTION                      Doug McHardie
2. APOLOGIES
3. MINUTES OF APCM 2019
4. MATTERS ARISING
5. PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR PCC
6. PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEANERY SYNOD
7. ELECTION OF CANDIDATES FOR PCC (IF MORE THAN 6 CANDIDATES)
8. ELECTION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEANERY SYNOD (IF MORE THAN 5 CANDIDATES)
9. REPORTS:

THE ACCOUNTS FOR 2019              STEVE BISHOP  
THE ELECTORAL ROLL                  JEAN LOH  
VICARS (BRIEF) REPORT              DOUG MCHARDIE

10. RESOLUTIONS:

- A) APPOINT AUDITOR FOR 2021      Steve Bishop
- B) TERMS OF OFFICE ON PCC        Doug McHardie

**Background:** currently Christ Church PCC elected members may only stand for ONE THREE YEAR term. From 2020 Deanery Synod members may serve a maximum of TWO THREE YEAR TERMS, under the Church Representation Rules 2020. Current policy for Christ Church is that wardens, appointed annually, may serve no more than 4 consecutive years.

The purpose of the proposal is to bring PCC members in line with Deanery Synod members. This also allows PCC members the option to apply the experience and knowledge they gain in the first term to a second term if they wish. Please note that all positions are voluntary and so these are maximum terms. Members can resign or retire at any time!

**PROPOSAL: that PCC elected members may serve up to two consecutive three year terms before taking a break from PCC of at least one year. This will be effective from 2021 elections.**

**11. AOB**

**Date of next meeting - to be confirmed but no later than 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021.**



## **THE (ALTERNATIVE) ANNUAL REPORT 2020**

Each year we hold an Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), review an Annual Report, receive the accounts and look forward to the following year.

In a normal year this would be in April.

### **2020 has not been normal.**

So, this is the alternative annual report for the unusual November APCM.

Its been an amazing journey. Here are the (non-exhaustive) highlights....

### **2019**

Began with promise. The church had appointed a new Vicar (much to the joy and relief of the incumbent in waiting). Plans were in place for the installation at the end of April. A fantastic warm welcome was extended and the new family settled into the vicarage.

May saw his first sermon; a personal story was told and a vision cast. God started to speak to many about a bright future – pictures of old of a body of water building, of water pouring out of church and flooding the streets of Purley. All was heady and exciting. Every ministry was flourishing and, if anything, the question was are we doing too many things – not one activity could be identified as having run its course.

PCC focused on mission and ministry first, supported by the traditional committee fodder of money and buildings. A tweak to the mission statement meant that we moved from the passive “being” to the active – ***Making passionate disciples for Christ***. PCC were tasked with forming groups that would look at Ministry (“what we do to and with each other”) and Mission (“reaching out and sharing the Good News with Purley”)

The knotty problem of what to do with the proceeds of the sale of the previously owned flat was resolved by setting aside a sum to make grants to external projects as a thanks offering. Meanwhile God’s plans for our children’s ministry started to emerge. Jude had the seed. Doug watered it. God made it grow into a plan for a new post – a Children and Family Minister. With Jude taking an overview, Lead Pastor role for the whole, joined up, 0 to 18 age range, the scene was set for expansion and outreach of the children, youth and families ministry.

By the end of 2019 we had explored who God is and what Mission is, by preaching through the 5 marks of mission. A new ministry, stewarding creation, emerged. Meanwhile the existing teams were serving all ages from 0-100. From Bible Study to brunch to brokenness the centre was buzzing with groups and activities such as fellowships, drop ins, babies and toddlers, latte’s and cappuccinos and of course cake!

Groups as diverse as dance groups, rehab groups, counsellors, teaching groups, rock choirs and table tennis meant that the Community Transformation project was well used and integrating Christ Church with the community of Purley.

Colour started to blossom in the centre with *Creative Christ Church*, thanks to Kate Buckley, decorating the foyer walls with artistic worship. Culminating in the creation of an organic nativity scene *during* the Carol Service, God seemed to be inspiring us to new forms of worship.

The services were developing a new feel and structure and flow. Our musical worship leaders growing into opportunities to lead blocks of worship. The prayer ministry team saw growing numbers receiving prayer and seeing answers to prayer and words fulfilled. Not limited to one service but in all three – the early, mid-morning and evening. Calls to the front were fruitful.

The separation between age groups began to wear thin with intentional attempts to slowly move towards an *inter-generational church* where all can bless one another regardless of age. A work in progress but we were starting to gradually find ways to become even closer and more open as a family.

Change is always unsettling so we tried to find ways to communicate more freely and more often. The spectre of the congregational meeting moved from novelty to requirement as we asked the question "what do you think?" and awaited the answers...and great answers they were.

We were blessed with candidates for baptism as we reviewed the approach to baptism. Three young people were baptised by full immersion which was a glorious (and first for the Vicar!) experience, ably assisted by the visiting past Associate Minister, Lee Duckett. A few families brought their infants, after preparation, to thanksgiving, dedication or baptism as was each family's choice. One of the first tasks for our new talented Youth Minister, Chuk.

The thanks to those who made 2019 what it was would take too long. But thanks there are to every single person who made 2019 what it was. A great ship given renewed energy and direction. Slowly moving in a new direction, or maybe an old direction with greater purpose. But movement there was.

## **2020: first three months**

Started well.

Having appointed a Children and Families Minister we had to wait to resolve a potential conflict of roles since Charlotte was a warden appointed to a paid role. The Charity Commission website suggested it would take 3 weeks. In the end it took 4 months.

With a full complement of Youth Minister, Children's Minister and Lead Pastor from 1 January the stage was set for an expanded team to grow together and grow in outreach and in confidence to share Good News.

*Commitment 2025* was launched. It was a suggestion that "Making passionate disciples" isn't just bringing new people to Christ but also growing as disciples ourselves. Everyone was encouraged to review their commitment across a range of areas of discipleship. One of those was financial giving with an encouragement to consider +10% which over three years would allow the enlarged staff team to be financed in full rather than from reserves.

Meanwhile the Mission Action Plan was slowly developing. The Christ Church values remain unchanged because they are defined by who Christ Church is. The mission though is to be **active disciple makers**. Teaching on ministry focused on what ministry and worship is. *Christ Church Courses* was born – a suite of internal training opportunities starting with the *Witness Workshop*.

This was to support the Evangelism Strategy – five strands to sharing the Gospel. Witness, evangelism and apologetics, Alpha, healing and pioneering. All designed to *Make passionate disciples for Christ*. All was looking good with 25 course participants in the first wave of the *Witness Workshop*.

Meanwhile a team from Christ Church participated in *Mission Shaped Ministry*, a Diocesan course led by Will Cookson to encourage parishes to pioneer and consider Fresh Expressions of church outside their walls.

The impetus towards both coordinated evangelism and social action across the Purley and Kenley area was developing with ever closer bonds between church leaders and lay leaders in *Churches Together*. Projects such as the Food Hub and CAP ministries meeting need in a coordinated way. Here in Christ Church ministries such as *Peaced Together* were planned to expand with a new children's version.

Relationships with Christ Church School were developing with support offered at many levels – the governing body, preparation for church inspection and weekly Collective Worship and Christian clubs and services in church.

But throughout January and February a dark cloud was growing and moving across the globe. Few knew exactly what this might mean.

By March we stood in the foyer after services thinking the unthinkable.

Countries across Europe had “gone into lockdown” and cases were rising in the UK.

**On March 23<sup>rd</sup> the UK went into lockdown and services in church were suspended.**

## **COVID 19**

Everything changed.

We could not meet for worship because we could only leave our homes for limited purposes and some could not leave at all.

How did we respond?

**April** – key priorities were to keep contact and to enable worship; services went online with very simple services and links to YouTube videos of music; we kept the existing formats and retained the familiar as far as we could; we also put people in touch with one another using the networks that already existed – House Groups. Anything we did at this stage was reactive, rough and ready and imperfect. But everyone did what they could. We tried not to use the phrase “uncharted territory” – but it was! Thank you to everyone who reacted so brilliantly especially those putting services together in this new way and the pastoral team and house groups for reaching out in love. One unexpected highlight during this period was that we were asked to take on a curate, having applied a year ago but been told to wait until the new incumbent was in the parish longer. Other parishes’ loss was our blessing since Lisa Fairman-Brown came to us late in the process and was licensed in late June.

**May/June** – there was something of a new normal and services online in place at the start were not quite right, we needed more. Thank you to Naomi and Martin Ryan who formed a Production Team to lift the standard (and ease of connecting) for our services; with the advent of the “one click” video services were much easier to access. Confidence grew in front of the camera and more and more inventive ways were found to develop these online services. Thank you to Tom Griffiths and Mark Channon who got on with many jobs around the centre while it was closed. Support staff were furloughed for the first months but then came back part-time from July to get ready for opening and to take on the new production task and develop our communication through the newly acquired *Church Suite*. Thank you to Jean, *Church Suite* has transformed communication for many in Christ Church.

**July/August** – further developments and easing of restrictions meant that we were able to hold midweek services again but with distanced services accommodating only 25 or so; an online Holiday Club was filmed and released in the summer that was very successful and produced in difficult circumstances to a very high standard. People were doing things they would never have thought of doing before, and stepping up to the plate; exemplified by Tiggy and Abi who have produced super talks on the Bible for *Worship Night*. Thanks to Chloë and Mark for all the hard work in getting ready for the return of groups and for services in a Covid safe manner.

**September/October** – PCC continued to meet with many members well past the date they thought they would have stepped down; by October we called an Extraordinary PCC. The hard work of the FAR committee and Steve Bishop in particular led to a draft budget for 2021 looking worse than we had feared earlier in the year. Lettings and Foyer income left us with a potential £50,000 shortfall in income. PCC had in May agreed to a Parish Support Fund Pledge to the Diocese that was the same as in 2020. This decision, if maintained, would leave us with a deficit of about £50,000 for 2021 which would deplete our reserves by that amount. After prayer and discussion FAR were of one mind and recommended to PCC to keep the pledge at that level and incur the (conservatively estimated) deficit for 2021. It was strongly felt that 2021 was not a year to cut back on our support for the mission of the church in Southwark given the struggles that many other churches would face. PCC agreed. Lisa was ordained in September. Having run Morning Prayer services on Wednesdays successfully working out how to meet in a Covid safe way, we started to meet on Sundays too. PCC counselled the Vicar against sung worship on public health grounds and so service leaders found inventive ways to worship; with silence, posture,

lyrics as poetry and many other ways. A new family *Bubble Service* was launched and has been both popular and loved by those who have come along.

**November** – a second full lockdown and the church is closed again. The need for an APCM remains so that we will meet on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> on Zoom. Two wardens will step down. A huge thank you to James and Charlotte for all that they have brought to the role, including personal support for the Vicar in his first year and a half which is much appreciated! Several PCC members step down and two Deanery members. We look forward to appointing their successors. We will be having a 2021 APCM in April next year!

**Electoral Roll** – at November 2020 there are **240** (233 in 2019) on the Electoral Roll.

## WHAT NEXT?

God's mission for Christ Church has not changed.

Preparations for the future continue. PCC have agreed the mission statement and values for the Mission Action Plan (MAP). The new PCC will be formulating our response in Covid and after Covid.

For 2021 the MAP and budget have been brought into line with a focus on our **Key outcomes**, all directed towards *Making Passionate Disciples for Christ*. These are:

**MINISTRY** (what we do to and with each other – internal to CCP)

**CARE** – pastoral support and fellowship, hospitality and loving one another

**WORSHIP AND DISCIPLESHIP** – gathered services of word, prayer, song and prayer and seven-day discipleship including personal devotion, training, house groups and courses

**MISSION** (reaching out beyond CCP to others)

**EVANGELISM** – sharing the Gospel, bringing people to Christ, building relationship, witness, healing, pioneering and outreach

**COMMUNITY** – building relationships and serving others outside CCP including social action (Food Hub, CAP, Peaced Together), partnering with external hirers, supporting schools, working with other churches and denominations, foyer café etc

All these outcomes are **supported** by the following:

**Finance** – giving, lettings and other income balanced with expenditure on ministry areas and fabric, budgeting, investing surpluses and reserves, monthly monitoring and reporting (see **Appendix A** below for some specifics)

**Fabric** – provision of our setting, the church centre, the church worship space and the grounds, technology and fittings; all the things we use to do ministry and mission. (See **Appendix B** below for some specifics).

**Support** – both paid staff team and volunteers providing the support needed to enable our ministry and mission.

## WHAT ARE WE CURRENTLY DOING?

CARE	WORSHIP	EVANGELISM	COMMUNITY
Telephone support	Online services every week	Training	Food Hub
House groups contact	In church services when restrictions allow	Online Alpha (planned)	CAP courses online
Meals			Bereavement support group

Prayer and listening	House Groups meeting via Zoom House Groups writing materials on Luke Courses including Mission Shaped Ministry and Witness Workshop	Planned greater use of social media Refocusing website for seekers and those outside CCP Holiday Club online	Some hirers when allowed Links with other churches Support for school and nursery including governors, collective worship online, church inspection, pastoral support (including cake!), support for Leadership Team and informal chaplaincy. Peaced Together online
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### Response and development:

The national lockdown and effects of the pandemic have turned how we do things upside down. They have not changed what we believe or what we see as the outcomes that build the kingdom of God. Innovations have included:

- **Zoom meetings!** – for groups, teams, coffee after church, PCC and even this Sunday's APCM!
- **Recorded content** – services online are recorded videos knitted together including sermons, readings, prayers, and music
- **Production** – use of software to knit together all the videos into a whole single click service
- **Live streaming** – services in church and Morning Prayer at home broadcast live on Facebook
- **New networks of care** – all are encouraged to stay in touch either looking out for someone else or asking for help or contact; there will be gaps – **please don't struggle alone – call and complain no one has been in touch but please call!**
- **Services without music** – have allowed us to experiment with other expressions of worship, some of which have led to very powerful, tangible encounters with God
- **Bubble Church** – a socially distanced family focused service where parents pray for children and children pray for parents – intergenerational church in action!
- **Bible content** – from bi-weekly Bible Studies open to all, Morning Prayer in different formats, Doug's Blog in Newslink, audio devotionals and preaching programmes on Prophets and Luke, sermon videos library on YouTube, all are encouraged to engage more with God's Word.
- **Service descriptions** – known as "Traditional" and "Contemporary" in the morning plus "Kids" and "Youth", services online can be watched and engaged with at any time during the week, not a set time; evening services are known as *Going Deeper* because that's what we aim to do – in Word, Worship and Ministry (wholeness and healing).

### PRIORITIES GOING FORWARD?

I think that we have three key priorities going forward:

- **Equipping for mission** – building confidence in witness, in the gospel and in our own stories of God's goodness and transforming Spirit
- **Ears for the hurting** – building an awareness of relationship building and developing the skills to listen to people's stories as we come out of the crisis
- **Engaging the digital** – developing our skills and presence in the digital world and making Purley aware of what Jesus is all about, because Purley needs Him!

We stand on the brink of the unknown. The disciples did the same as they watched Jesus ascend, blessing them (Luke 24:50), but gone from sight and apparently left alone. Ringing in their ears were his promises which he reminded them as he left *"you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Christ Church, in Purley and all South Croydon and to the ends of the earth"* (Acts 1:8 paraphrase).

### **CLOSING THANK YOU**

I would like to thank all the wonderful staff team who have been a delight to work with, the members of both Standing Committee and FAR who have exercised professionalism and diligence as well as Godly wisdom in steering our path and supporting the trust board, the PCC. Thank you to the PCC for making governance fun and exciting!

I have mentioned a few other people along the way but there are too many people to thank without doubling the length of this report! So, if I have not mentioned you, thank you anyway. Its been a roller coaster and we don't always get it right but Christ Church is set for greater things than these. Stay faithful, stay loving, be patient and look to the Lord.

Wishing you every blessing.

Your brother in Christ, Doug

Vicar, Christ Church Purley (November 2020)



## **APPENDIX A: FINANCE**

### **The 2019 Accounts : highlights\***

<b><u>Income</u></b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>Comment</b>
<b>Giving</b>	<b>272</b>	Increase on 2018
<b>Lettings</b>	<b>90</b>	Increase on 2018
<b>Other</b>	<b>27</b>	
<b>Total income</b>	<b>389</b>	Increase on 2018
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>		
<b>Parish Support Fund</b>	<b>123</b>	Steady increase
<b>Staffing</b>	<b>82</b>	Small increase; no YM until Nov
<b>Mission Partners</b>	<b>10</b>	Further grants made 2020; total £20K
<b>Other costs</b>	<b>111</b>	
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>326</b>	
<b><u>Net income</u></b>	<b>63</b>	Up on 2018 and increases reserves

(The Full 2019 accounts can be found at

[https://christchurchpurley.org.uk/Groups/322889/Christ\\_Church\\_Purley/Whats\\_On/A\\_P\\_C/A\\_P\\_C.aspx](https://christchurchpurley.org.uk/Groups/322889/Christ_Church_Purley/Whats_On/A_P_C/A_P_C.aspx) )

**Independent Examiners:** are Langdon West Williams plc (a division of Slater Harmer plc); they are also **proposed as our Financial Examiners for 2020.**

### **2020 and looking forward to 2021**

With two months to go it looks like we will broadly break even in 2020. These financial results will be reported to the APCM 2021 in April.

In 2020:

- The Children and Families Minister started in May and we had a full year of the Youth Minister
- Lockdown has more than halved our lettings income
- Parish Support Fund pledge will have been paid in full
- Partner Giving has maintained at very close to the 2019 levels which is remarkable and a big thank you to all the partners and one-off donors that have made this possible
- Support staff were furloughed for over 3 months
- Mission partners will be supported to the same level as 2019
- The Church Centre was closed leading to some savings but not enough to balance the loss of income on lettings and the café

## 2021 Budget: approved by PCC

The following are conservative figures aiming towards a worst-case scenario so that we can make prudent decisions. This budget will be reviewed in March as the progress of the pandemic becomes clearer.

<b><u>Income</u></b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>Comment</b>
<b>Giving</b>	<b>240</b>	This is assumed slightly reduced for known changes in the membership
<b>Lettings</b>	<b>43</b>	This assumes current levels of activity for all of 2021
<b>Other</b>	<b>42</b>	
<b>Total income</b>	<b>282</b>	
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>		This is the new format of the budget to align with the MAP outcomes
<b>Care</b>	<b>3</b>	Ministry
<b>Worship and discipleship</b>	<b>87</b>	Ministry
<b>Evangelism</b>	<b>6</b>	Mission
<b>Community</b>	<b>34</b>	Mission
<b>Fabric</b>	<b>55</b>	
<b>Support</b>	<b>176</b>	
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>368</b>	Including : Staffing £112K, PSF £126K, Mission Partner Grants £20K
<b><u>Net deficit for year</u></b>	<b>(86)</b>	£30K was planned to be met from reserves for Children's Minister and Curate's housing; the unplanned deficit of £56K means further use of reserves for 2021; this is not sustainable for 2022

## **Appendix B: FABRIC (extract from report by Tom Griffiths)**

**Our team has two aims:** to keep the Church and Halls in good condition, and to enable the various ministry and mission of Christ Church.

A big vote of thanks to the enthusiastic and committed volunteers who make a lot of this possible, along with our regular contractors.

### **2019-20**

Successfully completed in the last 18 months are:

- Most routine maintenance
- Painting the walls of the main hall and the floor of the hall lobby.
- New doors between the main hall and the Swamp.
- A major upgrade to the lightning conductors on the roof.
- Storage lockers for caretaker and people on duty at church.
- The new sound desk installed and fully commissioned.
- Air conditioning fitted to the offices.
- Improved monitor screens in the Foyer and Swamp.
- Repairs to the edge of the rear patio area.
- Repairing a hole in the South Wall of the car park.
- A replacement shed for outdoor and gardening equipment.
- A new sink in the disabled toilet.
- Full refurbishment of the brick South Wall (in progress from 11/11).

Currently £72,00 has been set aside for large asset repair and replacement.

### **2021-22**

Included in plans for next two years are:

- Other improvements and echo suppression in the Hebron hall.
- Improvements to the coffee bar in the Foyer.
- A new main church notice-board and poster boards.
- Physical repairs to the exterior of the church: ironwork and stone repairs, painting woodwork, gutter clearance, etc.
- Improved exterior lighting around the original Church.
- Planning the refurbishment of the church interior