

# **The Parochial Church Council of** **St Mary and St Michael's Parish Church, Trumpington**

## **Report for the Period from March 2021 -March 2022 and the Accounts for the year 1 January – 31 December 2021**

### **1 GENERAL**

#### **1.1 Aims & Purposes**

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Mary & St Michael, Trumpington has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the parish church, the church office building (known as the Bakehouse) and the church hall, although the hall is let on a full repairing tenancy.

#### **1.2 Objectives and Activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship with our church and to become part of our parish community at St Mary & St Michael. The PCC maintains an overview of worship in the parish and discusses proposals from the vicar as to how our services and worship can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning church activities, the vicar, churchwarden and the PCC have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, especially, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in God and Christ Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church building of St Mary & St Michael and the Bakehouse and that we ensure the continued maintenance of the church hall.

### **2 VICAR'S REPORT**

Since the last APCM we have cautiously emerged from the restrictions imposed by Covid 19. There remain at least 15 regular congregants who continue to shield, or who are prevented from returning by ill health and declining mobility. We have at the same time welcomed new members and hope that we continue to build in faith and number over the next year.

Livestreaming of services is continuing, and although the sound into and out of the church building is not always perfect, we endeavour to provide the 10am service live each week for people to watch at home. Thank you once again to all those who contributed towards the installation of the TV screens and *Zooming* equipment.

Christmas 2021 was celebrated in church, in person and the same will be true of Easter services in 2022. The Third Sunday Service at 10am has remained online because of its interactive structure, but it is hoped that this will return in person after Easter. Coffee was reintroduced on the first Sunday in February and it was lovely to see people chatting after the service. Communion in both kinds has not yet been reinstated, but this too will be reviewed by the PCC very soon.

Messy Church 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays have been well received and have attracted families from the wider community, including some families from MOPS. The provision of breakfast between the 8.30am and 10am services on 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays has been introduced to facilitate fellowship between the congregations.

In July we welcomed the Revd. Stephen Dove as Pioneer Curate. Stephen and I have been involved in several outreach events since July: the 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the Nature Reserve on Trumpington Meadows in August, cafés in Clay Farm in October and March, a textile workshop in the Bakehouse and corresponding exhibition in church, Christmas carols in the community; narrating the Christmas Story to Reception at Trumpington Federation, Advent assemblies at St. Faith's, Trumpington Park pupils visiting church to learn about Easter; involvement in establishing a Trumpington Youth Partnership and being better acquainted with the charitable work that is being undertaken in this parish.

In October the PCC had an away day at the St Andrew's Centre in Histon where we established the need for nurture/home groups to foster a sense of belonging among the church family. Since then, we have established 4 home groups that run at different times and locations to suit the needs of the group. The away day also raised interesting questions about the future of the church building, and a questionnaire which reflects that discussion has been offered to the congregation. The responses will be looked at and a summary will be made available to see on the church website. And, on the subject of websites, Dominic Halford and Kimberley St. John-Green have built a new Wordpress site which we hope is more intuitive to use and less cluttered. Work on the website is on-going.

Turning my attention briefly to the churchyard, I'd like to thank the people who have come to the working parties. As well as regular maintenance, and some professional pruning planned for May, it is hoped that we can repair/replace the planters that have fallen apart on the wall bordering the area for cremated remains. There is some levelling of graves to attend to and we will be getting a professional check of the Cedar and Scots Pine near the old vicarage.

In order to have a future and build the congregation, it would be wonderful to have a churchwarden to work alongside Edmund (who is also the Treasurer) and a PCC secretary. Without these central planks of support, we can limp along but growth and flourishing remain distant prospects. However, it is a pleasure to welcome Mike Stephenson who has undertaken regular sidesperson duties on Sundays and for Occasional Offices.

We are standing at a crossroads in many areas of church life and ministry. It would be helpful to be reassured of your prayers in all that we undertake, giving thanks for who and what we have, what we shall become and where we will go.

## **Occasional Offices**

Since March 2021 we have held 6 funerals, 8 weddings, 1 wedding blessing and 5 baptisms. It is noted that Mothers' Union baptism anniversary cards are sent from the church to all baptized babies and children from their 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> anniversaries. 20 cards were sent in 2021 and it is anticipated that 19 will be sent in 2022.

**Revd. Mandy Maxwell**

## **3 CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT**

Throughout the period under review, I have regretfully been on my own and I again start by saying that I would really like someone new to volunteer for the honourable office and role of churchwarden to work with myself, not only to share the position and its enjoyment but also be able to continue when at some time it is inevitable that I must stand down.

At the start of the year, we were again back in church hopeful of a return to more normal worship, but sadly the ravages of the Covid-19 pandemic has meant that many loyal members of the congregation have understandably continued to shield throughout the year, meaning it has been very difficult to involve congregation members who wish to help with services, as the requirements of any support have continually changed. I am grateful to those who have helped and to Shelia Betts who has when possible supported me at services. I have offers to assist in some roles but until everybody feels confident to attend regularly it would be pointless draw up a rota which looked up to three months ahead. In any case when the new "normal" finally comes the requirements will be different. As this report is finalised we are thankfully able to start scheduling a small rota and I do hope that Covid 19 permitting we will be able to continue it

In the Summer I went to Riding Mill to recommend Rev'd Diana Johnson to her new parish and was warmly greeted. It was a joyous occasion and we wish her well in her church which is beautifully set in the Tyne Valley.

I have continued and will continue to the best of my ability to support the Vicar, Curates and whole congregation covering the many aspects of church and service administration. With Kimberly St. John-Green on maternity leave, this includes operating the *Zoom* platform where we have a capability other church would be envious of.

With the Vicar I continued to keep in touch with our wider membership with periodic letters to both supplement *The Trumpet* and the website, especially when the in-person attendance was reduced by issues such as the emergence of the Omicron variant. While the need for such letters is now reduced, they can reach almost 100 households very quickly.

*The Trumpet* continues to be an important voice for the church and community. As we move into 2022 the distribution will soon rise above 6,000 households and we remain very grateful to all those volunteers, old and new, who deliver it.

One other responsibility is to check *The Terrier*. That has been completed and signed off.

In summary it has again been a very busy and challenging year.

**Edmund Brookes**

## **4 CURATE'S REPORT**

I've split my report into three sections: church, community and pioneering.

### **4.1 Church**

As a curate it's part of my role to contribute to the regular worship in the parish. As such I have preached, led intercessions, helped organise Messy Church and also observed Mandy in her leading of funerals, baptisms and weddings in preparation for when I will lead these myself.

### **4.2 Community**

A key part of my time so far in Trumpington has been being present at community events and trying to build relationships with people in the community. This has included: Trumpington Meadows' 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party, Carols at Trumpington Pavilion & Trumpington Meadows and Sunday Markets. I've also become a regular helper at both MOPs and the Memory Café.

### **4.3 Pioneering**

Mission is usually about heading out from the church and meeting people who you then bring back with you to church. Pioneering however is more often about heading out from inherited church (a way of describing church which is pre-existing) and establishing church where people already are in the community. The first stage of this is about 'listening' to what is going on and this is what I have spent a lot of time doing. Trying to learn about Trumpington, meeting people and finding out what they're looking for.

Some of this involved running a Pop-Up Church session in December 2021. This was an interesting event, slightly hampered by the Covid spike at the time, but which unintentionally acted as a Cornerstone reunion and highlighted something I've already been learning about Trumpington - that loneliness is a key problem here. And although it seems that a space for faith exploration was important to those who came, and provided feedback about what they were looking for, the need for community perhaps ranks higher.

Whatever pioneering initiatives happen in the future in Trumpington, these will need underpinning by prayer support from St Mary & St Michael's.

**Revd. Stephen Dove**

## **5 LICENSED PREACHER'S REPORT**

### **5.1 Meditation Group**

We've continued meeting on Sunday mornings from 9am for meditation and discussion over the past year. We also experimented with adding a mid-week meeting, too, but the group isn't big enough really to support an extra session. Our meetings remain on *Zoom*, owing to Covid and the health status of some members. The group remains small but we'd welcome anyone interested in exploring prayer and the Bible in silence and fellowship.

## 5.2 Home Group

Our home group started meeting in Advent, when we looked at the Sunday readings from Isaiah, exploring ideas of justice and the coming Kingdom of God. In the New Year, we have been reflecting on the readings and sermons from the previous Sunday, giving us the chance to talk together about the ideas and images that have been shared with us. We've been meeting mid-week on *Zoom* and have surrounded our Bible study with the night office, so that we spend a significant time praying together as well as talking.

## 5.3 Third Sundays

The online Third Sunday services have continued this year as in the previous year, being almost entirely led on *Zoom* rather than in person. In October, however, we had a successful in-person service in the church building for Commitment Sunday, when we explored ways that people could take a greater part in the work and life of the church. However we've met, these services have given us the chance to continue to explore a wide range of music and forms of worship that wouldn't have been easy otherwise.

**John Pettigrew, Occasional Preacher**

## 6 JUNIOR CHURCH

Our Junior Church's two groups continue to run on the 2nd and 4th Sundays during the 10am service, led by Sarah Gill and Michelle Johnson for the over 8s, newly named *Saplings* and Gareth Aktins and Katie Howard for the under 8s, now named *Seedlings*. We are delighted to build resilience by welcoming Michael Lovell to the team.

Junior Church adapted through the year as Covid restrictions varied. Through the Spring and early Summer we met in 'Zoom Breakout rooms'. We were glad to maintain the groups with a small number of children (4-8) but online meetings were far from ideal for young children. As restrictions eased, we gathered in person in the church grounds and enjoyed taking advantage of our outdoor space. With further easing of restrictions (and colder weather), we have been able to meet indoors and returned to sharing the use of the Rainbow Nursery space. Weekly attendance varies and currently averages around 12 children. Our teaching is often led by the lectionary but in the Autumn term we explored Heroes from the Old Testament, Spring term has been an opportunity to prepare our older children for First Communion and in the Summer term we will be learning from the parables. We are very excited that our Junior Church children are growing in faith and wanting to take part in the church life through communion.

Beyond Junior Church gatherings: At Harvest, we picnicked outside and enjoyed playing games together. The children made a recording of 'Mary had a Baby' for use in the Christmas Day service; this was well received and we plan to sing again at Easter. Following repair work in the South Chapel, books, toys and activity story boxes been returned for use there.

**Katie Howard**

## 7 MESSY CHURCH

Since the last APCM Messy Church has been held on the following:

Event	Congregation
2021 Easter 'Live' on Facebook and YouTube	Online
23 May 2021 – Messy Pentecost	Outdoors and online
31 July 2021 – Godparents Sunday	Outdoors and online
31 October 2021 – Messy Church – Saints and Souls	In church and online
30 January 2022 – Messy Church – Candlemas	In church and online

Future Dates:

29 May 2022

31 July 2022

30 October 2022

29 Jan 2023

Messy Church has continued to develop since it entered its 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Slot. We have experimented with the outdoors (Godparents Sunday), an online approach with all hosts and participants online on *Zoom* (Pentecost), and a blended approach with participants in church and on *Zoom* from September 2021 onwards.

We are holding a whole church breakfast before the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday services, which although they have proven popular with the Messy congregation have not had a presence from the 0830 service. We would like to look further as to how to encourage that congregation to drop into the breakfast so that both groups have a chance to meet and blend. The breakfasts have been held outside when the Covid rates have been rising.

We have worked to improve our relationship with the MOPS group to encourage participants from there to attend, and this transfer in improving. We are also looking to plan further ahead to improve our coverage in *The Trumpet*.

As the weather improves, we hope to return to outdoor activities and we are always looking for ideas and activity leaders.

Over the coming year we are looking to remind the congregation that Messy Church is not Children's church but an interactive service, suitable for all. We were reminded at the Candlemas service of the importance to have activities pitched at a range of complexities so that all needs and challenge levels can be catered for. We also need to think carefully about the blended (in church / on *Zoom*) congregation and how effective this is in the Messy setting.

**Fiona Gabrielczyk**

## 8 MEMORY CAFE

The Memory Café was my calling from God and I am pleased to say that it is great to see so many happy faces and smiles each month. We now have 14 couples on our register - they may not all come each month for various reasons. It is proof that such a facility is needed. We do not charge for this facility but a small donation is greatly appreciated. So far this has worked well.

Mandy, Stephen and I have excellent support from our great team of helpers and the support from Rotary and help from three of its members. We have been going for six months (Feb). Each month we have a theme, short talk, singing, craft, quiz and poems. Everyone with Memory problems is welcome along with their carers.

**Janet Hookham**

## 9 M&Ms and OTHER YOUTH WORK

We began running **M&Ms** youth group in person again at the beginning of summer last year (2021). We were able to meet outside during the warmer months, meaning it was easy to continue with the group despite the fluctuations of the pandemic. We have since met every month, alternating between locations in Newnham and Trumpington. Sessions are led by myself (Natalie Lealand) and Steve Burgess. Our meetings on Lammas Land, and outside the church in Trumpington, saw us play some outdoor games which proved to be really helpful in terms of group bonding, especially after the children had experienced such a disruptive year. Indoor sessions have also involved games, which continue to be popular, and in December we held an extended session during which we enjoyed a film inside St Mary and St Michael's. We usually share ice creams or snacks, which are always appreciated.

Each session of M&Ms involves some discussion on a Christian theme. We try to link something Biblical with contemporary concerns, and think about how we might apply Christian teaching to our lives today. We have looked at the commandments, and discussed what commandments we might add to the list; spoken about creation and the environment; and considered what it means to be united in Christ, among other things. The young people are always engaged during discussions (with a few detours!), and it has been good to present them with an opportunity to engage with their faith in a less formal setting.

Sessions are reasonably well attended, with around 7 children at most meetings. We did have one very small session in November, but parents have reiterated how grateful they and their children are for the sessions, and if we are low on numbers, it is usually due to illness or prior commitments. Some of our older members have recently 'grown out' of the group, and so it is worth considering a breakout group for those in their mid-to-late teens. Our main age range at the moment is 9 to 12 – this works well, and we hope to expand numbers by advertising at events such as the Clay Farm Café.

Since beginning my work in Trumpington, I have also been helping with '**MOPS**'. This is a weekly group, which alternates between 'stay and play' sessions and a crèche setup. I attend each week, as a way of providing stability for the children who attend (there is a large number of volunteers on rotation). These sessions always feel very lively, and although it can be challenging when children are first settling into the creche I really enjoy this work. We have a loyal attendance, which continues to expand, and sometimes parents

do ask about our work in the church (and some families have since attended our Messy Church Sunday worship). MOPS fills an important role in terms of reaching out to families from a Christian perspective, and the creche setup means that mums can receive some respite from caring for their children and enjoy some chat and an activity.

I have attended the **Messy Church** services on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of recent months, one time assisting with planting flowers and the next decorating candles. I think that this has been a valuable addition to the worshipping life of the church, with the potential to attract families who might otherwise be intimidated by the idea of a full service. The second Messy Church felt nicely streamlined, and the children remained engaged throughout the service.

**Natalie Lealand**

## **10 MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)**

MOPS successfully relaunched, initially for three trial stay and play sessions in the village hall in summer 2021, and after an amazing response we had a full launch in September 2021 in the old format of having a crèche alongside the main sessions at Trumpington Meadows. However due to the success of the simple stay and play sessions (everyone staying together for an hour) we decided to relaunch MOPS so it was weekly, alternating between a stay and play session 10:00-11:00 one week, and the full MOPS session 10-11:30 the following week. The stay and play sessions were to be run with minimal input, a few volunteers turning up, getting out the toys and making tea for the mums. This would mean we have continuation for the mums to help develop friendships, and help the children settle into the space. We successfully managed to increase our volunteer base during our Covid absence, especially with the support of Natalie, Mandy and Stephen, as well as the core committee of Emma, Janet and Isla and previous mums who have attended joining the helping team. We have also launched evening MOPS, and although this is only attended by two mums regularly, it has been an important thing for them to talk, especially about spiritual matters and relationships.

Since we have restarted, we have seen a positive response to both sessions. We regularly get between 10-15 mums, many returning week after week. For the Advent wreath sessions we got up to 30 mums making a wreath. Some mums just come for the stay and play, and some childminders also bring children to this session, but it gives us a chance to chat to them and build friendships. Our theme for the main sessions has been 'All for love' and we have tried to communicate this to the mums with the bible verse 1 Cor 13. Our format for the sessions includes plenty of time for chat over refreshments, a game, an activity and sometimes a video and chat. They have all gone well, although there is some disruption as expected with some children struggling to stay in the crèche without their mum, so we have had more children in the main session than before. Activities we have done have included glass painting, making notebooks, sewing, making waffles, a talk from Olivia Coles, advent wreath and making brownies in a jar! Since the relaunch, MOPS has been a success, with many stories coming from the mums about their own faith and spiritual journey and we hope to nurture this in the future. We also have some overlap with Messy Church and try to promote this as much as possible.

Thank you for all the support St Mary and St Michael's give us, financially, in prayer support and of course our wonderful helpers.

**Emma Heras**

## **11 BOOK GROUP**

**The Book Group**, which is open to all members of the church community, and so enables members of different congregations to get to know each other, meets several times a year. Meetings in 2021 were necessarily all on *Zoom*, but we are experimenting with meeting in person *and* on *Zoom*, to enable as wide a group of participants as possible to join the discussions. We have read a great variety of different books over the past few years – classics, modern novels, historical novels, biography, non-fiction etc. Anyone can suggest a title, the idea being to choose a book which should provoke an interesting discussion, e.g. a topical or moral issue, as well as about the book itself.

For more information please email: [bookgroup@trumpington.church](mailto:bookgroup@trumpington.church)

**Carolyn Aston**

## **12 CHURCH MUSIC**

We have continued to use the new hymn book imaginatively, integrating contemporary hymns with old favourites and I have particularly enjoyed accompanying the children's action songs.

I have tried to maintain a light touch with voluntaries from Bach (Ash Wednesday) to 'Pirates of the Caribbean'. The choir has recently made a stronger lead, although small in number. They have rehearsed on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays before the 10am service and from my vantage point, have made a strong impression. The children's choir, filmed for Christmas day, was a sensation! With the support of the PCC, I would like to develop music with young people, perhaps for the Jubilee Service.

I have made a deliberate effort to meet wedding couples to try to help with their music choices. They generally need help to know what is possible and how it will come across on the day. Live music is the key to congregational participation.

**Geoff Symon**

## **13 ELECTORAL ROLL**

There have been very few changes during the past year. Sadly Denis Bartlett died in 2021; and 2 new names have been added to the roll.

Last year we had 6 entries for people who were married in Trumpington Church but had no connection with the parish. These names have been removed for this year.

The present number of people on the roll is 136, 34 of whom live outside the parish.

**Janet Hendy**

## 14 SAFEGUARDING

The PCC is the main decision maker of the parish. Its members are clergy, churchwardens and others elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) of the parish.

The PCC and the incumbent have a duty of care under section 5 of the Safeguarding and the Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (i.e. the duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults) to ensure the protection of the vulnerable in their church community.

In terms of safeguarding, the incumbent and the PCC have complied with all the requirements:

- The PCC has adopted and implemented the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy 'Promoting a Safer Church', which is reviewed annually and displayed in church and on the website.
- The PCC has approved use of the *Parish Dashboards*, an online tool to help the Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) implement and work through the Church of England's Safeguarding Action Plan. The Parish is working at Level 3.
- An appropriately experienced, named PSO (Sheila Betts) is appointed to work with the incumbent and the Parochial Church Council and a suitably-trained DBS assistant is appointed to help process safer recruitment checks (Joanne Davidson).
- A range of safeguarding policy statements and safer working practices are in place and have been reviewed during the year.
- All church officers and those responsible for working with children, young people and vulnerable adults on behalf of the church are safely recruited and have done or are shortly due to do the Safeguarding training/s appropriate to their role/s. (Currently 37 active volunteers and 11 clergy/ALM/Ordinands/lay staff are currently DBS checked). Most have up to date safeguarding training at the appropriate levels (still to complete : C1 – 1 ; C2 - 1)
- PCC members are now required to complete an additional training: Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse; 11 members have still to complete this as at 8 February 2022.
- Appropriate insurance is in place to cover all activities undertaken in the name of the PCC which involve children, young people and adults.
- Procedures are in place for dealing promptly with safeguarding allegations or suspicions of abuse.
- All data protection legislation is complied with, especially in regard to using (e.g. storing) information about any church officers and any safeguarding records.
- Activity risk assessments are in place for each activity which is associated with either children or vulnerable adults and run in the name of the church. All were reviewed before activities restarted following closures for Covid-19.
- The PSO reports regularly to the PCC on safeguarding in the parish – safeguarding is a standing agenda item at each PCC meeting.
- An addendum to a hire agreement is always used when any person or group hires church premises for activity that involves children, young people or vulnerable adults.
- No safeguarding issues have been reported in the previous 12 months.

Safer Recruitment and People Management (SRPM): the new assessment toolkit has been completed in order to understand the PCC's current SRPM practices and procedures and there are a few areas where action will be implemented immediately to ensure the PCC is meeting the SRPM Guidance Requirements.

## 15 CAMBRIDGE SOUTH DEANERY SYNOD

The Deanery Synod met on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 (on Zoom), but this meeting was too late to be included in the APCM of 28<sup>th</sup> March 2021 report and so is included here:

- There was a brief presentation on the Rocha UK project and discussion on Ecochurch in the deanery. So far St Mark's, St John's, St Paul's and St Bene't's are taking part in the project's award scheme.
- All parishes have met their 2020 parish share, enabling the deanery to receive the diocesan rebate.
- The present Deanery Plan is to be reviewed.
- CCHP (Cambridge Churches Homeless Project) is now a member of Housing Justice Network. During the winter of 2020/21 17 people were accommodated in a guest house and a Travelodge in Cambridge supported by 30 volunteers.
- The Deanery Lay Chair, Richard Morgan, thanked Father Robert Mackley for his work as Rural Dean over the past 5 years, as he was retiring from the role on 30<sup>th</sup> April.

The Cambridge South Deanery Synod met on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021 in St Mark's Church, Newnham in person:

- This was the first in-person deanery synod since the beginning of 2020 and the meeting welcomed the new Rural Dean, the Revd Rachel Rosborough.
- In groups members discussed how parishes had responded to the pandemic.  
Positive: on-line services, prayer groups and PCC all worked well and there was engagement with a wider group of people.  
Negative: Children's work suffered and congregations missed full sacramental corporate worship and singing. Still more on-line worship than in person.
- The Deanery was on course to meet its 2021 share. There was no increase for 2021, but a 1.5% increase is expected from the Diocese for 2022.
- CCHP The Revd Sophie Young (St Philip's curate and Bishop's Adviser for Homelessness).  
For 2021/22 a pop-up hostel will be provided on Chesterton Road with 24-hour security for people entitled to benefits. Alternatives are being sought for those not entitled.  
More volunteers are needed.
- Ecochurch: parishes continue working towards A Rocha awards for personal, church and community lifestyle requirements.
- General Synod Elections (30<sup>th</sup> July – 8<sup>th</sup> October 2021)  
Vacancies for 4 Proctors (Clergy) and 3 Laity for Ely Diocese  
Elected Clergy: The Revd Canon James Blandford-Baker (St Andrew's Histon)  
The Revd Dr Alex Hughes (Archdeacon of Cambridge)  
The Revd Canon Nick Moir (St Andrew's Chesterton),  
The Revd Canon Simon Talbot (Gt Shelford)  
Elected Laity: Dr Felicity Cooke (Stapleford),  
Mrs Rebecca Cowburn (Caxton)  
Mr Christopher Townsend (Holy Sepulchre Cambridge)
- Living in Love and Faith: The Bishop of Ely wants clergy and parishes to engage with this. Discussions will take place at a future deanery synod.

## **Ken Fletcher (Parish Representative) and Della Fletcher (Diocesan Synod)**

A Deanery Planning Meeting was held on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> February (in person):

Bishop Stephen visited St. Barnabas on Mill Road where representatives of Deanery Synod and clergy were invited to hear about the rationale behind the Deanery Plan for South Cambridge. There may be some strategic thinking to do in the parishes that exist outside central Cambridge. Parish representatives were encouraged to think creatively about their involvement with the community around them and to be outward facing in their reach and mission. There are no plans to reduce the number of stipendiary clergy posts but deployment within the existing allocation will be examined. Partnerships between well-resourced parishes in central Cambridge and smaller parishes on the fringe are to be explored.

## **Rev'd Mandy Maxwell**

### **16 FLOWERS IN TRUMPINGTON CHURCH**

We have come to a crossroads regarding flower arranging in church as there are simply no new people coming forward to help despite several attempts at attracting new volunteers. The pandemic has made things worse.

At present there are two regular arrangers, who have future constraints on their availability, with two further helpers, one only for festivals. Of these four arrangers, two are over 80 years of age. The pool of helpers has gone due to natural attrition.

Following discussions at the PCC with various options considered it was agreed that supplementary help would be provided by our local florist, Radhika, within the flower fund budget. Festivals would continue to be arranged by the church flower arrangers.

Requests for donations for flowers for anniversaries would be placed in the pew sheets and *The Trumpet* along with the annual appeal for lilies in remembrance at Easter. Fundraising events will be planned for the Flower Fund once Covid restrictions allow.

We frequently have comments on how much appreciated the flowers are as part of church worship and very much enjoy providing them. We hope these measures will allow this to continue.

## **Diana Jackson and Siân Jones**

## **17 MOTHERS' UNION**

As a Christian mission charity, Mothers' Union seeks to support families of all kinds. Wherever Mothers' Union works in the world, the need to support families is now greater than ever. In over 80 countries, 4 million members worldwide share a vision to bring about a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful and flourishing relationships. Mothers' Union nationally took part in "The Big Give" Christmas challenge which ran from 30<sup>th</sup> November to 7<sup>th</sup> December. The aim was to raise money to support the fight against all forms of gender-based violence, empowering communities with the skills, knowledge and tools to effect change. The national target was exceeded, raising a total of £74,389. Trumpington Mothers' Union branch is made up of 10 active and caring members. We only managed to meet together in person once in 2021, when we all gathered for a picnic lunch at 75 Bishops Road. Between times we have kept in touch with one another by phone and email. We are keeping up to date with Mothers' Union projects and being involved where we can.

At Christmas 2021 we sent gifts to support local refuges and hostels. We collected goods to make up 2 x kitchen sets and 4 x bath bags for children as well as donating Primark, Asda and Tesco vouchers.

Our branch meetings for this coming year will be in the warmer months from April to September in the garden of 75 Bishops Road. It will be good to meet face to face and feel the warmth and love of the Mothers' Union fellowship.

**Stella Chandler**

## **18 CHURCH FABRIC**

During the year, the final works associated with the 2018 Quinquennial Inspection Report were completed on budget. Following the emergency internal roof repairs in November/December 2020, steeplejacks inspected the nave roof in the Summer and identified necessary repairs and improvements to extend, so far as is possible the life of the lead. These repairs were completed in November and included provision of extra fixings to the south side to reduce the ability of the lead sheets to slip. The church needs to remember that the lead now has limited life with rerolling/renewal/replacement on the medium-term horizon.

Portable electrical equipment was again tested, and the electrician was able to carry out some small repairs to the fixed installation. While the 5-year examination of the fixed installation was successfully completed a couple of years ago, during the year there have been a couple of faults. While these have been quickly repaired, it must be remembered that apart from the chancel, the wiring is now many years old. The system has been modified several times. Complete renewal to the latest standards (Bs7671/ IET 18<sup>th</sup> Edition) will be required at some time.

The four church heating boilers, now c 20 years old, are regularly maintained and the engineer comments that they remain in good condition. The PCC will in due course be considering how to renew them when the time comes

At the end of the year Ecclesiastical Insurance visited the church to review our insurance cover, their report was received in January 2022 and will be actioned.

The low northern wall to the Churchyard was damaged by a car and a repair method was being developed at the year end and it is hoped that the bulk of the cost will be borne by insurance cover.

The final cost of completing the 2018 Quinquennial Inspection Repairs (QIR) was £46,881 and the external nave roof repairs £9,840. £3,089 remains held within the Fabric Fund towards the provision of a disabled toilet within the church. Some Fabric Fund cash is also held in the PCC's general bank account to pay maintenance bills as they arise. Following the various works the Fabric Fund as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022 had free cash of £46,300 and an annual income of c£11,250. It is worth noting that the PCC has been able to fully fund both the 2012 and 2018 QIR work without special appeals. While the Fund's cash reserve has been depleted, some of the costs were covered by legacies.

It is hoped that with the completion of two significant QIR repairs (2012 & 2018) and the roof repairs, ongoing repair work will be significantly reduced.

**Edmund Brookes**

## **19 FINANCIAL REPORT**

### **19.1 General Commentary**

The finances of the PCC are still seriously affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. Open plate collections and Yellow Envelope gift-aided donations were minimal throughout the year despite an increased congregation compared with 2020. Following a series of sermons by the Vicar, a Commitment Sunday was held in the Autumn and this resulted in a good and welcome increase in giving but not in any way sufficient to lead to a balanced budget in the long term. The small surplus on the General Fund is the result of applying a legacy to the Fund rather than to capital projects. While many of the congregation regularly give freely to support the PCC's work, the Fabric, Finance & Fundraising Committee is strategically addressing the shortfall as the health of the PCC's finances are largely sustained by income from capital left by our forebears.

There were a small number of related party transactions. No PCC member received any remuneration except for the repayment of expenses incurred on behalf of the PCC.

In early 2022 the renewal of lease of the Church Hall to the Rainbow Nursery, for 5 years with effect from 1st April 2022, was satisfactorily negotiated, but it awaits final signature. The renewal process highlighted changes to insulation legislation which in future may impact on the PCC's ability to lease out the building.

### **19.2 Reserves & Funding Policy**

The PCC holds reserves to ensure it can meet its committed financial obligations. As at 31 December 2021, unrestricted reserves totaled £79,029, (2019 £76,490). While there is no specific target for these reserves it would be desirable to have a General Reserve of about 6 months' expenditure (c£81,000) provided the guaranteed regular income stream enabled a generally balanced budget, which it does not currently do. The Fabric Fund reserve is held against any unexpected and sudden repair bills, and has been seriously depleted by the

2012 & 2018 QIR and Roof repair works and only stands at £46,300. Small amounts of cash are held in the general account as part of restricted funds covering the Bells, Churchyard & Flowers.

It is PCC policy to invest capital sums as units in the CCLA/Central Board of Finance of the Church of England's Investment Fund similar to most parish churches. The capital value of these funds have increased thanks to the cautious and prudent investment policy of the fund, and their dividend stream has been maintained.

**Edmund Brookes**

## **20 STRUCTURE, GOVERNMENT & MANAGEMENT**

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2020 and it is a registered charity.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules.

### **20.1 PCC Structure**

- Ex Officio: Incumbent, all other clergy and 1 member of Diocesan Synod
- Elected by parishioners: 2 churchwardens (only one churchwarden was elected in 2021)
- Elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the parish: up to 2 Deanery Synod representatives and up to 12 ordinary members
- Co-options by the PCC: to fill casual vacancies in elected membership plus a maximum of 2 others.

All those who attend our services are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC. PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members will receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

### **20.2 PCC Attendance**

The full PCC has met 6 times (via *Zoom*) since the APCM 2021, with an average level of attendance of 69%. The PCC has two main committees or subgroups dealing with Mission, Ministry and Outreach; and Fabric, Fundraising and Finance respectively, which meet between PCC meetings and report back to the full PCC. All PCC members are encouraged to join one or other of these groups. There are also subgroups dealing with pastoral and GDPR issues. Some of these groups also involve other members of the congregation.

The PCC's Standing Committee meets occasionally, as needed, between PCC meetings, to expedite issues.

### **20.3 Current Membership**

PCC members who have served at any time from 1 January 2021 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex-officio:

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| • The Revd Dr Mandy Maxwell   | Vicar - Incumbent (Chair)              |
| • The Revd Marguerite Roberts | Associate Minister                     |
| • The Revd Stephen Dove       | Curate (from July 2021)                |
| • The Revd Steve Harris       | Associate Minister                     |
| • The Revd Diana Johnson      | Curate (to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2021) |
| • Mrs Della Fletcher          | Member of Diocesan Synod               |

Elected:

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| • Mr Edmund Brookes        | Churchwarden & Treasurer                 |
| • Mr Ken Fletcher          | Deanery Synod Rep                        |
| • Ms Izzie Sutherland-Cash | Deanery Synod Rep (until September 2021) |
| • Dr Gareth Atkins         | (Vice Chair)                             |
| • Mrs Almudena Cano        | (until APCM 2021)                        |
| • Mrs Fiona Gabrielczyk    |  |
| • Mrs Sarah Gill           |  |
| • Mrs Janet Hendy          | (until APCM 2021)                        |
| • Mrs Katie Howard         |  |
| • Dr Michelle Johnson      | (until APCM 2021)                        |
| • Dr Siân Jones            |  |
| • Mr Chris Points          |  |
| • Mrs Catherine Rowland    | (until APCM 2021)                        |
| • Mrs Julia Smith          |  |
| • Mr John Pettigrew        | (co-opted May 2021)                      |

#### 20.4 Vacancies at the 2022 APM/APCM

Churchwarden, PCC Secretary, four 3-year vacancies for PCC members, and four 2-year vacancies for PCC members (places unfilled in 2021).

#### 20.5 Advisers to the PCC

Independent Examiner: Lisa King, Burdett King Accountancy Limited, 8 The Hamiltons, Newmarket, CB8 0NF

Inspecting Architect: Oliver Caroe RIBA AABC, Caroe Architecture, Office 5, Unit 8, 23–25 Gwydir Street; Cambridge CB1 2LG

#### 20.6 Administrative Information

St Mary & St Michael's Church is situated on Grantchester Road, Trumpington. It is part of the Cambridge South Deanery in the Diocese of Ely within the Church of England.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary and St Michael Trumpington (working name PCC Trumpington) is a registered charity, registration number 1139132. The charity's principal address is The Bakehouse, 1A Grantchester Road, Trumpington, Cambridge, CB2 9LH. All current PCC members are trustees of the charity.

Approved by the PCC on 14th March 2022 and signed on their behalf by The Revd Dr Mandy Maxwell, Vicar and Chair of the PCC: