

# **The Parish of St John the Baptist, Lustleigh**

## **Annual Report and Financial Statements**

### **of the Parochial Church Council**

for the year ended  
31st December, 2018

Rector:  
Preb. Simon Franklin

Bankers:  
Lloyds Bank Newton Abbot

Independent Examiner:  
Kate Martin

The Parochial Church Council is an Excepted Charity

**The Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist's Church, Lustleigh.**

## **Annual Report**

### **For the year ended 31st December 2018**

#### **Aims and purposes**

St John the Baptist Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, Preb. Simon Franklin, in promoting the mission of the parish church (which is part of the Moretonhampstead United Benefice). The PCC is also responsible specifically for the maintenance of the fabric of the Church and The Old Vestry.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

The PCC meets four times a year and is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church to become part of our parish community at St John's. When planning our activities, the PCC has considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and in particular the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish family, through:

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

To facilitate this work, it is vital that we maintain the fabric of the Church and the Old Vestry

#### **Achievements and Performance**

##### *Worship and Prayer*

A different service is held every week – in the form of Matins, Eucharist, Evensong and an Informal Service. Every fifth Sunday, a joint Benefice Service is held at one of the churches in our Benefice. A Bible study is held once a month in the local pub which caters for people both from within the congregation and those outside the church community wishing to explore the Christian faith. During the past year, we have tried a number of different services in which we could engage with our community in a less formal manner. These have included a Rogation service, a Pets Service, a Healing Service and an All Souls service all of which were well received and well attended.

At the moment, there are 57 parishioners on the Electoral Roll. The average weekly attendance during the year was 22 but this number increased substantially at Easter, Harvest, Remembrance and the Christmas services. Four funerals, two weddings and one baptism were held in our church during 2018.

##### *Deanery Synod*

Two members of the PCC sit on the deanery synod which provides the PCC with a link with the Churches around us and also with the Diocese as a whole. It also receives reports from the General Synod. Amongst the items discussed was the formation of a Deanery Plan – trying to work out how best to deploy clergy, both stipendiary and non stipendiary between the 21 parishes in the Deanery.

##### *Church Fabric*

The church is open to our community and visitors every day from 9 am until dusk and the Lady Chapel is set aside for private prayer and prayer requests. There have been no major changes this year.

### **Mission and Evangelism**

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. A total of £1400 was sent to *Open Doors*, £325 to the *Royal British Legion*, £430 to *Combat Stress* and £150 to *Shelter Box*. Our Parish Magazine is distributed monthly containing a letter from the Rector and details of church activities together with details of services throughout the benefice. A weekly *Contact* sheet is produced by the Rector which is distributed to each church within the Benefice giving the set readings for the day and any prayer concerns. This also helps the congregation to keep in touch with any other activities happening within the Benefice. In addition to these two publications, a monthly *In Touch* magazine is produced which contains benefice news together with events being organised by the Diocese.

### **Financial Review**

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £23,931 and payments from this fund totalled £17,490, giving a surplus of £6,441, partly due to Gift Aid reclaimed for previous years. Tax efficient giving and collections were slightly up on 2017 to £14,313. Income from standing orders and weekly envelopes ('Planned Giving') increased by 7%

The contribution to the Diocesan 'Parish Share', which pays the stipends and housing costs of the clergy, fell by 3%, due to marginally lower attendance figures over the past three years.

### **Reserves Policy**

The PCC has resolved to maintain, if possible, a balance on our General (unrestricted) Fund, which equates to at least three months' unrestricted payments (say £5,000)

The Fabric Fund balance of £34,000 is retained towards the costs of repairs/replacement, much of it being restricted to investments, from which only the income can be disbursed.

### **Safeguarding**

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

### **Volunteers**

The members of the PCC would like to thank all the volunteers who work so tirelessly to make our church and lively and vibrant community.

### **Structure, governance and management**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St John the Baptist, the membership of the PCC consists of the Rector, churchwardens, those elected to the Deanery Synod and other members who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting by those on the Electoral Roll. All those who are members of our congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish and for all financial matters. The PCC meets quarterly during the year with a very high level of attendance.

**Administrative information**

St John the Baptist is situated in the centre of the village of Lustleigh and is part of the Diocese of Exeter.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity exempted from registration with the Charity Commission. PCC members who have served from 1 January 2018 until the date this report was approved are:

*Ex Officio members*

- Incumbent:** Preb. Simon Franklin, Chairman
- Wardens:** Mrs. Sandy French  
Mrs. Julia Vittle
- Deanery Synod Reps** Mrs. Sue Wollen  
Mrs. Jeanette Wilmot

**Elected members**

- Mrs. Linda Davis, Hon. Secretary
- Mr. Chris Jones, Electoral Roll
- Mr. Michael Hughes
- Mrs. Clare Pearson
- Mr. Henry Reddaway, Hon. Treasurer
- Mrs. Jane Riley
- Mrs. Jeanette Wilmot
- Mrs. Sheila Peacock
- Mrs. Sue Wollen

***Approved by the PCC on ..... And signed on its behalf by:***

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