



CHRIST Church



Epsom Common

Annual Report

2020 – 2021

Prepared for distribution in advance of
the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

25th April 2021



A Message from Revd. Rosemary Donovan

PHEW!!

The last 12 months have been like nothing any of us could have predicted or wished for. We have been living in extraordinary times. Stories of Coronavirus began to populate the media in early 2020 and have continued to dominate ever since. They have touched all aspects of daily life and the church has not been exempt. Despite it only being 6 months since the delayed last APCM, this report as usual covers the year April 2020 to April 2021. Undoubtedly this is going to be year for the history books but let us be positive, focusing on what we did achieve rather than what we didn't, at the same time giving due honour for lamenting what we have lost.



When we entered the first period of Lockdown on Mothering Sunday, we all felt keenly the absence of meeting together. I was particularly anxious not to lose contact with any of our members and immediately mobilised the Pastoral Team who already had specific areas of contact to identify those who would be unable to access resources online for special care and ongoing physical deliveries. Since then, this team has remained the glue by which weekly bulletins have been distributed and regular contacts made. On behalf of us all I extend heartfelt thanks to them for their faithfulness and support.



It is true to say that Coronavirus has presented us with many challenges but also many opportunities and the landscape of church life will be changed, hopefully for the better. The advances in technology for a mixed economy of worship were unimaginable 12 months ago and now we have such an improved online presence through not only a variety of social media platforms but also a new look website and YouTube Channel. We are greatly indebted to our tech support teams and acknowledge the immense amount of effort and hours they put in to assist with worship and activities.

Many other groups have laboured tirelessly in difficult circumstances the staff team adapting to home working and furlough restraints; the music department producing such a rich bank of quality recordings for use; the finance team juggling accounts and loss of income. Other interest groups have continued to meet virtually providing a valuable form of social interaction and pastoral contact. There has been a surge in creativity and new ideas for networking, evangelism and outreach are coming to the fore. So, it certainly has not been a wasted year indeed many of us have found it a profoundly moving experience as we have encountered deeper connections and a more compassionate community spirit. It has been a time for reflection and each of us will have had a unique journey. I encourage everyone to spend time processing it and offering it to God.

As you pray through this report give thanks for all that has been, look forward with hope to the future but most importantly acknowledge the PRESENT as a GIFT from God.

Yours in Christ

Revd. Rosemary Donovan



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Our Vision

Christ Church as a Living Well
and Christ Church *living well*

Worship and Discipleship

Rev'd Rosemary Donovan

COMMUNION

CONNECTION

CHALLENGE

These are the three words I would use to sum up the experiences of worship throughout this past year.

I returned from retreat last Spring to be bombarded with issues about worship. In a matter of weeks there was no sharing of the Peace, no wine and eventually no physical church. At first it was a relief just to stop and gain clarity - it was clear what couldn't happen, but the ambiguity soon returned and has remained as we have had to complete numerous risk assessments and introduce social distancing. Nevertheless, we have maintained a weekly service of communion throughout the whole experience. But it is different. As clergy we have experienced profound pain at not being able to share bread and wine as the gathered Body of Christ in this place. Whilst we know we do all still share spiritually together as we are united in our love for God and each other there is something supernatural and special about the Eucharist that is simply missing when you preside in an empty building or to a TV screen.

However, Zoom has enabled us to maintain connection in a way not previously thought possible and something Christ Church pursued straight away appreciating the corporate nature of worship. Although an intimate experience (not everyone likes being visible on screen) Zoom has enabled us to keep lay participation a high priority. The accessibility of Zoom has meant that 'elders' perhaps not so tech savvy have learnt new skills and been able to join in when perhaps previously mobility issues had prevented them coming to physical church. Parish boundaries have been stretched as people have been able to join in from other parts of the country and even abroad!

Worship has been costly throughout this period especially when we have not been able to celebrate the festivals of Easter and Christmas in the way we would have liked. It has felt like a sacrifice but a small price to pay for the ongoing safety and protection of us all. Producing online worship whether for live streaming or pre-recording for YouTube is challenging and takes much more time and effort than doing it 'live'. Particular credit must be given to both our band and choir members for the energy and resources it has taken to produce home grown music to use in worship.

The creation of the outdoor chapel and opportunity for worship outside during our summer series was a highlight. All our speakers spoke eloquently and movingly about their Lockdown journeys and it was a fantastic witness to be visible to passers-by however much of a logistical and technical nightmare it was for our amazing support team.

We were frustrated in having to postpone our new service **5@5** and even when we did plan to go for it Lockdown 2 came along and scuppered plans once more! We were blessed that Bishop Andrew did Zoom in and this new time has proved popular with families and all ages and we look forward to building on this in the future.

Our *living well* whole church discipleship programme enables each of us to live healthy holistic Christ centred lives. The Rule for Life has entered its 5th year and is matched by a daily prayer cycle that picks up on each of the seven Holy Habits. During 2020 we focused particularly on prayer and study tying in with the Diocesan TCTL goal of 'confident prayerful disciples.' We have seen an increase in people accessing the daily office and midweek communion especially during *Thy Kingdom Come* week. Many members continued to use the 24/7 prayer resources post The Prayer Course as well as appreciating the in-house materials offered during Holy Week and at Candlemas. We have recently launched **Faith@Home** as we seek to encourage all households to create holy corners as a focus for devotion.



Church Development

Revd Rosemary Donovan

The Project Team has only met once in the past year as energies and priorities have been elsewhere. The PCC did authorise the submission of a pre-planning application before Christmas and we are awaiting feedback from that. We obviously need to prayerfully reflect on where God is calling us to NOW in this post COVID-19 landscape. Revitalising our Vision for the future is a priority of the reconstruction phase.



Outreach

Revd Rosemary Donovan

There is immense responsibility that goes with being a parish church and with the closure of church buildings we needed to make a rapid response in order to keep connected with our local community and keep them informed as to what was going on. Fortunately, we were able to capitalise on connections with Paul Taylor from *What's on in Epsom* and he encouraged us to make regular posts and videos for Facebook. Helen Sygrave, our Parish Administrator, has taken responsibility for this alongside the Vicar and Jen Sadler. Alistair Wells mobilised a small team to help upgrade our website and give it a new look and Leslie Jamieson set up a YouTube channel. The Premise Team help keep banners outside the church up to date.



Apart from our social media and website it has been our fence ministry that has been our main focus of outreach during this past year. Capitalising on our location on the edge of the common and our increased footfall as people take local exercise, we have been able to create a variety of ever-changing displays. We have been able to post encouraging scriptures as well as local history information for VJ day. Local bagpiper Craig McLean Anderson also helped put Christ Church on the map for this bank holiday celebration. We have also been able to involve the Little Hands Nursery as well as other Christ Church members in creating special displays for festivals.



The outdoor chapel has been a real spiritual focus for ramblers, dogwalkers, runners and many who have sought sanctuary and some quiet space. Providing pointers for prayer and installations for special occasions such as Remembrance has gained a lot of interest. The staff team have had many valuable conversations with those seeking refuge or just passing through our churchyard which is good evidence for our ongoing Church development.

In particular the schools stone project and Star Trail on the Common created by our Youth and Families Worker over the Christmas period saw a 120% increase in hits to our website. We obviously want to build on this interest as we continue to nurture our community partnerships once things open up again.

Missions

Greg Edwards

Christ Church directs its Missions giving through ten championed charities, which are supported for a 3-year period. At the turn of the 2019/20 year, we were happy to welcome two new Mission partners – The Besom (championed by Chris Purdy) and Christians Solidarity Worldwide (sponsored by Anne Fraser).

This year saw the change of the Mission Chair, with Anne Sturton standing down from a sterling 10-year stint as the key driving force at getting the Missions Committee on the map and getting transparency on the Church's agenda. Greg Edwards took over Chair after the January meeting (our last in person), but due to the unforeseen reality of the COVID pandemic, all meetings have subsequently gone virtual – which has worked out pretty well.



Although COVID has scuppered many of our physical in-Church collections for Harvest (£185 to Surrey Wildlife Trust) and Christmas Services (£390 to Christians Against Poverty), through the Missions (which includes an amount reserved for emergency appeals) we managed to make donations of £250 towards each of the following beneficiaries – Epsom & Ewell Foodbank, Wellfound, Christian AID and Mothers Union (Sierra Leone).

The remainder of the Missions budget (£1,275 per mission) was distributed amongst the 10 Mission partners and was greatly appreciated as many of the charities we support have been adversely affected in this COVID pandemic.

Some of the positives from this year were the brilliant online presentations for UNIVIDA, CSW and Wycliffe. We also had a special Christmas hamper appeal for the Besom, which between the various churches in Epsom/Ashted, collected 76 hampers for those families and single men/woman supported by the Besom.

Our vision for the forthcoming 2021 year, is to focus on local/country wide charities that require support due to the pandemic such as charities that are dealing with the impacts of the COVID crisis e.g. mental health (especially with children not being at schools etc), domestic abuse, poverty (school meals), homeless shelters etc.

We thank Christ Church parochial team and congregation for their continued support for the Missions Committee.



Social Events

Revd Rosemary Donovan

Social distancing and the inability to share hospitality has sadly greatly impacted the social side of our communal life this year. Nevertheless, we have been experimenting with online activities and the Knitting and Crochet Group have held a weekly quiz inspiring a whole church event in the summer. We have also hosted several coffee mornings raising funds for Macmillan Cancer Research and Save the Children. Once confidence levels resume, we will investigate some of the events rolled over from last year.



Children & Young People

Jen Sadler - Youth and Families Worker

This report covers the activities for children, young people and families for the 12 months from January 2020. During this period, Storm Dennis hit the UK in February, but the more significant event was the arrival of Coronavirus Pandemic and the necessary and changing restrictions that this realised. For each group and/or activity following, what was achieved and provided together with the changes to delivery methods are shown. Contact and pastoral care responsibilities were heightened during this time.

CC Creche

Group meeting term-time Sundays during 10am Service. Located in the same space as CC Kids, these two groups supported each other by sharing adult volunteers when needed to ensure Safeguarding Adult:Child ratio.

This group was unable to provide an alternative delivery mode when services were suspended and the closure of church. However, where identified, families within this age range were catered for with the doorstep deliveries.

CC Kids

Age-appropriate learning for children attending 10am Sunday services running in term-time. Consolidation of knowledge and new exposure of the Bible allowed those present to explore a Christian ethos in modern-day life experiences. Skilled leaders provided a variety of learning encounters. Katherine Chambers, Katharine Brook and Shona Wells continued their support of this group with Miles Crawford completing his DofE volunteering element.

Delivery mode changed to on-line learning and interaction. Supportive materials for learning included in weekly Notice Sheet. This mode has continued with varying success throughout the year. Attendance changing by reason of on-line learning necessities of home-schooling and screen-time usage.

Some activities have been shared with the wider church family with YouTube uploads demonstrating All Age craft for some festivals during the year.

CC Pathfinders

Meeting on 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month. The 1st session providing support and service in church by way of Side duties, AV desk, Gospel reading and writing and delivering intercessions. This group was to be my main focus of encouragement and involvement for 2020 with the introduction of comprehensive rotas of duties in church to gain maximum participation within this group of young people.

This group was suspended with the halting of services in church and no suitable alternative was available on-line. However, CC Youth has the same membership and therefore successful contact was maintained. Thanks to the Ministry Team, Helen Smith, Martin Virgo and James Petit for their continued support.

CC Youth

This group continued to grow in numbers attending and new projects undertaken in the weeks before national lockdown. For example, candle pouring as gifts for Mothering Sunday and participation to celebrate 50th anniversary of Bourne Hall with entry into the Great Scarecrow competition. Thanks to Richard Martin and Kate Bond for their help with these projects.



CC Youth continued on-line in the weeks during lockdown playing games, quizzes, scavenger hunts, etc. In July, on what would have been our last meeting before the summer holidays, a socially distanced gathering was organised. There was an expectation that CC Youth would be able to meet face-to-face from September. However, in a poll with parents/carers about returning, the consensus was 'not yet'; interaction and exposure with all year groups returning to full-time school was enough at the moment and an on-line gathering didn't fulfil the expectations of connections wanted or needed by this group of young people. Thanks to the ministry team, Richard Martin, Kate Bond and James Petit for their continued support to this group.

The Source

Starting its second full year, The Source had a full programme exploring the stories behind some of the stained-glass windows and a cohort on average of 16 families, plus Christ Church families attending this monthly service. January supported The Children's Society with a Christingle Service but February's service was cancelled due to the weather conditions from Storm Dennis. At this event, Baptism families were welcomed, birthdays celebrated, and songs sung and danced to. Fellowship over teatime at the end of the service was enjoyed by all.



Covid restrictions meant we had to adapt how we operate; this included meeting outside, providing the ability to book a limited number of family tables in church and providing an on-line means of taking part from home. This on-line approach would also be supported with the delivery of craft bags.

The Source @ Home started on 14th May as an afternoon gathering for our Source and other families. With a more fluid structure, this was an opportunity to catch up with one another, share a story and take part in a simple craft activity. This continued weekly until the breaking up of schools in July. The return to school for some year groups in June did have an impact on attendance. Thy Kingdom Come was celebrated at this event with craft bags being delivered to home addresses.

Wheels and Squeals

A popular weekly term-time event and an important outreach to our wider community, this group is run by Mothers' Union members. I attended to support this group and leaders and provide information about other Christ Church activities and events. There is natural traffic from this group to The Source and vice versa but especially from Baptism families.

Lockdown stopped this group from meeting and information and activities moved to social media via their Facebook account.

It was hoped to start a new group for parents with very young babies born during lockdown to provide an avenue of social connection. However, this initiative has been thwarted by ongoing Covid restrictions.

Communion before Confirmation and Confirmation

There were plans to run classes for these candidates, but they were suspended due to the uncertainty of when celebration services would be able to take place. Hopefully during 2021, these will be able to proceed.

Good Friday Workshop & Holiday Club

Despite significant planning and preparation, we were unable to proceed with these events due to Covid restrictions.

Doorstep Deliveries

This became an important way of connecting with families, children and young people. Starting with craft items for Thy Kingdom Come for The Source @ Home in May, further deliveries continued in August, and more regularly in the Autumn leading into Advent and Christmas. The Source and Christingle Service particularly benefitted from this process.

Pastorally, the five or so minutes chat on each doorstep was of more benefit than phone calls, texts and emails combined. This face-to-face interaction continued to keep this group connected to Christ Church. No one has been forgotten or left behind.

Other Highlights

All age activities have been an appreciated way of inclusion especially during the Creationtide and Advent seasons. Christ Church welcomed many varieties of pets to our Pet Service in October.

Remembrance Sunday was a closed service, but a box of poppy crosses was available at the Outdoor Chapel for walkers etc to take part in this corporate act. Out fence ministry at this time reflected this event with a display of coloured poppies from Christ Church children and Little Hands Nursery children.

12 Prayers of Advent with associated decorated stars on Epsom Common was an involved craft including participation of many people bringing this idea to life. Running alongside this event in the church grounds was also decorated pebbles by primary school children and an Advent Word Jumble on the painted logs. The footfall that all of these activities brought to Christ Church increased our exposure to our wider community.



A Christmas message from Christ Church was recorded for our primary schools that could be used at their Christmas Concerts and assemblies. Also, in acknowledgment of the hard work and perseverance teachers and leaderships teams had endured during this time, a small Care Package gift was delivered to Staff Rooms sending Christmas Blessings.

Contact with other groups in our community continued using various means and these included Christ Church United Football Club and the uniformed groups operating from the Scout HQ.

Spinnaker's Easter Experience was one of the first casualties of Covid restrictions in March; it is hoped by the many involved that Christ Church will once again be able to host this interactive event.

Training moved to on-line events and I took part in various webinars hosted by Guildford Diocese and national church equipping and sharing ideas of how to navigate this changing environment. There have been regular meetings with children, youth and family workers from the diocese using on-line meetings and ideas and best practice have been shared and discussed.

So many of our services, events and activities have been disrupted by lockdown restrictions, it is hoped that our many ways of communications including our new website facilities, social media platforms and live streaming have insured that the many groups and people who already had an associated link with Christ Church have remained informed during this year of interruption. We have also welcomed new people including families that have found us on-line and are now part of the Christ Church family.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge my thanks to Revd Rosemary Donovan, Staff and Pastoral Team members and my Support Group for their continued support and prayers of my work at Christ Church.

Environment Group

Revd David Fox-Branch

In 2018 the PCC voted that *“caring for creation be recognised formally as integral to the mission of the church, embedded across our activities.”* We also voted to become an Eco Church. That means everybody at Christ Church is a member of Eco Church (Yes, you)!

The Environmental Group tries to discern how to take these two things forward. The Group helps to shape what being Eco Church means in the daily life of Christ Church, but we look beyond the award scheme at wider issues and community action, too.

The fact that we are *all* members of Eco Church means that *everybody* who worships at Christ Church is welcome to join the Group and **we need new members**. Just come along when you see the next meeting advertised in the notice sheet. You don't need special skills, knowledge or physical ability, just a desire to help.

The Group is run collaboratively and as I prepare to leave Christ Church, we've taken some steps to ensure that that will continue. So we are far more than a talking shop or advisory group: we're doers and, I hope, as Covid eases, that will become more evident. Whatever your age or situation, we're all brothers and sisters in creation and there's a 'you' shaped space in the group.

In 2020

Working with Others: We started exploring collaborative working with the Methodist Church and St Martins, both Eco Churches. Covid got in the way of practical action but as restrictions ease, there is the exciting potential for action across Epsom churches.

Environmental Fair: We hoped to host an event, possibly in Creationtide. Again, lockdown prevented that but in 2021 we should be able to do it. I say 'we' but by then, I hope to be Vicar somewhere else so I mean 'you'!

The Outdoor Chapel: is something that Jo and I wanted to see at Christ Church since we first visited and lockdown provided the catalyst. Outdoor Morning Prayer surrounded by nature has been a real blessing for those of us able to get to there and the wider community has appreciated the space, too. I regularly have conversations with people who are comforted to know that they can pause before the cross in a place of natural quiet and simple beauty.



Carbon Footprint: The Church of England has set a goal to be carbon neutral by 2030. We have signed up to 360° Carbon, which will enable us to audit our whole-church carbon footprint. This should enable us to identify ways of significantly reducing our output and off-setting the carbon that what we can't avoid emitting.

No Mow May: The Merry Mowers agreed not to mow the churchyard in May and then to trial a new mowing regime recommended by the wildlife charity PlantLife. By the end of May the churchyard was a sea of daisies and was becoming a regular destination for families during their exercise time. A beautiful patch of ox-eyes had sprung up out of nowhere, and there were plenty of other flowering plants that we normally never see.

Every Flower Counts: No Mow May 'paved' the way for us to participate in *Every Flower Counts*. This citizen science project estimates the nectar yield of mowed lawns by counting the number of flowers there after a month uncut. Lawns are vital to our declining insects: a garden can easily support 400 bees. Our results were slightly below the national average; so we shall see if 2020s effort has an impact on 2021.

CNN: Regular articles have been produced by Environmental Group members for CCN and now will be on the blog.

Wildlife Pond: The pond at the Greenway is maturing well and beginning to look natural. Lesser Reedmace was removed because the roots can damage the liner but flag irises remain to enable dragonfly and damselfly nymphs to leave the water. More than twenty species of bird visit the garden; most recently a fieldfare made a winter appearance; frogs, toads, newts, foxes and possibly a hedgehog all come and go. All our visitors and residents come for the pond or to feast on the rich pickings in the garden that occur because of the presence of water.

Re-use and Recycle: Ro's Terra Cycle, scheme on the Greenway goes from strength to strength so please make use of it if you don't already. Also, Sue Curtis has launched a resource sharing scheme that encourages us to re-use rather than discard, and to share rather than buy unnecessarily. You may have seen notices about this in the weekly sheets. A key target for 2021 and our return to church will be to consider how to recycle and reuse better as time goes on.

In 2021

Care for Creation will be a major theme of our life this year, as lockdown eases and we seek a new 'normal' that brings life in abundance to all God's creatures.

'Green' Energy: Thanks to the Finance Team, moves are afoot to switch to a Green electricity tariff as soon as possible.

An Environmental Handbook for the Church is in the final stages of completion and covers how we go about planning and decision-making if care for creation is to be truly embedded in our life and witness. It has been a significant undertaking. The Handbook is mainly for people with some kind of role in running the church but will, I hope, be available as a download for anybody who wants it.

Eco Church Awards: We're now very close to the Silver Award. In three out of five necessary areas we have scored silver or gold. We had hoped to have achieved it by now but the lockdown caused an inevitable shift in priorities and also reduced opportunities for practical action; there is every reason to hope to achieve it by the end of the Summer.

Finally, and simply, thank you to everybody who helps in anyway, whether that is in physical terms or simply with prayer and encouragement. The appetite for Eco Church was a happy surprise when I proposed it in 2018 and we've done well so far. Lockdown showed us that it is possible to make things better for God's earth: let's pick up the momentum again as restrictions ease and show our community that Christian living is sustainable living that cares for the whole world.



Finance Report

John Warburton, Treasurer & Tracy Jones

Finances

During the year ending 31 December 2020, Christ Church received income before legacies of £158,524 (versus £187,520 in 2019) whilst expenditure totalled £195,641 (versus £215,817 in 2019): a deficit over the course of the year of £37,116 (versus a deficit on a like for like basis of £28,297 in 2019). There was significant legacy giving during the year and the balance sheet at the end of 2020 records the total net worth of Christ Church as £683,751 compared with £377,999 at the end of 2019.

Income

Voluntary Income totalled £129,025 in the year, down from £154,766. It is difficult to establish how much of this reduction is Covid related but planned giving and associated gift aid was £12,178 down (£118,990 in 2020 versus £131,168 in 2019) reflecting financial difficulties faced by donors and some departures from planned giving. Income from activities that for generating funds totalled £261, a reduction of £6,831 versus 2019, reflecting reduced opportunities for fundraising activity, particularly events, and special collections. Our incoming resources from Charitable Activities, £16,573 more commonly known as Trading income decreased by £12,751. This is largely driven by significantly reduced hall income. Investment income remained modest as a result of the clergy house not being rented. The Church received a grant of £6,250 towards the cost of AVL and remote worship. Legacy income, allocated directly to reserves, at £339,613 was very significant. Overall, excluding legacy income, income was reduced by £28,996 for 2020 versus 2019.

Expenditure

Overall, the PCC have decided to defer expenses where possible and managed to reduce the budgeted deficit by £20,207.

The largest expenditure was our Parish Share of £79,646 which supports our clergy and ministry, as well as a part of the support to those parishes in the Diocese less well blessed with funds than ourselves and paying toward the administration costs of the Diocese itself. The Parish Share reduced by £2,448 in 2020 but is expected to rise by around 2% per annum for the next 4-5 years.

The AVL project was undertaken in 2018 and completed during 2019 and was treated as a capital expense. Depreciation on this, and a photocopier purchased in 2019, is over 5 years and is included in the year at £25,339. This is the major change to expenditure from previous years and accounts for the bulk of the deficit.

Buildings/ premises expense for the year was £28,106, a decrease of £6,373 over 2019, reflecting deferral of clergy house maintenance, organ maintenance being up to date and moderate savings on utility bills. This was partly offset by some required and urgent Church maintenance.

Net staff costs were £40,192, down £11,175 from 2019 reflecting reduced office costs, some furlough receipts in 2020 and reduced expenses.

In addition, there were some additional direct savings related to reduced events and Living Well project activity.

Missions

Missions, outreach and gifts amounted to £13,750, a reduction of £971 versus 2019 and reflecting reductions in the activities that usually have special collections (especially Christmas).

Funds

The General Fund balance at 31st December was £104,087, £7,943 less than on 31st December 2019. The reserves policy for Christ Church is to retain in the General Fund, which is not restricted, a balance of four months' average expenditure. The balance at the end of 2020 is equivalent to approximately 7 months' expenditure, down from 9 months in 2019.

Most of the liquid assets of Christ Church (which amount to £572,086) are retained in cash at bank, the majority of which are deposited in the CBF Deposit Fund with CCLA. A further amount is held in an ethical investment fund with CCLA (see notes to the accounts).

The Fixed Assets include the Curate's house on the Wells which is carried at historical cost rather than market valuation as it is primarily used for church purposes. The recently installed lighting, audio and visual equipment has been included at the installation cost and will be depreciated over 5 years.



Safeguarding

Ro Stretton, Parish Safeguarding Officer

Policy

A new Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor has been appointed. The contact details have changed and are being incorporated into the 2021 policy. Due to lockdowns, the circulation of the Safeguarding policy to the wider community was again, delayed. This latest update has been approved by the PCC and will be available on our website and on usual notice boards. The Diocesan website has clear and easy access for contacting the Safeguarding Team for anyone who does not wish to contact myself or the Vicar in the first instance.

DBS Validation

All DBS validation is either in process or has been completed apart from one person who is in abeyance due to long term illness and one person who has requested to delay until their volunteering role resumes. Two people have been validated using the temporary online document checking agreement. Scanned copies of the documents submitted are being retained, under GDPR guidelines and with their consent, until such time as the documents can be verified in person (at the earliest possible opportunity) when the copies will be destroyed.

Training

Another new training pathway was published by the Diocese in January 2021. For the majority of volunteer roles, the level of training has been reduced or simplified. All training has been completed apart from one person who will complete prior to the next APCM date. The PSO continues to update the Vicar with the details of anyone who does not respond to training requests. There are roughly 12 people that need to complete Responding to Domestic Abuse training. Our scheduled face to face training last year was cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions and the Diocese are currently discussing how to provide appropriate training for this sensitive topic. This is likely to be confirmed in the summer of this year.

Concerns

All Safeguarding concerns raised have been resolved, as far as our response is concerned, to the best of my knowledge. Please continue to be vigilant as the lockdowns have meant people are less visible and may not have been able to access support or advice.

Church Governance

Craig Donovan, Interim PCC Secretary

Christ Church, Epsom Common is part of the Church of England. It is part of the Diocese of Guildford. The correspondence address is Christ Church, Christ Church Road, Epsom, KT19 8NE. Registered charity number 1127945.

Under Church of England legislation, the PCC has the responsibility of collaborating with the incumbent in promoting, in the ecclesiastical parish, and the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. (Worship matters are for the incumbent.) The PCC also has premises responsibilities for Christ Church, the Church Hall, and the Curate's house at 278 The Greenway.

PCC Ex Officio members

Clergy	Vicar: The Revd. Rosemary Donovan (Chair) Curate: The Revd. David Fox-Branch Associate Minister (OLM): The Revd. Sue Curtis
LLM Reader	Berwick Curtis
Wardens	Andrew Hards (joint Lay Vice Chair) John Warburton (Treasurer and joint Lay Vice Chair)

Elected Members

PCC members who have served at any time from 1st January 2020 until the date this report were/are (note due to the delayed APCM Elected members were asked to stay on beyond April until the APCM had taken place in October – current members are highlighted on the table below) :

January 2020	APCM October 2020	January 2021
Merinda D'Aprano (Deanery Synod)		
Deborah Warburton (Deanery Synod)	Jane Hards (Deanery Synod representative)	
Alistair Wells (Deanery Synod)	Jen Sadler (Deanery Synod)	
William Brook, Gill Glasspool, June Skinner, Denise Chamberlain, Penny Purdy, Chris Purdy	Clair Wright Jane Williams	
Martin Virgo		
Katherine Chambers		
Alan Frame		
Greg Edwards		
Tracy Jones		
Anne Sturton		

The current interim PPC Secretary, Craig Donovan, is not a member of the PCC (and therefore has no voting rights).



Annual Report approved by the PCC on 22nd March 2020 and signed on their behalf by the Revd. Rosemary Donovan (PCC Chair).

Church Wardens' Report on the Fabric of the Church and its other Properties

This has been a frustrating year but maintenance and other works have continued. Generally, the Church is in good order for its age and the maintenance repairs required have been of a minor or periodic nature.

The upkeep of the church, hall, grounds and 278 The Greenway (the curate's house) continues to be overseen by the small but dedicated Premises Group Committee chaired by Jim Smith. They agree and manage a planned maintenance programme to ensure that the small things are dealt with in a timely manner and record when everything has been completed. This includes routine items such as servicing and safety checks of heating installations, fire extinguishers, electrical installations and equipment, fire alarms, organ blower bearings and woodworm checks. These are an important element of the Health and Safety of the church and hall.

Some checks and repairs continued to be carried out in house saving expenditure and the Wardens would like the church members to note the continued hard work and dedication of Richard Martin. Thanks must again go to the teams of volunteers who help with the upkeep such including the Church cleaners and brass polishers, the flower team, the Merry Mowers and all those who helped in the church clean up that took place just before lockdown. Thanks also to Martin Shipton for continuing to deal with insurance issues.

The church is insured by the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group in the sum of £13,330,000 and the hall for £2,900,000

The Church

Starting on a positive note, legacy funding from the estate of Richard Shortman enabled re-gilding of the two bell tower clock dials following the granting of a Faculty. The dials were removed on 25 August and re installed on 15 October following renovation by Gillett & Johnston at a cost of £5,634 including VAT. Thanks to Roger Morgan for taking photographs and writing the feature about the clock for Christ Church News.

The report for the last APCM mentioned disappointment with the new lighting and audio scheme particularly lighting for the dais, pulpit and choir. Further advice was obtained from lighting specialists Steve Myers Ltd. as the original contractor had ceased operating in the UK.

With the approval of the PCC work was carried out during August. This included installation of several additional light units, re programming of the coloured up-lights, improvement of speakers at the rear of the church, purchase of a tilt, turn and zoom camera plus electrical testing.

A support bracket for the new improved camera has been purchased and awaits fitting. In the meantime the camera has been successfully used supported on a tripod. The additional work has further enhanced the overall lighting, however at the time of writing some further adjustments were under consideration and a meeting with Steve Myers will be arranged to discuss this and other outstanding items. Steve Myers will assist with installation of the new camera. The cost was £29,079 including VAT. A retention of £2,000 (inc.VAT) is at the time of writing being withheld pending final agreement and completion of outstanding items.

In June, the Vestry and Sacristy carpets were replaced following the December 2019 break in at a cost of £1,571 covered by the insurance claim.

In September the outside lighting was enhanced by replacement of the two lights at the eastern corners of the building with LED spotlights at a cost of £290.53 including VAT.



The Smart Water security marking of the external leadwork was refreshed in April as required by the church insurers, in house materials only at £200.

Minor roof repair was carried in December at a cost of £350 including VAT following a leak near the organ console.

Regular servicing of the heating system, organ and organ blower plus safety checks of the fire extinguishers were carried out as normal.

The Hall

Repairs following the December 2019 break in plus redecoration of the ground floor were reported at the last APCM. Attempts to recall the company to attend to several outstanding items have been unsuccessful. The Premises Committee will be discussing further steps including possible legal action and will report to PCC accordingly.

A video doorbell has been fitted at no cost to the church.

Usual boiler servicing and safety checks have continued. Richard Martin kindly carried out some minor repairs.

The Grounds

The condition of the flint boundary walls was mentioned in the last Quinquennial Report and reported at the last APCM. In February this year part of the wall by the car park sustained considerable accidental vehicle damage. Repairs and an insurance claim are in hand the driver having provided details. The opportunity will be taken to carry out maintenance repairs to part of the wall along Christ Church Road where the flint work is loose. The Archdeacon has given written consent for the works.

278 The Greenway

No significant repairs have been carried out. Repairs and possible improvements will be considered later this year when the house is due to become vacant.

Report on the Goods and Ornaments 2020-2021

The small paten damaged in the December 2019 break in was repaired under the insurance claim.

The backing of the green Ordinary Time altar frontal requires minor re stitching to make it hang correctly.

There are no other matters to report.



Deanery Synod Report

Merinda D'Aprano

There have been two meetings since the last APCM.

Autumn:

In October we greeted the new Area Dean, our own Revd. Rosemary Donovan, and thanks were given to the outgoing Dean, Revd. Des Williamson.

Reps were asked to speak about the trials and blessings of lockdown. It was an encouraging session, with many shared ideas for worship, online activity, socially distanced practical activities in the church grounds, and plans for when we are allowed to be more fully open for all.

Dates were given for Churchwarden licensing, and the steering group also planned to meet in January.

Winter:

In January the Synod met to hear a presentation on Transforming Generosity, from Juliet Evans the Diocesan Stewardship Advisor. She shared a great deal of wisdom, including the need to recognise the willingness of communities to contribute, and the danger of making assumptions regarding people's finances.

Juliet presented a range of resources and particularly those for "The Generosity Week". The discussion followed questions around encouraging children into a culture of giving and the relative poverty of some younger or larger families. Resources are available with suggestions for these.

The treasurer informed us that there will be no Deanery Parish Contribution this year.

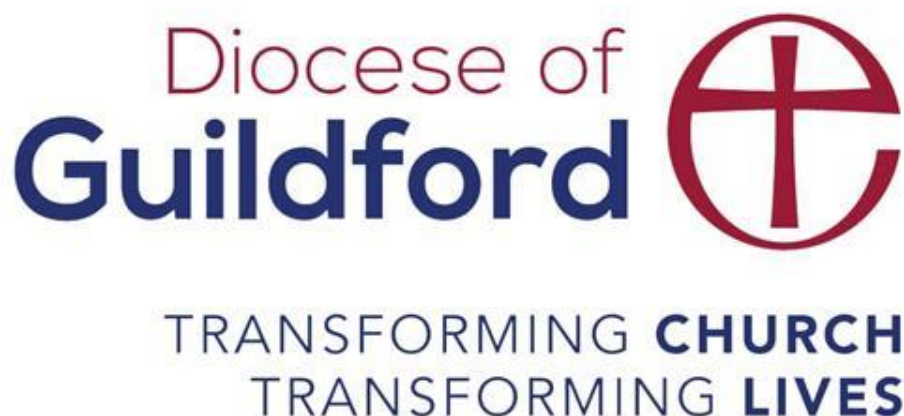
Peter Harvey was elected Lay Chair of the Deanery.

The Area Dean, Revd. Rosemary Donovan, drew attention to The Archbishop's visit, postponed from last year which will now take place on 24 – 26 September, and the plan for the weekend is likely to be used as a national prototype for these diocesan visits. Please make sure this date is in the diary for us all. She also reminded us that there are substantial changes in roles and responsibilities at Church House and asked us, and through us all church members, to keep the diocesan staff in our prayers.

Revd. Sue Curtis was able to share information about the lifestyle bags designed to help us all keep in touch.

It was also noted that St Paul's Christians Against Poverty Centre is able to help people who are struggling with debt. They can be contacted on 0800 328 0006.

The next meeting on 9th June will be looking at Living in Love and Faith.



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (SOFA)

For the period from 01 January 2020 to 31 December 2020

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Incoming resources						
Incoming resources from generated funds						
Voluntary income	128,763	339,612	—	—	468,376	149,690
Activities for generating funds	260	—	—	—	260	7,092
Investment income	1,718	—	—	—	1,718	1,695
Incoming resources from charitable activities	16,572	—	—	—	16,572	29,324
Other incoming resources	4,958	6,250	—	—	11,208	1,734
Total income	152,274	345,862	—	—	498,136	189,536
Resources used						
Charitable activities	147,099	48,531	—	—	195,631	215,788
Governance costs	9	—	—	—	9	28
Other resources used	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total expenditure	147,109	48,531	—	—	195,640	215,817
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	5,164	297,331	—	—	302,496	(26,281)
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in	2,031	45,667	—	—	47,698	61,868
Gross transfers between funds - out	(18,395)	(29,303)	—	—	(47,698)	(61,868)
Other recognised gains / losses						
Gains / losses on investment assets	3,255	—	—	—	3,255	6,219
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net movement in funds	(7,942)	313,694	—	—	305,751	(20,061)
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward	112,029	265,969	—	—	377,999	
398,060						
Total funds carried forward	104,087	579,664	—	—	683,751	377,999
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
General fund	104,087	—	—	—	104,087	112,029
Designated						
Church Hall & Clergy House	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fixed Assets	—	105,072	—	—	105,072	103,262
Greenway	—	2,935	—	—	2,935	2,935
Missions Appeals Fund	—	2,659	—	—	2,659	1,409
Property Reserve	—	10,771	—	—	10,771	12,000
Vestments	—	32	—	—	32	32
Vision2020	—	458,193	—	—	458,193	146,330

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Christ Church Epsom Common - 1127945
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST December 2020

		As at 31/12/2020	As at
31/12/2019			
Fixed assets			
	1000: 278 The Greenway	2,935	2,935
	1100: Equipment	7,632	9,540
	1200: Audio, Visual, Lighting	99,595	93,722
	Total Fixed assets	110,162	106,197
Current assets			
	3200: Nat West Current account	139	(207)
	3205: Nat West Reserve account	50,073	17,630
	3220: Lloyds Bank Fees Account	1,823	3,074
	3230: CBF Deposit Fund	482,497	210,817
	3240: Investments	37,452	34,197
	3260: Floats	100	100
	Z05: Accounts Receivable	4,531	10,347
	ZZZ08: Prepayments	345	(511)
	Total Current assets	576,962	275,447
Liabilities			
	6699: Agency collections	12	12
	Z04: Accounts Payable	2,375	1,246
	ZZZ09: Accruals	987	2,386
	Total Liabilities	3,374	3,645
	Net Asset surplus (deficit)	683,751	377,999
Reserves			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	302,496	(26,281)
	Z01: Starting balances	377,999	398,060
	Z02: Gains/(losses) on investment assets	3,255	6,219
	Total Reserves	683,751	377,999

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Approved by the PCC of Christ Church, Epsom Common at its meeting on 25th April 2021,
and signed on its behalf by

Vicar

PCC Secretary

The notes on the following page form part of these accounts

PCC OF CHRIST CHURCH, EPSOM COMMON
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

Accounting policies

1. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, together with applicable accounting standards and the SORP 2019.
2. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.
3. 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

4. Designated Funds are part of the unrestricted funds which the PCC has earmarked for a particular project or use, without restricting or committing the funds legally. The designation may be cancelled by the PCC if it later decides not to proceed or continue with the use or project for which the funds were designated.
5. Unrestricted Funds are General funds, which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.
6. The accounts also do not incorporate the financial statements of the Vicar and Churchwardens' Trust, which handles the legacies from Dennis King and Mildred Freeman.

Incoming Resources

7. Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised as accruals when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Resources expended

8. Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for missions are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Investments

9. In November 2018 the PCC invested the sum of £30,000 in the COIF Charities Ethical Investment Fund managed by CCLA Fund Managers Limited a wholly owned subsidiary of CCLA Investment Management Ltd which is authorised and regulated by the FCA in the conduct of investment business. The asset is valued as at the 31st December 2020 at the mid-market price in the accounts. AS of this date the investment was valued at £37,452.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings

10. Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993. The curate's house is included at the original cost.
11. No value is placed on movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens held in special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and movable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the SOFA.

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment

12. During 2018 and 2019, Christ Church installed an upgraded Audio, Visual system as well as new and enhanced Lighting. This is being depreciated over 5 years in accordance with the church's policy for items over £5,000. Additional works amounting to £29,303 were required in 2020, which was funded out of a legacy received during the year. No depreciation is allocated in the year of purchase for assets purchased part-way through the year. In accordance with the depreciation policy, the first-year depreciation on the additional works will commence in 2021.
13. Individual items costing £5,000 or less are not capitalised.

Payments to Trustees

14. One Trustee was also employed as a Youth and Families worker and employment costs for that role amounted to £24,786. One Trustee received £190 for services provided at weddings and funerals. There have been no other payments to Trustees during the year other than for goods or services purchased by Trustees in the course of their duty on behalf of Christ Church

Independent Examination of the Financial Statements of Christ Church

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of Christ Church, Epsom Common

I report to the PCC (the trustees of the Registered Charity 1127945) on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020, as set out on the pages attached.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").


I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that, in any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Ronald Byer

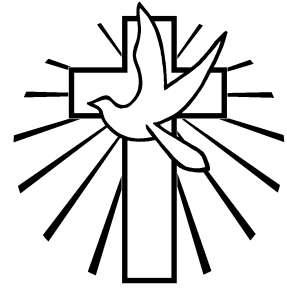
Date: 23/3/21.....

Christ Church, Epsom Common

Registered Charity No. 1127945

Minutes of the 2020 Vestry Meeting & the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

held in Christ Church at 10.am on Sunday 18th October 2021
chaired by the Vicar, the Revd. Rosemary Donovan



Notes: As usual for Christ Church, the Meetings were integrated with Parish Communion, thus removing the need for opening and closing devotions. These minutes cover only the Meetings' actual business. The meeting had originally been scheduled to take place 26th April but was delayed due to the COVID-19 restrictions. The meeting was held publicly in church and also streamed live on Zoom (as had been approved by the Diocese) and all votes included both those present and those joining via Zoom.

Vestry Meeting

1. The minutes of the Vestry Meeting held on 7th April 2018 published in the Christ Church Annual Report 2019-2020 (Annual Report) were agreed as a correct record.
2. Election of Church Wardens: John Warburton and Andy Hards were elected for their third and second terms respectively.



Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. **Attendance:** there were 41 people present in church including three members of the clergy and 39 joining via Zoom including the LLM/Reader.
2. **Deanery Synod Elections:** Jen Sadler, Merinda D'Aprano and Jane Hards were elected to be the Christ Church Deanery Synod representatives who will also be members of the PCC.
3. **PCC Elections:** Katherine Chambers was elected to serve her second term on the PCC, with Jane Williams and Clare Wright being elected to serve a first term. The terms will run through to the APCM in 2023.
4. **Appointments:** Ron Bryer was re-appointed to be the Independent examiner; Ro Stretton was re-appointed as Parish Safeguarding Officer; the meeting also confirmed the ex officio membership of the PCC of the LLM/Reader (however this was later pointed out to be unnecessary as this had been confirmed in the previous APCM (see 14a in the 2019-2020 minutes).
5. **Finance:** the accounts for 2019 (published in the Annual Report) were confirmed as having been independently examined with a clean report issued on 1st March 2020 were duly approved by the meeting. The Treasurer, John Warburton, had provided the following statement regarding the 2020 budget – "The finances of Christ Church have been severely impacted by Covid restrictions, particularly income from Hall and Church bookings including Little Hands, Weddings, ad-hoc collections, fundraising events and some impact on planned giving. The income shortfall is estimated as approximately £35,000. There are some cost savings year to date but these may still be required later in the year. A total deficit of approximately £79,000, reduced through depreciation to £70,000 is forecast. On the positive side, Christ Church has been blessed with a significant legacy of around £350,000. The PCC are considering various ways to address the shortfall through increased income and/or cost savings and these will need to be considered as part of the 2021 budget planning process." The meeting voted to adopt the revised 2020 budget.
6. **Vicar's APCM Report 2020**

In our Gospel reading (Luke 9:1-10) Jesus appoints the 70 and sends them ahead in pairs with one of the most quoted sayings about church life, "*The harvest is plenty, but the labourers are few!*" He asks them to

step out in faith, carrying no purse, bag, sandals etc. If they get welcomed great and if not move on but all equally charged with *"curing the sick and proclaiming the kingdom is near"*.

Well, we have just appointed two churchwardens, three deanery representatives and have nine other PCC representatives along with the staff team. We also know that there are many others who volunteer in other capacities to assist with worship, or welcoming, pastoral care, practical premises, or other administrative tasks. Many are involved in growing the kingdom through evangelism and outreach, children's or youth ministry as well as working with other like-minded groups locally. All this points to a lively vibrant community and yet there is always more to do and there are constant requests for help with a variety of tasks – *'the harvest is plenty, but the labourers are few'*.

So, what if we gave up worrying about the tasks, Lockdown has been great in forcing us to let go of previously held rituals and traditions. What if we could get back to the call of this Gospel message, *'to cure the sick and proclaim the kingdom'*?

As a physician St Luke enjoyed a ministry of healing and this is an aspect of church life that Christ Church has previously hung its hat on believing it to be part of our unique calling and mission, which it rightly should. In Mark 2:17 Jesus stated *"It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."* And in Luke 5:31

"Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick."

For Jesus, the purpose of his mission was not for those who believed in him and then followed him but those on the fringes who did not yet know their need of salvation. Maybe we could examine our last 12 months in the light of this. What have we been doing that proclaims good news to our local community?

At our last outdoor service at the beginning of Creationtide we identified seven core values that we wrote on these leaves, values that we wanted our church to be known for and I have found it helpful to use these themes as a hook for my reflections:

Prayerful – Environmentally Aware – Joyful Caring – Friendly – Welcoming – Non-Judgemental

Prayerful - Over the last nine years we have increased our commitment to prayer at CC. This past year saw many people engaging with a four-week course on 'How to Pray' and the increased buy in for *Thy Kingdom Come* week was heartening. We have supported the ecumenical 24/7 prayer room and the fence ministry with the new outdoor chapel has been greatly appreciated. Both David, Jen and I are frequently stopped by people who tell us how encouraging and inspiring these prayers and spaces have been in providing a focus and opportunity for meaningful engagement in a way our closed building could not. The increased number of hits on our social media in particular for the short liturgies on global or national concerns has made the effort worthwhile. Last week 17 people joined in a virtual quiet day and I know the resources that have remained on our YouTube channel have been welcomed.

Environmentally aware - We were delighted to achieve the Bronze Eco Award last autumn and are well on the way to hitting the silver standard. Obviously, some of the initiatives like the swishing evening had to be postponed however 'No Mow May' and the outdoor services were a powerful witness in this area proclaiming good news for creation. Healing of the earth is ultimately every Christians concern and undoubtedly Lockdown has provided a real breathing point for our planet, but we cannot be complacent. I hope that the holy habit of Ecology and Stewardship will be our primary focus for 2021.

Joyful - Well we have not let this past year defeat us. Although personally I cannot say I have felt particularly joyful as it has been an exceedingly difficult year, I know that the knitted angels and their message of peace and joy brought much pleasure last Christmas.

Caring - I have been so impressed by the way CC has stuck together over the last six months. I mentioned the pastoral team specifically in my vote of thanks earlier as they have been instrumental in being the glue in our community. However, there are many other networks that have been keeping an eye out for one

another, homegroups, Mothers Union, musicians, bellringers to name just a few and it wonderful how we have been caring for one another.

I am going to put the last three values together as they too are things CC prides itself on and they stem from our caring. Being **friendly, welcoming, and non-judgemental**. New people have joined during Lockdown and folks from other churches have appreciated how they have been embraced as do those who come for the occasional offices.

Sadly, I cannot comment on any social events other than Bertie Pearce who was magical! I hope that there will be more fun next year and that we will be able to pick up again our long-term vision of being a Living Well, a resource for the local community however it will probably be a very different vision from the architect's model two years ago. Lockdown has highlighted how it is not necessarily the buildings that provide a focus for this but each of us in how we conduct ourselves, our living well in our interactions with others, being good ambassadors for Jesus, offering healing and hope for those in need of a physician.

We shall obviously need to recover our finances to enable the living church to pay for the living ministry, hence the importance of making **Ecology and Stewardship** our intention for next year. The blessing of recent legacies does mean we can fund activities we would not be able to afford generally such as improvements to our technology. These technological advances have undoubted challenged us but hopefully they have cemented Christ Church even more fully in offering a ministry of reconciliation as no one is left out, all are truly welcome to join in, at home or in church as we live stream services and produce quality recordings for our new website. Both were mere aspirations back in February but now just part of what it means to be church in the 21st century.

The harvest is plentiful, and I believe ripe for the picking. It is everyone's responsibility to pray for and work towards growth. So, let us commit ourselves afresh to doing that now.

*God of Mission, who alone brings growth to our church
send your Holy Spirit to give vision
to our planning, wisdom to our activity, and power to our witness.
Help Christ Church to grow in numbers,
in spiritual commitment to you
and in service to our local community of Epsom
through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.*

7. **Questions:** A number of questions were submitted in advance of the meeting; responses are summarised below:

- a. The 2020-21 Annual Report will cover all the normal reports as well as dealing with the Christ Church response to COVID.
- b. The Vicar explained that the Pastoral team members each have approximately 20 households that they keep an eye out for. They also identified those in the vulnerable category and those without access to technology for special care and contact. Since we were unable to print materials in the office it was felt best to communicate via the weekly bulletin through the pastoral team, many of whom phone or write numerous personal emails every week to their contacts. The home groups and other fellowship groups such as the MU, Knitting and Crochet Group, choir, band and bellringers have maintained constant contact with their members. The PCC are also exploring a buddy system particularly for those who don't have access to the internet going forward.
- c. Usual Sunday attendance was reported as 85 adults and 18 children (under 16)
- d. Confirmation that the 2019 accounts had been independently examined and a clean report issued on 1st March 2019.
- e. The amounts spent on the AVL (including H&S works) this year to date (2020) has been £27,272. The amount spent previously on the AVL project was £117,153, bringing the overall total to £144,425.

- f. The meeting was reminded that the whole congregation had been invited to complete a questionnaire back in March as part of the consultation for the next phase of the Church Development Project.
 - g. The website currently carries a summary of actions at PCC as part of CCN, and next year this will be added to the blog.
 - h. The decision to reduce the number of issues of CCN, and latterly to cease publication at the end of the year were made by the PCC.
8. **Electoral Roll** (statement from Martin Shipton our Electoral Roll Officer): “This year there have been some small changes to the rules governing the management of the Electoral Roll. The principal change is that the names of those on the Roll may now be published online rather than in paper form and this we have done this year as part of the updating process. At last year’s meeting I reported an Electoral Roll membership of 152 people. This year we have signed up 13 people but lost 11 people. So, membership now stands at 154 people. Of those 94, (61%) live within the parish boundary split 31M / 63F and 39% live outside the parish boundaries 24M / 36F.”
9. **Remembering:** The meeting paid their respect to Christine Byrne, Colin Taylor, Brian Stringer and Jessica Walls who all sadly passed away during the last year.
10. **Thanks:** Finally, the vicar thanked the outgoing PCC members; Gill Glasspool, Denise Chamberlain, June Skinner, William Brook, Alistair Wells, Deborah Warburton, Chris Purdy and Penny Purdy. She also recognised those who had stepped down from other roles during the last year; Roger Morgan (PCC Secretary), Alan Frame (Treasurer) and Pippa Rothwell (Parish Administrator). And finally gave thanks for everyone who had continued to make our ‘lockdown’ worship possible in particular the Pastoral Team; Revd Sue Curtis, Revd David Fox-Branch, Berwick Curtis, Jen Saddler, Sue Matthews, Jo Woolfe, Avril Shipton, Jackie Smith and Devorah Burns.

Revd Rosemary Donovan (Chair)

Craig Donovan (Interim PCC Secretary)

