

**ST. PETER'S CHURCH, CURDRIDGE**

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2019**

**Administrative information**

The Church of St. Peter's is situated on Botley Road, Curdridge. It is part of the Benefice of Botley, Curdridge and Durley (BCD), in the Diocese of Portsmouth within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is

The Rectory,  
46 High Street,  
Botley,  
Southampton,  
SO30 2EA

The Parochial Church Council is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

PCC members who have served from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 until the date this report was approved are:

*Incumbent:* Revd Gregg Mensingh

*Warden:* Mr David Picton-Jones (from June 2019)

Mr Simon Powell

*Warden Emeritus:* Mr. Roger Ball ( Warden to June 2019)

*Representatives on the Deanery Synod:* Mrs Ann Young

*Elected members:*

Mrs Patricia Ball

Mrs Kathleen Watson

Mrs Louella Kemp

Mrs Lisa Willshire

Mrs Ann Young

Mr Peter Swinburn

*Co-opted members:*

Mr David Timmins (Treasurer)

## **Structure, governance and management**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

## **Objectives and Activities**

St. Peter's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church of St. Peter and the site, Church Lane, Curdridge.

## **Electoral Roll**

During the year April 2019 - March 2020 one person has died and one person has moved. Four people have been added to the electoral roll.

The electoral roll now consists of 49 people, 32 people within the parish and 17 people outside the parish.

Dorothy Bellchambers, Electoral Roll officer.

## **Church attendance**

Attendance at the Sunday morning 10.00am service has increased slightly over the previous year averaging 26 adults and 5 children. (2018 equivalents were 21 and 5 children).

Easter services were slightly lower than the previous year at 51 (61 in 2019).

Christmas services were about the same as the previous year with 103 adults and 23 children on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day combined. (in 2017 this figure was 154)

There were three weddings and two baptisms. However the funerals and interments of ashes totalled 10.

There were regular monthly Messy Church events. Attendance is usually encouraging. PCC are focussing on this area of our work.

The Thursday 10.00 am service is always enjoyable and intimate. Refreshments are a highlight for this small group. We welcome others for a midweek reflection. Attendance varies between 4 and 12.

## **Vicar's Report**

### **Running the church**

#### **PCC**

The full PCC met regularly throughout the year at approximately bi-monthly intervals. The PCC was quorate at all meetings. The lay chair was Roger Ball until June when David Picton-Jones assumed the post.

The parish has continued to support the local food bank, with contributions collected throughout the year, the proceeds of Harvest Services by church and school. We managed to fill our big reverse advent food box three times over for Christmas.

#### **Safeguarding**

This is a very important matter which is, therefore, included on every PCC agenda, which keeps the group highly aware of their responsibilities. All members have undertaken basic safeguarding training which covers possible problems for people of all ages and not only the young. Older people can be vulnerable. Wardens have been DBS checked, which is a higher level of accountability. The safeguarding lead for the parish, Ann Picton-Jones, encourages anybody with any concerns to speak up to her, wardens or others in positions of trust. While we have no current concerns we know we must be vigilant.

Ann Picton-Jones, Safeguarding officer

#### **Building and churchyard**

The building repairs identified in the Quinquennial Report from 2016 are still needing completion. The finance required continues to exercise the PCC. The qualified good news is that the drains appear to be holding up well under the deluge of water we have experienced this winter. The broken guttering is a priority for action and the PCC are dealing with this matter.

The churchyard has been maintained this year by parishioners. The Curdridge Parish Council has continued to fund the cutting of the grass near

the church, for which we are very grateful. General comments are that the churchyard looks good.

The clock continues to give us cause for concern as the mechanism has needed adjustment. At the time of writing a local volunteer has repaired the mechanical breakage but the electric controls are still being repaired.

The sound system has been repaired both by consultation with a local supporter and by purchasing new parts for the system. It now seems to be working well.

### **Health and Safety**

This is the top priority for the PCC. This matter focusses on the physical circumstances in and around the building and site. In the Summer on 2019 the CWs and Phil walked around and inspected everything using Phil's professional experience and guidance. A subsequent report enabled the PCC to develop a "To do" list with priorities to those matters which concerned us most. By the end of 2019 many of the most pressing items had been dealt with. Those included the removal of loose guttering, laying down unstable gravestones and servicing the fire extinguishers. Other matters will be dealt with in a planned way before the anniversary inspection

### **Commonwealth War Graves Commission**

War grave plaques were installed at three entrances to the churchyard from Church Lane. This national scheme is designed to highlight the special regard communities have for those who served their country and paid the ultimate price.

### **Autumn Graveyard maintenance**

We planned to do some tidying of the grounds but we were pleasantly surprised by a generous offer from a local(ish) group of geocachers. One of their number, Rory, had been exploring the graveyard for the points he needed to collect. During conversation with Roger Ball he said he would welcome an invitation to help tidy the grounds. Such offers are so valuable we immediately agreed. During the following weeks we discussed what was to be done and Rory began to advertise the Saturday morning.

In the week leading up to the day the replies to his posting seemed to indicate about a dozen people would attend. However on the Friday night the site blossomed and on the morning we had about 25 geocachers from as far away as Sussex and the New Forest. Villagers added to the number and we worked hard to get much done before the rain arrived.

When the heavens opened we adjourned to the church for refreshments including soup provided by Tricia. There was much chatter as these folks

rarely meet. The huge bonfire blazed and we all went home tired but pleased with our efforts.

### **Church Lighting**

The Official switching on of new lights donated in memory of Dorothy Gardener was at St. Peter's Patronal festival.

### **Occasional Offices**

Objectives for 2019

To maintain the good rapport that we have with all of the families and people that we contact through our occasional services.

Baptisms This is achieved by the system of Baptism Teas, Baptism Links and our annual Baptism Bear Picnic, which was a big success last year. The Baptism Bears are very well received by all Baptism families.

If anyone would like to volunteer to be a Baptism Link a churchwarden would be very grateful to hear from you. It is not an onerous job. It just involves keeping in touch with the baptism families assigned to you whether by text, email, a phone call or a note! Whatever suits you all best. This idea does seem to be working as several baptism families have become involved in events and services in our churches. Sadly there are hardly any baptism links now but we do have duty church wardens who attend our Baptism services and prepare the church and greet the families.

Weddings Wedding couples receive a lot of support and help leading up to their weddings in the form of an Admin day where they meet the clergy who are going to take their service, the organist who is going to play for them and they hear the choir singing hymns and anthems that they might like during their service. They also have a 'Space to Think' session which is literally that! A space to think amidst all the hustle and bustle involved with organising weddings, about wedding vows and what being married means.. They also receive an anniversary card on their first anniversary.

Funerals Funeral families naturally get a lot of support from the clergy taking their services and they are offered the opportunity to come to an annual service in October at All Saints, Botley and remember their loved ones

### **Stewardship**

The Parish Giving Scheme has had continued success at St. Peter's, Curdridge during 2019. We started the year with a total of 17 regular givers. By the end of the year this had risen to 25. The total amount of giving received in year was £10,745 with an additional £2,646 raised through Gift Aid, the total was £13,391. We try to encourage all givers to choose to index

link their giving so it rises in line with inflation and the number of givers at end of year who had opted to be index linked was 18. We hope 2020 will prove even more successful and that we can encourage more givers to index link their giving.

Rachel Swinburn, Stewardship officer

## **Events through the year**

### **Joy and Tears Gospel Choir concert on Palm Sunday**

Sixty six people attended the concert, including a few from Botley and Durley churches, and 3 of our clergy. A number of Curdridge villagers who do not come to church services were present. Janet welcomed everyone and spoke about how joy and sadness are our two main emotions and both are legitimate. She highlighted Jesus weeping over Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and how he experienced all the emotions that we do and understands all our feelings. The choir programme was split into 5 sections. Christ the sure and steady Anchor, Joy and peace in Believing, Encouraging and Supporting each other, Joy, and The Beat of a Different Drummer. The latter included a reading by 8 year old son of one of the choir, and his 12 year old brother doing a drum solo representing the cacophony of sound that can overwhelm us until we tune ourselves to listen to the heartbeat of our Lord, when we find freedom from the snares of modern living. Each section of the programme started with prose or poetry, speaking of love, Christ's steadfastness and the healing we find in him. Four worship songs opened the programme, which those in the audience who knew them joined in with. The programme included two moving solos one which started with a viola playing. Fruit juice and home made cakes were served in the interval. The second half of the concert focussed on the joy found in supporting each other and the Joy to be found "in our Father's house". A round was sung and some of the choir members came down the aisle to lead the audience in singing. Everyone seemed to enjoy taking part in this. As the concert closed Janet thanked the choir and said the performance had been enjoyed, but added she had seen a few tears in the audience. A printed programme included the worship song words, prose, some bible verses and thoughts about Christian faith. All the programmes were taken away by those attending. I pray they read them further and reflect. There was no charge for this event. A retiring collection of £258 was taken. £50 was given to the choir from Diocesan sponsorship of event following on from the Viability Focus. A number of people commented

how lovely it was to have the church full of joyful singing. The choir enjoyed the event and would be happy to return in future.

### **Dolly Parton Tribute Act**

For a third time the PCC linked with the Reading Rooms to present a tribute concert in the church. This year we echoed a recent Glastonbury appearance to welcome a tribute to Dolly Parton in Curdridge. The evening began with drinks and “Dolly” immediately got the audience singing along to some of her hits. One special memory for everyone was the invitation she made, which was accepted, for the vicar to join her in a rendition of “Jackson”. Gregg’s experience of public performance enabled him to adopt the mantle of the country and western singer and with the aid of a cowboy hat be a suitable partner for Dolly. What a sport!

In the interval there was a fantastic choice of hot food prepared by a team led by Jackie Atkinson. “Dolly” joined us for that part of the evening and commented on the warm welcome by the audience which isn’t always the case at some of her more challenging venues.

The financial return was important but the social and community feeling was the real winner on the evening. Thanks to all involved

### **Curdridge Show (Weddings in Curdridge exhibition)**

This year we did a mini exhibition at the Show in our church gazebo, promoting getting married in Curdridge. The exhibition included posters of photographs of our beautiful church building, lots of wedding photos at St. Peter’s and wedding receptions in the Reading Room. Also included were lovely testimonies about weddings at St, Peter’s, and receptions at The Reading Room, information about church weddings and marriage blessings, who can get married at St.Peter’s (setting out basic qualifying connections) and how meaningful a church wedding is. St. Peter’s and Reading Room wedding costs were on display as well as ideas generally for keeping wedding costs down. Exhibition included wedding dress, bridesmaids dresses, wedding bouquets, hymn books, wedding photo album, silk flowers arrangements and beautiful fresh flower arrangements as examples of floral decorations you can have in church for a wedding. Children visiting were given wooden fret work hearts with love written in them and little “Love Is” booklets based on 1 Corinthians were given to brides to be. Many couples and families visited the exhibition, keeping us busy throughout the day. We had a number of interesting conversations about wedding costs. People were very interested in how reasonable a Curdridge wedding could be. This had appeal as many young people did not previously think they could afford to get married. We produced St. Peter’s wedding packs, which were given to 7

prospective brides together with Reading Room wedding information sheets. Information has also been emailed as we ran out of wedding packs. We were able to explain about the support St. Peter's gives to wedding couples, which was also a feature of the testimonials. It was a lovely to speak to couples who had been married at St. Peter's, both in recent years and further back, who came to see us and we shared with them about events at the church and encouraged them to come to church some time. We had discussions with some couples about wedding vow renewal and one couple commented how they loved the service at the Wedding Fayre last June. We had some interesting conversations about generally covering our church running costs and about having an appeal for the roof in the future. Also we were able to encourage couples from further afield to think about a church wedding.

### **Nick Page**

In the Autumn we invited the Christian author and speaker Nick Page to speak to a meeting of men. We advertised the event locally and more widely. A good number of men turned up and were pleased to be welcomed with bacon rolls and coffee. Nick spoke about the "Men's Shed" approach to life which was humorous but philosophical. His projected illustrations cleverly added to the presentation. He generated questions from the audience which resulted in some debate which, I know, continued after the morning. He also sold some of his books. A very enjoyable and informative event.

### **Harvest Ceilidh 2019**

This year we had a more informal seating arrangement which allowed more dancing space and easier access to chairs. It was also less time consuming to set up and less physically strenuous than shifting all the tables that we did last year. Small coffee tables with groups of chairs around them worked well. Kathleen and a friend provided dahlias for three stage arrangements and flowers at bar, on windowsills and coffee tables. Afterwards flowers were then given to housebound/some unwell folk and as thank you to helpers, and largest arrangement taken to church. We set a limit of 70 persons. In fact 6 who had tickets left on door did not come. However, this did feel full capacity of hall so for any future event needs to be born in mind. Some people who came last year attended but there were a lot of different people. As well as Mensingh family there were 4 other families and another family had reserved tickets but were unable to come on evening. More children than last year. Annual raffle tickets sold and prizes drawn in interval. The band was excellent creating a great atmosphere, dance floor full for every dance, beaming faces and lots of laughter. Bar sold lager, cider, wine, lemonade and lime and

squash. After first drink children were given free drinks. Apple pie and cream served in interval by small team of helpers.

We had the band at a discounted price. Overall excluding raffle event made £450.

### **Raffle**

Tickets were sold street to street by volunteers in the weeks prior to the Ceilidh. Tickets were also sold at the Ceilidh where the raffle was drawn. We are very grateful for the generous prizes donated from local businesses.

### **Bonfire Party**

The 5<sup>th</sup> November fell mid week which probably encouraged the excellent attendance, although the event has been growing for several years. The true family atmosphere was delightful. While the sparklers, punch and barbeque were all up to the usual standard the highlight of the evening was the fireworks. These had been donated by Three Oaks cattery and kennels and provided a professional standard display.

The bonfire itself was huge and the focus of attention for villagers to chat and enjoy the evening. This was also helped by the exterior lighting provided by the Reading Room and installed by Larry Burden and Chris Pink.

### **Remembrance Day**

The Remembrance Day service drew a large number of attendees and went smoothly despite the hymns being a little unfamiliar. (The PCC are addressing this matter for all services and have adopted a protocol to cover this.) The feeling at the exterior part of the service was especially moving as the presence of so many young people from the uniformed organisations made the link between our history and the current generations.

### **Village /community links**

#### **Curdrige school**

Here at Curdrige Primary School we value our close links with the church despite not being a 'Church' school. It has been lovely to see the growth of 'Messy Church' throughout the year and we embrace the wider community feel that it brings to those afternoons in school.

Throughout the year we have the pleasure of celebrating special occasions in St. Peter's. The first occasion in the school year when we visit the church is to celebrate Harvest and to see the children clutching harvest donations to join those of the congregation is lovely. For some of our YR

children it is also the very first time that they set foot in the church they walk past every day on their way into school!

Our Carol Service led by the children is always a joyous event that brings the spirit and true meaning of Christmas fully into focus and to hold this in the church makes it extra special for us. The children and staff love to see Gregg join us for an assembly or just as a 'pop-in' for a chat! They enjoy his stories and the way he brings them to life through his story telling. Strange though that he always manages to choose a day to visit when there are treats in the staff room; how does he do it?

Sally Wood Headteacher

Church members regularly hear children read at the school.

### **Hopscotch Nursery**

Hopscotch children made decorations for our Mothering Sunday, Easter and St.Peter's Patronal Festival Services. Hopscotch brought children over to the church twice for their Christmas singing/ nativity. Emma Smith Nursery Manager says, "Thanks to the church for letting us use it for our singing at Christmas, our parents and children always enjoy this event. We like to be involved in the community by providing art work for the church as well providing activities at the Curdridge show for the local community."

### **Reading Room**

We continue to enjoy working jointly with Reading Room. Both organisations are working to strengthen the village community by enriching the lives of all who live here. In our different ways we provide resources to help villagers build their lives. In 2019 we had our joint music event in May (Dolly Parton cover artist; full report above). At the Curdridge show, church members put together an exhibition promoting weddings in Curdridge, see detail further in report. In October our Harvest Ceilidh was held at Reading Room. As a community event no rental charge was made. Historically the Reading Room provide the hall free of charge to St.Peter's for one event a year.

### **Uniformed groups**

It was lovely to have the uniformed groups parade to the church and participate in the Act of Remembrance on Remembrance Sunday. The cubs and beavers also came to church to learn more about Christianity for their faith badges. Articles from the cubs about their activities with photos, were included in the parish magazine during the year.

## **Taking the church into the community**

The PCC enjoyed a social evening with a meal at The Cricketers Pub in January 2019. A communion service was held in The Cricketers Pub in June with children's activities. Carol singing took place at the pub on the evening of 18<sup>th</sup> December. Customers at the pub joined gave requests for carols and enjoyed the event. Thanks to the landlord for inviting us and making us welcome.

## **Reports from Church Groups and re Church projects**

### **Flower Guild**

2019 has been enjoyable for the Flower Guild. Three weddings were held at St. Peter's Church and we did enjoy decorating the church for the Easter and Christmas celebrations. We decorated the church for the Dolly Parton concert in May, as usual without spending too much money. This was achieved by purchasing a couple of new items from charity shops and reusing some of the props from previous concerts.

We now have nine members of the Flower Guild. We have a two week schedule per team with "All Hands" for weddings and major festivals. This works well as most of our members have family and other commitments. Thanks to a generous donation towards the end of the year, we ended 2019 with a balance of £143.02 in the guild accounts.

Tricia Ball

### **Parish Magazine**

David Archard was magazine editor for most of 2019. His excellent artwork and layout of the magazine have been much appreciated. David's commitment to continually widening the magazine content, and to it being an attractive and interesting publication have been much appreciated. Sadly for health reasons David handed the editorship over to Justine Greenfield at the end of the year. We are most fortunate to have found another person equally committed to producing an informative and well presented publication and to know the quality of the magazine will be maintained. Gemma Smith won the best cover photo of the year.

Copies of the Parish magazine were displayed in our exhibition marquee at Curdridge Show and given to those who came into the exhibition and people passing by.

Thanks go to Ruth Baillie-Strong and Paul Chesterman who organise the magazine distribution. We have 20 distributors and their patch sizes varies from 4 to 35 copies. We greatly appreciate the time that the distributors give

each month to delivering the magazine and for them collecting the annual subscriptions in January.

### **Curdrige Calendar**

A new venture for 2019 produced by Justine Greenfield. Photos of village life and views as well as the church taken by those who regularly contribute photos to the church magazine. It is hoped that a 2021 calendar can be produced.

### **BCD Breakfast Club**

The Breakfast Club was started in Oct. 2018 at The Bugle Botley, with 25 members and has been running successfully monthly and we would like to continue on Saturday mornings, approx. the third Saturday in the month.

Membership has increased to 53 members. Although it was started by Gregg and Church members, it has grown to include many Botley, Curdrige and Durley like-minded friends.

Mike Gibson

### **Bell Ringers**

Once again the Curdrige ringers, in conjunction with those of Botley, have continued to ring up to six of our eight bells for Sunday service at Curdrige each week. Our monthly visits to Owlsebury to ring for their service have been curtailed recently after their tenor bell was found to be cracked; it has been welded and will soon be re-installed, paid for from insurance.

Last year we were very sorry to lose John Whiteman, who learnt to ring at Bishop's Waltham back in the 1940s, gave up for a long time but returned a few years ago. Several of our ringers attended his funeral. One of the regular visitors on our Monday practice night from Netley Abbey has moved to Norway for work, but the remainder and visitors from other towers meant we were generally able to ring six. A District practice in March 2019 and the Annual District Meeting in February 2020 meant that we could ring all eight bells. A New Zealander who has been living and ringing in Kent has recently moved into the area, and we hope he will join our band when his work permits. We would welcome anyone else who would like to learn to ring, or just to see what it is we do.

Our July outing this year was to North-east Hampshire between Basingstoke and Newbury, and went well, this time using the Botley minibus. We were very pleased that Janet Clarke could dedicate our framed memorial to Edwin Wellstead, a Curdrige ringer who was killed during the First World War. The

memorial is now hanging in the ringing room. In December we welcomed both Gregg and Ellie Mensingh as guests at our annual Christmas meal. There have been no full peals in the past year, but we have had several visiting bands including the Ladies Guild of bell ringers and Birmingham University old students. Repair work on two clappers remains outstanding but is not urgent.

Robin Milford, Bell Captain

### **St Peter's Little Rocks Sunday Club**

Little Rocks has continued to support the mission of St. Peter's by providing regular sessions during the Sunday Communion Services for the younger members of our congregation. During our sessions, we usually follow the lectionary and use one of the weekly readings as the focus for each week's session. We listen to stories about Jesus and God, we play games, we make things, we pray and we have fun! And we love to share what we have made with the celebrant and congregation, and also on our board at the back of the church!

Stories we have explored in the last year include:

- Jesus teaching the need for repentance (to say sorry for what we have done and to turn back to God) and telling the story of a fruitless fig tree that is given a second chance to thrive. We discussed how sometimes we are given a second chance to do something and that God gives people second chances because he is patient and loving, and knows that everyone needs to say sorry so that they can be like a tree, spreading God's love. We looked at the things gardeners might need to help plants grow, and then sowed our own cress seeds to take home and look after.
- Jesus appearing to the disciples for the third time since he was raised from the dead after the disciples had spent a whole night fishing in Galilee and hadn't caught a thing. When Jesus appeared on the shore, he told them to throw their net on the other side of the boat, which resulted in a huge catch of fish yet the nets were not torn. Jesus asked Peter 3 times if he loved Jesus; Peter said yes each time. Jesus forgave Peter after the third time and told Peter to follow him. We played a game trying to get fish into an imaginary net, and then wrote prayers asking God for forgiveness and to give us a second chance, just like Jesus and Peter.
- Revealing God in three different ways as Father (God), Son (Jesus) and Holy Spirit to make the Holy Trinity and seeing how we are linked with these by listening to Jesus' story (where he told the disciples that he was leaving them) whilst passing a ball of string around our table and holding it down at signs saying God, Jesus and Holy Spirit to make a triangle. We made

hexagons with pictures representing each part of the Holy Trinity to remind us of the story.

· Jesus spending 40 days and 40 nights in the wilderness being tempted by Satan to do things that Jesus knew were wrong. We talked about how we can be tempted to do things that are wrong, but by praying God will forgive us. We made “sandwiches” by writing words about Jesus and God on “slices” of bread to reflect that man cannot live on bread alone but by God’s words too. Members of Little Rocks have also been involved in helping to carry the collection plate, bread and wine up to the altar during services, and Tom was quite brilliant when he read a poem on behalf of Little Rocks at the Christmas Carol Service.

We have welcomed Samantha Small to our leadership team during the year and we all look forward to seeing the youngsters each week.

Helen Waghorn on behalf of Ellie Mensingh, Helen Waghorn, Ann Young and Samantha Small

### **Marketing and communications**

This is a BCD Benefice group that works at continually developing best possible ways of communicating within our churches and with all those in our parishes.

### **Deepening Discipleship**

Those attending Sunday services received information about Lent and Advent booklets, John 3:16 tracts at Easter,

Two month copy of Every Day with Jesus daily bible reading notes, and C of E 12 days of Christmas Leaflet.

Death and Resurrection in the Arts course run through Lent. (Death and Resurrection in Literature meeting held at St. Peter’s)

Attendance Diocesan Spirituality Day Shedfield Inspired to Follow: Art and the Bible course was run in Advent.

### **Financial Review of the Year Ended 31 December 2019**

St Peter’s Church, Curdridge

Financial Review of the Year Ended 31 December 2019

Receipts & Payments Account - Unrestricted Funds

Total receipts amounted to £54,859 compared to £47,575 in 2018. Increased receipts compared to 2018 were achieved in all constituents of Planned Giving, and Donations were also up by some £1,600. Parish Magazine receipts increased by some £1,300 although this was due to timing (more received in advance of the year of advertising). Receipts in the year were also

boosted by a once off grant of £2,500 from the Diocese to assist in the funding of Mission initiatives, of which £300 was spent during the year directly with additional spending indirectly. The VAT refund of £997 was a once off receipt too as the corresponding payment was in 2018.

Total payments of £50,894 were in line with 2018, as were most of its constituent items. The exceptions to this were the Share of Benefice costs, which were some £1,600 higher and largely outside the control of St Peter's, and the lower Major Works expenditure which approximately offset this. The largest item of expenditure was, as always, the parish share of the Deanery costs and Synod levy which totalled £26,860 which was slightly less than in 2018. This equated to 53% of total payments, is a prescribed amount and thus not under St. Peter's control.

The result for the year of Unrestricted Funds was an excess of receipts over payments of £3,965, which compares very favourably to the shortfall last year of £2,783. However, the underlying or "normalised" excess of receipts was around £500 after taking into account the once off items described above.

#### Receipts & Payments Account - Restricted Funds

There were no donations received in the year which were designated as Restricted. In 2018, donations of £4,000 were received specifically to go towards the funding of new LED lighting to replace the outdated and inefficient lighting. The total cost was £6,684 with the balance of £2,684 being met from Unrestricted Funds which included gift Aid relating to the donations.

#### Assets

The bank balance at year end was £5,839 which was nearly £4,000 higher than at the previous year end.

The market value of the Investments at 31 December 2019 was £48,093 which was a welcome increase in the year of £7,424. This increase resulted from the impact of favourable market conditions for the investments. It is PCC policy to invest surplus funds with the CBF Church of England Investment Fund and the COIF Charities Investment Fund.

#### Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance of Unrestricted Reserves of cash and investments to cover a minimum of six months forecasted church running costs and a reasonable provision for unexpected repair and maintenance costs to include replacement capital items.

Approved by the PCC on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020 and signed on its behalf by:  
Rev'd Gregg Mensingh (PCC Chairman) David Timmins (PCC Treasurer)

## **St Peter's Church, Curdridge**

### **Financial Review of the Year Ended 31 December 2019**

#### **Receipts & Payments Account - Unrestricted Funds**

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Total payments of £50,894 were in line with 2018, as were most of its constituent items. The exceptions to this were the Share of Benefice costs, which were some £1,600 higher and largely outside the control of St Peter's, and the lower Major Works expenditure which approximately offset this.

The largest item of expenditure was, as always, the parish share of the Deanery costs and Synod levy totalling £26,860, which was slightly less than in 2018. This equated to 64% of total payments excluding Fund raising and Magazine printing costs, which are both more than covered by related receipts. The parish share cost is a prescribed amount and thus not under St. Peter's control.

The result for the year of Unrestricted Funds was an excess of receipts over payments of £3,965, which compares very favourably to the shortfall last year of £2,783. However, the underlying or "normalised" excess of receipts was around £500 after taking into account the once off items described above.

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**David Timmins (PCC Treasurer)**

**St. Peter's Church, Curdridge**  
**Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 December 2019**

**Unrestricted Fund - Receipts & Payments Account**

	Notes	£	2019 £	£	2018 £
<b>Receipts</b>					
<i>Voluntary Receipts</i>					
<i>Regular Giving</i>					
Planned Giving		16,951		15,291	
Collections and Other Giving		3,460		2,999	
Gift Aid (Income Tax) Recovered	1	<u>6,595</u>	27,006	<u>4,370</u>	22,660
<i>Other Voluntary Receipts</i>					
Donations			4,468		2,858
<i>Receipts from Activities for Generating Funds</i>					
Parish Magazine - sales and donations		2,631		2,565	
Parish Magazine - advertisements		10,344		9,033	
Fund Raising		<u>3,729</u>	16,704	<u>4,504</u>	16,102
<i>Receipts from Church Activities</i>					
Fees from weddings, baptisms & funerals			1,236		1,241
<i>Receipts from Investments</i>					
CBF and COIF Investment Fund dividends		1,423		1,525	
Liquidation of investments	2	<u>-</u>	1,423	<u>4,000</u>	5,525
<i>Receipts from Diocese of Portsmouth</i>					
Contribution to Mission expenses			2,500		
<i>Receipts from Curdridge Parish Council</i>					
Magazine printing cost contribution			525		-
<i>Other Receipts</i>					
VAT recovered			997		-
Total Receipts			<u>54,859</u>		<u>48,386</u>
<b>Payments</b>					
<i>Church Activities</i>					
Donations made	3		601		165
Diocesan Parish Share (Quota) and Deanery Synod levy			26,860		27,027
Church running expenses			5,083		5,382
Upkeep of churchyard			347		118
Clergy expenses including share of joint Benefice Costs			7,698		5,887
Cost of church services			409		234
Major Works	4		813		2,684
Magazine printing and expenses			6,886		7,011
Fund raising expenses			1,900		2,661
Mission expenses			297		-
Total Payments			<u>50,894</u>		<u>51,169</u>
<b>Net (shortfall)/excess Receipts over payments</b>			<u>3,965</u>		<u>(2,783)</u>

**Restricted Fund - Receipts & Payments Account**

	Notes	2019 £	2018 £
<b>Receipts</b>	4	-	4,000
<b>Payments</b>	4	-	4,000
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Bank balance at 1 January</b>		1,874	4,657
<b>Bank balance at 31 December</b>		5,839	1,874

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2019**

	Notes	2019 £	2018 £
<b>Cash Funds</b>			
Cash		-	-
Bank Current Account		5,839	1,874
Cash and Bank Funds at 31 December		<u>5,839</u>	<u>1,874</u>
<b>Other Monetary Assets &amp; Liabilities (all unrestricted funds)</b>			
<i>Assets</i>			
Gift Aid - tax reclaimable	1	687	1,686
Interest receivable on COIF & CBF investments		119	109
VAT Recoverable		-	997
Total Monetary Assets		<u>806</u>	<u>2,792</u>
<i>Liabilities</i>			
Magazine advertising received in advance		3,210	1,140
Unpresented cheques		248	-
Donations payable		520	314
Total Monetary Liabilities		<u>3,978</u>	<u>1,454</u>
<b>Investment Assets</b>			
1,548.59 Income units COIF Charities Investment Fund		26,216	22,239
1,141.27 Income shares CBF C of E Investment Fund		21,877	18,430
Total Investment Assets		<u>48,093</u>	<u>40,669</u>

All investment and bank funds are held as unrestricted funds. COIF and CBF investments are shown at their mid market value as at 31 December for each year.

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2019**

1. During the year, Gift Aid was reclaimed in respect of the 13 months months ended 31 October 2019 . Gift Aid reclaimed in respect of the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS) covered the 9 months to 30 June 2019. The amount of Gift Aid reclaimable at year ends relates to the 2 months ended 31 December 2019 and Gift Aid through GASDS for the 6 months ended 31 December 2019 (2018: £1,686 for the 3 months ended 31 December 2018).
2. No investment withdrawal was made during the year. An investment withdrawal of £4,000 was made in 2018 in order to fund the balance due to the Diocese in respect of that year's parish share of the Bishop's Waltham Deanery costs.
3. Donations totalling £601 were made during the year to the charities Save the Children, Southampton Women's Aid and Friends Without Borders (Portsmouth based charity for refugees) from the three Christmas service collections made specifically for these causes. In 2018 the donation of £165 was made to the Royal British Legion.
4. During the year, £813 was spent on capital items comprising new air extractors, antenna and altar linen. In 2018, £6,684 was spent on installing modern LED lighting in the church to replace the existing outdated and inefficient lighting. This was largely funded by specific donations which were, accordingly, classified in the Restricted Fund - Receipts & Payments Account.

5. The insurance value of the buildings and contents amounts to £8,400,000.
6. The only payments made to PCC members were for reimbursement of receipted expenses incurred on behalf of the church.
7. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts & Payments basis.

**Approved by the PCC on 12 February 2020 and signed on its behalf by:**

**Rev'd Gregg Mensingh (PCC Chairman)**

**David Timmins (PCC Treasurer)**