

The Ecclesiastical Parish of St Paul's Egham Hythe



Annual Report and Financial Accounts
of the Parochial Church Council
for the year ended 31st December 2019

St Paul's Egham Hythe Parochial Church Council

Parish Church:

St Paul's Egham Hythe
in the Runnymede Deanery
Diocese of Guildford

Address:

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Incumbent:

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Bank:

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On 1st July 2019 "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Paul, Egham Hythe" was added to the Register of Charities as a separate entity, registration number 1184186.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, Revd Rosemary Hoad, in "promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical". The main church building and halls are located at St Paul's Church, Thorpe Road, Staines TW18 3HJ. This annual report and accounts cover the PCC's financial year January 2019 to December 2019.

Charity Registration Number: 1184186

Membership of the PCC

The membership is partly ex-officio and partly elected at the Annual General Meeting in accordance with Church Representation Rules. PCC members are usually elected for a three year term of office. The membership from April 2019 was as follows:

Vicar/Chair of PCC	Revd Rosemary Hoad
Associate Clergy	Revd Sue Loveday Revd Janet Franck
Diocesan Synod	Revd Rosemary Hoad Steve Baynes
Deanery Synod	Steve Baynes Derek McGovern
Churchwardens	Steve Baynes (Lay Vice-Chair of PCC) Diane Oliver
PCC Members	Victoria Diplock (<i>term expires 2022</i>) Leigh Doe (<i>term expires 2022</i>) Richard Gilbert (<i>term expires 2020</i>) Derek McGovern (<i>term expires 2020</i>) Jackie McGovern (<i>term expires 2021</i>) Elizabeth Roshier (<i>term expires 2021</i>) Katharine Stearn (<i>term expires 2022</i>) Emma Sterry (Treasurer) (<i>term expires 2021</i>) Co-opted Ria Roshier (PCC Secretary) (RIP)

The following appointments were made by the PCC:

Safeguarding Officer: Alison Hawkins

DBS Evidence Checker: Diane Oliver

Electoral Roll Officer: Derek McGovern

Foreword *(by Revd Rosemary Hoad, Vicar)*

It is strange to be writing this introduction in September, in preparation for a delayed APCM being held in October due to the Covid-19 pandemic which began with the National lockdown in March. This is our 2019 report and accounts and, while the events of this very strange time will not be reported on until next April, I would like to record my thanks to all who have helped make it possible to be church in new ways in the difficult circumstances of these last months. I am particularly grateful for the tireless, innovative and faithful work of our churchwardens Steve and Diane upon whom so much has depended; of the other members of our ministry team (Sue, Janet, Graham, Nikki and Becky); and of the PCC. I especially want to give thanks for Ria who so sadly died this year. Her hand can be seen at work through so many of the 2019 events as she served God in this place so brightly for a time.

Overview of 2019 events

2019 was a year of expanding our relationships, developing hospitality and deepening faith. The church building started to be used much more creatively as the new chairs enabled the space to be used in a variety of ways. Messy Epiphany was quickly followed by an Alpha course hosted in the church, with wonderful home-made meals, talks by different members of the church and a fantastic and spirit filled day away at the Runnymede Hotel where God touched many of us deeply. The Royal Holloway College Founders Choir sang beautifully for us at the St Paul's Patronal Festival and the students and congregation had lunch together in the church afterwards. Paul's Place, Messy Pancakes, Men's Breakfasts and Lent Lunches were other indicators that the church was becoming a more hospitable and flexible space to serve different generations within our community.

As we moved through Lent towards Easter we marked our journey in faith in different ways from Easter Activities for each year group from Hythe Primary and Thorpe Lea Primary schools, to the events of Holy Week, and Easter Day baptisms and first Communions. Shortly after Easter we were delighted to present Confirmation candidates at the Deanery Confirmation service which St Paul's hosted for the first time in many years.

The summer term found us hosting a Summer Celebration weekend. This included a barbeque assisted by members of 1st Egham Hythe Scout Group with Frances from our congregation as our DJ. There was a butterfly parade and puppet show, eco themed stalls and an amazing afternoon tea particularly aimed at the older members of our community with Hythe School children helping. We celebrated marriage, with a display of wedding dresses and photos, and were delighted to hold the wedding of Charles and Carole that Sunday afternoon.

The start of the autumn saw a record number of baptisms and a special harvest service. In November over 300 people crammed into the church for the Remembrance Day parade service marking the 100 year anniversary of the first Armistice Day in 1919.

Songs and Stories took on a new lease of life and after a sponsored toddle in the summer and an award of a small grant from Runnymede deanery, was able to buy some new toys and equipment. At Christmas our first ever Toddler Nativity was a great success.

The 10th Anniversary Christmas Tree festival was a magical time, involving over 50 different groups from the community. The New Egham Singers were welcomed back to support our Panto evening in which the scouts once again excelled. A community afternoon tea with carols sung by Magna Carta school was a great new addition. The Opening Ceremony and Magna Concert showcased some of the musical talent in our schools and the Christingle Service drew many people to reflect again on the light of Christ come among us. Strictly White Christmas with wonderful food and entertainment was a great success, with a particularly profound moment as Will Torrent, our guest performer, sang Hallelujah. The whole event got us ready to celebrate Christmas with our Carol Service, Crib Service and Christmas Day celebration.

During the year our worship was blessed by our music group and organists, by readers, intercessors and welcomers, by a growing team of servers and the ministry of our Sunday School and J Club. Nikki and Graham Rule trained as Occasional Preachers, joining Steve Baynes, and five people started the Deanery Growing Leaders course. Sue and Janet have continued to be a great support, with some changes in their role descriptions honouring their commitment in serving this parish.

As the church adapted to both added congregational members and service patterns a genuine desire arose to develop our 'family' connections outside of just Sunday mornings. Both *men@stpauls* and *women@stpauls* developed through the year with prayer breakfasts, speaker evenings, film nights and social activity. The key driver behind these new initiatives was to develop the 3 'S' plan – Spiritual, Social and Service. The breadth of numbers involved contributed to deeper and closer relationships being developed across the church which, in turn, led to wider connections across the congregation.

Our role in the wider community continues and Rosie now chairs Runnymede Borough Council's Hythe Community Task Group which St Paul's continues to host. We are grateful to work so closely with the local schools and uniformed organisations, the Air Training Corps, the Royal British Legion and many other groups.

Membership

After the complete revision of the Electoral Roll in 2019 the numbers dropped to 70. In April 2020 there were 73 members.

Register of Charities

On 1st July 2019 "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Paul, Egham Hythe" was added to the Register of Charities as a separate charity, registration number 1184186. Members of the PCC are trustees of the charity. Our separate charitable status will help with grant applications and is mandatory for churches should income exceed £100k.

Parochial Church Council Report

The PCC had a busy and fruitful year, meeting 10 times during the 2019-2020 term (May 2019 – March 2020). This included six business meetings three vision meetings and a great Christmas Party!

Business Meetings: The June business meeting agreed the makeup of the Standing Committee and reviewed and adopted the safeguarding policy. Our Mission Statement was updated, following our vision day. Plans were made for the Summer Celebration, and there was an update on the AV screens. A proposal to develop a poppy garden under the Remembrance window was approved. In July it was agreed to keep PCC meetings to Wednesdays and a forward planning dates list was compiled.

In September the increase in hall bookings and plans to deep clean, decorate and sort the cupboards were discussed. It was noted that the new dishwashers had been purchased and installed. PCC members were encouraged to undertake on-line hygiene training. Proposals were made about repairs to the church roof, and also to the path leading to the church hall. It was agreed that Nikki and Graham Rule be recommended for the Occasional Preachers course. It was noted that Bishop Jo had agreed that Janet move from being an Ordained Local Minister (OLM) to Self Supporting Minister (SSM) meaning that while she continues to minister here at St Paul's she is authorised to preach and preside elsewhere as required. Work was done on the Church Development Plan (CDP) in preparation for the November vision evening, and the three key areas of Children and Youth, Hospitality and Growing in Faith were established.

In November the financial situation was considered, with income to September up on the previous year but still with a £10,000 gap. An anonymous donor had said that they would make up the shortfall. Plans for the January focus on Stewardship were put in place, and the CDP area of Hospitality was discussed. The administrative challenge with Ria in hospital was noted, both in the office and for PCC. The main focus of the January 2020 meeting was Stewardship, with Juliet Evans, Diocesan Stewardship Advisor in attendance. The 2019 parish share was paid in full but the historic deficit is outstanding, with an anonymous donation still expected. A reserves policy was agreed. The March meeting was just before lockdown and the focus was on putting contingency plans in place.

Vision and Church Development Plan: The development of our parish vision and Church Development plan was a key focus of the PCC during 2019 and the PCC held 3 vision meetings during the course of the year. Danny Wignall led a day at 'The Abbey' and we thought and prayed together, reviewed and updated our church mission statement and began to think and pray about the areas that God was calling us to prioritise. A key picture for us has been that of Japanese *kintsugi* pottery – broken and repaired with gold. The three main areas for focus that the PCC agreed on are: Hospitality; Growth in Faith; and Youth and Children. In November we had a further vision evening, also facilitated by Danny, in which the overwhelming theme was giving thanks for the many blessings we had received. In February the PCC started to put some flesh on the plans and think about what this might look like going forward, though with the lockdown following close on the heels of that, many of the ideas need to be reshaped as we journey with God through this pandemic.

Parish Safeguarding Policy Statement

At the PCC meeting held on 5th June 2019 the PCC of St Paul's Egham Hythe adopted the Church of England "Promoting a Safer Church" Policy Statement, national policies and Practice Guidance approved by the House of Bishops. This policy statement actively underpins all safeguarding work within the church.

The PCC is committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of everyone within our community, and will ensure that we will

1. Adopt and implement the House of Bishops' safeguarding policy and practice guidance.
2. Promote and publicise the 'Promoting a Safer Church' policy statement, and ensure all church officers have access to it.
3. Have a plan in place that sets out, in line with national and local priorities, how the policy will be put into action.
4. Ensure that any person who works with vulnerable groups is aware of and abides by national and local safeguarding guidance.
5. Review the policy regularly to ensure best practice.

"Promoting a Safer Church" sets out the Church of England's commitment to making the church a safer place for all.

The Policies and Practice Guidance apply to all Church bodies and officers. All authorised clergy, bishops, archdeacons licensed readers and lay workers, church wardens and PCCs are required by section 5 Clergy Disciplinary Measure to have to have "due regard" to safeguarding guidance issued by the House of Bishops.

The Policy Statement, Policies, Guidance and Protocols are available to view on the diocesan website at www.cofeguildford.org.uk/safeguardingpolicy

Safeguarding and Inclusion (*Safeguarding Officer Alison Hawkins*)

Roles and responsibilities

- Safeguarding Officer: Alison Hawkins
- DBS Coordinator : Diane Oliver
- Diocese: Ian Berry

Actions taken April 2019-March 2020

- There were no safeguarding incidents this year
- Safeguarding audit with PCC
- Updating and managing DBS and safer recruitment
- Encouraging PCC to engage with on-line mandatory training
- Responding to House of Bishops Past Case Review of all churches
- Putting in place protocols for use of zoom and livestreaming

Safer recruiting

Summary of safer recruiting process:

Need for volunteer is identified/individual volunteers for a position.



Suitability discussed by a designated group.



Job description and application form issued.



References requested.



DBS check completed (if appropriate).



Volunteer agreement signed.

Churchwardens Report *(Steve Baynes)*

A year of being busy – that would be a good title for a review of 2019. The hard yards that were completed last year in re-ordering the church have paved the way for the space to be used more widely than it has for some time. This is, obviously, a good thing but it does bring the challenge of requiring a strong volunteer force to ensure things can happen. We are both indebted to all those who have helped ensure the church has been able to transform into such a versatile space.

Diane and I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all who ran services, been on rotas, contributed to outreach events, led prayer spaces and helped with the more mundane tasks of moving and stacking chairs. It is very much appreciated.

The church grounds continue to be tended and have matured nicely as Jackie continues to nurture the plants. CCTV footage has shown that the wildlife habitat additions are continuing to attract plenty of the local animal population including birds, foxes and squirrels. Our thanks also go out to all who have contributed to making it such a pleasant space. Diane's Fabric Report shows that we have been able to keep mostly on top of our Quinquennial requirements from last year though some non-urgent tasks remain outstanding – not least the digitisation of our inventory.

Above all, we give thanks to God for his continued presence and equipping across the year.

Church Fabric Report (April 2019-April 2020) *(Diane Oliver)*

In the very early hours following the 2019 APCM a large vehicle drove through the North fence of St Paul's Road and was only stopped by the undercroft from going into the church wall by St Michael's chapel. The damage was significant, requiring the rebuilding of the wooden frame and metal of the doors, painting, making good the dented surrounds and cutting wood to size for replacing the broken fence. The work was completed in September 2019.

All the mandatory services were completed: Boiler (Vestry in March and Church and Hall in July); Fire Extinguishers – including replacement of two extinguishers (March); PAT Testing (November); Organ Blower (November); Organ plus tuning (December); CCTV (November). The second phase of the new sound installation was completed in November 2019. The LED outside light (over South main entrance) had to be replaced in December.

The church and grounds are maintained and monitored throughout the year, including reference to the Quinquennial completed in June 2017. It was suggested in the 3-5 year category, that the South Transept West slope roof and gutters would benefit from inspection and possible patch repairs. The problem manifested itself some time later, inside the nave with the plaster lifting and becoming discoloured. Roofers were able to come in April (due to Covid 19 restrictions preventing them working further afield) to repair and replace the rotten roof batons; extend the downpipe on the southside tower to allow run-off directly into the gutter (the water had broken and worn away the tiles, allowing water ingress); re-align twisted cast iron gutter; and replace tiles, including several missing on South Transept West Slope.

The fabric of the church is in fairly good repair, however one major piece of work remains outstanding, which is the inspection and subsequent repair or replacement of the inside crossing tiles.

Diocesan Synod *(by Steve Baynes, Diocesan Synod Lay Member)*

Synod meetings in 2019 were held at The Priory School, Westbank, Dorking (Spring), St Paul's, Camberley (Summer) and St John's, Stoke (Autumn). The main themes were March; Growing Youth Ministry, July; Review of the Church House Team, and November; New Worshipping Communities and Diocesan Budget. We are fortunate to have both lay and clergy members of Synod which allows us first-hand insight into the strategic direction the Diocese are wanting to take.

Runnymede Deanery Synod *(by Steve Baynes, Deanery Synod Lay Member)*

Synod meetings in 2019 were held at St John's Egham (Spring), St Mary's Thorpe (Summer) and Holy Trinity Lyne & Longcross (Autumn). February Synod revolved around the theme of "Sticking plaster or transforming lives – what can every Christian contribute to fighting poverty?" with presentations from Runnymede Foodbank and the Christians Against Poverty Debt Centres in Addlestone and Egham. In June, we welcomed Revd David Welch (Diocesan Youth Advisor) for an enthusiastic presentation and lively discussion on "Being Good News to Young People", and this was followed up at October Synod with a series of short, topical highlights on "Youth Engagement Now and Then" in each of the deanery parishes. On 15 October, Bishop Jo visited the deanery for a Prayer Evening at Holy Trinity Lyne & Longcross as an informal event to pray for the Diocese, Deanery and "Transforming Church Transforming Lives" Vision.

Finance *(by Emma Sterry, Treasurer)*

Please see the report included in the section with the accounts.

Planned Giving/Stewardship

In 2019 we had 5 members giving by standing order, 24 in the Parish Giving Scheme, 1 giving through Give as You Earn schemes and 15 using planned giving envelopes. The PCC are grateful for those who give in this way as it helps with planning for our various commitments. If you are interested in joining our Parish Giving Scheme or learning more about the different ways you can give to St Paul's please speak to Emma Sterry or the Churchwardens.