

# The Parish of St Edmund, Allestree



St Edmund's Church Allestree, Derby. From a pen and ink drawing by Frank Tissington

## **Election of Churchwardens**

and

## **Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2020**

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

**11 am, St Edmund's Church**

# Contents

	<b>Page</b>
Agenda	3
Minutes of Churchwardens' Meeting 2019	4
Land Charities Accounts	5
Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2019	8
Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council	12
Treasurers Report for the year 2019	14
Independent Examiner's Report	19
PCC Committee and Other Group/Activity Reports	20
Allestree Churches Together (ACT)	26
Safeguarding Report	26
Churchwardens' Report	27
Vicar's Report	28

## PLEASE NOTE ...

This report was  $\frac{3}{4}$  written when Covid-19 arrived and the Annual Meeting, which had been planned for Sunday 26 April, was cancelled. It is now issued (unamended) for the Annual Meeting on Sunday 11 October, 11 am in Church (NOT in the Hall). If you are unable to attend or (understandably) do not wish to attend that meeting, please make any comments to me and I will ensure they are brought to the meeting. The pandemic has changed the life of our church more than anyone could have imagined. I imagine that we will be living with these changes at this APCM and at APCMs for several years to come.

Peter Barham, Vicar

# Agenda

## Meeting of Parishioners

1. Prayers
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the Churchwardens' Meeting 2019 (see page 4)
4. Election of Churchwardens
5. Land Charity Accounts (see page 5)

Followed by:

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the 2019 APCM (see page 8)
3. Presentation of the Electoral Roll
4. Election of Laity Representatives
5. Appointment of Sides-persons
6. Annual Report of the PCC (see page 12)
7. Financial Report (see page 13)
8. Appointment of Auditor
9. Presentation of other Reports (see page 20)
10. Churchwardens' Report (see page 27)
11. Vicar's Report (see page 28)
12. Opportunity for questions

# Minutes of the Annual Churchwarden's Meeting

14<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Present: Rev. Peter Barham, Chairman

Parishioners: 47

1. Rev. Peter Barham welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with a prayer.

## 2. Apologies

John Coltman, Ken Eunson, Jackie Eunson, Louise Whittaker, Chris Willis, Dennis Caughey, Terry Colder, Geoff Dolby and Pam Dolby.

## 3. Minutes of the Churchwardens' Meeting on 22nd April 2018

The minutes were read and accepted.

## 4. Election of Churchwardens

Patrick Smith and Michèle Aspinall were nominated again as Churchwardens and were elected unanimously.

Peter thanked the Churchwardens and the parishioners thanked them with applause.

## 5. Land Charities Accounts

Michèle Aspinall presented the accounts.

The main income for the Land Charity Account is from dividends received from a managed investment portfolio. The Land Charities Account is used to pay for church insurance and some of the church maintenance jobs. This year it has been used for replacing the sacristy heater, fencing on Vicar's walk and church gutter clearing. It is also used to buy all sorts of paint, filler etc and to hire a dust extractor. Invaluable volunteers provide their skills for free to help maintain the church. Michèle thanked the many volunteers involved in maintaining the church, without which the costs of maintenance would be so much higher. The income was a little down this year compared to last due to the present financial climate and the excess of income over expenditure is £1330.82.

The Allestree Parish Clerk's Land Charity Account has a small income from dividends from shares.

Proposal – to accept the accounts. Proposed by Kate Smith. Seconded by David Halliwell. Carried unanimously.

Michèle thanked Richard Flatman for auditing the accounts.

Rev. Peter Barham thanked the Churchwardens and the many volunteers who help to maintain the church.

This concluded the meeting for election of the Churchwardens.

**1. ST. EDMUND'S ALLESTREE, CHURCHWARDEN'S LAND CHARITY**  
 (Registered Charity No 215394)

**(A) INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DEC 2019**

RECEIPTS	£	PAYMENTS
<b>Dividends</b>		<b>Receipted Items</b>
CCIF A/C No 302160002T		PAT Testing
February	1024.69	Hammerite
May	1129.13	Hammerite+Brush Cleanse
August	1129.13	Byr Electrical Inspection
November	1067.49	Lightbulbs+Rechargeable
		Lightning Protector Inspec
CCIF A/C No 302160001T		Refurbishment of Missal S
February	11.34	
May	12.49	Hammerite+Brush Cleanse
August	12.49	+ Sandpaper
November	11.61	Replace Consumer Unit
		& Fix Insulation Faults
<b>Rent</b>		Boiler Annual Service
		Replace Altar Light Cable
<b>Land at Sawry Hill</b>		<b>Non- receipted Item</b>
March	290.00	Annual church insurance
September	290.00	(paid by direct debit)
<b>Interest from Business Reserve A/C</b>		
January to December	8.25	
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>4986.82</b>	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>
<b>EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS</b>	<b>567.97</b>	

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Cash at Bank and in Hand (1st Jan 2019)

Cash at Bank and in Hand (31st Dec 2019 )

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**(B) STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

CASH FUNDS	2019	2018
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**2. ALLESTREE PARISH CLERKS LAND CHARITY**  
(Registered Charity No 503498)

**(A) INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DEC**

<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>PAYMENTS</b>
Dividends Received		
COIF A/C No. 330720001T		
February	12.33	
May	13.59	
August	13.59	
November	12.84	
Building Society Interest	0.19	
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>52.54</b>	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>
<b>EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS</b>	<b>52.54</b>	

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Cash at bank ( 1st January 2019)

Cash at Bank (31st January 2019)

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**B.STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

<b>CASH FUNDS</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Leeds Building Society	494.01	441.47

(There are no liabilities)

## **St. Edmund's Churchwardens' Accounts**

The accounts (financial statements) of the St. Edmunds Allestree C and the Allestree Parish Clerk's Land Charity have been prepared in accordance with the Charities' governing documents, the Charities Act 2011 and Account of Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for smaller entities 2014.

### **Notes to the financial statements**

(1) The Churchwardens' Land Charity was set up from an endowment for maintenance of the fabric of St. Edmund's Church. The main income is to be dividends from a holding of 8655.2 Income Shares in the COI investment portfolio set up by CCLA Investment Management Ltd. fund for churches and other charities to invest in, if allowed by the value of the total holding of 8655.2 shares has increased by approximately 10% per year, and was valued at £146,521 (at the year end). The remaining land is a field, part of Stones Farm, Markeaton.

(2) The purpose of the Parish Clerk's Land Charity is to provide an endowment for the maintenance of the fabric of St. Edmund's Church. The sole income of the Parish Clerk's Land Charity is the dividends from a holding of 103 shares in the COIF Charities Fund, which was valued at £1,700 (at the year end). The shares derive from the sale for building purposes of land which was part of the endowment.

(3) The limited income for both charities is below that required for examination or an audit.

Prepared by : Riel

Approved by:

Mic



# Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

14<sup>th</sup> April 2019

## 1. Apologies

As recorded in previous minutes.

## 2. Minutes of 2018 APCM

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

## 3. Presentation of the Electoral Roll

The roll has 131 names in total, 75 being resident in the parish and 56 not resident in the parish. This is an overall increase of 7 names from 2018. This year had been a full rewrite of the electoral roll and Peter thanked Ken Eunson for his hard work.

Peter read out the names of members of the congregation who have died during this year and who had made big contributions to the life of this church – Joan Milner, Marian Taylor, Gordon Cooper, Pat Hair, Gladys Peach, Ruth Rice, Ann Bott, Ruth Woodward and Muriel Payne. We remembered them with love and affection.

## 4. Election of Laity representatives

There are 5 vacancies on the PCC due to the rotation of members. 2 nominations had been received:

Jackie Eunson  
Ken Eunson

John Coltman will come back on the PCC when he is well. Carol Smith resigned from the PCC during the year.

There were no other nominations at the meeting and so the nominations were elected to the PCC unanimously. Peter encouraged the parishioners present to think about standing for the PCC and invited interested people to come along to see what a PCC meeting is like.

This year the Deanery Synod representatives need re-electing. We are entitled to 5 representatives and their role is to attend Deanery Synod meetings and report back to PCC meetings. According to present reps the Deanery Synod meetings are dynamic and very interesting and worthwhile attending.

Two nominations were received –

Michèle Aspinall  
Richard Wood

There were no other nominations at the meeting and so the nominations were elected unanimously. There are 3 vacancies and Peter encouraged everyone to think about taking on this useful role.

## PCC Membership for 2019-2020 will be:

<b>Incumbent</b>	Rev. Peter Barham
<b>Churchwardens</b>	Patrick Smith Michèle Aspinall



**Parish Safeguarding Officer** Louise Whittaker (with support from Anne Cogley)  
**Treasurer** Paul Smith  
**Secretary** Julie Hutchinson

**Readers** Julie Barham Deborah Simpson

**Elected Members of the PCC:**

Geoff Bailey	Paula Birchall	Barbara Colder	Graham Colder
Matthew Cooper	Karen Cowgill	Jackie Eunson	Ken Eunson
Richard Flatman	David Halliwell	Mark Halliwell	Julie Hutchinson
Paul Smith	Louise Whittaker		

**Deanery Synod Representatives – Ex Officio PCC Members:**

Richard Wood Michele Aspinall

**Retiring members at APCM 2020:**

Geoff Bailey, Paula Birchall, David Halliwell, Mark Halliwell, Julie Hutchinson, Paul Smith, Louise Whittaker.

**Retiring members at APCM 2021:**

Barbara Colder, Graham Colder, Matthew Cooper, Karen Cowgill, Richard Flatman.

**Retiring members at APCM 2022:**

Jackie Eunson, Ken Eunson.

**5. Appointment of Sidespersons (commonly known as Deputy Wardens)**

The following were elected unanimously:

Geoff Bailey	Richard Wood	David Halliwell	Jackie Eunson
Ken Eunson	John Coltman	Colin Pearson	

Peter thanked all the deputy wardens for their work.

**6. Annual Report of the PCC**

The report is contained within the APCM booklet.

Peter reported that there is now a Finance Committee which was set up through the year and consists of several members of the PCC with financial experience.

Peter also reported that the defibrillator has arrived and a box is being sought to store it in. Hopefully it will be in situ in the next few weeks.

Peter thanked all members of the PCC

**7. Financial Report**

This report is on page 14 and 15 of booklet.

The treasurer, Paul, explained that this year the income was up by 91% due to a large legacy and the expenditure was up by 50% due to major projects taking place. The paid administrator had increase cost but was agreed to be indispensable. The surplus of income over expenditure was close to £60,000. Paul explained that without the legacy there would have been a loss in the region of £30,000 and if no major

projects had taken place there would still have been a loss. The Finance Committee all felt that it was important that day to day income was able to cover day to day expenditure. This was therefore the justification for starting the stewardship campaign.

Paul thanked Peter Statham, the now retired assistant treasurer, David and Jean Halliwell, for counting up the collection money each week, Ken Eunson, for taking over payments, Richard Flatman and Mark Halliwell, for handling an energy review, Chris Jack, for role as gift aid secretary and finally Peter, Churchwardens and Finance Committee for their support.

A decision was made through the year to change the bank accounts from RBS (due to branch closure and poor service) to CAF bank which allows online banking. Paul is happy with the progress of this swap over but at the moment it is slightly more complicated as old and new accounts are still running. Parishioners donating to the church by direct debit and standing order will be asked to change their payments to CAF but this is being done at the same time as the stewardship campaign to make it easier.

Paul informed everyone that he wishes to stand down as treasurer at the next APCM.

Peter thanked Paul and the finance team for their hard work.

Mark Halliwell reminded everyone that within the expenditure of the church there is lots of charitable giving. This either happens through the agreed charitable giving which goes direct to 10 charities (local, national and international, as proposed by parishioners) each year or through collections being dedicated to specific current needs. Peter thanked Mark for organising the proposal of charities.

Peter is happy with the progress on electronic banking and feels it is important to keep up with the latest technology in this area so contact less payments will be looked into in the future.

Paul stated that the response to the Stewardship Campaign had been excellent and he will announce details next Sunday.

## **8. Appointment of Auditor**

Paul thanked Peter Hilton for auditing the accounts. Peter Hilton has volunteered to be financial examiner again next year. Proposed by Paul Smith. Seconded by David Halliwell. Carried unanimously.

## **9. Presentation of Committee Reports**

Committee reports are printed in full in the APCM booklet. Peter thanked Jo for putting the booklets together. Representatives of the committees were asked if they wanted to add anything to their reports and the following additions were made –

Pastoral Group – will meet again after Easter.

JACK – recently there have been more children coming and this has been very encouraging.

Magazine – Peter felt a huge thanks was due to the editorial team especially Fiona Fraser. Articles and photos are always needed. Please don't wait to be asked but just send them.

Church Hall Committee – repainting of the walls in the hall is the next project. The flower beds around the church hall are looking good. Patrick thanked Groundforce and everyone who helps. Peter thanked Patrick for all he does.

Preschool – will be celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> birthday this year. A party is planned for Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July.

Ladies Thursday Group – this has sadly closed this year.

Baby and Toddler Group – the printed report highlights concern over the future of this group as the current committee member's children move onto school. Volunteers are needed.

Flower Group – there have been more volunteers this year. Michèle is only too happy to raid anyone's garden for foliage so please let her know if you are happy for her to do this. Peter thanked the flower group for their beautiful displays.

Vicarage book group – Peter thanked Julie.

Food Bank – Peter thanked Shirley and Mike for all they do.

Luncheon Club – Peter thanked Janet and the luncheon club team and was very impressed by the 5star rating for food hygiene.

Allestree Churches Together – David mentioned some up and coming events.

Safeguarding – Peter thanked Louise and Anne for all they do. He thanked all PCC members and group leaders for doing their safeguarding training. A first aid course and a defibrillator training course are being planned.

## **10. Churchwardens' Report**

The report was printed in full in the APCM booklet on page 27.

Peter thanked the Churchwardens. There was applause for the churchwardens.

## **11. Vicar's Report**

The Vicar's report was printed in full on page 28 of the APCM booklet. Peter encouraged everybody to come along to evensong. Caroline returns to the parish office in September after her maternity leave.

## **12. Opportunity for questions**

David Halliwell wished to reinforce how valuable volunteers are in giving practical support to the Fabric Committee.

Maureen Caughey stated that she has nearly completed the graveyard survey. This has been going on over a number of years, starting with Rita setting up a team of volunteers to collect details off all the graves in the churchyard. Thanks were given to Maureen.

John Aspinall said how proud and supportive he is to Michèle in the role she does as churchwarden but that he felt concerned that she was going up the tower. He asked if the PCC could pay someone to do this job. Peter stated that everyone on the PCC has a legal responsibility to make sure that things are carried out safely and that people doing jobs for the church must do so in a safe manner. This issue will be looked into immediately.

The meeting closed with the Grace.

## **PCC Report for 2019 – 2020 - Julie Hutchinson (PCC Secretary)**

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility for co-operating with the incumbent in promoting, in the parish, the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical.

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. The Churchwardens and those elected to the Deanery Synod are ex-officio members. The PCC may also co-opt, in our case, up to three members.

### **PCC 2019 – 2020:**

**Incumbent:** Rev. Peter Barham

**Readers:** Deborah Simpson & Julie Barham

**Churchwardens:** Patrick Smith & Michèle Aspinall

### **Deanery Synod Representatives:**

Richard Wood, Michèle Aspinall

Following the AGM, David Redfern has also been attending members of Deanery Synod and has been co-opted onto the PCC.

### **Elected Members of the PCC:**

Geoff Bailey	Paula Birchall	Barbara Colder	Graham Colder
Matthew Cooper	Karen Cowgill	Jackie Eunson	Ken Eunson
Richard Flatman	David Halliwell	Mark Halliwell	

Julie Hutchinson (PCC Secretary)  
Paul Smith (PCC Treasurer)  
Louise Whittaker (Parish Safeguarding Officer)

### **Co-opted members of PCC (as of July 2020):**

John Coltman, Madeleine Fullerton & David Redfern. Chris Jack started attending PCCs early in 2020 in preparation for becoming Treasurer after this APCM.

### **Members due to retire at this APCM:**

Geoff Bailey, Paula Birchall, David Halliwell, Mark Halliwell, Julie Hutchinson, Paul Smith & Louise Whittaker.

### **Retiring members at APCM 2021:**

Barbara Colder, Graham Colder, Matthew Cooper, Karen Cowgill, Richard Flatman.

### **Retiring members at APCM 2022:**

Jackie Eunson, Ken Eunson.

## **Committees:**

The PCC works to support the clergy, mainly through subcommittees, which deal with the business of the Church, such as Finance issues, care of the Church Fabric and Church Hall and Pastoral matters.

Present Subcommittees are Fabric, Finance, Church Hall and Pastoral. PCC members choose on which committees to serve depending on their experience and interests. Other church members may be co-opted on at the discretion of the respective chairs.

The Standing Committee is required by law and consists of the Clergy, Lay Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and the Chair of any of the other subcommittees. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings and also sets the agenda for PCC meetings.

## **Review of PCC Meetings 2019- 2020:**

Principal matters dealt with this year include:

Receiving and discussing reports, plans and proposals from –

### Fabric Committee and Church Hall Committee

This has included -

- Carrying out repairs to church windows
- Stabilising graves in the churchyard
- Investigating ways of making access to the tower roof safe
- Carrying out repairs to church roof to stop a leak
- Investigating radiator covers for the church hall
- Investigating cleaning and painting of church roof
- Plus lots of smaller jobs

### Finance Committee

Discussions on financial matters and charitable giving. Planning and setting up e payments

### Safeguarding

Working towards Level 2 Action Plan for Promoting a Safer Church

### Derby City Deanery and Allestree Churches Together

Receiving reports from representatives

## Treasurer's Report: 2019 accounts – Paul Smith (PCC Treasurer)

As in previous years, our statutory accounts are in two sections: The **receipts and payments** account summarises our income and expenditure over the 2019 calendar year, with a line by line comparison with 2018. The **assets and liabilities** account records what we owned and owed at the 2019-year end, again with a comparison with 2018. Looking at these in more detail, highlights are:

### 1. Income

Total receipts were 36% down on 2018. Surprisingly, despite a very successful giving campaign, overall giving reduced in 2019. But the main difference between the years lies in the legacy income - £20,523 v £89,729 in 2018. Recovered Gift Aid at £13,129 continues to form an important part of our income and, since Christmas last year, we are now accepting electronic payments via the card machine. However, the best way of giving to the church continues to be by regular online payment into our bank (contact me for details!) with Gift Aid reclaimed where possible. You can also sign up for the Parish Giving Scheme if you prefer.

### 2. Expenditure

Fortunately, our spend also reduced, although by the smaller proportion of 14%. Our biggest cost is the Parish Share contribution, where we met our commitment in full. The second biggest cost is the hall (£15,479) but this was more than offset by the hall's income of £16,330. Our third biggest cost is admin: here, I am pleased to report that our sister church of St Matthew's now bears its full 50% share of the paid administrator costs. We also supported charities as set out below\*.

### 3. Surplus/Deficit position

As a result, we ended the year with a 4% surplus of £4,810. Had we not received legacies from the estates of the late John Heath and Gordon Cooper, we would have been in £15,713 in deficit. Without the legacies, but also excluding capital projects such as the completion of the organ repair (i.e. the 'everyday income vs everyday costs' basis), the deficit would still have been £7,893.

This underlines the need for **ongoing caution**, especially regarding everyday costs.

### 4. Assets and Liabilities

But, as we did make a surplus, we did not need to draw on our reserves. Also, our investment accounts performed well (in the case of our share account, exceptionally well). We ended the year with no outstanding liabilities. Taking all of these into account, our assets position strengthened 7% to £442,540.

### 5. Policy on reserves

The PCC's policy is:

- 1) Wherever possible, that everyday costs should be covered by everyday income.
- 2) To maintain a cash fund (represented by our cash holdings and CCLA deposit account) to cover contingencies such as major building repairs and deficits in costs against income.
- 3) To hold investments (represented by our CCLA share account) to generate income and ensure the long-term sustainability of the Church.
- 4) To review, at least annually the split between our cash funds, deposits and share account.

### 6. Conclusion

As stated in previous reports: overall, we are in good shape. We have benefited enormously from the generosity of so many friends (living and departed). To act as good stewards, we should continue to balance what **needs to be done now** with the need to **leave a strong foundation** for our successors.

**\*2019 Charitable Payments**

<b>Christian Aid</b>	<b>£1183</b>
<b>Alzheimer's UK</b>	<b>£96</b>
<b>Derbyshire Blood Bikes</b>	<b>£350</b>
<b>Faso Fund</b>	<b>£350</b>
<b>Lin Berwick Trust</b>	<b>£350</b>
<b>East Midlands Air Ambulance</b>	<b>£220</b>
<b>Children in Distress</b>	<b>£350</b>
<b>British Heart Foundation</b>	<b>£134</b>
<b>Practical Action</b>	<b>£350</b>
<b>Prostate Cancer</b>	<b>£350</b>
<b>Safe Families for Children</b>	<b>£350</b>
<b>Save the Children</b>	<b>£350</b>
<b>Water Aid</b>	<b>£350</b>
<b>RBL Poppy Appeal</b>	<b>£61</b>
<b>Derbyshire MIND</b>	<b>£71</b>
	<b>£4915</b>

## ST EDMUND'S ALLESTREE 2019 ACCOUNTS

These accounts are on the 'receipts and payments' basis and therefore include (1) the receipts and payments account and (2) an assets and liabilities statement.

### 1. RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS	NOTE	GENERAL			TOTAL 2019 £	TOTAL 2018 £
		UNRESTRICTED FUND £	DESIGNATED FUNDS £	RESTRICTED FUNDS £		
Planned giving	1	43267	0	0	<b>43267</b>	35057
Collections	2	6959	0	0	<b>6959</b>	8230
Other giving		6132	0	0	<b>6132</b>	16290
GA recovered		13129	0	0	<b>13129</b>	13585
		<b>69487</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>69487</b>	73162
Legacies	3	0	20523	0	<b>20523</b>	89729
Special appeals		0	0	0	<b>0</b>	0
Fundraising		887	0	0	<b>887</b>	3919
Investment income	4	821	0	0	<b>821</b>	467
Magazine/book sales		2138	0	0	<b>2138</b>	3143
Hall		16330	0	0	<b>16330</b>	14888
Other income		3722	3152	1997	<b>8872</b>	4629
Stat fees		15624	0	0	<b>15624</b>	19819
Other fees		86	0	0	<b>86</b>	203
		<b>39608</b>	<b>23675</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>65280</b>	136797
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>109096</b>	<b>23675</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>134767</b>	209959
<b>PAYMENTS</b>						
Parish share		58442	0	0	<b>58442</b>	53188
Clergy costs		3984	0	0	<b>3984</b>	3335
Sacristy costs		354	0	0	<b>354</b>	714
Church running costs		4468	0	0	<b>4468</b>	7723
Hall costs		15479	0	0	<b>15479</b>	10596
Magazine & books		1996	0	0	<b>1996</b>	1981
Fundraising		50	0	0	<b>50</b>	837
Governance & admin		12523	0	0	<b>12523</b>	11886
Mission & donations		4915	0	0	<b>4915</b>	4911
Stat fees		9847	0	0	<b>9847</b>	9065
Other fees		2750	0	0	<b>2750</b>	5443
Other payments		4210	0	0	<b>4210</b>	1268
Designated fund payments	5	0	10889	0	<b>10889</b>	27993
Restricted fund payments	6	0	0	50	<b>50</b>	11315



<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>119018</b>	<b>10889</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>129957</b>	<b>150256</b>
Excess of receipts over payments	-9923	12786	1947	<b>4810</b>	59703
Cash at bank and in hand (1 Jan 2019)	25110	153931	2267	<b>181308</b>	121605
Transfers between funds	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	0
Cash at bank and in hand (31 Dec 2019)	<b>15187</b>	<b>166717</b>	<b>4214</b>	<b>186118</b>	<b>181308</b>

## 2. STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	NOTE	GENERAL UNRESTRICTED FUND £	DESIGNATED FUNDS £	RESTRICTED FUNDS £	TOTAL 2019 £	TOTAL 2018 £
<b>CASH FUNDS</b>						
RBS ACCOUNT * 3473		0	48542	0	<b>48542</b>	16734
RBS ACCOUNT * 2872	7	12688	15834	4214	<b>32736</b>	77032
CCLA DEPOSIT ACCOUNT		0	87193	0	<b>87193</b>	86542
CAF CASH	8	2499	2796	0	<b>5295</b>	500
CAF GOLD		0	12352	0	<b>12352</b>	500
		<b>15187</b>	<b>166717</b>	<b>4214</b>	<b>186118</b>	<b>181308</b>
<b>INVESTMENT FUNDS</b>						
CBF ACCOUNT SHARES		142422	0	0	<b>142422</b>	116607
<b>OTHER ASSETS</b>						
CHURCH HALL	9	114000	0	0	<b>114000</b>	114000
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
		0	0	0	<b>0</b>	0
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>271609</b>	<b>166717</b>	<b>4214</b>	<b>442540</b>	<b>411915</b>

### Notes

#### Receipts and Payments Account

1 "Planned Giving" includes donations made by standing order and through the white, numbered, envelope scheme.

2 "Collections at Services" includes loose collections (cash), cheques and gift aided donations in yellow envelopes.

3 Legacy income is recorded in a designated (not restricted) fund within the general accounts.

4 "Investment Income" is CAF/RBS bank interest plus interest on our CCLA deposit account.

Gains in the CCLA SHARE account are treated as appreciation of an asset not as income.

5 Designated payments were to complete the organ repair and to fund Caroline Audley's work with young children.

6 Restricted fund payments were for piano tuning.

#### **Statement of Assets and Liabilities**

7 RBS Account \*2872 is an interest-bearing account into which some regular donors pay.

8 The CAF Cash account is now our main current account. The 31 Dec 2019 closing balance has been reduced to reflect cheques drawn but not paid.

9 Nominal value decided in 2012 and not changed since.

These accounts were approved at a PCC meeting on 10 March 2020.

Signed

**Rev. P Barham**

PCC Chair

**Paul Smith**

PCC  
Treasurer

ST EDMUND'S CHURCH ALLESTREE PCC

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF  
ST EDMUND'S CHURCH ALLESTREE

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2019, which comprise the Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2016. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the members of the PCC those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity trustees for my examination work.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the Charities Act, to follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act and Church Guidance, 2006 edition and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.


**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or

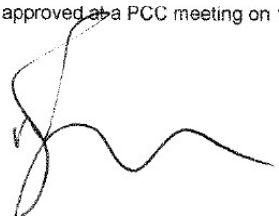
- 2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name P B Hilton  
Address 5 Wharfedale Close, Allestree, Derby  
Date 31/1/20  
Signed 

These accounts were approved at a PCC meeting on 10 March 2020.

Signed

Rev. P Barham



PCC Chair

PCC

## **PCC Committee and other Group/Activity Reports**

### **Family Events Committee – John Coltman**

This Committee has not met recently. Various events took place which are mentioned in other reports.

### **Housegroup – John Coltman**

I have been privileged to enjoy running a Housegroup for around twenty six years. I regret that due to health problems and advancing years I have needed to bring the group to a close. Over the years we covered more than fifty subjects – mostly Biblical with others relating to Church Life and interesting life issues. We met on over four hundred occasions and thanks is due to all who supported the group. Lent Groups met elsewhere in the parish.

### **Pastoral Group – John Coltman**

As you will already know the Pastoral Group was formed some fifteen years ago during a period when we did not have a Vicar. Latterly we support Peter with visits to people who need a listening ear, or maybe someone to pray with. All visits are confidential. Most of our visits are to sick or bereaved people.

The group will also take on any special exercise to assist the Vicar. Over the last PCC year we organised a tea outing to the Denby Pottery centre. About fifteen people enjoyed a drink, some eats and most importantly a chat. A similar occasion this year is on ice at the moment during the virus epidemic. We also organised the All Souls Service in November to support bereaved people and to pray for those who are known to us and have died. We have done this now for many years. Around seventy people attend and it has always been a success. Hopefully the virus epidemic will be over by November and we will be organising a Service this year.

During the coming year if you or someone known to you could benefit a listening ear please have a word with the Vicar or myself.

### **JACK Report – Karen Cowgill**

Jesus And Cool Kids is now in its sixth year and I am very pleased to report that over the past year we have increased the number of families becoming involved. There are now a growing number of children attending, ranging from new-borns to 8 year olds.

We meet in church on the third Sunday of the month and leave the service during the first hymn to go to the church hall and participate in a range of activities with a biblical theme. There is always a child friendly bible reading usually taken from the lectionary readings for the week, however occasionally an alternative reading is used if it is more suitable. Often there are some games and there is always a related craft activity which the children take home afterwards as a reminder of the session. Parents support the children in engaging with the activities.

Once again, the children were presented with books from the church at the anniversary in November. It was a great pleasure to present seven books to the regular attendees.

We have struggled to recruit regular attendees of the All Age Worship Service to join in the second child focussed worship each month despite constant reminders and positive campaigning. However, this year we have been able to encourage two of our AAW girls to join us.

I would like to thank the families for their continued support and the church for ongoing prayer and encouragement. I look forward to another year of expansion and of course continuing faith and fun.

## **Church Magazine – Peter Barham**

The Editorial team for the Parish Magazine comprises the Vicar, Fiona Fraser for production layout and advertising sales and Chris Willis for distribution. Our thanks to Terry Colder for his help in past years.

The magazine 'year' still runs from June to June insofar as payment is requested in June. This is because, for the people who collect money, the weather is usually better and evenings are light.

The number of magazines printed is usually in the region of 250 (the number continues to decline). Many of these are hand delivered around the Parish by a team of volunteers – thanks to them. Copies are also taken for sale in local shops such as the Newsagent and the Pharmacy at Blenheim Parade. The rest are left in the Church for purchase by parishioners and visitors.

The present price of the magazine is £1 per copy. Many members of the congregation respond to the opportunity to sponsor the cost of printing the front cover of the magazine, which is always colourful and interesting. This can be done to mark a special occasion, or sometimes in memory of a loved person. Parishioners also contribute articles and photographs, adding enormously to the appeal of the magazine.

We are always pleased to receive articles, notes, photos, and other items for publication.

## **Church Hall Report – Patrick Smith & Caroline Audley**

The hall and conference room continued to be very active in the first part of the year. Apart from the daily Pre-School sessions, the hall is occupied by a variety of user groups that includes the Baby & Toddler Group every Thursday (term time), ballet, yoga, Zumba and three choirs. Other groups that have held regular sessions in the hall have been Rainbows, Brownies and Guides, the Derby French Circle, Allestree Labour Group and Cruse Bereavement Care. We have worked very hard to ensure all regular hall users are transferred over to our new bank and we are in the process of accessing who pays what and when to see if there are opportunities for us to increase our income.

The Lunch Club meets regularly every two weeks and provides a wonderful social opportunity and delicious meal. They have retained their 5 star status and we thank everyone involved in keeping this popular social event going which now has a waiting list.

We also thank those church members who provide tea and coffee after the service on Sunday.

Several church events also took place including Shrove Tuesday Pancakes, concerts that featured the hall organ and books sales.

Parties for children are held regularly in the hall and on one occasion recently we hosted a wedding party. We unfortunately had one child's birthday party where the hall was not left in an acceptable way and so now we take a deposit which is only returned when the room is inspected and key is returned.

The decoration of the hall has been kept to a high standard together with the completion of the newly re-furnished toilets.

We also have to thank members of our Ground Force team who work incredibly hard the year round to keep the hall grounds in a tidy and attractive condition.

Our Treasurer reports that income is up on last year but so was expenditure which resulted in a much lower surplus than 2018. The actual figures are:-

Income	£16,330	Expenditure	£15,479	Surplus	£851 (£4,292 in 2018)
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Since Covid 19 and lockdown, all hall bookings, both regular and one-off have understandably been cancelled.

## **Handbells – Gill Flatman**

The greatest excitement of the year for our group was when we were joined by a new member whose performance on the handbells outshone that of many of the group!

In other ways the year was similar to previous ones, enjoying weekly practices in the choir vestry during term time and the usual invitations to perform locally for our chosen charity.

Our leader, Janice Johnson leads a choir in Little Eaton and our first performance of the year was to join the choir in a concert organised by Janice. Croots, in Duffield had donated some cut glass handbells to our group and we were initially able to raise £50 on this occasion towards our fundraising total of £261, for the Royal Derby Children's Hospital. Their current project was for Art and Craft materials and board and computer games.

We rang in Markeaton Park on two occasions: in August for the Friends of Markeaton Park and prior to Christmas in the Craft Village.

We supported the Christmas tree festival at St. Paul's Quarndon and visited both Abbeydale and Stanley House to entertain residents.

Our final invitation for 2019 was to play before the service of Nine Lessons and Carols in St Edmund's.

At the moment we eagerly await to hear when we will be able to resume practices during /after Covid19 restrictions.

## **Baby & Toddler Group – Caroline Audley**

I took over the group in September 2019 and have enjoyed getting to know both the regular parents, grandparents and carers who attend every week as well as new faces who join us from time to time.

We don't have huge numbers every week, maybe 10-15 children but I have had feedback to say that the fact our group is small is very appealing as other local groups are almost too big and noisy.

We ask for a donation with a suggestion of £1 for the first child and 50p after that but I do stress that we would never turn anyone away if they didn't have the suggested amount. I regularly sell our family eggs at the group and put that money into the collection pot too to boost income.

We try very hard to rotate the toys every week as well as arrange a craft on a 2 weekly basis that the children can do and take home with them to try to make the sessions as much fun as possible.

At Christmas we celebrated with a lovely service from the Vicar and then enjoyed the Christmas party afterwards in the hall. Thank you to Colin Pearson for being Santa again and got a warm welcome from most of the children!

Unfortunately, we don't have a committee to speak of anymore but I am hugely grateful to Kath Nkrumah who was on the original committee and works for the pre-school who has been wonderful at bringing me up to speed on how the group has been run and who so far has been happy to come and help set up on a Thursday morning despite it being her day off.

I am also hugely grateful to Croots for donating a generous fruit basket every week as well as our wonderful tea ladies who come and support the group week in week out. Without them I would have to spend a lot more time in the kitchen which means that I then can't be part of the group ensuring that everyone is having a nice time. Before I took over I did get some feedback that the group wasn't very friendly to new people which is why I try incredibly hard to speak to everyone throughout the session, especially any new faces.

Thank you also to Tony Delaney for getting the toys out and putting them away again on a weekly basis as well as to Julie Barham for reading the story and kicking off the sing song and as always to the Vicar for his support of the group.

Despite starting the process in December, Julie and I have only just managed to get access to the group accounts.

Since Covid 19 and lockdown, all group sessions have understandably been cancelled.

## **Flower Group - Michèle Aspinall**

The Group continues to ensure that fresh flowers are always on display for services apart from Lent and Advent. A special effort is made for festivals such as Easter and Christmas. Appropriate flowers and colours are also in place for Remembrance Sunday, Whitsun etc. We always try to carry out family's wishes for funeral flowers and also provide arrangements to celebrate anniversaries or memorials.

Some of our funding comes from wedding flowers when we make a small profit while providing flowers at a more competitive price than some florists. Thanks to generous donations from individuals, the congregation's response to appeals and the skills of the Group, the floral arrangements at Easter, Harvest and Christmas continue to impress. Mothering Sunday flowers are also provided from this funding. During 2019 we suffered a shortfall in our funding due partly to a large rise in the wholesaler's cost of flowers but also to the fact that there were fewer bookings for wedding flowers than in previous years. Currently, prices seem to have stabilised and the number of wedding bookings requiring flowers is much improved.

This is a longstanding group which gladly welcomes new recruits. No flower arranging skills are required as full training is offered by our expert, talented team. Volunteers to clear flowers and help with "ordinary" weeks would be most welcome. We see flower arranging as a pleasant, social and creative way of serving the church and helping to make it a welcoming and comforting place to be.

## **Choir - Elizabeth Jack**

The choir continues to sing for 6 or 7 services a month (including 1662 Sung Eucharist, Matins, 3 sung Evensongs and 1 choral Evensong) and the men of the choir (with a few extras) sing Compline after choir practices in Lent. This is a big commitment for a small, growing-older choir but we shall continue to sing for as long we can. There are inevitably weeks where we cannot field a choir for services and we ask for your goodwill over this. We would always welcome anyone interested in joining the choir and I can provide information and help. We are a welcoming and friendly group!

We are greatly indebted to our regular organists - Margaret Eades (Sung Eucharist), Roger Harrison (Matins), David Redfern (1 Evensong plus other services) and Tony Westerman (3 Evensongs). They are invaluable members of our team. Tom Corfield has also helped out on occasions. The choir is sometimes asked to lead Matins or Evensong and we remain willing to do this on an occasional basis. We continue to enjoy our joint services with St. Matthew's choir, including 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in the month Common Worship Communion, Patronal Festivals, Advent Procession, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Evensong.

The afternoon Epiphany celebration in the church hall was a huge success for the second year running and, as our Vicar says, the first time is an experiment; by the second time it has become a tradition! The choir gave a hugely successful concert last July, raising over £200 for church funds. Music for a summer's evening ranged from songs, anthems, organ music, string trio and quartet, recorders and readings to a chanted shipping forecast and tribute to Peter and Julie, with the grand finale being a performance of the Toy Symphony, featuring the Vicar on cuckoo! Berries and bubbles were served by Michèle Aspinall and her team.

It has been a sad year for us as we have said goodbye to several dear friends in the past 6 months. Ed Stow, one time organist at St. Edmund's, retired back home to Gloucestershire for too short a time. His funeral service in Stroud included all the music he had requested – this was sung by all the choirs he had specified! On the way down to his funeral, we heard that Brian Bonsall had died. A reliable and dependable tenor, he had sung with the choir for many decades. His last service with us was Harvest, the week before he died of a heart attack, aged 89. His wit, intelligence and contribution to the choir in so many ways are sorely missed. Again, he had left a list of music to be sung at his funeral. Peter Rice retired as a bass from the choir 3 years ago. He was a fine musician who composed several pieces of music for the choir and we felt privileged to sing an anthem and Nunc Dimittis of his at his funeral. Hilary Kirkbride was a staunch supporter of the choir and used to visit us when we sang at cathedrals around the country.

Finally I would like to thank the choir from the bottom of my heart for all they do throughout the year. Their commitment and loyalty are beyond measure!

## **Bookworms and Other Vicarage Social Events - Julie Barham**

We have had another excellent year enjoying books together in the Vicarage sitting room. We have a good number of people coming, so seating can be a little cosy. We always welcome new members, but I would like some notice so we can try to arrange seating (and biscuits). Many thanks go to those who make drinks and wash up. Our books are listed on the church website through until February 2021 (in the hope that we might be able to meet again sometime). We try to work out our books for a few months ahead so everyone has a chance to get hold of copies from charity shops, libraries or online.



We enjoy our discussions, with some frank observations and ideas exchanged. I hope that everyone gets something from the sessions, which are normally on the second Monday of the month at 2pm, (not in July).

In addition we have welcomed people for coffee mornings – an opportunity to get people together from both churches, and to chat to people we don't normally meet. Once again we had a Vicarage Garden Party at the end of August. In 2018 we had several weeks of bone-dry weather, put the marquee up for the Vicarage Garden Party, and the heavens opened 15 minutes later. We all got soaked. In 2019 we did no advance planning - apart from booking the Church Hall in case, and buying Just-Ice ice cream. At 12 noon we looked up at the sky, and decided to put up the marquees. An hour later they were up. 15 minutes after that, the heavens opened. Then the rain stopped, and by 3 pm the sun was shining. 83 people came - people from both churches, and an age range from under 1 to over 90. There was so much food we had a surfeit of cake, Robert played his accordion, conversations we enjoyed, and £295 was raised for the British Heart Foundation. We were able to say "farewell" to Jo after her stint in the Church Office, and give her a leaving present with our grateful thanks. Folk wandered off by 5. The marquees were down and the garden tidy by 6.30. Thanks to Alex and Matt, to Helen, Suzy and Evie from the BHF, and to everyone who helped and supported.

We also had a garden full for the Toddler Groups picnic, and hosted a Lent Course and Advent Group.

## **Food Bank - Mike & Shirley Dawson**

We had a very productive year in 2019 and normally collect on the first Sunday of each month at every service. Many thanks to all who donate. We are particularly grateful to those who put the bags ready and those who oversee the donations brought to services. The storage area alongside the Font is always kept very tidy and is much appreciated by us. Please do ask for your bag back if you'd like it back. We use designated black bags for storing the donations. We are especially grateful to Paul Smith (Allestree) who we understand has been helping oversee the donations brought to the 10.00am service since St Edmunds Food Bank collections started in 2011. Many thanks, Paul! Others have helped at other services too, for which we are personally very grateful. More help for this would be very much appreciated. Do contact us on 01332 513378 for details.

During the time of Covid-19 the Hope Centre continued to work, and was involved with the City Council, churches and other charities, to ensure food was distributed across the City. St Alkmund's church on Kedleston Road became a major distribution centre. Food from members of our congregations continued to be taken, and was grateful received. Thank you. If anyone wishes to make a financial donation to the Hope Centre Food Bank these are the bank transfer details:-  
SORT CODE 600516 ACCOUNT NUMBER 19562160

## **Luncheon Club – Janet Hogben**

Up until last week, Luncheon Club was enjoying a very good year. Then came the blow which all groups and organisations were dreading. We had already decided-with the approval of the Vicar that we would close for the time being because of the Coronavirus Virus, but the government announced that all gatherings of people for whatever purpose was to stop until further notice. We have promised our members that we will restart our lunches as soon as possible. Members of staff are keeping in touch with the most vulnerable who have little help available to them.

Our membership stands at 45, with 14 people registered with the door to door transport service. We have

managed to keep the cost at £5.00 for the meal and £3.00 for transport, although the latter is heavily subsidised by Luncheon Club.

One of the high spots of this year was a new award from the city council called 'Five to Five awards'. This was an initiative to reward 'businesses' like ours who had gained five stars on a least three consecutive food hygiene inspections, we have attained five stars every year since inspections began, so we know that it was well deserved.

We all look forward very much to restarting our lunches in the not too distant future.

## **Allestree Churches Together (ACT) - David Halliwell**

Over the past year the role of host church passed from Broadway Baptist to St John's Methodist O (and chairmanship from Roger Patten to June Elwell) following the group's customary annual cycle. The following joint services were well attended giving pleasure in meeting and worshipping together (a) the Good Friday Act of Witness gathering at Park Farm, led by Rev. Becky Mathews, (b) the Advent Evening Service at Holy Family Church, with prayer stations arranged by Nick Willers of Broadway, (c) Christmas Carols at Park Farm organised by Rev Dawn Knight of St Nick's, with the Woodlands Evangelical music group, and (d) United Songs of Praise in the January 'Week of Prayer for Christian Unity' at Broadway Baptist, led by Rev. Rashell Beya and Rev. David Owen of St John's.

The Nagpur Link partnership between the Church of North India and Derbyshire churches continues to be supported by the SACT group. Chris Burns is now stepping down as Chair of the Link, for which a replacement has not yet been found. The annual Lent Lunches supporting the Link are being held again at each church. A repeat of Broadway Baptist's successful Holiday at Home event for the local elderly and housebound will be held again in August 2020. This has previously been an enjoyable and worthwhile gathering, led by Rev. Rashell Beya, attracting guests and helpers from across the ACT group and an advanced appeal is made for helpers. A follow up service will be held at Allestree Methodist Church on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October as part of their 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations.

In all the above case, refreshments were provided by the host church, creating a good atmosphere for social integration. Several passers-by joined the Park Farm events, attracted by the carols and costumed roles enacting the Good Friday story. A more informal event is the Litter Pick by ACT members at the Recreation Ground, due to take place in April. The AGM will take place in June at St John's. On finance the current balance remains satisfactory.

## **Safeguarding - Louise Whittaker & Anne Cogley (PSO's for St Edmund's Church, Allestree)**

As the Parish Safeguarding links for Saint Edmund's Church, Louise and Anne have continued to uphold the duty of care to children and vulnerable adults in our Church Community.

We have completed the Safeguarding requirements for three new members of the PCC. All three have received their DBS Certificates and completed the Safeguarding Training relevant to their roles.

During the course of the year, we sent off a total of seven DBS forms to Church House, a further four are currently in progress including one for a new volunteer. We have purposely encouraged all recipients to

use the online Updating Service that is now available to them and this is generally being taken up by everyone.

As far as training courses were concerned, three people have completed the C0 online Safeguarding Training, and two more are in the process of making time to do so. Five people completed C1 Safeguarding Training, one person completed the C2 Safeguarding Training Course and seven people attended the S3 Domestic Abuse Course. Louise attended the Dashboard Audit Training Course at Church House and a lay preacher in our Parish has also completed all Safeguarding Training requirements as part of his PTO/Permission to Officiate. We are in the process of contacting the leaders of all Church Activities and providing them with the Safeguarding Training requirements of the Diocese. We are thus anticipating that more volunteers will very soon be completing the online C0 Training Courses before we can then organise another C1 Safeguarding Training session to be attended by volunteers both in our Parish and in the Parish of Saint Matthew's in Darley Abbey.

Louise and Anne need to complete the S1 course for Safer Recruitment Training but this is not yet available to us.

Last summer, as a result of two incidents in Church when an ambulance needed to be called and due to the age of many of our congregation, a defibrillator was fixed to the walls of the Red Cow public house next to the Church. The British Heart Foundation has provided training for several people and will keep a record of its location to advise when people ring for an ambulance.

In February 2019 we were contacted by a parishioner with regards to their concern for a vulnerable adult parishioner of Saint Edmund's Church. The required protocol was followed - Peter was informed and then Dave Bowden, the PSA at Church House was contacted along with Social Services. The situation was resolved and in August, Social Services withdrew. Anne and Louise continue to keep an eye open and regularly visit the vulnerable adult concerned.

In October Louise became the PSO in charge of completing the online Parish Self Audit. Louise and Anne have put many hours of work into fulfilling the requirements of the audit and have now completed Level 1 and are working their way through Level 2. We have taken many actions to the PCC for their approval and put posters in and around Church buildings, promoting a Safer Church and providing people with vital phone numbers, contact details and information.

In November we presented a six monthly report to the PCC. We are continuing to report to them at each designated meeting, giving Safeguarding updates and explaining the requirements of the online Safeguarding Audit.

With regards to 2020, we have 3 planned DBS Certificate renewals and shall continue to encourage good practice and work closely with Peter on all Safeguarding matters. We shall equally look after the DBS and Training requirements in the Parish and look out for any extra Training Courses that could benefit volunteers and bring added confidence and knowledge to the roles they hold. The Parish Online Self Audit will be our main priority and is likely to take up much of our time. We shall continue to do our best to support all leaders and volunteers, particularly as the Safeguarding requirements and the completion of forms become more demanding in line with the Church of England's drive to Promote a Safer Church.

## **Churchwardens' Report - Patrick Smith & Michèle Aspinall**

St. Edmund's Church has enjoyed another successful year thanks to the expertise and hard work of Peter and Julie Barham. Variety of worship has been preserved with considerable help from ordained members,

readers, the choir and other church members. Attendance at Sunday services remains stable and numbers attending Wednesday morning communion are encouraging.

2019 has seen an increase in the number of weddings. We have also enjoyed welcoming many families for baptisms. In the midst of these joyful celebrations, we have known the sadness of the deaths of a number of faithful and longstanding members of our church family who will be sorely missed.

The Ground Force Team has turned out regularly and cheerfully whatever the weather and their hard work was recognised in the Quinquennial Inspection report. Volunteers work hard to ensure that the grass is mown and the paths swept which greatly enhances the approach to the church. The flower bed to the south of the church has been re-designed and now has planting which reflects the changing seasons. The railings on Church Walk have received attention and ivy on the south wall of the churchyard has been removed. We are very grateful to parishioners and members of the community who demonstrate such loyal support.

Thanks to the efforts of the Fabric Committee, the support of the PCC and continued hard work by volunteers from the congregation and the community, the church remains in a good state of repair. Indeed, the Quinquennial Inspection report stated that “the overall condition of the church (remains) good”. The church is “patently well cared for”. Work carried out includes restoration and repair of the church organ, repair of cracked lozenge panes in the south aisle windows, decoration of the churchyard railings and repairs to the sacristy and choir vestry roofs. We thank Richard Flatman for continuing to audit the churchwardens’ accounts.

In 2019, we enjoyed a wide variety of activities, many involving delicious refreshments. The Epiphany celebration was well attended. Shrove Tuesday’s Pancake Lite was a popular family event as was the Nagpur Link Lent lunch. An enthusiastic group produced beautiful posies for the joint family communion Mothering Sunday service. April’s steam and pipes railway themed evening was a great success. Throughout June, we participated in a wide variety of events celebrating the bicentenary of St. Matthew’s church. Summer celebrations included a choir and friends concert with berries and bubbles. Participation in the first Allestree scarecrow trail brought many visitors who came to view our ‘scarecrow vicar’ taking tea in the pulpit. September’s harvest fish and chip supper is now an annual event and continues to be very popular. Our All Souls’ service was very well attended as was November’s Remembrance service. Carols in the churchyard, the Toddlers’ Christmas service and the Christmas Eve crib services were, yet again, very popular with families.

Throughout the year numerous groups have continued to meet regularly for worship and fellowship, serving both the church and the wider community. On behalf of the PCC, we thank all those involved in our work of promoting the gospel of our Lord. ‘Happy are those whose hearts are set on the pilgrim way’. Psalm 84.5

In conclusion, we would like to thank Peter for his unstinting efforts in providing spiritual leadership and practical guidance during this busy year. We are grateful for the support of our church administrator, Caroline Audley. Finally, we wish to thank Julie, not only in her role as Reader but also for her invaluable support for all that makes for an active and caring church.

## **Vicar’s Report - Peter Barham**

It seems unbelievable I am writing my fourth report – and much of what I have said before, I must say again. Worship is a pleasure. A lot of people put a lot of effort into our services, and the atmosphere, the welcome, the care, the silence, and the laughter – all these are a sign of God’s people worshipping

together and worshipping well. We have struggled on occasions when people who have always done jobs are no longer there to do them, but usually people step forward. Having said that, we have known for several months that Patrick will end his time as churchwarden at this APCM and no one has shown any willingness to step forward. Michèle's time as churchwarden ends at the APCM in 2021, so someone will need to replace her too. You can all sit and look for someone else to step forward, but if no one does we have a problem.

On a more positive note, I was very grateful for the Stewardship Campaign and the work done on our finances, and grateful to Paul and now Chris for working so well together to ensure the succession of the Treasurer role.

Every year I say it would be lovely if more people came and supported the services at 8, 11.15 and 6.30 – and last year I said I had no intention of making the number of services any less. Covid meant that intention has been blown away.

Once again we have lost a lot of friends in the last year – and I've been here long enough that they are my friends too. We give thanks to God for them all. I appreciate the care that we give each other through the times of grief and loss. Many people in the community are grateful for the support we give them in difficult times – though I wish they wouldn't just use us for those difficult times. We have lovely baptisms – more than almost anyone else in the Diocese – and weddings too. Thank you for being welcoming.

We had some lovely social events in 2019, and it was good seeing some folk getting involved in St Matthew's Bicentenary celebrations as well. But it frustrates me when exciting things happen just a mile away and many people show absolutely no interest at all. I was angry when Michèle put a huge amount of work into filling St Edmund's with cribs so we had something for the weekend we had, in the past, had the German Market. Julie and I spent the day in church as well. We had 80 visitors, but could count the number from the church congregation on the fingers of two hands. Things will only happen if people support them and get involved – if you don't, they won't happen.

In the Church Office we started 2019 with Jo as our administrator, then Caroline came back from Maternity Leave. I am very grateful to her for her help and support, the way she deals with everything so calmly. Thanks too to Julie for her work and her encouragement in so many ways.

Thank you for your love, friendship and support. 2019 may have been a pretty normal year – some decline, some change, but much that is hopeful. 2020 has (so far) been anything but normal. I hope that the strengths of 2019 and the thousand or so years that have gone before, will get us through. I have to believe that God is in charge, and that St Edmund's and St Matthew's still have roles to play in His Kingdom.