



*Showing and Sharing God's Love*

**Annual Report  
and  
Financial Statements  
of the Parochial Church Council  
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

**Incumbent**

The Revd Richard Wise  
The Rectory  
10 Stoke Park Road  
Bishopstoke

**Independent Examiner**

David Dimmick



## Objectives and Activities

Bishopstoke PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for St Mary's Church, Church Road, Bishopstoke; St Paul's Church, Fair Oak Road, Bishopstoke; and the Church Room, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke.

Other committees may meet and report back to full meetings of the PCC. Membership of these committees is not necessarily restricted to PCC members.

*Standing Committee* is required by law and consists of the Incumbent, Churchwardens and the Officers of the PCC. It sets the agenda for PCC meetings and has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.

## Church membership, attendance and occasional offices

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Electoral Roll</b>	81 (12 not resident in parish)	85 (16 not resident in parish)	84 (15 not resident in parish)
<b>Worshipping Community</b>	130 (33 under 18)	105 (27 under 18)	98 (14 under 18)
<b>Usual Sunday attendance (adults)</b>	53	50	40
<b>Usual Sunday attendance (children)</b>	13	13	8
<b>Baptisms</b>	23	3	14
<b>Thanksgivings</b>	2	0	1
<b>Weddings</b>	10	1	5
<b>Funerals</b>	22 (12 in church)	28 (11 in church)	22 (9 in church)

The usual Sunday attendance figures have been based only on services in the church buildings, not online worship, and only include those attending in person. For some of the year, people were requested to book places in church, but we never had to turn anyone away. The usual Sunday attendance figure does not include those who attended Messy Church.

The Worshipping Community includes all those who attend church on a regular basis, whether or not they are on the Electoral Roll and including those who come regularly to a Fresh Expression (in our case, Messy Church). This year it has been harder to assess this due to the period when we were not worshipping in the church buildings, the restriction on numbers at other times, and some people's not being able or feeling ready to return to in person services. The Church of England has asked us to be realistic and not to count people who have not engaged with church during the pandemic, but to include them when they return. Like the previous year's, this year's figures therefore contain a small element of approximation.

### **PCC review of the year**

The full PCC had ten meetings during the year, one being an 'additional' meeting at the end of August. As always, some of the PCC's work this year has been connected to buildings and our grounds (please see the Fabric and Goods report on p.11-12 for those items).

For most of the year much of our Parish Mission Action Plan has effectively been on hold due to the pandemic, but we have made progress at Eco church with the formation of an Eco team (see p.10).

The Link magazine was suspended in 2020 when the first lockdown came, and this year we took the decision to discontinue it, on the grounds that some of our deliverers were unable to resume their rounds; we also felt that the time it takes to produce the magazine needs to be spent in other ways.

During the year, two church members undertook Bishop's Commission for Mission (BCM) training: Pat Abbott (Worship Leading) and Karen Caws (Creation Care). Ann Brown had already completed the Pastoral BCM, and all three were commissioned at the Cathedral during the autumn. Two members of our church, Shirley Smeal and Martin Ward, trained to be School Pastors and began to come alongside the children one lunchtime per week at Stoke Park Junior School from the start of the autumn term.

Health and Safety and Safeguarding are standing agenda items at every PCC meeting.

## **SAFEGUARDING**

Safeguarding is a standing item at each PCC meeting. Over the last twelve months the parish has completed its return to the diocesan review of historic

safeguarding cases. The Diocesan Safeguarding Team presented updated national Church of England and local diocesan policies and procedures to parish Safeguarding Officers in November 2021. These are now being implemented as part of a review and action plan led by me on behalf of the PCC. This review should also prepare the parish for a proposed parish safeguarding audit in 2022. Of particular note is the change of frequency of DBS rechecks. The Church of England now requires rechecks to take place every three years rather than every five years. This brings rechecks into line with the requirement for all those working with children, young people and vulnerable adults to retrain on Safeguarding awareness and procedures every three years, and reflects the commitment that national and local churches have made to keeping church activities as safe as possible.

*Margaret Ward*

## **WORSHIP**

### **Services**

From January to March, there was a further period of lockdown when we were advised by the Diocese to consider not meeting in person, and the PCC decided that we should only hold online worship. We resumed in person worship on Maundy Thursday. We held Church Together as a ‘hybrid’ (in person and online) service until early autumn, by which time the online numbers were very low; we then took a decision to stop this in order to encourage everyone, as far as possible, to return to the church buildings. Around the same time, we also discontinued posting the Welcome sheet, hymns and sermons to those not on the internet. The weekly online Compline service continued throughout the year.

I am very grateful to everyone who has contributed to our worship in any way, including to Margaret Ward (LLM) and Pat Abbott (BCM Worship) for leading worship and preaching.

We used the lectionary readings for almost all the year and started to subscribe to Roots on the Web for resources mid-year, which particularly helps with ideas for Church Together. On Mothering Sunday, we had an online visit by a speaker from The Leprosy Mission, and in June we used the ‘Generous June’ readings with recorded sermons from our Bishops. As our series for Creationtide, over three Sundays during September we worked through the story of Noah, applying it to the climate emergency in preparation for COP26 in November. On one of the Sundays, the Busy zone made paper prayer boats, which were sent to Christian Aid to be part of a display at COP26.

I am very grateful to all who lead and play for the musical aspect of our worship: Jon Senior and our worship band; Phil Dunford and Ann Arnold, for organ playing and singing. Once again, Ann and Phil organised a choir for our Carols by Candlelight.

In October, we resumed our monthly communion at Bishopstoke Park, but we are not yet able to return to leading worship at Stoke Knoll rest home.

For the sixth year running we encouraged people to take part in the global prayer initiative 'Thy Kingdom Come', and as part of this held some times for silent prayer in St Mary's.

*Richard Wise*

### **Children and Young People**

Children and young people continue to play a major part in both Messy Church (see p.8) and Church Together.

## **DISCIPLESHIP**

### **Prayer Healing Fellowship**

We had a meeting on 16 March 2021, and then we could not meet until 2 August, due to Covid-19. O what joy there was at that meeting! Since then, we have been able to meet every Monday except for Bank Holidays. The format for each meeting is similar, but things change as far as national and global news goes, and also in our personal lives. There have been several great-grandchildren delivered to members' grandchildren. Much jubilation! In November, Jackie and Lesley joined us, and are so welcome. Richard has brought us Communion to celebrate St Luke's Day and Christmas, and we thank him for his valued support.

Our cards continue to be well received, and we have sent over 100 since August, including Christmas and Easter cards to former members.

I must thank Cherry, my lovely Deputy, Joy, our wonderful Treasurer, and dear Margaret for all our refreshments once a month to celebrate members' birthdays. We thank God for his love and faithfulness in answering our prayers and giving us such joy in carrying out his work in this place for nearly 45 years.

*Sheila Sebborn*

## **Home Groups**

Two home groups continued throughout the year, initially continuing to meet online. In the autumn they both did the Church of England's 'Living in Love and Faith' course, with some additional church members joining them, and we also ran this course on an afternoon. Members of 'Tuesday Together' home group, which had not met since the first lockdown, also came to this course. One group stayed online in the autumn and continues to meet online, which has been particularly helpful in enabling those with younger children to attend a group.

*Richard Wise*

## **PASTORAL CARE**

Again during 2021, Covid and social distancing restrictions affected face-to-face pastoral visits and home communions, but many telephone and doorstep conversations took place. It was good that Prayer Healing Fellowship members were able to meet again later in the year and prayer requests had been passed onto them. Their cards have been really appreciated at a difficult time for some people. The monthly communion service was started again at Bishopstoke Park in the late summer and is now in the more spacious restaurant (when it is closed), rather than the smaller library. Seasonal flower arrangements and cards were taken to Stoke Knoll and Orchard Gardens care homes in December on the day that St Mary's was being decorated for Christmas. However, the local care homes are still not open for services. Easter and Christmas cards were also sent to some housebound members of our congregations and community. If you or anyone you know are in need of pastoral support, please let us know.

*Ann Brown & Joan Cook*

## **MISSION AND OUTREACH**

### **Events**

Due to Covid-19, the only events this year were our 'Wildlife and Grow' afternoon (see Creation Care) and a 'Christmas' café at St Mary's near the end of November, but at both of them people really appreciated the opportunity to be together.

*Richard Wise*

## **Messy Church**

Messy Church in February, March and April were ‘messy bag’ months, when bags with 4 or 5 activities were delivered to families who requested them, and online Celebrations took place on Zoom. After Easter it was back to ‘family dens’ at St Mary’s – good to be back together in the same building, but with lots of limitations. At the end of the term we said goodbye to Mike and Wendy, who were founding team members of our Messy Church and have contributed so much to it over the years – many thanks to both of you.

A new planning team met over the summer break to prepare and plan for a return to ‘proper’ Messy Church in October. Since then, we have been able to enjoy mingling together over all the activities, singing during the celebration, and, very importantly, the return of eating cake together!

A huge thank you to everyone who has been involved in making Messy Church happen in 2021.

*Anne Wise*

## **Open the Book**

Open the Book is part of the work of Bible Society. Volunteers take assemblies in primary schools, the major part of which is reading and acting out Bible stories wearing costumes, with a brief introduction and closing reflection and prayer. Our team includes people from all the Bishopstoke churches, and in normal times we give an assembly in both Stoke Park Infant and Stoke Park Junior schools most weeks of the year.

Due to Covid restrictions, in 2021 the team recorded two Easter assemblies on Zoom. Meanwhile, the staff at the Junior school continued to use the Open the Book stories for class assemblies, and in some classes the children acted the stories out themselves! In the autumn we returned to both schools for a few weeks but were then only able to continue in the Infant School due to the rise in Covid cases. It has been wonderful to be in school and see the children and staff whenever possible. Some of our team have not yet been able to return to school, but we look forward to having them back when circumstances are much safer. I would like to say a huge thank you to Joy Barnard, who stepped down from the team in the summer on health grounds, but who was a founder member of our team and contributed so much, both in assemblies and by making costumes. And many thanks to all who continue to be part of the Open the Book team.

*Richard Wise*



## **Tots and Tinies**

Tots and Tinies is our term-time toddler group at St Mary's on Tuesday mornings for young children and their parents / grandparents / carers. There are toys and craft activities, refreshments, and a story and song session at the end. After not being able to meet for 18 months, we were able to restart the group in September. A lot of the children who came before Covid had moved onto to pre-school or even school, so we have missed seeing old friends, but have enjoyed meeting new children with their parents/carers. We aim to offer support and friendship to all who come.

Many thanks to Wendy and Chris for all their help in running the group.

*Anne Wise*

## **Unshakeable**

Unshakeable is a group for 11-16 year-olds, which meets at St Mary's on alternate Saturday evenings for 'Fun, Food and Faith'. We have had a big increase in our numbers, with about 30 young people who come along regularly to the group, many of whom do not otherwise come to any other church events.

Despite lockdowns and other Covid restrictions, we have managed to run a fairly full programme for the year. We started the year on Zoom, enjoying cooking, games, and recreating well-known works of art!

After Easter we were able to meet face to face again, mainly outside, so activities included outdoor cooking on the wax burners we had made a year before! We welcomed several new members to the group, and ended the summer term with a wonderfully warm and sunny day on the beach at Southbourne.

From September we were able to meet indoors again, so Unshakeable has felt a lot more 'normal'. We have made pizzas, recreated the Great Fire of London, had a 'All Night Film Night' (a real test of stamina!) and a trip to Playzone in Portsmouth.

Each session also has lots of social time when the young people can play games such as snooker, table tennis, board games and xbox, and the ever-popular hide and seek – preferably in the dark! We finish each session with a 'faith' time, mainly working through life issues that are hopefully relevant to the young people in the group.

We have had a new team member join the group this year, which has been great as the group has got so much bigger. Many thanks to Tessa, Brandon, Michael,

and Lynda for all that they do in running the group, and also to those more occasional helpers who come along to help with activities.

*Anne Wise*

### **Out-of-doors Delegates to the Housebound**

This project involved a small team of volunteers in responding to house-bound parishioners unable to:

- shop online or get timely delivery slots for provisions
- utilize prescription delivery services
- receive basic essentials from Government-sponsored food aid, or from other alternative sources or volunteer groups

It continued into 2021, but by then most people were able to access these needs in other ways, and the number of requests declined almost to none. I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who helped with this, and to Mike and Wendy Harris for administering it.

*Richard Wise*

### **Creation Care**

In April 2021, I completed a BCM course in Creation Care, and this led to the creation of an 'Eco team' within our churches, which currently has 10 members. We had our first meetings during the summer of 2021 in St Mary's churchyard, and decided to run an event called 'Wildlife and Grow' during The Great Big Green Week in September. This was a successful event, where we invited two speakers to talk about 'How we can help wildlife in our garden' and 'How to help hedgehogs in our garden'. We also had a stall of vegetables from a local community farm and served tea, coffee and cakes.

Out of this event and discussions, we are planning a wildflower churchyard to create a better habitat for wildlife. We also wanted to take some action to help hedgehogs. As an Eco team, we are passionate about all things nature and are working towards gaining firstly the Bronze Eco Church award with A Rocha.

*Karen Caws*

### **Giving outside the Parish**

This year we supported the following organisations financially or 'in kind':

- ARK (Gift & Christmas Charity)

- Basics Bank (Gift)
- Bible Reading Fellowship (Gift & PHF)
- Bible Society (PHF)
- Street Pastors (Offertory giving)
- Christian Aid (Easter & Harvest Charities)
- Leprosy Mission (Offertory giving)
- Pamoja UK (PHF)
- The British Legion Poppy Appeal (Gift)
- The Children's Society (Christmas Offertory)
- World Vision UK (PHF)

## **BUILDINGS AND STEWARDSHIP**

### **Fabric and Goods**

#### **St Mary's**

The Parish Council continues to work at and fund maintenance on the grounds and borders of St Mary's churchyard, as well as the old churchyard, and we are very grateful for all their help. This year, a new report from an arboriculturist recommended work on two of the very large trees, rather than felling them, as suggested in the previous report. New metal hoop fencing was also installed between the church grounds and 76 Church Road. Two new benches were also donated in memory of local residents and installed in the grounds.

In the church, the new lighting was installed in the ringing chamber, and an external light was added by the south door. Both the flagpole, which was rotting, and St George's flag with Diocesan coat of arms, which was rather tatty, were replaced. After much effort on the part of Roy LeMarechal, it proved impossible to repair the tower clock, and towards the end of the year it was agreed that we should contact the Diocesan clock advisor.

The Quinquennial Inspection (QI) took place in the autumn, and there is a lot of work to be done over the next few years, including replacing many roof tiles, which is very urgent, repairing the weathervane with lead, and considerable re-pointing to external walls. Some of the smaller jobs could be done by volunteers, and we will work on this during 2022.

The Faculty for the main church lighting was granted in the autumn, and we were looking to this being installed early in 2022.

## **St Paul's**

We were expecting the planned building work to start in the summer, and in April removed many items from the church, vestry and kitchen in preparation for this. The project was, however, delayed, and then put on hold due to the tenders for the work exceeding the budget available. At the end of the year, we were waiting to hear more from the Eastleigh Borough Council officers involved. Meanwhile, we started fundraising for a new roof, which is absolutely essential. Various items of maintenance will now need to be undertaken as they cannot wait any longer. In the spring, Arthur Lavington stepped down from mowing the grass, and we are very grateful to him for having done this for so many years.

## **Church Room**

The Church Room continues to be used for both church and charitable storage and we still have the aim of redeveloping the site for a combination of church usage (possibly office, storage, flat for a church worker) together with some accommodation which could be rented out, but this would be a very large project and we have yet to start work on it.

Thank you so much to everyone who helped with building matters during the year, including Cherry Challis and Wendy Harris, our church wardens, and all who clean the churches.

*Richard Wise*

## **Financial Review**

**Summary** 2021 was a better year for our church finances than 2020, but as expected the emergence of Covid-19 variants and further restrictions continued to impact us. Income from cash collections and voluntary giving recovered somewhat, but less so for revenue from lettings and fundraising (and statutory fees declined further). With more short-term savings made on parish running costs, General Funds for the year finished on a par with 2020 after making the usual annual increase to the Fabric Fund (to cover contingent and long-term maintenance liabilities). We have a Reserves policy to cover 3 months' running costs.

We continued to defer: major spends on capital/equipment projects, and; applications for grant-funding during Covid-19 - including projects to re-order the Vestry space at St Mary's and re-imaging the Church Room site. The St Mary's lighting project was started however (to be completed in early 2022), but sadly St Paul's development was placed on hold by the Council.

Our Statement of Financial Activities for the Year to 31 December 2021 are shown here together with a breakdown of the Income and Expenditure Account as represented by General Funds and Reserves, and Funds Designated or Restricted for specific purposes. Monies are held in HSBC, Cambridge & Counties, and elsewhere for small Funds and petty cash.

**Income** We received £76.2k over the year, £8.5k more than the previous year (but still down on 2019). Voluntary giving normally accounts for around 75% of our income – mainly from parishioners giving regularly. Donations via the Parish Giving Scheme and by Standing Order actually increased but, given the legal restrictions and advice on social contacts, cash donations including giving envelopes and collections were still down on pre-pandemic levels (as were Fundraising and St Paul’s Lettings). The time was right to finally discontinue the magazine, so no sales or advertising revenues were received. Building society interest was similar to that in 2020 – with reduced rates matching an increase of funds placed on deposit. We received small Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme grants (for St Paul’s cleaner on furlough) – but we do not receive any other state-funding.

**Expenditure** 65% of our unrestricted spending went to the Diocese’s Common Mission Fund, despite a temporary reduction in 2021’s “bill”. The Diocese pays Richard’s wages, housing costs and training, and finances mission support locally, regionally and nationally – please visit <https://www.winchester.anglican.org/common-mission-fund/> to find out more. Spending totalled £70k - nearly £10k more than the previous year, but £17.7k of this was for Restricted projects (including £14.7k on materials for St Mary’s lighting). Missional giving was 26% up on 2020 (down only slightly on 2019). We continued to make savings on church running expenses (though 10% up on 2020), and sadly our Mission and evangelism costs fell again in lock-step with the reduction of opportunities to evangelise during the pandemic. Utilities costs fell with reduced usage of church buildings, and spending on equipment renewals and organ tuning remained minimal at best. Miscellaneous costs were (i) the Quinquennial report and (ii) reimbursement of shopping for the house-bound – all of which were matched by repayments. St Paul’s Development was placed on hold by Eastleigh Borough Council after tenders for the works had been received but were rejected for budgetary reasons, with the project to be ‘looked at again’ in 2022 – the short-term impact of this being that repairs to St Paul’s roof must be shouldered by the church alone, a Restricted Fund for which was set up (with £4.4k donated into it by the year’s end). HSBC began unhelpfully making charges on our current and fees accounts in the year, so we began to investigate changing banks.

**Stewardship** Giving financially on a regular basis is a sacrificial yet rewarding expression of our faith and worship, particularly in the uncertain and difficult age in which we are now living, and accounts for most of the church's income. Please consider giving via the Parish Giving Scheme, Standing Order, or online at [www.cofebishopstoke.com](http://www.cofebishopstoke.com), and to regularly review and/or index-link your giving. We also recover tax paid through gift-aid. You may contact me or Pat Abbott for forms and details of these schemes and/or about leaving a financial legacy.

***Covid-19 and other issues into 2022** We anticipate some further reductions to income again in 2022 before legal restrictions to movement are (finally) lifted to enable us to conduct normal church services. However, the Diocese is very significantly increasing our Common Mission Fund, mainly by changing our Parish's Affluence Band – we appealed this, and the change was not rescinded, but the annual increases should now be scaled to no more than 10% year-on-year until 2024 or so, though which will still present our church with much difficulty. Our uncapped Gas tariff is increasing by 250% (not a typo!), and other inflationary pressures will also be challenging, so we will continue to monitor and plan actions to see that the church remains financially stable even in such 'interesting' times. We will also be moving from HSBC to a different bank with no (or fewer) fees!*

**Independent Examiner** We are very grateful to David Dimmick who has been our Independent Examiner for many years, but as a decision-maker at Deanery level (including re. Common Mission Fund appeals) he has a conflict of interests – so if anyone knows of somebody who might be able and willing to be our new Independent Examiner, then please contact me or Richard as soon as possible.

**My thanks** also to everyone involved in running our church's finances in 2021 – particularly offertory counters, Wendy Dale for the Fees Account, Joy Barnard for PHF, and all others faithfully helping in many other roles – and a special mention to Ann Brown and Valerie Smith for their involvement with the magazine over many years.

*Mike Harris*

# THE WIDER CHURCH

## Deanery Synod

The Eastleigh Deanery Synod met on Zoom in February, June and October. All meetings were chaired by Richard Wise as Area Dean, and started and finished with prayer.

Items minuted included:

**Finance** We heard that by the end of 2021 there could possibly be arrears in the Deanery contribution to Diocesan Common Fund (CMF) as some Parishes were struggling. Earnest discussions were on going about how these parishes could be supported. Thanks were expressed to parishes, including our own, which were able to be up to date with their payments.

**The Deanery Mission Action Plan (dMAP)** This was due to come to an end in September 2021, but some of the aims had been delayed by Covid restrictions. A new Archdeaconry Mission Action Plan was awaited and this would guide the development of a new three-year dMAP for the Deanery.

**Living in Love and Faith** The clergy had been invited to a training day about this national consultation, and it was hoped that parishes would take part later in the year.

**Clergy Vacancies** In February we heard that there were 3.5 vacancies and several clergy and leaders were helping to support these parishes as well as serving their own. By June St Luke's, Hedge End had appointed a new Vicar to start in September, and St Thomas', Fair Oak were hoping to interview soon.

**Around the Parishes** During lively and optimistic feedback sessions at each meeting it was realised that gradually church communities were emerging from the pandemic restrictions. Service patterns were returning, and opportunities to welcome the community were starting to take place.

**Speakers and Discussion Topics** In June there was an interesting presentation by a Winchester Prison chaplain, encouraging anyone interested in volunteering in the prison to come forward.

In June also, as some of the media and rumoured reports about the Bishop of Winchester's decision to step back for a while had been confusing, Richard read an article from the Church Times making the situation clearer. Later it was announced that Bishop Tim would retire in February 2022. Meanwhile Bishop Debbie would be acting Diocesan Bishop, supported by the Bishop of Basingstoke as well as a retired Bishop, Richard Frith, formerly Bishop of Hereford.

**Ecumenical Links** In May 2022 it is hoped that a service of prayer will take place at All Saints Church in Eastleigh involving all denominations across the Borough.

**Community Links** It is hoped that links can be encouraged by participation in the pilot 'As One UK' scheme in the spring / summer of 2022, when there could be opportunities for Remembrance and Thanksgiving post-Covid.

**Deanery Companion Link** The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Bukedi Diocese, with which we have been linked for many years, was mentioned, and it was hoped that a small group of people might visit for the last time before a new link was established. Details of our new companion link with The Democratic Republic of Congo would be available after a planned conference in November. Mention was also made of the Welcome Churches Network, which enables churches to support refugees, most recently those arriving from Afghanistan.

The next meeting would be at St Thomas's, Fair Oak in February 2022.

*Ann Brown & Jeanette Neale*

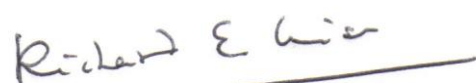
### **Churches Together**

At the start of the year, the newly-formed Churches Together in Bishopstoke, Fair Oak and Horton Heath decided to meet bi-monthly, and we began with some 'open' meetings on Wednesday lunchtimes for anyone who wished to come. We share things that each church is doing, ways in which we can support each other, and think of things that we can do together across the whole of our area. Regular items on the agenda include Street and School Pastors and work in schools. We hope this will further develop as time goes on, and anyone is most welcome to attend these meetings. Please let me know if you would like details.

During the year, the Bishopstoke churches ran an Easter donkey trail and a second Christmas tree trail around the village. Each donkey and tree had a special word this year, connected part of the Easter / Christmas story, and we also delivered or gave out goodie bags to children with Bible story books as part of each project. We had planned our united Pentecost service to take place in St Mary's churchyard, but sadly the weather forecast forced us to move to a hybrid service with a restricted number of places in St Mary's. Nevertheless, it was good to be together, either online or in person, and service was full of the life of the Spirit. Rather than having a balloon arch outside, Revd Kate Cambridge from the Methodist Church gave a talk involving balloons.

*Richard Wise*

**Approved by the PCC, and signed on their behalf by  
Revd Richard Wise (PCC Chair)**



April 2022



**PARISH OF BISHOPSTOKE**  
**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**  
**St Mary's Church, Bishopstoke**  
**Sunday 23 May, 2021**

The APCM was held at St Mary's Church. Revd Richard Wise presided over the meeting attended by 13 people plus 6 on zoom.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Sheila Sebborn, Jill Crockett, Phil Dunford, Carol Gutteridge.

**2. Election of Churchwardens**

Two nominations were received. Cherryll Challis was proposed by Sheila Sebborn and seconded by Marjorie Young, and Wendy Harris was proposed by Margaret Ward and seconded by Louise Unsworth. Following a show of hands Cherryll and Wendy were duly elected nem.con.

**3. Minutes**

Copies of the minutes of the last meeting were available and circulated prior to the meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously by a show of hands and were duly signed as an accurate record.

**4. Receiving of the Annual Report**

Copies of the Annual Report had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Ann Brown and seconded by Martin Ward as a true record of the 2020 report. This was approved by a show of hands.

**5. Receiving of Accounts and Independent Examiner's Report**

Copies of the financial statements had been circulated beforehand. They were proposed by Cherry Challis and seconded by Shirley Smeal and approved unanimously by a show of hands. Mike Harris was thanked for all his hard work. Mike encouraged everyone to read the report and also his notes.

**6. Report on Electoral Roll.** This year we have 84 people on the electoral roll, with 15 living outside the parish.

**7. Election of Church Councillors**

There was one nomination for the Church Council. Karen Caws, proposed by Wendy Dale and seconded by Edna Brown. Karen was elected on a show of

hands. Richard thanked Louise Unsworth, who was standing down from the PCC after three years.

## **8. Election of sides people**

**St Mary's:** Julia Bancroft, Margaret Bishop, Edna Brown, Wendy Dale, Elizabeth Farrington, Jenny Rogers, Shirley Smeal, Louise Unsworth, Karen Caws and Martin Ward

**St Pauls:** Joy Barnard, Joan Cook, Janet Henderson, Caroline Waters and Marjorie Young.

All were elected on a show of hands.

## **9. Appointment of an Independent Examiner**

Richard informed the meeting that David Dimmick had once again done a great job and requested that he be invited to continue with this for next year. Mike was asked to pass on our thanks to him. This was approved with a show of hands.

## **10. Any other business and questions**

Russell Smeal asked for further information about the plans for St Paul's. Richard filled in on the current situation. Further detail would be available in June when the tenders are received. Fundraising would be needed to cover the cost of the new roof on the church and towards better kitchen equipment.

Karen Caws asked how eco-friendly the new building would be. Richard said that there would be solar panels, one tree had to come down but has already been replaced by two new ones. The new car park will be gravel, to allow water to soak through and the building would be well insulated. It would be up to us as to which electricity company to use.

Richard said it had been an exceptionally hard and different year, but things were beginning to start again including Messy Church and Unshakeable. Vulnerable people in the parish had been helped and phoned regularly, and we now had a prayer evening online. The Christmas trees and donkeys at Easter had gone down very well with everyone in the parish.

Cherry said a huge thank you to Richard for all the work he has done, especially in delivering Welcome sheets and worship materials, and keeping in touch with people.

Richard thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting with prayer.

# **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2022**

## **AGENDA**

1. Apologies
2. Election of Churchwardens
3. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2020

### **2021**

4. Receiving of the Annual Report
5. Receiving of Accounts and Independent Examiner's Report

### **2022**

6. Report on the Electoral Roll
7. Election of Parochial Church Councillors
8. Election of Sides people
9. Appointment of an Independent Examiner
10. Any other business and questions

