



The Parish of Ashcombe, St Nectan's Church

*Address for correspondence:
Hon Treasurer, Houndspool, Ashcombe, Nr Dawlish, EX7 0QP*

Annual Report and Financial Statements

of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ended
31st December 2020

Team Rector:
Reverend Roderick Withnell (Ret'd.)

Team Vicar:
Reverend Jane Frost

Bankers:
Lloyds Bank, Newton Abbot, Devon

Independent Examiner:
Mr D Cook
Smarter Accounting
27 Fore Street
Teignmouth, DEVON, TQ14 8DZ

Website:
www.ashcombeparishchurch.co.uk

The Parochial Church Council is an Excepted Charity
The Parochial Church Council of St Nectan's Church, Ashcombe

**Annual Report
for the year ended 31st December 2020**

Aim and Purpose

St Nectan is part of the Haldon Team Ministry. The Team Rector is Reverend Roderick Withnell who retired in July 2020 and therefore the Team entered a period of interregnum. Reverend Jane Frost, Team Vicar for the Haldon Team Ministry, took on the role of acting Team Rector after Reverend Withnell's retirement. Reverend Sue Astbury is Associate Priest. There are three Team Readers. St Nectan's Parochial Church Council (the PCC) has had the responsibility of cooperating with the Incumbent, Reverend Jane Frost, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is responsible for the maintenance of the Church which is a Grade 1 listed building.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at the Church, and to become part of the parish family.

To facilitate this work, it is vital that the fabric of the Church is maintained, guided by the Quinquennial Inspection and last carried out in December 2017.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

The PCC offered one service on the 3rd Sunday of each month, conducted by anyone in the Haldon Team who was available. This service was either a Family Service, Evensong or Parish Communion. As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic services were suspended from March 2020 to date.

At present there are 11 parishioners on the Electoral Roll, 7 of whom live within the parish. The number has not changed from 2017. The average Sunday attendance at the Village Praise was 8 until the start of the pandemic.

It was agreed by the PCC that the church would not be opened for public worship after the lifting of the first and second lockdown. However, it was agreed to open the church for private prayer every Wednesday. The APCM was delayed from April to October.

In November the funeral of a member of the Rayner family was conducted. Because of the pandemic and government rules, only 30 people were allowed to attend.

The Carol Service was cancelled at the last minute because of concerns expressed by the Churchwardens that too many people were planning to attend, even though the Government ruled that religious buildings could be opened for public worship. The law stated 15 people may attend a wedding and 30 people may attend a funeral.

There have been no weddings or baptisms this year. There has been no fund raising but the PCC was very grateful to receive a donation of £1000 from The Lady Elizabeth Rayner Memorial Trust.

Church Fabric

The church remains locked except on Wednesdays from 9.30am to 3.00pm. The insurers are agreeable for the church to be left open but the PCC decided not to do so because of the inherent risk of theft or

vandalism as it is rather isolated, and because of the unnecessary burden on a PCC member to open and close the church every day.

The boiler is serviced annually and although old is still in good working order. The electrical systems were not tested this year. The organ was serviced.

The Quinquennial Inspection was carried out in December 2017. The Diocesan approved Architect provided recommendations in order of urgency to be carried out. These include: repairs and maintenance of gutters and roof elevations; investigation and resolution of tower roof water ingress; conservation repairs to bells and ceiling repairs under the west end of the valley.

During July through to October repairs were carried out under a Schedule B faculty to the porch and boiler house roofs, together with clearance of all the gutters and downpipes. The drains were cleared and concrete channels patched and made good. Extensive examination of the tower to establish the cause of water ingress was carried out. That work is ongoing.

A pre-planning application was made to Teignbridge District Council for the creation of a car park and compost loo in the field on the west side of the church, to incorporate a pedestrian access gate through the wall into the churchyard. A quantity surveyor provided an estimate for the cost of works. This matter continues to be discussed by the PCC.

Deanery Synod

One member of the PCC sits on the Kenn Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with a link with the Churches around us, and with the Diocese as a whole. It also receives reports from the General Synod. A new lay Chairperson was elected in 2020.

Mission

Since the start of the pandemic Reverend Frost, Reverend Astbury and other members of the team have conducted 'virtual' services around the churches in the Team. The services have been well received - meaningful and spiritual - under exceptionally difficult circumstances. There have also been regular virtual prayer meetings.

Since the start of the pandemic, The Haldon Team have issued weekly newsletters by email. The St Nectan website enables people to know more about St Nectan's church.

Other Activities

The pandemic caused a halt to the maintenance of the churchyard by Dawlish Gardens Trust.

Financial Review

Total receipts on the unrestricted General Fund increased to £5617 because of a Tax Refund on donations of £2593 covering the past 4 years. Payments from this fund increased to £15070 because of the £9939 cost to repair the roofs. Investments were realized in order to cover the shortfall. The PCC paid 45% of the contribution requested to the Diocesan 'Parish Share' - £2000 of £4488.

Reserves Policy

The PCC has resolved to maintain, if possible, a balance on our General (unrestricted) Fund, which equates to at least three month's unrestricted payments to cover emergencies.

The Restoration Fund balance of £16,165 is retained towards the cost of the roof, tower and organ repairs. It is hoped to obtain Grants towards the cost of repairs of the organ and church bell frame.

It is PCC policy to invest any surplus funds with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund.

Safeguarding

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Volunteers

The members of the PCC would like to thank all the volunteers who work so tirelessly to make our Church a lively and vibrant community. Our grateful thanks go to our Churchwardens, Mr Ralph Rayner and Mrs Christina Conachie. Mrs Conachie resigned at the APCM after more than 20 years' service.

Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The Council comprises the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, those elected to the Deanery Synod, and other members who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, by those on the Electoral Roll. Members of the congregation are always urged to join the Electoral Roll, and to stand for election to the PCC. The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance in the parish, and for all financial matters. Financial matters have been administered by former Treasurer during the year until the election of the new PCC at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in October 2020.

Administrative Information

The Church is situated at Church Hill, Ashcombe, Nr Dawlish, EX7 0QD and is part of the Deanery of Kenn, in the Diocese of Exeter. The correspondence address is The Hon. Secretary, Ashcombe PCC, Ashcombe Tower, Nr Dawlish, EX7 0PY.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, and the Church Representation Rules 2006) and a Charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

PCC members who have served from the 1st January 2020 until the date this report was approved were:

Ex Officio

The Incumbent	Reverend Jane Frost	Chairman
Churchwardens	Mr Ralph Rayner	Vice Chairman
	Mrs Christina Conachie	Resigned as Churchwarden and PCC member in Oct 2020
	Mrs Carolyn Bourne	Elected October 2020
Deanery Synod Representative	Mrs Carolyn Bourne	Acting Treasurer to Oct 2020 Elected Treasurer Oct 2020
Elected Members	Mr Edward Bourne	
	Mrs Abi Cotton	
	Mrs Eleanor Rayner	Secretary
	Mr Ranulf Rayner	
	Miss Katie Mowll	
	Mr Julian Downes	

Approved by the PCC on 25th March 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

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Reverend Jane Frost (Chairman)

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Mr Ralph Rayner (Vice Chairman)