

The Churches of St. Peter and St. Nicholas, Shaldon

**Annual Report
and
Financial Statements
of the
Parochial Church Council
of the Ecclesiastical Parish of
St. Nicholas, Shaldon**

For the year ended 31st December 2021

Rector (until 30th April 2021)

*The Rev'd Annie Church
The Rectory
Torquay Road
Shaldon
TQ14 0AX*

From 1st May 2021

Vacant

Bank

*The Co-operative Bank
PO. Box 250,
Delf House
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT*

Correspondence Address of the PCC

*The PCC Secretary,
Starboard,
71B Teignmouth Road,
Teignmouth
TQ14 8UN*

Independent Financial Examiner

*Mr Brian Hamblin
25 Broadlands
Shaldon
Devon
TQ14 0EH*

Appended

Churchwardens' Fabric Report

Website

www.shaldonchurches.org.uk

The Churches of St. Peter and St. Nicholas **Annual Report for 2021**

Background

St. Peter's and St. Nicholas Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of co-operating with the Rector (currently vacant) in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for St. Peter's Church, Bridge Road, Shaldon and St. Nicholas Church and the Churchyard at Ringmore, Shaldon. The Rev'd Annie Church retired from her office as Rector on 30th April 2021. The PCC was informed by the Venerable Douglas Dettmer (Archdeacon of Totnes) at an online meeting in January that the resultant vacancy would not be filled. The PCC responded by drawing attention to the Mission Action Plan for the Shaldon Benefice and Mission Community which indicated the preference that Shaldon Parish should become part of the Haldon Mission Community. The other parishes in the Benefice (namely - All Saints, Combeinteignhead, St Blaise, Haccombe and St Andrew's, Stokeinteignhead), have opted to become a part of the Newton Abbot Mission Community. This was agreed by the Diocese and the necessary procedures to effect this (including the consequential changes of Deanery and Archdeaconry) remain in hand at December 2021.

The PCC is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission. Its objectives are shared in part by the following related trusts, which are not under the control of the PCC.

Emma Robertson Trust

Bequest from the will of Miss Emma Robertson in 1931. Interest on the capital endowment is to be used for the maintenance of the structure of St. Peter's Church or for such charitable purposes in connection with the church as the trustees at their discretion think fit. The Trust is registered with the Charity Commissioners.

The present trustees are: Michael Britton (Chairman and Treasurer), Lesley Bill, Peter Edger, Chris Morris and Malcolm Watson. The annual meeting was held in October. During the year the sum of £4,000 was contributed towards the general fund for church expenses.

Extence Trust

Bequest from the will of Gerald Onslow Extence in 1988. The income and capital is held in trust principally for the upkeep of the Churchyard at St Nicholas Church and for the general charitable purposes of and in the Ecclesiastical parish of St Nicholas, Shaldon as the trustees may agree.

The present trustees are: The Rev'd Annie Church (retired 30th April 2021) Michael Britton (correspondence contact), Frances Commander and Malcolm Watson. The trust paid a contribution of £8,880 in November for repairs and minor enhancements to St Peter's organ.

Any disbursements from the latter two trusts are accounted as income in the PCC accounts.

Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex officio, elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) or co-opted at a meeting of the PCC in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

The following were elected at the Annual Meetings on 30th May 2021:

Rector (ex officio):		
	Vacancy from 30 th April 2021	
		Elected until:
Churchwardens (ex officio):		
	Mrs Lesley Bill	2022
	Mr Malcolm Watson	2022
Deanery Synod Representative (ex officio):		
	Mr Keith Robinson	2023
Elected Members:		
	Mrs Sandra Davies	2022
	Mr Chris Morris	2022
	Mrs Sue Morris	2022
	Mrs Marian Gilpin	2023
	Mrs Anne Mears	2023
	Mr Leon Winston	2023
	Mrs Anne Brixton	2024
	Mrs Frances Commander	2024
	Mrs Ann Yates	2024

Officers elected by the PCC.

Vice Chairman	Mr Chris Morris.
Secretary	Mrs Sue Morris.
Treasurer	Ms Helen Commander.
Electoral Roll Officer	Mr Chris Morris.
Safeguarding Representative	Mrs Anne Mears (until 23 rd November 2021). Mrs Susan Harvey (from 23 rd November 2021).

Committees

The PCC operates through a Standing and Finance Committee, which meets when required between full meetings of the PCC. The only committee required by law is a Standing Committee. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Formerly, the PCC also appointed a Finance Committee to oversee the general financial dimension of the work of St. Peter’s and St. Nicholas by monitoring income and expenditure, producing the annual budgets and managing the Planned Giving Fund. The PCC decided in 2007 that these functions would be better combined in a single Standing & Finance Committee. Its members are the Rector (ex officio), the Churchwardens, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Mrs Frances Commander who would represent the financial aspects.

Church Attendance

St Peter’s

When we have been able to have services, the numbers attending have been in general noticeably lower than pre-Covid and lower than the permissible capacity where social distancing and not statutory limits have been the determining factor. This year, it proved possible to return to holding some special services, including Nine Lessons and Carols and Crib and Christingle services at Christmas (with some measures to contain attendances to Covid-safe levels). Once statutory controls were lifted it has been possible to accommodate occasional services such as funerals

without limitation on the numbers attending, beyond reluctance on the part of individuals concerned about their vulnerability.

St Nicholas

Because of the nature of the seating arrangements and the difficulty of providing increased ventilation in this church it has been necessary carefully to manage numbers, notwithstanding relaxations in the statutory and guidance limitations. Attendances have in general been maintained near the maximum Covid safe capacity, particularly for special services such as Harvest and Christmas Praise.

The Church Electoral Roll was updated in May 2021. At the APCM there were 55 Members on the Electoral Roll, six fewer than in 2020. Of these, 40 people were resident in the parish and 15 people were non-resident.

Review of the year

The full PCC met four times (including the meeting after APCM) during the year with an average attendance of 94%.

The PCC also met in March remotely by Zoom. The attendance at this meeting was 100%.

Other items of business were conducted by correspondence in accordance with Rule M29 of the Church Representation Rules 2020.

The Standing and Finance Committee met between the PCC meetings when required and reported its deliberations to the subsequent meeting of the PCC.

The principal items for the PCC's attention this year have been:

Thanks to other clergy and members of the laity

The PCC wishes to place on record its thanks to those members of the clergy whose contributions have enabled continuation of the full range of services (so far as has been permitted this year) in the parish despite the retirement of the Rev'd Annie Church in April and subsequent lack of any stipendiary minister in the Benefice. We are indebted to the Rev'd Sue Astbury, the Rev'd Helen Bays, the Rev'd Dr Marcus Braybrooke, the Rev'd Helena Cermakova, the Venerable Douglas Dettmer, the Rev'd Jack Eastwood, the Rev'd Prebendary John Good, the Rev'd Mark Lord Lear, the Rev'd Caroline Luff, the Rev'd Patrick Parkes, the Rev'd Prebendary Alan White and the Rev'd David Witchell, and towards the end of the year additional clergy from the Haldon team, the Rev'd Jane Frost and the Rev'd Carol Green.

Our gratitude is also extended to Lay Readers Tony Carswell, Hugh McCormick and Edward Goodman and to those lay persons who undertake a range of tasks, including leading worship.

Churchyard, Ringmore

The PCC, as always, records its gratitude for the continuing care of the Churchyard. It may not be appreciated by those, who are not directly involved, how much time and effort has to be devoted to this work.

Musical Events in St. Peter's

The PCC is delighted to report that musical events in the church have returned this year although constrained in their attendances and format by the ever-changing Covid restrictions. The Shaldon Music Festival returned in the summer with four concerts, each given twice, and the Shaldon Singers returned to rehearsals in the church in September with a Christmas concert in December. These have been supplemented by the Shanty Festival and a freebie concert by John Shillito and his Riviera Ramblers which generously raised £240.50 for the work of the Red Cross in Afghanistan.

Fund Raising Activities

Soup Kitchen

The Annual Soup Kitchen was able to return at Christmas and raised £430 divided equally between the Community Larder, Teignmouth and the Leonard Stocks Centre in Torquay.

Walking Advent Windows

As last year, Windows were decorated around the village with a Christmas theme. A map could be purchased showing where all the displays were located and this raised £52 which was donated to Cancer Research.

Christmas Praise Service

The collection at the St Nicholas Christmas Praise Service raised £103 for ShelterBox.

Lent Course 2021

Keith Robinson reported that the group was not able to meet in person which meant that the crucial aspect of fellowship was missing. However, advantage was taken of Zoom technology to meet remotely. This did however offer the advantage of being able to welcome four new people from elsewhere in the county.

The group followed a course prepared by St. George's College Jerusalem entitled "River Through the Desert". This was illustrated by a weekly video set at sites in the Holy Land: The Desert, The Water Well, The Mountain, The Sea, The Road and The Garden. A Bible reading was set for each week, and a series of questions was discussed. It was considered to be a very good course which may be worth repeating.

Service of Thanksgiving

A Thanksgiving Service for the life of HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh was held on 18th April 2021.

Crib and Christingle Services

The PCC is very grateful for the efforts of a small group under the leadership of Leon Winston to ensure Crib and Christingle celebrations took place on Christmas Eve with plans having to be revised multiple times to address the ever-changing Covid concerns. The two Services raised £168.24 for the Church of England Children's Society.

Voluntary activities

The PCC wishes to thank those regrettably diminishing numbers of people who help to maintain the life of the churches within the parish including those who act as sidespersons, those who read lessons at our various services, and our choir and servers. Without their dedication our worship would be much diminished. The PCC also thanks those who give their time to clean the churches and their contents, those providing flower arrangements, the Sacristans, who do so much that many people are completely unaware of, those involved in the production and distribution of the "Parish News" and those who organise special services.

At St. Nicholas, special thanks go to those who give their time to select and organise the music and, in the absence of a live organist, operate the organ for regular Sunday services.

Website

The parish website, www.shaldonchurches.org.uk, was updated 31 times during 2021. As we move closer to the Haldon Mission Community and begin to lose ties with the other churches in the current mission community, the website has changed to reflect this. Discussions have taken place with the webmaster in the Haldon mission community and, in the long term, the Shaldon information will be incorporated in their overall website, which is in the process of being rebuilt. Once we are formally part of the new community, it is proposed to retain the existing website for a while to provide a link to the Haldon website.

Independent Examiner

Brian Hamblin was appointed as Independent Examiner (as defined by the Charities Act 1993) at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 30th May 2021.

Finance

The finances of the PCC have remained remarkably stable over the last few years, despite the lower attendance at services due to the pandemic. This is largely due to the sterling efforts of Michael Britton and then Keith Robinson, in signing many up to the planned giving scheme and then recovering the gift aid associated with this. Going forward this makes future expense planning easier, as the income is regular and guaranteed. There will be some extra costs, as the lighting scheme is explored further and unfortunately electricity and gas costs will rise.

Deanery Synod Report

Keith Robinson reports that until the legal processes have been completed to enable the Shaldon Churches to join the Haldon Team we remain in the Newton Abbot and Ipplepen Deanery which has now been extended to include Ashburton churches. We will eventually become part of the Kenn Deanery. Deanery synod meetings can be dry but one of the best aspects is comparing notes with other churches, learning from one another, and receiving affirmation for the good things we are all doing.

Future of the Church - Younger People

At the PCC Meeting on 29th June 2021 a small group was appointed to brainstorm ideas for the future of the Church in Shaldon given the age profile of the current members.

The Group comprised Lesley Bill, Marian Gilpin, Keith Robinson, Malcolm Watson and Leon Winston. Ideas were pooled of ways we might attract more people to the church building and to illustrate to the community that the Church remains at its heart. Some suggestions were based on things which have been tried and some were brand new.

The group has met twice already and these are the main points so far:

- We regard the Remembrance Day Service as an important act of witness.
- We should continue to link up with the school, although this work has been limited due to Covid restrictions.
- The Advent Displays in windows and gardens remind the community of the significance of Christmas and involve more than just the Church community.
- The Christingle Service is a popular event and involves all ages
- We should encourage the use of the Church by outside organisations as this gets more people into the buildings (e.g., polling station, Vaccination centre, concert venue, artisan market).
- We look for “experimental” types of service such as the one scheduled for the end of January as a means of widening our base.
- The Haldon team is giving thought to employing a family worker, and the Shaldon churches are part of that discussion.

Mission Action Plan

The PCC will need to undertake a fundamental review of the future of the parish in the context of becoming part of the Haldon Mission community.

Safeguarding representative's report

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016. (This is a duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). In anticipation of the transfer of Shaldon Parish to the Haldon Mission Community the PCC has approved the appointment of the Haldon Safeguarding representative, Susan Harvey, to take over primary responsibility from Anne Mears, who will continue to act as the local link. The PCC is very grateful for all Anne has done to carry out this important but unappreciated role.

Signed on behalf of the PCC:

Date:

Churchwardens' Fabric Report 2021

For both our churches, the annual fire extinguisher servicing and PAT testing of the electrical appliances took place, and COVID risk assessments were carried out and amended as necessary.

St Peter's

The quinquennial report has now been received, following the inspection in November 2019. The most urgent recommendations for action relate to the north aisle and vestry slate roofs; a schedule of work (which will also attempt to remedy some of the rainwater ingress experienced from time to time) has been agreed with Mark Ledgard (Savill's) and the roofing contractor has been instructed to proceed with the work; the contractor has not yet been able to undertake the work. The other major fabric issues that have required action this year relate to the organ and the heating boiler. Condemnation of the boiler flue at the annual summer servicing of the heating system and recommendations of substantial necessary repairs to the organ have taken some time to resolve. In the end both works were successfully completed just in time for Christmas. The risk of future problems with the ageing boiler remains and investigations are being continued to enable the PCC to come to a decision for a planned replacement of the heating system. The previous plans for a major replacement of the lighting system remains a high priority for action in the immediate future once the vision of Shaldon's future as part of the Haldon Mission Community is clearer. A full electrical inspection took place as required by the insurance company and, somewhat unexpectedly, revealed no problem requiring immediate attention.

St Nicholas

Mark Ledgard (Savill's) carried out the quinquennial inspection on 8th July. His report identified no major urgent works and the minor items recommended for early attention have all been carried out. The church has been well maintained in the previous few years so that the building remains in good repair and the general maintenance is up to date.

Signed by the Churchwardens:

Signed on behalf of the PCC:

Date: