**2021 Trustees Annual Report for the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of All Saints Harrow Weald**

**Aim and purposes**

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of All Saints Harrow Weald (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Dr John Barker, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of Blackwell Hall.

**Objectives and Activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at All Saints. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission’s guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

* Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
* Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
* Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of All Saints Church and Blackwell Hall.

**Achievements and Performance**

**Worship and Prayer**

The PCC is committed to offering a range of services during the week and over the course of the year that our community find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. For example, formal worship provides a reflective environment for worship whilst opportunities are provided for people to engage in more informal fellowship and outreach such as that provided by after service coffee and weekday clubs such as the Monday Lunch Club.

However, in 2021 we were required to cease public worship from January until May as a result of COVID restrictions, and all informal fellowship and outreach activities were suspended throughout the year. At all times, when we were unable to meet for public worship, the incumbent live streamed regular worship from the Vicarage, using Facebook and YouTube. All services were recorded and can be viewed at any time. Throughout 2021, a total of 209 services were live streamed of which 76 were public worship in All Saints. Significant numbers of people viewed the services and one notable consequence has been that we have welcomed to our congregation a number of people living not only all over England but also around the world. Some have assisted worship by reading lessons and leading intercessions.

When we returned to All Saints for public worship, we continued to live stream so that these new members of our congregation continue to be part of our worshipping community. All are welcome to attend our regular services. At the end of 2021 there were 92 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, 40 of whom were not resident within the parish. One name was added during the year and one removed as a result of her death. The average weekly attendance in church, counted during October, was 59, but this number does not include people following services online.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. Through baptism we thank God for the gift of life, in marriage public vows are exchanged with God’s blessing and through funeral services friends and family express their grief and give thanks for the life which is now complete in this world and to commend the person into God's keeping. In the extraordinary year that was 2021, we have celebrated 3 baptisms and 3 weddings and led 11 funerals in our church and at the crematorium. We have also had 9 services including interment of ashes.

**Deanery Synod**

Two members of the PCC sit on the deanery synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. This year the PCC has also focused its attention on the questions posed to parishes in the deanery about how best to serve the people of our parish who do not attend traditional church services.

**The Church Centre Complex**

We want our church to be open to our community for private prayer. Unfortunately, due to the impact of COVID, we have felt unable to have the church open for much of the year. We are however pleased that with the support of parishioners we were able to open the church whenever possible.

During the week the church hall is used regularly by the All Saints Pre School. Twelve children have been regular attenders in the last year. Outreach activities for children and their families is greatly enhanced by the activities of a Forest School adjacent to the church. The Forest School activities are integrated with those of the church and Messy Mossy Church activities are held monthly during term time when COVID restrictions permit.

**Pastoral Care**

Some members of our parish are unable to attend church due to sickness or age. The Vicar and the pastoral support team visit all church members who request it, to celebrate communion with them either at their homes or in hospital. We have a regular pattern of visits and eucharistic services at care homes located in the parish, although again this has been limited in 2021 by COVID restrictions.

**Mission and Evangelism**

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. We seek to respond to urgent needs for assistance, both local and international. Our parish newsletter is distributed weekly to parishioners. The newsletter keeps our parishioners informed of the important matters affecting our Church and articles that help develop our knowledge and trust in Jesus.

**Ecumenical Relationships**

The church is a member of Churches Together in the Weald. We share our church facilities with the Sinai Mar Thoma Church and organise joint services and activities, particularly at major festivals. In 2021, we were delighted to renew our partnership for a further six years.

**Financial Review**

Total receipts of unrestricted funds in 2021 were £72,943 of which £59,577 was unrestricted voluntary donations. Restricted donations of £3,282 were also received and are detailed in the Financial Statements. Planned giving through envelopes and banker’s orders was again significantly reduced in 2021 in consequence of us not having public worship for the majority of the year. However, giving via direct bank payments increased. Total income was slightly greater than in 2020, although both years income was significantly reduced as a result of the pandemic. £66,982 was spent from unrestricted funds to provide the Christian ministry from All Saints Church, including the contribution to the Diocesan Common Fund that largely provides the stipends and housing for the clergy.

The net result for the year was an excess of receipts over payments of £4,650 on unrestricted funds. Adding bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balances carried forward at 31st December on unrestricted funds totalled £28,499. An additional £45,067 is set aside, designated to meet the costs of a planned investment in church fabric. There is a further £15,536 held as a project fund, the result of a gift to facilitate the purchase of a new church organ.

**Reserves policy**

It is the PCC’s intention to try to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds which equates to at least three months unrestricted payments. This was equivalent of £17,073 in 2020. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The cash balance of £28,499 held on unrestricted funds at the year end, more than meets this target, although all 2021 figures are exceptional given the reductions in both income and expenditure over the year as a result of the church being closed for the majority of the year. It is the PCC’s hope to maintain this balance in the current year.

The balance of £45,067 in the project designated fund is retained towards meeting the cost of our planned refurbishment of the church interior. It is our policy to invest our fund balances with HSBC and the CAF Bank.

**Volunteers**

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. In particular we want to mention our churchwardens who have worked so tirelessly on our behalf. Philippa Jackson has served as church warden for a number of years and stood down at the APCM, with Denise Cooper taking over as our second church warden.

**Structure, governance and management**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At All Saints, the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our vicar), churchwardens, the assistant priest (if any) and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services/members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. The full PCC met six times during the year with an average level of attendance of 80%. All the meetings were held via Zoom in 2021. Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has a number of sub-groups each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life.

**Administrative information**

All Saints Church is situated at 90 Uxbridge Road, Harrow HA3 6DQ. It is part of the Willesden Area of the Diocese of London within the Church of England. The correspondence address is All Saints Church, 90 Uxbridge Road, Harrow HA3 6DQ. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission (Charity Number 1173619).

**PCC members who have served at any time from 1st January 2021 until the date of this report are:**

**Ex Officio members:**

• Incumbent: The Reverend Dr John Barker (Chairman from 18th July 2019)

• Assistant Priest: The Reverend Peter Ward (retired on 1st April 2021)

• Wardens: Mrs Philippa Jackson (until 16th May 2021)

• Mrs Denise Cooper (from 16th May 2021)

• Mr Dave Rogers

• Mrs Mary Abbott (Secretary and representative on Deanery Synod)

• Mrs Mandy Whitfield (representative on Deanery Synod)

**Elected members:**

• Mr John Tigg (until 16th May 2021)

• Mr Brian Jones (until 16th May 2021)

• Mr Graham Jenkins (until 16th May 2021)

• Mr Tony Hassan

• Mrs Edith Steele

• Mrs Jo Lever (from 16th May 2021)

• Mrs Denise Mordell (from 16th May 2021)

• Mrs Philippa Jackson (from 16th May 2021)

• Mrs Maggie Rodger

• Mr Derek James

• Mr John Abbott

• Mrs Linda Gathercole

**Approved by the PCC on 17th May 2022 and signed on their behalf by the Reverend Dr John Barker (PCC chairman)**