

# 2022 Annual Report and Accounts

for the Parochial Church Council of

## St Peter's Church, Wrecclesham

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# **2022 Annual Report and Accounts for the Parochial Church Council of St Peter's Church, Wrecclesham**

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## Aim and Purposes

St Peter's Wrecclesham Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. This is summarised in the statement:

*St Peter's Church stands at the heart of the community of Wrecclesham offering in Christ's name a warm welcome, faithful witness and loving service.*

The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the church building and the Leverton Hall.

## Reference and Administrative Information

St Peter's Church Wrecclesham is situated on the corner of School Hill and Beales Lane, Wrecclesham, Farnham, Surrey, GU10 4PY. It is part of the Diocese of Guildford within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is c/o Parish Administrator, via [www.cofewrecclesham.org.uk](http://www.cofewrecclesham.org.uk).

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

The Independent Examiner is Chris Hyland.

PCC members who have served at any time from 1st January 2022 until the date this report was approved are:

### **Clergy *ex-officio* member and *ex-officio* Chair**

Incumbent: The Revd Jacqueline DRAKE-SMITH (Chair)

### **Retired Priest with Permission to Officiate *ex-officio* Member**

The Revd Sandra CAVALIER

### **Churchwarden *ex-officio* member**

DURRANT, Robert                      Churchwarden

### **Deanery Synod Representatives *ex-officio* members**

JONES, Andrew                      Deanery Synod Representative

## **Elected members**

LAPWORTH, Patricia	PCC Treasurer <i>ex-officio</i>	<i>until April 2022</i>
PARKIN-TYRIE, Naomi	PCC Secretary <i>ex-officio</i>	<i>Until April 2022</i>
BLUES, Gerald		
BOLTON, Vanda		
COVEY, Jonathan		
DURRANT, Colin		
DURRANT, Robert		
JONES, Andrew		
PERKINS, Zoe		
WOODS, Sally		
YATES, Philip		

## **PCC Secretary**

Judith Araque

## **Churches together in Farnham representative**

FORSYTH, Rosalind

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Peter's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent, a retired priest with permission to officiate, a churchwarden, members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church and members agreed by the APCM to be fully voting *ex-officio* members by virtue of their position (e.g. Treasurer and Deanery Synod Representatives). Members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The electoral roll (April 2022) was 132, of which 85 were resident within the Parish and 47 non-resident.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including decisions on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. The full PCC met six times during the year. The average level of attendance over all six meetings was 81 percent. The PCC has a standing committee and the following committees which are responsible to the PCC and report back to it regularly with minutes of their recommendations; such recommendations are received by the full PCC and discussed as necessary:

- Worship, Mission and Spirituality.
- Fabric and Finance.

In addition to these there is an Events Team which reports to the PCC. Volunteers are involved in all aspects of church life.

## Objectives and Activities

The vision of St Peter's is: *St Peter's Church stands at the heart of the community of Wrecclesham, offering in Christ's name a warm welcome, faithful witness and loving service.*

During 2022, St Peter's continued to adapt to church life post Covid-19 pandemic in terms of worship, community engagement and social activity.

In the spirit of our vision, we facilitated the Occasional Offices with an invitation of welcome, hospitality and love to parishioners and also to those from further afield. In the context of weddings, we hosted couples who were using external local venues and were pleased to participate in the sixth monthly attendance requirement if that would be their appropriate connection.

The number of baptisms, marriages and funerals held in the church building was:

- 9 baptisms
- 5 marriages
- 6 funerals in the church building, 11 clergy-led funerals at the crematorium and 4 interment of ashes.

This report covers January to December 2022.

This report lists activities in 2022 under the appropriate new Diocesan Goals although there is inevitably overlap:

1. Growing Discipleship
2. Growing Diversity
3. Growing Community

## Growing Discipleship

To continue to deepen the spirituality and prayer-life of St Peter's Church Family

- The pattern of Sunday Worship was 8am (1662 BCP) Holy Communion each Sunday, and 10am (Common Worship):
  - All Age Communion – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month – From July 2022 the time changed to 10.30am with coffee in the church from 9.45am and we launched Junior Church which ran for five monthly sessions. While new families came along we have not managed to gather a critical mass and we are to relaunched in May 2023.
  - Parish Communion – 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays,
  - Non-Eucharistic All Age service – “Third Sunday Service” – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday.
- We have continued to live-stream the 10am service so that those unable to attend in person in the St Beale's online community can still participate.
- The new monthly contemporary service, “Refresh”, which began in October 2021, has continued bi-monthly throughout the year and is attracting new people.
- Organist, David Brace, who plays at the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday services was joined in January by Tim Sturt who covers the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday services.
- Midweek Worship: Morning Prayer continued to take place on Wednesday mornings via Zoom.

- A group met online in Lent and Advent, and mid-way during the year a group took part in the 'Shape' course to think about our own discipleship.
- A book group continued to meet in person.
- Two small groups meet as a result of the latest Alpha courses; one arising from an online Alpha and one afternoon in person Alpha course.
- A selection of prayer material was provided in the side chapel to assist our Ukraine friends in their prayer life. The prayer table and prayer book was reinstated along with various free literature for people to take away.
- In August 2022, a new reading area was set up in the North Aisle with books donated as a legacy by the family of a former priest, Rev. Jane Virji, who ministered at St Peters.
- There was a net increase in the electoral roll of 6 people during the year.
- An Easter trail was made available for families to follow around Wrecchlesham.
- Also hosted a local visiting choir for several Evensong services
- Several congregation members led Advent or Bible study groups (via Zoom).
- Several congregation members helped to lead the "Living in Love & Faith Course" and Alpha Online course via Zoom.
- One congregation member regularly led Morning Prayer via Zoom.
- The incumbent invited several people to attend the various Diocesan sessions, but this does not seem to be the time for a deeper exploration of such a calling.
- After much prayer and reflection, a previous non-stipendiary curate felt called to offer her ministry to St Peter's again. The congregation were delighted that she would be returning to work with existing clergy on a PTO basis from March 2022.
- In-person ministry to residents in the local nursing home, Ashton Manor, resumed from September 2021. The incumbent or another clergy member is joined by a Pastoral Assistant on a monthly basis.

## Growing Diversity

To encourage those on the edge of church and non-church community to 'come and see'

- Worked to mobilise children and youth work
  - A number of families attended church, whether regularly or occasionally, and the church enjoyed good links with other families.
  - All Age Communion was accessible to everyone, including younger members.
  - Many families attended Christmas services.
  - The popularity of Messy Church continued post-covid, and we resumed bi-monthly sessions from September 2022 beginning with a Messy BBQ in the vicarage garden.
  - Many families attended the new "Refresh" services.
  - Continued to pray and think about the new pattern of worship beginning at 10.30am that will host refreshments beforehand in the church and be a platform for the rekindling of a new monthly Junior Church (which was launched in July 2022).
- Offered social events for church families and wider community
  - Well attended concerts
  - Harvest supper attended by church family and guests
  - Parish tea and BBQ for all
  - Well-attended weekend Jigsaw Festival

- Hosted (for the fourth time) the hugely popular Wreath Making evenings attended by 120 people, largely made up of parents of children at St Peters CofE Primary School and local community.
- Participated in the Farnham Town's Charity Duck Race, the Charity Tea Tent at Music in the Meadows, and as usual we hosted a tent service and tea tent for the Wrecclesham Fete along with a very successful fundraising – from the grand raffle, bottle tombola and book stall! All of these events continued to raise the profile of St Peter's church in the community.
- Communication
  - The website team continued to facilitate an attractive and up-to-date church website to inform members and prospective visitors of services and church activities.
  - The church Facebook team continued to facilitate an up-to-date and informative account. There is also a Facebook group called "Going Further In" that facilitates deeper posts such as prayers, inspirational readings, and reflections; and there is a "Messy Church" Facebook group. The "St Beale's" Facebook group continued to host livestreamed Sunday services.
  - The parish magazine, weekly printed notices and hard copies of service sheets ensured that those who do not use the internet were kept informed.
  - Use of banners on the churchyard wall facing School Hill informed the local community of forthcoming events.
  - A St Peter's WhatsApp group continued to enable informal communication between congregation members, especially sharing of nature photos, birthday greetings, news and prayer requests.

## Growing Community

- Partnered with Transforming Lives for Good during the first half of the year in running a series of make lunch sessions during school holidays called Café13 with the vision that "no member of our community should be hungry or isolated during school holidays"
- Carol Service held at Badshot Lea Football Club and the Vicar became the Club Chaplain
- Key Players began using the Church and Leverton Hall as a rehearsal space for their performances to be held in the Church in 2023 raising money for the local charity Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice
- Working with local branch of the Co-op, who kindly sponsored Christingle
- Outward giving was made to two charities "Seeds for Development" and "Step by Step." There were also special collections for the Children's Society and Christian Aid.
- Plans began to take shape for a "Friends of St Peter's" scheme, which would allow people in the parish who value the church building, without being regular churchgoers, to contribute to its maintenance. We have now decided to take a new approach utilising the Parish Giving Scheme in a wider parochial sense – to be launched May 2023.
- Members of the congregation were active in community organisations including the Isabella Schroder Trust and Wrecclesham Community Centre management committee. Two members of the congregation, along with the incumbent, served as governors of St Peter's School.
- The Leverton Hall was available for hire and was used by a wide variety of community groups, although this was impacted by the pandemic.
- Regular collections were held for the local food bank.
- Wrecclesham Songbirds used the church on Monday evenings for their rehearsals

- St Peter's Church of England Primary School
  - The church continued to have very good relationship with St Peter's Church of England Primary School, and both church and school continually looked for ways to strengthen the link.
  - Two members of the congregation, along with the incumbent, served as governors of St Peter's School.
  - Revd Jacqueline led weekly assemblies at the school and seasonal services were held for the school children at St Peter's church
- Uniform organisations
  - Good links with Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts continued
  - The Vicar was invited to participate and say prayers for the AGM of the Farnham Scout movement and to give a talk at their annual family day
  - There was faithful participation of the uniformed organisations and local community at the 2022 Remembrance Service.

## **Fabric and Finance Committee report 2022**

- The Fabric and Finance Committee have been busy carrying out the day to day and general maintenance of the Church, grounds and Leverton Hall.
- We thank Pat Lapworth our Treasurer for ten years and Colin Durrant who took over in April 2022. Both have given remarkable service to the PCC and Church.
- Please see the separate Treasurers Report.
- We thank the grass cutting teams for their unstinting work in keeping the grass and grounds looking wonderful.
- We thank Sally Woods for her due diligence and professionalism in keeping our legal responsibilities together and up to date.
- The Leverton Hall has been redecorated internally and some of the external. We thanked the Probation Service for supplying the manpower to carry out those works at no cost to us.
- Prior to Christmas we were thankful for the support we had to give the Church a deep clean and polish and some grounds tidying.
- Preparations and planning were completed for the refurbishment of the Toilets and replacement of the doors to the Toilets and Kitchen. Those works were to have been carried out during the summer but because the Hall bookings were extremely busy the work was postponed to the beginning of this year. We hope that everyone is pleased with the results and those booking the Hall shall continue. We thank Sue Davies for her input to the redecorations and refurbishment.



## **Safeguarding and Health and Safety**

### **Safeguarding**

- On 18<sup>th</sup> May 2022 the PCC received the annual safeguarding report, and as required each year, adopted the national Church of England safeguarding policies and practice guidance. Details are displayed on the Parish website, and the Church noticeboard. The aim is to keep all children and vulnerable adults safe in our church activities.
- DBS checks are updated as necessary for roles with children, young people or vulnerable adults.
- The Parish takes part in Parish Dashboards - a Church of England website that tracks our compliance with safeguarding requirements. It identifies the roles of people within the church who need to undertake different levels of safeguarding awareness training. We have to report on the numbers of people in these roles and the numbers who have completed courses. Training is renewed 3 yearly.
- All activities involving children or vulnerable adults are carefully risk assessed, and this is recorded on the Parish Dashboard. The PCC has the responsibility to oversee safeguarding and risk assessments, and it receives Parish Dashboard reports for our church 3 times a year.

### **Health and Safety**

- Risk Assessments are completed and reviewed for church buildings and church activities. The PCC has the overview and responsibility for these.
- Fire Risk Assessments for the Church and for the Leverton Hall have been reviewed. A Fire Drill took place on 28 August 2022, during which 32 people evacuated the church to the muster point in Bryn Road, in 1 minute 50 seconds (well within the 2 minute 30 second maximum time).
- There are no longer any Government requirements regarding Covid-19, but the PCC continues to discuss ways in which we seek to keep the congregation and church visitors safe eg the availability of more distanced seating on the north aisle.

## Financial Review

The Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for 2022 shows the PCC had a surplus of £10,734 following a surplus of £5,911 in 2021 and a deficit of £2,576 in 2020. Therefore, it is pleasing to report that we have had two surplus years following two deficit years and that our 2022 surplus was nearly double that of 2021.

Worthy to note are the following points:-

Planned and Voluntary giving of £48,776

Unexpected and generous donations of £10,660

Fund raising activities of £6,067

Weddings and Funerals income of £7,682

Gift Aid tax refunds of £6,738

Leverton Hall net income of £6,022

Expenditure mostly determines whether we can report a surplus or deficit at year end so some high costing areas to note are:-

Parish Share - £43,000

Utilities - £5,313

Diocese Fees - £4,399

Repairs and Maintenance - £3,282

Administrative Costs - £2,939

Insurance £2,560

During 2022 we saw the easing of Covid restrictions and so we felt more confident that our financial position would improve. However, concerns and implications of Covid gave way to financial worries of very much higher energy costs, higher inflation, and increase in mortgage and rent payments. The total of the six expenditure areas above is £61,493 which accounts for approximately 75% of the total outgoings.

Therefore, whilst the PCC has had to consider the effects of one concern moving to others in 2022 and how these areas have affected its decision making and planning it is good to see an increased overall surplus through prudent decision making.

Because of this situation we have been able to make a further £7,500 payment to our Parish Share and this has cleared our arrears of 2020 and reduced down the 2021 arrears. The decision has been made to keep our monthly contributions the same at £3,500 but we will look at our financial situation during 2023 to see if further one-off payments can be made.

With regards to the Outward Giving donations that we have made in past years, it is pleasing to report that we will make new donations totalling £2,957 to three beneficiaries which are Step by Step, Seeds for Development and The Children's Society

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Approved by the PCC on \_\_\_\_\_ and signed on their behalf by Revd Jacqueline Drake-Smith (Chair).