

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WATERINGBURY



**REPORTS FOR THE
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
24TH APRIL 2019**

A Message from your Churchwardens

We are pleased to provide this booklet, comprising our Annual Reports, in advance of our Annual Parochial Church Meeting on **Wednesday 24th April at 7.30pm** here in Wateringbury Church. Please try to read the reports as this will save us a great deal of time at the meeting and allow for a more meaningful discussion to take place on issues which warrant more of our attention. If you have any queries or comments to make there will be ample opportunity during the course of the evening. We hope that once you have finished reading this report you will be very impressed by all that is taking place and we hope it will provide you with some real food for thought! It may prompt that question “Is there anything I could be doing for my Church?”

There is such a great deal happening within our church life and we trust that you will continue to pray for each other as we serve Christ in all that we do!

Peter Bond & Liz Gummer
Churchwardens

Parish Church of St John the Baptist Wateringbury
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
to be held on Wednesday 24th April 2019

AGENDA

Annual Vestry Meeting

1. Prayers
2. Presentation of Notice convening the meeting
3. Minutes of the Vestry Meeting of Thursday 26th April 2018
4. Election of Churchwardens

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Presentation of Notice convening the meeting
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Thursday 26th April 2018
4. Submission of Electoral Roll

5. Annual reports

Churchwardens

PCC

Building Committee

Worship and Mission Group

Pastoral

Deanery Synod

Benefice Mothers' Union

Prayer Chain

Choir

Toddler's Praise

Sundays Cool

WATCH Club, Holiday Club & Shining Bright

Wateringbury School

Flower Arrangers

Holy Dusters

Bellringers

Fairtrade

Coffee Break

Communications Team

Anna Chaplaincy

DBS & Safeguarding

6. Audited Accounts for the financial year ended 31st December 2018

6a. Election of Auditor for the current year

7. Elections to Deanery Synod

8. Elections to Parochial Church Council

9. Election of Sidespersons

11. Any other business

12. Date of 1st PCC Meeting

Parish Church of St John the Baptist Wateringbury

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting of the Parish of St John the Baptist held in the Church on Thursday 26 April 2018

1. PRAYERS

The Meeting opened with prayers.

WELCOME

Rev Nick Williams welcomed all to the meeting and thanked them for coming.

2. PRESENTATION OF NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING

Nick explained the format and purpose of the Vestry meeting, and confirmed that the appropriate notice had been posted outside the church at the correct time. He reminded everyone that anyone can vote at the vestry meeting, but only those on the electoral roll or who live in the parish can vote for the APCM.

3. MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING OF 28 March 2017

The minutes of the previous meeting were taken as an accurate record, and were proposed for acceptance by Peter Bond, seconded by Kate Millar, and all were in favour. They were signed by Nick Williams.

4. ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS

Written nomination forms for the office of Churchwarden had been received as follows:-

Peter Bond proposed by Eddie Scarlin, seconded by Joy Searle.

Liz Gummer proposed by Jan Pursey, seconded by Gillian Sessions.

Nick explained as they were willing to stand and were not disqualified, and there were no other candidates, there was no need for an election and so Peter Bond and Liz Gummer were duly elected as Churchwardens. He thanked Peter and Liz for standing for the forthcoming year.

Ted Bates proposed a vote of thanks to Peter and Liz for their hard work over the last year. This was seconded by Jan Pursey and all were in favour. Christine Byron presented them each with a small gift as a memento.

The Vestry meeting was then closed.

**Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
for the Parish of St John the Baptist Wateringbury
held in the Church on Thursday 26 April 2018**

1. PRESENTATION OF NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING

Rev Nick Williams opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for attending the meeting. He confirmed that the appropriate notice had been posted outside the church.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Gordon Diment, Tiffany and Audrey Allen.

3. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF 28 March 2017

The minutes of the previous meeting had been checked by the PCC and issues arising had been addressed by the PCC over the year. The minutes were taken as an accurate record and proposed for acceptance by Liz Gummer, seconded by Eddie Scarlin and all were in favour. They were signed by Nick Williams.

4. SUBMISSION OF ELECTORAL ROLL

Hilary Fisher provided a report on the Electoral Roll. The electoral roll has been updated and there are 86 persons on the roll. Last year the roll was 87. There were the following changes – one person has moved away, and nobody has applied to join the roll. Next year a new roll is made and everyone has to reapply to be on it. Nick thanked Hilary for all her work with the Electoral Roll.

5. ANNUAL REPORTS

Nick introduced the annual reports and explained that the Churchwardens' report is missing from the pack and invited Peter Bond to read their report. Peter thanked everyone who does so much in the church.

Nick provided the vicar's report and gave a vote of thanks to everyone for all they do. He said that some tasks are more visible than others and there were multiple thanks to multiple role holders but all were extremely important. He appreciated he may have been a bit tetchy when things are not as he wanted for which he apologised.

He felt the last year had been a reasonably successful year with a good working service pattern and we have saved some money. He thanked Ruth Dunn for taking on Messy Church and was certain it will be successful. The altar trial didn't work and we have gone back to the high altar which suits his back better. Nick was grateful to the Sundays Cool leaders for agreeing the change to bring children into the service earlier to take communion.

Turning to the future Nick said the closing date for responses to the Deanery Ministry and Mission Plan had now passed and we await the Group's response to the feedback. Nick didn't know what Mereworth, Barming or Larkfield have said and will let us know when he does. No plans can be made until then. All other reports are in the pack as per the agenda.

Ted Bates wondered what attendance has been like compared to previous years as he noticed in the accounts that contributions have gone down this year (as it did last year). He asked if this was a result of falling attendance or the spire project. Richard said that planned giving was down £500 and collections were also down £500, but attendance was not significantly down. Ted was concerned about complacency as we had lost £1,000 income and felt it was a cause for concern. He asked the PCC to bear this in mind. Bob confirmed it has been discussed by the PCC but it had been agreed to leave it until after the spire project was completed.

6. PRESENTATION OF AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

The Treasurer Richard Dunn was asked to present his report.

Richard presented the accounts to the meeting and explained that last year we had a drop in income of £752.93 with an increase in expenses of £10,738 but this was mainly due to no stipend being paid in 2016. The insurance premium payment method has changed. He thanked all those involved in fund raising as this is a very important task and he urged all to support these events.

Richard thanked Peter Mitchell for independently auditing the accounts. Richard has recently seen the figures for 1984 where collections were £1,577 and they are now £2,500 but he noted many more give by standing order now. The rector cost was £2,000 in 1984. Nick thanked Richard for dealing with the accounts in such a proficient way.

The budget and accounts have been approved by the PCC.

6a. APPROVAL OF FISCAL REPORT AND ELECTION OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Peter Mitchell is happy to continue as auditor for the time being and so his reappointment was approved. Richard confirmed that he has given Peter a gift in line with the tradition.

It was proposed by Mike Pursey that we re-elect Peter Mitchell as auditor for the accounts, seconded by Alastair Byron, and all were in favour.

7. ELECTIONS TO DEANERY SYNOD

Nick explained that there were no elections to the Deanery Synod this year as the current reps - Alastair Byron and Barry Fisher are in the second year of a three year cycle.

8. ELECTIONS TO PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

PCC members are elected for a three year term and Nick explained the process of re-elections. Christine Byron, Joy Searle, Gordon Self and Sheena Stewart had all stood down but there were completed nomination forms for all four to stand again.

Christine Byron nominated by Eddie Scarlin, seconded by Ros Diment
Joy Searle nominated by Alastair Byron, seconded by Christine Byron
Gordon Self nominated by Pauline Welch, seconded by Gillian Sessions
Sheena Stewart nominated by Gillian Sessions, seconded by Pauline Welch.

As there are four vacancies Nick declared all were re-elected and the roles were filled. There is one further space on the PCC and if anyone has a desire to join they should let Nick know. There were no volunteers at the meeting.

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

9. ELECTIONS OF SIDESPERSONS

Nick read out the list of sidespeople's names and noted that all were fit and proper persons to be sidespeople in this church. There were no objections.

Nominations for Sidespeople were as follows:-

Mrs Jane Bates, Percy Billinge, Mrs Debbie Bond, Mrs Kate Millar, Mrs Cathy Miller, Mrs Mandy Mitchelmore, Mrs Jan Pursey, Mike Pursey, Eddie Scarlin, Mrs Joy Searle, Gordon Self, Mrs Gillian Sessions, Mrs Sheena Stewart, Mrs Dawn Underwood, Mrs Maria White, Mrs Clara Wilson-Green.

These names were accepted. These nominations for the sidespeople were proposed by Gordon Self, seconded by Percy Billinge, and all were in favour.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Edna Craig expressed concern that the Toddlers' numbers have dropped and asked for the opinion of the PCC on the viability of the group carrying on. She said that children are staying on at nursery longer and they have also changed their times which restricts the ability of parents to get to the meetings. It was noted that in 2013-14 an average of eight attended a week, in 2015-16 it was six a week, in 2017 four attended and this year only three of which two will be starting school shortly.

Edna noted that Nick had not attended Toddlers whereas Revd Jim regularly came to run sessions. She felt sure that this does encourage members. Ros Diment, Sandra Corby and she have worked for 15 years with the group and she asked for any ideas. Nick agreed that he had not attended any of the Toddlers' meetings as Monday is his day off but he also noted that he has only called into the East Malling group occasionally. He confirmed baptism families are told about Toddlers.

East Malling has around 7-8 attendees but Nick felt that people are going back to work sooner. He didn't feel the presence of the vicar would help but if the school changed their entrance criteria to cover church attendance as Leybourne has, this would help. However, this was decided before he started. He felt Messy Church is probably the way forward with numbers increasing.

Barry Fisher thought the recent changes in GDPR and Safeguarding were a monstrous burden on Sandra Corby. For those who have to complete an on-line course she has even offered for people to come to her home and Barry didn't find this acceptable as this is her private home. He suggested an ex-gratia payment to Sandra for the hire of her home. Kate Millar and Debbie Bond have offered to run a C0

course for those who prefer to do a face to face training in the church. Sundays Cool leaders have to do C2 and have to go to Rochester or similar.

Sandra's hourly pay has been increased to cover the Safeguarding and GDPR additional workload. There was no objection to the ex-gratia payment but this has been factored into the pay rise. As it is a benefice computer and internet there is no inconvenience to Sandra but she does have to be there. Considering the burden laid on the wider church Nick suggested it is raised at Deanery Synod that the burden is too much for volunteers and that DS members take it up via their route.

Bob explained the workload, systems and impact on working practices. The risks and informal visits all come under the guidance of the Church of England. Nick confirmed we are not the only parish struggling with the impact of these changes and it is a huge administrative burden. He agreed with Barry's point in principle.

Christine noted that Sandra puts in a lot more hours than she is paid for and suggested a timesheet to record her hours for six months. It was noted that she was paid at just over the minimum wage. It was not Sandra's duties but the number of hours she actually works against the number she was paid to work, because if she is working longer hours we may not be paying her the minimum wage and therefore are in breach of employment law.

Nick agreed a timesheet was a good idea and will ask Sandra to do that and committed to bring it back to all three PCCs. Susan Levett supported the proposal to raise concerns via the Deanery Synod – in her volunteer roles she is beginning to realise how much work it is placing on volunteers. She said it would have been better to roll out in tranches with charities last when the glitches have been ironed out. Nick felt the timekeeping sheet would be good to roll out across the Deanery Synod parishes.

Bob spoke about Sunday's Cool members attending communion and that there was a very wide age range of young people as we don't want parents to feel pressured or embarrassed if the children are noisy. We need to include them as indications are that this encourages them to stay. Nick felt that the congregation are very tolerant and long may it continue.

Percy Billinge proposed and Bob Bowie seconded a formal vote of thanks to Carol Mills for all her efforts to brighten up the church porch and external flower pots throughout the year. Her arrangements often send us into church with a smile on our face. Nick asked that our thanks to Carol were formally recorded.

12. DATE OF 1st PCC MEETING

The first PCC meeting of the new parochial year will be on Tuesday 2 May 2018.

ANNUAL REPORTS 2019 APCM

CHURCHWARDENS

Once again we have the opportunity to look back over another year in the life of our church here in Wateringbury. A year ago we anticipated the possible break-up of our current benefice, and the proposal to join Wateringbury with Mereworth and West Peckham. The formal process to make these changes is now underway, and at the time of writing it is difficult to put a time-scale on this.

Rev'd Nick has now led us for just over two years, and has ministered to us in many different ways – involving all those present at baptisms (wear your wet-weather gear!), leading our Eucharist services, ministering to the dying and bereaved, and in other ways of which many of us are unaware. The process of disbanding one benefice and forming new ones will not be without its problems, but we pray that God will lead us all forward to grow His Kingdom, and enable us all to serve as He chooses. And we pray for blessing on Nick and his changing responsibilities – not forgetting his family as Nick undertakes this new challenge.

We are blessed with gifted lay ministers, and we are sad that Alastair Byron will not be seeking to renew his licence this year. We owe him a great debt of gratitude for all he has done within the life of the church over many years.

Thank you, to Becky, Barry, Alastair, Pauline, Ruth and Kate and all the team who help to run our Family, Morning Praise and Matins services. We also have two great teams who between them run Sundays Cool twice a month, and the Secondary Division once a month. The young are the future of the church, and their teaching and nurture is vital.

Our services are so enriched by music, and our huge thanks go to Hilary and Luka on the organ, and to the choir, under the guidance of Barry, not forgetting the bellringers who have faced challenges this past year in terms of numbers.

We would also like to thank all those who take part in our services in other ways – readers, intercessors, chalice assistants, sound operators, sidespeople and servers; not forgetting those who clean the church, prepare and serve tea and coffee, arrange flowers, and a myriad of other little jobs that just get done behind the scenes, but which we would soon notice if they got forgotten. Our thanks also go to our vergers – Gillian and Jan.

Thank you to the Team (currently Alastair and Christine, assisted by Eddie) who have taken on the production of the weekly newsletter, together with Denise for arranging the printing each week, and those who have helped us to maintain our website, and our Facebook page – Bob Bowie and Alice Dunstall. Our thanks are also due to Sandra in the Parish Office for all her hard work – she does much more than most of us realise.

Thank you to all those who have given of their time and talents to run events, not to mention Ros for running the Traidcraft stall week in week out (and involving the young people too).

We owe Richard an enormous debt of gratitude for all his hard work as Treasurer, Suzanne as Benefice Treasurer, and to Sheena as PCC Secretary, and thanks go to all members of the PCC and Committees for their time and work.

Thank you to Edna for her wonderful and quiet ministry among us, to Pauline and Gillian for the running of the coffee and craft mornings and the many other contributions that they make to our church life.

Looking at activities aimed at our younger church family – firstly, thank you to Ruth for starting up a monthly Messy Church for the benefice, together with her helpers. It has now been running for just over a year, and we pray it will go from strength to strength. Ruth’s stated aim is to double the numbers over the coming year, so don’t waste any opportunities in spreading the word! We appreciate the time that many of our young people also put into Messy Church – it’s great to see such enthusiasm and commitment.

After many years, Toddlers’ Praise has come to the end of this particular road, and we are enormously grateful to the team who ran this, Edna, Sandra, Ros and Ruth. Each Easter we are treated to Easter Fun with Faith, run by Debbie and her army of helpers – no mean undertaking, and very well supported and loved – thank you, Debbie. And grateful thanks also go to Lisa for WATCH Club and our annual Shining Bright Party – the antidote to Halloween – thank you, Lisa.

We are blessed with such a church family full of committed and hard-working folk, that we are in danger of forgetting to mention some – as we said earlier, so many little jobs just get done – thank you all.

We are privileged indeed to be the current custodians of an ancient and much loved Church. Regular maintenance was carried out this year with thankfully no major issues. We must thank the Parish Council for ensuring the Churchyard is regularly maintained along with the army of volunteers who twice a year give up their Saturday mornings to ensure the church looks its best for Easter and Remembrance Sunday. Not forgetting the Wateringbury Cubs and leaders who maintain the ‘grave gardens’. This year we also need to thank Eddie Scarlin for his painstaking survey of the gravestones, logging each one (unless totally illegible), and those who helped in this work. This will prove an invaluable source of information.

Back in 2015, the quinquennial report highlighted the need to re-shingle the spire. Since then this has been the focus of planning and fund raising. We are so delighted to report that the scaffolding was dismantled following the completion of the work at the end of June 2018 with the project coming in on time and budget. This has only been possible thanks to so many people’s efforts but we must specifically thank the Building Committee for all their hard work. We are also indebted to the Friends of Wateringbury Church (FOWC) for their unceasing and generous efforts in donating such a magnificent sum. To all our benefactors no matter how large or small their contribution - we thank you all. We would also like to thank our Quinquennial Inspecting Architect, Karen Butti, for overseeing the work, and Caters (Roofing Contractors) Ltd for their excellent workmanship, and cooperation.

We thank you all for your support in the last year and we look forward to an exciting future whomever that shall be with.

God Bless

Liz Gummer and Peter Bond

PCC

Wateringbury PCC numbers 14 this year including ex-officio members and one co-opted member. At our meetings we often have lively and challenging debates covering many important areas of church life such as:

Deanery Mission and Ministry Plan
New benefice of Mereworth, West Peckham and Wateringbury
New diocese funding arrangements
Church finances and budget
Fund raising events
Completion of the spire project
Proposed communications and audio visual upgrades

During the year Alice Dunstall was co-opted onto the PCC and Rev Alan and Mrs Joy Searle stood down.

The re-shingling of the church spire was our biggest project for many years and we are grateful to the Buildings Committee led by Liz Gummer and to the Friends of SJB for their support and encouragement in raising the required funds. The work started just before our APCM in 2018 and was completed on time and on budget. We are delighted with the work and there have been many compliments about the finished look. Thank you to everyone involved.

Sheena Stewart
PCC Secretary

Buildings Committee

Very obviously the most significant item to report this year is the completion of the project to re-shingle the spire. This was achieved with hard work from all members of the Buildings Committee, from applying for grants to planning and site meetings during the work. Our quinquennial inspecting architect, Karen Butti, oversaw the actual work conscientiously, professionally, bravely ascending the scaffolding to the top on several occasions. The contractors, Caters (Roofing Contractors) Ltd did a great job with the minimum disruption to us as a church. The work came in on budget and on time. We are enormously grateful to all those who supported us financially – individually as church members, the Friends of Wateringbury Church, the Rochester Bridge Trust, the Friends of Kent Churches, the Wolfson Foundation / Churchcare, All Churches Trust, and the Alan Evans Memorial Trust. Without the generosity of all these bodies and individuals, and the hard work and skills of those already mentioned, we could not have completed the project, and we would like to say a very big **Thank You** to each and every one.

The culmination of this project was the lovely service held here on Sunday, 23rd September, led by Rev'd Nick together with the new Bishop of Tonbridge, the Rt Rev'd Simon Burton-Jones. It was a very special occasion, and thank you to all who contributed to that event, including the team who laid on the refreshments afterwards.

Our thanks are due to Percy Billinge for liaising with Yalding Forge over the provision and installation of the handrail behind the lectern, and the two posts attached to the front pews. These are all very much appreciated. We are indebted to the Wednesday Coffee Crafters Group for their contribution towards

this, and to two other donors who wish to remain anonymous – please consider yourselves warmly thanked!

Percy has also obtained an estimate from Yalding Forge for the provision of a railing to the organ gallery, in a similar style to the lectern, and this is under consideration.

A new project which is under current review is the installation of audio/visual equipment in the church, but this is at a very early stage (i.e. research). When more information is available we will consult with everyone, explain what is possible, and ask for views and opinions.

Our usual maintenance has continued throughout the year, and we are grateful to all those who turn up and work so hard on our bi-annual work parties.

We are delighted to have been able to persuade David Merry to join the Buildings Committee, and I would like to thank every member for their invaluable contribution over the past year. Thank you also to Peter Bond who, although not a member of the Committee officially, nonetheless seems to end up with much of the maintenance work!

Liz Gummer

Worship and Mission Group

The group's membership includes the authorised Lay Ministers responsible for leading worship: Becky Bowie, Pauline Welch, Alastair Byron and Barry Fisher; retired former non – stipendiary minister Rev Alan Searle and co-opted members Joy Searle, Susan Levett, Ros Diment, Kate Millar, Ruth Dunn, and Hilary Fisher.

The group has continued to ensure that the leading of worship on the 2nd Sunday (Morning Praise/Matins) and 3rd Sunday (Family Service) is in place and that special services e.g Remembrance Sunday and Crib service are covered.

The group has noted the development of the monthly Saturday meeting of Messy Church supported by 11 families for which our thanks go to Ruth Dunn and her team of helpers.

It was also noted that the demographic change in the congregation meant that there were fewer young children attending the Family service and the older children had their own very effective activity in the form of the Secondary division. It was felt that a specific focus might be given to one of the Family Services to encourage attendance by Messy Church members.

The group were pleased to note that overall attendance at Christmas period services had slightly increased.

Pastoral

The team helped in a variety of ways in 2018.

Baptisms

Members of the team were happy to help in baptism preparations.

Christingle

The pastoral team organised the preparation of about 70 Christingles for the annual service which this year was held at the January 2019 Family Service. The Service also raises awareness of the work of The Children's Society.

Cribs and Angels

We organised the Cribs and Angels Day in December which was well received as it provided a quiet space in the rush of Christmas. We anticipate this being a bi-annual event.

Harvest

We organised the distribution of harvest gifts. Deliverers tried to spend time with each recipient since many visited live alone or are struggling with illness and the problems of advancing years rather than an economic need. We supported the organisation of a free Harvest lunch in church which was greatly enjoyed by members of the Wednesday Crafters and others from the Parish.

Lent Lunches

We arranged 3 Simply Soup lunches which were free with donations being invited for a different charity each week.

Parish Christmas Card

The card details the Christmas Services. We thank Rostrum village magazine distributors for distributing the cards to each house with the December magazine and to graphic designer Heliana Pacheco.

Pastoral Visits

We made house visits throughout the year and thank members of the congregation who also visit and support members of the community.

Posada

Ruth Dunn, co-ordinator of our Messy Church, organised the Posada this year, the figures of Mary, Joseph and the donkey visiting Messy Church and the school.

We thank the church family for their practical and prayerful support of SJB's pastoral care in 2018 and for their continued support in 2019.

Pastoral Team: Edna Craig, Pauline Welch, Trudy Bailey, Christine Byron, Joy Searle and Gillian Sessions

Deanery Synod

The Synod's main focus has been the implementation of its Strategy for Mission and Ministry. This has seen the rationalisation of boundaries between the parishes of Ditton and Barming respectively with Aylesford to take into account the location of new housing developments.

The formation of the new benefice of Mereworth, Wateringbury, and West Peckham has been approved by the respective PCCs and will be considered by the Tonbridge Archdeaconry Mission and Pastoral group for recommendation to the Bishop. He in turn will submit the proposal to the Church Commissioners who will carry out their own consultations before reaching a decision.

Consideration of the linking of East Malling and Larkfield also continues.

The Deanery welcomed Rev Ruth Peet (formerly of St Mary's Bromley) at her Institution and Induction as the new vicar of Aylesford on 12th February 2019.

Mothers' Union

- Our branch currently has 16 members, on average we have around 8-12 members at our monthly meetings. Visitors and new members are always welcome.
- We have been making blankets for babies in Malawi, Greece and "Home For Good" adoptees, and knitting for premature and stillborn babies
- We have raised funds for AFIA (Away From It All) caravan holidays for families in Rochester Diocese who are in need of a break from raffles, a cake & craft sale and a garden party
- We continue to support the work of Mothers' Union around the world with daily prayers and some fund raising.

We have had a number of interesting meetings in the last 12 months, some with speakers on a variety of topics:

2018

- Mar: (Meeting cancelled due to snow and ice)
- May: The Work of Mothers' Union a talk by Julia Jamieson Rochester Diocesan President
- June: (Meeting cancelled due to a funeral)
- July: Our annual garden party and fund-raising event at Audrey Allen's house, Larkfield with a talk by Maggie Mitchell on the charity "Starfish Malawi"
- Sept: Afternoon tea and visit to Hall Place, Bexley
- Oct: A talk by Billy-Jo O-Leary on "Home for Good" adoption services
- Nov: A talk from Revd Annette Hawkins (Vicar of Dibley) on her route to the priesthood

2019

- Jan: New Year's lunch at the North Pole Pub, Teston
- Feb A talk on Safety in the Home by a fireman

My thanks go to Audrey Allen (Committee member), Liz Allen (Treasurer) and to Rachel Arundell (Administrator) for helping to plan and run our Benefice Branch of Mothers' Union. Also to all those who tirelessly help with opening up the churches and providing refreshments at our meetings.

Frances Selman
Secretary

Prayer Chain

In 2018 there were 51 Requests for Prayer; this seems about average, although there are always Updates and Good News messages which swell the number of emails sent out.

And unfortunately, sometimes Sad News messages as well.

However, the membership of the Prayer Chain remains steady, at 33 devout Praying Warriors. More are always welcome!

The Prayer Chain is an entity on its own – it doesn't report to anyone, nor is it connected to any other group such as Worship & Mission; there are no meetings of the group, and our only responsibility is to God.

We ask Him to intercede on behalf of those in need, and He always hears our prayers. The answers of course, are not always what we expect, nor in the time scale for which we hope, but He always hears, and always answers.

If you feel moved to pray for others, please let me know; it's very easy, and there is just one 'rule' which is to respect the confidentiality of requests and practice the utmost discretion.

My thanks to the members of the Prayer Chain, and to those who have asked for prayers in the past year.

Jan Pursey

Choir

The choir continues to enjoy their singing and contributing to the worship Sunday by Sunday.

It has been particularly encouraging to welcome two new recruits: Alice Yelf and Daniel Rowlinson.

Alice, as a trombonist, leads a life full of music and it's good that she can squeeze us in. She also leads the Watlington school orchestra and has arranged for them to play at one or two Family Services.

Daniel made a flying start by singing the solo first verse of ‘Once in Royal David’s City’ at the 9 Lessons and Carols service.

Highlight of the year was providing the choir for the Malling Deanery Confirmation Service at Mereworth as they don’t have an adult choir of their own.

Christmas Morning 2019 will mark the 40th Anniversary of Hilary playing the organ so I hope we’ll have a full turn out. Hilary played the piano for Sunday School which she helped found along with Christine Byron, Anne Ede, Elizabeth and David Atkinson (former Church Warden and later ordained). The resident organist fell ill after Christmas Eve and the Rev Donald Bish commandeered Hilary for the task! Having taken a very few lessons on the Maidstone St Luke’s organ when a chorister, I pulled the stops out!

Barry Fisher

Toddlers’ Praise

It was with heavy hearts, that on Monday 21st May 2018 we held our last ever Toddlers at the Wateringbury Scout & Guide HQ.

The group, originally set up by Fr Jim, had run for 15 years but with numbers decreasing and no new families feeding through, the tough decision was made to call it a day.

It was fitting that Lisa Glasscote came along with the twins she looks after, as she was at the very first session with her son Edd, and he is now at University!

A touching moment was when Fr Jim popped in to say hello and goodbye to the group, which was a nice surprise for everyone.

There were many helpers over the years who deserve our thanks; Angela, Judith, Hilary, Gillian, Ruth, Kirstie, Jenny, Rebecca, Joy and Alan, and some I’m sure I’ve forgotten (apologies to them) but a special mention must go to the “Senior Toddler” Edna and her faithful assistant Ros. Their passion and commitment to the group was inspiring for us all. But of course, the biggest thanks must go to all the parents and carers who came along over those 15 years to see their children dancing, singing, having fun, and hearing about Jesus’ love.

Senior Toddler and Helpers

Sundays Cool, Secondary Division, and Messy Church

Although I no longer lead Sunday’s Cool it seemed appropriate for me to write a report as I was leading for part of the year until August last. I took on the role just for a year but as yet we are without a lead. Each ‘pair’ runs a session with two sessions a month. The present pattern of fourth and first weeks isn’t ideal but okay.

Our numbers of children who are at primary age is low but it seems the older ones still enjoy coming along and some weeks it is only older ones! As I have commented before, the children mix so well whatever their age.

We had a summer picnic down at Teston Country Park. It was a really hot day but we managed to set up early under the trees and all in all it was a great day. We also had a Christmas party with a very wide age range! Height was an issue as it was difficult passing the balloon from the tallest to the shortest! But it was great fun. Ros did us proud with plenty of party food.

The younger ones participated with the Messy Church children to produce a much appreciated Nativity where the congregation joined the children in singing Christmas songs and carols. I was really touched because this was the first time our Messy Church families have been in a service with our regular congregation and if you missed it we hope to do something similar next year!

Sunday's Cool has a collection box and the young people decide from time to time where the money will go. At this moment we are in the process of deciding.

At the moment we are four pairs of leaders but as soon as DBS clearance has been done we will welcome back Claire Worrall and joining her will be Caroline Chalk. We welcome them (with open arms) !

Ruth Dunn

WATCH Club Youth Group, Holiday Club, & Shining Bright party

The **Youth Group** continues to meet twice a month on a Sunday evening during term time (4pm-6pm in winter and 5pm-7pm in summer), where the youth take part in fun and sometimes chaotic group games, make things at the craft table (which is always very popular) or play board games, table tennis, air hockey, pool, or badminton.

The year's activities have included Human Hungry Hippos, a Recycled Fashion Show where outfits were made from plastic bags etc, a Bible Rap-Off, an evening at Dino Golf Tonbridge, and the ever popular Zorbs. The annual Summer Party water fight at the Church is very popular, and this year there was the added bonus of ice creams from an ice cream van before we closed for the summer. September saw the youth take to the water at Allington with River Medway Canoes. The entertaining Christmas Party was held at the beginning of December and the Epiphany Party in January, both held in the Church. In February 2019 we had our Winter Feast, where things revolved around breakfast, including our outfits! At the time of writing the report, March will see the youth playing with Zorbs again and going on an outing to "Jump In" in Tonbridge for some trampoline fun.

One of our leaders stepped down during the year, so were down to 5, with Alice helping out when she could. But we will soon be welcoming a new leader, Gavin (who goes to the Vine Church and has worked in the youth sector for the last few years) once all the relevant checks and training have been completed. The leaders provide a safe, fun, loving, caring, environment for the youth to enjoy.

The **Holiday Club** continues to bring both Christian and non-Christian families together for 3 mornings in August in the school, to hear Bible stories, play games and make lots of craft items, all in a safe and loving environment. A big thank you goes to all the volunteers who come from all different denominations, uniting for a common cause - to spread the Good News. However, due to

funding difficulties, there is the possibility the Club may not be held in 2019 or may just be in a different format. We can only pray for God's provision and inspiration!

The **Shining Bright Party**, our alternative to Halloween, is as popular as ever. Children from all over the Benefice, and from villages beyond, come along to enjoy an evening of fun, crafts, music and of course food and lots and lots of sweets!

We would like to say thank you to the PCC for its kind generosity for supporting these events financially over the years, and if anyone on the PCC would like to be more involved by helping out at these events, please let Sandra or Lisa know. We would love to see you. Also, we would like to say thank you for allowing the Youth Group to make use of the Church when the Village Hall is being used by the Players.

Wateringbury School

At the end of the last academic year we opened our new-look school library after a tremendous fundraising effort. This was a fantastic achievement and testament to the wide community support we have at Wateringbury. Tom Tugendhat MP and Councillor Matthew Balfour visited the school in September to see the library for themselves. The opening signalled the start of an exciting new chapter for our school, where reading remains a top priority. In last year's SATs (Standard Assessment Tests) 83% of our Year 6s achieved the Expected standard in Reading (national average 75%), with 39% of these achieving the Exceeding standard.

We also started succession planning in the summer as Chris Clark prepared to step down as Chair of the Governing Body after four years in the post. Chris remains on the Governing Body and his experience will be invaluable to the new Co-chairs, Gail Isted and Mark Warren. Foundation Governor Sarah Cooper is the new Vice-chair. One of the first tasks of the new academic year was to fill two Foundation Governor vacancies and we were delighted to appoint Alice Dunstall and Eleanor Sutton to the Governing Body in November following approval by the PCC and Rochester Diocese. We now have a full complement of governors with a diverse set of skills and experience who continue to give their time and energy freely to support the school.

Our school has a long and proud history of volunteering. Apart from the voluntary governor roles, volunteers also provide invaluable support in classrooms and at sports and after school clubs. They also help to create a strong sense of community. Our parent body FOWPS (Friends of Wateringbury Primary School) helps to raise much-needed funds for our school through fun, family-friendly events and we remain very grateful for their commitment to supporting the school.

As reported last year our most recent SIAMs inspection was carried out on 11th March 2016 (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools). The inspector rated our Christian Distinctiveness, Collective Worship and Religious Education as Good and Leadership and Management Outstanding. Overall the school was rated as Good in a positive report.

Funding remains a key issue for the school as budgets continue to tighten. Having reduced our costs as much as possible, we have turned our attention to generating more income to alleviate the situation. During the last academic year, we launched our Voluntary School Fund (VSF) and we aim to build contributions to this fund throughout the year. We also hope to encourage local businesses to support the school financially. At the end of January/beginning of February, we were forced to close the school for three days after the school suffered a catastrophic boiler failure. Although we now have a new boiler, the impact on the school's finances has been considerable. The emergency served to highlight the financial tightrope the school is having to walk. The 40-year-old building also needs urgent flat roof repairs and

we want to extend smaller classrooms to provide better teaching and learning environments. We remain very grateful to the local community for their ongoing support during these challenging financial times. We are currently recruiting a new Deputy Headteacher and have shortlisted a number of strong candidates. An announcement will be made in due course about any appointment. We are very proud of our excellent team of dedicated teachers, teaching assistants and support staff, who continue to do their best to help all the children to achieve and thrive, under the leadership of our Headteacher Chasey Crawford Usher.

We want to raise standards and improve the facilities at Wateringbury. Our School Development Plan outlines our key priorities and plans for 2018/19. The diagram to the right summarises our eight goals for this academic year, based on pupil attainment results, staff and parent surveys, our last Ofsted inspection and workshops with staff.

Submitted for your information.

*Gail Isted and Mark Warren
Co-chairs of Governing Body
March 2019*



Church Flowers

Once again the church flowers have been arranged by the same eight ladies. It would be lovely to welcome more flower arrangers. This year we are looking forward to decorating the church for a wedding, which we haven't had the pleasure of doing for a while. As usual we will be celebrating the main church festivals with special arrangements.

Gillian Sessions

Holy Dusters

I report that due to the fact that despite numerous requests for volunteers to come forward to fill the vacancy we have to join Pauline Welch it has become necessary for Pauline to join forces with Richard and Ruth Dunn. This does mean that we are now only 5 teams on the rota working on a 5-weekly basis.

Unfortunately I too will be standing down at the end of June 2019 after almost 40 years carrying out cleaning duties at the Church. Audrey Allen has also advised that she will be standing down at the end of June 2019. This will then mean that there are only 4 teams on the rota and will, obviously, increase the commitment of the people who so willingly give up their time to clean our Church.

I cannot emphasise enough the importance of keeping the Church clean on a regular basis and so I would make an urgent plea for anyone who feels they can commit to just an hour or two every few weeks to please make contact with either of the Church Wardens or myself.

We have, as usual, been able to carry out 2 major Church cleans during the year which tackle areas of the building that are not dealt with on a weekly basis but also see a number of stalwarts armed with gardening tools in the Churchyard. Everyone who attends does a great job but, as always, more volunteers are always welcome.

The cleaning of our Church is a vital part of Church life and I know how much the work of the Holy Dusters is appreciated by the Parochial Church Council, members of our congregation and visitors who enjoy visiting St. John the Baptist.

I would like to close by saying a huge thank you to everyone on the Holy Dusters rota who has, and continues, to serve St. John the Baptist Church at Watringbury.

Unfortunately since submitting my report for 2018/2019 I have received notice that Peter and Lisa Glasscote are unable to continue on the Holy Dusters rota. This means that with immediate affect i.e. February 2019 we are now reduced to 4 teams. This is not easy for the people who are left on the rota and so I make an urgent plea that if anyone is able and willing to join the Holy Dusters that they contact the Church Wardens or myself.

Hilary Cayzer

Bellringers

In common with national trends we continue to be short of bellringers at Watringbury and are now down to three locals for Sunday ringing following one of our number moving out of the area. Unfortunately even this has been restricted of late due to shoulder and back problems, hopefully temporary. Nevertheless we're still practicing on Tuesday evenings every three weeks or so where possible, relying on imported ringers from other towers, Fran and Dave from Leigh and Richard from Yalding in particular.

On a more positive note, moves are afoot to hold joint practices with Mereworth who also meet on Tuesdays. Mereworth have a couple of teenage learners and others of mixed ability with potential to work well with us. In November we were very pleased to finally be able to host the local Guides at the tower in November, naturally we'd be particularly pleased to welcome any of them for another go or to learn a bit more.

The No 2 bell had its "stay" replaced in the autumn following some slightly over zealous rope pulling. Stays are in part a safety feature and it is not uncommon for them to break particularly when learners are ringing. With the assistance of retired carpenter from Leeds tower, a spare stay was modified and fitted to rectify the problem.

We really would like to see some new ringers so if you know anyone tempted to have a go, a warm welcome awaits. Please contact Justin, Sue or Glynne.

Justin Southwell
Tower Captain

Fairtrade Stall

A huge thank you to everyone for their continued support of Fairtrade by their generous shopping. The stall is open after most Sunday services and at church events when appropriate

Sales from the stall 11th February 2018 to 23rd December amounted to £1796.73 enabling £291.56 profit to be given to the PCC Treasurer in December 2018. All invoices had been paid and cash in hand was £18.40. At a stock take on 14th January 2019 we had goods to the value of £298.30

During Fairtrade Fortnight we took part in Traidcraft's Big Brew raising funds for Traidcraft Exchange (their sister charity) and your kind donations raised £91.14 which was doubled by UK Aid.

In September a letter was received from Traidcraft Plc explaining the difficulties they had due to their recent poor trading results, and whilst their assets remained greater than their liabilities the Board of Directors believed it was prudent to close their current loss making trading operations at the end of December 2018. However following a period of legal consultation, Traidcraft's CEO Robin Roth and the board secured the company's future with a plan for a revamped streamlined business to be launched in 2019 focused on the core grocery lines.

This year marks Traidcraft's 40 years of trading and a service in York Minster is being planned to recognise the positive work the company has done over the the decades for the Fair Trade movement.

To celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight 25th February to 11th March and Traidcraft's 40 years of trading we are taking part in The Big Brew on Sunday 3rd March raising funds for the charity Traidcraft Exchange.

A new Spring catalogue will be available for you to take and browse.

My heartfelt thanks for the many offers of help with the stall, either to set up, cashiers or pack away, which is much appreciated. I would also like to congratulate Rachel Rowlinson for achieving her Brownie Charity Badge by choosing to help with the stall and to learn about Fairtrade.

Ros Diment

Coffee Break

Coffee Break members had a busy year in 2018. We met fortnightly as usual except in January when we met every week.

We made lots more woolly hats which we delivered to Maidstone Christian Care before Christmas together with another ten sleeping bags which we bought. We made more twiddle blankets for people with dementia, hats for premature babies and blankets for Moses baskets for Pembury Hospital.

We contributed to the cost of wrought iron hand rails in the Church.

We held a Harvest Lunch again to which all members were invited, together with some other specially invited guests.

We visited Gilly's beautiful garden in Farleigh in the summer and were made very welcome and enjoyed lovely refreshments.

We held a Summer Fete in the Church and Churchyard and donated the proceeds to the Church and Demelza House.

We had a craft stall at the Cribs and Angels day just before Christmas.

Our main event last year was the culmination of four years' work by Coffee Break members when we organised a weekend to commemorate the ending of World War 1 with a carpet of poppies, hand-made poppy brooches and some very well-received refreshments. We were supported by the History Society in this venture and many people visited the Church to see it. As a result of this, we were able to support the Church, British Legion Industries and Maidstone Christian Care.

Since Christmas we have been inspired by Mabel to start making stripy scarves for the homeless, we have visited Brookside Nursery, we have discussed what we might make for this year's village fete and are in the process of arranging to visit Sheena's new home and garden. Eddie hopes to finish Hugh's rug and has plans for his next exciting project.

As ever, all are welcome to join us at our Wednesday morning meetings.

Pauline Welch

Evangelist

Communications Team

(Trudy Bailey, Bob Bowie, Christine Byron, Alice Dunstall, Kate Millar, Eddie Scarlin)

During the year the PCC Communications team continued to review and update the church website (wateringburychurch.org.uk) and add news items to the church Facebook page.

We have given thought to the audio visual provision needed in the church and have met with the Buildings Committee as the project will involve both teams.

Our aim to find ways to improve communication within SJB is proving to be far from easy and it is sometimes difficult to obtain plans for future services and events or changes to regular activities. At times this makes the task of preparing the Weekly newsletter a challenging one. The newsletter has now been prepared by the Communications team for just over a year. It is emailed to 83 people (both local and further afield) and 25 hard copies are produced each week for members of the congregation and visitors to take home from our weekly church services.

Anna Chaplaincy

Pauline Welch and Alice English as Anna Chaplain 'Friends' attached to The Heart of Kent Hospice and are beginning to visit local care homes.

If anyone would like more information on the work of Anna Chaplaincy's ministry to those with Dementia and their families please visit the Rochester Diocese website and click on the 'Ministry' heading. Under that you will see the 'Anna Chaplaincy' heading which you then click on. Alternatively ask Pauline or Alice who would be pleased to give you information.

Pauline Welch and Alice English

Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) and Safeguarding

My role as Lead Recruiter is to ensure that DBS applications are carried out according to Diocesan guidelines, that DBS applications are submitted and checked online via ThirtyOne:Eight (formerly known as CCPAS) as quickly and efficiently as possible, always with best practice, and that all relevant Safeguarding courses are completed in good time.

I am responsible for ensuring that the 33 volunteers across the Benefice, who regularly work with Children and/or Vulnerable Adults, have current and valid DBS in place - 16 of those are here in Watlington. Added to that in 2018, there were 14 PCC Members across the Benefice who had to apply for a DBS, 6 here at St John's. At the time of compiling this report, some of the PCC applications from across the Benefice are still outstanding as the paperwork has not yet been returned, or the online application has not been completed.

In addition, I keep a database of the 120+ volunteers in the Benefice, so at a glance I can see who has/had not completed the relevant safeguarding training, who needs to renew their DBS, and who is applying for the first time.

And as predicted in last year's report, 2018 was a very busy year.

I think it is safe to say that there were mixed reactions to the C0 & C1 online safeguarding courses. Some found the courses relatively easy to access/complete, others found them more difficult and frustrating, and of course there were a number who were unable to take the online course as they do not possess, or were not comfortable in using, a computer. Thankfully, we had your wonderful Safeguarding Rep, Debbie Bond, who stepped in to help those who needed it, by presenting the C0 course at her home over a number of months, and then a one-off presentation at the St Benedict's Centre, West Malling in January 2019. Without Debbie's help, giving up her Saturday mornings, the Benefice would be way behind with the training, so a huge thank you to Debbie for all her hard work.

As it stands, all but 5 volunteers across the Benefice have completed their C0 &/or C1 training, and 3 are due to take their C2 course in the not too distant future. Hopefully by the time the APCMs take place, all the volunteers will be trained accordingly, but, disappointingly for me, it has taken over twelve months

to get where we are now. The volunteers' safeguarding training is valid for 3 years so if volunteers are still in their roles in 2021, refresher courses will have to be taken.

In addition to the DBS & Safeguarding, Feb and March 2018 involved me notifying and collating information from everyone who holds data in the Benefice, to ensure that we complied with the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) which came into effect on 25th May 2018. The information compiled showed how data was being held, who had access to it, and whether necessary consent forms were in place. With some advice here and there, measures were adopted to ensure that data was kept securely.

2019 should be a slightly easier year in relation to Safeguarding and there are only 7 DBS renewals to carry out. However, we have the break up of the Benefice looming which will be a big change and challenge for us all.

Finally, I would to say a big thank you to our Benefice Safeguarding Reps, Debbie Bond, Michala Neaves, and Linda Hoskins, for all their help and support throughout the year.

Sandra Corby
Lead Recruiter and Administrator for the Benefice

In accordance with CofE Church Representation Rule 9.2A;

The Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist, Wateringbury, confirms that it has complied with the duty mentioned relating to the safeguarding of children and adults who are vulnerable.

Signed Date:

The Church of St John the Baptist Wateringbury

Annual Report

and

Financial Statements

of the

Parochial Church Council

For the year ending 31st December 2018

Bank

Nat West PLC
Swan Street
West Malling
Kent

Honorary Treasurer

Richard John Dunn
Wateringbury
Kent

Independent Examiner

Peter Mitchell Esq.
Wateringbury
Kent

St John the Baptist Wateringbury Parochial Church Council

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2018 (INCLUDING 2019 BUDGETS)

All reports have been produced using Excel spreadsheets.

The Budgets for 2018 were formulated for the Standing Committee and then presented to the PCC on 22nd January 2018 and were approved for presentation to the ACPM. In addition to submission of a budget it is a requirement for us as a PCC to submit a 'Reserves Policy' for 2019, a copy of which is included in the Annual Report.

Income exceeded expenditure in 2018 by **£770.65**.

You will see from the accounts that our **total income in 2018, excluding grants and donations for the spire project and VAT recovery, was £48,822.09**, compared to £46,670.07 in 2017. Total income in 2018 including grants and interest was **£122,597.60**. It should be noted that this figure includes £2,168.42 for the Mike Pursey Memorial Fund and £801.10 in cheques yet to be cashed.

The PCC's overall expenses including capital expenditure in 2018 was **£121,826.95**, of which **£37,483.62** related to revenue expenditure. This compares to £40,273.20 in 2017.

Our Parish Pledged Offer to the Diocese for 2018 was **£19,099.58**, which includes Wateringbury's stipend contribution for 2018, previously included under the Joint Benefice expenses. Wateringbury PCC's contribution to the Joint Benefice expenses for 2018 was **£2,740**. Gift Aid and Covenanted Donations in 2018, including income from regular standing orders of **£21,908**, amounted to **£23,988.75**, compared to a total of £23,394.50 in 2017.

Our total collection income was **£2,475.96**, compared with £2,388.42 in 2017. We are still allowed to recover tax on this collection income.

No weddings took place in the church during 2018, hence not generating any income. Income from weddings in 2017 was £637.00.

The income from funeral fees in 2018, less expenses, was **£1,746**, compared to a total of £1,526.30 in 2017.

During 2018 the PCC held £9,000 in 'unrestricted designated funds' towards the possible cost of a cabin as premises for Sundays Cool. The total cost of the spire re-shingling project, including fees, was £73,495.64. A 2.5% retention has been held back, to be paid in 2019. Many thanks to the Buildings Committee for managing this project and in particular to its chair, Liz Gummer for all her time and work.

At the end of the 2018 fiscal year the PCC reserves have increased by £2,087.12 in the RDBF Church Repair Fund to **£12,349.16** with **£2,293.51** in the RDBF General Deposit Account and **£496.22** in the RDBF Loan Account. The PCC's Business Reserve Account had a balance of **£25,125.68** at the end of 2018.

It can be seen from the Statement of Assets and Liabilities that the PCC held total assets as at the 31st December 2018 of **£56,452.39**, an increase of **£2,824.64**.

In the Budgets for 2019 our income is projected to be some **£36,220** and it is anticipated that the PCC general expenditure is likely to be some **£39,236**. In addition **£1,968** has been budgeted for completing payments regarding the spire and any possible tree works required during the year, together with a further £2,200 to the RDBF Church Repair Fund as part of our reserves policy.

The PCC wish to thank you all for your generous Covenants during 2018. In addition they would also like to thank those of you who have organised fund raising events during the year, such as the very enjoyable range of concerts in the church, the Carpet of Poppies, and in particular to Jan (and Mike) Pursey for the Plant Sale and Christmas Bazaar. It is hoped that all of these efforts will continue into 2019 with more people coming forward with both event ideas and the running of these events, however small.

The members of the PCC are pleased that the 'Friends of Wateringbury Church' continue to raise funds to support future capital expenditure required to improve the fabric of the Church and in particular for the **£25,000 grant** towards our church spire project. Our thanks go to all those who have supported the Friends of Wateringbury Church and especially to William English and his committee.

Also we must acknowledge those who have made donations equalling £8,475.95, some anonymously, however large or small, to the spire appeal during 2018. In addition to the generous grants received in 2018 from Kent Churches, Bridges Trust and Church Care/Wolfson Foundation.

My thanks also go to Gordon Self for his hard work during the year as Gift Aid secretary and in submitting our annual tax refund claim. In addition, to our Benefice treasurer Suzanne Rowlinson.

Many thanks also to Church Wardens Peter Bond and Liz Gummer and all the members of the PCC for their help and support during 2018.

In conclusion I would like to draw your attention to the Budgets for 2019 and the Reserves Policy included with this Report and would request your formal approval to the Fiscal Report as presented.

After many years being our Independent Examiner Peter Mitchell has decided, with regret, not to continue in this role for 2020 and beyond. May I thank him on behalf of the PCC for his invaluable service and support over the years.

Richard Dunn (Honorary Treasurer)

Wateringbury Parochial Church Council

Wateringbury Parochial Church Council

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER

2018

	Unrestrict ed Fund	Unrestri cted Designat ed Fund	Restricted Designated Fund	Total
	2018	2018	2018	2018
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Voluntary Receipts:				
2 From Collections	2,475.96			2,475.96
1 From Covenants, Bequests and Gift Aid	23,988.75		2,168.42	26,157.17
3 All other giving/voluntary receipts	0.00			0.00
4 Tax Recovered - Gift Aid	7,124.21			7,124.21
Other Receipts:				
14 VAT Recovered	0.00		14,047.76	14,047.76
6 Funeral Fees	2,186.00			2,186.00
6 Wedding Fees	0.00			0.00
6 Fees Other	0.00			0.00
5 Fair Trade Received	291.56			291.56
3 Donations Specific	250.00		25,801.10	26,051.10
6 Donations Received	396.59			396.59
5 Fund Raising - General	189.66			189.66
5 Plant Sale	882.15			882.15
5 Cream Teas	397.53			397.53
5 Lent Lunches	253.02			253.02
5 12th Night Quiz	179.00			179.00
5 Silent Auction	218.00			218.00
5 Sunday Coffee	550.00			550.00
5 Christmas Bazaar	1,251.63			1,251.63

6	Toddlers Praise	76.04		76.04
5	Cello Concert	0.00	95.00	95.00
5	Ride + Stride	137.00		137.00
5	Canterbury Choristers	0.00	1,441.00	1,441.00
5	Church Fair with Bells	439.59		439.59
5	Sing along across the A20 Concert	0.00	1,153.20	1,153.20
5	Remembrance Book Fees	0.00		0.00
6	Wateringbury Players	200.00		200.00
5	Book Sales	215.01		215.01
5	Angels & Cribs	173.00		173.00
5	Carpet of Poppies	0.00	981.25	981.25
5	Sale of Jams	239.65		239.65
3	Spire Shingles Appeal	0.00	7,227.75	7,227.75
3	Kent Churches	0.00	7,500.00	7,500.00
3	Bridges Trust	0.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
3	Church Care/Wolfson Foundation	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
15	RDBF Church Repair Fund - Interest	33.82		33.82
15	RDBF Loan Account - Interest	1.98		1.98
15	RDBF General Deposit - Interest	9.15		9.15
15	Business Reserve - Interest	22.82		22.82
		42,182.12	981.25	79,434.23
				122,597.60

PAYMENTS

8	Donations Paid	875.06		875.06
8	Rostrum	137.50		137.50
7	Fund Raising & Publicity	433.30		433.30
7	Flower Festival	40.00		40.00
7	Christmas Bazaar	0.00		0.00
13	Wedding Expenses	0.00		0.00
13	Funeral Expenses	440.00		440.00
11	PCC Expenses	230.81		230.81

11 Church Running Costs	1,763.33			1,763.33
10 ETW Joint Benefice Expenses	2,740.00			2,740.00
11 Ecclesiastical Insurance	4,008.46			4,008.46
13 Training	0.00			0.00
9 Parish Share/Pledged Offer	19,099.58			19,099.58
11 Church Repair & Maintenance	1,061.97			1,061.97
12 RDBF Church Repair Fund	2,053.30			2,053.30
13 Sunday School Expenses	102.00			102.00
13 Messy Church	91.12			91.12
13 Youth Group	350.00			350.00
13 Salaries	780.00			780.00
11 Electricity	2,361.93			2,361.93
11 Water & Drainage Rates	163.10			163.10
13 Printing	226.80			226.80
8 WPS Yr 6 Bibles	230.00			230.00
8 Friends of Kent Churches	10.00			10.00
8 Friends of Rochester Cathedral	20.00			20.00
11 KCA Bell Ringing	1.00			1.00
11 Royal School of Church Music	103.00			103.00
11 Church Music Licence & Copyright	151.36			151.36
11 Malling Deanery	10.00			10.00
11 Architects Fee - Spire Project	0.00		4,534.27	4,534.27
11 Spire Shingles Project	7,878.63		71,930.43	79,809.06
11 Petty Cash Top Up	0.00			0.00
	45,362.25	0.00	76,464.70	121,826.95

16 FUNDS

At 31 December 2017	32,927.14	9,000.00	2,964.92	44,892.06
Incoming Receipts	42,182.12	981.25	79,434.23	122,597.60
At 31 December 2018	29,747.01	9,981.25	5,934.45	45,662.71

**Wateringbury Parochial
Church Council**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018		Unrestrict ed Funds		Unrestrict ed Designat ed Funds	Restrict ed Designate d Funds	Total
		2017	2018	2018	2018	2018
Note						
RECEIPTS						
Planned Giving	1	23,894.50	23,988.75	0.00	2,168.42	26,157.17
Collections at Services	2	2,388.42	2,475.96	0.00	0.00	2,475.96
All other giving/voluntary receipts	3	4,120.92	0.00	0.00	63,218.05	63,218.05
Gift Aid Recovered	4	6,785.53	7,124.21	0.00	0.00	7,124.21
VAT Recovered	14	0.00	0.00	0.00	14,047.76	14,047.76
Activities for Generating Funds	5	5,377.60	6,398.05	0.00	0.00	6,398.05
Church Activities	6	4,059.22	3,108.63	0.00	0.00	3,108.63
Fees Other		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		46,626.19	43,095.60	0.00	79,434.23	122,529.83
Interest from Accounts	15	43.80	67.77	0.00	0.00	67.77
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		46,669.99	43,163.37	0.00	79,434.23	122,597.60
PAYMENTS						
Cost of generating funds	7	320.80	473.30	0.00	0.00	473.30
Donations	8	1,295.02	1,272.56	0.00	0.00	1,272.56
Parish Share	9	8,616.00	19,099.58	0.00	0.00	19,099.58
Joint Benefice Expenses	10	16,440.00	2,740.00	0.00	0.00	2,740.00
Church Running Expenses	11	10,110.31	17,733.59	0.00	76,464.70	94,198.29
Transfer between funds	12	2,200.00	2,053.30	0.00	0.00	2,053.30
Church Activities	13	2,621.57	1,989.92	0.00	0.00	1,989.92
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		41,603.70	45,362.25	0.00	76,464.70	121,826.95

NET INCOMING RESOURCES	5,066.29	-2,198.88	0.00	2,969.53	770.65
Total Fund Brought Forward at 01.01.18	44,161.38	34,661.02	9,000.00	5,566.67	49,227.69
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD AT 31.12.18	16 49,227.67	32,462.14	9,000.00	8,536.20	49,998.34

**Wateringbury Parochial
Church Council**

BALANCE SHEET

AT 31 DECEMBER 2018

	Unrestrict ed Funds		Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted Designated Funds	Total
	2017	2018	2018	2018	2018
<u>Current Assets</u>					
Prepayments	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Petty Cash	£94.69	£100.00	£0.00	£0.00	£96.00
Bank Current Account	£7,384.25	£16,087.13	£0.00	£0.00	£16,087.13
Bank Reserve Account	£33,108.17	£7,593.48	£9,000.00	£8,536.20	£25,129.68
RDBF Loan Account	£494.24	£496.22	£0.00	£0.00	£496.22
RDBF Church Repair Account	£10,262.04	£12,349.16	£0.00	£0.00	£12,349.16
RDBF General Deposit	£2,284.36	£2,293.51	£0.00	£0.00	£2,293.51
<u>Total Current Assets</u>	£53,627.75	£38,919.50	£9,000.00	£8,536.20	£56,451.70

<u>Current Liabilities</u>	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
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<u>Current Assets less Current Liabilities:</u>	£53,627.75	£38,919.50	£9,000.00	£8,536.20	£56,451.70
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Represented by :

Capital & Reserves

General Fund Brought Forward	£46,361.38	£39,061.08	£9,000.00	£5,566.67	£53,627.75
Surplus Brought Forward	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Income Expenditure Account	£5,066.37	-£2,198.88	£0.00	£2,969.53	£770.65
Transfer to RDBF Church Repair Fund	£2,200.00	£2,053.30	£0.00	£0.00	£2,053.30
TOTAL RESERVES	£53,627.75	£38,915.50	£9,000.00	£8,536.20	£56,451.70

WATERINGBURY PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - Year to 31st
DECEMBER 2018**

	INCOME 2017	INCOME 2018
Bequests & Legacies	£500.00	
Mike Pursey Memorial Fund		£2,168.42
Collections	£2,388.42	£2,475.96
Covenants/Gift Aid	£23,394.50	£23,988.75
Tax Recovered	£6,785.53	£7,124.21
VAT Recovered		£14,047.76
Funeral Fees	£1,876.30	£2,186.00

Wedding Fees	£1,322.00	£0.00
Friends of Watringbury Church	£0.00	£25,000.00
Donations Received - Specific	£206.92	£250.00
Donations Received - General	£604.00	£396.59
Church Repair Fund - Interest	£27.61	£33.82
RDBF Loan Account - Interest	£1.98	£1.98
RDBF General Deposit -Interest	£9.11	£9.15
Fund Raising - General	£88.00	£14.90
Plant Sale	£736.45	£882.15
Lent Lunches	£427.10	£253.02
Remembrance Book	£207.00	£0.00
12th Night Quiz	£124.00	£179.00
Christmas Bazaar	£1,352.25	£1,251.63
Toddlers Praise	£50.00	£76.04
Cello Concert	£400.50	£95.00
Silent Auction	£0.00	£218.00
Cream Teas	£544.40	£397.53
Sing along across the A20 Concert	£0.00	£1,153.20
Church Fair with Bells	£0.00	£439.59
Canterbury Choristers	£0.00	£1,441.00
Sale of Church Book	£3.50	£174.76
Book Sales	£240.46	£215.01
Angels & Cribs	£0.00	£173.00
Ride & Stride	£177.50	£137.00
Fair Trade	£322.00	£291.56
Sunday Coffee	£230.00	£550.00
Watingbury Players	£0.00	£200.00
Spire Shingles Appeal	£4,120.92	£7,227.75
Kent Churches		£7,500.00
Bridges Trust		£15,000.00
Church Care/Wolfson Foundation		£5,000.00

Innominata Concert	£524.50	£0.00
Carpet of Poppies		£981.25
Sae of Jams		£239.65
Collection - Mark English Funeral		£801.10
Business Reserve Account Interest	£5.12	£22.82
Total Income	£46,670.07	£122,597.60

	EXPENDITURE 2017	EXPENDITURE 2018
Grants and Donations Paid	£804.02	£875.06
Rostrum	£240.00	£137.50
Fund Raising & Publicity	£240.80	£433.30
Ecclesiastical Insurance	£1,973.67	£4,008.46
Wedding Expenses	£685.00	£0.00
Funeral Expenses	£350.00	£440.00
P.C.C. Expenses - General	£2,148.37	£230.81
Church Running Costs		£1,763.33
ETW Joint Benefice Expenses	£16,440.00	£2,740.00
Training	£0.00	£0.00
Parish Pledged Offer	£8,616.00	£19,099.58
Church Repair and Maintenance	£2,215.78	£1,061.97
Salaries	£780.00	£780.00
Electricity	£2,006.99	£2,361.93
Printing	£114.07	£226.80
Water & Drainage Rates	£187.08	£163.10
Flower Festival	£40.00	£40.00
Youth Group	£400.00	£350.00
Holiday Club	£100.00	£0.00
Sequestration Account	£0.00	£0.00
Year 6 Bibles	£231.00	£230.00
Church music Licence & Copyright	£142.92	£151.36
Christmas Bazaar	£40.00	£0.00

Sunday School Expenses	£192.50	£102.00
Messy Church		£91.12
Friends of Kent Churches	£10.00	£10.00
Royal School of Church Music	£101.00	£103.00
Friends of Rochester Cathedral	£10.00	£20.00
KCA Bell Ringing	£1.00	£1.00
Book of Remembrance	£0.00	£0.00
Malling Deanery		£10.00
Petty Cash Top Up	£0.00	£0.00
Architects Fee - Spire Project	£0.00	£4,534.27
Capital Expenditure - Spire Shingles Project	£1,333.50	£79,809.06
Total Expenditure	£39,403.70	£119,773.65
Transfer to RDBF Church Repair Fund	£2,200.00	£2,053.30
SURPLUS/ (-DEFICIT)	£5,066.37	£770.65

The Church of St John the Baptist Wateringbury

Financial Statements for 2018

Budgets for 2019

And

Reserves Policy for 2019

of the

Parochial Church Council

BUDGET PLAN 2019

	Budget 2018	Actual 2018		Budget 2019
Mike Pursey Memorial Fund	£0.00	£2,168.42	I	£0.00
Collections	£2,000.00	£2,475.96	I	£2,000.00
Covenants & Gift Aid	£22,000.00	£23,988.75	I	£22,000.00
Donations Unspecified	£0.00	£472.63	I	£0.00
Collection - Mark English Funeral	£0.00	£801.10	I	£0.00
Friends of Wateringbury Church	£25,000.00	£25,000.00	I	£0.00
Fund Raising General	£4,500.00	£7,494.47	I	£5,000.00
Funeral Fees	£0.00	£2,186.00	I	£0.00
Interest received on PCC Acc's	£20.00	£1.98	I	£20.00
Donation Specific	£200.00	£503.02	I	£200.00
Tax Recovered from Gift Aid	£5,500.00	£7,124.21	I	£6,250.00
Fair Trade	£300.00	£291.56	I	£0.00
Wedding Fees	£0.00	£0.00	I	£0.00
Remembrance Book	£0.00	£0.00	I	£0.00
Spire Shingles Appeal	£0.00	£8,475.95	I	£0.00
Kent Churches	£7,500.00	£7,500.00	I	£0.00
Bridges Trust	£15,000.00	£15,000.00	I	£0.00
Church Care/Wolfson Foundation	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	I	£0.00
VAT Recovered	£0.00	£14,047.76	I	£750.00
	<u>£87,020.00</u>	<u>£122,531.81</u>		<u>£36,220.00</u>
Church Repairs & Maintenance	£1,500.00	£1,061.97	E	£1,500.00
Indicative Offer	£8,831.00	£19,099.58	E	£16,867.00
Benefice Expenses	£16,440.00	£2,740.00	E	£1,000.00
Electricity	£2,750.00	£2,361.93	E	£2,750.00
Fund Raising & Publicity Costs	£250.00	£610.80	E	£250.00

Grants & Donations Paid	£600.00	£916.06	E	£1,401.10
Insurance Premiums etc	£4,200.00	£4,008.46	E	£4,400.00
Office & General Stationary	£20.00	£0.00	E	£20.00
PCC General Expenses	£600.00	£485.17	E	£600.00
Church Running Costs	£1,400.00	£1,763.33	E	£2,000.00
Postage & Carriage	£10.00	£0.00	E	£10.00
Printing & Publications	£200.00	£226.80	E	£200.00
Sunday School	£200.00	£102.00	E	£200.00
Messy Church	£100.00	£91.12	E	£200.00
Salaries	£780.00	£780.00	E	£819.00
WPS Y6 Bibles	£250.00	£230.00	E	£250.00
Training	£100.00	£0.00	E	£100.00
Youth Group/Holiday Club	£350.00	£350.00	E	£250.00
Water & Drainage	£200.00	£163.10	E	£250.00
Funeral Expenses	£0.00	£440.00	E	£0.00
Wedding Expenses	£0.00	£0.00	E	£0.00
Mike Pursey Memorial Fund				£2,168.42
WiFi & Audio Visual Improvements	£2,000.00	£0.00	E	£4,000.00
	<u>£40,781.00</u>	<u>£35,430.32</u>	E	<u>£39,235.52</u>
BUDGET SURPLUS/DEFICIT	<u>£46,239.00</u>		E	<u>-£3,015.52</u>
Church Quinquentennial Works	£0.00	£0.00	E	£0.00
Tree Works	£200.00	£0.00	E	£200.00
Church Spire	£68,692.00	£0.00	E	£1,670.45
Architects Fee	£3,434.60	£79,809.06	E	£96.89
RDBF Church Repair Fund	£2,200.00	£102.00	E	£2,200.00
	<u>£74,526.60</u>	<u>£79,911.06</u>		<u>£4,167.34</u>

Expenses	£115,307.60	£115,341.38	£43,402.86
Income	£87,020.00	£122,531.81	£36,220.00
Surplus/Deficit	£28,287.60	£7,190.43	-£7,182.86
Current Account			£16,087.13
Reserve Account			£25,125.41
Church Repair Fund			£12,320.00
Diocesan Loan Fund			£2,800.00
TOTAL YEAR END FUNDS			£49,149.68

St John the Baptist Wateringbury Parochial Church Council

RESERVES POLICY 2019

In conjunction with our proposed budgets for 2019 the PCC has agreed a 'Reserves Policy' to ensure that our 'Church' and related services to the Parish can be maintained at an acceptable level during the coming year.

At present the Parish's financial reserves, excluding designated and restricted funds are approximately **£39,000**. Unrestricted designated funds total **£9,000**, restricted designated funds, **£8,536.20**. This latter amount is money owing on the spire project, an amount designated for WiFi and visual aid improvements, together with the Mike Pursey Memorial Fund, which stands at £2,168.42. The PCC will require some **£40,000** in 2019 to cover the running of the church, including the Benefice expenses, the Indicative Offer to the Diocese, salaries and general PCC expenses (including WiFi introduction and audio visual improvements not done in 2018). It does not include any capital expenditure in relation to the church fabric.

The majority of our income is derived from collections, Gift Aid Donations and fund raising activities which in the past, together with use of our Reserves, have been able to meet the growing deficit between income and expenditure.

The PCC have budgeted that our income from regular Covenants and collections in 2019 should be in the region of **£24,000**. Additional income from fund raising activities, recovery of tax, fees and donations is estimated to be in the region of **£12,000**.

The total projected income should allow the PCC to cover the general running costs for the Parish and our share of Benefice costs without having to eat too much into our reserves in 2019, apart from capital expenditure.

Wateringbury PCC are committed to continue regular fiscal reviews throughout 2019 to ensure that expenditure is maintained within the budget parameters and if necessary review and amend the budgets.

Richard Dunn (Honorary Treasurer)

Independent Examiners Report to the PCC of St John the Baptist Church Wateringbury

This report on the Wateringbury Parochial Church Council Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2018 which are set out on pages 4 to 9, is in respect of an examination carried out under Charities Act 2011

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and it is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of this Act.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under Terms and Regulations as set out in the Charities Act 2011

The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and the comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiners statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with The Charities Act 2011
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Peter Mitchell ACMA

18, Leney Road

Wateringbury

Maidstone

ME18 5DQ

Dated: