



## **REPORT OF THE PCC OF HALE AND WOODGREEN FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING ON 29<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2020, AT ST BONIFACE CHURCH, WOODGREEN**

In 2019 the PCC met in January, March, May, July and October. Additionally, a Joint Meeting with all the PCCs of the Avon Valley Churches Benefice took place in June.

Membership of the PCC at January 2020 is:

Canon Gary Philbrick (Rector)                      Revd Nicky Davies (Associate Priest)  
Revd Michael Trotman (Assistant Curate)

Catherine Haworth (Churchwarden)  
Jane Cant (Deanery Synod)

Helen Clark                                      Amanda Clarke                                      Lynn Dudman  
Darren Hilton                                      Brenda Templeton

The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the church representation rules. The Church Wardens are the people to whom day-to-day management is delegated. The Churchwardens serve the whole Parish, but Catherine Haworth is mainly at St Boniface, Woodgreen, and there is a vacancy for the second Warden.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church buildings of St Mary's, Hale, and St Boniface, Woodgreen.

The aims and objectives of the PCC continue to be:

- To do God's work
- To support the needs of the community, both pastorally and spiritually
- To raise the profile of the church within the community
- To assist the clergy in its work within the parish
- To ensure the fabric of the two churches is maintained in good order

In order to fulfil our duties as a PCC, the PCC undertook some training, called 'PCC Tonight', which we did at some of the regular meetings, and on other occasions.

During 2019 Mr Melvyn Beynon, Safeguarding Officer for the Avon Valley Churches, organised checks and then certificates from the Disclosure and Barring Service for those in the Parish working with children or vulnerable adults. Also a revised Safeguarding Policy was approved in each of the four AVC Parishes.

During 2019, the PCC approved the purchase of a new Keyboard for Hale Church, to replace that which had stopped working, at a cost of £2,000.

There were many special Services during the year, celebrating the Church's Year, and lots of other special occasions. During the year there was a small number of joint Services across the Benefice (including our curate, Mike Trotman's, first time of presiding at Holy Communion after his Ordination in July), and also with Breamore and Godshill Churches, when there were special speakers (such as Christian Aid). During Lent, the Lent Group focussed especially on Prayer.

The PCC approved a request from ITV to film a part of the programme 'Long Lost Family' from Hale Church as a resident of Hale was to be the subject of the programme – this was shown later in the year. The PCC supported the Wedding Fair at Hale House at the end of April, by having St Mary's Church open, and encouraging the visitors.

The Rector wrote to the Bishop of Winchester asking for permission for the Revd Nicky Davies to be able to Chair the PCC in the Rector's absence, and this was received.

It was decided to stop the extra Coffee Morning on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month, as there were few attendees, and to concentrate on the very successful Fairtrade Coffee Morning on the last Sunday of the month.

A new logo and branding was proposed, consulted upon, and approved during the year, and has had the effect of improving our publicity, and raising our profile. Each Parish has a logo (see top of p.1), as does each Church, and as does the Benefice – with the strapline 'Loving, Connecting, Serving', as below.



The website is due for revision, as are the main noticeboards outside both Churches.

The PCC also approved a Legacy Leaflet, based on our Legacy Policy, distributed to our congregations and the wider community, via the Magazine.

At the October Meeting, the Benefice Worship Review began. A document with priorities and proposals, and asking for feedback, was distributed to the whole congregation, and the process is due to be settled early in 2020, and to start on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. The four Principles on which the Worship Review was based are that our future Pattern of Worship should be: **Sustainable** - whether or not our Leadership Team changes; Allow room for **growth** - not so full a programme of catering for the needs of our current congregations that there is no room for anything new to grow; **Appropriate** – The right worship for each Church; **Lay Leadership** - Each Church should have (at least) one Lay Led Service each month, so that we are growing Lay Worship Leaders and sharing the gifts of the wider congregation.

Towards the end of the year, the four PCCs approved the start of a process of Simplification. Each PCC nominated two people to join the 'Simplification Group', after joint Open Meeting of the four PCCs in November, and this will aim to report back to the Joint PCC Meeting in June 2020.

The PCC has had donations and some fundraising; coffee mornings, toddler group, Toukie Sheldon, Hale School Fete, open gardens and flower day – and a very successful Harvest Supper, once again organised by members of Church and Village. A discussion was held about fundraising as often the effort was not reflected in the amount raised and it was agreed that publicity and advertising of events was crucial. The 'Pop-Up Pub' continued during the year, until the Horse and Groom reopened; after that there was a 'Church in the Pub', and a 'Pub in the Church' (with the Landlord of the Horse and Groom's agreement) on Christmas Day – once again, very successful. The Summer Holiday Club was again a delight, with lots of children attending. And the 'Hale Consort' (directed by the Rector) and 'Hale's Angels' /advent Concert was another great success.

The PCC continued to reflect on St Boniface, and the possibility of upgraded kitchen facilities and other improvements. Plans have been drawn up, and the Project awaits further investigation and fundraising.

Following a Quinquennial Inspection at St Mary's Church, Hale, during November 2014, the planned maintenance has continued, albeit slowly – and another Quinquennial Inspection was undertaken towards the end of the year, with the Report due in early 2020.

Financially, it was again a challenging year, and the PCC was very aware that we have not been able to fulfil our commitment to the Common Mission fund again in 2019. The PCC is very grateful to all of those who work so hard and give so generously of their time and finance, and is actively looking at ways to improve the financial situation.

Canon Gary Philbrick, Rector,  
For Hale and Woodgreen PCC  
March 2020