



Christ Church, Warley

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ended 31st December 2020

Incumbent:

Revd Stuart Hull
79 Mount Crescent
Warley
Brentwood CM14 5DD

Bankers:

Nat West
46 High Street
Brentwood CM14 4AL

Independent Examiner:

Neville Reid BA, ACA,
19 Mills Grove
Poplar
London
E14 ORH

Christ Church, Warley, Brentwood
Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

PCC Foreword

Administrative Information

Christ Church is situated at Warley Hill, Warley, Brentwood, Essex, CM13 3AA. This is also the address for correspondence. It is part of the Diocese of Chelmsford within the Church of England. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956 and Church Representation Rules 2006). It is charity registered with the Charity Commission (CC registration number 1138758).

Aims and purposes

Christ Church Parochial Church Council 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 complex at Christ Church, Warley.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at Christ Church. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups which live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community by

1. Worship, bible study and prayer, learning about the gospel and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
2. Provision of pastoral care to people living in the parish
3. Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of Christ Church. This section of the report focuses on finance and governance matters. The activity reports elsewhere show how the PCC achieved the above objectives in 2020.



CHRIST CHURCH WARLEY ACTIVITY REPORTS FOR 2020

Contents:

1. Priest in Charge review - Revd Stuart Hull
2. Electoral roll - Jan Broderick
3. Activities of the PCC
 - 3a Overview of the PCC's Year - Sylvia Partridge
 - 3b Gp2 Buildings, Health & Safety - Mark Townsend
 - 3c Gp3 Admin & Communication - Brendon Horrocks
 - 3d Gp4 Pastoral Care and over 75's - Revd Stuart Hull
 - 3e Gp5 Kidzone - Ian & Ginny Double
 - 3f Gp6 Church Finance - John Kettlewell
4. Fabric and ornaments of the Church - Church Wardens
5. Deanery Synod, Diocesan Synod & Churches together - Olive Law
6. Occasional Offices - Brendon Horrocks
7. Child and Adult Safeguarding - Brendon Horrocks
8. Christ Church Toddlers - Heather Bradshaw
9. Christ Church Centre - Fiona Townsend
10. Christmas Market - Fiona Townsend
11. Supported Charities - Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust - Olive Law
12. Boys Brigade - Roger Gammon
13. 1st Warley Rainbows - Nichola Webber, Rainbow Leader
14. 1st Warley Brownies - Tina Johnstone, Brownie Leader
15. 1st Warley Guides - Sylvia Partridge, Guide Leader
16. Financial Statements - compiled by: John Kettlewell

1. Priest in Charge review of 2020

The year 2020 presented a season of unprecedented challenge for churches across the world, including Christ Church.

Our usual pattern of worship was disrupted as the church swiftly complied with both government and national church guidance in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Following our usual time of worship in January and February, during the month of March in-person services were suspended and church events swiftly moved online. Services on a Sunday morning were initially live-streamed from the church building, but these were soon moved to be being filmed live from the vicarage.

Several different types of virtual services were tried out, including a church Youtube page, multi-screen Zoom services, and streaming live on the Christ Church Warley Facebook page. It was with great sadness that our usual fellowship was prevented from meeting, however a number of new initiatives were enacted to reach out to as many church members as possible, and several of these enabled Christ Church to minister to people well outside of our usual church family.

These included:

- A live-streamed online service provided every Sunday for anyone with internet to access.
- Christ Church opened as a Community Hub and provided the quick delivery of food and household essentials to homes across both Warley and the wider Brentwood area.
- The church leadership team phoned around members of the church family.
- The church leadership team offered pastoral support to those within the wider community who were suffering from the isolation of lockdown.
- The church Kidzone team provided a series of excellent online videos and crafts for our young people.
- Numerous pastoral letters were written and posted to members of the church offering help and support.
- The church resumed the Youth Group by meeting together over Zoom with the necessary guidelines in place.
- The church fellowship group continued to meet during the pandemic over Zoom and were able to welcome in new members who could attend online.
- The church launched a new All-Age Service, which whilst limited in scope due to the restrictions of the pandemic, was able to provide an interactive time of worship and fellowship for young families.

Whilst the significant suffering and difficulties brought about because of the pandemic should not be understated, we should not ignore that in the last twelve months Christ Church was given the chance to support the Warley community in new ways. Given the facilities available within the church hall and kitchen, the church should continue to consider future possibilities by which it can reach out to and serve the local community.

The leadership is very aware that not everyone was able to engage with the online material offered by the church during 2020, and will actively look forward to provide more opportunities for fellowship for those without access to Facebook or Zoom as restrictions relax in 2021.

Due to the significant financial challenges faced by Chelmsford Diocese it was made clear to church incumbents and PCCs that the current number of full-time clergy serving within the diocese was not affordable and would need to be reduced. Churches were encouraged to pay as much of their parish share as possible in order to help support the ministry of stipendiary

clergy. Churches who hoped to retain their own stipendiary minister would now be placed under regular review.

The ministry offered by Christ Church in 2020 would not have been possible without the dedicated support of those who sustain and contribute to the ministry of church by volunteering both their time and money. This sense of community and fellowship is a core aspect of our church family and hopes for the future.

2. Electoral roll

The Electoral roll stands at 71 of whom 27 are not resident in the Parish.

Membership is open to all who call Christ Church their spiritual home, are over 16 and have been attending Christ Church for 6 months or more.

Since last year there have been 6 additions to the Register, 3 have moved to other churches in the locality and 1 has moved away and 2 have died.

3. Activities of the PCC

3a Overview of the PCC's Year

During 2020 despite the Covid-19 lockdown, we still managed to hold 4 meetings via zoom, with an average attendance of 8 members.

The sub-groups didn't meet in their normal manner, but work continued via phone calls and zoom Wardens Meetings.

Discussions during the year have included continuing Ministry both on-line and in person, outreach, re-starting Toddlers group and re-starting Prayer meetings.

3b Gp2 Buildings, Health & Safety

The general maintenance and upkeep of the Church buildings, grounds and its appliances was carried out by the Building's Group (a sub-committee of the PCC), which consists of Mark Townsend, Harry Stimpson and Robin Baker with additional help from Brendon Horrocks and Tony Marriage.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic there were no key works completed in 2020, however throughout the year the church and grounds continued to be upkept as usual, with regular checks and minor repairs carried out, grass mowed during the summer months and gutters and drains cleared when required. The grass car park area which had been badly churned up by vehicles during the (very wet) autumn/winter was repaired and re-seeded in the Spring and has since recovered nicely and re-opened for use.

3c Gp3 Admin & Communication

The Admin and Communications group is responsible for ensuring the smooth running of the Church office and Church communications to the congregation and community. The team includes Brendon Horrocks (PCC Contact), Jan Broderick, Fiona Townsend and Sylvia Partridge & Rev'd Stuart Hull.

Communications have become more important than ever with the restrictions placed on worship and attendance at church due to the pandemic this year

Over the past Calendar year, specific actions we have undertaken include:

- We continue to publish a weekly Pew Sheet with services, notices and prayer page. Printing for Sunday services has been suspended due to the pandemic however the Pew Sheet continues to be distributed electronically for those wishing to receive it (please e-mail Fiona Townsend fiona@christchurchwarley.org to be included).
- We continue to review and develop our church processes to comply with GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation)
- Car-park administration is being undertaken by Louise Kearns, centre and church bookings by Fiona Townsend although both these offices have been significantly disrupted due to the pandemic.
- Our Church Website was moved to a new host provider and the look and feel significantly modernised and improved, thank-you to Fiona for all her hard work delivering this.
- Our Facebook page is maintained with day-to-day activities of the Church and hosts our live broadcast of services as a result of the pandemic.

Thank-you to Fiona, Jan, Sylvia and Louise for their ongoing support.

3d Gp4 Pastoral Care and over 75's

It was with great sadness that Christ Church was not able to offer its usual means of pastoral support during the unprecedented challenges offered to us in 2020.

However we adapted by introducing the following initiatives:

- Regularly calling members of the church family.
- Responding to requests for pastoral phone calls from both within and outside the church family.
- Providing emergency food parcels to those in need.
- Members of the fellowship group were able to pastorally support each other by sharing prayer requests.
- Online Zoom services were provided for the local care home.
- Prayer requests were taken from church members and added to a regular cycle of prayer at the vicarage.

3e Gp5 KidZone

Not available at time of printing

3f Gp6 Church Finance

For more detailed information and figures please refer to the separate report entitled Annual Report and Financial Statements.

4. Fabric and ornaments of the Church

Fabric Report

The fabric of the church has been well maintained during 2020, thanks to the hard work of the Building's Group with particular help from Harry Stimpson and Tony Marriage. Works completed are as per the summary detailed on item 3c of this report.

Tree Report

The replacement for our Cedar Tree, a "Sorbus aria (Whitebeam)" continues to look healthy and is establishing itself well.

Other church trees comprise of the following:

4 horse chestnuts trees along the south boundary

- Branches from the tree nearest the road are protruding over Warley Hill obscuring the street lighting and the Tree nearest the church branches are protruding a long way towards the church, works have been booked for May 2021.
- The trees remain in good condition and no worsening of the Canker disease that affects these trees

2 pine trees on the grassed area to the north of the church

- The trees remain in good condition

1 Common Beech tree on the north boundary on the lower lawn

- The tree remains in good condition, some of the lower branches will be considered for pruning to help grass grow in the overflow car-park area in 2021, this work was not possible in 2020 due to the restrictions on meeting due to the pandemic.

Working parties have been limited by the pandemic but where possible the beech hedge on the northern boundary and bushes and shrubs have been pruned as necessary and border beds maintained, the grass has been cut regularly and has regrown well in the overflow carpark area as a result of less parking midweek.

5. Deanery Synod, Diocesan Synod & Churches together

Not available at time of printing

6. Occasional Offices

Not available at time of printing

7. Child and Adult Safeguarding

During 2020 there were no safeguarding issues and confirm that the PCC have 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).

- A revised Christ Church Parish Safeguarding Policy was adopted by the PCC in February 2020
- Safer recruiting processes are in place with defined job descriptions and training requirements for all voluntary roles.

Any questions or concerns regarding safeguarding at Christ Church please contact Brendon Horrocks or Rev'd Stuart Hull.

8. Christ Church Toddlers

Many, many parents will step freely and happily over the threshold of a church building to attend a baby and toddler group. Warley is a very populated area, soon to be increasing through the housing at the old Ford building. The two adjacent primary schools taken together have approx. 120 pupils per year group. This means that in Warley there are likely to be 4-500 children of suitable age to attend Christ Church Toddler group!

A quick glance around our congregation on a Sunday will yield little evidence of these hundreds of local babies, toddlers and preschoolers.

A huge thank you goes to Sarah Prior who had been running the group; she'd planned to step down in summer 2020 but it was more of a sudden halt with things closing down in March due to Covid-19. Once toddlers is able to open up again in 2021, the team will be led by Heather Bradshaw, with Stuart and Suzanne coming weekly, Olive providing support with crafts, and Louise and Jan offering monthly help in the kitchen once refreshments can resume. One of the mums who attends will also help practically when she can, but she is likely to be moving away during 2021 and is currently pregnant which is not ideal for lifting boxes!

When Toddler Group relaunches, the idea will be that the aims and focus would be sharpened so that as well as providing much-needed support to local young families, we would intentionally aim to give a window into the Christian faith.

A 2016 Church of England and Wales report stated that 'Toddler Groups which feel supported by their church leadership, and which are aligned with their church's mission and vision, are likely to contribute towards church growth'. I cannot think of a closer way in which a church leader could support a Toddler Group than his own family, including toddler, coming along each week! Thinking is also going on in order to try to ease the transition of a family from Toddler Group into church itself, in terms of provision for young children and general 'user friendliness' of church, not forgetting the responsibility on all of us to welcome new people of all ages in whatever way we can given the current restrictions.

The Christmas trail, which was set up for toddlers, was a great success and helped raise awareness both of the Christian story and also what Christ Church (and Breakthru Hutton, who we worked in partnership with) can offer for young children. There are plans for an Easter trail too.

No doubt you've seen this request before, but we could still do with some more helpers e.g. once a month in the kitchen, or to help set up, chat to parents or tidy away. The group enables parents, grandparents and carers to meet with each other but it also enables them to come across folk from the church, which is really important to begin 'opening the door of faith' to them. Please speak to any of the toddler group leaders/helpers if you would like more information.

9. Christ Church Centre

Due to lockdown our centre closed for a vast majority of 2020 with mainly only the uniformed groups using the centre at the beginning of the year before the pandemic hit.

Going forward into 2021, until the government relaxes the restrictions completely, we will not be hiring out our centre for one-off parties etc. We will look to reintroduce our uniformed and toddler groups along with other regular users of the centre, such as U3A, in the first instance and then gradually over time allow other one-off users to book our centre.

This has meant that unfortunately no income has been generated from the centre during most of 2020.

On a more positive note, in the last couple of months we have received a number of enquiries from organisations such as fitness/wellness groups and an infant massage group. They would like to consider hiring our venue once government guidelines allow such groups to begin meeting again indoors. It would be great to see our venue being used again on a more regular basis, generating an income for the church and being used by our local community.

10. Christmas Market

Sadly, due to COVID-19 and lockdown restrictions we were unable to hold our Christmas Market this year.

There has been talk of holding an Easter Market in April 2021 but this will depend on the government guidelines at the time.

We are looking at holding a Christmas Market in November/early December 2021 as long as government guidelines allow. Date to be confirmed in due course once the date for 'Lighting Up Brentwood' has been announced, so we do not clash with that event.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Alison Coates, as she spent a lot of time during 2020 helping with lots of preparations for the market that couldn't take place in the end. She very kindly prepared lots of gifts and produce for the market, especially gifts for Santa's Grotto. Luckily, whilst these couldn't be used for this year, it does mean we have some preparations already in place for 2021's market.

11. Supported Charities - Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust (BSCWT)

Not available at time of printing

12. Boys Brigade

Not available at time of printing

13. 1st Warley Rainbows

Not available at time of printing

14. 1st Warley Brownies

1st Warley Brownies started 2020 with 24 Brownies and 2 leaders. In January we celebrated Chinese New Year with a trip to Izumi for dinner. As always, the chocolate fountain was the girls favourite!



Rainbows, Brownies and Guides came together in February to celebrate World Thinking Day. This year the theme was Australia, the girls were thinking about the devastating bush fires that were spreading across Australia, we raised over £100 to send to Girl Guiding Australia.



March we were visited by Pygmy Hedgehogs. The girls got to learn all about these small hedgehogs, and then everyone got to have a little hold. At the time we didn't realise this would be our last meeting face to face of the year, as the week later Girlguiding had stopped all meetings due to Covid 19. Between March and September, the girls were given some tasks to complete at home. As we started the new academic year, we were still unable to meet up inside Christ Church, so we made the decision to start meeting each week on Zoom. We regularly had 16 girls meeting virtually each week up to Christmas. We were able to still have fun, doing crafts, sewing, games, whilst continuing with the Brownie programme. The girls even light candles had made s'mores at home for Bonfire Night.



At Christmas we were incredibly proud of the girls as we collected 4 large boxes of food for Brentwood Food Bank. Although we are starting back in January still meeting on Zoom, we are looking forward to the day we can start meeting at Christ Church again.

15. 1st Warley Guides

2020 was supposed to be a memorable year for the Guides, and it was, but for all the wrong reasons!

We had planned lots of activities and events to mark our 100th birthday but sadly most had to be cancelled including the trip to Disneyland Paris, camp and visit to the Guide World Centre in London. We did manage to hold our Centenary Concert in February before the lockdown and this was enjoyed by all who came.

The actual centenary on 26th September should have been a big party day with lots of guests and Guides from over the years. We did celebrate but on a much smaller scale with only 15 girls and Leaders - all we were allowed at the time and outdoors on a chilly and windy afternoon. The girls took part in a couple of games and went home with a goody bag and a party Balloon.

Back in March 2020 we could never have imagined that nearly a year on we would still not be able to meet 'normally'. We have kept in touch with the girls by home delivering Easter Eggs, Activity packs and Christmas gifts. The wonder of technology and zoom has meant we can meet virtually to keep them engaged and hopefully maintain their Guiding membership. It has been encouraging how many girls wanted to have these meetings and we have even increased our numbers with three girls joining from Brownies, even though we haven't met them in person.

Obviously, we don't know when restrictions will be lifted and how we will be able to meet in the coming months but will continue to meet and strive to keep our Guiding light bright!

16. Financial Statements

See separate document

17. Appendix

2020 Gift Aid Declaration (see overleaf)

  
Love. Grow. Serve.





Christ Church, Warley
Warley Hill
Brentwood
Essex
CM13 3AA

REGULAR GIVING

If you are a UK tax payer, Christ Church is able to reclaim the tax paid on any donations you make as part of your regular giving. This amounts to an extra 25 pence on every £1 that is given.

To enable us to do this, please complete this declaration form and return it to one of the people listed below.

GIFT AID DECLARATION - Commencing: 6th April 2019

Until I notify you otherwise, please treat all donations made to **Christ Church, Warley**, as eligible for Gift Aid.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in a tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify as Income Tax.

Full Name: _____
Address: _____
Postcode: _____
Signed: _____ Date: _____

Please return form to, either:
Mr John Kettlewell,
or Mr Brendon Horrocks

Please notify Christ Church if you:

- Want to cancel this declaration
- Change your name or home address
- No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment Tax Return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.