



**WRITTEN REPORTS FOR
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
MAY 2022**

PCC Report to the 2022 APCM

January to December 2021

The PCC met 10 times during 2021, every other month and 4 Extraordinary meetings.

The Extraordinary meetings were called to discuss community-based youth work, youth and children's work, and the absence of Mark Searle from September 2021.

Each Agenda must include items for Fabric, Finance, Health and Safety, and Safeguarding. Other regular items were Rector's report, Churchwardens' report, ROCK and Staffing. Some meetings included discussions about the Parish Share, resulting in All Saints paying less than the requested amount for 2021. It was agreed that All Saints would pay a greater proportion of the Parish Share in 2022.

In the January meeting, Peter Ward was elected as Churchwarden. In the March meeting, James Couchman stepped up to become Chair of PCC. Paul Bright presented a Safeguarding Report in this meeting.

In the May APCM, Chris Chatfield, James Couchman and Jo Lewis stepped down from the PCC. Derek Hall, Vera Podger, Nathan Ward and Pam Wendzina were elected as new PCC members. Two members were re-elected. Judy Everson acts as PCC Secretary in the meetings.

During the year, Community Work, Youth and Children's Work was discussed. Clive Bennett was thanked for the excellent job he had done with the Community. PCC approved the recruitment of the posts of Youth Team Leader and Children's Team Leader; the posts have not yet been filled. James Couchman suggested ASW might like to introduce a PCC Handbook; he had the blessing of Christ Church, Clifton to take ideas from their PCC Handbook. Also Robert Groezinger took on the role of Electoral Roll Officer. The Covid Risk Assessment was discussed and refreshed.

In September, PCC voted in favour of Standing Committee approaching Dave Parr to ask if he would be interested in working for All Saints part time, for the following 3 months, during Mark's absence. In November the PCC formally acknowledged a Missions Report.

The average percentage PCC attendance for 2021 was 89%, with six members having 100% attendance.

Attendance figures at ASW services were as follows:

Year	Average Sunday Attendance in October	Attendance on Easter Sunday	Attendance at the Carol Service	Attendance on Christmas Day	Electoral Roll as at April
2013	249	345	364	299	312
2014	255	422	402	336	324
2015	251	359	410	405	329
2016	242	368	346	315	318
2017	284	341	371	294	321
2018	252	396	362	342	327
2019	271	382	585	359	247
2020	No data	No data	No data	No data	244
2021	170	No data	120	120	231

List of PCC members as since 1st January 2021 until this report was published:

Incumbent: Revd Mark Searle (until 31 Dec 2021)

Interim Minister: Revd Dave Parr (since 01 Oct 2021)

Readers: Sarah Couchman
Pippa Page
Tom Peryer

Wardens: Peter Ward
Paddy Gleave

Elected Lay Representatives on Deanery Synod: Pippa Page
Clive Kennett
Peter Ward
Hylton Asplin

Non-voting members: Judith Everson (PCC Secretary)

Co-opted member Rob Gray (Treasurer)

Lay Members: Joanna Lewis (2018-2021) Andrew Baines (2019-2022)
Sarah Gleave (2019-2022) Robert Groezinger (2019-2022)
Robin Lewis (2019-2022) Chris Chatfield (2020-2021)
James Couchman (2020-2021) Michael Everson (2021-2024)
Kevin Hurley (2021-2024) Derek Hall (2021-2024)
Vera Podger (2021-2024) Nathan Ward (2021-2024)
Pam Wendzina (2021-2024)

Judith Everson, PCC Secretary, March 2022

Finance Report to the 2022 APCM

See financial section of the Trustee Report

Robert Gray, Treasurer, April 2022

Fabric Report to the 2022 APCM

Team members

Currently under review

Remit

The team oversee the routine maintenance of the church building and also include the church car park, churchyard and paths – much of this maintenance work is done ‘in-house’ by the team members as well as BANES.

The team also discuss and organise more substantial repairs which are often beyond the scope of the volunteer “DIY” approach. Additionally, in conjunction with Chris Chatfield, the team reviews and implements health and safety work that has been brought to their attention. The team should meet three times per year but with the restrictions of Covid during 20/21 this has been difficult. During this period the church buildings were little used by the congregation with only a small group meeting for the “Go Live” service production happening in 20/21.

It has been discussed that having a central person carrying out the maintenance on all church buildings would be welcome, even if the Fabric team still exists to monitor and raise concerns about the fabric of the church, the works that are beyond the capabilities of the Fabric team would be managed by central operations. To some degree the new caretaker and cleaner have picked up small items of work but the major works are carried out by contractors.

General maintenance executed during the last 12 months

1. Replacement of light bulbs
2. Clearance of roof gutters
3. Safety notices as appropriate
4. Replacement of carbon monoxide monitor in the pit area
5. Raising and lowering of tower cross and star. This was not done during lockdown but restarted last Christmas.

Works carried out during the year 20/21

1. *Clearing of roof gully*

Water was flowing into the church over the video equipment due to a blocked gully. All debris was cleared and other gullies checked, all found to be clear.

2. *Ridge tiles*

Ridge tiles were removed and replacements fitted where needed then re-cemented. Roofer says the roof is in good condition.

3. *Section of plaster ceiling dangerous*

The ceiling was repaired and a memorial stone removed that was in a hazardous condition. A check on other memorial stones shows a some remedial work will be required.

4. *Electrical*

The lighting faults in the choir vestry and toilets were fixed and some ancient switches replaced and rewired where needed.

5. *Church clock*

The church clock face was repainted and the clock action was repaired.

6. *Roof gutter*

A temporary repair of a hole made by a squirrel was carried out in the north facing roof gutter.

Elements noted as requiring work during 2022

1. External roof access hatches (3 no) require reforming at edges – not currently causing a problem.
2. Completion of safety works to memorials – ongoing.
3. Possible work to the Stormwater drains/soak aways.
4. Metal casings to cover internal roof gutters, to prevent animal access.
5. Churchyard maintenance day – principally removing brambles etc.
6. Fitting of window guards (new guards obtained and currently stored in the Crypt).
7. Clearing out of accumulated rubbish/redundant items in the Crypt.
8. Quinquennial report needs to be reviewed.

Elements requiring ongoing monitoring

The following items should be comprehensively dealt with as part of the ROCK project but holding repairs/action may be required in the interim:

1. Roof level masonry cracks and pointing
2. Slippage of roof slates over the Chancel and Transepts

3. South Transept access door steps – these are suffering from subsidence again
4. Rusting pintle to the West door
5. Health and safety issues in connection with access onto the roofs and gutters
6. Children accessing the pulpit
7. Electrical and heating installations (pilot light blow out issue)

Health & Safety inspection (TBC)

Issues of Note:

1. *Covid-19 Actions*

For the past 20 months we have been following the CofE Diocese Covid recommendations for which we thank Chris Chatfield keeping us honest in the implementation of an ever changing set of rules. We are thankful to him for his vigilance in ensuring we were keeping our congregation as safe as was possible whilst beginning to return back to some normality.

2. *Steps*

An area of concern in our church comes from the many steps and changes in levels both throughout the church and outside. Since the last inspection in 2018, white tape has been placed on nearly all interior steps except those leading up to the Chancel. White lines have been painted on many external steps but others have not been done or the paint is wearing out. The Fabric Team are looking at this problem and will see which steps need to be repainted or painted for the first time.

3. *Monuments, Pulpit and Font*

The pulpit contains an unattached gate that Ben Stokes tried to install to stop children getting into it. However, the faces of the entrance are not parallel and it has not been possible to attach the gate so far. Perhaps we should try to find some other way of preventing children getting access. The set of 3 steps up to the pulpit has no hand rails and is another source of danger to children. There is a nail or screw sticking out of the pulpit near the pulpit entrance (used for attaching the finial) and this would be dangerous if someone caught their skin on it. It needs to be sawn off (Action: CC). The cover of the font at the rear of the church is still loose but I can't see how to fix it. I am not aware that any of the wall monuments are unsafe. However, some of them are extremely heavy and we must hope that they were well fixed when hung and that the wall is strong enough to continue to hold them (see previous note).

4. *Electrical Equipment and Fire Extinguishers*

Gary now arranges for the fire extinguishers to be checked annually at the same time as those in the Centre and Hub.

The proliferation of Microphone wires in the chancel when the music group set up their instruments every Sunday morning has been a concern. I am pleased to say that the position is now much improved after the addition of new access 'points'. However, there is little that can be done as the system is not wireless. Under the ROCK programme we anticipate wireless technology will significantly help this situation.

Risk Register and Management

As is required by the Charity Commission we must have in place a Risk Management protocol which looks at multiple categories including:

Church Finances

Strategy and Leadership

Building Safety

Catering

Legal and Governance

Insurance

Communications and Publicity

Data Protection

Employment Processes & Health and Safety

Children and Youth

Mike Everson has been key in collating the required information with key staff to ensure we have processes and practices in place that minimize the risk to the people meeting with us and those wishing to hire our facilities. This in turn enables the PCC to make strategic decisions for the future of the fellowship when and how it meets. The Risk Register is available for those wishing to examine it.

Miscellaneous Items

1. A gate protecting the steps down to the crypt would be a good addition to ensure nobody falls down them and to prevent the space being used in an undesirable way (*Action: Fabric Team*).
2. Clutter presents a fire risk and should be avoided if possible. An effort has been made to reduce the amount of clutter that is left in the main church building. The wardens have disposed of significant amounts of clutter left in church. The Gallery is becoming

clearer but there is still quite a bit left to do. The Fabric team would like to hire a skip and have a "Clear the Clutter" day and will remove items of junk from the gallery and the Crypt. Let's get rid of it! (*Action: Fabric Team, and anyone who wants to help- ASAP*)

3. There is another problem in the gallery. In the North West corner, it is evident that there is a damp problem. As a result, the plaster is coming off the wall in chunks. Some of the bulging plaster is at more than head height and could cause harm if they fell on someone. I am also concerned that this may be weakening the support to the wall monuments there. Clearly the source of the damp needs to be found and removed if possible (*Action: The Fabric Team are already aware of the problem and are arranging repointing*).
4. The path to the rear of church up to the disabled entrance gets covered in moss and earth and is slippery and dangerous. It needs to be properly cleaned (*Action: Caretaker*).
5. Vestry fires. In the Vicar's vestry, there is a gas(?) fire that is never(?) used (or checked?). Should it be decommissioned? In the choir vestry, there is an electric fire that is never used. Should it be decommissioned? (*Action: Fabric Team*)
6. Drains. There is lots of debris on the drain covers outside church. When we get a new caretaker, who is responsible for the church as well as the Centre and Hub, this is the sort of routine problem that will hopefully be sorted.

Peter Ward & Paddy Gleave, Church Wardens, February 2022

Deanery Synod Report to the 2022 APCM

There are 19 deaneries – groups of parishes and benefices – in the Diocese of Bath and Wells. The aim of deanery synod is to support and strengthen the parishes in common mission across the deanery.

As usual, the Bath Deanery Synod have met 3 times this year. Our meeting in May was entitled "Coming out of Exile". The meeting was on zoom, but we opened it up to anyone who wanted to attend. We were delighted to welcome Revd Canon Patrick Whitworth who spoke about his book "Prepare for exile", relating it to churches coming out of the last year of lockdown. The meeting was well attended and much appreciated.

We met in September, in person but with a zoom link as well. We had discussions about how churches were coping with adjustments for covid while trying to get to a new normal, as well as discussing progress various churches were making the "Living in Love

and Faith” agenda produced by the national church. A Deanery wide LLF course was set up to run from January, and other churches are running their own courses. We also discussed the conference that was planned at the Abbey on Innovations in church. However, unfortunately, the conference had to be cancelled subsequently, due to lack of interest.

In March 2021, the Diocesan Synod declared a Climate Emergency and committed to cut emissions to Net Zero by 2030, which means that all the churches need to consider what we can do to be more environmentally friendly. In January, we had another open meeting, to consider “Green” initiatives with speakers from Christian Action For the Environment and Transition Bath. There was also an opportunity for representatives from the churches to inspire us with the initiatives they have already taken.

If anyone would like more information about the deanery, please contact Pippa Page ppage198@gmail.com.

Pippa Page, Deanery Synod Representative, February 2022