



# 2020 Annual Report and Accounts for the Parochial Church Council of St. Dunstan's Church, Feltham Registered Charity 1193012

## **Aim and Purposes**

Feltham Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the Vicar and Churchwardens, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for St. Dunstan's church and its surrounding churchyard (closed to burials), and St. Dunstan's Church Centre with its gardens.

## **Objectives and Activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and become part of our parish community at St. Dunstan; to enriching the faith of participants; and to living out the demands of the Gospel in the wider community. One objective is to offer a range of opportunities to worship, and a range of activities incorporating worship, prayer or Christian teaching. Another objective is to offer parishioners a time and place to meet and socialise, often at no cost to themselves. Some of our activities are designed to contribute to both these objectives. The objectives are held in common with our ecumenical partner church, Southville Methodist; some activities are jointly provided and there is a fruitful interchange of energy and skills between the two churches. A third objective is to maintain and offer the Church Centre as a resource to meet some of the social needs in the parish, as well as a base for church activities.

Activities in summary: prior to the lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic, regular worship included two services of Holy Communion each Sunday as well as one on a weekday; one Sunday service offered Junior Church for those aged 3 to 12 years. Regular activities in pursuit of the first objective included a Young People's Fellowship and a Lent course. Activities which contributed to both of the first two objectives included a Baby and Toddler group, Messy Church sessions, a weekly coffee drop-in group and a monthly women's group; all of these were open to all. On the third objective, the two flats in the church centre were occupied by families with young children; other parts of the building were used by a regular music class for young children, a tutoring school for maths and English students and a crochet group for migrant women as well as activities listed above.

Since Easter 2020 each Sunday we have held one service on-line via Zoom™ and sent mailings providing service sheets and resources to the whole congregation. When we were able to hold services in church there was one service on Sundays in addition to the on-line service, plus a weekday service of Morning Prayer. When restrictions were eased, we were able to welcome our tutoring school back into the church centre.

## Achievements and Performance

### *Worship and Prayer*

The parish's pattern of worship pre-pandemic is given under objectives and activities. The Ecumenical parish Newsletter and Prayer sheet is sent out each week and placed on our website. Through this and phone calls at the beginning of the first lockdown we invited everyone to join in the Lord's prayer at 10am each Sunday. Since Holy Week 2020 we have provide printed materials for worship at home, and have used some of these materials in our Zoom™ services. Our first service on Zoom™ was held on Easter Sunday and these Sunday services have continued every week for the rest of 2020 and into 2021. It was first held at 10am beginning with the Lord's Prayer to unite those worshipping at home alone with those meeting together on-line. We thank Ian Stuchbury who introduced us to the technology and has sent out invitations and reminders about the services and acts as our on-line welcomer and steward, admitting worshippers and addressing technical issues.

We placed on our websites video and written reflections for Holy Week and Easter and each week a recording of our Sunday Zoom™ service, plus material from our mailings. When the church reopened in the summer we held one Sunday service of Holy Communion and a midweek service of Morning Prayer. During the second lockdown we opened for individual prayer and then reopened for one service on Sundays. We held an outdoor Christingle service and a Christmas midnight communion service in the church which we recorded for our website. We also held a Christmas morning service on Zoom™. With great regret at very short notice we cancelled an outdoor carol service and an in-church service of readings and carols with a very small group of singers. We stopped holding services in church at the end of December in response to the urgent request of our Borough's Director of Public Health for all places of worship in our Borough to close. We reopened on Palm Sunday.

St Dunstan's Prayer Group has continued to intercede for individual needs.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. We have celebrated 1 baptism and 5 funerals in our church this year and one memorial service. At the closing date for forms to be received, the Electoral Roll for 2020 stood at 97 of whom 30 are non-resident in the parish. In the course of the year, eight names were removed from the roll and 1 added.

*Rev. Anne Dollery (Vicar)*

*Gary Welland (Electoral Roll Officer)*

### *Hounslow Deanery Synod*

The Deanery Synod met twice this year.

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020 held at St Leonard's Heston

The subject was the forthcoming deanery Mission which Bishop Graham had instigated in the deanery for the coming summer. Members of the Synod were invited to share with the group ideas for mission events or strategies that had worked in their parish.

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020 held on Zoom™

Deanery Champions were introduced for Community engagement- Revd Andy Watkins; Vocations- Revd Elis Mathews and Evangelism- Revd Martine Osbourne. The Diocesan 2030 Vision was presented by Bishop Graham. Ambitions for this vision have been taken from the 2020 Vision and include making Confident Disciples, Compassionate Communities and Creative Growth. The priorities of the vision include Growing Younger: which includes reaching young people and supporting parents to bring up their children; Growing Safer: which includes promoting a safer culture, responding to every safeguarding concern or allegation and caring for victims and survivors of abuse; Growing More Racially Diverse: which includes combating racism, saying sorry, making real changes and being a community where people from diverse cultural backgrounds can be visible and contribute at every level.

Thank you to our Deanery Synod Rep Derek Perry who stood down at our last Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in October 2020 and to our new Deanery Synod Reps Rachel Stuchbury and Marilyn Wade.

*Rev. Anne Dollery (Vicar)*

### *The Church and Church Centre*

Despite Covid-19 restrictions it was possible to have remedial work carried out on the gutters and stand pipes as well as a thorough inspection and clean. Quotes have been sought for the replacement of a badly rotted window in the upstairs storeroom and the downstairs fire escape and these works represent the current priority issue in the church centre. The church remains structurally sound and our quinquennial inspection is now due. There have been no incidents of vandalism or security issues during the year despite the church being closed for significant periods due to Covid-19 restrictions. Tenders have been received for the improvement works in the church and a fundraising group has been established and will meet shortly. I would like to thank everyone for their support in what has been a challenging year.

*Duncan Forsyth (Churchwarden)*

### *Nurture and Education*

During this difficult year we have tried to provide opportunities for all. Packs have been sent out to our families, including Messy Church at home materials, and mailings, candles and booklets with activities for Advent and Lent. Outdoors there was a chance to make Christingles in the churchyard and to collect a plant for Mothering Sunday. We have kept in phone contact with many of the more vulnerable and senior members of our congregation and have provided assistance when asked by those needing to stay indoors. 'Open the Book' is currently on hold due to the situation in the local schools (but the group has kept in touch with four schools by email, story books and cards). For most of the year face to face contact with junior church, messy church, drop in coffee mornings and the baby and toddler group has not been possible. The Coffee Drop-in group have kept in regular contact with each other by phone and letter and have done some craft and knitting at home. Bible studies have been held on Zoom™ as have coffee & lunch time chats. Our Zoom™ services have been much appreciated during the lockdowns and have provided continuity of worship and an important sense of community. They have also been uploaded to our website every week and have been regularly watched by those unable to be with us on a Sunday morning. Whilst attending services on-line is welcomed by some, meeting together for worship and fellowship in church is important for many. In the light of our experiences during the pandemic, the PCC will shortly be considering how to develop our worship. Who knows what the future may hold!

*Ruth Stevens (Group Convenor)*

### *Ecumenical Relationships*

In the absence of a Chairperson I have pleasure in reporting on ecumenical activities between Lent 2020 and Easter 2021 as follows:

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and our numerous lockdowns I am sure you will not be surprised to hear that there has been little opportunity to carry out the various events & activities that Southville and St. Dunstan's have previously been able to share in. Although, saying that, we have been fortunate enough to be able to keep in touch with each other via our weekly notices and reflections, together with WhatsApp and text messaging and this has given us an opportunity to offer support and prayer across the two Churches.

When the first lockdown was announced we had just started our Lent Groups for 2020 but sadly these had to cease with immediate effect. Consequently there were no Holy Week services either - but what a difference a year has made.

As quite a number of us had mastered the art of 'Zooming' with relative ease, it was decided to hold a Lent group for 2021 via the internet or on the telephone. We followed a course written by Liz Babbs called 'Transformed by the presence of Jesus.' The course was exceptionally well attended on a regular basis by six members from Southville and 10 from St. Dunstan's.

Holy Week services took place with a meditation service from Southville on the Wednesday of Holy Week and some of Southville's members were also able to join in the Maundy Thursday evening service from St. Dunstan's via Zoom™.

Although no face to face meetings have been held during this time representatives from Southville and St. Dunstan's met together via the internet for a festive 'Mingle and Jingle' led by Southville. (A festive carrier bag with cracker, biscuits and quiz sheets were delivered to each guest thanks to Marilyn, Maggie, Robina and Jonathan) and for a prayer and social get together led by Rev. Anne on 17th January 2021. Again, these were well attended and enjoyed by all and I for one enjoyed seeing everybody.

An auction to support Christian Aid was held (mainly by email) and donations totalling over £400 were made to the charity. Throughout the pandemic emails, cards and story books for Christmas and Easter have been sent to the four schools we support through Open the Book and we look forward to a time when schools are able to open their doors to us once again.

Gradually as lockdown eases we at Southville look forward to a time when we can meet together and make plans to further our mission in Feltham.

*Marilyn Woodley (Southville Methodist Church Rep)*

#### *Churches Together in Bedfont, Feltham and Hanworth*

As usual a joint service for the World Day of Prayer (WDP) was held in March 2020, kindly hosted by All Saints Hanworth. Shortly thereafter all activities became impossible; no AGM was held in October 2020. As Secretary I apologised for this (by a general email) and suggested that a Zoom™ service for WDP 2021 could be a chance to get together again. Anne Dollery very kindly agreed to lead it. However, it turned out that WDP had recorded an exciting service with women in many countries contributing; it was recommended to the mailing list that people watch that service instead. What the future holds for our Churches Together branch is not clear, as the current Chair is moving on in July.

*Rachel Stuchbury (Churches Together Secretary)*

#### *Volunteers*

Church doesn't just happen and without the many volunteers who give up their time to make sure we function as a worshipping community we would be a bit stuck. This year has seen a lot of change necessitated by Covid-19 and the introduction of worship and meetings via Zoom™. Ian Stuchbury has played a vital role in making this technology work for us and people have engaged with it amazingly. Special thanks goes to all who have helped with delivering our parish mailings and particularly Rachel Stuchbury who played a major part in delivering far and wide. Thank you for whatever role you play and however much it has changed over the last year. Every contribution is valuable and as we emerge from the pandemic there will be new challenges and we will all be called to respond in our own ways.

*Duncan Forsyth (Churchwarden)*

In particular, I want to mention our churchwarden Duncan Forsyth who works so tirelessly on our behalf, Ruth Stevens his Deputy and Ian Stuchbury who has worked so hard with the church's accounts and its finances.

*Rev. Anne Dollery (Vicar)*

#### **Financial Review**

Like many other churches, St Dunstan's was closed for three quarters of the year. Our Church Centre was also closed which meant that our regular music school and tutoring bookings were often suspended. A major outbreak of dry rot in the Church Centre caused by a leaking lavatory required significant repair work to be carried out in the spring and early summer. We were fortunate to secure a grant from the diocese which covered most of the costs of this work. As a result of this grant, our income exceeded £100,000 for the first time which meant that we were required by law to register with the Charity Commission. Registration was completed in early January 2021. For many church members, parish finances are something of a closed book. In an attempt to remedy this, the PCC agreed that I should produce an occasional addition to our weekly newsletter explaining the work of the treasurer and some of the details of the operation and funding of the parish. These 'Treasury Notes' have been produced about every 6 weeks and the feedback from readers has been very positive.

**Income:** Income for the year was £105,282. Ignoring the exceptional item of the grant of £25,000, this was around £10,000 less than in 2019. Closure of the church resulted in service collections being reduced by around £3,000 and ecclesiastical fees by over £1,800. Stewardship donations via the envelope scheme were down by around £3,800 and income from fund raising and social activities was down by around £1,650. The closure of the Church Centre reduced its income by around £3,100. Against these, general donations were £4,400 more than in 2019 and I would like to thank everyone who responded to our requests for financial support during the year. During the lockdowns with no services in church we were able to take advantage of the government's 'furlough' scheme to recover some of the pay of our organists David and Beryl. This saved us £740 over the year.

**Expenditure:** Expenditure for the year was £102,091. Normal expenditure in 2020 was roughly the same as in 2019. When lockdown began, the parishioner, whose loan for work on the Church Centre was still outstanding, agreed a pause in repayments until it was clear what the financial effects of the pandemic would be. This reduced our expenditure by £3,500. The repairs to the Church Centre amounted to £22,975 and there was also £8,700 spent on refurbishing the bathroom in Flat 39B St Dunstan's Road. The bathroom work was carried out in 2019 but not invoiced until 2020. We also spent £9,396 on architects fees for completing the tender documents for the proposed improvements to the church and for creating a 3D computer model of the access ramp which was required by the London Borough of Hounslow before they gave planning permission for the changes. In October we requested a water meter for the vicarage as we are paying over £500 per year and with just one person living there the metered cost should be much lower. Affinity Water are still in the process of determining whether it is possible to fit a meter.

**Church Centre:** Income for the year was £50,385, expenditure £44,809 giving a small surplus. These figures, inflated by the £25,000 grant, mask the reduction in normal income due to the closure of the building for most of 2020. They also benefit from the pause in loan repayments. Income from the two flats remained similar to 2019 with no significant maintenance issues.

**Conclusion:** Overall there was a small surplus for the year of £3,292. However, the balance of funds has changed significantly due to the architect's fees reducing the Development (Restricted) fund to £264 from £7,533. The Unrestricted General Fund has increased to £13,378. Our liabilities have been reduced significantly to £18,500. We have a plan in place to eliminate these by the end of 2023 as agreed with the diocese. In 2021 we will need to replace the rear exit door from the Church Centre and one of the upstairs windows which is suffering from dry rot. We will also be arranging for the Quinquennial review of the church which is likely to result in additional expenditure.

*Ian Stuchbury (Treasurer)*

## **Reserves Policy**

All PCCs are required to have a reserves policy. This policy is intended to ensure that in the event of some major disruption to the income of the parish it will be able to meet its financial commitments, at least in the short to medium term. The PCC aims to have £5,000 in reserves and at the end of the year, with the General Fund standing at £13,378 we have met that requirement for 2020.

## **Plans for the Future**

Looking forward to 2021, our priority is to make progress on the plans for the addition of toilet and kitchen facilities in the church and the provision of a ramp to provide disabled access to the building. We have received planning permission from the London Borough of Hounslow for the disabled access and will shortly be submitting the plans for the church to the Diocesan Advisory Committee for approval. The fund raising group is starting to work on a community audit to identify local needs and how we might make use of our buildings to meet some of them. They are also putting together the information needed to approach grant making bodies.

## Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St. Dunstan's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our vicar), churchwardens and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the Electoral Roll of the church. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. The PCC met nine times in 2020. The average level of attendance was 82%. Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the APCM was delayed until 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020. For the same reason, the normal pattern of meetings with the full PCC meeting every other month and sub-groups representing Resources, Buildings, and Nurture and Education meeting in the intervening months was suspended. Instead, the full PCC met via Zoom™ roughly once a month.

## Administrative Information 2020

St Dunstan's Church, Parish of Feltham  
Parish Office, 39 St Dunstan's Road, Feltham, Middx. TW13 4JY

The Parish of Feltham is part of the Diocese of London, Sub-diocese of Kensington, within the Church of England.

Until January 2021 the PCC was a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the APCM in accordance with the Church Representation Rules

### Membership

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

*Incumbent:* Revd Anne Dollery

*Curate:*

*Wardens:* Duncan Forsyth Vice Chairman  
Vacancy

### *Representatives on*

*The Deanery Synod:* Derek Perry (Until APCM 2020)  
Rachel Stuchbury (From APCM 2020)  
Marilyn Wade (From APCM 2020)

*Elected Members:* Joyce Cross  
Catherine Day (Until APCM 2020 (Secretary))  
Kenneth Deane  
Louise Hunter (From APCM 2020)  
Mary Therese Lee  
Anthony McManus (Until Dec 2020 – moved away)  
John Mockett (From APCM 2019)  
Alan Rice  
Ian Stuchbury Treasurer  
Rachel Stuchbury (Until APCM 2020)  
Marilyn Wade (Until APCM 2020)

Approved by the PCC on the 26th April 2021 and signed on their behalf by the Reverend Anne Dollery (PCC Chair)

AD  
26<sup>th</sup> April 2021