

Report to Christ Church Moreton Hall annual Parish Council Meeting

1. Introduction

It is just under twelve months since our previous APCM. During this time, we have faced the challenge of responding to frequent changes in Covid regulations, in order to protect members of the church whilst sustaining worship and pastoral support for our congregation and the wider community.

With the most recent easing of restrictions our focus is now moving towards rebuilding church-based activities whilst retaining an appropriate online presence and in church safeguards for those continuing to wear facemasks and elements of social distancing.

2. Information

Our meetings were held on the following dates:

Tuesday 13th April, 2021
Tuesday 4th May, 2021
Monday 24th May, 2021
Monday 5th July, 2021
Monday 27th July, 2021
Monday 6th September 2021
Monday 4th October, 2021
Monday 1st November, 2021
Monday 6th December, 2021
Monday 10th January, 2022
Monday 7th March, 2022

The church has seen many encouraging sign of recovery and growth during the year. There has been a steady rise in the size of the congregation attending church. In addition, previous groups using church have returned and a number of new groups have been welcomed, including Macmillan Cancer, yoga for mothers and babies and a concert band.

We also have an impressive list of church activities in addition to regular church services including:-

- Sunday school
- Kids church (Sunday afternoons)
- Church home groups
- ALPHA
- Prayer group
- Decaff. dementia support group
- Ladies group
- Coffee club
- Mental health awareness

Many thanks are due to the contributions made by the leaders and members of these groups. We have been anxious to encourage feedback from church members on what they felt about the church using a church survey. A further survey was undertaken to obtain feedback on how members

of the congregation felt about the Covid restrictions in the church to establish whether we could the action to bring more people back to church by informing how we applied Covid restrictions within the regulatory framework. Throughout this time the church has sought to ensure it is sensitive to the welfare and safety of the congregation.

A safeguarding action plan has been drawn up, assessments undertaken and all church activities are being included. The PCC is very grateful for all the work Heather has undertaken on this which she has volunteered to continue managing after she steps down as a church warden and member of the PCC.

Given the financial pressure which the church has faced due to Covid we were anxious to rebuild our resources and a most successful Gift Day was held in October and thanks are due to members of the congregation for their generous contributions. This has gone some way to giving us a healthier financial position and enabled the church to move towards meeting its agreed parish share contribution to the Diocese. Thanks had been received from the Diocese for the efforts the church and made.

The PCC has also overseen action on many fronts including:

- the tendering of insurances, ably overseen by Graham Unsworth
- revision of hire charges for use of church facilities
- a successful art weekend on 18th and 19th September which included over a hundred works of art and attracted numerous visitors to the church generating a financial surplus and bringing new members of the congregation.
- repairs to the lightning conductor damaged by a storm, and
- planning the Jubilee celebrations.
- making sure our fire safety policy and procedures are up to date.

3. Summary

It has been a busy year in which the following has been achieved:

- We have successfully adapted to meet the challenges we have faced and complied with the changing Covid and safeguarding framework.
- We have undertaken many new initiatives led by members of the congregation to lay the foundations for the future.
- We are prepared for the opportunities which will arise with the lifting of Covid restrictions.
- We are developing mission and evangelism through ALPHA and the initiatives for children and young people.

4. Conclusion

Finally, it is important to pay tribute to all the members of the church, volunteers and members of the PCC for their work and commitment.