

Parochial Church Council Report for 2021/2022.

The PCC is made up of all the licensed Clergy, Lay workers in the Parish, Benefice or Team, The Churchwardens, Lay representatives on the Deanery Synod and a number of elected Lay members who must also be on the Electoral Roll.

For anyone who is unsure of the functions of the PCC, it is generally to:-

- Consult together with the Minister concerning matters of general concern and importance to the parish, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical.
- Consider and discuss matters concerning the Church of England.
- Make known and put into effect any provisions made by the Diocesan Synod.
- Give advice to the Diocesan Synod on any matters referred to the PCC.
- Be Trustees for the church, ensure respect for the law, and be in line with Charity Commission regulations.

Who would have thought at the last Annual Parochial Church Meeting that the PCC would still have to be dealing with restrictions concerning Covid twelve months later. The lock downs and restrictions made transactions considerably more difficult to organise and complete but due to the drive imparted by the PCC Chairman Revd. Canon Peter Reiss and the versatility of our members, most PCC business was completed successfully. This was a significant achievement, as many small companies were unable to cope with the disruption involved and disappeared.

The Churchwardens were also particularly active in ensuring the PCC affairs were carried through. Church Services needed special provisions being put into place to ensure that the regulations appertaining to Covid were followed and they complied with government and Diocesan stipulations at any one time. The measures required of course changed several times during the year and required several up-dates being put in place.

The restrictions made the affairs of the parish difficult to manage, but with new technology systems available the PCC managed to function surprisingly well. Ten meetings were held during the period since the last APCM. Meetings using Zoom technology were a new experience and gave everyone a chance to see inside other member's houses, even if they had to tidy up beforehand!

Income has been seriously reduced since all the Covid restrictions meant regular functions which raised money were unable to be held, and plate collections were reduced by low numbers in the congregation at times. However our previous and current Treasurers kept a close eye on expenditure, and the parish managed to keep its head above water, even with the large sums recorded in the Fabric Reports having to be financed. The Parish Share which is required by the Diocese (£44,880 for 2021) was able to be paid in full. A fine achievement in these difficult times.

In July 2021, Reverend Hannah Lane joined the Clergy at Turton and has been a great asset. As a former teacher she has brought lots of ideas with her particularly in respect of encouraging children and young people to take part in church activities. We look forward to her continuing association with us.

"Around The Spire", our parish magazine is no longer published, one of the casualties of covid. Thanks must be expressed to Diane and Stephen Shields together with Malcolm Dowle for their long association with publishing the magazine. Information concerning church activities is now available on the website and Facebook; Facebook membership has more than tripled since lockdown to nearly 600.

Ross Heron, PCC Secretary.