

# **St Michael and All Angels Church**

## **Annual Report 2019**



**Wadenhoe  
Parochial Church Council**

# St Michael and All Angels Church, Wadenhoe

## Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2019

### 1. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

St Michael and All Angels Church stands on an ancient site at the top of a hillspur, isolated from the village of Wadenhoe which lies below by the River Nene. It is part of the Diocese of Peterborough within the Church of England and is listed as number 1227141 on the Register of the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) as a Grade II\* historic protected building.



#### A. Addresses for correspondence:

**The Revd Canon Brian Withington**  
The Rectory  
60 Main Street  
Aldwinckle  
Kettering NN14 3EP

**OR**      **Mr Stephen Hall**  
PCC Secretary  
Manor Farm  
Wadenhoe  
Peterborough PE8 5SX

#### B. PCC Members who have served from 01 January 2019 until the date this report was approved:

<b>Incumbent:</b>	<b>The Revd Canon Brian Withington</b>	<b>Chair</b>
<b>Churchwarden 1: Churchwarden 2:</b>	<b>Mr Rodney Sinclair</b> <i>Position not filled</i>	<b>Vice-Chair &amp; Treasurer</b>
<b>Deanery Synod Representative:</b>	<i>Position not filled</i>	
<b>Elected Members:</b>	<b>Mr Stephen Hall Mrs Rachel Barritt Mr Jake Locke Mrs Faye Henchy</b>	<b>PCC Secretary Electoral Roll Officer</b>

### C. General:

<b>Patrons:</b> (The right of presentation is exercised jointly.)	<b>The Wadenhoe Trust</b> <b>Peterborough Diocesan Board of Patronage</b> <b>The Society of Merchant Venturers</b> <b>The Bishop of Peterborough</b>
<b>Bankers:</b>	<b>Barclays Bank plc</b> Oundle Branch, 2 New Street, Oundle PE8 4EB
<b>Investment Funds:</b>	<b>CBF Church of England Deposit Fund</b> Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4ET
<b>Legal Advisers:</b>	<b>Hunt &amp; Coombs Solicitors</b> 4 New Street, Oundle PE8 4ED
<b>Insurance Company:</b>	<b>Ecclesiastical Insurance</b> Beaufort House, Brunswick Road, Gloucester GL1 1JZ
<b>Independent Examiner:</b>	<b>Mr Andrew Kemp</b> 3 St Andrews Lane, Titchmarsh, Kettering NN14 3DN
<b>Church Architect:</b>	<b>Mr Jeremy Lander</b> MA(Cantab) Dip Arch RIBA AABC Freeland Rees Roberts Architects, 25 City Road, Cambridge CB1 1DP

## 2. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and is a Charity currently exempted by Statutory Instrument from registering with the Charity Commission.

The method of appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules. The membership of the PCC consists of the Incumbent (the Rector), the Churchwarden and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the Church. All Church attendees 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. New members receive initial instruction into the workings of the PCC.

It was agreed by the PCC that there was an insufficient number of members to warrant a Standing Committee.

### **3. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

St Michael and All Angels' PCC has the duty and responsibility with the incumbent, the Revd Canon Brian Withington, to consult together on matters of general concern and importance to the parish and to cooperate in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

This responsibility is reinforced by our commitment to the Mission Statement, namely, *"The Church exists to make the Gospel relevant to everyday life and to serve the whole community by strengthening the fellowship, practice and heritage of Christian life and worship"*.

The PCC has ultimate responsibility for a wide range of matters affecting the Parish, including such matters as compliance with legislation in regard to Health and Safety, Fire Risk and Safety, Disability Access, Data Protection and also in the Safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults. Appropriate training is provided, when necessary.

The PCC also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church of St Michael and All Angels in Wadenhoe.

**Matters for Attention in 2020.** The following maintenance matters which were raised in the Quinquennial Report require attention. The PCC agreed to the necessary work being carried out at a cost of £4,655:

- Re-leading of five poor condition windows
- Replacement of six window guards.

To date, two window guards have been replaced at a cost of £950 and one window re-leaded in 2019 at a cost of £490. The remaining work is in hand and should be completed in 2020.

### **4. PARISH SUPPORT ACTIVITIES.**

Parish support activities are co-ordinated/carried out by regular churchgoers as well as several villagers of other faiths and non-churchgoers. The PCC thanks all the willing helpers for their contribution in keeping the Church as an ongoing and vital centre of the community.

**Sidespersons.** All members of the PCC and Daphne Hall.

**Lessons Schedules.** The Churchwarden liaises with the officiating minister and acts as principal lesson reader but whenever possible members of the PCC or parishioners from the congregation are encouraged to read.

**Sacristan's and Verger's Duties** (*None appointed*). Preparation of the church for all services and briefing the minister is normally carried out by the Churchwarden and members of the PCC.

**Bell Ringing (Arthur Dicks)**. Benefice bell-ringers support the Wadenhoe bell ringing team. Bell ringing practice takes place on a Wednesday evening.

**Refreshments after morning Services (Patrecia Sinclair/Rachel Barritt/Daphne Hall)**. Coffee and biscuits are available after each morning communion service. This continues to have a strong bonding effect and encourages people to stay behind and take the opportunity to talk with others who possibly are not seen regularly within the village.

**Eucharist Assistant**. Mrs Yvonne Gunn.

**Cleaning**. Currently members of the PCC clean the church. It would be appreciated if volunteers would come forward to help with the cleaning of the church twice a month, i.e. before the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday services, at a time to suit their convenience, as the church is always open during the day. This involves dusting, sweeping the floor and vacuum cleaning the sanctuary carpet.

**Daily locking and unlocking of the Church (Shaun Barritt)**. The church is usually left unlocked during the day. While there have been thefts and acts of vandalism in the church in previous years, there is a strong feeling within the PCC that it should continue to be opened every day notwithstanding these dangers. Not only is the church a spiritual place where people can pray in peace, but it is of historic interest and also one of the tourist attractions of Wadenhoe village and hence a significant source of bookstall income from passers-by purchasing booklets/post cards.

**Churchyard – Grass Cutting (Stephen Hall)**. Mowing of the grass in the churchyard is proving very difficult because of the uneven ground caused mainly by anthills and rabbit holes. A number of volunteers offered their services and have since mowed the grass. Help is always much needed and appreciated.

**Flowers (Rachel Barritt)**. Anyone wishing to provide flowers in the church is welcome to do so. Our thanks to Rachel Barritt, Fay Watson and Patrecia Sinclair for providing and arranging the flowers and greenery when decorating the church for the special services during the year.

**Pink Sheet Newsletter distribution (Rodney Sinclair/Rachel Barritt)**. Copies of the Pink Sheet newsletter are delivered to all the households in the village.

**Organists**. Jean Wignell plays the organ for the Evensong services and other special occasion services while Sofia Line cares for the morning communion services. Our thanks to them.

**Register of Wadenhoe Church Rectors.** A list was drafted of the known Rectors of the Church over the past 800 years from 1231 (Henricus De Lenn) until the present day (Brian Withington). The register was framed and hung in the Church.

## 5. ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

**Church attendance.** Wadenhoe has two services per month with a Holy Communion service on each 2nd Sunday at 10.30 am and an Evensong service on each 4th Sunday at 6.00 pm. The average Church attendance at the morning Communion service in 2019 was 15 adults, but this number can be much larger at Easter and Christmas festivals. Average Evensong attendance is 8 adults.

### Services during the year.

<b>Palm Sunday:</b> <i>(Including a procession led by 'Nikita' the donkey up the hill from the village hall)</i>	14 <sup>th</sup> April 2019
<b>Harvest Thanksgiving Service:</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> September 2019
<b>Remembrance Day Sunday Service:</b> <i>(At War Memorial)</i>	10 <sup>th</sup> November 2019
<b>Crib Service:</b> <i>(Including a procession of three sheep into the church and a donkey.)</i>	24 <sup>th</sup> December 2019
<b>Wedding:</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> July 2019 Georgina Hall and David Stoye 
<b>Marriage Blessing after Civil Marriage:</b>	<i>None</i>
<b>Baptisms:</b>	<i>None</i>
<b>Funeral Service &amp; Burial:</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> May 2019 – Alan Gordon Seton Pollock
<b>Funeral Service/Cremation:</b>	<i>None</i>
<b>Confirmations:</b>	<i>None</i>

## Special Church Services

- **Sunrise Service at 5.30 am on Easter Sunday – 21<sup>st</sup> April 2019.** Some 27 people attended the service. This was followed by breakfast, cooked and provided by Rachel and Shaun Barritt, in the Village Hall. Many thanks.
- **Patronal Festival Service.** A special Evensong Service to celebrate the Michaelmas/ Feast of St Michael and All Angels was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2019.
- **Christmas Eve Crib Service.** Attendance this year was 237 people – 58 children and 179 adults. The PCC wrote and thanked:



Stable Setting in Church

- Jane Woodbridge and Martin Wallis for bringing three of their sheep to this special service, - *a Jacob, a Dartmoor and a Swiss Valais Blacknose sheep.*
- Chelsey Bailey for bringing her donkey to the service.
- Pete and Sam Prior for providing and erecting the “stable door” in the church, which sets the scene for the Crib service-

Special thanks to Rachel Barritt and Patrecia Sinclair for providing the refreshments (mulled wine and mince pies and for the children, sweets and soft drinks) after the service. Also thanks to Fay and Peter Watson, Patrecia Sinclair and Rachel Barritt for supplying the greenery and decorating the Church for the service.

**Electoral Roll.** At date of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2019, there were 21 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, two of whom are resident outside the parish.

**Wadenhoe Church Website** (<https://www.wadenhoechurch.org.uk>) (**Faye Henchy**). The website has now been linked to the “A Church Near You” Website’ (<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/16673/>) and to the Oundle Deanery Website (<https://www.oundledeanery.wordpress.com/>). Many thanks to Faye for creating and maintaining the site.

**Online and Text Donations (Faye Henchy).** To help with fundraising for the preservation and maintenance of the ancient building, the Church is now registered to receive ‘Online’ and ‘Text’ Donations.

- To make an online donation, visit - [www.easydonate.org/WADEN](http://www.easydonate.org/WADEN)
- To make a £5 Text donation, - Text: **WADEN** to **70970**

**Carol Singing - 19.12.2019.** The ‘*Wadenhoe Carol Singers Ensemble*’ was in fine voice in their travels around the village on a miserably cold, wet and blustery evening and as a well deserved reward for their efforts they received the sum of £50 in donations for church funds. Thanks to Faye Henchy and Rachel Barritt for organising the event and to Rachel for providing the finger supper afterwards.

**Student Cross – Easter Pilgrimage to Walsingham.** As they have done for more than 40 years, the Kettering Leg of Student Cross undertook the 120 mile pilgrimage to Walsingham in the week before Easter, carrying the Cross to the Anglican Shrine of our Lady of Walsingham. They started the walk on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April with the objective of arriving in Walsingham on Good Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> April, and stayed overnight in Wadenhoe’s

Village Hall. The next day (Palm Sunday) the 26 pilgrims assembled for prayers in the church before continuing their journey to Walsingham. The prayers were led by Paul Wilkinson, a retired clergyman and a leader of the group.



The Pilgrim Cross laid down in the Church for prayers

Pilgrims carrying the Cross on their journey to Walsingham



## **6. REVIEW OF THE YEAR**

**Revd Dr Beatrice Brandon.** As Beatrice's tenure as the Archbishop's Adviser for Healing Ministry had come to a close, it was considered appropriate by Bishop Donald for her to be licensed as an Assistant Priest in the Seven Churches Benefice. The PCC agreed to the proposal and she was licensed in the Benefice at a special service led by Bishop Donald at Titchmarsh Church on Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

**PCC Meetings.** The PCC met five times during the year plus the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM).

**Fabric (Rodney Sinclair/Stephen Hall).** The church building and churchyard generally are in reasonable condition. A window in poor condition was re-leaded at a cost of £490. In addition, electricians replaced six faulty Nave and Aisle spotlight lamps with LED lamps and PAT tested three portable heaters in the bell tower at a cost of £282.83.

**Fire Safety Risk Assessment Policy, Health and Safety Policy and the Disability Access Audit Check.** These policies have been reviewed and found to comply with statutory requirements.

**Policy for Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults.** The full Policy was reviewed and approved by the PCC on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2019. The PCC complies with both the duty of care to ensure the protection of the vulnerable in the church community and the duty to have "due regard" to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

**General Data Protection Regulations 2018 (GDPR).** The PCC is committed to respecting the privacy of all those for whom it holds personal information which is kept and processed in accordance with GDPR legislation. Personal information is always treated as confidential and, in compliance with our legal responsibilities, will only be shared for lawful purposes associated, but not restricted, to church business.

**Testing of Memorials in Churchyard.** The PCC agreed to sign up to the procedures laid down in the Chancellor's Practice Direction Form 2012/01 whereby the need to apply for a Faculty is not required before testing of memorials is carried out.

**Harvest Supper.** The usual tri-village event (Wadenhoe, Stoke Doyle and Pilton) was held on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October. A team of helpers provided a splendid meal and the event was thoroughly enjoyable. A raffle was held. Profit from the evening, after all expenses were covered, was split three ways between the villages (£228.18 each). In addition, Wadenhoe had the usual sale of produce which was auctioned and raised £116.50. Many thanks to all involved.

## **7. CHURCH PROPERTY REGISTER**

The lists of Church properties, goods and ornaments scheduled in the Church Property Register have been checked and corrections or additions noted and are certified as correct to the best of our knowledge. The check was carried out on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2019 by the Churchwarden.

## **8. CHURCH LOG BOOK**

The Quinquennial Inspection of the fabric of the Church was carried out in September 2016 and a full Report in this connection had been received from the Architect. A full detailed inspection of the fabric was carried out on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2019 by the Churchwarden. Nothing untoward was found other than the matters already in hand to replace some window guards and to re-lead some poor condition windows.

A note has been made in the Log Book relating to the annual service of the fire extinguishers. The matters listed above (Chapter 6 - Review of the Year – Fabric) and attended to during the year have also been noted in the Log Book.

## **9. FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Independent Examiner.** The Church Accounts for 2019 have been independently examined by Mr Andrew Kemp and approved by the PCC.

**Planned Giving/Collections.** Receipts from the planned giving scheme through banker's orders amounted to £2,960 an increase of some £260 from that received in 2018. Income from collections at services, donations and gift aid, including that from the Gift Aid envelopes scheme, amounted to £4,540. This was some £6,600 less than was received in 2018 which was an extraordinary year directly as a result of a special fund raising campaign for the damaged roof repair fund.

The Diocese has decided to change the mechanism by which regular planned giving is processed and is discontinuing their existing scheme at the end of 2020. In the circumstances, the PCC agreed to introduce the new system. The primary difference being that regular giving will in future be made by Direct Debit, rather than Standing Order. An organisation called the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) administers the process, collects the Gift Aid where applicable and returns the donations and the Gift Aid to the parish on a set date each month.

**Parish Share.** The cost of maintaining the worship, ministry and mission of the Church in the Diocese is shared by its parishes and congregations. The sum that the parishes in the Benefice have to find is calculated according to a formula that is based mainly on the ministry establishment (75% weighting) and the average Sunday attendance figures (25% weighting) together with any deanery adjustment that has been made (at present £1,000). The Parish Share is a major cost to the parish and Wadenhoe's share of this charge in 2019 (£6,699) was paid in full. Its share in 2020 is expected to be £6,795, an increase of £96.

**Parochial Fees.** The sum of £1,160 was received in statutory parochial fees in 2019 from two funerals (£850 – one in 2018 and the other in 2019), a wedding (£250) and the introduction of a memorial stone (£60). In 2018, £1,440 was received in fees for four weddings (£1,100) and for burials/cremations/ memorials (£340).

**Charitable Giving.** In 2019 the sum of £40 was given to the Royal British Legion, part of which covered the cost of the wreath provided for Remembrance Sunday, and £50 was given to the Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust.

**Insurance.** The building and contents insurance premium for 2019 was £1,330. The renewal premium for 2020 will be £1,355 which includes Insurance Premium Tax of £145. The policy premium benefits from a 10% discount based on a commitment to a 3-year Long Term Undertaking and Rate Stability Agreement.

The loss limit for the building and contents is set at £8,400,000 which is higher than the valuation figure (£5,061,000) to protect against any unexpected changes in building costs over and above inflation. Nevertheless, the premium is based upon the value of the property insured so there is no additional cost for this increased protection.

**Donations Received.** We were grateful to receive £1,150 in donations in 2019.

**Fund Raising.** Three participants (Shaun Barritt, Daphne Hall and Millie Locke) were sponsored to take part in the Ride and Stride event and raised the record sum of £548.00 for their efforts. Half of the amount raised (£274) was returned by the Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust to the PCC as its share of the proceeds of the event.

**Financial Results Summary.** As detailed in the financial statements, total income in 2019 for the combined Ordinary and Restricted Accounts amounted to £10,195 and total expenditure to £11,325. The net result for the year was an excess of expenditure over income of £1,130. The main reason for this deficit was the payment of the roof repair project retention monies (£600) and the cost of repairing a church window (£490).

<u>Ordinary Funds (Unrestricted Funds)</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
<b>Receipts:</b> <i>(Collections, Gift Aid, Donations, Fees from Weddings, etc.)</i>	<b>£ 10,148</b>	£41,747
<b>LESS: Payments:</b> <i>(Day-to-day running expenses – Parish Share, Insurance, Electricity, Roof Repair costs, Roof Alarm cost, etc.)</i>	<b>£ 11,323</b>	-£37,613
<b>Net Totals</b>	<b>-£ 1,175</b>	£ 4,134
	<i>Deficit</i>	<i>Surplus</i>
<u>Fabric Funds (Restricted Funds)</u>		
<b>Receipts:</b> <i>(Donations for Roof Fund, JustGiving Campaign, etc. in 2018 &amp; Investment Interest in 2019)</i>	<b>£ 48</b>	£ 4,872
<b>LESS: Payments:</b>	<b>Nil</b>	-£ 4,831
<b>Net Totals</b>	<b>£ 48</b>	£ 41
	<i>Surplus</i>	<i>Surplus</i>
<b>Combined Net Overall Result for Ordinary and Fabric Funds</b>	<b>-£1,127</b>	£ 4,175
	<i>Deficit</i>	<i>Surplus</i>

**Cash in Bank/CBF Funds at 31 December 2019.**

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Balances</u>	
<b>Ordinary Funds:</b>		
Current Account	£ 5,870.64	
CBF Deposit Fund	£ 192.82	<b>£ 6,063.46</b>
<b>Restricted Funds:</b>		
Current Account No. 2 Account	£ 6,944.28	
CBF Fabric Fund	£ 10,127.37	
Business Saver Account	£ 0.02	<b>£ 17,071.67</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>£23,135.13</b>

**Reserves Fund Policy.** It is the policy of this church to hold in reserves the equivalent of three months general running costs. It is also the policy to hold an amount for building works arising out of the Quinquennial inspection and in addition a sum of £5,000 for unforeseen emergency building works. At the end of the financial year, the PCC will consider how any funds remaining will be used after allowing for these provisions. This policy will be reviewed annually.

**Items forming part of the Reserves Fund:**

**Total Cash in Bank/CBF Funds at 31 December 2019:** **£23,135**

**LESS:**

•	Three months General Running Costs:	-£ 3,000	
•	Unforeseen Emergency Building Works:	-£ 5,000	
•	Quinquennial Building Works still to be attended to (costs estimated by Architect):		
	- Windows – Re-leading Repairs/New Guards (work already authorised):	-£ 2,000	
	- Other Repairs still to be authorised (Repairs to plaster ceilings of the porch and chancel, churchyard path, boundary wall. Replace heating units):	-£ 11,000	
•	Repairs to the fence of the new churchyard.	-£ 500	
			<b>-£21,500</b>
	<b>Net Total Funds remaining after allowing for Reserves:</b>		<b>£ 1,635</b>
			<i>Surplus</i>

**It was decided to retain the remaining funds not held in Reserves.**

**Approved by the PCC on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020 and signed by  
The Revd Canon Brian Withington**

## Stained Glass Window Dedications



**Window to St Anne**



**Window to Christ and Mary with  
the Infant Jesus**



**Window to St Paul**



**Window to St Peter**



**Window to the raising up of Lazarus  
from the dead by Jesus**



**Window to the raising up of Dorcas  
(Tabitha) from the dead by St Peter**