

Annual Report 2007 for APCM 30 April 2008

The Churchwardens and PCC of St Margaret Lothbury have the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent, The Rev'd Jeremy Crossley, in promoting in the ecclesiastical Parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Membership:

The PCC is a Charity exempted from registration with the Charity Commission. Members of the PCC are either ex officio, in the case of the Rector and Aldermen of the Wards of Broad St & Coleman St, or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

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

Incumbent: The Rev'd Jeremy Crossley Chairman

The Churchwardens were:

Ex Officio

Alderman Sir Robert Finch
Alderman & Sheriff David Lewis

Elected

Mr Stephen Priddle Vice Chairman
Mr John Brown CBE
Mrs Tanya Chikanza
Mr James Gerry
Mr Michael Henderson-Begg
Mrs Patricia Henderson-Begg
Major Paul Kennerley
Dr Thomas Miskell
Mr Richard Townend

The Representatives on the Deanery Synod were:

Dr Thomas Miskell
Miss Jacky Foot

The Elected Members up to the APCM of 2007 were:

Mrs Christine Bretagne
Mr Tom Buchanan
Mr Peter Chadwick
Mr Peter Elwin
Miss Jacky Foot
Mr Andrew Large
Mr Cliff Radmore
Mr William Taylor
Mr Kim White

The Elected Members from the APCM 2007 were:

Mrs Christine Bretagne
Mr Tom Buchanan
Mr Peter Chadwick
Mr Peter Elwin
Miss Jacky Foot
Mr Andrew Large
Mr Cliff Radmore
Mr William Taylor
Mr Kim White
Mr Tom Deeming

The Treasurer was: Mrs Christine Bretagne
The Secretary was: Mrs Patricia Henderson-Begg
The Electoral Roll Officer was: Mr Michael Henderson-Begg

Committees

- 1) The Standing Committee is the only Committee required by law and consists of The Rector, the Vice Chairman, the Treasurer, the PCC Secretary, the Churchwardens with responsibility for Fabric and Goods & ornaments and one of the Churchwardens from the Main Service of the Week.
- 2) The Last Tuesday Group consists of the Rector, Messrs Gerry, Taylor, Radmore, Sutton, Large, White and Mrs Chikanza and is responsible for strategy and reflection on the Wednesday service.
- 3) The Sustainability Group is responsible for all other services and the minutiae of the daily running of the church, the preparation and monitoring of Long Term Strategy for consideration by the PCC and consists of The Rector, The Vice Chairman, the Secretary, Dr Miskell, with occasional attendance by Major Kennerley.

There are 126 names on the electoral roll, none of whom are resident in the Parish and none have been removed during the year. The usual weekly attendance, counted during October was 188 and the Parish Christmas Service drew 216.

Review of the Year

The PCC met four times in the year with an average attendance of 72% of elected members and in the months that the Council didn't meet, the Standing Committee did, with the exception of August and December. Minutes of their meetings were presented in full to the PCC and discussed where necessary. The discussions returned to mission and routinely to finance; In 2007 greater attention to building was needed in order to cover the major building works needed to transfer the general office to the west end of the church. These works were largely completed by end November 2007. Further discussion took place regarding the future of the church to 2012 and we have continued to look at evangelism, worship, finances and medium term lay leadership.

The policy of the PCC is to maintain a small but appropriate amount of money in the current account and to maintain a deposit account intended to sustain the mission of the church for a minimum of two years. During 2007 the deposit account balance was reduced due to the cost of major building works. However, compensation negotiated from other building works adjacent to the church, grants and the positive response to the voluntary church rate has helped enormously to lessen the burden. Congregational giving has improved to the point where we finished the year with an £11,000 surplus of income over expenditure without including church rate in the income.

The financial report, duly examined is attached and gives a full account of the Church's financial situation.

During the year a fire assessment was completed and an evacuation procedure drawn up; an Initial (general) Risk Assessment has been carried out and this is to be developed with the help of our Insurers and with a member of the PCC taking responsibility for ensuring compliance.

With no Sunday worship and no children's work, the main service of the week on Wednesday Lunchtime which is an informal service with worship, teaching and the opportunity to receive prayer, continues to reflect the nature and location of the Parish at the heart of the Square Mile. Holy Communion continues to be celebrated on Tuesday at 1.10pm and continues to attract an increased congregation. The monthly service on the first Thursday of the month at 12.10pm would benefit from increased support; both use BCP. Morning Prayer according to the BCP continues daily at 8am. On significant days in the Christian calendar appropriate services are also held.

In addition to services, members of the Congregation meet for lunch once a quarter, the men's breakfast on Thursday morning continues to thrive as does the prayer group on Thursday lunchtime, a Christian fellowship for Bankers on Friday lunchtime and an opportunity to pray for the City on Friday

Annual Services for Livery Companies and Ward Clubs associated with the Church take place as does the Annual Service of the ICAEW and we continue to have a good relationship with businesses in the Area and with other churches in the Deanery. Two local churches, St George Queen Sq and All Saints Peckham use the building regularly and Post Ordination Training for Non Stipendiary Ministers across the Diocese is based at St Margaret's.