
ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, BRANDESTON

ANNUAL REPORT

AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

OF THE

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2018

Priest-in-charge:

The Revd Canon Graham Hedger (from 16th May 2018)

01473 737280

Banks:

HSBC Bank plc

20 High Street, Saxmundham IP17 1DB

Independent Examiner:

Mrs Persephone Booth

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Kettleburgh,

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All Saints' PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Priest-in-Charge, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. [PCC (powers) Measure 1956 Section 2]. It also has the maintenance responsibilities for the Cemetery Chapel and graveyard.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL:

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or are elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year the following people served as members of the PCC. Their term of office, excluding the priest-in-charge, ends at the APCM in 2019.

Priest-in-Charge:	The Revd Canon Graham Hedger (from 16th May 2018)
Churchwardens:	Mrs Alison Molyneux Mrs Mary Baker (Elder)
Deanery Synod Rep:	Mrs Alison Molyneux
Elected Members:	Mr Paul Baker (Treasurer) Lady Clemency Cunliffe Mrs Lydia Freeman (from 2014) Mrs Ruth Garratt (from 2013) Mrs Kelly Jeffery Mrs Marion Kirton from the 2016 APCM Mr Chris McArthur (Vice-Chair/Tower Captain) Mr John Penny (from 2013) Mrs Janet Weston (from 2014)

COMMITTEES

The PCC operates one official committee which meets between full meetings of the PCC. This is the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact business of

the PCC between meetings, subject only to directions given by the Council. In November 2017 the PCC elected Mrs Kelly Jeffery to join the Standing committee as an extra person to replace our Clergy member during the interregnum.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

There were 2 baptisms, 2 weddings and 1 funeral service in the church during the year.

Average attendance at Sunday services was 10 adults and 0 children excluding benefice services, when the average was over 30.

On Easter Sunday there was no service in Brandeston. There were 18 communicants at the service on Maundy Thursday.

On Christmas Eve there were 78 present including 44 communicants.

The number on the electoral roll in December was 69.

GROWING IN GOD: GROWING DEEPER

The churches of the benefice continue to worship together twice a month. The choir leads the singing at the service on the first Sunday of each month. Our worship in Holy week included a communion service at Brandeston. The lack of an Easter Sunday service in Brandeston this year was noted and will be addressed in 2019. The Friday afternoon prayer services have been extended to be held every week at 4pm at churches advertised in the parish magazine. Everyone is welcome to attend. Services on the third Sunday of the month are under review.

GROWING IN GOD: GROWING YOUNGER

The Framlingham College Prep School have continued to use the church for their Wednesday services every week bringing a large number of children and staff into the church community on a regular basis. Once again we welcomed Revd Brynn Bayman to our Harvest and Christingle services. In addition to this the village families have supported services for special occasions such as Harvest, Good Friday and Christingle. For the first time for a long time 2 children from Brandeston attended our holiday club at Charsfield School in August.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

The PCC met five times during the year. There were additional meetings with the Village Hall committee and parish representatives to discuss the fete, the open gardens and the weekend of remembrance. The PCC held a meeting in November to plan the Christmas Fair. Benefice meetings were held to discuss services, finance and plans for the benefice. PCC meetings were either chaired by Revd Graham Hedger or, particularly during the interregnum, by Christopher McArthur the lay chair.

REVD GRAHAM HEDGER

We were very fortunate to have a relatively short period without a priest. Following a selection process where Chris McArthur and Alison Molyneux were our representatives, Revd Canon Graham Hedger was



appointed as the priest in charge of the Orebeck Benefice. We consider ourselves very fortunate to have a priest with the wealth of energy, knowledge and experience that he has brought to the benefice. Graham's licensing service was held at Hacheston church on the 16th March; Bishop Martin led the proceedings. Graham and Sue were offered a very warm welcome by the congregation of church and parish representatives.

BRANDESTON'S WAR MEMORIAL RENOVATION AND WEEKEND OF REMEMBRANCE

This event was a very important for the PCC this year, bringing together all the people of the village and the school to mark the end of the First World War.



Mrs Molyneux and Mr McArthur initially met Dr Elson the Chairman of Brandeston Parish Council to discuss a joint memorial village event and the sharing of the costs of the war memorial refurbishment. Mr McArthur was successful in his application for grants. Mr McArthur and Mrs Baker went to Wickham Market to access Wilda Woodland's local history archived material for our exhibition. Mr and Mrs Kirton attended a course about war memorials. Restoration work was completed by Masters with a £500

contribution from the Parish Council and a contribution of £850 from the War memorials Trust.

A lot of hard work from the pupils and staff of Framlingham College Prep School went into compiling the booklet about the people remembered on the war memorial in addition to the setting up of the exhibition and catering for both days. It was a great example of how Brandeston people work together to create memorable events. We have written this year a Memorandum of understanding between the Parish Council and our PCC agreeing to share upkeep of the memorial with the church retaining nominal ownership of what is a part the village.



Thank you, to all the people who visited the exhibition and filled the church for the Remembrance Service. We hope that you enjoyed it as much as we did and that you learnt a little more about our predecessors who lost their lives in the Great War.

Revd Hedger led our service of Remembrance which was held at Brandeston again this year following discussions with Kettleburgh PCC who were generous in their support Brandeston's special events. The church was full and more people were gathered round the memorial outside. The congregation was made up of villagers, scouts and cubs and their families, and representatives from Framlingham College Prep School, especially those who had worked on the commemorative booklet. We were delighted to meet the relatives of some of the men named on the war memorial. The weekend supported the Royal British legion Poppy appeal. The following donations were made:

£393.56 from the church collection

£292.02 from the exhibition and lunches

VILLAGE TOTAL (including village house to house collections): £1335.98

EILEEN LEACH

Miss Leach has been in a nursing home since her fall in 2017, so the people of Brandeston had not been able to thank her for her contribution to all aspects of village life. At Eileen's tea party in August we had the opportunity to put this right. Many of Eileen's friends from the local area came to the village hall to join us in our thanks. Revd Robin Alderson and Mrs Sue Thurlow both spoke briefly and warmly about the contribution that she made to the life of the church and the village; Eileen was eloquent in her reply, demonstrating her heartfelt commitment to the village and its people. Since she did not want any gifts, guests made a contribution to Ipswich Night Shelter-Eileen's chosen charity. The total donated was £440. Eileen sent her thanks to everyone.



REVD ROGER DIXON

At the end of June we held a memorial service for the life and ministry of the Revd Roger Dixon. He was both a dedicated priest, friend to all, and also a great teacher. For those who had the privilege to share their lives with him, the joy of knowing him, we rejoice that Roger had great faith and believed that death is not an end but a passing into the greater presence of God.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH – FABRIC, GOODS AND ORNAMENTS

All Saints church remains in good order with no running repairs required during the year and all quinquennial work has now been completed for the priority items. The war memorial was the last item to be addressed and was completed in time for the commemorations in our village for 100 years since the end of WW1. The graveyard is in fine condition thanks to work of Brandeston Hall School staff and burials continue in line with our PCC policy for designated plots assigned by the clergy. A Wi-Fi aerial grouping on the tower roof is proposed by Fram Broadband and such work would bring a small additional income stream. One remaining group of boundary yew trees remains to be cut down to 4 metres by the school to complete the boundary restoration project that we instigated.

FUNDRAISING

The need for fundraising for the maintenance of the Grade 1 listed church and for the payment of the parish share is an ongoing challenge for the PCC. We are fortunate to receive such good support from our friends and neighbours in the village.

- THE BIG BRANDESTON BREAKFAST raised £194,
- THE VILLAGE FETE raised £5241.74 comprising £4936 from the fete and £305 from the Village Feast thanks to The Queen. As usual the money will be split equally between the village hall and All Saints. It was a very good day with many people working hard to make the event successful and enjoyable.

- THE BIKE RIDE organized by Ruth and John Garrett raised £120.
- THE CHRISTMAS FAIR raised £1400, the best total for 4 years, with many people coming to buy Christmas gifts and enjoy the tea and cake.
- OPEN GARDENS In Brandeston we are fortunate to have some beautiful gardens and for the first time this year, members of the PCC worked with members of the village hall committee to organize an open gardens weekend which took place in July. The event attracted people from a wide area and everyone was impressed by the variety of the gardens and the work which had gone into their upkeep. There was also an art exhibition at the pub to add an extra dimension to the experience. The organizers were most appreciative of all the work that had gone into the preparation of the gardens and of the lunches and teas which brought in extra funds for the church and the village hall. We thank all the people who put so much work into the success of this event. The total raised was £2200 and this was split between the church and the village hall.



SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding was on the agenda at PCC meetings. There have been no disclosures or referrals this year. The diocesan safeguarding policy was adopted at the meeting in April along with the GDPR policy concerning the church's handling of data. The PCC heard about the importance of Safeguarding training for as many people as possible. Some members have completed online training, others will attend a face to face training session. Mrs Pam Bennett-King continues as safeguarding officer for the churches in the benefice. Her name and contact details are displayed in the church.

BRANDESTON BELLRINGERS

We continue to ring for all services in Brandeston and support other churches in the benefice. Thanks to all our ringers for their dedicated support, these include - Persephone, John, Helen, Caroline, Chris Oswald Chris McArthur, Jane and Ruth Darton. The bells remain on good order although the number four bell had a crack welded this year and this bell now sounds as original. This work was carried out with a grant from Suffolk Guild of Ringers.

MORTUARY CHAPEL

The chapel continues to be in fine order as a building thanks to the efforts of Friends of the Chapel and the grounds are now maintained by church members and more recently by villagers. The grounds now look very fine with good access to all graves and memorials. It remains in church ownership as a consecrated building but village use is to be encouraged.

LOES DEANERY SYNOD REPORT FOR 2018

There were 2 meetings during 2018. The first meeting took place at Marlesford Community Centre on 18th April. The presentation "Christians Against Poverty and the work of St John's Church Saxmundham" was given by Revd Nick Stutchfield, the Curate of St John's. Christians Against Poverty (CAP) is the largest debt relief organization in the UK.

CAP works alongside people in debt, helping them to change patterns of expenditure and so avoid future or increasing debt. St John's are in the process of establishing a Debt Centre in Saxmundham utilizing the national resources of CAP at a local level. Knowledge of CAP might be via CAB, GPs, food banks or churches. Once a referral is made, the Debt Centre manager and a volunteer will visit the person, collect all their paperwork in the form of bills, court orders and pay slips and send it to CAP HQ who will recommend a course of action. Ultimately the debtor signs an agreement with CAP for a monthly sum and CAP will negotiate with creditors. Many organisations know and trust CP and respond effectively. The rest of the meeting covered a new digital projector; prayers for the Deanery vacancies; parish share payment; safeguarding training and data protection, and the Growing in God roadshow date.

At the second meeting the presentation was "The New Diocesan Share" given by Gary Peverley, the diocesan finance director. Gary began with an overview of the diocesan structure, what the parish share pays for month by month and a little history which highlighted that, as a young diocese, we do not enjoy the legacies and endowments which are a significant factor in our neighbouring dioceses. He outlined in some detail, the proposals for the parish share in 2019. He also spoke about the Parish Giving Scheme and the contribution from St Edmundsbury and Ipswich to support the national church structures.

The meeting also covered the Taylor Review. This is a project being trialled in Manchester and Suffolk where a church can apply to have minor repairs under £10,000 funded at a 90% rate. Two project leaders have been appointed by Historic England to support parishes in putting together bids.

Safeguarding training courses were covered with a course to be held in early 2019.

The Strategic Development Fund is a diocesan bid for £6 million from the Church Commissioners to fund a two pronged ambitious plan focusing on Ipswich and rural resource churches. Two new archdeacons will be funded by the project which runs for 6 years.

CHARITABLE GIVING.

Poppy appeal: see war memorial article.

Ipswich night shelter: £440 from Miss Leach's party and £100 from the PCC.

St Elizabeth's Hospice: £129 from pub carols.

Christingle: £112.30 for the Children's Society.

Oxfam Rohingya Appeal: £100.

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust: £134. from the bike ride

Treasurer's report - Year ending December 2018

Receipts increased by £948.78. This was due to increases in Planned giving, Collections, Tax recovered from Gift Aid and Fund Raising. The Payments were reduced by £299.95 due, mainly, to decreases in Church expenses.

The General Fund has been increased by £1638.40, this being the excess from the Receipts and Payments account. The Fund now stands at £3492.44.

The Final work from the Quinquennial has been completed and, therefore, the Fabric Fund has been reduced to £1377.35. The Cemetery and Caring Funds stand at £170.31 and £91.74 respectively.

All Saints' Church , Brandeston - period ended 31st December 2018

Receipts and Payments

	£		£	
	2018		2017	
<u>Receipts</u>	General	Restricted	General	Restricted
Planned Giving (Gift Aid)	5735.00		5205.00	
Collections, Other Giving	3032.45		3320.42	
Wall Safe	89.35		78.29	
Donations	1000.00	20.00	1190.00	20.00
Tax recovered on Gift Aid	2074.70		1735.07	
Fund Raising	5951.02	1100.00	5589.91	
Church Maintenance	416.25		0.00	
Magazine	988.00		965.00	
Fees	1745.70		2000.00	
Grants		1350.00		9000.00
Total income	21032.47	2470.00	20083.69	9020.00
<u>Payments</u>				
Grants - Overseas	200.00		200.00	
Grants - Home	25.00		255.83	
Centenary Share	14000.00		14000.00	
Church Expenses	2906.37		4080.22	
Clergy Expenses	199.43		469.10	
Magazine	452.22		448.08	
Summer Fete and Christmas Fair	265.00	1100.00	20.00	
Other Fundraising			0.00	
Church Maintenance	601.00		0.00	
Fees	482.00		148.00	
Services Expenses	263.05		72.79	
Church major works		6783.96		5286.40
TOTAL	19394.07	7883.96	19694.02	5286.40
Surplus of Receipts Over Payments for 2018	1638.40	-5413.96		
Surplus of Receipts Over Payments for 2017			389.67	3733.60

Brandeston PCC Annual Report for 2018

Opening balance 1.1.18	7074.08	Opening balance 1.1.17	4010.81
General fund surplus	1638.40	General fund surplus	389.67
Restricted funds deficit	<u>-3580.64</u>	Restricted funds surplus	<u>2673.60</u>
Closing Balance 31.12.18	<u>5131.84</u>	Closing Balance 31.12.17	<u>7074.08</u>

Movement on Funds

<u>General Reserve - Unrestricted</u>	2018		2017
Opening Balance - 01/01/2018	1854.04	Opening Balance - 01/01/2017	1464.37
Excess of Receipts over Payments	<u>1638.40</u>	Excess of Payments over Receipts	<u>389.67</u>
Closing Balance - 31/12/2018	<u>3492.44</u>	Closing Balance - 31/12/2017	<u>1854.04</u>

Fabric Fund - Designated

Opening Balance - 01/01/2018	4906.11
Grants Received	3255.20
Major Works - Payments	<u>-6783.96</u>
Closing Balance - 31/12/2018	<u>1377.35</u>

Fabric Fund - Designated

Opening Balance - 01/01/2017	2252.51
Grants Received	9000.00
Major Works - Payments	<u>-6346.40</u>
Closing Balance - 31/12/2017	<u>4906.11</u>

Cemetery Fund - Restricted

Opening Balance - 01/01/2018	150.31
Commonwealth War Graves	<u>20.00</u>
Closing Balance - 31/12/2018	<u>170.31</u>

Cemetery Fund - Restricted

Opening Balance - 01/01/2017	130.31
Commonwealth War Graves	<u>20.00</u>
Closing Balance - 31/12/2017	<u>150.31</u>

Caring Fund -Restricted

Opening Balance - 01/01/2018	163.62
Eileen's Party	-71.88

Caring Fund -Restricted

Opening Balance - 01/01/2017	163.62
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Closing Balance - 31/12/2018	<u><u>91.74</u></u>	Closing Balance - 31/12/2017	<u><u>163.62</u></u>
Total Funds	<u><u>5131.84</u></u>	Total Funds	<u><u>7074.08</u></u>
Held in HSBC Bank current account	<u><u>5131.84</u></u>	Bank current account	<u><u>7074.08</u></u>

Signed by Paul Baker, Treasurer

Date

Annual Report: Report from the Priest in Charge

When as Stewardship Advisor, I started working on finance issues with the benefice back in the autumn of 2017 I knew that this was a good benefice. I also know that to create a benefice from two existing groups of churches takes hard work, prayer and vision. The fact that we are where we are today is testimony to that hard work put in by my predecessor, the Revd Deirdre West, the church wardens, elders and others. My thanks goes to all of them for making my return to full time parochial ministry so easy and joyful.

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting I will give a fuller report on the life of the benefice and individual churches. However, in our written report I want to highlight a few things.

As a benefice we have much to celebrate:

- We have six, soon to be seven elders. They lead services, offer pastoral support to many people and are an immense support to me as we share ministry together.
- One of the first things that I noticed at my first service was the excellent benefice choir. Their hard work and commitment makes the Benefice Service on the first Sunday of the month so special and uplifting. Sadly, only about half of the total of our worshipping congregations come to Benefice Services, just think how good it would be if that service was a full church, month by month. Our worship could be even more uplifting.
- The diocese has invited churches to set out their objectives for mission and ministry within the framework of Growing in God. It is immensely heartening to see that many of the objectives set a couple of years ago have been achieved. This is important, because all too often in the busyness of dealing with ancient buildings and finance we can lose sight of what it is all about.
- The way that people support other parishes at special events and services is commendable and bodes well for the future.
- It is a joy to have seven sets of bells that can be rung. A big thank you to the tower captains and teams of ringers who support one another and enable villages to be reminded that the church is at prayer.
- During the year the treasurers, wardens and PCCs have worked hard to ensure that the commitment made to pay the Centenary Share in full was indeed achieved. This is very heartening. Thank you to everyone who made that possible.
- I am very grateful to the Revd Canon Deirdre Parmenter and the Revd Canon Richard Ginn for their hard work and support in taking services and offering pastoral support.

I thank everyone who has made a contribution to the life of our seven churches in the benefice. Whenever there are articles about the strength of the voluntary sector, they miss out the huge amount of work that people do in their local church. Whether you are an officeholder, serve on a committee, an organist, a bell ringer, church cleaner, flower arranger, magazine editor or deliverer or do any other the many tasks that go on in the church. Thank you. Your contribution is valued and appreciated.

Brandeston Church and Hall have been linked for generations. The Prep School regularly use our church building, and this creates a sense of a living, worshipping community. I am grateful to the chaplain, the Revd Brynn Bayman for the strong links and also for his continued support in taking services on Sundays. We are also grateful to the school for all the practical support in maintaining the churchyard and assisting us with photocopying and use of the school premises. The link with Brandeston Hall was also demonstrated in November, when pupils created an exhibition to commemorate the ending of World War 1 and took part in the Remembrance Day service.

Although our worshipping congregation is small, there is strong community support for the us and this was amply demonstrated in the summer with two joint fundraising events. Their efforts were rewarded with welcome income to both organisations.

Small churches function well because there are people who are willing to do not just one thing but many things. My special thanks go to Alison Molyneux as church warden, Mary Baker, churchwarden, elder and PCC secretary, and Paul Baker who is treasurer to both Brandeston and Kettleburgh, Chris McArthur who as well as tower captain is also the PCC vice chair and Janet Weston our organist. The flag flies from the tower. And I am thankful that I don't have to climb the steps and ladders, Mr Whiting does, and he has the heartfelt thanks of many of us for this task. During the summer I came across a newspaper cutting for the opening of the cemetery in the 19th century. This, of course means that Brandeston is blessed with not one, but two churchyards and there is a small band of people who maintain the chapel and cemetery, thank you to them for doing this. I am grateful for the hard work and support of so many people who carry out many tasks which enable our church not merely to survive but flourish. During 2019 both as a PCC and as a benefice we will be seeking God so that we can indeed be 'flourishing congregations serving our communities'.

Rev'd Canon Graham Hedger

Priest in Charge