

# **PARISH OF WESTBURY**

Meeting of Parishioners

&

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2023

All Saints' Church

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 10.30am

Commencing with Holy Communion at 9.30am

## **Meeting of Parishioners**

For all parishioner and members of the church electoral roll

### **Agenda**

1. Election of Church Wardens

## **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

For clergy and members of the church electoral roll only

### **Agenda**

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the previous Annual Parochial Church Meeting
3. Receive the Electoral Roll Report
4. Receive Annual Report
5. Receive Financial Statements
6. Receive the Fabric Report
7. Receive the Deanery Synod Report
8. Election of 2 Deanery Synod Representatives
9. Election of 12 representatives to the Parochial Church Council.
10. Appointment of the Independent Examiner
11. Receive Supplementary Reports
12. Any Other Business

**Minutes of the Parishioners of the Parish of All Saints Westbury**  
**&**  
**Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of All Saints Westbury**  
**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2022 commencing after Holy Communion Service**

Chair - Revd Rebecca Harris

Minute Secretary – Debbie McEntee

The Meeting opened at 10.45am by Revd Rebecca Harris

**MEETING OF THE PARISIONERS**

**1. Election of 2 Church Wardens**

Two nominations have been received from:-

Beth Thomas                      Proposed by Deborah McEntee                      Seconded by Iain Brownlie

Ruth Hann                      Proposed by Iain Brownlie                      Seconded by Reverend Rebecca Harris

The meeting attendees were asked for their agreement - All in Favour.

Revd Rebecca Harris would like to thank both Beth and Ruth for all their hard work that goes on behind the scenes of Church life and for standing again for a further year.

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

**1a. Apologies**

The following people gave their apologies for the meeting:-

Diane Perrett, Keith Perrett, John Prince, Brian Osborne, Helen Thomas, Chris Plum and Ron Plum.

**1b. Attendees**

Reverend Rebecca Harris, Beth Thomas, Debbie McEntee, David Hart, Gillian Bullock, Holly Newton, Alan Bull, Caroline Dunseath, Val Smith, Liz Skinner, Sue Newell, Liz Atchison, Doreen Ingram, Jean Jane, Jenny Wray-Bliss, Wendy Wood, Lily Munday, Judith Newton, Robert Harris, Margaret (Retired Vicar), Isabel Osborne, Beryl Drake, Lois Wright and Simon Thorne.

**2. Minutes of the previous Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

These were available via a link on our e-newsletter/website and people were advised that there were hard copies available in All Saints Church from the previous weekend. Revd Rebecca Harris asked if we were in favour of agreeing these minutes. **All in Favour.**

**3. Receive the Electoral Roll Report**

This Report was in the printed and online Reports for people to read before. Debbie McEntee, the Electoral Roll Officer read out this Report. We do have four more members to go onto the Roll and these will be added after the APCM as they were given too late for the revision. - **All in Favour.**

**4. Receive Annual Report**

These were available via a link on our e-newsletter/website and people were advised that there were hard copies available in All Saints Church from the previous weekend. Revd Rebecca Harris asked if there were any questions or comments on the Annual Report which is the written section, before the accounts.

No questions were asked. This Annual Report was previously approved by the PCC. This Annual Report was received and **All in Favour**.

## 5. Receive Financial Statements

This section is from Page 5 onwards of The Annual Report & Accounts. These were available via a link on our e-newsletter/website and people were advised that there were hard copies in All Saints Church from the previous weekend. Revd Rebecca Harris asked if there were any questions/comments on these Accounts. No questions were asked.

Beth introduced Marilyn Morgan who will be our new Treasurer and thanked Marilyn for stepping into the Treasurer's shoes. Marilyn has recently retired and is used to accountancy and it will be a pleasure to work with her. Revd Rebecca Harris thanked Beth who took over the Treasurer along with being a Churchwarden for 2 ½ years which was an amazing achievement but very hard work. The Accounts were accepted and **All in Favour**.

## 6. Receive Fabric Reports

Revd Rebecca Harris explained that we were given a grant from the Cultural Recovery Fund after Covid/Pandemic. We were able to improve the building on practical things and which was gratefully received. She thanked all people who help with things behind the scenes e.g. cleaning, keeping the Church safe, flowers etc. The Report was accepted and **All in Favour**.

## 7. Receive Deanery Synod Report

Revd Rebecca Harris explained that there had only been 1 meeting during the year and there will be more meetings during the next year. The Report was accepted and **All in Favour**.

## 8. Election of 2 Deanery Synod Representatives

We have two vacancies for Deanery Synod Representatives and Revd Rebecca Harris explained that these Representatives would attend meetings where people from the wider church meet. We are under the Heytesbury Deanery which is under the Salisbury Diocese. There are normally three meetings between the Lay Members and Clergy to discuss the wider community/church.

Simon Thorne volunteered to become a Deanery Synod Representative and filled a form in during the meeting which was proposed and seconded at the time. **All in Favour** for Simon Thorne to take this vocation on – thank you Simon.

## 9. Election of 12 Representatives to the Parochial Church Council

Revd Rebecca Harris went through our nominations being:-

Name	Proposer	Secunder
Debbie McEntee	Iain Brownlie	Marilyn Morgan
Lily Munday	Iain Brownlie	Lynette Weekley
Brian Osborne	Wendy Wood	Beth Thomas
Caroline Dunseath	Beth Thomas	Debbie McEntee
Judith Newton	Beth Thomas	Debbie McEntee
Jennifer Wray-Bliss	Debbie McEntee	Beth Thomas
Ashley Jones	Ex-Officio	

Revd Rebecca Harris explained that we can have 12 PCC Members in total and we have 6 people who have filled in their nomination forms which have been Proposed and Seconded. The PCC meet roughly 6 times a year. She explained that Ashley Jones is on the PCC as an Ex-Officio member. Simon Thorne will be on the PCC as the Deanery Synod Representative. The stipendiary clergy are also ex-officio on the PCC.

The attendees were **All in Favour** of the above nominations.

Revd Rebecca Harris thanked all the people who have contributed to the PCC and have taken on different responsibilities. She also thanked both Iain Brownlie and Sharon Jones who have stepped down from the PCC for different reasons.

#### 10. Appointment of the Independent Examiner

Beth Thomas proposed that we re-appoint James Gare as Independent Examiner. Revd Rebecca Harris thanked James Gare for his hard work. Beth Thomas **Proposed** and Debbie McEntee **Seconded** this proposal. The attendees were **All in Favour**.

#### 11. Receive Supplementary Reports

These were available via a link on our e-newsletter/website and people were advised that there were hard copies available in All Saints Church from the previous weekend. The Reports were from Page 7 onwards. Revd Rebecca Harris read all the Titles of Reports out. Rebecca explained that First Steps to Worship will return once Sharon has recovered from an operation, hopefully in the Autumn. Rebecca introduced Bridget Sanders as our Safeguarding Officer and thanked Bridget for taking this important role on. Both Silent Prayer and Westbury Prayer Network are run by Lynette Weekley and if people are interested in joining, please contact Lyn.

Jean Jane explained that she had sent a Linen Report which wasn't in the Reports. Debbie apologised for this omission and Jean explained that she had thanked for all the new helpers who had come forward to help. The Linen and Silver Report is below:-

#### LINEN AND SILVER CLEANING

During this last year we have welcomed some new people to join the linen and silver cleaning rotas. This has been greatly appreciated and we would like to thank the teams for their care and diligence in looking after the linen and silverware.

<i>Silver Cleaning Team</i>	<i>Linen Cleaning Team</i>
Judith Newton	Diane Colwell
Sheila Miles	Sue Newell
Ruth Medhurst	Isabel Osborne
Jean Jane	Wendy Wood
	Jean Jane

Wendy Wood explained that in previous years we would have a Ministry of Service Report which covered all area together e.g. Linen, Flowers, Gardening etc. We will make sure there is a Ministry of Service Report next year's APCM.

Beryl Drake explained that they have a team of volunteers who undertake the Linen, Flowers etc at Holy Saviour.

Revd Rebecca Harris thanked all that contributed to there Reports. **All in Favour** for accepting these Reports.

#### 12. AOB

a) Revd Rebecca Harris explained that these Reports are for last year ending December 2021. Over the past four months, Holly included in her Sermon, about coming out of Covid and embracing a new life after a difficult time for all of us. It is good that we can now move on after 2 years but

understand that continuing with certain responsibilities are always changing. Rebecca explained that the new Flex Program will bring new ideas to our Church community. 4/5 people are attending this Program which includes 4 meetings at the Sarum College in Salisbury during 2022. This programme is looking at the bigger picture over a longer time and includes how we can look at sharing worship/Gospel ongoing with the wider community. The first meeting looked at “What is God’s purpose for our churches” and “Why are we here”? A metaphor was used regarding “joined together by faith” which was in Holly’s Sermon. We are to think about ideas together and these will be discussed at our next PCC meeting which will include another Away Day in September.

- b)** Revd Rebecca Harris explained that after the Away Day the Church has been exploring how to become an Eco-Church. A group of people visited Holy Trinity who have a Bronze award and the group went to look at their Church and Churchyard to learn how they got a Bronze award. This is an amazing opportunity to make our Church more environmentally friendly and there is a website entitled Eco-Church [ecochurch.arochoa.org.uk](http://ecochurch.arochoa.org.uk) which has a survey covering five areas being:-

Worship/Teaching – Gold

Buildings – Bronze

And Land/Community & Global Engagement and Lifestyle are three areas to look at in the future. The service next Sunday is thinking about creation as it is Rogationtide. We have a meeting at 7pm on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May to look at the Eco-Church Survey and progress further.

- c)** Revd Rebecca Harris introduced Judith Newton who spoke to the attendees about the Little Lights Stay and Play, how this venture was instigated by the hard work of Holly Newton and it is a WACT venture. The group meets term time only at West End Baptist Church between 1pm and 2.30pm. Judith explained how the volunteers help out and would be extremely happy for further volunteers to assist, even if this is once a month etc. The families are asked to make a £1.50 donation each session. They are looking to increase the number of families who take part which can be done via word of mouth and they are considering a Facebook page to reach more families. There are generally 4 volunteers behind the scenes each week and they can help with different areas; singing, refreshments, arts and crafts etc. Judith thanked Holly whose perseverance and hard work initially means this group has started and is well received. Holly has completed the DBS checks and Risk Assessment. Any questions regarding this venture please speak to Judith Newton at anytime and her phone number is in the weekly newsletter and in the Christian Way.
- d)** Jenny Wray-Bliss asked when the next PCC Meeting was being held. Debbie explained that this was the 12<sup>th</sup> July. We will contact all PCC members with the future date and place of the meeting.

The service closed with a Prayer from Revd Rebecca Harris at 11.30am.

# ANNUAL REPORTS

## Team Rector's Report Westbury APCM 2023

### WORSHIP

2022 was the first year when we were able to enjoy a more settled pattern of worship in three years. Lockdowns were finished, although we have continued with some limited restrictions because Covid 19 was still around, but not as dangerous now that many people have been vaccinated. We have agreed across the White Horse Team that we shall continue to offer intincted wafers at Holy Communion; some people prefer to sit distanced from others, and we receive Communion from the chancel step, rather than the altar rail. Most people seem to be content with these arrangements for the time being. They are regularly reviewed by the PCC.

Since coming out of lockdown, All Saints has returned to weekly worship at 9.30 am. Three Sundays are services of Holy Communion, and once a month we have a service of Morning Praise. There is a service of Holy Communion at 8.00 am once a month, and on the fifth Sunday we offer the laying on of hands with anointing at Communion. At Holy Saviour, we continue with services of Holy Communion regularly on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays, as well as special services at other times eg Christmas and Easter. All these are kept under review. Café Church returned in October to in-person meetings at Westbury Junior School, and so did First Steps to Worship at All Saints for pre-school children and their parents/carers. We are pleased to be able to offer some of our services live-streamed on You Tube and Café Church is also offered on Zoom to those who would like to join in from home.

### MISSION

An important development during the year was that four members of the parish attend the Flex programme which was put on by the Diocese as part of the Rural Hope initiative, funded by money from the national church Strategic Development Fund. This was facilitated by a leader from the Church Pastoral Aid Society and the Diocesan Rural Field Officers. The group from Westbury attended four workshops on Saturdays in Salisbury, and we also met in between these days. We met with other groups from parishes in the Diocese and took part in training, group discussions, prayer and input on church development. We decided to focus our time on putting together a Mission Action Plan, and we found the time away from the busyness of the parish a really good opportunity to focus on mission and how to develop our church life, following the impact of Covid 19. In September, we organized another Vision Day for our parish, and shared some of our ideas, which we incorporated into the Plan. This is being discussed with the PCC and will be shared with the congregations at our next APCM in May 2023. We are already putting some of this into practice, as by the end of 2022 we had formulated plans to trial a Youth Café in the parish hall for young people age 13-18, and also to launch a new All Age Worship Service for families once a month, beginning with Mothering Sunday 2023. We were also pleased to see the start of Little Lights in March 2022: a Westbury Area Churches initiative, which was organized by our curate Holly Newton, and facilitated by Judith Newton and a team of volunteers drawn from our local churches. We regularly welcome about eight families on average, and sometimes more. Our mission to families is continuing with summer fun mornings, an Easter egg-hunt and craft morning, and a Light Party.

We were pleased to attend the priesting of our curate, Holly Newton, at Salisbury Cathedral in July 2022, which was a joyous occasion. It is a blessing to have Holly with us and to journey with her as she continues to develop her ministry.

In February we held the latest Saints Alive programme for children/young people at All Saints, which was based around different craft-making workshops. This was a popular and successful programme, and attracted a number of different families into church, whom we wouldn't see otherwise. We hope to build on these contacts in the future.

We were able to return to our full programme of schools work which included Collective Worship at Westbury Church of England Junior School, Westbury Leigh Church of England School and Westbury Infants School. We were also able to offer Experience Easter, Experience Communion and Experience Pentecost during the year, which was well supported and appreciated by the schools. We are very grateful to the team who put this on, from across the White Horse Team and led by Helen and Graham Stevenson.

It was also good to be able to offer another Light Party for children and families at the Westbury Leigh Community hall, an alternative to a Hallowe'en party. We are grateful to our Team Curate, Holly Newton and her team for organizing this.

## FELLOWSHIP/COMMUNITY

We were pleased that Tea, Cake and company started in August. meeting once a month on the fourth Tuesday afternoon at 3.00 pm This is an opportunity to get together for an informal social time, drawing in those who may not worship with us regularly, and providing a more relaxed time to meet when Sundays are sometimes busy. A team of volunteers has been drawn together who provide cake, set it up and clear away afterwards, as well as offering lifts to those who need them.

## DISCIPLESHIP

We were pleased to be able to offer a Lent group on Zoom, based on the letter from the Pope called *Gaudate Si* and an accompanying book by Paula Gooder. This was an ecumenical group meeting with friends from other churches in WACT.

## ATTENDANCE

Average numbers for our services are given below:

Sundays at All Saints:

Said Communion (12), Parish Communion (35)

Mid-week at All Saints and Chantry Court Nursing Home (in the winter months)

Holy Communion (12)

Sundays at Holy Saviour:

Communion / Morning Praise (15)

Café Church (20)

In addition to our regular pattern of worship there have been 14 Baptisms, 5 weddings and 30 funerals, plus one Thanksgiving Service and three burials of ashes conducted in our churches, churchyards or in the crematorium during the year.

## WESTBURY AREA CHURCHES TOGETHER

Jesus called us to unity with our brothers and sisters in Christ. To this end, we are members of the local ecumenical association with the local Christian churches in the area. Each year we take part in different activities to promote our fellowship, our mission to the town and worship together. These include:

Town Prayers each week on Tuesday afternoons, held in one of the local churches

Good Friday worship and witness held in the town centre

Lent groups held across the town and area for all church members

Joint services once a quarter, usually on the fifth Sunday

Share in activities for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity which takes place each year in January – prayer meetings and a local service with an invited speaker.

Christian Way magazine, where we publicise our local events, services etc and share news and information

We support Little Lights Toddler group with leadership and voluntary helpers

We support one another's events and activities.

I would like to thank everyone for your support, fellowship and commitment to our church life over the last year. As we emerge from the challenges and upheaval of the Covid 19 pandemic, we are grateful for all that we are to one another; we give thanks for God's faithfulness and compassion during this time, and look forward to all that He has in store for us over the coming year.

*REBECCA HARRIS*

## All Saints' Choir

During this year we have sang as a choir sitting in the choir stalls again having been separated in the chancel for so long during Covid. We have enjoyed singing together for services throughout the year.

We had a very successful Advent Carol Service and Town Carol Service and were again joined by members of Westbury Choral Society. We are very grateful to them for helping to swell our numbers for these services.

We have also sang at some very special services during the year. At our Team anniversary service and also Our Late Queen Elizabeth's Memorial service. Although we are small in number we still enjoy singing the Communion service setting, providing assistance to the hymn singing and music during the taking of communion.

We would really appreciate a few more people to join us, they would be made very welcome. Thanks must also go to our Organist Rob Danter who provides the music for both Carol services and many other services during the year. He also has to play an organ that can be very temperamental! Or suddenly change to the piano!

I would personally like to thank all Choir members for their continued support for me throughout the year. It is not easy being both a choir member and Church Warden.

*RUTH HANN*

## Bell Ringing Team

With all covid restriction lifted, the ringers were now able to return to the normal length of practice on a Tuesday and for the Sunday service. Out of the 3 new learners we obtained, just one is remaining but is making good progress, now rings for Sunday services and has been elected a member of the Guild. Towards the beginning of the year, we were able to install the new peal board which was made to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the bells with details of the peal rung the previous year and the original peal in 1921. 2022 was a busy year for commemorative ringing, with the ringers taking part in celebrations to mark the Queens Platinum Jubilee and the later in the year, a real effort was made to ring in line with guidance set out by the CCCBR for the Queens funeral and mourning period. A few of the team were involved in putting the muffles on the bells for this occasion and then removing them when needed. Practices nights can still be a little hit and miss regarding numbers. We do have regular visitors which helps but unfortunately we often do not have enough ringers to ring all 8 bells. We could possibly benefit from a slightly more structured approach. Going forward, recruitment and retention needs to be more of a focus point along with some more slightly structured practices, we are so very lucky to have such a wonderful set of bells to ring on.

*CHRIS JENKINS. Vice Captain*

## Café Church Report

Over the last six months, Café Church has re-established itself as a thriving worshipping community, which will celebrate its 7<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 12<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

### HIGHLIGHTS

How the Lord has reunited the community after 2.5 years meeting on Zoom. Our average congregation is 15-16 each month, which includes 3 young people. We have developed a Zoom link which allows those who are unable to physically be present at the school to join us over Zoom. This took several tries but is now up and working well. Christmas lunch at the Railway Inn (despite the snow) where 10 enjoyed a lovely meal and fellowship – something we will continue regularly to do over the coming year.

### PLANS FOR THE NEXT YEAR.

Plans to grow the community through renewed outreach through the school, other church groups, the wider community.

Review and adapt our liturgy/style of worship to reflect different ways of learning and to make the Gospel more accessible and relevant to the wider community e.g use different resources available online and other denominations (Possibly do a Lego based Café Church)

Invite other worship leaders to join/lead Café Church

Most of all to be a sign of God present in the wider community.

*ASHLEY JONES*

## Christmas Tree Festival

The Christmas Tree Festival took place between Friday 2nd and Monday 5th December. It was opened by the Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Wiltshire, Mr William Wyldbore-Smith and the Mayor of Westbury, Mrs Sheila Kimmins. The youngsters from Dancecraft provided an enjoyable display of their talents. Over the 4 days upwards of 1100 people came to see the beautifully decorated trees. Bitham Park Primary School were voted the best tree with 1st Westbury Scout group coming a close second. Our thanks must go to all the groups, companies and schools in Westbury and the surrounding area who took the time to participate and decorate a tree. We are also grateful to Mairwen and Fraiser, Penny Birnstingl, the Hilperton Recorder group and John Knapp for the musical entertainment during Saturday. The event would not have such a success had it not been for the many volunteers who willingly gave up their time to help the committee by stewarding, serving refreshments and running the raffle. Over £2,300 was raised for church funds over the course of the weekend.

*DAVID BULLOCK*

## Deanery Synod Report

Since the last APCM the Deanery Synod met in May and November 2022 and in January 2023. Meetings were held in St John's Church and St Denys in Warminster. Our first meeting was an opportunity for the parishes to share their experiences during and after the Covid Pandemic. In November we began the process of developing a Deanery Strategy at the request of Bishop Stephen. We started by considering the challenges we face. Although the conclusions were sobering it was comforting to know that many parishes are facing similar challenges to our own.

Our January meeting looked at the positive things in our churches and there were many of these too.



We will continue to work together this year to produce a plan for the future and how we can work better to support one another in the coming months and years.

At the beginning of 2023 Rev Pauline Reid stepped down as Rural Dean and we are pleased that our Team Vicar Revd Caroline Husband has been asked to replace Pauline as Rural Dean.

There is a vacancy for Deanery Treasurer at present. This year all Synod Representatives are re-elected. It is not an onerous task and if you are interested in finding out how our neighbouring parishes are doing this role is for you. Please ask existing members Beth Thomas or Simon Thorne if you want to find out more.

*BETH THOMAS - Deanery Synod Representative*

## Electoral Roll Report

This year was a revision of the Electoral Roll. We commenced with 125 people as of the 15<sup>th</sup> April 2022. During the year following the 15<sup>th</sup> April, 5 people were removed from the roll due to people moving away or dying and 5 people were added to the roll up unto the 16<sup>th</sup> April 2023, when a revision ensued over the next two weeks resulting in 125 on the Electoral Roll.

*DEBBIE MCENTEE – Electoral Roll Officer*

## Fabric Committee Report.

Working parties have met biweekly throughout the last year, primarily ensuring:

- Roof level valley / parapet gutters, Rainwater downpipes and Hopper heads are clear of debris and free flowing.
- Moss stripping to Cotswold slates over Nave / Choirstalls was started - Awaiting better weather to complete task.

2 – The Churchwardens investigated and arranged for the removal of the redundant oil storage tank and security of the now empty tank room.

3 – The ongoing review of the Quinquennial Report and Structural Survey findings continues and with local specialists we are building up a better picture of the various issues and the best method of resolving them.

A - Martin and Brian Turk, a local Westbury family firm of Stonemasons, have spent several mornings in the church reviewing:

External stone work at ground level. Internal stonework at both Ground and High level. Further visits are planned (awaiting better weather) to review the stonework at the various roof levels. This exercise has already highlighted a number of issues that would be wise to rectify now before further deterioration leads to bigger / more costly repair issues. Once budget figures are known, a strategy to source funding will be submitted for approval.

B - Andrew from CH Roofing (In 2021 tendered and won the Covid Recovery Grant - Leadwork repair / replacement works) We have reviewed the roof areas generally and identified several areas of stress cracking to the lead sheets primarily in the gutters on the North elevation (Chapel of The Holy Name) - Andrew is working up some prices to give us a basis on which to source the required funding - Ongoing.

C – The Church heating boilers have been identified as nearing the end of their life. Quotes are awaited to enable a way forward to be identified.

### **The Community Hall**

We are awaiting quotes for options to replace the gas fired convector heaters which are very old, with 2 currently condemned as not economic to repair. A review was undertaken to consider removing these and replacing with a more efficient electric convector heater (Rointe or similar). Current energy costs make replacement with a gas fired convector unit (modern equivalent of 1990`s installed unit) the best option. Major Refurbishment remains a priority, however long term funding applications, leaves day to day maintenance / essential repairs a distraction which have to be made to ensure the facility remains useable until the major project is started.

### **The year ahead.**

It is essential that plans are progressed to encourage new helpers to re-energise the Saturday Morning Working Parties & make further progress on the DIY tasks on the Quinquennial Report.

There are promises from Salisbury Diocese of additional funding for essential building repairs, the application process & forms are awaited.

Overall the Church is in a reasonable state of repair bearing in mind its age & the limited finances available.

*SIMON THORNE*

## First Steps to Worship

First Steps to Worship a Service for Babies, Toddlers and their carers returned after a 2 year Covid break In September 2022. Meeting at 9.30am in All Saints Church for a story, singing and refreshments every Wednesday in term time. Our numbers have been gently increasing as word has spread, with new families and those that attended pre Covid. Numbers are never the same 2 weeks in a row as small children can be unpredictable with nap times and illness which can deplete attendance. We have few babies so hopefully should continue for a few more years at least. If the church car park is busy it may be a high headcount week. One pre-Christmas week we had 13 families. The average week we have 7 to 9 adults and 9 to 11 children. Families enjoy the friendly atmosphere of the group and that it is not too big. I am grateful to the continued support of Jean and Peter Jane with refreshments and music.

SHARON JONES

## Fundraising Committee

Currently there is no fundraising committee. There is a core of people who support our fundraising efforts with their time and ideas.

In 2022 the following fundraising activities were:

A concert given by the Warminster Military Wives Choir in May

Tractor Fest in June

Christmas Tree Festival in December

We are very grateful for the widespread support for these events but particular thanks should go to David Bullock for steering the Christmas Tree Festival group.

Fundraising is an important part of our community life. Over 1700 people visited All Saints' Church during the Christmas Tree Festival. Our events not only raise much needed funds but support parish life and provide excellent ways to connect with the wider community of Westbury. If you feel called to be more involved in helping to organise fundraising events or you have any ideas, please speak to me.

BETH THOMAS

## Little Lights Stay and Play

Little Lights Stay and Play launched in March 2022 and has become an established group, attracting an average of 11 families to the sessions between March and December 2022. It is an opportunity for children to play together, do crafts, sing songs, and have a snack..... and for the parents, who stay with their children throughout the session, to chat with other parents and the volunteers. The group would like to extend sincere thanks to the members of the Westbury Area Churches Together congregations who have contributed to Little Lights as volunteers, by promoting the group through word of mouth or via Facebook, and by making donations of money and toys. The challenges, as outlined in the Little Lights report generated for the APCM meeting in May 2022, remain: generating sufficient revenue to cover the weekly costs of running the group attracting more volunteers to help at the sessions. At present the donations paid by parents for sessions do not cover the weekly costs (for this to happen the average attendance would need to be 16 families). An appeal for donations over the summer enabled the group to buy furniture and resources, and create a short-term top-up fund to help cover running costs. The group is reluctant to raise the £1.50 donation per family to attend a session as many families are feeling the pinch at the moment and it is hoped that some of the less well-off families in the Westbury community will be attracted to attend. The group is currently dependent on the generosity of parishioners and occasional fund raising events to stay afloat. A second ongoing challenge for the long term viability of the group is to recruit more volunteers. This does not need to be a weekly commitment.... fortnightly, once a month or intermittently will all be very valuable. Please spread the word! More information about the group is available on the Little Lights Facebook page and any questions about the group, or offers of help or donations, can be directed to Judith Newton (07787 830390). In summary, this WACT project is developing well but its continuation is dependent on expanding the pool of volunteers and establishing a consistent income to cover costs. Many thanks for your ongoing support.

JUDITH NEWTON

## Ministry Of Service – All Saints

### Cleaning Report

Before Covid we had a Team of people who cleaned the Church on a regular basis. This Team disbanded due to Covid and the Church being closed. Since we re-opened the Church for Services and Open Church we changed the way we ran the Cleaning Team. We now have a monthly blank list of jobs on the Notice Board and when someone can attend the Church and clean a certain area; they date and write their name in the area they have

cleaned on this list. This seems to be working really well as having a team of cleaners meeting on a certain day and time doesn't always work due to other commitments. We would like to thank Anne Ashman, Paul Skinner, Ruth Hann, Jean Jane, Wendy Wood, Gillian Bullock and Debbie McEntee who are the names written on these lists over the past year.

*DEBBIE MCENTEE*

### Linen and Silver Cleaning

In 2021 we welcomed some new people to join the linen and silver cleaning rotas. I am pleased to report that we have kept the same team during last year. This has been greatly appreciated and we would like to thank the teams for their care and diligence in looking after the linen and silverware.

<i>Silver Cleaning Team</i>	<i>Linen Cleaning Team</i>
Judith Newton	Diana Colwell
Sheila Miles	Sue Newell
Ruth Medhurst	Isabel Osborne
Jean Jane	Wendy Wood
	Jean Jane

## Ministry of Service – Holy Saviour

Server – Helen Thomas

Organist – Charmian Horseman

Intercessions - Lily Munday, Iain Brownlie and sometimes Lynnette Weekly

Reader - Tina Nagel [but would like another one]

The cleaning of the Silver and Linen – is shared between three people, mostly by Helen Thomas, Lily Munday and sometimes by Iain Brownlie.

The Flowers - are done for the two services each month by Beryl Drake, Helen Thomas and Lily Munday.

The cleaning of the church to done mostly by Charmian Horseman and Lily Munday when she cleans the hall.

We all work well together to have the services running smoothly and would like to thank everyone for all the work done last year.

## Mothers' Union

Our theme for 2021 was "Transformation Now". We held our AGM in January and the committee remained the same. We joined Dilton Marsh MU for the Wave of Prayer in February. Members appreciated the thoughtful and reflective services of The World day of Prayer and the Stations of the Cross. We were pleased to take part in the Mothering Sunday Service which was held in Victoria Gardens.

During the year we had some inspiring speakers, our curate Rev. Holly Newton telling us about her journey to become a priest, Rev. Margaret Davies who led our Quiet Day, Nicky Nicholas from the Salisbury Refuge, Agnes Capes who talked about some of the Church stained glass windows and the Rev. Helen Durant Stevenson who gave the address at our Patronal Festival. Members also enjoyed our outing to Southwick Park for afternoon tea and in July joining Dilton Marsh MU for their visit to Gloucester to lunch at the Highfield Garden Centre and then to see the Cathedral.

People also enjoyed members own meetings where we discussed the subject "valuing women" and shared holiday experiences. Some members were able to attend the Spring Gathering at Market Lavington where we met our new Diocesan President Sandra Gamble, and the Festival Service at Salisbury Cathedral for the commissioning of Sandra and the Trustees. Unfortunately, we had to cancel our Carol Service due to the snowy weather.

In September we were very sorry to hear Rita Day had died. She was a loyal and longstanding member of our MU. We are very grateful to the congregation and friends who supported our coffee morning and Mary Sumner tea party, raising funds for the Holiday Home at Rockley Park and Overseas projects, and collecting items for the Refuge. We would like to express our thanks to the clergy and churchwardens for their prayers and support throughout the year.

*JEAN JANE*

## Open Church

We continued to maintain our mission of opening the Church daily during 2022. We were closed for short periods in the Spring and Summer due to anti-social behaviour from a small number of young people. We are grateful to Wiltshire Police and 4Youth (SouthWest) for their support in working together to solve the problems.

Many people enjoy the quiet space that the church provides for private prayer or just to enjoy the beauty of the building. Thank you to the small number of volunteers who enable this important mission to continue. If you think you might be able to help, please get in touch. *BETH THOMAS*

## Parish Hall Redevelopment

During 2022 the Steering Group focused on further consultation with the community and applying for Planning Permission for the proposed works. A successful application will reduce one element of risk for potential funders. A meeting with was held in March in collaboration with Leigh Park Community Centre to talk about the needs of our community and possible partnerships in the future.

In June we held a public consultation weekend. We invited users, neighbours and residents to come in to find out more about our plans and to seek their support for our vision.

An application for planning permission was submitted in September. At the time of writing we are still awaiting a decision.

2023 is the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Parish Hall and we will be spending the year seeking funds for the plan.

The Steering Group are accountable to the PCC and report to every meeting on their activity. The Steering Group would welcome volunteers to lead on fundraising and with project management. *BETH THOMAS*

## Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Since our last APCM held on the 15<sup>th</sup> May 2022, the PCC have met 5 times as a Standing Committee and 5 times as a Full PCC. At last year's APCM, Beth Thomas and Ruth Hann were elected as Churchwardens for All Saints Church. All elected PCC Members at the last APCM remain on the PCC and the meetings all went ahead as face to face meetings.

We debated, had opinions and different points of view contributing to the meetings, since May 2022 we have discussed:-

Safeguarding

Domestic Abuse Policy

Fairer Share Policy

Eco-Church

Parish Giving Policy

4Youth Cafe

Benefice Council

Fellowship

Covid Review

We have kept our usual weekly Sunday Communion Services, together with an 8am and Mission Praise once a month. The Wednesday Communion Service meets weekly, during Winter this has been held at Chantry Court. Holy Saviour still has a monthly Communion Service.

We are still mindful of Covid and keep anti-bac available before communion together with intinction and the offertory plate is not passed around the congregation.

We would like to thank all the new and previous PCC Members for their time, opinions and dedication to the PCC and all they have achieved. *DEBBIE MCENTEE*

## Safeguarding Report

There are 46 names on the Westbury Parish Safeguarding Data list, excluding the Rector. The people are up to date with their training etc., apart from one, and that is being attended to.

In March, there was a well-attended Domestic Abuse Course at Leigh Park Community Centre.

In May, the Parish Safeguarding Officer completed the Induction Course from Salisbury, via Zoom!

In June, the Diocesan ISVA Officer contacted the Westbury PSO on a matter of some concern, as a result of a report they had received. It was settled swiftly because the Rector was already involved with the person concerned, and was able to reassure the Officer.

In June, we hosted the Basic Training Course in All Saints, delivered by Yvette Croft, which was also well attended. The Church Notice Board, concerning Safeguarding has been brought up to date.

*BRIDGET SANDERS - Safeguarding Officer*

## Saints Alive!

We held three high quality led art workshops were held in All Saints Church during half term in February 2022. A total of 53 participants (33 young people & 20 adults or 14 families) attended the sessions. The ages of the young people ranged from 8 – 13. The workshops were supported by a grant from the Adhelm Mission Fund.

The feedback from the participants was overwhelmingly positive. Most had been in All Saints' Church before for events such as the Christmas Tree Festival and the Christingle service or with their primary school. The workshops provided a way to create a stronger link with these families. All respondents to the feedback survey said that they would come to future similar events.

If further funding can be found a similar workshop programme would be a positive way to engage young people and their families with All Saints' Church in the future.

*BETH THOMAS*

## Tea, Cake and Company

to the Parish Hall for the winter months as the church became too cold. Signs have been put up to ensure people can find the correct venue and this move has worked well, with the hall providing a warmer space. The colder weather has had an impact on numbers, with some regular attendees feeling unable to get out in the colder months. However, we are hopeful that people will feel able to come back to the sessions in Spring 2023.

Numbers have fluctuated between around 15 and 25 attendees, including team members. Each session has received positive feedback and we believe that these sessions are proving to be of benefit to church members and the wider community. We look forward to continuing with Tea, Cake and Company into 2023.

A huge thank you to all those who have been involved in these sessions and for all of the hard work which has gone into making them a success.

*REVD HOLLY NEWTON*

## Westbury Prayer Network

This year we have had 11 people sharing in this. Prayer requests are usually given to me to forward to the others in confidence. It can be a request for people or for situations or activities about which people are concerned. We keep these requests in our prayers until we have further news. If you have a request or would like to join the group please contact me on 01373- 827912

*DAVID HART*