



Elmdon
Church

“The Church in the Park”

A growing Church

The PCC’s report for 2018 and 2019

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Produced by the Parochial Church Council for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting,
to be held on Monday 29th April 2019, 8.00pm at “the Church in the Park”

Church information

Address	Elmdon Church (also known as “the Church in the Park”) Church Lane, Elmdon Park, Solihull B92 9EJ
Rector	Revd Toby Crowe Elmdon Rectory, 86 Tanhouse Farm Road, Solihull B92 9EY
Licensed Readers in 2018	Robert Dean, Richard Huss, Karen Matthews
Churchwardens	Cheryl Doyle, Anne Milne
Children’s & Families’ Worker	Melody Pearson (until June 2018), Kelly Purdy (from August)

The business of the Church is carried out through the Parochial Church Council (PCC). This met eight times during 2018, including one extraordinary meeting to approve the accounts and one immediately after the last APCM to appoint PCC officers. The job of the PCC is to co-operate with the Rector in promoting the mission of the church: pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical.

PCC members, 2017 - 18

Revd Toby Crowe	Chair
Cheryl Doyle	Churchwarden, ex officio member, Deanery Synod
Anne Milne	Churchwarden, ex officio member
Christine Arnsby	Deanery Synod, ex officio member, Minutes Secretary
Patricia Coleman-Taylor	Safeguarding Co-ordinator
Rob Dean	Appointed to PCC by 2018 APCM, Deanery Synod, Vice Chair
Karen Matthews	Appointed to PCC by 2018 APCM, Deanery Synod

Elected Members to serve until APCM in:

<i>2019</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>
Moyra Bate	Patricia Coleman-Taylor	Alan Carter
Alan Doyle (PCC Treasurer)	John Eyles	David Cole
Pat Young (resigned 2019)	David Kimber	Lesley Huss
Vacancy	Richard Salt	Carol Janes

Co-opted members (2018): Charlie Gibbs and Sheila Ross

Other Officers appointed by the PCC

Electoral Roll Officer	Patricia Coleman-Taylor (appointed January 2019)
Hall manager (Coppice Road)	Pat Lyons (not a PCC Member)
Hall manager (Gaydon Road)	Joyce Taylor (not a PCC Member)

Introduction by the Rector

“Go, and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19).

Like Easter, the cuckoo and the FA Cup, church annual meetings always come in the spring. This is appropriate, because Easter and spring in their own different ways both tell the story of God’s promised new life.

Although the business of an APCM is formally to look back at the previous year and digest all the lessons of the past, it’s impossible to do this properly (and would be less than helpful any way) unless we were always, at the same time, looking ahead, with our eyes firmly fixed on the future.

So in this report you are reading now, we look back at 2018 - 19 and we look forward to 2019 - 20, and all the challenges and joys it will bring – and make no mistake about it, this is an exciting time in the life of Elmdon Church.

But we also look much further back, and possibly much further forward, to those things which animate all our church life, and make what we do so significant. We look back to Christ’s sacrificial death on the cross, his rising to life and the gift of his Spirit. We look forward to the time of his coming again, when he comes bringing condemnation to the ungodly, but to those who ‘hear his word and believe the One who sent him’ (John 5:24) redemption, and fullness of life.

And here is the starting point for all our discipleship, and for our commission to make other people into disciples as well: Jesus Christ, dead and resurrected, in whom his people will cross over from death into life.

Our task in 2019-20, as it is every year, is twofold. First, we are to grow as disciples ourselves. If you don’t yet know Jesus, talk to me or another church leader. We’d love to see waves of blessing pour down on your life.

And the second thing we are here for is to help others become disciples, as we hold the word of life before them and pray for their trust and conversion. If there is anything in this report which you can’t read as in some way realising one of these two things – discipleship and evangelism – please tell us at the meeting and (if we’re persuaded) we’ll stop it at once. ‘The time is coming’, as Jesus says. Given all that could be gained and all that could be lost, time is far too precious a commodity to waste or fritter away. The time is coming, my friends: surge forwards!

Toby Crowe, Rector

Electoral Roll

A new electoral roll will be published on 16th April. We expect it to contain about **90** names. We hope that it will give a realistic picture of who comes regularly to Elmdon Church. We mourn David Arnsby, whose name will be missing from this new roll, and also Terry Haden.

Contact: Patricia Coleman-Taylor

ATTENDANCE

Another year of growth – in parts

The usual weekly attendance for the parish in 2018 was **138**, compared to 115 in 2017, comprising on average **107** adults and **31** children (in 2017, 97 adults and 19 children). Much of this increase is attributable to our children's work, particularly 'Acorns', our stay-and-play for toddlers, pre-schoolers and their carers.

Average attendance at the main Sunday service at Elmdon Church remained the same at 91 (2017: 91) made up of 75 adults and 16 children (2017: 75 and 16).

A typical Sunday in 2018 saw an average attendance across all services of 98 (79 adults, 19 children), a small increase on 2017 (92, comprising 76 adults and 16 children). This reflects the introduction of 'Fun and Faith' one Sunday afternoon each month, replaced in the autumn by 'Roots and Shoots'. Neither really flourished in the manner hoped for (many of those attending were existing churchgoers), and this activity ceased at the start of 2019.

From 2015 onwards we have additionally been recording additional data on the numbers of 'unique worshippers' each week, avoiding double-counting of those who attend more than one service. Our data for 2018 indicates an average of 93 unique adults and 30 unique children (2017: 87 and 18), for a weekly average of 123 individuals (2017: 106).

There has been a further significant decline in attendance at the Monday service at Gaydon Road, and a small increase at the Tuesday service at Coppice Road. Provision of both services is kept under continuous review.

These figures are further analysed below, with figures for 2017 shown in parentheses:

	Adults	Children	Total
Elmdon Church: Sunday morning	75.0 (75.1)	16.3 (15.5)	91.3 (90.6)
<i>Parade Service</i>	<i>91.6 (77.1)</i>	<i>28.2 (21.4)</i>	<i>119.8 (98.5)</i>
<i>Other non-Eucharistic services</i>	<i>72.9 (61.7)</i>	<i>12.3 (8.3)</i>	<i>85.1 (70.0)</i>
<i>Holy Communion</i>	<i>70.4 (74.2)</i>	<i>13.2 (13.2)</i>	<i>83.7 (87.4)</i>
<i>Baptisms and Thanksgivings*</i>	<i>112.2 (98.1)</i>	<i>27.5 (20.9)</i>	<i>139.8 (119.0)</i>
Elmdon Church: Fun and Faith / Roots and Shoots	14.7 (12.0)	11.5 (8.3)	26.2 (20.3)
Elmdon Church: Acorns	20.2 (16.0)	19.8 (14.2)	40.0 (30.2)
Gaydon Road: Mondays	10.8 (13.8)	0.0 (0.1)	10.8 (13.9)
Coppice Road: Tuesdays	10.2 (9.6)	0.0 (0.0)	10.2 (9.6)

* *Baptism services, services at major festivals etc. are excluded from the overall attendance figures.*

THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Our church in 2018: review

Our core attendance figure grew again in 2018, but we remain aware that even some regular attenders have yet to make a commitment to Christ and his people. We therefore continue to pray for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on his Church in Elmdon and the community it serves, and we resolve to focus even more intentionally on helping people to become disciples of the risen Lord: discipleship for church members, and evangelism for everyone else.

Discipleship

Preaching *Co-ordinated by Toby Crowe*

We spent the whole of 2018 going through Mark's gospel, finishing just before Christmas. This was a great opportunity to get back to the basics of our faith: that Jesus is our only Lord and Saviour, and that we are therefore called to live lives of obedience to him.

We were delighted, in 2018, to welcome Dave Kimber to the preaching team. Team members have continued to meet quarterly to talk through sermons we are working on, and to improve our preaching to the glory of God.

Kids in Christ *Co-ordinated by Lesley Huss (school age) & Jean Eyles (toddlers & pre-schoolers)*

We run groups for children and young people during most Holy Communion services. The sessions focus on Bible teaching and prayer, supported by various activities which are age-appropriate and which take all our differences into account.

A number of children and young people have additional needs, including autism and ADHD, so our leadership teams have taken part in awareness sessions on these conditions.

Among our primary-aged children, we are aware that there are different ways of learning, and that some flourish better in different environments. Consequently we are now planning to split this group in two: one will be an 'action' group, with crafts, games, drama and other activities; the other will be a more reflective discussion group. Arrangements for our teenagers will also change, allowing them increasingly to become their own leaders.

Our youngest children, the toddlers and pre-schoolers, have had another year of fun and frolicking! Numbers have certainly grown, and there is now an average attendance of five or six. This group has gained a leader, lost a leader, and recruited new helpers; but there is always space for anyone else who would like to assist with any of the groups – please have a word with the relevant co-ordinator!

Some highlights of 2018 were:

- The primary-aged children reading a Bible passage together and discussing it: a 'proper' Bible study!
- Two children expressing interest in sharing Holy Communion, and another one asking questions at home about life and faith.
- Our young people regularly thinking together and talking in depth about the Bible and how it affects their lives.

- Our young people showing love and support to each other, especially during a recent period when one of them was ill.
- One of our young people speaking to the whole church with conviction and passion in response to some adults talking about each other in ways that were not loving or honouring.

Bible study groups *Rob Dean (mixed groups), Jean Eyles (women) & Elizabeth Smye (families)*

We now have four groups, meeting on different days and at different venues. Two meet in homes and two at “the Church in the Park”. Our midweek meetings in the church halls are also increasingly acting as Bible study groups too. Total membership of the four main groups is over thirty, and is slowly growing. In all the groups we aim to improve our knowledge of the Bible and to grow in love and obedience. We believe that those who attend are becoming more confident in reading and applying God’s word, and are growing together in faith, hope and love. Since small groups must be a key element in our discipleship strategy, we are always looking for ways in which these gatherings might better help us to become more like Jesus.

1:1 ministry *Co-ordinated by Toby Crowe*

The third key element in our discipleship work, besides preaching and small groups, is the ministry that we have as individuals, to other individuals: ‘encouraging one another and building each other up’ if they are Christians (I Thessalonians 5:11) and being ‘prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks us to give a reason for the hope that we have’ if they are not (I Peter 3:15). This will most often be done informally, in conversation, but we will increasingly be building intentional spiritual mentoring and support into our church practice. Various church members are undertaking mentoring training in spring 2019, and further support will be offered to those who are called to open God’s word with others in a focused, purposeful way.

Prayer group *Co-ordinated by Rob Dean*

Our Prayer Group meets fortnightly on a Monday night. We meet to pray for the needs of the church, the world, and those things requested by church members and others. We also pray that the Lord will bring new members into the life of his Church, and that we will spread his love. We promote more personal prayer too. We regularly see evidence of God at work in human lives.

Prayer evening *Co-ordinated by Cheryl Doyle & Toby Crowe*

Our monthly prayer meeting takes place on the second Tuesday of the month and is an opportunity for all church members to join together in prayer. We pray for the world, for individuals and the Church (in Elmdon and elsewhere); and, at least as importantly, we pray for open ears and hearts that we might hear what the Lord is saying to us. We continue to encourage all who consider themselves believing members of our church to come along, and we look forward to seeing God work in power during the course of 2019.

Prayer ministry *Co-ordinated by John & Jean Eyles*

We continue to provide confidential prayer for anyone who asks for it. We are not counsellors, and our question is always ‘What do you want Jesus to do for you today?’. We have seen many answers to prayer, and we would love to see more people sharing in the news time what God has done for them.

We are always looking for more people to serve in this ministry: training will be provided! We are also planning a meeting for team members in spring 2019; and hope that we can invite someone to come in and give us further support later in the year. We also need to work out a way to keep the ministry space free after the service, and gently invite those who do not need prayer ministry to move upstairs for refreshments so that we can work in peace!

Prayer chain

Co-ordinated by Jean Eyles

This is a group which prays through urgent and emergency prayer requests, maybe once or twice per month. Please contact us at [**prayer@elmdonchurch.org**](mailto:prayer@elmdonchurch.org)

Eco-Church

Co-ordinated by Lesley Huss

Stewardship of God's creation is a biblical responsibility on all people, in which the Church should be taking a lead (Genesis 1:28). We are currently working towards achieving bronze Eco-Church status as a sign of our intention and desire to do this. Our aspiration is being reflected in our teaching, in the ways that we look after our buildings and land, in our engagement with the local community and in global campaigns, and in our own personal lifestyles.

Some examples of this:

- 'All things bright and beautiful?', our sermon series in Lent 2019, looking at creation from a biblical perspective: God's act of **creation** (Genesis 1), his **commission** to humanity (Genesis 1), the **catastrophe** unleashed by human sin (Genesis 3), the **confidence** he gives us of redemption to follow (Isaiah 35), the second coming of **Christ**, who makes all things new (Colossians 1) and the **conclusion** that we are promised, of a new heaven and earth (Revelation 21 & 22).
- We have worked hard to clear the back garden of the hall on Coppice Road. A raised bed has been created, and tubs have been planted.
- A wildflower area has been set up in Elmdon churchyard.
- Some of our congregation have been involved in the monthly Elmdon Park litter-picks.
- There is now a weekly eco-tip in the prayer sheet.
- The Church Council (PCC) has agreed that all cleaning products used on our premises should be environmentally-friendly where possible.
- The PCC has agreed to prohibit single-use plastic cups and cutlery on church premises.
- Church members have attended various Christian conferences on environmental issues.
- We now have recycling facilities for pens, printer cartridges and milk bottle tops, besides the regular paper, cardboard, plastics and metal.
- John Plumb, a local Christian farmer and chair of the Agricultural Christian Fellowship, spoke at a meeting of the Tuesday group on Coppice Road.

Evangelism

Christian Basics courses *Co-ordinated by Toby Crowe*

In 2018 we continued to offer two regular Christian Basics courses: 'Start!' and 'Christianity Explored'. Take-up, however, remained small, and we know that people are far more likely to attend if invited by a person they already know. So we continue in our desire to see the church's own confidence grow in sharing the good news of Jesus with our family, friends, neighbours and work colleagues; and we recognise that courses such as this, however valuable, can never take the place of the individual witness of Christian believers in the relationships they already have with the people around them.

Open Church *Co-ordinated by Morris & Sheila Ross*

This is our evangelistic event on a Sunday afternoon when we offer (free) refreshments and share the good news of Jesus with anyone who comes, clearly and explicitly. We are confident that everyone will be confronted with the need to take a decision for him. We offer various tracts and leaflets, and always invite people (if they are local) to join us on Sunday mornings at "the Church in the Park". We are delighted that we have seen some of them follow through into attendance at our main services or at Acorns, and pray that this will happen more; but most of all we pray for conversions. Committed Christians would be most welcome to join us in this valuable ministry.

Parish visiting *Co-ordinated by John Eyles & Rob Dean*

This is our programme of door-to-door visiting around the parish which started in 2018. We go out once a month during the lighter months. Residents each receive a letter in the week before we come, telling them to expect us. We are then available to tell them about our Christian faith and to answer any questions they have. We pray for more members to join the team, and that we will see even more transformational conversations in 2019.

Acorns *Co-ordinated by Melody Pearson (until June 2018) & Kelly Purdy (now)*

This is a relaxed and friendly group for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers, together with their parents, grandparents and carers. It meets every Wednesday morning in term-time. During 2018 we changed the day and slightly reformatted it, aided by changes we have made to the way we use the building generally.

We begin with a time of free play, using a variety of toys, equipment and craft activities. We are currently working our way through the biblical alphabet (you can see this displayed on the wall). There is a Bible story downstairs, followed by toast and drinks. After more play, we finish with songs and our 'Thank you' prayer, which is also used in our Sunday toddler group for consistency (since we want to see Acorns attenders join us on Sundays as well).

Our aim is to welcome people in, help them to feel relaxed and then, God willing, to initiate conversations about Christian faith and commitment.

Our attendance numbers grow throughout the school year (most children 'graduate' in July, so we start from a low base in September). We are always keen to recruit new helpers. Please talk to Kelly if you think this might be you!

Fun and Faith, relaunched as **Roots & Shoots** in October 2018
Co-ordinated by Melody Pearson (until June 2018) & Kelly Purdy (now)

This met on the first Sunday of the month, in the afternoon, and was aimed at children of primary-school age and their families. We shared crafts, songs and a cooked meal. We focused on a different Bible passage every time, and the craft activities were based around it.

Although this group had great potential, it never really ignited as a monthly event, we think because it was actually quite hard to publicise it effectively. We therefore decided in early 2019 to do it just three or four times a year (Easter, harvest, Christmas and perhaps one other); and to investigate different ways of spreading the word to families which would be a more effective use of our time and resources.

Weddings and funerals *Co-ordinated and led by Toby Crowe*

Numbers of weddings continue to decline over time, in line with the national statistics. We hosted six in 2018 (compared to 15 or so in 2012). We have even fewer booked for 2019. Numbers of funerals, both in church and in local crematoria continue to hold up, though this has involved considerable relational work with funeral directors. It is always hard to quantify the gospel benefits from our involvement in wedding and funeral ministry, particularly in relation to weddings; but funerals especially still give us the opportunity to share our faith and make a difference to people's lives. It will be worth reviewing this ministry in 2019 to see if we can achieve even more through it.

Schools work *Co-ordinated and led by Toby Crowe*

We still have a great opportunity in our schools, both through our leading of assemblies and through the work that at least two church members do as school governors. We would warmly encourage others to join school governing bodies too. In addition, we ask our three local schools to distribute our publicity leaflets at Easter, harvest and Christmas.

Social media *Co-ordinated by Richard Huss and Emma Crowe*

We continue to work through our website and Facebook page, though less so through Twitter. There is a great deal more that we could do if our capacity were bigger. Please pray for new people to join our church, who are or will become committed Christian disciples, and who have the gifts and the calling to share in this valuable work.

LOOKING AHEAD...

There will be huge opportunities in this area over the next few years. The coming of HS2 means that we will see many new residents moving in, some of whom will be looking for a gospel church to join. There will be Christians elsewhere in Solihull and East Birmingham who would also like to join such a church, but who do not know we are here: this is one reason why we need to build our social media profile.

No less importantly, of course, new people means more people to evangelise; and, related to this, there may be the possibility of working more closely in the parish of St Mary's, Hobs Moat, as well.

The sale of the Gaydon Road site in two years' time will potentially release a large amount of capital for investment in kingdom work. We may, at that time, be in a position to develop some targeted youth work: an area which is currently lacking in our church's ministry 'portfolio'.

OUR PLAN FOR GROWTH IN 2019

Agreed by the PCC on 5th March 2019, following much deliberation and prayer.

The purpose of everything we do is to help people know and follow God better, in his Son Jesus Christ, by the power of his Holy Spirit. For believers this is called 'discipleship'; for unbelievers it is called 'evangelism'. Our work is expressed through three areas of ministry, and a committed church member will take part in all three. In addition, every committed church member will have particular roles in one or more of the three: there are no 'sleeping partners' in God's Church, and nobody retires from being an active part of it.

Shaping. We grow in the likeness of Christ, together.

As Christians we expect & desire transformation, and encourage it in others through 1:1 ministry.

Some of us will be involved in reviewing or running Sunday services (incl. groups for children & young people), Bible study groups, Eco-Church, occasional courses, pastoral work, prayer events, training & formal 1:1 work.

Sharing. We tell the good news of God's kingdom, together.

As Christians we model Christlikeness and engage in personal evangelism through 1:1 ministry.

Some of us will be involved in reviewing and running Acorns, basics courses, Roots & Shoots, Open Church, door-to-door visiting, schools' work, other outreach work, our social media campaigns and formal 1:1 work.

Supporting. We sustain our work and our witness, together.

As Christians we pray for the church and contribute sacrificially with both money and time. Our aspiration, individually and as a church, is to give 10% of our income to support Kingdom work.

Some of us will be involved in more formal prayer groups, prayer ministry or the prayer chain, in administration or in managing our finances and building stock.

Gospel emphases

1. How can we tell that we are doing the right thing? *Does a discipleship activity help us to know Jesus more, by the power of the Holy Spirit? Does an evangelistic activity help unbelievers to start following him, by the power of that same Spirit? All our activities will be aimed at one of these things, and assessed accordingly.*

2. Prayer. *We will pray for growth in Christlikeness, and that many will come to know Jesus here.*

3. The Bible. *We will teach and model a faith that takes the Scriptures seriously as God's sufficient and authoritative word. We will teach what the Bible says.*

4. Christ's cross. *We will put Jesus's death and resurrection at the centre of our church life, and continually draw unbelievers' attention to the truth of the cross.*

5. Conversion. *We will stress God's loving election and calling of his people, and the consequent need for them to accept Jesus personally as Saviour and Lord. As a church, we will tell unbelievers of the eternal consequences of not turning to Christ for mercy and life, the depth of commitment involved in doing so, and the fullness and joy that result when we do. We will pray and work for conversions, both within and outside our church.*

6. Transformation. *We will challenge ungodliness and sin at every level, most especially our own.*

Safeguarding

The Church of England requires its parish churches to adopt a number of processes and policies around safeguarding. This includes the appointment of a Safeguarding Coordinator and an individual with specific responsibility for safeguarding within the Parochial Church Council (PCC). Currently Elmdon has one individual with responsibility for both of these roles.

The safeguarding requirements are determined by the National Safeguarding Team who lead on these issues for the Church of England. The Diocese of Birmingham then provide guidance to each parish on how these are to be implemented.

The instructions from the National Safeguarding Team are made with the support and approval of the House of Bishops and are designed to make sure that parish churches understand and comply with increasingly complicated legal requirements whilst ensuring that the church properly fulfils its spiritual and moral obligations. The House of Bishop's guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults can be found under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

At Elmdon, the Parochial Church Council oversees the management of safeguarding children and vulnerable adults in the parish and determines how best to implement the requirements with consideration to the advice provided from the Diocese of Birmingham. The PCC provides policies on Safeguarding and Domestic Violence which can be found on the Elmdon Church website and are displayed on the church noticeboard.

All staff and volunteers in roles which involve working with children or vulnerable adults are recruited according to the House of Bishops Safer Recruitment Practice Guidance. For those in eligible roles this includes us undertaking checks with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

Training for our clergy, staff and volunteers in safeguarding matters is mandated by national Church of England requirements. The level of training required depends on the role being performed. The management of safeguarding training for clergy and staff is the responsibility of the Diocese, but the responsibility for ensuring our volunteers are trained remains with the PCC.

The training currently available by the Church of England and the Diocese of Birmingham for our staff and volunteers is modular in nature and includes Core and Specialist modules. In most cases it is only the core modules that are relevant.

Ongoing work on safeguarding for the next 12 months is:

- completion of safeguarding training by all volunteers in relevant roles.
- refreshing the parish action plan to continue to identify areas for improvement.
- continued encouragement to raise welfare concerns.
- greater embedding of Safeguarding into the culture and day-to-day activity of the church.

Contact: Patricia Coleman-Taylor, Safeguarding Co-ordinator

Supporting mission elsewhere

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is committed to promoting the mission of the worldwide church, and has appointed a Mission Support Group (MSG) to help it in this work. MSG members are currently Rob Dean, Lesley & Richard Huss, Allan Jones and Elaine Malkin.

The group aims to:

- Encourage interest in mission elsewhere and share news of our mission partners.
- Work to build an understanding of the global church as interdependent and interconnected, with ourselves and those working overseas seen as partners together in the gospel.
- Encourage prayer for our mission partners and raise funds to support their work.
- Raise people's expectations so that support for mission elsewhere is seen not as an add-on 'extra' to our main work in Elmdon, but an integral part of what we do.

The PCC and MSG participated in a mission consultation early in 2019, facilitated by Crosslinks, in order to think through the theological basis of mission support. We discovered that the most theologically sound way of sharing the good news of Christ is in partnership with other Christians, working together as equals; and that this includes praying for each other, two-way communication, giving financially, and giving in response to specific needs (financially or otherwise).

A further PCC/MSG meeting is planned for 2019 to think through the practical outworkings of this in Elmdon.

Throughout 2018 we continued to partner with Gift and Kathryn Asiku, working for Wycliffe Bible Translators in Uganda. One of our children's group sessions focused on the Asikus' work and everyday life, and the group refreshed Elmdon's mission support board to reflect what they had discovered. We enjoyed welcoming the Asikus again when they visited Elmdon in April 2019.

We are also currently partnering with Francis Sender, a Crosslinks BEST study partner from Tanzania, studying for an MA in Uganda. He recently created a personalised video message for us which was shown during a Sunday service. In response to the theft of Francis's laptop in August 2018, members of the congregation contributed towards a replacement and we were delighted that donations came to more than enough to purchase a machine for him.

Finally, we continue to give financially to CPAS, a charity resourcing UK churches; and to overseas relief and development charities Send a Cow and Tearfund. We also send regular donations of food to local foodbank Helping Hands, and we welcomed Yvonne Glover from that organisation at one of our Sunday services, who spoke to us about their much-needed work.

Contact: Richard and Lesley Huss

Hatchford Brook Churches Together (HBCT)

Member churches include Lyndon Methodist Church; St Mary's, Hobs Moat; the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG); St Giles, Sheldon; St Thomas More and Sheldon Community Church (SCC), besides ourselves. Other churches, such as our brothers and sisters at Solihull Presbyterian Church, meet in the area but do not participate in HBCT activities.

The aim of HBCT is to be a visibly united witness of faith in Christ Jesus, and to dispel myths and confusion among outsiders and members caused by our separateness and differences in style. We seek to fulfil Christ's command in John 13:35: 'By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another'.

We support each other in prayer and other ways, in order to win people for Christ. Activities in 2018 included the united service in January (marking the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity), Women's World Day of Prayer united service, a united 'soup and roll' lunch with a reflection for Lent, a 'Walk of Witness' on Good Friday (led by Lyndon and SCC), an Easter Sunday Sunrise service (led last year by Elmdon) and Christmas carol-singing at Sheldon Tesco, where we handed out leaflets and engaged in brief conversations.

At the annual meeting in June we heard from our newest member, RCCG, about their formation and aspirations to win people for Christ around the Coventry Road area, and to help believers grow in their faith.

Other commitments permitting, the various ordained ministers continued to meet together for breakfast, discussion, encouragement and prayer on a monthly basis.

The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting on 6th June 2019, 7.30 pm at St Mary's Hobs Moat, to which all are welcome.

Contact: Christine Arnsby

OUR FINANCES

The PCC is responsible for the church's finances, though it delegates management of these to the PCC Treasurer, Alan Doyle.

There are also separate accounts for the two freestanding halls, one managed by the PCC Treasurer and the other by Tony Shaw on the PCC's behalf. Expenditure from these accounts is approved by the PCC before work is commissioned, although the PCC does allow small amounts of routine expenditure (eg. for utility bills) to be paid by certain officers and appointees without further reference to it. A fabric account for the parish is overseen by Alan Doyle.

Income

Most of our income comes through stewardship, which includes direct debits, envelope-giving, cheques, standing orders, covenants, Gift Aid, plate collections and donations. Other sources of income have typically been wedding and funeral fees plus (in the past) legacies, the fun day and Christmas bazaars and social events.

In 2019, our costs will continue to rise, but we have also committed ourselves to paying the full cost of the Rector's stipend. We rejoice that, if we are able to do this, then we will no longer be subsidised by the rest of the Church of England in Birmingham. Our next goal should surely be to start contributing to the ministry costs of other churches, in poorer areas.

We must therefore plan and budget for a continued increase in giving in the years ahead. This will ensure, not only our own financial viability, but also that we can bless other churches in more straitened situations and places.

Fees paid for church work

In 2018, the church paid an organist's fee for weddings and funerals at which the organ was played. A vergers received a fee for duties carried out at these services, and a sexton was paid a fee for digging plots for the interment of cremated remains.

Financial Reserves Policy

The Charity endeavours to maintain finances at an appropriate level to facilitate day-to-day activities and also to finance upkeep of our buildings

OTHER INFORMATION

Our buildings

We currently use three buildings. The church building itself is in the middle of Elmdon Park and is known as “the Church in the Park”. The main Sunday service is held here, as well as all baptisms, weddings, and funerals. We also own two freestanding halls, one on Gaydon Road and one on Coppice Road. Midweek services are currently held in these on Monday and Tuesday afternoons (except for the first week in the month).

The freestanding halls are vested in the Birmingham Diocesan Board of Trustees who hold property on behalf of (and acting in the interests of) Parochial Church Councils in the diocese. The Elmdon Parochial Church Council owns the properties and are the Managing Trustees, though they delegate day-to-day management to appointed officers. Both of these halls are at the end of their lives, and one or both sites will be sold in 2021. It is possible that we will retain the Coppice Road site at that time, with a smaller building redevelopment envisaged.

PCC membership

It was agreed at the 2011 APCM that, from 2012, there should be twelve elected PCC members and that the term of office for elected members should thereafter be three years, the starting period for existing members to be staggered over the next three years to ensure an overlap of duty. The APCM also decided that Readers who wished it should be appointed as members of the PCC by virtue of their office.

At the 2019 APCM four members end their terms but are eligible for re-election. Others may, of course, choose to step down before the end of their terms. Nominations are therefore requested for at least four PCC members to serve for a term of three years. Elections will take place if there are more nominations than vacancies.

Every year the PCC appoints a Standing Committee, which meets as necessary and reports to the next meeting of the PCC. Its members in 2018 were Toby Crowe (Rector), Cheryl Doyle (Churchwarden), Ann Milne (Churchwarden), Rob Dean (Vice Chair), Carol Janes (Secretary) and Alan Doyle (Treasurer). The members of the PCC are aware of the Charity Commission guidance on public benefits in 'the Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit' and have had regard to it in their administration of the PCC. The PCC believes that by promoting the work of the Church of England in the parish of Elmdon it provides a benefit to the public by:

- providing a facility for public worship and pastoral care both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church can offer; and
- promoting Christian values and services by members of the Church and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole

Annual Report of the Elmdon Parochial Church Council for 2018

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (THE PCC)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2018 which are set out on pages 17 to 27.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Jeremy Kitson ACA
Prime Chartered Accountants
Corner Oak
1 Homer Road
Solihull
B91 3QG

Date:

ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT - GENERAL FUND
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	Notes	2018		2017	
		£	£	£	£
Receipts					
<i>Voluntary Receipts</i>					
Planned Giving	5	52,975		45,301	
Collections and Donations		<u>5,974</u>		<u>6,605</u>	
			58,949		51,906
<i>Receipts from Activities for generating funds</i>					
B'ham International Airport Grant		-		-	
Teas		1,445		1,998	
Sundry Income		<u>526</u>		<u>3,129</u>	
			1,971		5,127
<i>Receipts from Church Activities</i>					
Wedding and Funeral Fees		<u>5,991</u>		<u>9,618</u>	
			5,991		9,618
<i>Receipts from Investments</i>					
Investment Income	6		<u>1,017</u>		<u>950</u>
Total receipts			67,928		67,601
Payments					
<i>Church Activities</i>					
Apportionment	7	43,069		41,388	
Decorations Scheme		-		-	
Church Projection System		-		-	
Charities	8	4,258		3,765	
Church running expenses		780		2,458	
Church and Churchyard	9	16,921		12,329	
Printing, postage and stationery		2,563		2,315	
Sundry Expenses	10	<u>452</u>		<u>2,313</u>	
			68,043		64,568
<i>Governance costs</i>					
Accountancy			<u>1,608</u>		<u>1,500</u>
Total payments			69,651		66,068
Transfers out of general fund			3,491		-
(Deficit)/Surplus of Receipts/Overpayments			<u>(5,214)</u>		<u>1,533</u>
Bank Balances 1 January			<u>11,280</u>		<u>9,747</u>
Bank Balances 31 December			<u>6,066</u>		<u>11,280</u>

ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT - RESTRICTED FUND
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	Notes	2018		2017	
		£	£	£	£
Receipts					
<i>Voluntary Receipts</i>					
Collections and Donations		<u>2,126</u>		<u>22,271</u>	
			2,126		22,271
<i>Receipts from Activities for generating funds</i>					
Sundry Income		<u>1,875</u>		<u>7,500</u>	
			1,875		7,500
<i>Receipts from Church Activities</i>					
Wedding and Funeral Fees		<u>3,626</u>		<u>6,135</u>	
			<u>3,626</u>		<u>6,135</u>
Total receipts			7,627		35,906
Payments					
<i>Church Activities</i>					
Church running expenses		4,260		7,500	
Church and Churchyard	9	<u>34,166</u>		<u>6,218</u>	
Total payments			38,426		13,718
Transfer from general funds			8,611		
(Deficit)/Surplus of Receipts/Overpayments			<u>(22,188)</u>		<u>22,188</u>
Bank Balances 1 January			<u>22,188</u>		=
Bank Balances 31 December			=		<u>22,188</u>

**ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT - DESIGNATED ACCOUNT
– FABRIC FUND**

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	2018		2017	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
<i>Voluntary Receipts</i>				
Transfer from Funds		-		-
 <i>Receipts from Church Activities</i>				
Weddings & Funeral Fees		420		3,740
 <i>Receipts from Investments</i>				
Interest on CBF Appeals Fund		—7		—4
Total receipts		427		3,744
Payments				
<i>Church Activities</i>				
Transfer between funds		-		2,600
Music Fund	295		325	
Total payments	—————	<u>295</u>	—————	<u>2,925</u>
(Deficit)/Surplus of receipts/overpayments		<u>132</u>		<u>819</u>
Bank Balances 1 January		<u>5,271</u>		<u>4,452</u>
Bank Balances 31 December		<u>5,403</u>		<u>5,271</u>

**ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT - DESIGNATED ACCOUNT
– VALLEY CHURCH CENTRE**

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	2018		2017	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
<i>Voluntary Receipts</i>				
Donations		-		-
 <i>Receipts from Church Activities</i>				
Income from organisations	8,536		7,016	
Outside Bookings	1,897		3,100	
Miscellaneous	20		60	
Solihull MBC	-		-	
Bazaar	-		1,233	
	10,453		11,409	
 <i>Receipts from Investments</i>				
Bank Interest		5		3
Total receipts		10,458		11,412
 Payments				
<i>Church Activities</i>				
Hall cleaning	1,665		1,834	
Maintenance and repair	147		2,735	
Light and Heat	2,918		2,077	
Water	101		97	
Insurance	838		923	
Bazaar	-		1,131	
Sundries	38		136	
Total payments		5,707		8,933
Transfer between funds		5,120		10,000
Deficit of receipts over payments		(369)		(7,521)
Bank Balances 1 January		18,650		26,171
Bank Balances 31 December		18,281		18,650

**ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT - DESIGNATED ACCOUNT
-ST STEPHENS HALL USERS**

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	2018		2017	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
<i>Receipts from Church Activities</i>				
Rents	8,629		8,451	
Functions	180		270	
Bazaar	-		683	
Transfer between Funds	-		-	
Holiday Camp Fund	-		-	
Grants and Donations	155		527	
	8,964		9,931	
<i>Receipts from Investments</i>				
Interest Received		9		4
Total receipts		8,973		9,935
Payments				
<i>Church Activities</i>				
Insurance	2,918		2,825	
Water Rates	288		247	
Telephone	204		216	
Electricity	2,153		2,224	
Cleaning	1,352		1,352	
Fire Security	318		309	
Maintenance	353		1,329	
Bazaar	-		270	
Sundry	81		-	
Total payments		7,667		8,772
(Deficit)/Surplus of receipts/overpayments		<u>1,306</u>		<u>1,163</u>
Bank Balances 1 January		<u>13,299</u>		<u>12,136</u>
Bank Balances 31 December		<u>14,605</u>		<u>13,299</u>

ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
CONSOLIDATED RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	General	Designated	Restricted	2018	2017
	£	£		Total	Total
				£	£
Receipts					
Planned Giving	52,975	-	-	52,975	45,301
Collections & Donations	5,974	-	2,126	8,100	28,936
B'ham International Airport Grant	-	-	-	-	-
Teas	1,445	-	-	1,445	1,998
Sundry Income	526	-	1,875	2,401	10,629
Wedding & Funeral Fees	5,991	420	3,626	10,037	19,493
Investment Income	1,017	21	-	1,038	961
Income from Organisations	-	8,536	-	8,536	7,016
Outside Bookings	-	1,897	-	1,897	3,100
Miscellaneous	-	20	-	20	60
Solihull MBC	-	-	-	-	-
Lighting fund	-	-	-	-	-
Rents	-	8,629	-	8,629	8,451
Functions	-	180	-	180	270
Bazaar	-	-	-	-	1,916
Harvest Supper	-	-	-	-	-
Grants & Donations	-	155	-	155	527
Total Receipts	<u>67,298</u>	<u>19,858</u>	<u>7,627</u>	<u>95,413</u>	<u>128,658</u>
Payments					
Apportionment	43,069	-	-	43,069	41,388
Decorations Scheme	-	-	-	-	-
Church Projection System	-	-	-	-	-
Charities	4,258	-	-	4,259	3,765
Church Running Expenses	780	-	4,260	5,040	9,958
Church & Churchyard	16,921	-	34,166	51,087	18,547
Printing, Postage & Stationary	2,563	-	-	2,563	2,315
Sundry Expenses	452	414	-	865	2,449
Accountancy	1,608	-	-	1,608	1,560
Electrical Work	-	-	-	-	-
Building Maintenance & Repairs	-	500	-	500	4,063
Cleaning	-	3,017	-	3,017	3,186
Reimbursement of plot fees	-	-	-	-	-
Light & Heat	-	5,071	-	5,071	4,302
Water	-	389	-	389	344
Insurance	-	3,756	-	3,756	3,748
Telephone	-	204	-	204	216
Fire Security	-	318	-	318	309
Holiday Camp Bazaar	-	-	-	-	-
Bazaar	-	-	-	-	1,401
Music Fund	-	-	-	-	325
Total Payments	<u>69,651</u>	<u>13,669</u>	<u>38,426</u>	<u>121,746</u>	<u>110,476</u>

ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AT 31 DECEMBER 2018

	Total	General	Restricted	Designated
	£	Fund	Fund	Funds
	£	£	£	£
Monetary Assets				
CBF deposit fund	8,227	5,872	-	2,355
Bank current accounts	27,062	(733)	-	27,795
Bank deposit accounts	<u>9,066</u>	<u>927</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,139</u>
	44,355	6,066	-	38,289
 Investments (at valuation at year end)				
CBF Share Portfolio	27,973	27,974	-	-
CBF Fixed Interest	<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u><u>72,527</u></u>	<u><u>33,850</u></u>	<u><u>389</u></u>	<u><u>38,288</u></u>

Other Assets

Properties vested in the Birmingham Diocesan Board of Trustees on behalf of the PCC:
 St Stephens Church Centre and Valley Church Centre

ANALYSIS OF DESIGNATED FUNDS

	Total	Fabric	Valley	St Stephens
	£	Fund	Church	Centre Hall Users
	£	£	£	£
CBF deposit fund	2,355	1,388	967	-
Bank current account	27,795	4,015	17,200	6,580
Bank deposit account	<u>8,139</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>114</u>	<u>8,025</u>
	<u><u>38,289</u></u>	<u><u>5,403</u></u>	<u><u>18,281</u></u>	<u><u>14,605</u></u>

These Financial Statements were approved by the Parochial Church Council on

..... and signed on behalf of the Council by:-

_____ Chair

_____ Churchwarden

_____ Churchwarden

**ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations issued in 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis, the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) and the Charities Act 2011.

Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any special restrictions regarding their use and are available for application to the general purposes of the PCC.

The accounts include monetary transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC can be held responsible. They do not include the accounts of other Church groups that owe an affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Subject to the above, receipts and payments include income as received and expenditure when irrevocably paid. Income Tax recoverable in respect of the year to 31 December is included in the receipts and payments accounts.

Non-monetary donations to the PCC are not included in the receipts and payments accounts, because they are incapable of being recorded at definite amounts. Where material, such items are referred to in the Annual Report.

All assets and liabilities are in respect of unrestricted funds.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

The following assets are recognised as being under the ownership of the PCC but are not included in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

- Movable church furnishings held by the church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal.
- Land and buildings held on behalf of the PCC.
- Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment where the PCC is free to dispose of such assets without faculty.
- Any other amounts owing to the PCC including church hall lettings and insurance claims.
- Legacies where formal notification of entitlement and amount has been received at 31 December by the PCC.
- Income Tax recoverable from HM Revenue & Customs in respect of Gift Aid donations received after 31 December in the year.

Opening and Closing bank balances are shown in the receipts and payments accounts.

ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

2. DESIGNATED FUNDS

The Fabric Fund is designated (i.e. to be used solely) for the purpose of maintaining and improving the Parish Church.

The Valley Church Centre Funds are designated for the purpose of maintaining and running the Valley Church Centre situated at Gaydon Road, Solihull.

St Stephens Hall Users Fund is designated for the purpose of maintaining and running the St Stephens Church Centre situated at Coppice Road, Solihull.

3. REMUNERATION

No person connected with the Parochial Church Council has been paid or is due to be paid any remuneration or other benefits from the Funds of the PCC.

4. TRANSACTIONS WITH CONNECTED PERSONS

There have been no material transactions undertaken in the name of or on behalf of the Council in which any person connected with the Council has a material interest.

5. PLANNED GIVING

	2018	2017
	£	£
Gift aid receipts	28,693	26,117
Income tax recovered	15,155	8,095
Other giving	<u>9,127</u>	<u>11,089</u>
	<u>52,975</u>	<u>45,301</u>

**ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

6. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2018	2017
	£	£
CBF Deposit account interest	8	14
CBF Dividends	903	878
Interest on Reserve fund	<u>106</u>	<u>58</u>
	<u><u>1,017</u></u>	<u><u>950</u></u>

7. APPORTIONMENT

	2018	2017
	£	£
Paid Direct	<u>43,069</u>	<u>41,388</u>

8. CHARITIES

	2018	2017
	£	£
Christian Relief, Development and Agencies	424	344
Churches overseas	2,830	2,341
Home Missions	<u>1,004</u>	<u>1,080</u>
	<u><u>4,258</u></u>	<u><u>3,765</u></u>

**ELMDON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

9. CHURCH AND CHURCHYARD EXPENSES

	2018	2017
	£	£
Maintenance and repairs	39,772	2,782
Water rates	399	904
Telephone	205	207
Light and heat	3,677	2,489
Insurance	2,797	2,821
Sundries	1,903	1,446
Wine, candles etc	142	298
Curate's House Rent	1,875	7,500
Christian Literature	242	-
Readers' Board	<u>75</u>	<u>100</u>
	<u>51,087</u>	<u>18,547</u>

10. SUNDRY EXPENSES

	2018	2017
	£	£
Fete floats	-	-
Other Sundry Expenses	<u>452</u>	<u>2,313</u>
	<u>452</u>	<u>2,313</u>

The Fabric Report

From your Churchwardens in 2018 - 19: Cheryl Doyle and Anne Milne

The main focus in 2018 was the installation of a new kitchen for modernisation and health & safety reasons. There have been many positive comments about the new facilities and they appear to be working well.

We also replaced the graveyard fence with an agricultural type two-bar fence along with a new gate. This followed advice due to the problems of tree roots and uneven sloping ground. The effect of this was to further open up the view of the building and churchyard. This also received favourable comments.

The next projects planned for the church are to install panelling in the Wilberforce hall as part of the faculty granted for the kitchen; and to replace the fluorescent lighting panels in the Wilberforce Hall and main upstairs space with square LED panels, with new wooden panels made to fit. The smaller round downlights in front of the steps in this area will also be replaced by similar LED lights.

We also plan to do masonry repairs to the tower doorways, and install a bicycle rack in the courtyard.

We would like to have several large pinboards put up in the Wilberforce Hall when the panelling has been done. This will enable children's work, mission-support information and church news to be better displayed. We also intend to install new display boards outside. This may require some fundraising (though we hope to see stewardship income increase).

The freestanding halls

Both these buildings have now effectively come to the end of their lives, though we continue to ensure security and safety, and to carry out routine necessary maintenance.

The hall on Gaydon Road is being undermined by the slope of the ground and its substructures. The kitchen and storerooms are on a concrete floor pan supported by piles driven down into the ground. One corner has sunk and, as a result, that part of the building is slowly moving, leaving a gap between the floor and the wall in the kitchen. This gap narrows as it progresses through the storerooms. Movement is very slow, and is not likely to cause a structural collapse. However it is not reversible, and the cost of stabilising the building is prohibitive.

There are other movement/settlement cracks throughout the building, although again not indicative of collapse. The front low wall under the large windows has already been replaced due to movement and the back walls have had to be tied to the brick pillars to prevent them from falling out. This should mean that the walls are now safe but there is no long-term guarantee. Leaks in the roof have been repaired and some ridge tiles replaced. This was necessary maintenance, but routine work to the soffits and fascias has not been undertaken pending the decommissioning of the building in 2021.

The hall on Coppice Road is in a similar situation. It is a wooden building which, on inspection by the architect in 2017, was found to be seriously compromised in respect of water ingress. The paper-type waterproof membrane had become friable and so had badly deteriorated. The wooden framework was wet and the cladding had gaps.

The wooden walls rest directly on the ground (as opposed to a short brick-base wall as used for Coppice School). This again leads to poor damp-proofing and consequential rot and mould. Security and safety are being maintained but the structure cannot be made good without rebuilding. It, too, will be decommissioned in 2021, at least in its current construction.

Schedule of works undertaken at “the Church in the Park”

	<i>Task</i>	<i>Done</i>	<i>Comments</i>
1	Present log book	✓	
2	Check inventory	✓	
3	Walk round inside		
	a Walls		The use of Blu-Tack on partition walls pulls off paint. Short south wall downstairs has areas of damp and areas of plaster missing.
	b Windows		A crack in lozenges in north east window and roundels.
	c Doors	✓	
	d Floors		The wooden floors need revarnishing. Note the dragging of furniture and water spillage adds to damage.
	e Sockets	✓	New wifi in Wilberforce Hall. New volume switch installed.
	f Toilets	✓	
	g Ceilings/lights		Fluorescent tube fittings are becoming obsolete. Quotes to be obtained for replacement.
	h Heating	✓	A loose duct and loose floor grills are fixed.
	i Cupboards/storage	✓	
4	Check goods and chattels	✓	
5	Health and safety/Risk assessment	✓	Health and safety records for Ecclesiastical updated 19th March 2019.
6	PAT testing	✓	20th November 2018. Two extension cables condemned.
7	Boiler service	✓	14th December 2018. Heating airflow reviewed and grills fixed.
8	Fire extinguisher service	✓	11th December 2018.
9	Check key register	✓	

10		Walk round the outside	✓	
	a	Masonry	✓	Stonework in poor repair around tower doorway and porch doorway. Some erosion of string courses.
	b	Windows / guards	✓	
	c	Guttering	✓	
	d	Roof	✓	Alarms serviced 12th September 2018.
	e	Drainage	✓	Keep hoppers and drains clear of leaves
	f	Tower	✓	Stone work around door needs repair.
	g	Other		

11		Walk around graveyard	✓	
	a	Any loose gravestones	✓	No.
	b	Irregularities	Yes	An increasing number of graves with artificial flowers, chippings and artificial turf. Plants extending over grave boundaries and wreaths from Christmas are left and not removed by family.
	c	Paths	✓	Extensive moss by kitchen window and three damaged slabs to be repaired in February 2019.
	d	Boundaries	✓	New fence and gate by bins, installed October 2018.
	e	Trees	✓	
	f	Benches	✓	One bench becoming delapidated facing lane.
	g	War Memorial	✓	
	h	War graves	✓	
	i	Historic graves	✓	Fallen crosses. Ensure they are cleaned of moss and overgrowth.

12		Faculties		
	a	Applied for		None.
	b	Granted	✓	Kitchen and Wilberforce hall panelling.
		Archdeacon's permission	✓	Boundary fence replacement.
13		Works completed	✓	New kitchen installed.
			✓	Fence and gate replaced.
14		Other/ Extra information	✓	Masonry and yard inspected. Limestone slabs in front of porch need relaying.

Deanery Synod 2018

A report from your representatives

Christine Arnsby, Rob Dean, Cheryl Doyle and Karen Matthews

27th June 2018, St Swithin's, Barston – Social Evening.

After a short service led by Revd Stuart Dimes, members gathered in St Swithin's House for a bring-and-share supper, during which they approved the nomination of a new Treasurer.

17th October 2018, St Helen's Church, Solihull

Rose Ackeroyd, the Bishop's Adviser on dementia, spoke from her own experience, helping her father care for her mother who had dementia. Her words gave great insight into better ways of communicating with people living with dementia, and what things were helpful to them and their carers.

6th February 2019, St Peter's Church, Balsall Common

Beryl Moppett updated members on Birmingham Diocese's eco-status and progress, and encouraged them to invite their own churches to join the scheme. Revd Toby Crowe, in his role as Area Dean, then spoke on the diocesan 'People & Places' strategy, and answered questions. He said that the existing Solihull Deanery would probably be combined with the Yardley & Bordesley Deanery, to make a new 'Heartlands and Solihull Deanery'. He said that each of six new 'super-deaneries' would have a full-time Area Dean, and that these posts would be advertised shortly.

MINUTES OF THE 2018 ANNUAL MEETINGS

held on 24th April 2018 at Elmdon Church, “the Church in the Park”

Apologies (4) were received from Emma Crowe, Richard Salt, Val Shaw and Pat Young.

Attendance (34):

Revd Toby Crowe, Rector and Chairman

Christine Arnsby	Jean Eyles	Elaine Malkin
Sarah Baldwin	John Eyles	Karen Matthews
Moyra Bate	John Horton	Anne Milne
Alan Carter	Lesley Huss	Mary Reynolds
Gill Carter	Carol Janes	Sheila Ross
David Cole	Allan Jones	Morris Ross
Patricia Coleman Taylor	Pauline Jones	Helen Salt
Joy Dean	Dave Kimber	Anthony Shaw
Rob Dean	David Landreth	Joyce Taylor
Alan Doyle	Sue Landreth	Margaret Thomas
Cheryl Doyle	Pat Lyons	Marilyn Walton

A ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

A1 Minutes of the previous meeting

Jean Wooding and Moyra Bate *that the previous minutes be adopted with “2017” added to the title after “April”*. Agreed unanimously.

A2 Election of Church Wardens

Cheryl Doyle was nominated by Karen Matthews and Christine Arnsby.

Anne Milne was nominated by John Eyles and Rob Dean.

There were no other nominations. Cheryl and Anne agreed to stand as wardens for the coming year and were therefore appointed.

B ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)

B1 Revd Toby Crowe spoke on Isaiah 55 and identified positives and challenges from it that might apply to the life of our church. He then led a discussion on this theme.

B2 Minutes of the previous meeting, 26th April 2017

Eli Malkin and Rob Dean moved *that the previous minutes be adopted without amendment*. Agreed unanimously.

B3 Accounts and Financial Statements

Alan Doyle issued an amended sheet entitled “Valley Church Centre” as three figures had been amended, before he gave an overview of the accounts, a breakdown of certain figures and answered some questions.

B4 Electoral Roll Report

There were no comments regarding the report. Toby Crowe agreed to continue to cover the task until a new Electoral Roll Officer could be found.

B5 Safeguarding.

There were no questions.

B6 Mission of the Church.

There were no questions.

B7 Fabric Reports

B7.1 **Church Fabric Report.** There were no questions.

B7.2 **Gaydon Road Hall.** Rob Dean reported that repairs were in progress for two holes in the roof.

B7.3 **Questions** were asked and answered on the future of the sites on Gaydon and Coppice Roads.

B8 Appointment of Readers as ex-officio PCC members

Cheryl Doyle and Alan Carter moved ***that such Lay Readers as wish it be co-opted to the PCC for the year 2018 - 19, in accordance with our previous practice.*** Agreed unanimously, with the two Lay Readers who were present abstaining.

B9 Election of up to 7 lay representatives to PCC

For 3 years:

Alan Carter was nominated by Moyra Bate and Carol Janes.

David Cole was nominated by Rob Dean and Margaret Thomas.

Lesley Huss was nominated by Jean Eyles and Patricia Coleman-Taylor.

Carol Janes was nominated by David Cole and Karen Matthews.

For 2 years:

David Kimber was nominated by Robert Dean and Cheryl Doyle.

For 1 year:

Moyra Bate was nominated by Alan Doyle and Carol Janes.

There were no other nominations and all were duly appointed, leaving one vacancy for 1 year.

B10. Appointment of independent examiners

Alan Doyle and Alan Carter moved ***that Prime Chartered Accountants be appointed for 2018 - 19.*** Agreed unanimously.

Agenda for the Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

Monday 29th April 2019, 8.00pm at Elmdon Church, *“the Church in the Park”*

Meeting of Parishioners

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the previous Meeting of Parishioners, Tuesday 24th April 2018
3. Election of Churchwardens

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

1. Bible study and opening prayer
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the previous Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Tuesday 24th April 2018
4. Accounts and financial statements
5. Report on the revised Electoral Roll
6. PCC report: The Mission of the Church
7. Fabric report
8. Deanery Synod report
9. Appointment of such Readers as wish to become members of the PCC
10. Election of at least four lay representatives to the PCC
11. Appointment of independent examiner
12. Closing prayer

First meeting of the new Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Election of:

1. Lay Vice Chair
2. Secretary
3. Treasurer
4. Electoral Roll Officer

Date of next PCC meeting: Tuesday 7th May 2019