

# **APCM booklet**

**2019-2020**



*St Luke's Church  
Grayshott*



# **The Annual Vestry and Parochial Church Meetings for St Luke's Church, Grayshott**

## **MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING, 2019**

(The Vestry Meeting is open to lay persons whose names are entered on the Church Electoral Roll and to persons resident in the Parish whose names are entered on a register of local government electors)

(The APCM is open only to lay persons whose names are entered on the Church Electoral Roll and to clerks in Holy Orders, unless the Meeting resolves to admit members of the public)

The Vestry Meeting was held at 10.15am on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2019 in St Luke's Church.

### Apologies

Apologies were received from Sue and Peter Wilson, Elizabeth and Peter Knifton, Gordon Sanderson, John Haine, Elizabeth and David Hardy, Angela and Michael Blagden, Richard and Jenny Pimm, Jeremy Hassell, Edward and Jane Tobin, Philippa and Jeremy Whitaker, Sally, Alice, Tom and Gary Hillier, Wes and Mary Sutton, Christine Richmond, Andrea Franklin.

Revd Jeremy Haswell chaired the meeting and 81 people were present.

1. Revd Haswell opened the meeting with a prayer.

### **2. Minutes of the 2018 Vestry Meeting.**

Approval of the Minutes of the 2018 Vestry Meeting was

proposed by Julia Hedger, seconded by Clive Loder and approved by all who had been present at the meeting.

### **3. Election of Churchwardens.**

Revd Haswell thanked Edward Tobin for working so well for the year as Churchwarden. Julia Hedger was stepping down. He gave huge thanks to Julia for her service as Churchwarden. She had been extraordinarily diligent , very practical and persevering in many different things She had at the same time been championing a new work with young children, through the Babes and Toddlers on a Monday morning This was a great encouragement and a personal joy for Revd Haswell. Julia will be heading up the future development in this area. Appreciation for Julia was shown from the whole meeting.

This year there was not another volunteer to replace Julia, but this was not a major crisis.

Edward Tobin was ready to continue as Churchwarden. He was proposed by Gill Pain and seconded by Carolyn Elton. His election was carried unanimously.

Clive Purkiss asked if the meeting could empower Revd Haswell to appoint a second Churchwarden after the meeting. After some discussion and suggestions Revd Haswell suggested a way forward "That this meeting is happy to delegate the responsibility of the co-opting of a Churchwarden to the PCC throughout the year to be confirmed next year. Proposed by Mark Potter and seconded by Ros Balfour. Approved unanimously.

The Meeting closed at 10.25.

# **MINUTES OF ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2019**

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting was opened at 10.30 on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April in St Luke's Church by the vicar, Rev Jeremy Haswell, who welcomed the 81 people present.

## **1. Apologies.**

Apologies were received from Sue and Peter Wilson, Elizabeth and Peter Knifton, Gordon Sanderson, John Haine, Elizabeth and David Hardy, Angela and Michael Blagden, Richard and Jenny Pimm, Jeremy Hassell, Edward and Jane Tobin, Philippa and Jeremy Whitaker, Sally, Alice, Tom and Gary Hiller, Wes and Mary Sutton, Christine Richmond, Andrea Franklin.

## **2. Minutes of 2018 APCM**

Floss Mitchell proposed that the Minutes should be accepted, seconded Michael Lugg and approved unanimously.

## **3. Presentation of the Electoral Roll**

It was reported that the total number on the Electoral Roll (ER) as at 27<sup>th</sup> April 2019 was 232. The new ER has 150 members. There were forms available for those wishing to go onto the ER. Michael Lugg asked if there was an explanation for the dramatic reduction in the numbers. Les Griffin, ER Officer, explained that details of moving away or dying had not always reached him. This year was a total reapplication. Everyone had to apply to be included and perhaps not all had done so. The need to apply had been widely reported and emailed.

#### **4. Elections**

**Readers:** **Revd Haswell** expressed his gratitude to Jill Fudge for her service over many years and she had decided, due to ill health, that she is no longer going to be serving as a reader. He asked the meeting to give Jill a vote of thanks. There are moves to honour her service over the years in the hands of the PCC. We have two licenced Readers – Dr Christopher Grocock and Susie Millard.

#### **PCC Members.**

Three members had completed their periods of office, Clive Loder, Richard Pimm and Andrea Franklin. However, Clive and Richard would be continuing as Assistant Churchwardens .

Applications for PCC had been received from:

**Sue Wilson.** Proposed by Sheila Austin Seconded by Ros Balfour

**Ros Balfour.** Proposed by Carolyn Elton Seconded by Angela Haine

They have already served one year so would now serve for two years.

**Alice Murphy.** Proposed by Sheila Austin Seconded by Sheila Daniel

**Clive Purkiss.** Proposed by Michael Lugg Seconded by Sheila Austin

**Jeremy Hassell.** Proposed by Sue Wilson. Seconded by Michael Lugg

These will serve for three years. There being no further applications all were approved unanimously

**Deanery Synod Representatives:** There was a vacancy for the Deanery Synod, but no applications had been received. Jan and Les Griffin were willing to continue.

#### **Sidesmen/Sideswomen:**

**Revd Haswell** read the names from the APCM Booklet and thanked them all for their service and offering to stand again. They play an important role in welcoming and setting up of the services. Grateful thanks were expressed by all.

## **5. Annual Report on the Proceedings of the PCC**

**Sheila Austin**, PCC secretary said that the Minutes of PCC Meetings were placed at the back of the church for everyone to read. If anyone wanted an issue raised at the PCC, they could contact her or the office.

## **6. Vicar's Report**

**Revd Haswell** expressed his thanks for all the support he had received during his transition from Associate Minister to Vicar. This has been unstinting, faithful and extremely encouraging. The main personal difficulty he had experienced was moving from a primarily pastoral role to one of a more administrative and leadership one. This was work in progress, there is a lot to learn but it was slowly seeping in and he was getting great support from the Standing Committee and many others.

## **7. Treasurer's Report**

Viv Ward reported on the finances up to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018. He confirmed that all the legal requirement for the Accounts had been completed. As there were 24 pages to the accounts, he proposed to give a brief summary but if anyone wanted to go into more details, he would take them through them separately.

He confirmed we had a net decrease in all funds of £40k, leaving us with £126k, which was a solid financial position. The deficit was expected and was not to be worried about. The income reduction had been caused by a variety of reasons including fewer people giving. Donations had more than covered the repair of the clock and VAT had been recovered for that work.

It was known that it would be a difficult year on expenses side, and we have had to be careful. Savings had been made by not employing two members of staff. Outward giving is always calculated on income received in the previous year and therefore the pay out for 2018 was high.

The General Fund had decreased from £70k at the beginning of the year to £43k. This is still a reasonable position, but it does show that we are using our reserves and could reach the point where we have none.

The Finance Working Group (FWG) had decided that we should keep £20k, a safe figure if we were to get into real problems. So, although we still have £23k in hand we need to be careful and perhaps give a little more.

Revd Haswell asked for a massive vote of thanks for Viv, for all his work as treasurer and his general support. Viv Ward proposed the acceptance of the accounts. Seconded by Peter Harrison and approved unanimously.

### **7a. Stewardship Report.**

**David Banks** was standing down as our Stewardship Recorder and he had been ably supported by Shelagh Edwards. As a team they had been so faithful and reliable. The good news was that Jeremy Hassell recently joined us, is energetically supporting St Luke's, and will be taking up responsibility as our Stewardship Recorder. Shelagh will continue to work with Jeremy in this important function of church life.

In David's absence Viv Ward referred to the report in the booklet saying that regular giving was the main way we received money and recovered tax on a large amount of it. In 2017 we received £216k income but in 2018 only £186k. This reduction was mirrored by the fewer numbers in the Electoral Roll.

Viv reminded the meeting that if giving could be Gift Aided the church can recover 25% back from the government.

Thanks, was given for David and his work as he was leaving the role.

### **8. Appointment of the Independent Examiner.**

**Jonathan Tippett** has volunteered to continue as Independent Examiner. His reappointment was proposed by Sheila Austin, seconded by Jean Whittow. Approved



unanimously

### **9. Churchwarden's Report.**

**Julia Hedger** said the report in the booklet was self-explanatory, but she particularly wanted to thank Jeremy for leading us through the interregnum, a difficult time for him. How delighted we were that he was appointed our vicar. Julia also gave thanks to Anna Finey for her work preceding the appointment. Thanks, were also given for all the support she and Edward had received during the year from too many people to name, which had made their task so much easier. Julia added that she looked forward to her new work with the young families and looked forward to the same level of support.

**Revd Haswell** again thanked both Julia and Edward for their work, particularly running the group of Assistant Churchwardens. They had together carried out several needed tasks around the church.

**Peter Harrison** said how good it was that the lighting system was fully operational. It had taken a long time, had been helped by a donation via Grayshott Concerts but none of it would have happened without the efforts of Clive Loder, Richard Pimm and Peter Knifton. Revd Haswell expressed his gratitude for the link between the church and Grayshott Concerts.

**Roy Fudge** wanted to bring everyone's attention to the magnificence of the churchyard and the flowers around the front of the church. He requested a vote of thanks for all involved. **Revd Haswell** added that Fred Robins, who had led the team so well was now standing down. The remaining members of the team had decided to be a team under group leadership.

### **10. Report of the Deanery Synod.**

**Jan Griffin** thanked Ros Balfour who had been a representative but had left to lead the Pastoral team. Deanery Synod had been looking at the Diocesan's 12

priorities of “Transforming Church, Transforming Life” as reported in the booklet. She said how interesting it had been discussing with other churches in the Deanery and learning of how they are using these.

### **Other Reports**

**Revd Haswell** said he would not read out all the reports in the booklet but did read out this one from the Bellringers: “The Bellringers have had an active band throughout 2018. In addition to Sunday service ringing and Thursday evening practices, the Tower rang for 4 weddings, Remembrance Service, installation of the new vicar and for Christmas services. The band rang three quarter peals including one of 1418 changes composed by Stu Aitkin to celebrate the WW1 Armistice. The Bellringers have the capacity for a few beginners to join the team. Vince Emery, Tower Captain”

## **12. Any other business.**

### **Grayshott School**

**Susie Millard** said during the year St Luke’s had given an Advent Calendar to all of Year 1, at Easter a Bible Society’s book “Miracle Man” to all of Year 3. This will be followed by a Scripture Union book “Moving On” for all of Year 6. She thanked St Luke’s for enabling her to give these important gifts to the children of Grayshott School.

**Revd Haswell** acknowledged the very good report in the booklet from Helen Williams and he was delighted with his relationship between himself and the head. He added that Grayshott Concerts were providing £1k to support music in the school, which was to be administered through him to strengthen links between St, Luke’s and the school.

**Peter Harrison** updated this arrangement confirming £500 was to support choral activities and he had now received confirmation that musicians will spend a whole day in school for workshops with the classes.

**Revd Haswell** recognised the work Dan Bennett, our

Youth Worker, was doing with Grayshott School, particularly lunchtime sporting activities. This was helping the invitational aspects of Dan's work as children move onto The Base and others out of school groups. He added that Dan was a key member of our outreach to the community and gave thanks for him.

### **Church Noticeboard**

**Mary Brookes** expressed her personal thanks for the improvements made to the Main Noticeboard, with special mention to Don Gribble.

### **Fire Protection**

**Maurice Sturt** asked for reassurances that St Luke's was adequately protected against fire, in view of the number that had happened recently. Julia Hedger confirmed that Richard Pimm had updated all fire extinguishers and that we were working with Grayshott Concerts and local Firefighters to provide Fire Safety Procedures.

### **St Luke's Statue**

**Bill Melly** said that every time he goes into the Vestry, he says hello to St Luke's wooden statue, and he was concerned that the wood was deteriorating. Revd Haswell advised that the statue was not getting any worse.

### **Messages of Appreciation**

**Gill Pain** said how lucky we were to have Jeremy, Claire, Belle and Christopher. Jeremy was in old fashion terms a Curer of Souls, but she saw him more as a shepherd, a window into Jesus because he was so loving and caring, as was Claire. Gill asked God to bless him and for the meeting to show its appreciation and support in whatever way we can.

**Rosemary Prejmerean** supported all Gill had said and thanked all at St Luke's for welcoming her into the church from the first moment. She was so grateful to Claire and

Jeremy for their love and kindness.

**Peter Harrison** expressed thanks to Edward and Jane Tobin, and all members of the choir, who kept the choral singing in church going so well. He repeated his question regarding the appointment of a Choir Master and asked if there had been progress. Revd Haswell thanked Peter for his question especially acknowledging the choir for their wonderful work. He very much wanted to fill the post and an idea he had was perhaps to find an organist with a classical background but who could also lead contemporary worship. That would be a wonderful synergy of both coming together. When asked if money was an issue Revd Haswell replied yes it was a factor. Revd Haswell thanked those who had stepped in to cover, Robert Gilman, Malcolm Pain and Simon Clark and confirmed that the appointment was one to be resolved as soon as possible.

### **Timing of future APCMs**

Revd Haswell said that he had been received comments concerning the appropriateness of holding the APCM between services on a Sunday. In the past they had been held on a weekday, given a choice of a Saturday or weekday it was clear that a weekday was preferred. Revd Haswell told the meeting that this would be taken forward in time for next year.

The meeting closed with a prayer at 11.30am.

# APCM 2020

## CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

Electoral Roll report -27th April 2019 to 14th May 2020

Recorded members on the Electoral Role at 2019 APCM was 150

In the course of the year the changes have been

Moved away from the parish	2
Deceased	5
Requested to be removed	0
New members	20
Roll entry total	<u>163</u>

*Les Griffin*  
*Electoral Role Officer*

## ANNUAL REPORT ON PROCEEDINGS OF THE PCC

The full PCC met 5 times during the year (the meeting scheduled for March 30<sup>th</sup> was cancelled due to COVID-19). The PCC is made up of the Vicar, one Associated Minister, two Deanery Synod Members nine elected and one co-opted Laity members and a co-opted Treasurer. There was a vacancy for a Readers Representative.

All the activities and plans of the various "Teams" were

reviewed and it was decided to change how the PCC grouped the church activities. Whilst this This new approach entitled “Sharing the Load”, is yet to be completely finalised, some progress has been made. The “WhatsApp” prayer group had been successfully adopted. It worked alongside the phone prayer chain. The new Website was discussed for much of the year, particularly the content and costings. In November, a member of the congregation offered to provide the necessary capital for this project.

Two applications for Faculties (additional screens and a plaque) have yet to be approved by the Chancellor. Copies of approved minutes for all PCC meetings continued to be placed at the back of the church for general information.

*Sheila Austin*

*PCC Secretary*

## **VICAR’S REPORT**

Awaited

## **ST. LUKE'S SUMMARY ACCOUNTS FOR 2019 AND BUDGET 2020**

The Reports and Financial Statements for the year to 31 December 2019 have been scrutinised by our Independent Examiner. They amount to 24 pages which is a lot of reading and so the income and expenditure report and balance sheet shown below are a summary of the figures. If you would like a full copy of this report we can send it by email or you can get a hard copy from the office. I am also available and will be happy to go through the figures in any detail you would like.

The net income is £14,255 to which is added a gain on investments of £9,167 resulting in a net increase in funds of £23,424 for the year. Added to the funds brought forward the total of all funds is £149,911.

The budget for the year was to break even. However our regular giving soon dropped below our forecasts and so the PCC did not employ a part time worship leader or choir master in order to save expense and were frugal with any payment requests. Happily the PCC received some generous donations from individuals and support groups. The Youth fund reduced by £6,678 where expenditure exceeded income but there were funds brought forward which allowed this deficit.

As a result the overall financial position stabilised from the deficit of last year and put us in a good position for 2020. The various funds we have are for a variety of reasons, e.g. the building fund allows the PCC to put money aside in case of major repairs whilst the bells fund is available for any needs in the tower. The general fund is for day to day income and expenditure, and holds a balance of £68,734 where half is held in investments. The Finance Working

Group have recommended that £20,000 of this amount be set aside as a buffer to enable us to safely pay staff, operating expenses and maintain a reasonable working capital in the event of a disaster.

Looking forward the PCC has approved a budget with a deficit of £25,000. They recognise that this is not workable and so have set a target to raise this £25,000 with a parish funding plan.

<b>Income and Expenditure</b>		
Incoming resources		
Voluntary income	184	198
Activities for generating funds	11	11
Investment income	2	2
Income from charitable activities	32	33
Other	1	-
	230	244
Resources used		
Cost of generating funds	3	3
Charitable activities	209	272
Other costs	3	8
	215	283
Net income	15	-39
Gain/(Loss)on investment assets	9	-1
Net income	24	-40
Funds brought forward	126	166
Funds carried forward	150	126



<b>Balance Sheet</b>		
for the year to 31 December 2018		
Fixed assets	58	49
Current assets	103	90
Current liabilities	-11	-13
Net current assets	92	77
Net assets less liabilities	150	126
Funds of Church	150	126

*Viv Ward  
Treasurer April 2020*

## **STEWARDSHIP REPORT 2019**

I would like to start by thanking my predecessor – David Banks, and also Shelagh Edwards and Viv Ward who have all helped in my transition to this new role. They have made the task much easier with their patience.

At the same time, I would also like to thank you all, for listening with your hearts to Almighty God, and for kindly sharing His love (including through your financial giving) into the Church body. The stewardship team are using the computer application Donations Coordinator (DC) produced by Data Developments to record your gifts received, and to help claim back the gift-aid tax. This last

year the data provided by the DC application was processed, and an individual ‘thank you’ and detail of the amount each giver had donated in the 2018-2019 Tax year was sent out on the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2019 by email or post. Where an email address was not available, then the letter was hand delivered.

This provided the donors with the valuable opportunity to check that the amount matches with their own records. This led to the stewardship team correcting two items of detail within our data base.

The summary of the total amount given this last year is recorded in this table.

#### Stewardship Income Table

	Total Income £	Donations Gift Aid Claimable £	Donations Gift Aid Not claimable £	Gift Aid Claimed £
2019 (Jan - Dec)	148,592.45	104,375.90	10,264.50	33,952.05
2018 (Jan - Dec)	185,696.71	137,097.68	14,607.50	33,992.21
2017 (Jan - Dec)	216,854.24	164,163.56	11,464.25	41,226.43

The table below shows that many of our regular givers use the tax efficient gift aiding. This allows us to claim a further 25% back from the tax office. If you are able to gift-aid, then please do so by filling in a gift aid card which can be found in the pews.

## Gift Aid Table

	Total Donors	Donors who use Gift Aid	Donors who do not Gift Aid
2019 (Jan - Dec)	123	107	16
2018 (Jan - Dec)	132	116	16
2017 (Jan - Dec)	153	136	17

There have been some changes in stewardship income this last year, and we look forward to renewed growth over the coming years. Let me encourage everyone who is reading this to consider adopting the biblical principle of tithing, if you are not already doing so. There are cards in the pews that explain the most effective ways to give. I'm led by our Lord to Luke 21 V1-4 where Holy Scripture says, As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. <sup>2</sup>He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. <sup>3</sup>"Truly I tell you," he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others. <sup>4</sup>All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."

Bless you all.

*Jeremy Hassell*  
*Stewardship Recorder*

## **CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT ON THE CHURCH FABRIC, GOODS AND ORNAMENTS**

The past year has shown a co-ordinated effort from the PCC and the assistant churchwardens working with Jeremy our vicar. As for everyone in the UK, events took a change of course in March with the lockdown from Covid-19 necessitating all places of worship to close but there have been innovative

ways of continuing the church's ministry even if it isn't in church! Patrick Johnston has been helping the clergy and lay readers maintain services on line to a high standard.

The churchyard team are keeping the churchyard in good order and Simon Clark's bulbs and flowers around the church have been very beautiful. We are grateful for help in funding this from Grayshott gardeners.

Regarding matters of church maintenance and improvement, Jeremy Hassell has replaced the cast iron gutter on the south side of the chancel. Peter Knifton and his team have made it easier for the Christmas lights to be turned on and off and Clive Loder has installed additional projectors and screens to help the audience at the back of the church during concert performances by Grayshott Concerts. A faculty from the diocese was applied for and granted. He has also installed LED replacement bulbs for the external floodlighting which use less energy and don't get so hot. This is particularly important as St. Luke's Church no longer receives financial assistance from Grayshott civil parish towards funding the cost of electricity used in floodlighting.

The Church Projection Computer was upgraded during the year as the slowness of applying upgrades was impacting the ability to prepare for services on a Sunday morning.

The paving stones along the path past the Timothy Room to the church car park were re-laid to remove some of the unevenness and reduce the trip hazard they posed. The Bridge Club have requested external lighting along this path and Clive Loder is making arrangements for this. The Bridge Club have kindly agreed to fund this.

Fire safety continues to be very important in view of the large numbers of people in church (before Coronovirus

made this illegal). Not only is the church full for Grayshott Concerts but there have been several funerals and memorial services where the church has been at full capacity. Richard Pimm has kindly taken over from Sue Wilson as fire officer and he has been in touch with Hampshire fire service to make sure that we are abiding by the regulations. There was a meeting last summer organised by Sue Wilson and Andy Crocker of Grayshott Concerts to identify our shared objectives in fire safety in the church.

With the west end of the church being used more, the area around the font has been tidied. The PCC agreed that the rather tatty kneelers around the font should be removed leaving the plain stone base. The possibility of renewing them was considered but this would have been quite expensive and was not considered sensible use of church funds. However, the kneeler at the communion rail in the sanctuary is being considered for renewal.

The church wood block flooring is causing concern. Quite a number of the blocks are loose and constitute a trip hazard. Three quotes have been obtained to rectify this but the parish finances are insufficient to consider accepting any of these at present. It may be possible to have professional oversight of parishioners carrying out the necessary work. For the time being all is on hold due to the lockdown and closure of the church.

Other projects that may be possible with appropriate funding in future include renewal of the carpets in the church rooms and in the chancel and sanctuary of the church. Grayshott Concerts have considered improving the surface of the west end of the church car park and have been seeking appropriate grants for this.

The Terrier and Inventory and Log book are maintained.

Next year (2021) sees another quinquennial inspection by the diocese.

*Edward Tobin  
Churchwarden*

## **DEANERY SYNOD REPORT**

Farnham Deanery Synod met on four occasions in 2019, instead of the usual three, with an additional Saturday morning meeting in January.

The January meeting was held at St James' Church in Rowledge and started with a parish update from the Vicar, Revd Russell Gant. The focus of the discussions was on adapting the 'Transforming Church Transforming Lives' TCTL goal-orientated framework to the Deanery Synod, to be called 'Transforming Deanery Transforming Lives' (TDTL). Responding to concerns arising from the previous meeting in October 2018, the Area Dean recognised that the TCTL/TDTL template could become just a 'Diocesan process' and a 'tick box exercise', rather than an opportunity to identify and prioritise discussions and activities and then agree clear action points to deliver a more purposeful and connected Deanery Synod. All present recognised that the twelve TCTL goals were too much to consider all at once.

It was agreed that it would be more effective to focus on fewer goals of greater importance to parishes. To this end, communication was identified as most important. After considering a number of systems, the creation of a website was decided upon. This would enable the sharing of resources and skills (e.g. courses run, risk assessment

forms) and help to reduce the workload for parishes. To guide the future Deanery discussions the Lay Chair agreed to collate Church Development Plans (CDPs) and identify common aims amongst the parishes.

The second meeting of the year was held at St Thomas-on-the-Bourne in mid-April. Laura Mead from Christian Aid explained this global charity's current fundraising campaign to improve support and healthcare for pregnant women and their young children in Africa.

The discussion focused on Deanery communications. A member from Badshot Lea and Hale and offered to help develop a website having professional experience in this area.

The Lay Chair was continuing to collate the Church Development Plans from parishes.

The July meeting was hosted by All Saints' Church in Tilford.

The guest speaker was the Revd Peter Lovell, Chaplain to the Parkinson's and Cancer Group at Loseley Park. He described his work in supporting patients and carers, of any denomination or none, three Tuesdays a month.

Archdeacon Paul Davies also attended this meeting and provided an update on the Church House review. He said that the Diocese was aiming to have a strategic head and a pastoral heart and particular topics were clergy wellbeing, resourced churches and churchwardens. Church House would be more focused on parish needs, with Mission Enablers appointed to visit parishes to assess those needs and help to formulate CDPs. A 'Deanery purpose' paper was also being written and, in the light of new housing developments, parish boundaries were being looked at. However, this latter issue was not without its own difficulties and wider considerations.

In October, the Synod met at St Luke's Church in Grayshott. Chris Stratta from the Leprosy Mission outlined its work, with an estimated three million people in the world still affected by the disease. Leprosy can be cured with the correct medication (Multi-Drug Therapy or MDT) and its debilitating effects mitigated by proper care and corrective surgery. The charity also educates the communities in which leprosy occurs about the importance of seeking early intervention and accepting sufferers back after treatment.

Work on the Deanery communication strategy had continued and key information was requested from the parishes to populate the Deanery website. The intention was to include a resources page including a skills register. The Diocese had drafted a 'Deanery purpose' document and it would be circulated once ratified. The Diocese had also issued a Churchwarden's Handbook, which was to be launched at the annual training day.

*Jan & Les Griffin*

## **Day Centre**

Grayshott Lunch Club/Day Centre is now in its 34<sup>th</sup> year, which must be an achievement.

We have five long term members, from the old Day Centre, who are collected by taxi every week. They arrive at 10.30 for coffee, games and a chat. Our lunch Club members come for lunch at 12 noon. The two groups together produce a membership of between 19 and 24 people and often include Jeremy and Claire. All our lunches are freshly cooked on the premises and are of a very high standard.

During 2019 we paid for new curtains for Timothy Room



and new saucepans and equipment for the kitchen. We also employ Caroline Hall to clean the kitchen and the bathroom.

This remarkable organisation is run by volunteers and we hope it will continue for the next 34 years. We meet every Thursday and we would be delighted to see new members. We always need help, so if anyone has a couple of hours to spare please get in touch. We are a very friendly organisation and the morning is usually great fun.

*Angela Haine  
Chairman.  
20-Apr-2020*

## **YOUTHWORK**

### **Outreach**

#### **The Base (Friday Nights)**

School years 6–7: 6–7.30pm, School years 8+: 7.30–9pm

Usually held in the church hall, and occasionally we use the Grayshott School playground. St Edmund's have now also given us permission to use some of their sports facilities.

This is main form of outreach for the youth of the village. Split into two sessions, there is a younger group and an older group. The sessions are very informal, with lots of time for conversation, games and activities. The youth particularly enjoy quizzes and wide games.

#### **Monday Night Football**

Held at St. Edmund's this takes place during the spring/summer months and has proved to be a great way to connect with more youth in the village. This is run in

association with Grayshott Youth Football Club.

### **Schools Work**

Each week on a Monday, Susie Millard and I go into Grayshott Primary to host Open the Book, assemblies in which the children act out some of the key Bible stories. I continue to run lunch time activities for children at Grayshott Primary three times a week.

I also continue to work at St Edmund's, especially in the PE department. This has been good for the links between the church and the school and has meant that some St Edmund's students have been volunteering at The Base as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

### **Discipleship**

#### **Bible Studies (Tuesday Nights)**

Held in the church hall.

We have a group that meets weekly on Tuesday nights to cook together, eat together, play games, study the Bible and pray. This has been very helpful for the youth and has led to some great conversations. We again went through Youth Alpha and at other times have covered topics especially relevant to the young people.

This time is also often used to plan and practise for the Youth Service (particularly the dramas).

#### **Youth Services (Monthly)**

To encourage our youth to use their gifts to serve others, and to reach their friends, we started a monthly youth service. These have included worship, testimonies and dramas – all either led by the youth or with a significance input from them.

We have linked with St Francis' Church for this in many ways, including having speakers from their church and hosting the service there.

## **Residentials**

Sandyholme (July 2019)

We took 12 young people to this weekend away in Studland, many of whom we know from The Base. During the weekend we did lots of activities – including water sports at the beach, games and a BBQ. We had the head of Youth and Community Work training at Moorlands Bible College as our guest speaker, and some of the young people responded to the gospel and have since come to Bible studies.

## **Soul Survivor (August 2019)**

In August we joined with Three Counties and Busbridge Church for the last Soul Survivor. We had seven young people from St Luke's attend, which was great, and they all came home from it having had a fantastic time and having met with God.

## **Holiday Club 2019**

This was a great success with over 50 children attending. The theme was 'Teambuilders', encouraging the children to work as a team and looking at how God can help make a great team. The Holiday Club included teaching, worship, prayer, activities, games and crafts. We had a fantastic team of volunteers making all of this possible.

## **The Impact of Covid-19**

Since the implementation of social distancing and the lockdown, we have had to change how we serve the youth of Grayshott. From March, we have been doing the following things:

- Bible Studies via Zoom. This has meant we can carry on our group throughout this time, providing young people some normality and support.
- Games nights via Zoom. These have meant that the young people can keep in touch.
- Friday challenges – uploaded to the Grayshott

Youthworker Facebook page, these are in place of The Base and encourage the young people to take part in a different challenge each week.

- Youth Service planning – we plan to run Youth Services online in the coming months and so have been making preparations for this.
- Holiday Club planning – this is now also being planned to be online and available via a streaming service.

*Dan Bennett  
Youth Worker*

## **Grayshott School**

The staff are managing well during the current Corona Crisis and have adjusted to the many and often changing directives from government. The initial period of the crisis involved staff playing “catchup” as the directives changed frequently in both in nature and course. This necessitated Sharon working full time at school as things were being restructured daily. Staff rotas formed on a three weekly basis have now been established. Sharon will be working two days this and next week and a three weekly rota is in place for all staff. Some adjustments and extra plans are also being made to accommodate those who work part time both in teaching and in supporting roles, into the rota. Six members of the staff were not available to be timetabled: Two are being shielded, one is pregnant and three have underlying health issues. During this time five staff have also been ill with Corona Virus symptoms or because of self-isolating, of these four have now returned for duty. During the Easter holidays staff have been asked to volunteer and will be paid overtime.

The number of children in attendance varies but has been as low as one child on one occasion and is usually under ten children. It is necessary to have three members of staff on site at any one time to ensure all health and safety possibilities are covered. This includes administrative staff. Where younger children are involved, a paediatric first aid certificate is needed by one member of the team and this has caused some difficulties for the rota. The school is closely adhering to the government's guidelines as to which children should be in attendance.

Free school meals are being provided as directed by the government. The school has moved to a weekly box rather than daily ones. Where necessary these are being delivered to homes.

When in school children are divided into age appropriate learning groups and follow the English and Maths home learning programme in the mornings. In the afternoon they are engaged with art, music and other creative pursuits. Sharon and her team are working incredibly hard to educate and protect all their pupils in these exceptionally difficult times. She reported that all staff were being very positive and supportive. We agreed that I would phone her every two weeks for a similar update. In line with government recommendations, Sharon requested that all governor business be kept to essential matters and that consequent paperwork be also kept to a minimum.

In the Autumn of 2019, a groundworks working group of the school governors at Grayshott School looked various options for playground equipment to replace the old equipment removed earlier in the year. As various proposals from suppliers came the group decided that a project manager would be needed to be appointed to oversee the work. In early 2020 it was apparent that the existing base would have to be removed and a new base

laid. Also the existing drains and soakaways had to be cleaned, which was done at the winter half term. After cleaning they were in good condition. In February quotations were received from specialist companies for the groundworks along with quotes from playground equipment suppliers. By mid- March following the evaluation of 3 groundworks quotes and four equipment quotes a selection was made and a recommendation made to the school governors for a groundworks contractor and an equipment company. Final negotiations with these two companies are ongoing and it is anticipated that the work will be completed over a month in the school summer holidays.

*Helen Williams*  
*Foundation Governor*  
*16/4/20*

## **PASTORAL CARE**

Pastoral care as I am writing this report we are in the middle of lockdown. However our team are managing to keep in contact with those who need our support by telephone, email and text. So far everyone seems to be quite positive. I think many of these people are used to being housebound and isolated. Interestingly a few people I have spoken to are really appreciating the u tube church services on Sundays and at Easter, particularly those who find attending church services regularly difficult to attend. I am forwarding these services to a resident at Moorlands lodge whose e-mail I have and hopefully she can pass on to other residents. Obviously home Holy Communion is not possible at this time.

In normal times pre lock down the Pastoral care team were visiting people at home as required and offering Communion to those who wished to participate although few people wish to receive this.

We hold monthly Fellowship meetings at Green Gables, Langham Court with Huntingdon House and Moorlands Lodge sometimes with Holy Communion.

Hospitality in the form of Thursday lunches, Friendship Lunches, Tea parties and Coffee Mornings provide a useful way for people to stay connected. Telephoning is also a very useful way to talk to people as I am discovering that some people do not wish visits but enjoy chatting by phone.

I recently attended a new initiative meeting of the Farnham Deanery Synod to pool ideas of local churches to support each other in Pastoral care. We were due to meet again in May however this will need to be delayed.

It is a privilege to be able to offer God's work offering support to those who wish to receive it.

*Ros Balfour  
April 2020*

## **PRAYER AND DISCIPLESHIP**

Many of the prayer activities of the church continued in 2019. These include daily morning prayers in church, the Healing Prayer Group, emergency prayer via the telephone chain and the WhatsApp group, the monthly church prayer meetings and prayers for the world during Sunday services. Church members were encouraged to participate in 'Thy Kingdom Come', the international cross denominational focus on prayer between Ascension and Pentecost. We thank and praise God for all our faithful prayers and are keen to welcome these who want to grow in their practice and experience and join in with the

church's prayer life.

Discipleship was added to this portfolio, part way through the year, so most of the focus in 2019 was on supporting and developing prayer. There are a few long standing Home Groups, which have continued to meet. The establishment of some new ones is certainly on the agenda.

A few of the existing Home Groups studied The Prayer Course, [www.prayercourse.org](http://www.prayercourse.org). This course encouraged people and helped them develop new aspects in their prayer life, whether they were experienced prayers or not. It is based around the mnemonic, PRAY: P- Pause, R- Rejoice, A-Ask and Y-Yield (yes for children). The simplicity of this is attractive but there is a richness in material contained in both the videos and accompanying book, *How to Pray - A Simple Guide for Normal People*. It is written by Pete Greig, founder of 24-7 Prayer.

A number of the congregation now use *Lectio 365*, a morning devotional app, which is also based on PRAY. It is written by the same team as the Prayer Course and often has insightful comments on Scripture. Both *How to Pray* and *Lectio 365* as well as *Bible in a Year* are among the resources recommended for people at St Luke's to use.

*Brenda Schwartz  
Prayer and Discipleship Team*

## **WORSHIP**

The contemporary worship in St Luke's is a vital part of the churches life and the team have been working towards updating the flow of the services.



We are still in need of a worship leader, someone who is passionate about music and leading contemporary worship services. We are in the process of updating and revamping the list of songs.

The prayer sessions during the services have not been developing as we had hoped, so we are trialling the prayer after the services; of course, we can still all pray for each other on an ad-hoc basis as the spirit leads.

The 'All age services' have not always been well attended so an 'Extraordinary service' for young families will be trialled for three months, this will take place once a month on a Sunday afternoon and will follow a café style format.

We have been grateful to Elizabeth Knifton and Wes Sutton for their involvement and contribution to some of the services and value their spiritual knowledge and flare.

And lastly the team would like to thank Colin Milner-Walker for his contributions over the last year, Colin has decided to step down from the team.

*Jan & Les Griffin*

## Report from the Traditional Worship Group

Members of this team are: Jeremy Haswell, Michael Lugg, Philippa Whitaker, Ros Balfour and Sue Wilson.

During 2019/2020 Traditional services have been maintained and attended well, (until March 2020) with Compline on the first Sunday of each month particularly liked.

During the year we had Deborah Scott Bromley come to speak to us with news of the help which our Outward Giving enable them to do in Bordon. This was a very moving talk and highlighted the need for help in our area.

Bishop John came to talk to us in October, when we had refreshments afterwards, an interesting and happy time of fellowship.

We had all the Christmas services including Advent Carols, 9 Lessons and carols, Midnight Communion and Christmas Day – all well attended.

We pray to be able to re-ignite these services once the Corona Virus Lockdown has been eased and the Church can open it's doors once more. In the meantime, we have been so blessed to have been able to worship via virtual means on different platforms including special times of prayer and worship during Holy Week leading up to Easter.

Jeremy has kept Sunday worship available for us all at any time of the day (or night) on Youtube and Chris Grocock has an enlarging congregation at 6pm on Sundays via zoom. I believe this is also available on Youtube for worship during the week.

Apart from these there are regular prayer meetings for any of us who have the ability to join the virtual platforms. I believe for some, Jeremy's youtube has been a Godsend to people who would otherwise, from health or infirmity, be unable to attend Church.

*May 2020*

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