St Pancras Church

Annual Report for 2021

Presented at the
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
22nd May 2022
St Pancras Church Trustees

Parochial Church Council 2021

Clergy
Revd Anne Stevens appointed 2012 Vicar & PCC Chair

Readers
Michael Ogden appointed 1993
Olyve Johnson appointed 2011

Churchwardens
Dorothea Hackman first elected 2011 PCC Lay Chair & Treasurer
Duncan Lamont first elected 2017

Deanery Synod 2020-2023
Dorothea Hackman
Patrick Brough

Elected Members Term ends
Patrick Brough 2023
Jonathan Lewin 2024
Agnes Ogunmuyiwa 2024
Anne Rouse 2024 Hon PCC Secretary
Tony Rouse 2023 Deputy Churchwarden
Dorothy Severin 2024
John Thomlinson 2022

Ex Officio
Eve Poole General Synod member

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Left General Synod & PCC 1/12/21
Introduction

Survey work on the caryatids, March 2021

After the previous year’s Covid-induced dramas, 2021 proved to be a calmer year, offering us the opportunity to stabilize and begin rebuilding the different areas of the church’s life.

The church remained open to visitors every day. Even in January and February when public worship was suspended we had over 100 visitors a week, and we are now averaging over three times that number. Central London’s workers haven’t yet returned in great numbers but the students and the tourists are back, and there’s definitely more of a buzz in the air.

Although we don’t yet know how long the pandemic will last or how permanently the area may change, we have been slowly increasing our commercial income again, and looking to strengthen our relationships in the community. Funded by a grant from the Heritage Cultural Recovery Fund, the Community Audit that we undertook in the summer of 2021 helped us to identify our priorities for the next three years within the overall scope of our Mission Action Plan:

1. To work closely with the local community on the recovery and renewal of the area
2. To underpin our mission and ministry with a new business plan that benefits both the church and the community
3. To celebrate our Bicentenary with the community
4. To foster discussion and change on wider climatic, economic and health issues

Given the timing of our Bicentenary (May 2022) the third point has so far taken priority. As we look ahead to the future the other points can now receive more attention. But one feature of our Bicentenary celebrations remains. In the autumn we will be launching an Appeal to fund our next main building project, which will aim to include:

- Further investigation and restoration work on the caryatids
- Cleaning, conservation and repairs to the two caryatid porches, including the crypt doors
- Opening up access from the Euston Road with new steps, railings and gates
- Re-landscaping the north garden, possibly adjusting the boundary in the NW corner
- Providing disabled access to the crypt via the north or south churchyard
- Creating a new meeting room and WCs at crypt level on the south side

As ever, heartfelt thanks go to our Churchwardens Dorothea Hackman & Duncan Lamont, to our PCC members, and to our staff especially Miriam Campbell our Parish Manager and our caretakers Alain, Colin and Ronnie who do so much to support the church’s life. Thanks also go to all the members of the congregation who volunteer their help with our services and events.

Revd Anne Stevens, Vicar
2021 at St Pancras Church

This summary reports on our major services and events in 2021 and on the activities and decisions of the PCC.

January – Feb
- Church services suspended again as Covid worsened; the church remained open every day
- Fabric - new radiators installed in church office
- PCC - appointed Patrick Brough as Health & Safety Officer
- PCC - discussed first draft of new Mission Action Plan
- PCC - discussed how to reduce our carbon footprint

March – April
- Public worship resumed in time for Holy Week and Easter services
- We received a second grant from the Heritage Culture Recovery Fund of £15,000 to cover staff salaries from April to June 2021
- PCC - agreed final draft of Mission Action Plan
- PCC - approved strategy and action plan for Community Audit
- PCC - approved 2020 Accounts
- Ordinand Liz Blackham on 6 week placement
- Fabric - Faculty permission grant for statue in North Garden
- Fabric - repairs to Gents WC at hall

May – June
- The Community Audit was undertaken by consultants, with good engagement from the congregation and the local community
- LFCCM - including live Broadcast of Radio 3 Choral Evensong
- PCC - ongoing review of finances, staffing & Common Fund contributions
- Fabric - repairs and re-decoration work in Flats 1 & 2
- Fabric – the restored fountain from St James Gardens was installed in the South Garden
- APCM - received 2020 report and elected 2021/22 Churchwardens & PCC members

The restored fountain from St James’ Gardens
July – Aug
- Ordination of Rupert Jones at St Paul’s Cathedral; now Curate at St Mary’s, Primrose Hill
- Olyve Johnson recommended for ordination training
- PCC - Greg Powell re-appointed as Foundation Governor at St Mary & St Pancras School
- PCC - Dorothy Severin appointed as Safeguarding Officer
- PCC - Safeguarding Policy reviewed and approved. Our annual Safeguarding Audit reviewed our procedures. No incidents were reported this year.
- Fabric - annual inspections and servicing

Sept – Oct
- Parish Garden Party, incl. Community Audit Report
- Two Open House Weekends, with over 400 visitors
- Held APCM; received 2020 report and elected 2021/22 Churchwardens & PCC members
- PCC - Health & Safety report received; policy reviewed and approved.

Nov – Dec
- Civic Service for Remembrance Day
- PCC - Eve Poole left her ex officio role on the PCC on leaving the Church Commissioners
- PCC Vision Day - revised Mission Action Plan in light of Community Audit
- PCC Vision day - considered options from Architect for Bicentenary Project
- PCC - 2022 budget approved
- PCC - Agreed to commission new Mass setting for Bicentenary by Judith Bingham
- Fabric - new flue for church boiler room
- Advent & Christmas Services

Deanery Synod Report 2021

The Camden Deanery Synod met three times during 2021. In February (on Zoom) the Bishop of Edmonton commissioned the new Synod and Standing Committee and spoke about the Diocesan ‘2030 Vision.’ In May (also on Zoom) the main speaker was Revd Claire Carson, Senior Chaplain of the Royal Free Hospitals NHS Trust. There was an introduction to the Deanery ‘Living in Love and Faith’ course. The Synod met in person in November to hear a talk by Sam Donoghue, the Children’s and Young People’s Adviser for the Diocese. Financial arrangements for the new Deanery were finalised, with parishes invited to contribute £15 deanery subscription and £100 for a charity fund. The Synod will choose which charity to support at the end of each year.
Electoral Roll 2021

The Electoral Roll of the church grew from 80 to 85, 20 of whom live in the parish.

PCC Finances 2021

The annual accounts for 2021 have been approved by the Independent Examiner. The PCC recommends that they are adopted by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

As the accounts show, we made a loss of £12,604 in 2021. The church’s regular income continued to be affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, but careful management of our expenditure kept the deficit within reasonable limits.

If we are to expand our range of services and activities again, our financial situation will need to improve. The PCC will continue to monitor the situation closely and will provide regular updates for church members.

The Mayor of Camden at the Remembrance Day Service