

# St Michael the Archangel Church, Trusham

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## Moreton Deanery in the Diocese of Exeter Annual Report for 2019 (for the 2020 APCM)

**Mission Statement - To know Christ, and to make him known through prayer, witness and service**

**Parish Electoral roll as December 2019:** 16 people

### **People who have served on the PCC during 2019**

Chairman	The Reverend Paul Wimsett
Churchwarden	Mr Daniel Metcalfe
Deanery Synod representative	Mrs Helen Harding
Treasurer	Mrs Jane Brooks
Other elected members	Mrs Angela Cameron Mr David Smethurst Mr Andrew Thorpe
Minute Secretary	Mrs Pat Smethurst

### **Duty Wardens**

Jane Brooks and Mary Cook	Peter and Helen Harding
Judith Rowland	David and Pat Smethurst
Angela Cameron	Daniel and Julia Metcalfe

**Safeguarding Officer:** Helen Harding

**Electoral Roll Officer:** Helen Harding

**Health and Safety Officer:** David Smethurst

**Intercessors and Readers:** Jane Brooks, Angela Cameron, Mary Cook, Helen Harding, Judith Rowland, Pat Smethurst, David Smethurst, Daniel Metcalfe.

### **Chudleigh CE Community Primary School**

Paul continues his ministry at the school, leading collective worship for both staff and pupils, as well as services in Chudleigh Church aimed at the wider community. Pat Smethurst is currently chair of governors. Paul and Pat keep the PCC up to date with news from the school which is within the catchment area for residents of Trusham. The PCC continues with the school's weekly Prayer Themes which influence and inspire the intercessions at Trusham. The Governing Board appointed a new Headteacher in February 2019, following the resignation of David Barnett who had been in post for 11 years. The new Headteacher is Mrs Emily England. Mrs England and the Board of Governors have been considering a new Vision Statement for the school and have consulted with stakeholders including members of the communities of Chudleigh and Trusham.

### **The Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults (report by Helen Harding)**

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding & Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. The issue of safeguarding has been reported on at every PCC meeting.

During 2019 the Safeguarding representatives within the Benefice have met with the Vicar and continued to derive much benefit from doing so, each of us bringing different skills and insights. Trusham, along with Chudleigh, took up the opportunity to join the Diocesan pilot of the Parish Dashboards Scheme. Although feeling rather nervous about having to log everything we have and haven't done, we all found that it helped us to keep on top of the necessary work and know when things needed to be up-dated.

Domestic Abuse is now part of the Safeguarding responsibilities and the representative underwent the necessary training. More safeguarding training has become available online which is helpful.

### **Health and Safety**

The Health and Safety Policy is being kept up to date by David Smethurst. Reports are given to the PCC at every meeting.

### **Church attendance**

- Easter Day service 2019 – 35 attendees (24 communicants)
- Christmas 2019 – A total of 105 people attended the nativity play, 66 at the all-age carol service and 25 at the Christmas eve crib service
- Sunday services - average taken over 3 months of services in 2018 – 7 adults, 1 child. This is slightly down on last year
- There were no baptisms this year. There were no marriages or blessings this year. There was 1 funeral and 1 burial of ashes (committal).

### **PCC meetings**

There have been regular PCC meetings during the year to December 2019.

At each meeting the following reports are received, and other topics often discussed:

- Progress on the Mission Action Plan
- Deanery Synod
- Finance and accounts
- Health and Safety
- Safeguarding
- Initiating records under the General Data Protection Regulations
- Services and other events which have taken place
- Plans are made for future services
- Making the church a welcoming place

### **Church cleaning, flowers and rota**

Willing helpers keep the church clean and decorated with flowers every week. Teams of people do arrangements for major festivals with a combined effort for special services. We are grateful Angela Cameron for co-ordinating the flower rota and Mary Cook who organises the duty warden rota. It was reported to the PCC that the preference among many is to be duty warden/reader/intercessor on a single date during the month to allow people flexibility to engage in other activities. We accept this as far as possible and are hugely grateful to those who give their time and effort to the church.

### **Bell ringing**

Practices have continued throughout the year based fortnightly at Trusham and fortnightly at Doddiscombsleigh. Sadly, it remains difficult to get a team together to ring for services on Sundays because individuals are also involved at other towers where they ring for services each week.

### **Music**

CDs or MP3s via a PA system are now used to accompany hymns, though we have occasionally had the services of visiting musicians. Thanks to all those duty wardens who have adopted the task of playing music. We are very grateful to Helen Harding for the use of the PA system too and for choosing the hymns for services when the ministers prefer not to have that responsibility.

### **Report on Mission Action Plan to December 2019**

A mission action plan was prepared by Pat Smethurst early in year, and has been updated to show areas our aspirations for ongoing years. It focusses on Bishop Robert's action points of **Growing in prayer; Making new disciples; Serving the people of Devon with joy.**

A meeting was attended by PPC representatives regarding the creation of a benefice wide mission action plan and we continue to work toward preparing a more 'joined-up' approach with Chudleigh and Chudleigh Knighton.

Successes during 2019 include continuing with a regular service pattern to include communion and all age worship services on a monthly basis. Christmas events have been popular attracting residents and visitors in good numbers. In regard to building maintenance, the chest tomb repairs are being made ready for a start on site in the new year. The fabric of the building is otherwise in good order, although some small items of work have been identified as 'urgent' in the recent quinquennial inspection by John Scott Architect.

### **Charitable links**

The PCC continues to help charities by donating part of its annual income. The PCC has agreed to support one local and one national/international charity to a sum totalling in the region of 10% of income; though a decision is pending on the exact charities to support from the 2018 income.