

St David's Ashprington

Annual Report 2023

Background.

St David's serves a population of over 400 adults from the village of Ashprington, the hamlet of Tuckenhay, and the settlements of Painsford, Yetson, Sharpham Barton and Sharpham House. Twenty five are on the Electoral Roll. It is uniquely positioned with distant and panoramic views across the South Hams. There is seating capacity for about 100-120 people. The fabric is in a sound state of repair, major refurbishment works having been done to the tower in 2009/10 and refurbishment of nine church windows completed during 2017.

Parishioners are very supportive of each other within their communities. The PCC is very grateful to Liz Chandler, the organist, whose contribution to the worship is very significant.

Our Objects

To provide a place of worship, pilgrimage and prayer which is open during daylight hours, seven days a week to anyone who wishes to attend the services or visit the building. In addition, the church is used for concerts and other cultural gatherings.

- **Growing in prayer**

We want to abide in Christ and live our lives close to God. This means taking risks as we become more honest with ourselves and more honest with God. Prayer opens up deep places within us to God's grace, which is why it is such a life-giving activity. Going deeper in prayer is essential if we are to witness to God's Kingdom and grow into the people God is calling us to be.

- **Making new disciples**

A disciple is someone who follows Jesus Christ. With Christ as our companion and guide, we can travel through life differently and invite others to share in the adventure. We want to be more faithful in our discipleship and allow God to shape our priorities and values. The gospel is good news but, if we are to bring more people to Christ, we need to find new ways of telling the story, of explaining our faith and giving a reason for the hope that is in us.

- **Serving the people in our community with joy**

We want to be ambassadors for Christ, making a difference in the world and witnessing to God's love and justice, especially in the communities where we live and in our schools and workplaces. Working in partnership with others who are transforming lives, we seek to address the global issues confronting our generation so that all may flourish. We seek to fulfil our calling to love God and serve the people of our community. St David's Church should speak of God's compassion and love, and ensure a Christian presence in our community.

Our Vision

To keep St David's as a vibrant and living Church that shares the Gospel of Christ by virtue of its welcome, worship and fellowship. As part of this, the maintenance and ongoing restoration of the historic fabric and furniture, remains one priority. We recognise the role of the Totnes Mission Community as providing its congregations with a range of skills and gifts from both stipendiary and lay people for the greater glory of God.

Our Mission

To offer weekly worship and celebrate the major festivals of the Church. We see St David's as being inclusive and receptive to all parishioners and visitors and a great venue for concerts and other secular activities.

Objectives and Activities.

Average participation in worship varies significantly depending on liturgy and format offered. There is no regular representation from younger people. There are a number of individuals who are on the Electoral Roll but do not attend church services on a regular basis but choose to serve the Church by undertaking many and varied tasks. We are very grateful to them all.

Safeguarding remains a priority for St David's Church. Jill Davies is the Safeguarding Officer.

Worship. The pattern of services throughout 2022 was: 1st Sunday Sung Eucharist led by stipendiary priest, 2nd Sunday Village Worship led by a lay member of the congregation, 3rd Sunday Communion by Extension led by a Lay Reader and on the fourth Sunday we joined the congregation at St Peter's Cornworthy. On average, fourteen people attended the Eucharist services, twenty two attended Village Worship and forty two attended festival services.

St David's PCC is pleased to report as follows:

- Village Worship is generally themed and is led by a member of the PCC, with significant involvement of members of the community, many of whom do not normally attend other church services. With a Diocesan faculty now obtained to place castors on six of the benches, lunch, seated around tables, was provided after the village worship, when further fellowship was enjoyed.
- A Church Monument booklet by Laurence Green was finally produced thanks to the input of Margaret Wilmshurst.
- The eco churchyard initiative continued to be developed and delivered with several new benches placed in strategic positions within the graveyard, encouraging residents and visitors alike to rest and reflect in this sacred space.
- A very successful Remembrance Day service was held on the 13th November 2022, attended by many from the community. Liz Waterson led both the War Memorial act of worship as well as the church service.
- The Community choir continues to meet in St David's most Thursday evenings for its practice and participates when invited, in some Festival services.
- A 'House for Duty' post had been advertised in the Church Times. The vicarage in Cornworthy would be occupied by a successful candidate to serve both St Peter's and St David's Parishes. Unfortunately no suitable candidate applied and the post will be re-advertised.
- There was an overnight intrusion into the church on the 21st July by a homeless man, who did superficial damage.
- Amongst the special services during the year was the Harvest Festival, Christingle Service and Carols by Candlelight, organised by different members of the PCC.
- Swift Project – nesting boxes for 4 pairs installed in the east facing louvers of the tower in spring of 2022.

- The PCC was very sorry to say goodbye to Simon and Sue Boyes during the year. Both had been very committed to St David's Church and the local community for many years, Simon being a long standing churchwarden.

Fabric.

- Amongst remedial work done during the year was the re-instatement of a ceiling boss which had fallen from the west end ceiling of the church. Additional remedial work had been undertaken at the east of the church.
- Further drainage provided inside the tower for ingress of rainwater and replacement of boards covering top windows of the tower.
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Finances.

At the 31st December 2022, the Treasurer, reported that the PCC Bank Accounts contained £32,965. (2021 - £28,723) of unrestricted funds and £2,300 of restricted funds. Unrestricted income for the year was £20,466 (2021 - £22,120), whilst Expenditure totalled £18,710 (2021 - £21,195) There is also an additional trust investment of £19,247, being two legacies received by St David's many years ago. (The latter funds are 'restricted' and are held by the Diocese in a CBF Investment Fund.)

Future plans.

- Serious consideration is being given to installing a card reader in the church, to encourage greater donations by both visitors and church attendees.
- The PCC is keen to place a chemical toilet (on castors) discreetly in the churchyard at the west end of the building.
- The PCC is committed to keeping St David's Church, a vibrant and responsive building, in which community activity and involvement are maximised.
- Liz Chandler, our organist suggested the church purchase copies of 'Complete Anglican Hymns Old & New'. This was done in February 2023.
- The fundraising has been partially successful around the installation of a new servery. This has been ordered from H.I. Building Co and should be installed in March 2023.
- A Eucharistic Liturgy review will be undertaken with the Rector.
- Church yard project – application will be made to CPRE for Churchyard of the Year competition 2023.
- A guide to some of the curious and historical graves will be published.
- Review of Strategic Planning – see separate paper

Structure, Governance & Management

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Ashprington was registered as a charity on the 12th January 2021. It has eight trustees. They meet at least three times a year and are responsible for all matters relating to the Church, under the overall leadership of the Team Rector, who is Chairman.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy of the PCC is to hold a minimum of £20,000, which is the equivalent of one year's average expenditure.

St David's Church Ashprington PCC Ac
1 January 2020 - 31 Decembe

	Receipts		
Balance at Bank		2258.79	
Giving			Essential
	Standing orders	8540.00	
	Collection	965.60	
	Donations	1500.00	
	Wall safe	105.30	
	gift aid	3430.93	
		14541.8	
Interest	472.32		
Fees	420.00		charity
Coffee mornings	193.85		Repairs
CBF transfer	3000.00		website
LPOW vat return	844.20		misc.
Restoration Acct transfer	400.07		
Insurance payment	2340.00		
Team grant (sound system)	1000.00		
misc.	280.99		
		8951.43	
		25752.1	

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Payments

Quota	6856.00	
Heat, light, water	400.61	
Insurance & safety	3510.81	
Totnes Team exp.	652.80	
organist/organ	1540.00	
maintenance	941.00	13901.2

1416.60
4540.00
514.99
424.69

6896.28

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Balance at Bank	4954.55
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St David's Ashprington PCC account
1 January 2021 - 31 Dec

	Receipts		
Balance at Bank		4954.55	
Giving			Essential
	Standing orders	8030.00	
	Collection	1509.80	
	Donations	355.00	
	Wall safe	59.00	
	gift aid	2797.72	
		12751.5	
Interest		489.12	
Fees		731.00	charity
Team repayment		134.05	Repairs
CBF transfer		1000.00	Sound syst
LPOW vat return		303.44	Quinquenn
NatWest switch grant		1500.00	misc
misc		256.39	
		4414.00	
		22120.1	

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ember 2021

Payments

Quota	6087.00	
Heat, light, water	661.76	
Insurance & safety	3395.08	
Totnes Team exp.	383.00	
organist/organ	1294.00	
maintenance	705.00	
		12525.8
	949.32	
	4299.00	
tem	2457.31	
iel	798.60	
	164.73	
		8668.96

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Balance at Bank	925.27
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St David's Ashprington PCC account 67209077

1 January 2023 - 31 December 2023

Receipts		Payments	
Balance at Bank	4056.73		
Giving		Essential	
Standing orders	8277.95	Quota	6196.00
Collection	1502.00	Utilities	535.32
Collect Tin	291.05	Insurance & safety	4237.79
gift aid 2022	2923.81	Totnes Team exp.	319.00
Donations	180.00	organist/organ	1140.00
	13174.8	maintenance	1328.99
Grants	5500.00	Altar requirements	156.11
Wedding + Funeral Fees	1272.00		13913.2
Charity	760.50	Repairs	1705.40
Trust Investment Interest	508.52	Large projects	14289.65
LPOW vat return	2004.11	Charity	488.95
Coffee mornings	701.41	misc	1360.75
CCLA transfer	8000.00	Transfers (CCLA, Savings Acct)	3128.95
EDF payments	114.36		20973.7
Parish buying	108.76		
Majestic wine return	64.99		
	19034.7		###
		Balance at Bank	1379.28
	36266.2		###

Date _____ **Examiner** _____ **Treasurer** _____ **Churchwardens** _____

Date _____ **Churchwardens** _____ **Chairman PCC** _____



Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees of

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st December 2018

**Charity no
(if any)**

An Excepted Charity

Set out on pages

5-7

**Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent
examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:

Date:

Name:

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Address: