

**Christ Church Biddulph Moor**  
**Trustees Annual Report**  
**of the**  
**Parochial Church Council**  
**for the**  
**Year Ended 31st December 2019**



**Jesus saves all.**  
**Christ Church welcomes all to follow Him.**

## 1. Aims and Purposes

Christ Church Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Darren Fraser, in promoting in the Ecclesiastical Parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the church, church hall and school house in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Biddulph Moor.

## 2. Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of the parish community here at Christ Church. The PCC maintains an overview of worship and makes suggestions on how the services can involve the many groups that live within the parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer, scripture, music and sacrament.

When developing the Mission Action Plan and planning the activities for the year, we consider the Commission's guidance on the Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit and the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of the parish community through:

- Worship and Prayer; learning about the gospel and developing knowledge and trust in Jesus
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Missionary and outreach work

The Mission Action Plan focused on: prayer walking, links with Moor First School, church yard mission, opening of the church building, community use of the hall, churches together, outreach services and wider mission.

To facilitate this work, it is also important that the trustees maintain the fabric of Christ Church and its associated buildings.

**Thought for the day by Reverend Darren Fraser John 1:35-42**

### **Reaching our full Potential**

Reaching our full potential can take a life time. I have been reflecting on the **patience** and **faithfulness** of God. There was a man named Simon, Simon was married (1 Corinthians 9:5), he had a fishing business with his business partners James & John (Luke 5:10). Simon was like many people; he had a wife, and worked hard.

When Jesus called Simon, he also changed his name to Cephas in Hebrew, but in Greek Cephas means Peter, and Peter means 'Rock'. Now this word 'Rock' is important and we will return to it shortly. After that first calling of Peter, it wasn't until Peter had another encounter with Jesus, did he decide to leave everything and follow Jesus (Luke 5:10-11). Peter was far from perfect, he was enthusiastic, strong willed, impulsive, and at times a bit brash. Now Peter spent 3 years with Jesus, and during that time there were lots of ups and downs. He seemed to be the one

who always put his foot in it. But Jesus never gave up on Peter, he was patient with him, and always remained faithful to Peter. Peter in spite of his imperfections carried on walking with Jesus as well. Even when Peter made a big mess of things, Jesus once reminded him that on Peter the Church would be built. Jesus said "On this Rock I will build my Church" (Matthew 16:18). I said the word Rock was important, because Jesus still believed that Peter would and could reach his full potential.

After the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus, on the day of Pentecost we see Peter stepping into that full potential. Peter spoke about Jesus and His resurrection, and the power of God was with him. Around 3,000 new people believed that day, the Church was born, and it began to be built upon Peter 'Rock'. Jesus always keeps his promises; he was patient and faithful to Peter. There is lots more to say about Peter, but I would encourage you to read about Peter yourself in the Bible. Like Peter, we are all far from perfect, but the Christian faith believes in the Goodness of God. This God wants each of us to reach our full potential, along the way He is patient with us, and always remains faithful. There might be times when we feel like giving up because things are difficult. Let's keep on walking with Jesus, because we need to be reminded that he is patient and faithful, and never lets us go.

### **3. Achievements and Performance**

#### Worship and Prayer

The PCC is keen to offer a range of services throughout the year that the community find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. During the Sunday mornings we offer different styles of worship; Morning Worship, Book of Common Prayer, and Holy Communion. These are well received by the regular congregation and visitors. Throughout the year we also hold special services celebrating Christmas and Easter and a memorial service. As a worshipping community we continue to reach out to people with the Good News of Jesus Christ. It's not always easy, but we continue to fix our eyes on Jesus Christ.

As well as the regular services, we make welcome those who choose to celebrate and thank God for the various milestones as they journey through life. Through Baptism we thank God for the gift of life, in marriage public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and funeral services, allow friends and family to express their grief and thanks for life which is now complete in this world and to commend their loved one into God's keeping.

We have still not reached a decision on a replacement for the Thursday Prayers, and Darren & Terry, would welcome ideas concerning the timing and format of such a replacement. Prayer is vitally important; the PCC will begin a conversation on how the Church might meet on a regular basis for prayer. In Acts 2:42, the early Church models something very important for each Church in every generation, it says "42 They **devoted** themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to **prayer.**" Prayer is something the Church did corporately together, and they were devoted to it. And as such the prayer life of our church is vital if we wish to reach the people of this village and breathe new life into our worship and witness. Terry and Darren ask for your personal prayers on this matter. We need to pray together for the future of our church.

At different times throughout the year, church members have placed flowers in the church in memory of loved ones, these being recorded on the flower rota kept at the back of the church. There were also occasions throughout the year when members of the church gave donations towards the cost of flowers. All of which have been gratefully received. Sadly, the church flower fund is not always in the greatest of health so any donations placed in the flower box at the back of the church would be really appreciated. For the special services, Easter and Christmas, flowers are bought to decorate and fill the Church. Thank you to those members of the congregation who gave donations towards these flowers. Sheila Hulme organised the flowers for Mothering Sunday with members of the congregation taken home a posy of daffodils for their mothers or in memory of their mothers – thank you Sheila. Offers of help and support with the flower arranging during Easter and Christmas would be very much appreciated. Anyone interested and would like to share in the yearly flower rota, please place your names on the flower rota at the back of the church or contact Pauline Dunn on 515491 or speak to her in church.

We thank Sheila Watson for bringing Christ Church into the 21<sup>st</sup> century with our very own Facebook page! Have a look and see who you can spot?

The new Electoral Roll Officer is Sheila Watson who oversees the applications and ensures that at the end of every year the information is accurate. We offer our thanks to Nita Nicholls who was the Electoral Roll Officer for many years – thank you. The Electoral Roll officer also has to complete the six-yearly review, having taken place in 2019 the next one will be in 2025. Under the Church Representation Rules any lay persons are entitled to have their names entered on the roll if the person is baptised, or is aged 16 or over, and has made **one** of the following three declarations and duly applied for enrolment.

The first declaration is that the person is a member of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with it and is resident in the parish.

The second declaration is that the person is a member of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with it, is not resident in the parish, but has habitually attended public worship in the parish during the preceding six months.

The third declaration is that the person is a member in good standing of a Church which is not in communion with the Church of England but subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and is also a member of the Church of England and has habitually attended public worship in the parish during the preceding six months.

There are currently 34 names on the electoral roll the recent review resulted in six names being removed from the roll, either due to being deceased or no reapplication. Application Forms for enrolment can be obtained from Sheila. In order for a person to be entitled to attend the annual parochial church meeting and to take part in its proceedings, an Application Form must have been completed.

The average attendance, as measured by those attending in October, was 16.

### Church Wardens (Officers of the Bishop)

At last year's APCM two 'novice' church wardens were appointed to these positions. Anne Gadsden & Heather Shutt both, along with Darren, attended the Archdeacon's Visitation where solemn declarations were made before being formally admitted to their terms of office. Church Wardens are elected annually however there is an understanding that wardens may serve for between three and five years. Anne & Heather have very hard acts to follow in Nita Nicholls, Margaret Ridgway and Hilary Williams who discharged their duties to very exacting standards over many years!

As officers of the Bishop, if he were to visit, the Church Wardens would walk in front with their staves, which are the symbols of their office. They co-operate with Reverend Darren Fraser in all matters concerning the well-being of the parish, they should represent the laity and be active and useful members of the PCC. They should 'use their best endeavours, by example and precept to encourage the parishioners in the practice of true religion'. They are also charged with maintaining 'order and decency' in the church and churchyard especially during the time of public worship. However, it is not suggested that their staves are used for this!

### Deanery Synod

The deanery is a strategic mission unit in the diocese, and the deanery synod acts as a vital link between people in the parishes (the PCC), the diocese (diocesan synod) and the Church of England nationally (General Synod). Over the year the following subjects were considered; 'The Diocesan Vision for 2019' - Archdeacon Matthew Parker was the speaker, 'Confident in the Gospel' - Reverend Darren Fraser was the speaker, 'Vocations Training' - Reverend Frances Wilson was the speaker and 'Knowing and Loving our Communities' - where Bishop Geoff spoke. There is a vacancy for at least one Deanery Synod member so please give this opportunity some thought and prayer.

### A personal reflection

As our most senior member, celebrating her 90th birthday in January 2020, Mary Hall was invited to share her memories of Christ Church and what her faith meant to her.

Mary said that she has attended Christ Church for as long as she can remember, attending the morning service and Sunday School in the afternoon and then as she was older attending the evening service as well! She says that she was expected to go – 'you didn't please yourself'. For the Harvest Festival Service, called the Church Harvest Home, Mary can remember visiting the local houses with her sisters asking for gifts for the church, they received so much they were able to fill a clothes basket full of produce. Mary was confirmed on March 11<sup>th</sup> 1944. From then on, she helped at the Sunday School and became a Sunday School teacher. Mary fondly remembers the Sunday School anniversaries with so many children and reflects on the sadness of not having a Sunday School for the children anymore. Mary is a regular and very valued member of the church and says she will continue to attend for as long as she is able. Her favourite hymn is 'There is an eye that never sleeps' saying that the words are just so beautiful and she recalls her mother's favourite hymn as being 'Oh my Saviour hear me'. Mary's favourite bible reading is Ecclesiastes Chapter 3.

*'To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven; a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; a time to*

*kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; a time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.'*

When asked what one thing would she rid the world of Mary replied – cancer. Mary offers her best wishes to all the congregation and thanked everyone for their kind wishes on her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

### Church grounds and buildings

Last year was a drier year for ground work and the going wasn't as tough, thank you Lord. All machines were cleaned and maintained early on in the season, along with a good tidy out of the church hall shed. Once again, the Japanese Knot weed in the church grounds, church house grounds & Glebe grounds needed further attention. The Knot weed in all of these areas is now being dealt with by Andrew Pickin who will continue to work with us over the coming years. Andrew has also agreed to be contracted to take on the cutting and pruning of all the hedges, bushes and trees throughout the church grounds. Needless to say, this will add to the cost of the groundwork. But we offer our grateful thanks to Andrew for all his work.

The grounds team continued to clear and check all grids around the church, and yet again the church cellar flooded. It is a problem that the council are aware of and we rely on them to clear the storm drain in the main road. After contacting both Councillor Ian Lawson and Karen Bradley MP they were able to help in getting the problem resolved. However, as a consequence to the flooding we have had to clear the sludge which had collected at the bottom of the cellar steps and blocked drains around the grounds.

The badgers still cause some damage around the church yard and appear to be getting quite numerous. Anne & Jeff Walker and Mike Ward cleared the pampas grass that the badgers were using to line their setts. New notices were placed around the church yard explaining what is and is not accepted by the Diocese. The full church yard regulations are available on the website and on the notice board in the porch. We also continued to hand out prayer cards to relatives who visited their loved one's graves, these were always accepted with grateful thanks and this procedure will be continued.

Many thanks should go to Anne Walker, Michael Ward and Andrew Pickin for their work in helping with the upkeep of the church grounds. Grave mounds and marker stones were laid and tidied by the groundwork team, along with maintenance of the Glebe ground. The grounds always require much work throughout the year, removing Christmas wreaths, mowing, graves requiring attention, hedge and tree pruning. We are always thankful to receive donations or offers of help towards the maintenance of our church grounds. If you would like to be part of the groundwork team, we would very much welcome you to the team. We usually meet on Tuesday or Saturday mornings during the season, February – November. Please contact Kevin Dunn on 515491.

Our continued thanks go to Elaine Haddock as she opened the church every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday between the hours of 10.00am and 4.00pm, regardless of what the weather threw at her! Several visitors signed the book with the Thomson Family signing the book recording that they were descendants of Reverend Herbert Blackmore who was the minister from 1902 – 1905.

The annual check of the fabric of the church building continues to endorse the findings of the Quinquennial Inspection of 2016 that reported that 'the Church is maintained in excellent condition by the Parish'. However, there are a number of actions identified that require attention and the intention is to address the most urgent of these this year, 2020. Regular Health & Safety checks have been undertaken by the churchwardens ensuring that all safety procedures are in place for example, First Aid boxes, Fire Safety Equipment and storage of hazardous substances etc.

The church hall continues to be used regularly by the local community with the Rainbows and Guides holding their meetings on Tuesday evenings during term time. The Partially Sighted Lunch Club used the Parish Room from February through to November on the first Wednesday in the month. Mr Bill Woodward is the coordinator for this club.

Dance Exchange have continued using many of the hall facilities. They meet on Wednesday and Thursday evenings. It was lovely to see them taking part in the Well Dressing in 2019 and hopefully they will be back this year. In January this year they took part in "Masters in Line Blackpool Competition", and were awarded with four 1<sup>st</sup> prizes, two 2<sup>nd</sup> prizes and one 3<sup>rd</sup> prize, so well done to all concerned!

The hall has been used for several funeral teas, children's parties and a school disco. The petallers' and maypole dancers used the hall as they prepared the tableau and practiced the maypole dancing. The Biddulph Moor Community Association also used the Parish Room during the summer months. So, all in all the hall was put to good use by the local community – thank you.

The heating in the hall has proved quite troublesome over the past year so the funds raised will soon be put to good use as we start phase 1 of the refurbishment, replacing the pipework and radiators to the heating system. During 2019 we raised £6,300, far short of the £100,000 required for the full refurbishment, but little by little we are getting there. Your prayers and donations have been much appreciated as we continue with our fundraising efforts to refurbish the hall to improve the facilities for the church, the village and the wider community.

We once again thank Heather and David Shutt for all their hard work, Heather as the manager and David as the 'handy man'. We also thank Pam Murray who is the booking clerk and Sheila Hulme who is the cleaner, ably supported by Jane Hall, all who play an important role.

#### Fundraising events for the Hall refurbishment.

Throughout the year we have continued to receive donations in response to the Makeover Appeal for which we are very grateful. Particular thanks go to Bill Ridgway and the local historical societies who have put on several evenings, gifting part of the monies taken on the evening to the Makeover Appeal. Bill also kindly gifts the fee made on his book sales.

Anne Gadsden, ably supported by many members of the congregation, coordinated a hugely successful 'Garden Party' which was well attended despite the weather not being too kind on the day. Our MP Karen Bradley opened the event, with the Deputy Mayor and Mayoress also joining everyone on the day. Pointons Nursery supplied the shrubs on a sale and return basis and the bric-a-brac stall was a huge success. The lovely refreshments, drinks and fellowship were enjoyed by all. Later in the year we had a pie and peas supper with a brain teaser of a quiz! David Shutt provided the catering and Terry Williams set the quiz. This was also very well attended, with people asking 'when and what will the next event be?'

### Pastoral Care

Some members of the parish are unable to attend church due to sickness or age. Pauline Dunn and Reverend Darren Fraser offer pastoral care keeping in touch by phone, sending a get well card or in some instances visiting at home or in hospital. Pauline has also delivered prayer booklets and prayer cards to those in need of support which they have found very comforting. This is a gesture we know is greatly appreciated and which will continue. Please contact Pauline on 515491 if you know of anyone who needs such support or let Darren or Terry know if they would like to be mentioned in the weekly intercessions.

### Mission and evangelism

Since September 2012 CCBM has continued to support the Stoke on Trent Foodbank which operates from the Community Fire Station in Hanley. Donations are accepted there, at Blurton Methodist Church, Wesley Hall Methodist Church in Sneyd Green and English Martyrs Church in Biddulph. The members of Christ Church congregation have been most generous in making regular weekly donations of dry grocery items for the Foodbank. The items have included, tea, coffee, fruit juice, sugar, tinned meat, vegetables, soup & fish, biscuits & confectionery, cereals, rice and pasta. Between January to December 2019 Christ Church donated just under 177 kg of food and the total donated since the start is just under 1.7 tonnes (1,659 kg). Stoke on Trent Foodbank now has 16 distribution centres open across the City. From January to December 2019 the Foodbank issued 13,169 food packages. Thank you to Mike Ward for continuing to be the link person.

The church continues to support the work of several missions and charities. Each year the PCC considers which missions to support and how much of a percentage of the planned giving should be given to each. As with other years the Church Pastoral Aid Society, the Church Society, Crosslinks, and GMI-UK benefited from our tithing. The Church Pastoral Society is the largest independent patron in England responsible for nearly 700 churches of which Christ Church is one. They supported the benefice with the appointment of Darren over seven years ago – where has that time gone? The congregation also support Gideons UK and the Leprosy Mission. We thank Terry Williams and Anne Walker respectively for overseeing this aspect of our missionary giving. Last year the Lenten Giving supported The Bishop's appeal.

### Christian Aid and the Staffordshire Historic Churches Trust

This year has been a good year for the Christian Aid sponsored walk around Tittesworth Reservoir as over one million pounds has been raised since its start in 1991. In March last year Christ Church members sponsored Anne & Jeff Walker to the value of £160. In September Anne & Jeff also took part in the Staffordshire Historic Ride and Stride. £125 was raised and thanks to your generous sponsorship £62.50 has been returned by the Trust to the church and this went

into the Makeover Appeal. Anne also collects and banks The Leprosy Mission money; this year Christ Church was invited to Lichfield Cathedral for the Christmas Carol Service and five folks were able to attend. A lovely evening was had by all with a big thank you to Heather Shutt for being the driver! Anne offers huge thanks to all her friends who have supported her over the years and continue to do so.

#### Link to Hope Shoe Box Appeal

Each year Christ Church supports the shoe box appeal coordinated by Joan Hulme & Jacob Davies from St John's. Here is an excerpt from the Link to Hope newsletter. "To every one of you who took part in the Shoebox Appeal we want to say a big Thank You! You sent 37,400 amazing shoeboxes of love to people that can never repay you. Vulnerable communities that now know that someone loves them. Each year shoeboxes are delivered to Romania, Bulgaria, Moldova and Ukraine. We send a small team to one of those locations to help give your shoeboxes out and to report back what they have seen. This year it was Iasi, in Romania. Here is a diary entry from one of those handing out the boxes.

*'We head to another village called Negresti. We are split into two groups and go house to house giving out shoeboxes to a village that has never received them before. Although our leader has been working for a long time in the village our first reception was icy as the lady did not understand why strangers would be trying to give her a gift. However, as the afternoon wore on people became friendlier and friendlier and were delighted that someone was thinking of them. One little boy in particular spotted us from inside his house and ran at the window and glued himself to it 'Cadeau, cadeau' (present, present) he kept saying. We were invited in and he loved everything that was in his box.'*

#### Ecumenical relationships

This Christmas the church and other communities of the village were invited to support Hilltop Methodist by decorating a Christmas tree that represented themselves. Pauline Dunn with the support of Anne Walker and Kevin Dunn decorated the tree with decorations that highlighted the various features of our beautiful Church. The tree was displayed at Hilltop and returned to Christ Church for the Christmas services. Thank you, Pauline, the tree looked beautiful.

Christ Church is a member of Biddulph Churches Together, which include English Martyrs, Hill Top Methodist, Life Stream, New Road Methodist, Oasis, St John's and St Lawrence's. Biddulph Churches Together continues to grow together in unity and to reach out across the communities with various mission activities such as the Silent Disco for the Alternative Hallowe'en and the Open Café on the Town Hall steps.

The Biddulph Moor Churches Together once again held a Good Friday service at the Cross on the green in the village centre and afterwards delivered Easter eggs and cards to the village. These were gratefully received by all. The churches also provided free coffees and mince pies at the Switching on of the Christmas Lights, with the community singing provided by Oasis. As ever there was a beautiful nativity scene at the heart of the village reminding all of the true meaning of Christmas. Thank you to Councillors John Jones and Dave Hawley for ensuring that the nativity scene remains a focus.

The Ministers also meet regular together to pray and support each other with fellowship. The meetings of Biddulph Town Council continue to be opened with prayers and the ministers of the various churches have a rota for leading these.

### Gideons UK

This year there have been great changes here in the British Isles in regard to this organisation. The Charities Commission has ruled that if the Gideons continues with its present policy of refusing to accept ladies as full members in their own right then the organisation can no longer claim charitable status. This has forced the British Gideons into, in my view, a long overdue change. Gideons UK is now no longer a men only organisation!

Unfortunately, this has had long reaching consequences. The American led Gideon Cabinet has expelled the UK from the organisation and has also taken legal action to prevent us from using the name "Gideons" and from using the official logo of the jar with the flame which has become so well known. They have also excluded us from and international outreach initiatives and refuse any monetary support from us to help with the work! The UK is determined to continue in the work of scripture distribution in much the same way as we have always done but we now need to find a new name and a new logo.

Terry still finds it difficult to attend the meetings but hopes that this will not continue for much longer as his leg continues to heal. Despite his lack of attendance, he has once again been elected as Chairman of the branch. We look to have a challenging year ahead. Despite recruiting one more member this year we are still overstretched in trying to meet the need.

Once again scriptures were handed out to young families at the switching on of the Christmas Lights on the moor this year. Any ladies fancy becoming a Gideon? (or whatever our name turns out to be)

## **4. Financial Review**

The total receipts on unrestricted funds were £36,780 of which £19,701 was unrestricted voluntary donations, with a further £2,000 from Gift Aid. Restricted donations of £6,520 were also received for the Hall Makeover Appeal all are detailed in the Financial Statements. The church hall is regularly hired and the church house continues to be let, which provided a gross income of £12,308. Sadly, and worryingly the planned giving through envelopes and banker's orders **decreased** by £2,368.

£35,632 was spent from the unrestricted funds to provide the Christian ministry, including the contribution to the diocesan parish share of £20,359, this largely provides for the stipend and housing for the clergy. The sum that the churches in the deanery have to find is shared between the churches according to a formula that is based mainly on a head count of the congregations.

The net result for the year was an excess of receipts over payments of £1,148 on unrestricted funds. Adding bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balance carried forward at 31st December totalled £26,711 of which £19,410 is designated to the church hall, church house and church yard.

It is the policy of the PCC to invest some of the funds with the CBF Church of England Deposit fund. The balance in this high interest account is £13,778.85.

As ever Christ Church needs your prayers and financial support to ensure its continuing life and work in the local community. We operate an envelope scheme for weekly giving, some members use Giving Direct or monthly payments such as Direct Debit, Standing Order or Faster Payments. Giving in this way secures a regular income and reduces the amount of time required by the counters and the treasurer in opening envelopes, counting and banking cash. The church is able to claim gift aid on any cash donation of up to £20 as well as those who gift aid. We thank all who give regular gifts of time and or money.

If you use the envelope scheme and are unable to attend church regularly please remember we still need your support, kindly fill in the envelopes for the Sundays missed and bring them the next time you attend church or ask someone to bring them for you or consider Giving Direct or monthly payments. If you are not part of the envelope scheme or wish to give on a monthly basis please contact the Church Treasurer; Anne Gadsden 01782 515023 or via e-mail [anne.gadsden@btinternet.com](mailto:anne.gadsden@btinternet.com)

## **5. Structure, Governance and Management**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At Christ Church the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (the Vicar), two churchwardens and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

The eleven PCC members met five times during the year with an average level of attendance of 72%. We discussed such matters as worship, mission and outreach work, fabric and finance. A book of minutes is available for inspection. The most recent minutes are always available at the back of the church. A copy of each of the PCC, Extraordinary General Meeting and Annual Parochial Meeting (APCM) minutes is posted on the church notice board, inside the porch, for the information of all members of the congregation.

The Health & Safety officer and others with areas of responsibility carried out the bi-annual Health & Safety checks using an itemised check-list showing that all concerns were addressed where possible. The terrier and inventory were checked and everything was found to be in order. An electronic version of this has been created along with a database for all the burials in the church yard.

Towards the end of 2019 John Pickford offered to take on the role of Health & Safety Officer. The handover has been completed and John has agreed to attend the PCC meetings to report on matters relating to H&S. We thank John for this very kind offer and look forward to working with him.

## Volunteers

The PCC would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard behind the scenes without whom the church would find it hard to function. Their dedicated and loyal support enables the PCC to present a very clear statement and witness of faith, plus a well kept and welcoming church & church yard that are a great witness to the village. In particular we want to mention Anne Gadsden who has helped us all to understand the church's accounts and its finances.

## **6. Reference and Administration Information**

The Parish of Christ Church Biddulph Moor is in the Deanery of Leek, the Rural Dean is Brian Statham of Milton Parish Church. The Archdeacon is Matthew Parker, in the archdeaconry of Stoke-on-Trent. Michael Ipgrave is the Bishop of Lichfield. Geoff Annas is the Bishop of Stafford and Justin Welby is the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity currently excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

### **Christ Church Biddulph Moor**

Church Lane  
Biddulph Moor  
ST8 7HU

### **Rev. Darren Fraser (01782 512240)**

The Vicarage, 62 Park Lane  
Knypersley  
ST8 7AU

### **Church Warden (01782515023)**

Anne Gadsden  
50 Farmside Lane  
ST8 7LY

### **Church Warden (01782 510661)**

Heather Shutt  
'Inglenook', Woodhouse Lane  
ST8 7RN

### **Independent Examiner**

Beaumont's Chartered Accountants  
29-31 Moorland Road  
Burslem  
ST6 1DS

### **Bank**

TSB  
King Street  
Biddulph ST8 6AZ

## Parochial Church Council members and volunteers

Trustees' name	Office and other areas of responsibilities
Fraser, Darren	Vicar, Church House Officer
Gadsden, Anne	Church Warden/ /Deanery Synod/Gift Aid Secretary/Minutes Secretary/Parish Giving Officer/Treasurer
Haddock, Elaine	Church cleaner/Church opener
Hawley, Jane	Deanery Synod/Reader
Hulme, Sheila	Hall Cleaner/Hall Verger
Nicholls, Nita	Church Warden/Church Verger/Pastoral Care
Meehan, Sybil	Reader/Sidesperson
Mountford-Less, Janette	Safe Guarding Officer/Child Protection Officer
Shutt, Heather	Church Warden/Hall Manager/Reader
Walker, Anne	Church cleaner/Church yard team member
Watson, Sheila	Electoral Roll Officer
Williams, Terry	Licensed Reader
Volunteers' names	Areas of responsibility
Dunn, Kevin	Church yard team leader/Sidesperson
Dunn, Pauline	Pastoral Care/Flowers/Reader/Intercessions
Hall, Jane	Church brasses
Healey, Zeena	Refreshments
Murray, Ian & Pam	Hall Bookings' manager/Refreshments/Sidesperson
Nixon, Ewart	Sidesperson
Pickford, John	H&S Officer
Ridgway, Margaret	Reader
Ward, Michael	Food Bank

**The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above**

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Full Name	Darren Fraser	Anne Gadsden
Signature		
Position	Vicar	Treasurer
Date of the APCM		

**'There is an eye that never sleeps,** beneath the wing of night;  
 there is an ear that never shuts, when sink the beams of light.  
 There is an arm that never tires, when human strength gives way;  
 there is a love that never fails, when earthly loves decay.  
 But there's a power which man can wield, when mortal aid is vain,  
 that eye, that arm, that love to reach, that listening ear to gain.  
 That power is prayer, which soars on high, through Jesus, to the throne,  
 and moves the hand which moves the world, to bring salvation down!'