

**St. Peter & St. Paul, Cudham
Archdeaconry of Bromley and Bexley
Anglican Diocese of Rochester**

**Annual Report
of the Parochial Church Council
for the year ended 31st December 2022**

Aim and purposes

St Peter and St Paul Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent, the Reverend John Musson, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. St. Peter and St. Paul is part of a United Benefice with St. Mary, Downe.

The **Mission Statement** of the Church agreed by the PCC is:

“We exist for three main purposes: Worship, Witness and Welcome:”

- To worship the living God through the Lord Jesus Christ;
- To witness to the love of Christ shown supremely in his life, death and resurrection; and
- To welcome all people into our fellowship with the love of Christ.

Structure, governance and management

Rev Rach Archer continued as Curate in the Benefice but will be leaving the Benefice during January 2023 to take up the post of Rector of Mossley Hill Church, Liverpool.

PCC - the method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Peter and St Paul, Cudham the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our vicar), churchwarden/s, treasurer, secretary, reader, deanery synod representative and members elected by those who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

During 2022 the PCC met during March, May (for the APCM and AGM), July (Joint with Downe PCC), September and November (Joint with Downe PCC). During these meetings a variety of issues of concern and importance connected with the life of the church: worship and services, missional, spiritual, financial, practical and social, along with plans for the re-ordering of the church building were discussed,

Regular PCC agenda items included –

- Sunday Clubs, Messy Church and children’s work.
- Pastoral care in the parish and the ongoing work of the Pastoral Visiting Team.
- Outreach, mission and community engagement initiatives.
- Safeguarding
- Financial statements and reports, budgets and parish pledges.
- General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).
- On-going plans for building and maintenance matters involving the church, building reports and updates, improvements to church building.
- Parish Hall reports.
- Churchyard maintenance and Churchyard Fund - work has been ongoing to clear the “wild area” of the churchyard.
- Admittance of children to Communion.
- Quinquennial inspection carried out in October 2022.

Review of the church year and calendar

The death of the Late Queen Elizabeth II on September 8th was marked with prayers during the evening, and a commemorative service was held on Sunday 18th September.

An All Souls Service was held in the evening of Sunday 30th October, where names of loved ones no longer with us were read out.

Remembrance Sunday service was held on 13th November in Cudham Churchyard for an act of worship including the singing of the National Anthem.

Quinquennial Report

The Quinquennial inspection was carried out on 13th October; the resulting report was published in December, and will be reviewed further at future PCC meetings.

Homegroups, Messy Church and other church events throughout 2022 –

- Homegroups continued throughout the year with meetings being held both in person and by Zoom.
- Pancake Party On 1st March, a joint benefice pancake party in Downe Village Hall
- Taize Service A Taize service was held in church on 20th March, and was well attended both by regular congregation members as well as local people who are not regular attendees at church.
- Lent – During Lent, the homegroup focused on prayer using sessions from Pete Grieg's 24/7 prayer course.
- Easter Activities In addition to the Easter services in church, the Easter Fire / Paschal candle were lit on Easter Eve in the churchyard at Cudham
- Messy Church continued at various times of the year, providing an opportunity and outreach for families to receive the Christian message through artwork, singing, reading and hearing God's word.
- Christmas in Cudham - for Advent and December Cudham church organised several events which were appreciated by the local community –
 - Christmas Tree of Remembrance outside Cudham Church inviting people to tie a ribbon/ bauble or leave a message for a loved one.
 - Carol singing was arranged on 22nd December around the Hazelwood area of the parish.
 - Christmas trail in the Churchyard
 - Childrens Nativity play held on 4pm in Cudham Church on Christmas Eve.
 - Christmas Carol Service – Held at 6.30pm on Christmas Eve.

Pastoral Visiting Team:

The Pastoral Visiting team continues with contact and visits within the parish. Easter and Christmas gift bags were delivered to those on the regular visiting list.

Prayers

Daily prayers were held by Zoom and in Church on a Wednesday morning.

Committees

PCC and the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee can meet between full meetings of the PCC and consists of the Incumbent, Churchwardens, Treasurer and Secretary and two other members of the PCC. It has power to transact any urgent business of the PCC, subject to any directions given by the Council.

Church Attendance

The Electoral Roll stood at 52 at the date of the APCM.

Figures for the church attendance of adults at worship on the four Sundays in October 2022 were 0 (United Service at Downe), 12, 11 and 7. The number of children who attended the same four Sunday services was 0, 3, 3 and 0. In addition during October there was a messy church with good attendance, and Cudham School held their Harvest service in Church too. On average around 15 adults and 5 children attend church each Sunday, although in line with many churches, there is a larger pool of people who attend from time to time.

In addition there were around 15 who watched our online services each week.

Occasional Offices

As well as our regular services we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. Through baptism we thank God for the gift of life, in marriage public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services friends and family express their grief and give thanks for the life which is now complete in this world and to commend the person into God's keeping.

In 2022 the parish church and its ministry celebrated 3 baptism, 4 funeral services and 3 committals or burial of ashes.

Safeguarding

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (*duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults*). Denise Angell stood down as the Benefice Safeguarding Officer, and recruitment of a replacement is underway.

Cudham Church of England School Academy is part of the Aquinas Trust, with Dan Finch as Headteacher at Cudham School until the end of 2022. Rev John Musson serves on the Advisory Council as its chair. The end of term Easter service was held in church on Friday 1st April. Education Sunday fell on Sunday 11th September when members of the Aquinas Advisory Council spoke about developments in school. The Harvest Festival service was held on 14th October in church, with donations of food from the school community taken to the Bromley Foodbank. The School Christmas service was held in Church on Wednesday 21st December.

Regular school worship is supported by Rev Musson, Rev Rach and Kim and John Curle, in conjunction with the school worship committee. There was also a Summer Tea Party organised in conjunction with the children of the school outreach committee and supported by our Pastoral Visitors; and Kim Curle, along with John Curle and Rev John Musson ran Space to Breathe sessions provided to enhance staff well-being.

Parish Hall - The PCC also has trustee oversight for the Parish Hall, Cudham Lane South, Cudham, with the day to day running in the hands of the Cudham Community Centre Trust. The PCC receives regular reports from the Trust.

General Data Protection Regulations - the PCC has acted in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which took effect in the UK from 25th May 2018, replacing the existing law on data protection (the Data Protection Act 1998). Rev John Musson is the Data Controller; Barbara Sheret Data Protection Officer.

Membership - Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Since 2021 the total number of members elected to the PCC is 9, or 1/10 of the Electoral Roll, whichever is the larger number. A further 2 people may be co-opted for a year. One third of those elected to the Council retire from office each year and are eligible for re-election. The following served on the PCC:

Vicar:	The Rev John Musson	Chairperson
Curate:	The Rev Rach Archer	
Churchwardens:	Diane Kemp and Mike Manthorpe	
Deanery Synod Rep:	Diane Kemp	

Elected Members:

Mrs Denise Angell	until APCM 2025	
Mrs Sue Nettlefold	until APCM 2023	
Mrs Sue Everest	until APCM 2024	
Mrs Barbara Sheret	until APCM 2023	
Mrs Kate Brignall	until APCM 2023	
Mr Mark Comley	until APCM 2025	Secretary
Mr John Isbell	until APCM 2024	Treasurer
Mr John Curle	until APCM 2024	
Mrs Kim Curle	co-opted until APCM 2023	

The PCC extends sincere and grateful thanks to all the Church membership who work so hard to make our Church the worshipping, witnessing and welcoming community it is, and for their help and support in so many ways throughout the year.