

## **Annual report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) 2020-21.**

The PCC is composed of members of the clergy licensed to the parish and currently 29 members of the laity, including two representatives of the daughter churches. The prime purposes of the PCC are to cooperate with the Rector in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, considering matters of religious or public interest and acting as a link between the parish and the deanery and diocesan synods. The PCC fulfils this function principally through its committees, which are composed both of members of the PCC and other members of the church. Due to the restrictions and uncertainty arising from the corona virus pandemic, the 2020 APCM was delayed until 25 October 2020 and held as an online Zoom meeting only. Due to the unusual timing in 2020, two further PCC meetings were held after the approval of the 2019-20 Annual Report on proceedings of the PCC and before the APCM itself which was organised in the short window of time legally permitted to hold the meeting. The proceedings of the PCC at these meetings which were not included in last year's report are therefore included in the summary below to ensure that they are not overlooked. In addition to a short meeting following the annual meetings, the PCC had three regular meetings since the previous APCM, at which it received reports and proposals from the subcommittees and committee reports from St James' Swards End and St John's Little Walden, as well as dealing with matters relevant to the whole PCC.

The council 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).

Some of the matters on which the PCC has focussed over the past year, in approximate chronological order, have been:

- Regular reports on the state of the church's finances
- Repairs to the boiler and electrical systems and recovery of the cost of these repairs
- The appointment process and recruitment of a new Team Rector
- Reacting to the unfolding pandemic – pastoral support for the congregation and wider community, developing online worship, music during lockdown, equipment to enable live streaming from church, a Bedtime Church zoom offering for families with young children
- Appointing foundation governors for St Mary's school
- Review of Safeguarding Policy and implementation
- Planning for the arrival of the new Rector
- 2021 budget and approval of financial accounts 2020

*Lisa Brook*  
*PCC Secretary*