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**Trustees’ Annual Report for the period**

**From 1 January 2020 Period start date to 31 December 2020 Period end date**

**Charity name: Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of East Greenwich**

**Charity registration number: 1175274**

**Objectives and Activities**

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|  | SORP reference |  |
| Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document | Para 1.17 | Promoting in the Parish the whole mission of the Church pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical**.** |
| Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts. | Para 1.17 and 1.19 | * Regular public worship open to all.
* The provision of sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation.
* Pastoral work, including visiting the sick and the bereaved.
* Teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
* Taking of religious assemblies in schools.
* The provision of a youth club with a Christian ethos.
* Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings, and the distribution of literature.
* Promoting the whole mission of the Church through provision of activities for senior citizens, parents and toddlers and other special need groups.
* Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas
 |
| Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit | Para 1.18 | The Trustees  |

**Achievements and Performance**

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|  | SORP reference |  |
| Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity’s work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole. | Para 1.20 | All 3 Churches’ activities were severely restricted by COVID and the attendant restrictions on human activity. Both Christ Church and St Georges continued to put out online services on Sundays via Facebook and YouTube and all 3 of our Churches continued study and discipleship Groups online. |

**Financial Review**

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| Review of the charity’s financial position at the end of the period | Para 1.21 | The reserve in the Parish has grown |
| Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held | Para 1.22 | Reserves Policy requires reserves of 3 months bills covering the whole Parish are held within the Churches. The reserves held considerable exceed this. |
| Amount of reserves held | Para 1.22 | £240K |
| Reasons for holding zero reserves | Para 1.22 |  |
| Details of fund materially in deficit | Para 1.24 | St George’s Church needs significant repairs over the next 10 years. There is not sufficient money held to do this work. Sub committees continue to look at options for achieving this. |
| Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern | Para 1.23 |  |

**Structure, Governance and Management**

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| Description of charity’s trusts: |  | The Charity is governed by its PCC (Parochial Church Council) |
| Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter) | Para 1.25 | The Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measures 1956 as amended and the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measures 1969 as amended)  |
| How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO) | Para 1.25 | Unincorporated association |
| Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees | Para 1.25 | Trustees are elected by the Members of the Parish. They serve for 3 years and vacancies are filled annually at the APCM meeting |

**Reference and Administrative details**

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| --- | --- |
| Charity name | **Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of East Greenwich** |
| Other name the charity uses | Parish of E Greenwich  |
| Registered charity number | 1175274 |
| Charity’s principal address | Parish of E GreenwichC/ The ForumTrafalgar Road SE10 9EQ |

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| --- | --- |
|  | **Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity** |
|  | **Trustee name** | **Office (if any)** | **Dates acted if not for whole year** | **Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)** |
| 1  | Rev Margaret Cave | Chair |  | Ex officio |
| 2 | Rev John Philpot Howard |  |  | Ex officio |
| 3 | Jane Petrie |  | April 20 | Ex officio |
| 4 | Dominic Hubbuck |  | September 19 |  |
| 5 | Esther Whittlesea Read | Reader |  | Ex officio |
| 6 | Tim Cave | Reader/Deanery |  | Ex officio |
| 7 | Julie Mason | Reader |  | Ex officio |
| 8 | Sussan Ibiama | Churchwarden |  |  |
| 9 | David Thomson |  |  | PCC |
| 10 | Janet Clipsham | Churchwarden |  |  |
| 11 | Helen Frith  | Churchwarden |  |  |
| 12 | Gav Desir |  |  | PCC |
| 13 | Kerry Mehmi |  |  | PCC |
| 14 | Folarin Akinbami |  | From April 2018 | PCC |
| 15 | Patrick Kekula |  | From April 2018 | PCC |
| 16 | Tracey Milsom |  | From April 2018 | PCC |
| 17 | Michael Crawford | Churchwarden |  |  |
| 18 | Judith Eastaugh | Deanery/Treasurer |  | PCC |
| 19 | Pansy Graham | Deanery  |  |  |
| 20 | Olaitan Kupoluyi |  |  | PCC |
| 21 | Tendai Ndanga |  |  | PCC |
| 22 | Courtney Plank |  |  | PCC |
| 23 | Sydney Smith | Deanery |  |  |
| 24 | Simon Stephens Mannassiev |  |  | PCC |

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Trustee name** | **Dates acted if not for whole year** |  |
| **N/A** |  |  |
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**Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others**

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| --- | --- |
| Description of the assets held in this capacity | NONE |

**Treasurer’s Report 2020**

2020 has been a tricky year. Income at both Christ Church and St George’s fell, but at Christ Church it was due to a timing a difference in the collection of gift aid and there was no real fall in giving. At St Georges there was a reduction in giving and in income from lettings which was compensated for in a rise in planned giving and a reduction in expenditure. Reserves include a sum of about £48k which is about to be spent. Taking this into account reserves have held steady during this difficult time. All three Churches are in a good position to emerge from the financial difficulties of 2020.

**REPORTS FROM THE CHURCHES OF THE PARISH**

**Christ Church 2020**

2020 was a very different year in the life of Christ Church. The first 10 weeks of the 2020 saw a successful Alpha course taking place with people coming to faith and joining the church family. However, from lockdown on 17th March, the church has been mostly online. Overall, the church community has continued to thrive and grow through online services, Zoom Children & Young People’s work and Zoom Connect groups. However, there are a number of activities that just haven’t been possible such as some of our youth work, in person Connect groups and, of course, our main Sunday morning worship in the church building.

A particularly important aspect of our ministry in 2020 was around racial justice; in response to the Black Lives Matter protests, we set up a small steering group which led to us issuing a statement, setting up a Padlet wall and a Facebook group, holding a Service of Lamentations in July and hosting a session with Ben Lindsay in October on his book, ‘We Need to Talk about Race’.

*Visibility*

Christ Church has focussed on high level visibility during lockdown through regular website updates and being active on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. In particular, the website ‘Covid-19’ page was set up in the first week of lockdown and together with social media and A Church Near You has been regularly updated as restrictions have changed. There has also been a focus on regular contact with all the members of the church family through hard copy mailings as well as electronic ‘Mailchimp’ messages.

Sadly, many of our usual events such as Marathon Sunday and the Trafalgar Day service in East Greenwich Pleasaunce were unable to take place along with other community events such as hustings, one off and regular Thursday lunchtime concerts. In addition, we were unable to have social events such as the International Evening at Harvest.

 *Growing Our Spiritual Lives Together*

As we entered lockdown, our Connect Groups immediately converted to meeting via Zoom – the six different Connect Groups which usually meet in homes or at the church midweek to Connect with God and connect with one another – have had to become online but have managed to continue and thrive. A new group arose out of the Alpha course that took place in January and February before lockdown. The hard copy mailings have had a particular focus on encouraging everyone to remain connected during lockdown and to encourage people in prayer. The worship band led by Jim has done an amazing job providing worship videos for our online services which have been really appreciated by everyone in the church family.

*Children and Young People*

Children and Young People’s work has continued during lockdown largely via Zoom. The Sunday CYP work has continued in three different groups on Zoom once a fortnight: Sparrows, Junior Church and Sunday Huddle. We have tried different formats for our youth work during the week but have not arrived at anything that has worked long term. We are delighted that Christ Church has seen continued biological growth and that we have welcomed lots of new babies to our church family during lockdown.

We continued with Praise & Play by broadcasting it every week from March to September but have now paused it. Similarly, we broadcast Messy Church several times before pausing. Sadly, the Easter Journey was cancelled. However, the Christmas Journey was offered to schools in video format with one scene being recorded in Christ Church with Christ Church actors.

*Loving Service to the Community*

The East Greenwich Legal Advice Clinic has been busy in lockdown but has not been meeting in real life continuing by operation on the telephone and online. The level of demand remains high, and we are fortunate to have help from volunteers from inside and outside the church community with Tim Cave as clinic coordinator**.**

Christ Church has continued to be a welcome centre for the Greenwich Food Bank with venue coordinator, Stephen Wallace throughout 2020 apart from the first lockdown – it is one of the activities that is exempt from lockdown. The Greenwich Winter Night Shelter closed 10 days early in March 2020 because of Covid-19. However, the winter season 2020/21 has seen Greenwich Winter Night Shelter unable to operate because of Covid limitations.

*Care for Creation*

We were very pleased that Christ Church received the Eco Church Silver Award in November 2019. We have continued to focus on Care for Creation in 2020 and held another sermon series in Lent 2020 on Care for Creation to continue our commitment to environmental justice. During lockdown, we have continued to work hard to make our church garden a haven of peace for people and wildlife.

*Margaret Cave, Vicar and Team Rector*

*Sussan Ibiama, Michael Crawford, Churchwardens*

**St George’s Westcombe Park**

St George's report 2020

This has been a year like no other: we started 2020 hearing about the spread of the Corona virus but also knowing that this was the year that our Minister, Rev. Tim Yeager was to retire and the church was about to move into an interregnum. We were delighted to be awarded the Eco Church Silver in February, but March brought lockdown and we began to put plans into place for continuing the life of the church in this difficult time following our 5 point mission action plan.

Bible study continued but via zoom with studies on Judith and Esther along with our final social lectures finishing with a very interesting talk by Tim on his work as a minister in downtown Chicago.

The plan ensured that support was given to members of our congregation who needed it through a network and this included phone calls to members, shopping for those members who were shielding and a hot meal delivered to the sick. When the church building had to be closed our services moved across to YouTube and went out live at 11am. These were followed by a zoom coffee chat where we could speak with each other offering help and support. Julie also ran a children's junior church.

As lockdown started to ease much work was done in the church making sure that it was safe for members to return following all safety measures. Three baptisms took place during this time Jamil and his baby sister Nikki, followed a week later with an adult baptism of Kim Valentine. A new in person, “spoken word” worship service was introduced at 9.30am and our live YouTube service continued at 11am as many of our congregation were still shielding.

Tim's final leaving service took place on 30th August and though we were very restricted as who we could invite due to limited numbers, representatives from all the groups that Tim had worked with during his time at St George's were present at the service either in person or via video link. Gifts were given to Tim and Caroline which included a specially commissioned stole representing his work here and a commissioned glass bowl with a map of the parish incorporated within it.

As we went into the interregnum our 9.30 am service was supported by the parish team led by the Rev Margaret Cave and our 11am service continued live on YouTube but was also put out on Facebook. The new format of the 11 am service included a piece called “St Georges and me” where a member of the congregation was interviewed by either Paul or Tracey. Sceptics has continued and is now led by Rev Dr John Philpott Howard and a very interesting bible study took place in the autumn led by the Rev Barbara Moss titled conversations with God based on the book of Genesis.

Our year finished with various Christmas services held either on Facebook or in church. A great deal of work has been done behind the scenes to support online virtual services and live services in church and thanks go out to everyone who has helped and contributed.

*Helen Frith Churchwarden*

**Holy Trinity**

This year for Holy Trinity has looked very different from the year we had imagined, as - in a now familiar story - we wrestled with what church looks like in the midst of a pandemic. Following my appointment in January, I found myself moving to the Peninsula in the first week of the March lockdown, starting my role in April and seeking to work out what it might look like to gather community in an almost entirely online space.

Spring was focused on making connections in the local community, getting to know key people and re-establishing the Agapai group, currently known as HT Wednesdays. For much of the spring and summer, meetings took place on Zoom, with some face-to-face meetings inside and outside, as regulations and weather allowed. It was encouraging to read the book ‘How to Pray’ together as part of this, and to join in worship together, finding a space of fellowship in the middle of the week. Later in the autumn we ran Alpha on Zoom in that slot, led by Dom Hubbuck and me, which involved many stimulating discussions.

Our Instagram and Facebook pages have been getting good engagement, especially in relation to two series of video and visual content; one on prayer and one for Advent.

From the spring onwards we collected food and dry goods for Peninsula schools, grateful thanks go to many local residents who donated - and did a fundraising drive at Christmas, raising around £1000 for local vulnerable school families.

We took part in the Thrive wellbeing festival organised by Upper and Lower Riverside, hosting a meet-and-greet slot, a couple of meditations - in person and online - and an online cook-along.

For families, we published our parish-wide online Praise and Play to our HT Facebook pages, as well as several online Messy Church events. We’d been hoping to do in-person events in the run-up to Christmas but these were sadly cancelled as the new variant accelerated in pace.  Schools-wise, I was able to take several assemblies at St Mary Magdalene School, predominately in the Secondary Phase, and it’s been great to get to know students and staff there.

The Prayer Space was open on and off during the year, as restrictions allowed - with plans to develop its use further in 2021, both from a faith and a community standpoint.

My thanks go to all in the Parish and beyond who have been so welcoming and supportive this year, with a special thank you to Louise Knight for all her great work managing Holy Trinity’s finances.

*Revd Jane Petrie, Ordained Minister for Greenwich Peninsula*

**Parish of E Greenwich Statement of A&L as at 31 Dec 2019**



**Independent examiner’s report to the members of Parochial Church Council of the Parish of East Greenwich**

I report to the members on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of East Greenwich Parish (PCC) for the year ended 31 December 2020.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The members of the PCC 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:

1. examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
2. 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
3. to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner’s statement**

I report in respect of my examination of the PCC’s accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

An examination includes:

* A review of the accounting records kept by the PCC 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:

* The accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
* The accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
* The accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a ‘true and fair’ view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

I have not identified any areas for improvement in this year’s examination.

Signed: *Adeola Boateng*

Name: Adeola Boateng CPFA

Professional body: The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

Membership number: 00105114

Address: 66 Caldy Road, Belvedere, DA17 6JS

Date: 7th March 2021

**Declarations**

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|  **The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees’ report above.**  **Signedon behalf of the charity’s trustees** |
| **Signature(s)** | *JP Eastaugh* |  |
|  |
| **Full name(s)** | Judith Eastaugh |  |
|  |
|  **Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)** | Treasurer/Secretary |  |
|  |
| **Date**  | 23 March 2021 |  |

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