

Jesus Church.
in the
Parish of Troutbeck.



Annual Report

and

Financial Statements

of the

Parochial Church Council

for the year ended 31 December 2010.

Incumbent:
The Revd. David M. Wilmot.
St.Mary`s Vicarage
Ambleside Road
Windermere.
Cumbria
LA23 1BA

Jesus Church Troutbeck Annual Meeting Agenda

in the Institute Reading Room on 28th March 2011 at 7.00pm.

Opening Prayer & Welcome.

The Vestry Meeting:

1. Appointment of Churchwardens for the coming year.
2. Resolution Relating to Tenure of Churchwardens.
3. Village Institute Representation

Annual Parochial Church Meeting:

1. Apologies for absence.
 2. Minutes of last years meeting (22 March, 2010)
 3. Matters arising from the Minutes.
 4. The Electoral Roll.
 5. The Audited Accounts
 6. Reports.
 - a. Churchwardens
 - b. Deanery Synod
 - c. Churchyard
 - d. Fabric
 7. Elections:
 - a. PCC.
 - b. Deanery Synod
 - c. Independent Examiner of Accounts (Auditor)
 8. Vicar `s Remarks.
 9. Child Protection Policy.
 10. Appointment of PCC Representative to the Troutbeck Village Association
 11. Any Other Business.
- Closing Prayer.

Parochial Church Council Meeting:

Will PCC Members please remain behind for five minutes.

Agenda:

1. Appointment of Hon Secretary.
2. Appointment of Lay Chairman.
3. Appointment of Hon. Treasurer.
4. Appointment of Standing Committee
5. Resolve: That the Accounts & Report be affixed at the church noticeboard for TWO weeks.
6. Resolve: That the Accounts and Report be submitted to the Archdeacon at his forthcoming visitation. (25th May)
7. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday, 3rd May at 7pm- Institute Reading Room

From the Vicar

The word `Lent` has its roots in an old English word meaning `Spring`. Appropriately, we begin this season whilst enjoying the encouragement of brighter days and the arrival of spring flowers and the like. Yes, this is a season of penitence, when we reflect and by God`s grace, turn away from all that does not honour Him in our lives but it is also a time of encouragement and growth, a time to become more open to all that the Lord wishes to give us- as individuals and as a Church.

This report, as ever, gives us much cause to give thanks for God`s faithfulness over this past year and to celebrate, with similar gratitude, the efforts of all who contribute so generously and sacrificially to our common life. However, our prayer is that the `Lenten` Spirit would take hold of us; that the Lord would continue His refining work among us and open doors for us to be faithful and of service to him in the years ahead.

I want to put on record my deep gratitude to all who helped make it possible for me to have such a happy and rewarding period of Study Leave during the Autumn of 2010. However, as many of you have already noted, whilst away I discovered that in the next year or so – depending on which date we choose* – it will be 450 years since Jesus Church was consecrated and our forebears were formally commissioned to serve the people of this beautiful valley. As we discuss how to mark this important anniversary may I invite you to pray that this might become a significant moment of renewal in our life and witness.

David Wilmot

* Jesus Church was consecrated twice with a year 18th July 1562 (William Downham, Bishop of Chester) and 30th April 1563 (Matthew Parker, Archbishop of Canterbury)

Introduction:

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of Jesus Church, Troutbeck has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, The Revd. David M. Wilmot in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, social and ecumenical.

PCC Membership:

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. During the year the following persons served as members of the PCC:

- Vicar:** The Revd David Wilmot (Chairman)
- Churchwardens:** Mr. Robert Smith
Miss J. Bland
- Curate:** The Revd Brian Streeter
- Reader:** Mr. Christopher Bradbury
- Pastoral Assistant:** Mr. Leonard Lambert

- Elected Members:** Mr. Poulson (Vice Chairman)
Mr. Geoff Brown (Treasurer)
Mr. A Close (Secretary)

- Miss J. Booth Mr. P. Fothergill Mr. C. Poulson
- Mrs. J. Cochrane Mrs. G. Howarth Mrs. J. Dootson
- Mrs. Rosemary Hopwood



Judith Dootson represented Jesus Church on the Deanery Synod.

The PCC met 7 times during the year.

Standing Committee:

This is the only committee required by law. It consists of the Vicar, the Churchwardens, the Vice-Chairman and the Treasurer. It has authority to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.

Church Attendance:

The average *Sunday* attendance during the year was 37. During the year 18 (16) Marriage Ceremonies were held and 10 (2) Funerals. There were 5 (4) Baptisms this year. Among those we commended to the Lord were Joan Duke, Peter Shaw, Christopher Mays and Jimmy Doddrell.

Electoral Roll

Two new members

The Electoral Roll was completely revised in February 2007 and this complete revision is carried out every 6 years. This year there are currently 62 members on the Electoral Roll as at March 2011. The Electoral Roll indicates membership of a particular congregation and it is the parish's register of electors; it is a list of those qualified to attend and to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting where elections take place for the representatives of the Church Council and the Deanery Synod. The system of the Electoral Roll is intended to enable Christian people to feel that they are in touch with Church as a whole and can play their part in decision making.

Lynda Durrell
Electoral Roll Officer

MINUTES

of the Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting held in The Reading Room, The Institute, Troutbeck on Monday 22 March 2010 at 7pm.

Present The Vicar (Chair), Rev. B Streeter G Brown (Treasurer) R Smith B J Bland C Bradbury A Poulson C Poulson J Cochrane P Fothergill I Gregg R Hopwood G Howarth F Tattersall and A Close (Secretary)

Apologies were received from J Booth D Bradbury J Dootson S Waring and L Lambert.

The Vicar opened the meeting with a reading and a prayer.

VESTRY MEETING

The Vicar thanked the Churchwardens, R Smith and B J Bland, for all their hard work over the last year. Joan particularly in her first year had grown into the job. Despite the statutory rule from which there was freedom to differ, we would continue to elect the Churchwardens annually. Robert and Joan had been nominated as Churchwardens for the coming year and they were unanimously elected.

Troutbeck Institute: The following had been nominated as Committee Members for the two years 2010 - 2012 - J Booth R Hopwood and M K Guy. They were elected unanimously.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Minutes of the last year's meeting held on 23rd March 2009 were approved and signed.

There were no Matters Arising.

1. **Electoral Roll :** The Vicar thanked Lynda Durrell for acting as electoral roll officer. The Vicar pointed out that the electoral roll had been completely revised in February 2007 and this year it was only "adjusted". There are 60 members on the roll as at March 2010.
2. **Accounts :** The Accounts had been prepared by Geoff Brown, the Treasurer, and were subject to the independent examiner's report. The finances of the PCC showed a significant improvement in 2009 resulting in an increase of just over £10,000 in cash balances to £73,584, whilst the market value of investments also improved by over £8,000 to £42,405 due to the rising stock market. The accounts were formally received and accepted without question. It was proposed by the Treasurer and seconded by C Bradbury that the accounts be approved subject to the independent examiner's report, and this was unanimously agreed. The Vicar thanked Geoff Brown, and R Smith for his support. The Treasurer expressed his thanks to everyone for their generosity : He will also pass on our thanks to David Fell.

REPORTS

3. **Churchwardens' Report :** R Smith thanked Christopher and Annette Poulson for hosting the grass cutters' lunch. The team of grass cutters was thanked for their work in making the appearance of the Church so special. An estimate to repair the top gate in hardwood was expected from Eric Slater who would be asked to do the work. It was agreed to continue with the professional grass cutters for the main square.
4. **Deanery Synod :** The Vicar thanked J Dootson for her report and for representing Jesus Church on our behalf.
5. **Church Together :** The Vicar thanked J Booth for her report : Jane would be stepping down and the Vicar thanked her for representing Jesus Church on our behalf.
6. **Churchyard and Fabric:** There are ongoing discussions with Paul Grout, Architect, regarding improvements to the porch area and doors. The D.A.C. had not approved the submitted plans and matters were currently in limbo.
C Poulson reported that concerning the line of trees on the west side our consultant was awaiting estimates from tree surgeons and when available a meeting would be convened with the sub-committee. Estimates would also be sought to coppice trees on the north side overhanging the main road.
R Hopwood raised the matter of cleaning out the septic tank which was due this year.
R Hopwood, G Howarth, and helpers, were thanked for their hard work in decorating the Church with flowers and for making the Church look so special.
7. **Curate's Report :** B Streeter spoke to his Report and was thanked by the Vicar and the Council for all he has accomplished during the past year. He had very much grown into the job.

ELECTIONS

8. **PCC :** There were 9 nominations and it was proposed and seconded that they be elected en bloc as follows : C. Bradbury, G Brown, A F R Close, J Cochrane, P Fothergill, R Hopwood, G Howarth, C Poulson and F Tattersall. J Booth and J Dootson had not been nominated but there was the option to co-opt them.
9. **Independent Examiner :** It was proposed by G Brown and seconded that David Fell should be reappointed.
10. **Appointment of PCC Representative to the Troutbeck Village Association :** G. Brown was requested to continue as our representative.

11. **Vicar's remarks :** The Vicar thanked everyone for their friendship and support especially Brian Streeter, Christopher Bradbury and Leonard Lambert. He thanked the Churchwardens and PCC for all their support and was particularly appreciative of the presents and celebrations on the occasion of his fiftieth birthday.

The Vicar said that he had been granted a sabbatical starting in August 2010 and finishing the week before Christmas. He already had plans for the time including reorganising his work environment and also spending eight days on retreat in North Wales. His absence would be incorporated in Brian Streeter's training programme and experience. Details of the sabbatical would be mentioned in the Magazine.

We then watched an extract from a question and answer session on DVD from teenagers chaired by the Archbishop of Canterbury emphasising that as we plough the furrow of faith we are all God's ambassadors and participants, not tourists.

12. **The Child Protection Policy** was re-affirmed.

The meeting closed at 7.45 pm.

A short Parochial Church Council meeting followed.

1. Hon. Secretary - Anthony Close was unanimously reappointed.
2. Lay Chairman - Christopher Poulson was unanimously reappointed.
3. Hon. Treasurer - Geoff Brown was unanimously reappointed.
4. Standing Committee - The Vicar, Lay Chairman, Treasurer, Churchwardens, Secretary and Curate.
5. It was resolved that the Accounts and Reports be affixed at the church notice board for two weeks.
6. It was resolved that the Accounts and Reports be submitted to the Archdeacon.
7. The next meeting of the Standing Committee will be on 28th April at 3pm in The Vicarage.
8. The next PCC meeting will be on Monday 24th May 2010.
9. Future PCC meetings will be held on 20th July; 7th September; 26th October; 25th January 2011; 13th March after worship to approve the Accounts; and the Annual Parochial Church Council meeting on 28th March 2011.

Christopher Poulson expressed a vote of thanks to the Vicar not only from the PCC but also on behalf of the wider village. The meeting closed with the Grace at 7.55 pm.

1. Curate's Report

The end of June 2011 will mark the completion of three years of my curacy in Windermere and Troutbeck, and will also signal the beginning of my search for further employment – they don't pay me beyond June 2012! If this is a shock for you, then it is doubly so for the curate himself. So what has the curate done in the past year that would deserve further employment?

The past year has been one of less innovation and one of more consolidation. I now have more experience in all the main forms of worship and the roles required in them. However, what has been new for the curate in 2010 was the arranging, organizing and taking of baptism and wedding services. These are two personal hurdles and milestones that have been surmounted and achieved, and that can now be handled with greater confidence and skill.

Of course, the most significant event for the curate in 2010 was acting as "vicar" while David and Margaret took a well-earned sabbatical. After the initial horror of imagining such an undertaking had faded away, it was apparent that this was an excellent opportunity to temporarily take on many of the hidden (from the curate and congregation) tasks that the incumbent normally takes on, but in a safe and familiar environment. For this I thank David for the opportunity, and Christopher Poulson, the Churchwardens and many others who assisted a sometimes bewildered curate.

Finally, it would be remiss of me to not thank, in general, David, the Churchwardens, the PCC and you the family of Jesus Church for your support and encouragement this last year.



Brian Streeter

2. Treasurer`s Report

The finances of the PCC continued to improve in 2010 with an increase of £8363 in cash balances to £81947, and another significant increase in the market value of investments to £50873 (+20%).

The surplus on General Fund of £6612 was in line with the previous years surplus of £6878, even though the 2009 figures had the benefit of a £5000 bequest from the Estate of Mary Dawson Dec'd – overall, therefore, an excellent performance.

The major contributory factors were:

- An increase in regular giving of £1.1K;
- An increase in voluntary receipts of £1.8K due mainly to offerings at weddings and funerals (+£1.2K), and general donations (+£0.5K);
- An increase in fees from weddings and funerals of £1.5K, continuing the trend of recent years;
- A profit on the sale of 50% of the investment in Gartmore Global Trust amounting to £2.6K – the capital sum being reinvested to broaden the portfolio of investments; and
- A decrease in utility costs of £1.1K mainly due to there being only 1 oil payment in 2010 cf 2 in 2009.

These benefits were partially offset by:

- A decrease in receipts from fundraising and social events of £2.3K due to there being no garden trail income in 2010 and the cancellation of the Christmas Fair due to the bad weather; and
- Lower dividend income from investments and interest on the deposit account.

During the year, £3.6K of income tax was recovered under the Gift Aid Scheme reflecting the high proportion of parishioners who make offerings and donations under this scheme, benefiting both General and Restricted Funds.

In 2010, due to the kind donations of a parishioner, an Organ Fund was established, allowing us to start to build reserves for the ultimate replacement / upgrading of the organ.

In 2011, it is also proposed that surpluses from the Churchyard Fund should be restricted to the ongoing upkeep and improvement of the Church grounds, rather than transferring surpluses to the General Fund. This will be raised at the AGM.

Our special thanks go to everyone who contributed so generously, to General and Restricted Funds, during the year. Due to such generous donations and low expenditure, restricted funds increased by £3.5K.

With the tightening of economic policy, a high level of elderly parishioners, and likely higher expenditure on the Church Fabric we cannot expect the continuance of large surpluses every year. Opportunities for new income streams must therefore be closely examined so that we can look forward with confidence and ensure that the Church remains an important focus of the village and a central part of village life.

G S Brown FCA – Treasurer

3. Churchwardens Report

The year got off to a fine start on New Year's Day with a version of Auld Lang Syne, arranged by Alf and rung on the Church Bells by Rosemary. Two other significant events took place in January, the first being the Annual Grasscutters' Lunch held at Birkhead. This event is to be re-titled as the 'Thank-You' lunch in future in order to include more of the people who play a significant part in the life of Jesus Church.

The other important event was a celebration of Vicar David's 50th birthday. On 24th January parishioners went to the Mortal Man for lunch where we had an excellent meal and David and Margaret were presented with presents and flowers.

March included the APCM which went well with the elections of officers and reports on the Spiritual and financial health of Jesus Church.

The Easter Services went very well with over a hundred attendees on Easter Sunday and the now traditional presentation of Simnel cakes to David and Brian.

On 22nd June the Troutbeck Village's Outing took place, organised impeccably by Chris Poulson. After morning worship at Carlisle Cathedral we headed to Scotland and Sweetheart Abbey. A superb and memorable day out thanks to Chris and Annette.

26th September saw the annual Pilgrimage which for 2010 was a service at St. John the Evangelist at Woodland Fell. Following the service we all headed to Rusland Pool Hotel at Haverthwaite for an evening meal. A number of regulars from Jesus Church attended and we heartily recommend these events in the future.

Harvest Festival Service and the Harvest Supper were very successful with £630 from the supper being donated to the Bishop's 'Harvest for the Hungry' Appeal.

Remembrance Day Service was, as always an uplifting and poignant day.

Sadly the Christmas Fair had to be cancelled because of the snow but the Carol Service went ahead at Jesus Church with refreshments within the Church itself. Although somewhat cramped many thought it to be the 'best ever'.

All in all, a busy year with the Church, we felt, going from strength to strength because of all the special people who make it so.

Robert Smith and Joan Bland
Churchwardens

4. Fabric Report

Churchyard

Discussions have carried on during the year regarding the tree management in the area between the boundary fencing and Corfoot beck on the western side of the churchyard. The seat located near the mower shed was deemed to have come to the end of its useful life and it is proposed to install a new seat near to the cremated remains. A certificate has been received from the Diocesan Advisory Committee covering both aspects of work, the tree management and the installation of two new seats which is one step nearer to receiving a faculty and permission for the work to be carried out. A small amount of remedial work needs to be carried on the roof of the mower shed. The northern stone boundary wall will be needing attention soon because of the high level of rainfall and unsettling of the wall foundations.

Glebe Land

The area of land located between the Recreational Field and Coffin Lane is being investigated for possible use as a car park.

Church Building

The building is in a very good state of repair. The external ledges in the bell tower are in constant use by the birds at nesting time which results in nesting material falling onto the roof of the church and rolling into the gutters. The gutters have to be monitored regularly so that they do not become blocked. There is a delay on the improvements to the porch area of the church but the external west doors have been installed and they are a tremendous improvement.

Christopher Poulson

5. Deanery Synod

The central theme for the Synod has been regeneration of the Church to counteract the deterioration in active church members, in particular, the lack of interest of the younger generation who are the future of the Church of England. Lack of support equals the inability of available finances to fund both Clergy and traditional church buildings.

In planning for a more positive future, Bishop James has drawn up a Mission Action Plan, a further initiative for youth training officers and the more effective upkeep of church buildings and alternative uses to secure their future. This is a massive undertaking and progress will inevitably be slow.

Judy Dootson
Deanery Synod Representative

