

Annual report for the Wiverton in the Vale APCM on 29th April 2019

St John the Divine, Colston Bassett

Edward Hine, Churchwarden

Administration Information

St John the Divine church is prominently situated on the corner of Church Gate and Bunnison Lane at the heart of the village of Colston Bassett. It is part of the Wiverton in the Vale Parish which is part of the East Bingham Deanery. Edward Hine is the sole Church warden but is assisted by Margaret Palmer. Katharine Bacon is a licensed reader and sits on the PCC as does Nick Perry who is the acting chair as we are in interregnum with Bron Gamble having left in October.

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll.

Objectives and activities

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating and promoting the ecclesiastical parish for the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church and associated property.

Church attendance

There are 128 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll for the Parish of Wiverton in the Vale of whom 23 are connected to St Johns. The average number in the congregation when taking all services throughout the year into account is 18 adults and 1 child. This can be misleading as our early morning HC BCP and Evensong Services attract around 12 but our special services [usual festivals but also Mothering Sunday, Father's Day, Village thanksgiving services etc.] average 43 [10 special services in total] which is treble what they were before we started promoting them with prayer and purpose. This trend is continuing in 2019 with 56 attending Mothering Sunday.

We had 3 baptisms in 2018, 4 weddings and a funeral.

Review of the year

The Home Team continues to meet every other month and functions very well. We continued with our church breakfasts on the 4th Sunday in the month from May to October with others in the village hosting it during the winter months. Attendances are increasing and many of those attending also come to our special services. We continue to host the Soupabowl lunch on the first Thursday in the month, which is a parish wide initiative, and continues to thrive. The quiz held very successfully again last week raises the profile of the church within the community.

Church maintenance and improvements

We are working our way through the QI works but there is nothing which is particularly urgent. Routine maintenance continues. Repairs have been made to our new path which are being monitored. Unfortunately, the new lighting to the path is faulty which lead to power failures over the winter. These issues are being addressed but it will take some time to rectify.

We are making slow progress with regards to a new loop and audio system and hope to be in a position to make a faculty application during the summer.

All church goods and ornaments are in good condition.

Financial review.

Since becoming a single parish there has been no significant decrease in planned giving. Regular income covers all our regular expenses and currently we have a surplus of around £15,000 and we also have restricted funds of around £27,000. We will be holding a free BBQ in September, to which a visiting Bishop will be invited, where all supporters of St Johns will be invited together with all residents who have moved in since we last did this 3 years ago. Afterwards the church warden will write to all the new residents to see whether they would be prepared to support the church financially on a regular basis.