

# Durham North Team Ministry



*The Parish of St Cuthbert  
With St Aidan, Durham*



## Annual Report for the year 2017

for presentation to the

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

23<sup>rd</sup> APRIL 2018 at 7 p.m.

To be held in the Community Room, St. Cuthbert's

### CONTENTS

Legal and administrative information  
Team Rector's report & Team Accounts  
Team Vicar's report  
Parish reports

Please bring this document with you to the meeting so that you can refer to it.

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

### 1. PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of the parish of St. Cuthbert with St. Aidan, in the diocese of Durham, has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in administering the requirements placed upon it by law to uphold the work of the Anglican Church in that parish. It has responsibility for the maintenance of the two church buildings of St. Cuthbert's, North End, Durham, and St. Aidan's, Front Street, Framwellgate Moor, Durham, as well as the parish hall, which forms part of the St. Aidan's site.

The addresses of the two churches are:-

St. Cuthbert's Church  
North Road  
Durham DH1 4NQ

St. Aidan's Church  
Front Street  
Framwellgate Moor  
Durham, DH1 5BL.

The PCC is a charity exempt from registration with the Charity Commissioners, and the PCC of this parish holds no trusts or charities.

The banker and independent examiner of the PCC are:-

Banker:-  
CAF Bank Ltd  
Kings Hill  
West Malling  
Kent ME19 4TA

Independent Examiner:-  
Mr. Nigel Ball  
20 Aykley Green  
Durham  
DH1 4LN

The architect appointed for quinquennial inspection is:

Mr. Michael Atkinson  
Architecture and Heritage  
47 Kitchener Terrace  
North Shields  
Tyne and Wear  
NE30 2HH.

### 2. Profile

The parish is approximately two and a half miles long and one mile wide. It falls into two wards of Durham City Council; Western Hill and North End are in Framwellgate Ward, Framwellgate Moor and Pity Me are in Framwellgate Moor Ward, as well as in the area covered by Framwellgate Moor Parish Council. About 7,500 people live in the parish. In 2002 the parish joined with the parishes of St. Michael and All Angels, Witton Gilbert (dissolving the plurality formed in 1997); All Saints, Newton Hall (a local ecumenical partnership with the Methodist Church); St. Philip and St. James, Kimblesworth, to form the

benefice of the Durham North Team Ministry. The parish of St. Edmund, Bearpark, joined the Team on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2005.

At the beginning of 2014 the parish of St. Peter, Sacriston and the parish of Witton Gilbert united to create a new parish, the parish of Witton Gilbert and Sacriston.

The Reverend Canon Caroline Dick was licensed as Team Rector on Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2016. The Reverend Fiona Collin was licensed as Team Vicar on Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

The Reverend Canon Caroline Dick has pastoral responsibility for the parish of St. Michael and All Angels, Witton Gilbert and Sacriston, the parish of St. Philip and St. James, Kimblesworth and All Saints, Newton Hall.

The Reverend Fiona Collin has pastoral responsibility for the parishes of St. Cuthbert and St. Aidan, Durham, and St. Edmund, Bearpark.

Within the Team the parishes retain their separate legal identities. They work together for mutual fellowship and support and also share some resources.

**St. Cuthbert's church**, built in 1858-63, is a Grade II listed building, lying towards the southern end of the parish nearest the city centre. A community room was added in 1991 and extensive repairs to the tower were completed in December 2003.

**St. Aidan's church**, built in 1871, towards the northern end of the parish, away from the city centre, was originally a chapel of ease. A new porch was added to the church in the course of 2009.

**The parish hall** was built in 1962 and extensively modified in 1993. It was further remodelled in 2001 to accommodate the Team Office and a meeting room.

**The vicarage** is at 1 Aykley Court, Durham DH1 4NW.

**Regular church services** are as follows:-

St. Cuthbert's	Sunday	8.00 am Holy Communion
		11.00 am Holy Communion

	Wednesday	9.30 am Holy Communion
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St. Aidan's	Sunday	9.15 am Holy Communion
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Sunday evening worship takes place at 4pm once per month and alternates between St. Cuthbert's and St. Aidan's. There are also special 4pm Sunday services in the Parish Hall e.g. Pentecost Praise.

**Baptisms** are held on appointed Sundays at 1 p.m. at both St. Cuthbert's church and St. Aidan's church.

**Home Communion** is taken from Sunday celebrations to housebound parishioners each month by a team of licensed lay Eucharistic ministers. In addition, services of Holy Communion are held at St. Aidan's Lodge Nursing Home and Melbury Court Nursing Home once a month.

### 3. ELECTORAL ROLL

The Electoral Roll Officer is David Blake.

At 8<sup>th</sup> April 2017 the number on the electoral roll was 143.

### 4. AIMS AND ORGANISATIONS OF THE PCC

According to the PCC (Powers) Measure 1965, the PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Team Rector in 'promoting in the Parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical'. The PCC accordingly has adopted the following Parish Mission Statement:-

As a parish we aim to be a friendly, welcoming Church family sharing our responsibilities for developing the life and work of the Church in the community. We are committed to sharing ministry as far as possible between clergy / licenced readers and lay people.

The PCC's function is expedited by a Standing Committee which is required by law and has the power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to directions given by the Council.

Its members are: Rev Fiona Collin (chairman), John Jopling (vice chairman), Barbara Gow (treasurer), Pat Rowley, Richard Abernethy, Connie Parkinson, churchwardens, Gawin Robson, Minute secretary.

#### PCC MEMBERS

Chairman	Rev Fiona Collin
Vice Chairman	John Jopling
Treasurer	Barbara Gow
Churchwardens	Pat Rowley (St. Cuthbert's) Richard Abernethy (St. Aidan's) Connie Parkinson (St. Aidan's)
Diocesan Synod (Ex-officio)	Alison Blackburn (Reader) Phil Blackburn
Deanery Synod	Jane Bonner, Janice Hardman, Jacky Bindeman
PCC (Elected members)	Sheila Eastwood, John Pervical, Gillian Wilson, Judith Harper, Susan Moore, Raymond Botone, Delia Dixon, Gawin Robson, David Blake, Ann Marshall
Reader	Karen Abbott

## TEAM RECTOR'S REPORT 2017

In summing up our year in the Durham North Team in 2017 I would use one word and that would be **Mission**. This missional focus has come from the National and Diocesan priority of 'Church Growth'.

In April and September 2017 Fiona and I were invited to participate in two one week-long residential seminars at Sneaton Castle in Whitby. With other cohorts of clergy, we were trained in the areas of Missional Leadership for Growth.

As part of this course we had to gather together a group of lay people and plan a local and innovative piece of mission. This was no easy task when the context for Durham North Team is six churches serving seven communities! In the end we decided to see if we could build a relationship with New College as it sits at the geographical centre of the team and has no input from other churches in the area.

The lay people were drawn from each church in the team and after much prayer and discussion a meeting was held with key leaders of the college to see 'how we could be a blessing to them and they a blessing to us'. We were welcomed with open arms and quickly we decided to participate in their Remembrance Day Ceremony by making it an intergenerational event and afterwards at their New College restaurant. The event was an overwhelming success with about 30 students and 30 members of our congregation sharing their stories of the Second World War. This was followed up with a request by New College to hold a Carol Service in the Parish Hall at St Aidan's, this again was very well supported with about 50 staff and students and thanks go to the 20-30 regulars from Aidan's Kitchen who helped facilitate this special occasion.

I think one of the main learning points for everyone was that when you step out in faith you have to put all your trust in God, and when you do so, and act in his power and not your own, extraordinary things happen.

This also proved to be the case earlier in the year when again, following a mission initiative by the Northern Bishops we got involved in Talking Jesus. Once again the starting point was gathering all six churches together and sharing ideas about the kind of events that non-church people might relate to. There was no shortage of ideas and over the course of a week in March we planned and delivered the following events: A prayer walk in Sacriston, Messy Church in Wharton Park, Basket Weaving and Bells at Witton Gilbert, a film night at Newton Hall and a talk on the Stained Glass windows in Durham Cathedral at St Cuthbert's, a joint service with the Church Lads and Girls Brigade in the Parish Hall at St Aidan's. At the end of it we were exhausted and energised by what had been achieved and once again saw the fruits of our labours with new gifts and talents being discovered along the way.

The centrality of deepening our relationship with God in order to equip ourselves for mission was a subject of much discussion and we sought to address this in our first Durham North Team Lent Course entitled 'The Practice of Prayer'. We were greatly blessed in having Bishop John Pritchard and Revd Canon Di Johnson leading sessions and it was well supported with between 40 and 50 people at each session and all churches represented.

This is something that we are repeating this year when the theme will be 'Encouraging wholeness'.

Our Team link with Burundi continues to develop and deepen. There were some great fundraising events to support the 4 students that we are sponsoring at the University of Bujumbura, including a very successful Bake for Burundi that Sue and Karl took a lead on, and we are looking forward to a group from three of the churches in the Team visiting Burundi in June this year.

Regarding personnel matters, on Nov 12th we said a fond farewell to Karl and Su. Over the past two years they have both been a huge asset to the team and Karl's preaching ministry and Su's children's work have been a particular blessing. On the 14<sup>th</sup> Jan I travelled over to Chester Diocese to see Karl installed as an Associate Priest in a set of three rural parishes and they had both been made very welcome over the Christmas period.

Another highlight of the year has been the employment of a Team Administrator. Naomi Stevens was employed on a six month contract to get our systems up and running (which she did to great effect) and since December Paul Richards has stepped into her shoes and is doing a grand job. We realise that the employment of a Team Administrator is an additional financial burden on parishes but we can assure you that it is worth every penny and we were left wondering how on earth we managed without one!

We must also mention our financial administrator, Stephen Ellis, who puts in hours of voluntary work behind the scenes and who also acts as human resource advisor to the three people employed by the team – Gilly Boggon (Breathing Space Officer), Christine Muneza (children and young families co-ordinator at All Saints) and Paul Richards.

As well as the usual round of team social events we also formally set up the Team Support Group with reps from each parish being elected by their PCC's. They, along with our Readers and Revd Steve Muneza help to plan and shape the future direction the Team.

Fiona and I are greatly blessed in having such a wonderful group of team colleagues to work with and we wish to thank all who are part of this team family. We both hugely value working in a team context and look forward to the team going from strength to strength in the coming year.

Let us all continue to step out in faith and put our trust in the God who makes all things possible.

Revd Canon Caroline Dick.  
Team Rector

<b>Durham North Team Ministry 2017 accounts (Jan - Dec) plus comparative accounts 2013 - 2016</b>					
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>Income</b>					
from PCCs	8265.35	7524.00	7524.00	7360.00	9572.00
photocopying	1155.92	1089.53	1475.89	1398.00	2128.83
from All Saints for Children and Young Families post: salary & expenses	1807.58				
Love Burundi donations	1493.16				
Other Fees : weddings, funerals	43183.27				
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>55905.28</b>				
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Clergy expenses including water charges	4864.77	5329.16	5768.97	5630.18	8122.60
Copier costs including paper, staples and maintenance	988.08	1558.40	1006.00	1394.26	1466.46
Electronic database via 'Innovise'	273.60	273.60	273.60	273.60	273.60
office rent paid to St Cuthbert and St Aidan	360.08				
office expenses	141.85				
computer replacement and software	603.00				
coloured paper and paper for baptism service orders	41.02				
Employer's Liability Insurance	190.40				
Payroll and pension service from Mullen Stoker, Accountants	140.00				
Team Administrator salary payments	2893.00				
Children and Young Families Coordinator post, salary and expenses	1807.58				
Love Burundi donations	1793.16				
Fees to Diocese	14486.20	14240.00	20895.00	18583.00	19467.40
Fees to PCCs including St John's, Brandon and St Catherine's, NB	16080.27	13985.00	14529.00	17320.00	12754.00
Fees to Organists, some vergers and retired/n.s. priests	11242.27				
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>55905.28</b>				
Surplus (deficit) from PCCs	-1242.37	2194.84	1755.03	1729.82	1449.40
Surplus (deficit) photocopier	167.84	-468.87	469.89	3.74	662.37
Cost of new photocopier			-2640.00		
<b>DNTM bank account balance at year end</b>	<b>10973.70</b>	<b>12048.23</b>			

## TEAM VICAR'S REPORT 2018

### Warm greetings and blessings to you all.

1 Thessalonians: 11 *"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."*

In preparing this annual report, I have enjoyed the opportunity to reflect upon the progress we have all made and to review our shared journey of faith over the past year. The analogy of travelling in a car is perhaps helpful, as by comparison, I vividly recall writing my first report and can now happily admit that it seemed that I was having some difficulty even trying to navigate my way out of the car park! By God's grace and some great teamwork, I believe we are now making excellent progress and the road ahead and conditions are favourable for us to go far together!

I want to extend my sincere thanks to each and everyone of you for your ongoing support. You have been open and willing to try new ways of doing things and through this I see how we have grown stronger, built trust and deepened our relationships. You have also been prepared to let some things go in the interest of refining all we do. All of this energy has been for the purpose of seeking what God wants us to do here in Durham.

The responsibility of being your Pastor and Priest has certainly not diminished and I am happy to acknowledge it continues to be a true privilege and one that I never take lightly. As we consider all aspects of our Community, Mission & Worship, the need for us to be a church where all are valued and all have a part to play becomes increasingly important. This challenge, as we look to the future, requires us collectively to consider what we should Stop, Start and Continue.

**"LOOKING BACK"** (some highlights in alphabetical order.)

**Aidan's Kitchen** continues to grow and offer a place of welcome and fellowship for church and non-church folks alike, especially those who find themselves widowed. Supported generously by students from St Chads, this is a weekly event which is proving to be a blessing to all involved.

**Bishops in Mission.** This Diocesan initiative prompted us to forge links in some new areas, one of them with our neighbours in Wharton Park. Holding a "Messy in the Park" event gave us a real appetite to link up and share our resources. We are in discussions to join forces again in the coming year. A real community partnership is developing on our doorstep.

**Burundi.** Our link is growing and with a visit planned in June, we believe we can be champions for the people of Burundi, supporting them as our ongoing mission friends and partners.

**Fabric.** Repairs were made to St Cuthbert's Floor, Pulpit, Roof, Loop System and Minute Bell. Other necessary maintenance has taken place in both churches with the Parish Hall car park being our next fundraising challenge.

**Finance** Helped by a visit to our PCC and Sunday services by Rachael Phillips, the Diocesan "Generous Giving Officer," we are beginning to fully appreciate all aspects of our

giving. This includes not only financially; it recognises gifts of time and talents as an integral part of our discipleship.

**Framwellgate Primary School.** The fruit of leading monthly assemblies at the school means local children are making the connection with faith, school and home life. It is especially rewarding to bump into children out of school and have them recount in front of their parents what they learnt in assembly or in a Tuesday evening session with the Church Lads and Girls Brigade.

**Local Care Homes** are supported monthly by our lay ministry teams including those with musical and pastoral gifts. This heart to minister to the elderly is hugely appreciated, probably more than we can imagine.

**Mission & Evangelism** As we have asked the question “Who is our neighbour?” more and more opportunities for mission have begun to develop within our local communities. Caroline and I undertaking Missional Leadership Training, was the catalyst to start a partnership with New College, Durham. A group of us began by asking the college how we could be a blessing to them and how they could be a blessing to us. Already this has proved mutually beneficial with a shared “Remembrance Day Service” and a student led “Carol Service” in the Parish Hall. Plans are being made for a Burundi fundraising link, just one of the many ideas to look forward to.

**Our Community** Our Pastoral Care Group is proving to be a real place of prayer and ministering, for those in and around our community and also for those who minister to others. We continue to welcome families for all occasional offices. Sadly these have included some church family funerals, and a logistically demanding military funeral. Weddings involving tractors and Brigade baptisms, currently at number four with another one pending have been happier occasions. The recent addition of a more “youthful” new member of St Aidan's choir is a real joy. We want to support those at the beginning and end of life and at every point in-between. There are many ways in which our communities walk together, craft together, artistically create together, and all are open to welcoming others in.

**Worship** We have experimented with new styles of worship. Within our evening services, we have included Taize and Healing services, as well as contemporary praise to include and attract Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade and other families. So far all have been warmly appreciated.

We have renewed the format of our monthly “Come and Praise” with members of the music group now leading worship. We believe this is an accessible service allowing families to worship together in a relaxed atmosphere.

We are hugely encouraged by seeing people more families feeling connected and being drawn into our worshipping communities across both churches.

### **LOOKING FORWARD (hopes)**

As we journey together as faithful followers of our Lord Jesus, let me thank you for being willing to serve as you do already. As we grow, I am convinced that understanding the identity and purpose of our churches is vital. My hope is that when we gather together centred around the Eucharist, we will ask ourselves some hard questions:

- What is our reason for being? Why do we exist? What is our essential DNA?
- Are we outward facing? Do we truly love our neighbours? Are we really “Healthy Church?”

I firmly believe *ENCOURAGEMENT* is the word God has given us “for such a time as this.” Esther 4:14. So in 2018 let us intentionally encourage one another to grow in “Who-li-ness” and find new and exciting ways of joining in God’s mission. If we are about connecting people to Jesus, what do we need for the next part of this adventure together? I am convinced the more we recognise and acknowledge our God-given gifts, the more we will flourish and work together effectively as the “Body of Christ,” reaching out to others. “Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing”. 1 Thessalonians 11

In doing so, may we be “A HEALTHY PARISH” where all are valued and all have a part to play.

Fiona Collin, 28.02.18

### **ST. CUTHBERT’S CHURCHWARDEN’S REPORT 2017**

In October last year Fiona had been in post as Team Vicar for one year, and so much has happened in that time. There appears to be a new optimism and enthusiasm in our church due to Fiona’s and Neil’s presence and ministry.

Our schedule of services has been revised and enhanced by changes to times ,venues and format. There have been shared services for Pentecost and Harvest to include congregations from both churches and where young people contributed to the content. Also a Healing and Wellness service on Maundy Thursday and Taize worship at both churches. So something for everyone whilst also retaining some traditional services.

It is pleasing that our informal, family friendly monthly Come and Praise is beginning to attract a small number of families and we hope numbers will increase. The annual Crib service continues to be a joyful occasion, with over 200 present including 68 children, and is a tribute to the hard work and effort of clergy and members of the congregation. Most services are generally well attended and we have had new members join this year. However ill health and infirmity prevent some regular members attending, but they are always included in our prayers.

We were sorry to say goodbye to Karl and Su Jones and are grateful for their ministry in our Team. We are fortunate too to have our retired clergy and Readers who now officiate regularly at our services.

There have been 17 baptisms, 11 funerals and 5 weddings. Sadly members of our church family were amongst those for whom funerals were held. We remember Jean Lewis, Norman Blackburn, Miriam Metcalfe, Connie West and Una Patrick.

The Community Room is used regularly on 3 days in the week and more people are staying for refreshments on Sundays after the service. It has proved to be a hospitable space for smaller gatherings e.g. after funerals, for talks and presentations with less than 50 people.

I am very pleased to announce that the following building works were completed in 2017

- a) Doors refurbished in vestry and at back of church,
- b) Some lights replaced with LED fittings
- c) Community Room roof and guttering repaired
- d) Floor repaired and restored on south side of the church and the pulpit made secure
- e) Sound system overhaul with repair to the loop
- f) Minute bell repaired and reinstated and can be rung from the church porch

Thanks to everyone for your patience and understanding whilst these works were carried out. They were made possible by some grants, a generous donation and some fundraising. We still need to keep fundraising and reviewing our giving, so that future projects can be financed.

Finally my thanks as always to everyone who contributes in any way to the everyday running of our church and to the weekly services. There are too many names to mention but I am very grateful to you for your support.

Pat Rowley  
28.02.18

### **ST. AIDAN'S CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT 2017**

Richard Abernethy and Connie Parkinson have served as wardens for another year. Our regular pattern of Sunday morning Eucharist has continued, with numbers attending remaining quite high. Attendance at the monthly evening service did become quite low and a revised pattern of services and time of day seems more popular.

With the "Occasional Offices" when we see many who do not regularly come to Church we have been quite busy with 13 Baptisms, 10 Funerals and 1 Wedding.

Aidan's Kitchen on Thursday morning continues to draw a regular group of visitors, including some students from St Chad's College. There is also a link developing with Age UK.

Church fabric has seen no major work. There have been some electrical improvements. The Church Hall, which seems to fall to the lot of St Aidan's wardens, presents areas of hard work, sometimes due to carelessness of some users. There have been some odd disappearances.

As usual, thanks are due to all those, too many to mention, who, unseen by the rest of us, keep the church clean, make everything ready for services and keep the church and hall in a good state of repair and decoration.

## **DEANERY SYNOD**

Synod has been concentrating on furthering the Mission of the Durham Diocese. The objective is to Bless our Communities in Jesus' Name for the Transformation of us all.

The specific objectives are to...

- See numerical growth in attendance at church services.

- Deepen the discipleship of church members and make new disciples.

- Focus on children and young people.

- Increase financial giving and establish a culture of generosity.

- Focus on poverty.

Three new Task Force groups have been commissioned to carry forward these plans...Poverty/Growing the Church/Children & Young People. Each Task Group has a clergy consultant who will work with them to bring these plans to fruition by 2020.

The proposed dissolution of Sedgefield Deanery will result in an extra five parishes joining Durham Deanery.

The Deanery Standing Committee is being reformed to consult on the reduction of the Stipended Clergy from 11 down to 9 in what is proposed to be a much larger Deanery.

### **Appointments:**

Revd Heather Murray appointed Area Dean and the post of Vicar of Belmont & Pittington, Revd Tom Glover appointed to Gilesgate

Janice Hardman

Deanery Synod representative

### **PCC Secretary's report**

Immediately following last year's APCM the elected members of the PCC met and formally elected the officers. The council met in May, July, September and November 2017, January and February 2018. The Standing Committee, consisting of the Vicar, the vice chairman, three churchwardens, the treasurer and the minute secretary, met two weeks before each PCC meeting to agree the agenda for the next meeting and check the minutes of the last meeting.

A new paid team administrator was hired for ten hours a week and commenced work in the team office on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017.

At the beginning of the year a few members of the council, together with the vicar, attended a PCC training day at Cuthbert House. The council had an 'away' day which was spent at the vicarage on 1<sup>st</sup> July. This was an enjoyable team building exercise, together with food.

The Council agreed to the setting up of a number of sub-groups; hall and hiring; pastoral care; worship; and healthy church. These subgroups were initiated by the vicar and the hall group especially has proved invaluable in that a lot of time was saved at the PCC meetings.

In November we were visited by Rachel Phillips, Diocesan Generous Giving Coordinator. She outlined a new project which was implemented at both churches, and involved prayer cards being distributed to all congregants as they entered church, to be placed in the collection

plate, together with any donations. This appears to have been accepted positively by the congregations.

Over the last year the clergy had initiated a Missional Leadership Project with Durham New College. This resulted in two combined services with the church's congregations and the college students. The service at New College occurred over the Remembrance period and a carol service and other activities were held in the Parish Hall which was very well attended. It is hoped to continue this relationship with New College.

Our thanks to Gawin Robson for taking on the role of Minute Secretary and to Phil Blackburn for standing in as treasurer when Barbara Gow was away, both such onerous tasks.

In November we said goodbye to Rev Karl and Su Jones who contributed so much to our worship and congregations. We wish them well in Karl's new post.

Connie Parkinson

### **PCC Safeguarding Officer's Report**

The PCC has maintained its published contact details for those wishing to express concern about someone connected with the parish. The contact details are visible at the entrance to all our buildings and contain details for the following contacts;

- Fiona Colling – Team Vicar
- Janice Hardman – Worships at St. Aidan's and a member of the Mothers Union
- Philip Blackburn – Worships at St. Cuthbert's and Parish Safeguarding Officer
- Beth Miller – Diocesan Safeguarding Officer

The PCC has reviewed its Safeguarding Policy, which it approved in 2015 and found that it remains compliant with all current requirements. This includes the questions asked as part of the Archdeacon's visitation articles.

Rev. Fiona Collin and Philip Blackburn completed C1 & C2, Alison Blackburn has completed C1, C2 and C3 Safeguarding Training in 2016/8 and Pat Rowley and Connie Parkinson have completed C1 and C2 training in 2017, as defined by the Church of England and provided by the Diocese of Durham. Others will undertake C1 and C2 training during 2018.

The next full review of the policy is due in 2018.

Philip Blackburn

### **Electoral Roll Officers Report:**

The number of people currently on the Electoral Roll is **149** (last year 145).

Those who have been deleted from the Roll because of death, include Christina Barnes, Hazel Mullen and Una Fay Patrick

David Blake

28.02.18

## Treasurer's Report

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017

#### Cash resources and Funds

The financial statements have been prepared on a receipts and payments account basis. The accounts have been examined by Nigel Ball (22 February 2018).

The income and expenditure account shows a deficit of £22,085 for the year. This deficit is largely attributable to the major repair work costing £46,706 on the roof, floor and pulpit of St Cuthbert's Church building during the past year.

Consequently, total funds at end December 2017 are £77,649 of which only £761 are restricted funds.

The Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF) Endowment accumulated interest £13,296 relates to a DBF investment of historic initial capital value £10,000, now of capital value £24,416; this capital is not normally available to the PCC.

During the year £25,000 was transferred from CCLA CBF (interest paying) Deposit Fund to the CAF Bank (current) account to pay for the building repairs at St Cuthbert's. The various Restricted Funds are as listed on the balance sheet.

#### Income and Expenditure

In this section, comparison is made with figures for 2016. Figures in the tables are rounded to the nearest pound; minor errors in additions may occur as a consequence of rounding. **Total income** in 2017 was £97,513 (2016: £74,761) including £398 into restricted funds. The increase in total income in comparison with 2016, approximately £22,753, is explained by income received related to the major works at St. Cuthbert's i.e. Grants and fundraising, an increase in funds generated by the Hall lettings and fees for weddings and funerals, and an increase in donations.

Planned giving is slightly lower than the previous year but collections have risen slightly which somewhat offsets this. A planned Generous Giving Project this year will hopefully result in an increase in giving in the future. Donations include a £2,000 donation to St Cuthbert's for music and children's work, a £600 donation from a wedding couple and various smaller donations from funerals etc.

Gift Aid is slightly down this year, although the Gift Aid on the fund raising (floor block scheme) for St Cuthbert's floor has not yet been claimed and will feature in the 2018 accounts. The Gift Aid figure represents the sum of claims for Gift Aid on individual giving (£8,509) and from the Small Donations Scheme (£1,664).

Fees income increased this year due to the parish having an incumbent, up by approximately 50% compared with the previous year. Hall lettings increased substantially due to the Parish Hall being used daily.

It would seem likely that general income in 2018, based on these data, will be around £80,000.

**Total expenditure** in 2017 was £119,598 including £468 from restricted funds. Thus, the total expenditure from unrestricted funds in 2017 was £119,130.

Parish share paid in 2017 was £43,260 (2016: £41,200);

The figure for Organists has increased due to honoraria for 2016 and 2017 coming out of 2017 accounts.

Clergy and office expenses have increased slightly because the parish is now paying towards the Team Administrator, but the Team have contributed to the office expenses this year i.e. utilities which are paid by the Parish, so the increase is offset by this.

The insurance for the two churches and Parish Hall would appear to have reduced in 2017 but this is because a new joint insurance for all three buildings was taken out in June 2017. This has increased cover and benefits and can be paid monthly at no extra cost, so only 7 payments feature on the accounts instead of 12.

The amount for Hall Cleaning has increased due to some cheques issued in 2016 being cashed in 2017. This year I have tried to move away from issuing cheques for payments and changing to direct bank transfer payments which will somewhat alleviate this problem, so I hope that the people who purchase items for the churches and Parish Hall will co-operate with me in this.

Most other categories of general expenditure remain like those of 2016 apart from the major repair work at St Cuthbert's which is made up of Architects Fees for the 2 projects of £1300 and £46,706, the cost of the repairs, however the cost of refurbishing and rehangng St Cuthbert's Bell which was included in this year's work was paid for from a legacy given in 2015.

The general expenditure in 2017, discounting the cost of the building work at St Cuthbert's, was approximately £2,000 more than 2016 so in comparison with other years I would expect the expenditure in 2018 to be between £72,000 and £75,000.

In accordance with current Church of England legislation, all money which is collected in church, or for, or during church activities (e.g. refreshment funds, flower funds) must be included in the PCC accounts. To ensure we fully comply with this, all such money will be included in the PCC accounts from 1 April 2018 and be included in all future Annual Reports.

Barbara Gow, PCC Treasurer  
26th February 2018

PCC of St Cuthbert with St Aidan Income and Expenditure account Year ended 31 December 2017		2017		2016		
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
<b>Income</b>						
Planned giving	35,690			36,263		36,263
Collections	7,949			7,113	150	7,263
Donations	3,676			908	1,230	2,138
Gift Aid claimed	10,174			10,536		10,536
Other funds generated Hall car park Fund	870			448		448
Fundraising	2,314	398		2,323	231	2,554
Interest	987			986		986
Fees	6,997			4,536		4,536
Hall lettings	12,522			9,519		9,519
Refreshment Fund St C	467					0
Charity Fund Raising	743			488		488
Other	33			30		30
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>82,421</b>	<b>398</b>		<b>73,150</b>	<b>1,610</b>	<b>74,761</b>
<b>Income related to major repair work at St Cuthbert's</b>						
Other funds generated St C Floor	3,617					0
Listed Places of Worship VAT refund	3,306					0
Payment of Insurance Claim	2,571					0
Grants	5,200					0
	14,694			0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>97,115</b>	<b>398</b>		<b>73,150</b>	<b>1,610</b>	<b>74,761</b>



**PCC of St Cuthbert with St Aidan****Balance Sheet****As at 31 December 2017**

	2017	2016
	£	£
<b>Assets</b>		
CAF Bank	30,322	28,023
DBF Endowment, interest	13,296	12,466
CCLA CBF Deposit Fund	34,030	58,874
Cash		371
	<u>77,648</u>	<u>99,734</u>
<b>Capital and Reserves</b>		
Unrestricted funds:		
General	76,888	98,902
	<u>76,888</u>	<u>98,902</u>
Restricted Funds:		
Annand Fund		0
St Aidan Fabric Fund	654	736
St Cuthbert Fabric Fund	107	0
Parish Hall Fund	0	96
	<u>761</u>	<u>832</u>
	<u>77,649</u>	<u>99,734</u>
<b>Reserve reconciliation</b>		
Reserves b/f	99,734	101,605
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	<u>(22,085)</u>	<u>(1,871)</u>
Reserves c/f	<u>77,649</u>	<u>99,734</u>

## **Social and Events Team Report 2017**

We have had a variety of functions raising money for church funds. We also joined Aidan's Kitchen raising money for a number of different charities!

We held a St. Patrick's Ceilidh for the fifth time again being a huge success everyone enjoying the night

We held various functions to celebrate our Talking Jesus programme, we also organised a Hunger Lunch for Good Friday

A Team Trip to Hexham and Carlisle in September, this was a nice day out enjoyed by all

We also held a Harvest Tea in September when we were joined by CLCGB

Our usual Summer and Christmas Fairs were a huge success

We were there to support families on several occasions at family funerals

All this could not have been successful without hard work and generosity by our Social Team members:

Jacky Bindeman, Delia Dixon, Pat Guthrie, Joan Mary Harland, Pam Jopling, Betty Marshall, Pat Rowley, Muriel Smith, Pat Whitfield, Anne Wright, and Betty Young.

### **St. Aidan's Choir Report**

The choir continues to loyally support the weekly Sunday Eucharist and I feel sure that the congregation benefits from their presence. They do their best and always sing with enthusiasm. My thanks to 8 dedicated choir members (Betty M, Heather, Valerie, Betty Y, Pat, Janice, Jean and David) for turning up each week and for staying behind after each service for choir practice. I am also delighted to welcome our new young choir member Gabrielle to our ranks. Hopefully more of her friends will follow.

As well as the regular weekly service, members of the choir, with friends, have supported monthly communion services at St Aidan's Lodge and Melbury Court. These services led by Karen Abbott, include musical accompaniment from members of St Cuthbert's and judging by comments, are always greatly appreciated by both the residents and staff who take part.

Sadly in July we lost Hazel Mullen, one of our long-standing members. Health problems in recent times prevented Hazel's involvement with the choir, but prior to that both she and Arthur were stalwarts for over 20 years. The choir were privileged to sing at her funeral. She would have been pleased about that. May she rest in peace.

Members of St Aidan's choir were also able to support both the Healing and Taize services at St Cuthbert's and we were grateful for the support from St Cuthbert's choir at our Carol Service in December.

Once again my thanks to John Jopling for deputising for me while I was on holiday. The choir always look forward to his visits.

Ann Marshall – Organist

### **Music at St. Cuthbert's**

The Church Choir, consisting of eleven members, sings at the Sunday Eucharist on the third Sunday of each month in which we usually sing an anthem. We also sing at some of the once a month Sunday evening services. This has included Evensong and a Taize healing service as well as singing at the Christmas Carol Service. In addition, the Choir has been asked to sing for a wedding and a funeral.

We would like to thank Ann Marshall and St. Aidan's Choir members for their support in joining us when they are able to. We are also grateful to members of St. Oswald's Choir who augmented our choir for the wedding.

The Music Group, with seven members, accompanies the Come and Praise service on the first Sunday of each month. Since January, the group has been supported by singers. This greatly helps the congregation learn new songs. The Music Group has also begun to play for the services at St. Aidan's Lodge and Melbury Court care homes.

Thank you to Barbara Gow for her work with both the Choir and Music Group.

Thank you to our organists John Jopling and Adrian Skelton. Their playing and continued support is very much appreciated.

The Choir rehearses on the Thursday before the third Sunday. New members of the Choir and Music Group or Come and Praise Singers would be very welcome.

Judith Harper

### **Ambler's Report**

The Amblers have enjoyed 9 walks again during 2017. My thanks to those who have suggested walks and volunteered to lead.

The scheduled walk for February through Kepier Woods was cancelled due to wet weather. So, our walking programme officially began in March with 14 of us enjoying a pleasant 4 mile walk across Waldrige Fell. The walk had spectacular views of the surrounding countryside towards Newcastle. A good first walk at the start of the year which ended with a refreshment stop at Congdon Burn nursery. April was a trip to Escomb starting at Escomb Saxon church (the oldest in the UK). At the end, we spent time and quiet reflection looking around the beautiful church .

In May we joined other church members for the annual 8 mile sponsored parish walk. Once again the weather wasn't kind to us and the refreshment stop at Witton Gilbert was most welcome. My thanks to the church members at Witton for providing tea and delicious scones/cakes.

June found us in Romalldkirk for a 5 miler. Despite plans to have a cuppa in Eggleston Hall Gardens, we discovered a lovely little Tearoom called The Oaks where we enjoyed scones baked to a Mary Berry recipe (the owner had in fact worked with Mary and had some interesting stories to tell). July was a challenging walk of 7 miles in Frosterley. This

interesting walk by the River Wear skirted a large disused quarry then descended into Bollihope Common. We had slight detours because of fields of cows which were protecting their young. The walk ended at the Black Bull Inn for much needed refreshments.

August was an easy 5 miles coastal walk around Craster. Breaking with tradition, tea and scones were consumed at the start of the walk. We took the coastal route past the impressive Dunstanburgh Castle remains (which co-incidentally was included in a list of 100 favourite walks in the UK). An ideal spot on the beach was located for an extended lunch. As usual, the walk ended with a drink in the local pub and of course a visit to the Craster Kipper Company.

September was another 5 mile walk to Penshaw Monument taking in the River Wear trail. It started from Penshaw Nurseries/tea shop and followed a path straight up Penshaw Hill to the Grecian-style temple, which was erected in 1844 in honour of John George Lambton, the First Earl of Durham. We admired breathtaking views of Washington, Wearside and Tyneside. The walk continued along the River Wear and went under a very impressive Victorian Railway viaduct, opened in 1938 on the day of Queen Victoria's coronation. Majority of the walkers returned home, while others enjoyed refreshments at the tea shop.

Our October walk was an easy 4-miler around Rainton Meadows. Setting out from the Visitors Centre, we followed one of the many trails towards the village of West Rainton. This was easily found as we could see the church steeple in the distance. On route at the top of a hill we even managed to make out the Angel of the North (with binoculars). Once in the village we saw a building where Lady Londonderry had set up a school for the miners' children, which is now a private house. We then made our way back to the Centre, where staff had very kindly reserved tables for us, and enjoyed a pleasant lunch.

Our programme ended in November with a short walk through Shincliffe Woods and then coffee in Brambles Tea Rooms. Finally in December the group enjoyed Xmas dinner at The Rose Tree in Shincliffe.

We are a friendly, cheerful group (a comment recently made by a passer-by) and new members are always welcome (particularly if you enjoy cake/scones!).

Ann Marshall

