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### **Christ Church Fabric and Finance Report 2023**

I have offered to complete this report as Graham Croft, the chair of the Fabric and Finance Committee, resigned for personal reasons last autumn. We are very grateful for the invaluable work that he did for the church and offer him our sincere thanks. Since November Rev Phil has been chairing our meetings and I have continued to be the minute writer.

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One of the main concerns about the fabric of the church buildings arose in January 2022 when the alarm system failed and the subsequent inspection revealed a rat infestation in the roof space of the Jubilee Rooms. Rentokill inspectors were employed to make regular inspections and all gaps in the roof were filled. Their last inspection was at the end of last year and since then no rats have been found.

On a positive note we now have two beautiful new gates which have been made by Chris Kemp – our thanks to Chris - and two bike racks fitted to the wall of the Jubilee Rooms. We have also purchased a bench which will be fitted to the ground near to the notice board by the north gate. This will be of help to those who are waiting for lifts by the gate at the end of services.

Our thanks also go to members of the audio-visual team who have taken over the job of programming the heating systems for the church and the Jubilee Rooms.

We have experienced some problems during the year including leaves on the church roof causing leaks in the church, damp patches on the Jubilee Rooms porch roof and problems with one of the inner doors to the Jubilee Rooms. All these issues have been or are in the process of being dealt with by members of the committee and others.

Every five years we have a Quinquennial Inspection by an architect from Lichfield Diocese and he makes a detailed report which provides the background to much of what has to be done to the fabric of our building. During the last 12 months we have been mindful of the recommendations made in the previous report of 2018 in the knowledge that this year we shall be having another inspection. Many of the tasks detailed can be done by members of the committee or other church members but others must be done by outside contractors. Much of the recommended work has been completed and the committee keeps a list of all necessary inspections of appliances and utilities, when completed and by whom. The latest summary was produced in March.

Obviously much of this work costs money and Richard Humphrey who manages the Christ Church finances reports back at each Fabric and Finance meeting to let us know the current situation. We are all aware of current rising costs in our personal lives and these have affected our church as well. Prices of gas and electricity, together with costs to stationery, candles etc. have all increased. Thanks to the continuing generosity of our congregation, increased fees for room hirers and income from events organised by our social committee we are in a stable position financially. Our thanks go to Richard and the financial team for all their hard work. I should also say thank you to Rev Phil and all the members of the Fabric and Finance team who continue in their dedicated work to keep our lovely church in as good condition as possible.

Joan Collins March 2023

### **Recycling Report**

*“Recycling is an imperfect solution to the growing waste crisis, but it’s often the best option we have. Recycling reduces our reliance on limited natural resources and makes use of rubbish that would otherwise pollute the environment in landfills or through incineration” [Terracycle].*

I am very pleased to report that our “new” recycling venture has eventually taken off, and waste which would previously have been sent to landfill is now being sent for recycling.

Please continue to drop off your crisp bags, cheese wrappers, packaging from ground coffee and coffee beans, and medicine blister packs. And newly added is any brand of plastic bread bags (but not including the waxed paper wrapping). Mothers` Union also recycles printer cartridges and used stamps.

Thank you all for your support. WE ARE HELPING OUR PLANET !

Angela Williams, April 2023

### **CHRIST CHURCH FELLOWSHIP REPORT APRIL 2023**

We continue to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month in the Jubilee Room at 2pm.

- This year we gained 5 new members which was great.
- September 2022 we had our AGM.

- In October 2022 we had lunch at The Summer House which was enjoyed by all who went.
- In November 2022 we had a presentation by Midlands Air Ambulance which was very interesting. £25 was given out of funds and a retiring collection of £100 was raised.
- Unfortunately our Advent Devotions in December 2022 had to be cancelled due to the snow and ice. Our bring and buy was moved to January 2023. This was a bingo afternoon with the bring and buy raising £100, again for Midlands Air Ambulance.
- It was with great sadness and shock that we heard of Revd Carol Harley's death after Christmas. Members attended her funeral here at Christ Church.
- In February 2023 Revd Phil gave us a lovely presentation on the Passion Play from Oberammergau. We had a retiring collection for Turkey and Syria which raised £260 which was sent through the Red Cross.
- In March 2023 unfortunately Revd Martin Jinx had to cancel at the last minute due to his mother being rushed into hospital, so this was a social afternoon with a quiz.
- April 2023 was our Easter preparation, prepared by Revd Lin.
- May 15 2023 – note change of Monday due to Bank Holiday for the Coronation. This will be tea and cakes plus bring and buy for charity.
- June 2023 – Michael Boxall will give a talk on 'Wildlife at Large'.
- July 2023 – afternoon tea.

Again a varied programme with excellent charitable giving. £485.00 so far. Visitors welcome.

MARGARET BOXALL – LEADER (April 2023)

### **Tettenhall Wood Mothers` Union Report to A.P.C.M Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

The past year has seen a gradual return to normality following the disruption caused by the Covid pandemic, and we continue as a committee-led branch. We are currently 34 members.

We held devotional services during Advent and Lent, and in February we took part in The Mothers` Union Global Wave of Prayer, meeting together to express our commitment in prayer to our link partners overseas.

Long-service certificates were presented to two of our members during a Celebration Tea held for H.M Queen Elizabeth`s birthday in April (she had been the patron of Mothers` Union for 70 years up until her death in September).

In November, we marked the "16 days of activism against gender-based violence", trying to raise awareness, and encouraging prayer for those affected in any way.

We have welcomed speakers on a variety of topics over the course of the year including asylum seekers, carer support and fostering. We endeavour to keep informed about issues of concern, and are constantly seeking ways to reach out to our neighbours both locally and worldwide.

Our fundraising efforts continue, and over the year we have donated toiletries, Christmas gifts, Easter eggs and £200 worth of bedding to The Haven. Monetary donations have also been made to Mothers` Union appeals including Away From it All holidays, Jubilee Summer of Hope and the Lichfield Diocesan General Fund. The Mothers` Union greeting cards remain very popular; thanks go, not only to our members, but also to the congregation at Christ Church for their continued generosity and support.

You are most welcome to join us on the third Thursday of the month (except August) at 2p.m in the Jubilee Rooms.

Angela Williams (on behalf of the Committee)