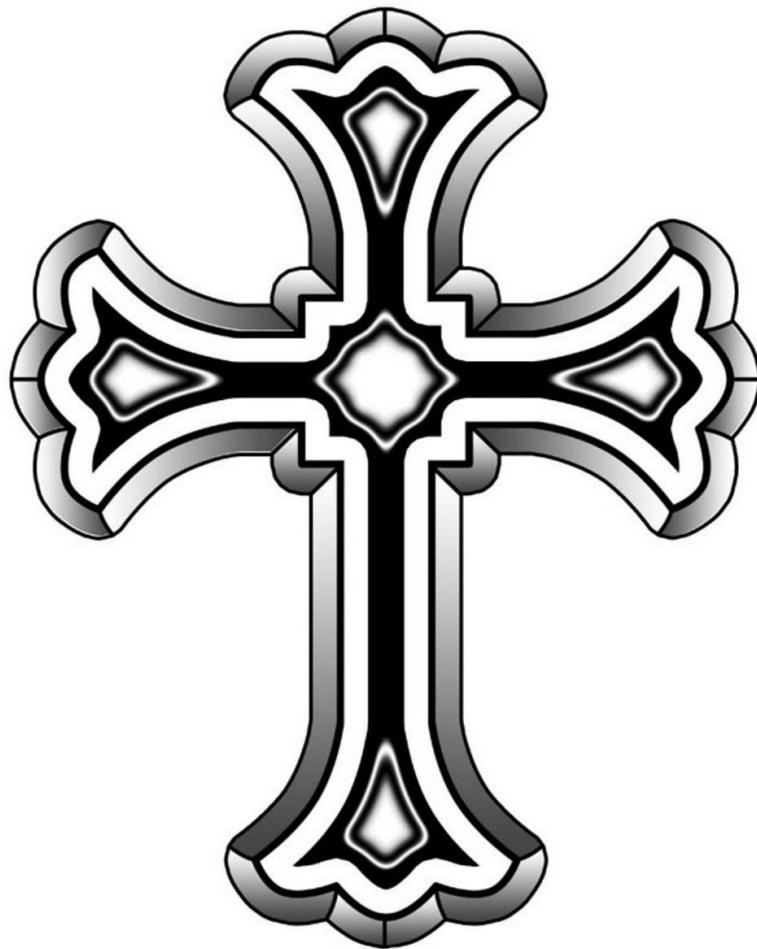


THE PARISH OF BOSTON  
A Place of Hospitality



ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING  
23<sup>RD</sup> APRIL 2019



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## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

Mr Graham Stewart-Smith, Lay Chair of the PCC, welcomed everyone to the meeting and Revd Steve Holt led the opening prayers.

### Election of the Parish Churchwardens

Four nominations had been received: Trevor Baily, Susan Kirk MBE, Robert Tamberlin and Tracey Scoot. It was proposed by A Sargeant and seconded by B Rathbourne that all four be appointed. It was agreed unanimously.

The meeting of the Parishioners was then closed.

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH CHURCH MEETING

Graham Stewart-Smith opened the Annual Parish Church Meeting by welcoming everyone to the meeting.

**Present:** G Stewart-Smith, Revd S Holt, Revd J Robertson, Revd S Rose, C Ladner, A Kelk, T Baily, B Tamberlin, G Ford, L Anso, A Sargeant, J Tait, S Kirk, W Culley, T Scoot, M Coote, P Dorr, K Lawson, B Rathbourne, N Rathbourne, R Paul, C Vaises, P Lawson, E Haynes, J Barkworth, M Haynes, Revd M Brewster.

- 1. Apologies for absence** – Revd A Buxton, P Tamberlin, M Appleby, G Paul, J Stewart-Smith, D Scoot, B Charity
- 2. Minutes of last year's meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018** – were proposed by B Tamberlin, seconded by S Kirk and agreed unanimously.
- 3. Matters Arising** – It was agreed that the accounts meeting held in 2017 would be included in the APCM Report as an addendum
- 4. Presentation of the Accounts** – The accounts, which had previously been accepted by the Parochial Church Council, were presented to the meeting.

There then followed several questions from the meeting to the treasurer. There was a question regarding a reserves policy, something which a charity should have in place, as it was not listed in the accounts. The treasurer assured the meeting that the policy had been put into place and the accounts would be amended to show this.

The Independent Examiner had not signed the accounts, again this would be highlighted to the accountant and they would be before being submitted to the Charity Commission.

There was then a query regarding the remuneration of trustees, other than wages. The meeting was informed that there had been a donation given to a mother and child who was an associate of a member of the trustees.

There was a question regarding the remuneration of trustees and whether it should be declared in the accounts if they were being paid and also sitting as a trustee. The treasurer agreed to investigate whether this was a legal requirement.

A discussion was had regarding the process in which the accounts were created, the treasurer informed the meeting that the accounts went to the auditor who then created the final document. It was agreed that the points identified would be raised with the accountant and if necessary reapproved at a later Parochial Church Council Meeting.

There was one final query with regard to the expenses given to retired clergy. The treasurer informed the meeting that this was returned by the Diocese once the relevant paperwork was processed.

- 5. Appointment of Auditors** – it was proposed that we reappoint Elkington and McKay as independently examiners.

There was a query regarding the level of funds that would be entering the Parish accounts due to the success of the National Lottery Heritage Funded project, and the necessity to tender for an auditor. The meeting was informed that when the funds start to be received this would be done.

*Proposed: T Scoot      Seconded: M Coote      Unanimously Agreed*

- 6. Electoral Roll** – the electoral roll officer reported that the electoral roll was up in numbers, with a total of 203 now listed.

As law requires in 2019 there will be a complete revision of the electoral roll, therefore everyone was encouraged to complete a form when the time came round. There would also be a new section to comply with the new GDPR rule.

Although the numbers are included in the Parish Electoral Roll, those identifying as worshipping at St Thomas' had increased by 2.

- 7. PCC Membership** – Three nominations for the PCC were received: J Barkworth, R Paul and C Vaises. A copy of the full PCC Membership was given to the meeting.

*Proposed: G Ford      Seconded: C Ladner      Unanimously Agreed*

- 8. Sidesperson list** – this was presented on page 7. There was a discussion regarding the duties of a sidesperson due to some people no longer continuing in those roles. It was resolved that although the meeting would agree to the list of names, this would be subject to those named agreeing to continue in said roles.

*Proposed: S Kirk      Seconded: T Baily      Unanimously Agreed*

- 9. Presentation of the Annual Report** – Each report was presented, those reports which were discussed further are listed below.

The Rectors Report

The meeting was informed that Revd Alyson Buxton was currently on sabbatical.

Assistant Curates Reports

Revd Jane Robertson was appointed Boston Lecturer, an honorary title connected with the formation of the Library of St Botolph's Church.

Revd Jane Robertson also reported that the new toddler group was going very well with a core number of people who consistently attended.

Revd Sue Rose informed the meeting that she is to be ordained at St Botolph's Church on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018 with her first Eucharist taking place at St Thomas' Church on 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

Director of Music Report

There has been great progress made with the local schools, George Ford informed the meeting that he was now in two local primary schools, each for one full day a week.

Churchwardens

The Churchwardens wanted to thank the Clergy and Staff for all of their work over the previous 12 months.

Fabric Report

It was reported that Angie Kisby has left the Parish to return to her architecture business following the completion of the round 2 National Lottery Heritage Fund project.

Sanctuary Guild

The Chair of the Sanctuary Guild reported that there was a need for more flower arrangers to join the guild.

Prayer and Nurture

Mike Haynes highlighted the dates for the Parish Day Out and Parish Pilgrimage, encouraging everyone to attend.

- 10. AOB** – It was commented that it was good to see a surplus in the accounts. It was suggested that the staff complete training on budgeting and profit/loss accounts

There was discussion held regarding the worship pattern for St Thomas' owing to now having 4 priests in the Parish. It was agreed that this would be looked at, however there are other responsibilities in the deanery due to the level of vacant parishes and some members of St Thomas' enjoyed Morning Worship Services.

11. The meeting closed with The Grace.

*Signed:* ..... *Date:* .....  
*Team Rector of the Parish of Boston*

## REPORT ON PCC MEETINGS

The PCC met on the second Monday of each month this year, except in September. A Passion for People, our National Lottery Heritage bid has continued to take a great deal of time this year however we have also covered issues of governance, fabric, finances, music and ministry. A set of approved minutes can be obtained by contacting me via [pcc@parishofboston.co.uk](mailto:pcc@parishofboston.co.uk).

We have had 3 resignations from council this year, Mary Wright, George Ford and Chris Ladner. This year we are required to make a complete renewal of the Electoral Roll, the numbers then dictate how many people from the laity must sit on the PCC. This has meant that for 2019 we are required to have 12 members of the laity sit on the PCC.

*Adam*

Adam Kelk  
PCC Secretary

## PARISH OF BOSTON ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

During this last year five new members were added to the Roll but as three members have sadly died recently this results in a combined total of 205.

As law requires, we are currently in the process of making a complete renewal of the Roll when everyone must reapply by filling in a new form. If you have not already done so, or if you have recently joined us and would like more information, please contact myself or the Parish Office.

*Elizabeth*

Elizabeth Haynes  
Parish Electoral Roll Officer.

## LIST OF SIDESPEOPLE FOR APCM APPROVAL FOR 2019/20

Marlene Briggs  
Barbara Charity  
Karen Lawson  
Peter Lawson  
Jayne Morris  
Beryl Rathbourne  
Judy Wortley  
Nena Fox  
Wendy Green  
Sue Kirk  
Sue McCormick  
Jan Sharman  
Jackie Barkworth  
Anna Cartwright  
Rosemary Pettitt  
Trevor Baily  
Mick Broadhurst  
Derek Buxton

Judy Cammack  
Mike Haynes  
Elizabeth Haynes  
Ann Sargeant  
David Scoot  
Tracey Scoot  
Ken Syndercombe  
Bob Tamberlin  
Polly Tamberlin  
Derek Coates  
Janice Coates  
Mandy Gray  
Christine Hodgson  
Christabelle Horner  
Gerald Hull  
Sheila Priestley  
Juliet Tait  
Maureen Taylor

Mick Thompson  
Linda Thompson  
Anne Thorlby  
Sue Timby  
Christine Hardstaff  
Lind Anso-Edwards  
Galena Vlasova  
Cherrie Bartlett  
Jim Folwell  
Adam Kelk  
Chris Ladner  
William Culley  
Marilyn Coote  
Nathan Scarborough  
Roger Cieslar

## TEAM RECTOR'S REPORT

Reverend Alyson Buxton

Dear *Friends*,

What a momentous year we have had! It feels that 2018 was a year dominated by fundraising, the HLF Project and then the profound and well received Festival of Remembrance.

The boldness and enthusiasm of the staff, volunteers and congregation of the parish have brought a vast range of worthwhile activity during the year. The volume and breadth of engagement, and the important role played by many individuals, including volunteers has been so very important to the life of the Parish. I am hopeful that all who read this letter and the reports will be full of honour and gratitude to all those who, paid and unpaid, provide time, energy, commitment and thought to the flourishing of our churches. We are blessed with an amazing array of gifts.

I continue to attend the General Synod and in that role am also a member of the steering group for the Church Representation and Ministers measure and have also been invited to be a trustee of the Cambridge theological college Westcott House. In the Diocese I am now the Chair of the House of Clergy and a trustee on the Bishop's Council.

I must confess that as I look out of my study window and see the scaffolding going up the tower, I have a huge sense of relief and a feeling of liberation. My hope and prayers are that this year the project continues as planned. Once the project is complete, we can then really look to the future with eyes full of faith and concentrate on the spiritual development and growth of our Parish.

I offer you this report about the life of our Parish and truly give thanks for who we are and all that we do in Christ's name.

This comes with thanks for your supportive kindnesses.

Your rector and friend,

*Aly*

The Revd Alyson Buxton  
RGN.,BAHons.,MTh.,MA.  
Team Rector  
The Parish of Boston

# MINISTRY REPORT

## Occasional Offices

### Baptisms

Our baptism preparation sessions for parents and godparents (if they are local and able to attend) have been working well, with good feedback received from attendees. The session gives families a good idea of what baptism is about, and provides an opportunity for families and clergy to meet and get to know each other before the service.

Baptisms have been conducted in all three churches, with the total number conducted in 2018 being 52 – a reduction on the previous year. We also did a service of Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child for a baby who has had an emergency baptism in hospital.

During the baptism service we present each child with a certificate, a baptism candle, a bible story and a baptism leaf, which is engraved with their name and date and place of baptism. The leaf is then hung on our baptism tree in St Botolph's. In the Summer of 2019, we will be holding a service for baptism families, who will be invited to collect their baptism leaves to take them home.

### Weddings

During 2018 we conducted fourteen weddings with three taking place at St. Thomas's and eleven at St. Botolph's. We also conducted services for the Renewal of Wedding Vows. As always, each one of these events was a privilege to be part of. It is always such a joy to work with people on these positive, happy occasions.

### Funerals

During the past year we conducted a total of 62 funerals; 17 of which were conducted in our churches.

### Confirmation

A confirmation service took place in St. Botolph's at the beginning of December when Bishop Nicholas confirmed eight candidates. Two of the candidates were from the parish of Fishtoft, and it was lovely to have them with us on this special occasion. Of the remaining six candidates, two adults and one child are regular worshippers in the parish. A further three candidates, all youngsters, approached us through the community, with one having been baptised by us earlier in the year. Whilst it is sad that we sometimes do not see people regularly after their confirmation, it is a wonderful thing to be able to share with them in this significant step on their Christian journey as well as being an opportunity to build good relationships.

## Pastoral Visiting

Pastoral visiting is a wonderful part of the ministry we enjoy. Many of the people we visit have been long term congregation members who find themselves unable to

access services. It is a huge privilege to share in Home Communion with them. We also visit volunteers and church members when they are injured or in need as well as our visiting in connection with the occasional offices.

As clergy we are greatly supported in this aspect of ministry by our team of Pastoral Visitors who help us to keep links open and sustain church contact with people. Originally a team of seven we are now down to six members as Pat F. has moved away. Team members are: Polly Tamberlain, Wendy Green, Trevor Baily, Rosemary Pettitt and Ann Sargeant. Through 2018 the team formally met together four times for training and fellowship.

Each member exercises their ministry in a particular way, including baptism support both with preparation and during/after the services, post-bereavement support, children's work, supporting the congregation at St. Christopher's and lots of visiting including taking Home Communion to people in their homes and nursing homes.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our Pastoral Visitors for the valuable work they do, as well as the support they offer to us.

### **Lent and Advent Groups**

We continue to run small groups at Lent and Advent, either following external programmes or books, or by putting together our own courses. This has proved a good way of making connections with people outside of the parish as well as getting to know group members better as we explore aspects of faith together.

### **Schools**

Work with young people in schools is a great privilege and a huge responsibility. We are very fortunate in that we continue to have a strong relationship with St. Thomas's Primary School. We take regular assemblies throughout the school year and visit individual year groups to tell bible stories and engage in excellent faith-based discussions. These can often be very challenging, especially with the older children who have deep and searching questions about how faith relates to the world they see around them. We also helped the school to develop their prayer club.

St. Thomas is part of the Great Oaks Federation, along with Wyberton Primary School. As Revd. Jane is a governor of this federation it means that there is also connection with Wyberton School. Both schools brought classes into to St. Thomas's church during the year to support teaching on Christianity within the curriculum.

Both schools also love coming into St. Thomas's for special services such as Harvest and Christingle. This year the church was full of children and parents on two days at the beginning of December for the Christingle services. We are supported in our work by Trevor and his team who go into school each December, spending a couple of full days making Christingles with each class in turn. Whilst this is a big commitment from them, it does mean that every child in the school hears the

Christmas story and learns about the symbolism of the Christingles from a 'real' Christian who lives their faith, rather than as a 'lesson'.

For a few months during the year Revd. Holt also took assemblies at Carlton Road school but for various reasons this connection has not been able to continue. At the moment we do not have the capacity to take on a regular commitment to go into more schools, however we do have contact with many of them through the year when they bring groups into St. Botolph's on visits. We always work hard to deliver quality input on these occasions, as well as building good relationships.

### **Nursing Homes**

We visit two nursing homes in the parish every month to lead worship services – Hunter's Creek and Meadow's Edge. We also visit other nursing homes on request for pastoral visits and to take communion to parishioner's on request.

### **Magazine**

2018 has been a good year for the parish magazine, with six well planned and interesting issues being produced. Putting the magazine together is a creative task that does take time and commitment and whilst Revd. Jane has a small involvement in this, most of the work is done by our Editor, Rosemary Pettitt and our thanks go to her for this valuable ministry. We are supported too by members of the team who proof read and print for us. Every effort is made to produce a well balanced magazine with a variety of interesting articles, as well as items that keep people informed of what is happening in the church. We are always on the look out for pieces to put in the magazine so if you have something you wish to include please send it to either Jane or Rosemary.

### **Worship**

We continue to offer and lead a range of regular and feast day services across our three churches. During the year our team has grown with the addition of our two associate priests; Reverend Margaret and Reverend Mike, who lead midweek and some Sunday Eucharist services. Reverend Steve left the parish in October to take up an incumbency role in the diocese. We continue to offer BCP Eucharist, Choral Evensong and Sung and Choral Common Worship Eucharist services.

As building work commenced in St Botolph's towards the end of the year, we have explored new ways of being church. Our worship on Sundays at main services is now in the chancel. We are also offering Pop-up church which is a series of trips and events in different settings and on different days each month, where we can build a closer community. God-Bites is a series of talks and discussions which take place monthly on Thursday lunchtimes. We will be exploring a range of faith based and ethical topics during 2019.

## **Mission**

### **Breakfast Club**

The breakfast club has become a key part of our missional work in church. As a ministry team, we feel called to help those in need of warmth, food and shelter. It has been noticeable that some of this group have started to attend worship services, and we have been exploring ways of including prayer at breakfast club.

### **Foodbank**

Changes in the leadership of the foodbank has given us the opportunity to become more closely involved in the day-to-day management of the service, which is a key part of the missional work of the parish. We recruited a Foodbank Project Manager and Deputy Foodbank Manager (managing the warehouse) in October, both on one year contracts.

The foodbank client group are mainly people with different needs than the breakfast club members. They are people who have fallen on hard times for a variety of reasons, often related to changes in employment or personal circumstances. They use the foodbank during periods of crisis. It is a privilege to be able to offer support and walk alongside those who are struggling, and we are particularly grateful to our pastoral visitors, Ann Sargeant and Wendy Green, and our associate priest Reverend Margaret who have all provided help and continuity, and ensured a continued Christian input during this time of transition.

### **Remembrance Festival**

The Remembrance Festival provided a wonderful opportunity for mission, as we welcome so many people as visitors who had not been into St Botolph's before. It was a great joy to lead midweek Eucharist in the chancel, in the midst of all of the activities in church. The All Souls services gave us an opportunity to offer a small reflective service several times during the day, rather than the large services in previous years. The board for the names of departed loved ones and the building of a cairn using pebbles were both activities which appreciated by those remembering loved ones. The Sunday service of Karl Jenkins' the armed man was attended by a large number of visitors, and many people came forward for Eucharist. The Service of Peace was well attended by other churches in the town, and the lighting of the 1918 candles was wonderful.

The remembrance festival also gave us an additional opportunity to work with schools, as they visited and explored our resources boxes. St Thomas school used the boxes to spark children's ideas of stories, poetry, drama and dance, and have already asked for the boxes again for next year.

## Evangelism Coordinator - Simon Connolly

I am currently still studying at Lincoln School of Theology, in my second year, and have much to do personally, as I navigate the narrow path that God is laying before me. I am a lay member of the parish team, and I help run a family embroidery business trying to sail the stormy seas of our turbulent economy. It is a firm belief in intentional ministry that led me to further complicate an already difficult weekly schedule by embarking on this new adventure of Evangelism Coordinator.

The settling in period for the new role of Evangelism Coordinator happened to be during the last quarter of 2018. So much change in a short period, but this was also a unique opportunity to have conversations with a wide variety of people.

I have been involved in a number of activities in the past six months, among them:

- Fun in the Stump Children's seasonal activities.
- Engaging with Churches Together in Boston.
- Christmas Foodbank collection at Tesco.
- Wednesday Chaplaincy.
- Leading Sunday worship at St Thomas' and St Christopher's.
- Christmas Christingle workshops at St Thomas' School.
- Continuing engagement with homeless and needy.
- Boston Emergency Night Shelter.
- Development of seasonal liturgy for Morning Praise services.
- Developing welcome packs for the parish.

In each of our churches, the local church is less likely to evangelise, sharing the gospel of love, if it is not itself genuinely a community of love. Our churches can be seen as individual local headquarters, where we are fed and go. If we are to make the Gospel an experience that is personal and authentic, then our church communities primarily need to develop as loving communities of Christian brothers and sisters.

Individual believers can *let their light shine*, as a candle of the Word. However, individuals collectively as Church can be a wide beam searchlight of the Gospel in community, a constant light in the darkness. It is more important than ever, in a personally discerning world, that witnessing to Christ happens corporately. The Gospel communicated from my living, is backed up by the community of brothers and sisters alongside me.

Going forward I have a three step vision for evangelism, **accept**, **explore** and **commit**. This will be initiated through welcome packs. The first step to **accept** God as a possibility worth further consideration. The second step is encouraging the **exploration** of experiencing God in our world today through the many activities and

courses that are already offered during our parish year. This all hopefully leads to a third step of personal **commitment** to the Gospel.

The effectiveness of any attempt to share our faith is reliant on our openness and love as a community of believers. It is *not* simply *what we do* as a community, but *how we do it* and *how we are perceived*. It is easy to focus on perfecting the mechanics of an event, but then lose focus on the personal experience. An experience is taken away and remains in our memory, also to be shared, long after the event itself has finished. Each time we come together as a community, it is worthwhile considering what experience each individual may take home from that event. The strength of our Church of England tradition is our openness to all levels of faith, we can never know who may have been led to join us. Let the light of the Gospel shine from our believing community, gifting all with an experience to treasure, as they journey onward. Our world is growing to be all about the credibility of the experience of an event, not the event itself. 'God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them'.

*Revd Jane, Revd Sue & Simon*

Revd Jane Robertson	- Assistant Curate / Boston Lecturer
Revd Sue Rose	- Assistant Curate
Simon Connolly	- Evangelism Coordinator

## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC REPORT

The past year has proved itself one of change and development in the music department. George Ford resigned from the position of Director of Music to pursue a career change, training to become a primary school teacher and subsequently leaving the area. I became the parish Music Co-ordinator in July 2018 and met with the music department staff to establish structures which would enable us to preserve the work already begun and continue to move our parish music forward. Lisa Taylor was invited to look after the Children's Choir as an interim measure, which she did, with the support of Cheryl Davies and Sian Wenninger. Ten children remained as regular members of the junior choir, who continued to participate in services at St Botolph's and also helped to lead the music in a service at St Thomas' Church. David Shepherd continued in the role of assistant organist and Anthony Baldery joined the team as the Director of the Community Choir.

The Parish Choir have continued to provide music at most regular services. They currently sing at either the morning service or at Choral Evensong each week. Membership remained constant during the time of transition and the choir has settled well into new routines, rehearsing each Wednesday in church. The Parish Choir and the Community Choir both played key roles in our Festival Of Remembrance, each providing a concert performance in addition to the Remembrance Service, led musically by the Parish Choir. I gave an organ recital of reflective music and a more lively concert was provided as part of the festival proceedings by the Swineshead Silver Band to a very receptive audience. The community choir held an open rehearsal before Christmas to showcase their work to families and friends. This was a great success and was well-received by those who came to support their loved ones.

I was formally appointed to the role of Director of Music in December and was able to fully commit to the role in January, after serving notice at St Andrew's Church, Heckington, where I had been in post for 12 years. Since January, the department has been able to successfully serve the musical needs of the parish within a more economical financial model. I have taken on the leadership of the Junior Choir and have put in place new schemes to develop the routines of the current members whilst looking to recruit new singers. A new reward scheme is in place which recognises the three best contributions by children to rehearsals and services each week. Choristers receive a star on their chart, which will lead to a tangible 'bonus' when the end of the chart is reached. This has been well received and is encouraging choristers to seek out opportunities to shine. A 'bring a friend to choir' scheme has also been launched and it is hoped that this will lead to an increase in membership. One previous member is looking to return to the choir currently, which is positive. Scheduled Saturday morning and half-term chorister sessions towards the summer, will provide an opportunity to reach into the community to recruit new members.

The Community Choir, under Anthony's direction has continued to grow its membership. Numbers have grown from 33 in September to 50 current and regular members. The singers cover a wide range of ages, abilities and backgrounds,

making the group a real representative body of the community we are seeking to serve. The community choir will be performing later in the year at a parish event and intend to hold another open rehearsal to show their work to family. I would like to thank Anthony for his enthusiastic work with this group, who are enjoying his leadership and musicianship. Community Choir members pay a termly membership fee of £21, which amply covers the cost of their music and the director's fees. The Community Choir is therefore now fully self-financing and at £1.50 per rehearsal, is still accessible to most people and considerably cheaper than many franchised choirs that operate in the county.

The Parish Choir has continued to offer music of a very high standard, leading our worship on a weekly basis. Since January, there has been a significant increase in membership, with ten new adult members joining us on a regular basis. This is very encouraging and ensures that we are able to field a strong group of singers for each service. Plans are being explored to provide the choir with important opportunities to develop themselves individually and as a group. The support of individual members, such as Ed Wenningers and Martin Weaver, who have directed or accompanied has been very helpful, whilst also providing them with a chance to develop their own skills. Cheryl Davies also provides an excellent service as choir librarian. An opportunity to sing Evensong at Lincoln Cathedral has presented itself as a group opportunity and I hope that we will be able to have a large parish representation at the annual RSCM are festival at Lincoln in October. The Parish has a substantial library of music and so it has been good to sing music from our archive that has not been sung in church for some time. This re-use of existing resources helps us to save money so that we can consider how best to deploy the budget we have.

The church organ continues to function well, providing us with a colourful palette of sounds that match the splendour of our building. A faulty circuit board earlier in the year managed to cause considerable difficulties, which thankfully, have now been resolved through the replacement of a faulty component. The organ featured in the summer season of recitals. We were fortunate to secure the skills of a number of well-respected musicians, who each provided a varied programme of music to receptive and appreciative audiences. Thanks to David Shepherd for organising these concerts. Recent work in the church has meant that the organ is now covered in plastic sheeting to protect it from the works in the nave. The opportunity was taken at this time to re-furbish some of the pipework in the organ which had become unstable since the last restoration in the late 1980's. The pipework returned to Durham for remedial work and was replaced in the organ this April. The organ will enjoy its 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2020, an occasion we should look to mark appropriately.

A welcome addition to the musical resources of the department has been the arrival in February of the continuo organ, built by Harrison and Harrison and on loan to us. This instrument has already proved invaluable in worship and in rehearsal. It is a beautifully crafted organ, which fits in well with the Chancel fixtures and fittings as well as allowing the authentic performance of more small-scale musical repertoire.

The year ahead provides additional exciting opportunities to grow our parish music further. Plans are in place to recruit younger members into the children's choir whilst

I am also looking at opportunities to develop our work with teenagers and young adults, an area of society currently absent from our membership. The development of funded scholarships to help young people develop their musical skills in return for committed participation in our church music is just one of the ways we hope to broaden our mission and scope. I am confident that we can build upon the centuries of choral tradition to make St Botolph's a centre of musical excellence. Music presents a beautiful opportunity for worshipful expression that can bring people to faith and draw diverse elements of our community together to experience the hospitality we offer in this place. I am honoured to serve the parish as Director of Music and will continue to work to promote our mission and outreach through the musical opportunities we offer now and in the future.

*John Lyon*

Director of Music

## BOSTON AND SUTTERTON FOODBANK REPORT

The previous Foodbank Manager, Ian Evans, left in July, and a new manager – Maxine Correya, and Deputy Foodbank Manager Bob Taylor took over in October. We have recently received feedback from the Trussell Trust that they are impressed that the welcome to clients and the operation of the foodbank has been improved since changes were introduced.

During 2018, 961 food vouchers were issued, a 10% increase over the previous year. 1433 adults and 833 children received emergency food supplies during the year. By February 2019, the amount of food donated to the foodbank since start up in 2013 reached 100,000kg.

Our three main referring agencies are Citizens Advice Bureau, Children's Services and the Job Centre, but around 40 agencies have made referrals during 2018. Our clients live in over 40 different council wards, with the largest numbers coming from Fenside (16%), Central Ward (10%), Witham (15%) and Pilgrim (7%), with 8% of clients having No Fixed Abode.

There has been an increase in referrals since the end of October from 15 per week to up to 40. These referrals have been a result of the changeover of benefits to Universal credit with up to a 5+ weeks wait, delays in Personal Independence Payment (PIP) meetings and counselling. People living in Boston have also been impacted by companies closing or restructuring, general problems with debt, homelessness and various health issues. Our referrers have most commonly cited benefits delays and benefit changes (37%) and "low income" as the reason for referral (34%).

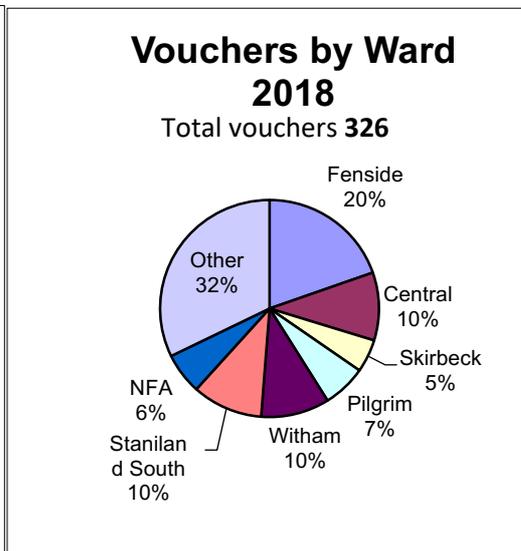
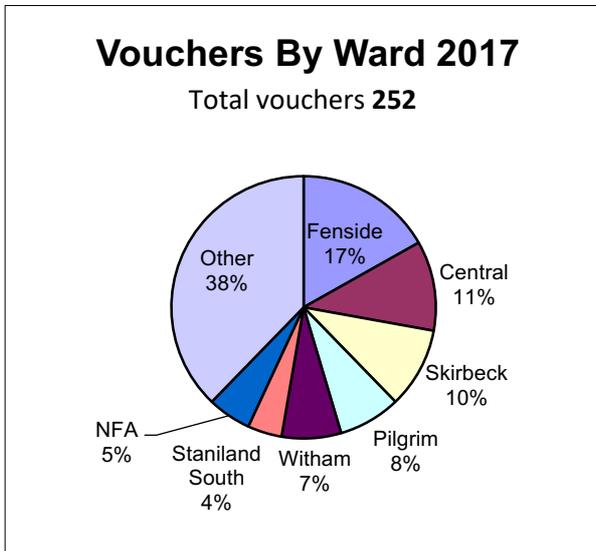
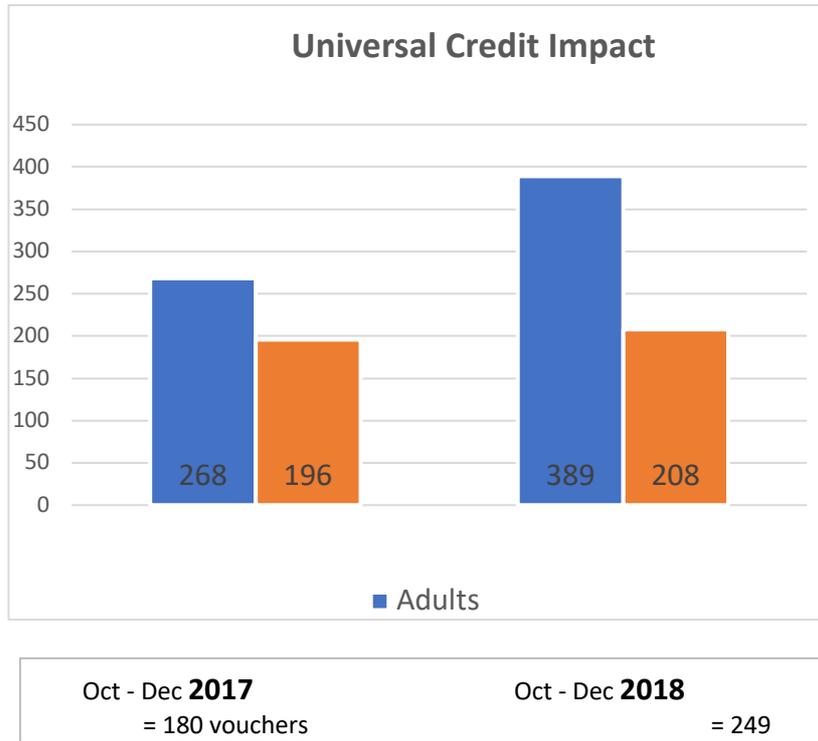
Matt Warman MP came to visit us at the foodbank and offered help with some of the individuals that he met – we have referred a couple of cases to him with permission from the clients.

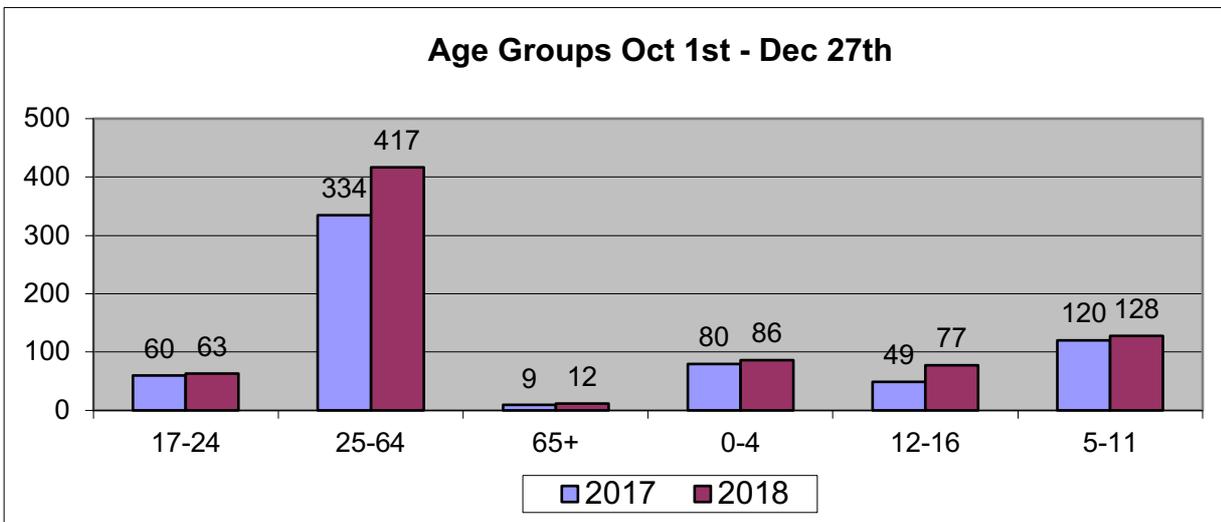
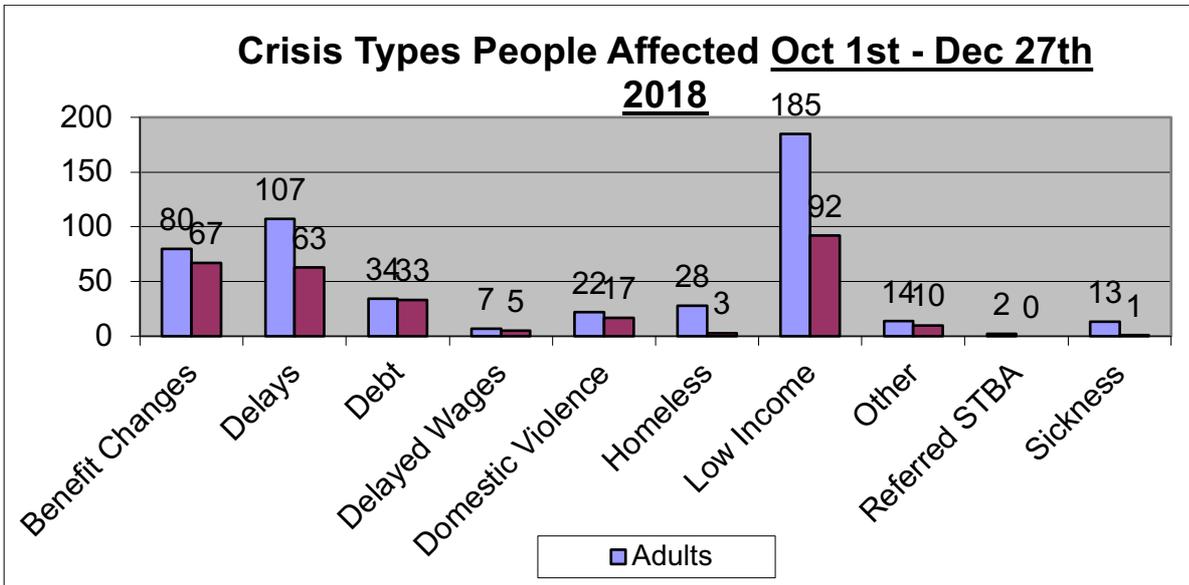
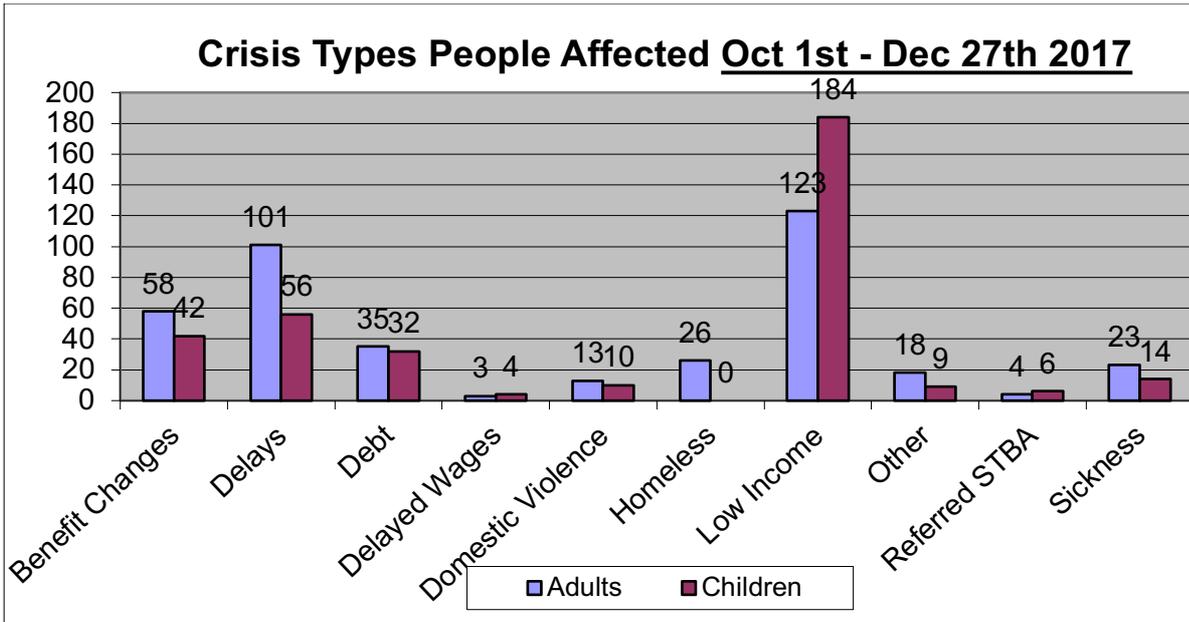
The Tesco food drive was been an excellent campaign with the general public of Boston donating generously. Bob Taylor and volunteers worked tirelessly to collect the food, weigh and organise it all; this replenished the warehouse. We receive regular food donations from the public from collection points in Asda, Tesco, and a number of Co-Op branches in the local area.

We have had some publicity from The Boston Standard, and from Look North who have reported on the problems associated with Universal Credit and the use of foodbanks. A number of schools have undertaken projects and collections around harvest to promote the work of the foodbank, and we received lots of donated food.

The Foodbank management team are very grateful to all the volunteers who give their time to help each week, and to those who generously donate food, toiletries and pet supplies to help those who are struggling. During the current year we will be looking to establish new donors, increasing awareness of our service with referring agencies and the general public, and seeking to find other ways of helping to feed those who are hungry in and around Boston.

CHARTS TO SHOW FOODBANK USAGE FROM  
1<sup>ST</sup> OCT TO DEC 31<sup>ST</sup> 2017 and 2018.





## PARISH GOVERNANCE AND SAFEGUARDING REPORT

The Parish of Boston Governance & Safeguarding Team comprises of:

The Governance Officer – Chris Ladner  
Churchwarden – Tracey Scoot  
Churchwarden – Sue Kirk MBE  
Head Verger / Operations Manager- Adam Kelk

The Team continue to develop policies & procedures in order to ensure the Parish's compliance with its legal and statutory duties.

### **Safeguarding**

The Parish of Boston now hold Safeguarding Training days coordinated by the Diocese of Lincoln. The Safeguarding Team continue to ensure all new volunteers and staff attend training sessions when joining the Parish of Boston.

The Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, Penny Turner continues to have regular contact with the Church, spending one day per month in the Parish.

The Parish has established files for all Staff and Volunteers to ensure all groups are covered and these have been audited alongside a compliance audit of the Diocesan Safeguarding Policies & Procedures.

### **Finance**

The PCC have adopted Financial Policies and Procedures to deal with cash handling and purchase authorisation.

2018 saw the implementation of a Reserves Policy based on six months expenditure of staffing, insurance and utilities.

The accounts have been audited as per the requirements under Charity Law.

### **Governance**

Members of the Team continue to meet with committees and organisations that come under the umbrella of the Parish to assist them with good governance and compliance with the Parish's constitution.

Parish of Boston Governance & Safeguarding Team  
April 2019

# CHURCHWARDENS REPORT

St Botolph's Church

What an amazing year 2018/19 has been! It seems as though almost all our Churchwarden dreams have come true – thanks be to God!

You will recall at our 2018 Annual Parish Council Meeting we were holding our breath in terms of whether our, 'A Passion for People' Heritage Lottery Bid had succeeded! On Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> July we were thrilled to gather with our Parishioners, many generous supporters and grant givers to hear the announcement that we had! A grant of £1,166,700 would be allocated thanks to national lottery players which together with money raised by our Parish would see us achieve our £2.7m heritage project – looking back that seems a lifetime ago... No time was lost implementing the project plan by our HLF Team with huge enthusiasm from our PCC, Clergy Team, Staff, Volunteers and Parishioners and on 12 November the physical transformation of St Botolph's started apace with each week bringing more areas within the building screened off as excavations and work commenced and perhaps most exciting of all and attracting huge local attention was the building of the west Tower scaffolding which now complete has reached the giddy heights of the top of the Tower! We are so proud that the Parish has succeeded in this very necessary building upgrade, we acknowledge the drive and effort of all Clergy and Staff to ensure the building work is meeting scheduled timescales with goodwill abounding in terms of the need to change our usual day-to-day modus operandi to enable keeping the Church open – a feat in itself! We recognise, of course, that our project is so much more than the building improvements and key is our ability to become more welcoming, hospitable and loving toward all who enter St Botolph's. We modestly, if we may, pay our tribute to the unrelenting focus, determination and leadership of our Team Rector, Aly driving the Heritage Lottery Bid to its successful achievement and motivating us all to aspire to deliver our, 'A Passion for People' project. The journey is just beginning – but what a beginning it is! The **'Yes we can!'** strapline is still our bet noir to inspire us all!

If we needed any evidence that we can deliver on our future 'reaching out' ambitions, surely our 2-week Festival of Remembrance unequivocally proved that! From concept to delivery it reflected all what we are about – bringing in the local community to share space with us to honour the centenary of WWI and the massive sacrifices made by our ancestors. How can we forget the amazing knitted Poppies which symbolised lost souls knitted by hundreds, if not thousands of local people with local wool made available by the brilliant ladies of the Lincolnshire Guild of Weavers; the Coffee Shop's Wartime Table, Exhibitions, Children's & Adult Workshops, Recitals, Lectures, Concerts, Bell-ringing Lessons – we had 28,000 visitors and undoubtedly, the highlight was our hosting the Remembrance Day Service when our magnificent Church was packed to the gills, people literally squeezing themselves into the building... A wonderful sight which we will constantly repeat by bringing the crowds in with our 'A Passion for People' project!

As Churchwardens, we rejoice in the amazing success of the year, not just the high profile events described, but also the commitment of all Clergy, Staff and Volunteers to reach out to the vulnerable initiating and organising our 'Breakfast Club' for the

homeless; motivating the local community to generously give and support our winter 'Give Away' Clothes Rails and for the invaluable contribution to the poor with our Foodbank organised in collaboration with the Trussell Trust. The new acquisition of a Defibrillator now sited adjacent to our Choir Vestry Door which is accessible in cardiac emergencies to be used by the community following a successful collaboration by the PCC with Mrs Brenda Owen.

Our 2018/19 year finished with another special event. We record our grateful thanks to HRH The Princess Anne for her unfailing support of our ambitions finding time in her busy schedule to pay a visit on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> April to launch our Guild of St Botolph's which will serve to continue our much needed ongoing fundraising to deliver our, 'A Passion for the People' project as well as endorsing our endeavours to secure ongoing financial sustainability to meet annual revenue costs - these remain a huge challenge with a small congregation relative to the size of the Church building. We were delighted too that the Princess Royal toured the building-works meeting Chairmen and Members of the Restoration Trust and Friends of St Botolph's; representatives of the HLF and other Trusts supporting the 'A Passion for People' Project, Project Professionals as well as Team St Botolph.

In conclusion, we are proud to be Churchwardens during this year of great, successful progress and recommit ourselves to fulfilling God's purpose for us as members of Team St Botolph by individually doing our best to contribute to delivering the PCC's ambitions defined in its 'A Passion for People' project and very importantly, attaining future financial sustainability.

*Sue*

Sue Kirk MBE MIHM, DipHSM  
Churchwarden

*Tracey*

Tracey Scoot  
Churchwarden

## FABRIC REPORT

### St Botolph's Church

The last year has been a busy year. Preparations for the start of the Heritage Lottery Funded "Passion for the People" project were completed and with work commencing in November 2018.

Once faculties for the project were granted, work on the north and south aisles commenced. Scaffolding is currently been erected on the tower, and a crash barrier has been constructed inside the tower. Work on the installation of porch screens will commence shortly.

Disruption to normal operations and services at the Stump have been necessary to facilitate the project, and are expected to continue until the completion of project which is scheduled for November 2019. The Parish thanks all for their patience and understanding.

#### **Faculty Applications**

Several Faculty applications have been made to allow the HLF funded "Passion for the People" project to proceed with one application in progress for the introduction of an Interpretative Scheme.

Faculties for a placing public access defibrillation unit outside the choir vestry and a memorial plaque for Pauline Napier have been granted. The memorial plaque has been installed by the library door. The frame for the defibrillator is been constructed and should shortly be installed. Work on the frame was kindly carried out by Porcher Abrasive Coatings Ltd.

A faculty for the installation of a pushchair shelter for use by the Children's Centre at St. Christopher's Church has been applied for.

Faculty applications for the placement of the lead plates in the toilet lobby area and the tower gate replacement have not yet been utilized to date due to budget constraints.

#### **Maintenance and Cleaning**

The maintenance and cleaning of the church has been at a good standard throughout the year. Our thanks also go out to staff and volunteers who have helped keep the church presentable. We are especially appreciative of the work carried out by all our volunteers, whose work helps keep our doors open throughout the year.

The Parish has continued to support an initiative by the Boston Borough Council (BBC) and made the toilet areas available for public use. Staff employed by the BBC have assisted in keeping the toilet areas presentable. Minor repairs were undertaken to equipment in the toilet areas.

Some of the stump lighting has been upgraded with LED light bulbs where possible, and some spent bulbs replaced.

Repairs to two floodlights were undertaken.

The choir stall lights have been checked, and repairs made to the several of the light units.

A pump for the waste system was replaced, and a new cellar pump installed.  
A tap to the coffee shop sink was replaced.

### **St. Botolph's Boilers**

The boilers have been operating since October with minor issues to boilers being addressed by the plumbers. A leak in the plumbing system to the radiators has recently become apparent. The leak will be repaired when the underfloor heating to the north and south aisles is installed. Once the "Passion for the People" building project has been completed, the church should feel warmer and less draughty.

### **Quinquennial Inspection**

The conservation of the South Priest's Porch and door was addressed under faculty after funds were secured from the Boston Borough Council under their chancel liability, and the work supervised by our architect. Further replacement of stone work is planned in spring to complete the project.

In addition to a replacement of worn timber louvres to the nave roof hatches, a further louvre was installed during the year.

Some items of concern which were highlighted during the last Quinquennial Inspection which are not covered by "Passion for the People" project and in need of attention are:-

- Surface water drainage system repairs and alterations. A CCTV survey of the drains in 2016 revealed a number of collapses, rendering the drain useless in parts. Drains need sections rebuilding, downpipes need a direct connection to gullies and stone paving surround needs relaying to keep rainwater within the drains.
- Repairs to eroding internal stone work.
- Leaks to the south & north external wall/roof abutments which allows heavy rain into the church, possibly due to lead flashing repairs needed.

*Trevor*

Trevor Baily  
Fabric Manager

## ST. THOMAS CHURCH AND CHURCH HALL

### Church

Regular services have been held at St. Thomas' Church throughout the year. Sunday morning Eucharist and Morning Worship Services are held on alternate weeks and a United service at St Botolphs' on the fifth Sunday of the month. Midweek Eucharist services are held on Thursday mornings and Morning Prayer on Saturday mornings. Several wedding, funeral and baptism services were held during the year. The church has been also opened for visits from St. Thomas' School pupils. The Great Oaks Federation held a harvest festival and carol services with teachers, pupils and parents from St.Thomas' and Wyberton primary schools attending.

The church grounds have been maintained throughout the year with regular grass cutting, hedge cutting and general tidying of the grounds. Permission from the Diocese was sought to crown lift several trees along the Linley Drive and carpark walls, and the work has been completed.

Several grave stones, grave settings and commemorative plaques have been repaired and upgraded by relatives.

No major works on the fabric of the church have taken place during the year, and regular inspections being conducted. A quinquennial inspection of the church has been conducted and the report of the inspection is being prepared by the architect.

### Hall

The church hall continued to be put to good use over the year with several events being held in addition to the regular hiring to local groups. After a long period with no change to the hire rates, the prices where increased during year. A Summer Fayre was held and was well supported with sponsorship by local businesses and visitors. Other events held at the church included a Christmas fund raising event and a harvest supper. The funds raised from hiring and from events are essential for the upkeep and ongoing costs for the church and hall. Thank you to all the organisers, helpers and visitors who have made these events possible.

Annual inspections of the hall are being conducted, and gutters, and drain pipes cleared as required. The hall remains to look a bit tired and in need of some decorating

*Trevor*

Trevor Baily  
Churchwarden

## A PASSION FOR PEOPLE

### A National Lottery Heritage Funded Project

Back in summer 2018 we announced the wonderful news that we had been successful with our National Lottery Heritage Fund, round 2 bid, 'A Passion for People'. We held the announcement in St Botolph's with various speakers supporting the project and its aims.

The A Passion for People project includes the repair of the West Face of the tower, tower roof, urgent repair and development of our pews, underfloor heating, draft proofing, flood resistant and accessible porches on the North and South doors, as well as an educational interpretation and activity scheme telling the stories of the people of town and church.

Capital work commenced in November with our contractor, Stone Edge, creating a site office and starting to set up. In December we saw the scaffolders arrive and since then everyone has watched as the scaffolding began to climb the tower. Activities have begun, albeit on a smaller scale than they shall be in 2020 owing to the capital works and the impact they have on the use of space.

A project team was created which includes; Revd Alyson Buxton [Project Manager], Chris Ladner [Site Manager for St Botolph's], Jayne Maddy [NLHF Administrator] and Adam Kelk [Activities & Events]. As a project team we meet every week with quarterly meetings with our Investments Manager [formally Grants Officer].

As well as our capital works and activity plan, we are also seeking to build on our volunteer base and implement a training scheme. So far we have been successful in running a Food Hygiene and a Basic First Aid course, with more planned most months of the year.

Over the past year we have welcomed over 70 new volunteers with 19 of those coming from our Eastern European communities. We are delighted that people continue to come and volunteer at St Botolph's and it is hoped that as we progress through the project, and more opportunities become available, we will continue to recruit new volunteers. Having members of our volunteer staff who speak various languages is a real bonus. As a church we want to ensure that we are a place of hospitality to all, we hope to reflect the community in which St Botolph's stands – something which is starting to develop. A big thank you to Caz Harvey, our Volunteer Manager for making all of this possible.

So far our capital works programme is on track, our activity plan is beginning to be rolled out and we are recruiting volunteers at a consistent rate to ensure that we can be here to serve our community.

*Adam*

Adam Kelk  
Operations Manager



## DEANARY SYNOD REPORT

The elected representatives for the Parish of Boston are: Polly Tamberlin, Ann Sargeant and Adam Kelk.

Since the last APCM the Synod has met three times, on the 13<sup>th</sup> March at St Thomas' Church Boston, 24<sup>th</sup> May at St Margaret's Church Sibsey and 2<sup>nd</sup> October at St Michael's and All Angels Frampton.

At the Synod in May we were joined by David Bartlett who spoke to Synod about Fresh Expressions and in October we had a presentation from Churches Together in Boston and the work they are currently doing in the town.

Following the news that Fr. Paul Nobel would be leaving St Nicholas, Skirbeck, to move to Lincoln a new Rural Dean was appointed, Revd Andrew Higginson.

### **Elections**

June Orford was elected as Deanery Treasurer, Chris Ladner was elected as Lay Chair, Mike Sharp Secretary with Revd Andrew Higginson being elected as Assistant Secretary. Jean Powell and Revd Alyson Buxton were elected to Deanery Council.

### **Pastoral**

The Pastoral Committee met formally to discuss the vacancies at Sibsey & Brothertoft and Boston Skirbeck. Priests have now been appointed in the Parishes of Wyberton & Frampton, Kirton & Fosdyke and Holy Trinity.

### **Safeguarding**

The Safeguarding Officer Debbie Johnson continues to review and strengthen existing procedures and all parishes should ensure they continue to be aware of all who require training.

### **Road Hog**

Despite a significant funding gap, the bus is back on the road. The steering group are reviewing whether parish teams are able to work to the directives. The project is having a very positive impact on the young. The RoadHoG bus remains the best mission activity in the diocese and all are urged to keep all those involved in their prayers

*Chris*

Chris Ladner  
Lay Chair Holland Deanery

## ST BOTOLPH'S SANCTUARY GUILD

President: Mrs Jean Stewart-Smith  
Chairman: Mrs Gill Paul  
Secretary: Mrs Karen Lawson  
Treasurer: Mrs Gill Paul

The Sanctuary Guild members arrange flowers in church each month and also for Easter, Harvest and Christmas and any other festival or civic occasion, they also launder the church linen and maintain the lectern.

The Sanctuary Guild provide the flowers and make up the posies for St Botolph's on Mothering Sunday. We are most grateful for the generous donations given by the congregation towards the cost of the flowers, especially at Christmas and Easter, in memory of loved ones.

We would welcome any new members who are interested in flower arranging to join, so please contact a member of the committee or the Parish Office for more information.

The Sanctuary Guild is available to arrange flowers for weddings, funerals and baptisms or any other special occasion. Monies raised from these occasions enable the Sanctuary Guild to decorate St Botolph's during the year to the Glory of God.

*Gill*

Gill Paul  
Chairman  
St Botolph's Sanctuary Guild  
5th March 2019

## ST BOTOLPHS CHURCH BELLRINGERS

2018 has been a busy year. The tower entered a team in the branch striking competition, which we won. Some of our ringers took part in the Ringing World National Youth Striking Competition which was held in London. We were proud to be the host tower for the Guild Young Ringers Day which was well attended.

In July Boston was host to a party of students from Japan. They were given a guided tour of the tower and a demonstration of bellringing.

September saw us entering a team in the Guild 6 bell striking competition and we came 2<sup>nd</sup>, which was a big improvement on previous years. Some of our ringers were involved in the Guild 8 bell striking competition.

November saw us having the Guild Simulator at St Botolphs for the 2 week festival of Remembrance. This was a great success and allowed us to show people how the tower bells are rung. We had a total of 99 adults and 207 children, of which 121 were from 3 schools. All had a go at ringing with supervision. I am pleased to say we had some interest and at the present time one lady is learning.

Our branch practice in November was held here. Some people climbed the tower to ring the bells, while some remained on the ground with the simulator.

I would like to say a big thankyou to all who have helped during the past year, especially those who gave so much time helping with the simulator in November.

*Mick*

Mick Smith  
Tower Captain

ST BOTOLPH'S CHURCH BELLRINGERS  
BALANCE SHEET – YEAR TO DECEMBER 2018

RECEIPTS

Balance brought forward	Bank 1298.12	
	Cash <u>95.00</u>	1393.12
Donations		55.00
Weddings		840.00
Quarter Peal donation in lieu of a peal 18.00		
		<u>2306.12</u>

PAYMENTS

Weddings paid to ringers		630.00
Donation to Guild Bell Repair Fund		50.00
Trophy Engraving		26.50
Ringling World 2019 Diaries		24.00
Balance carried forward	Bank 1477.12	
	Cash 98.50	1575.62
		<u>2306.12</u>

## PRAYER AND NURTURE GROUP

During the last year since the APCM for 2018 the Prayer and Nurture Group has met regularly and planned their programme of events for the year ahead.

### **Taize Services**

These have been held every three months; January at St Botolph's, April at St Thomas', July at All Saints, Friskney with the help of Revd Fiona and her team and at St Christopher's in October. The Prayer and Nurture Group would welcome more support from the congregations and it would be good if the music department could contribute to help and advice on occasions.

### **The Parish Day Out**

This was held on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June. The day started with Morning Prayer at Horbling and then moved to Billingborough, Sempringham Abbey, Morton, Bourne Abbey, Deeping St James Priory and finished at Crowland Abbey where we ended with Evening Prayer. Our thanks are due to the people who welcomed us at the churches visited and especially to Revd Charles Brown and his team of helpers who provided an excellent conclusion to the day.

### **The Parish Pilgrimage**

The 2018 Pilgrimage was to Sheffield Cathedral, not the biggest cathedral but still a beautiful and interesting building hosting many activities for the benefit of the people of Sheffield. After a guided tour there was a Eucharist celebrated by the Dean of Sheffield. Following lunch, a period of free time the day ended with Evening Prayer.

Other topics discussed were The Prayer Group, The Prayer Wheel and the various courses being held during the year.

Please note the following dates for 2019:

Parish Day Out [starting at Rippingdale]

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June

Parish Pilgrimage

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October

*Mike*

Mike Haynes  
Prayer & Nurture Group

## 5<sup>th</sup> BOSTON (ST BOTOLPH'S) SCOUT GROUP

The Scout group continues to grow in numbers, with a core total of around 50 young people meeting each week at Castle Street HQ.

The ages range from 5 &  $\frac{3}{4}$  up to 14, and each section has a very active and varied programme of events and meetings. The most popular is camping, and during the last year there have been over 20 opportunities for nights out in a tent at campsites all around the county. Some have been warmer and drier than others, but it is the wet and windy ones that tend to be remembered the most.

Each section meets once a week, and highlights for the younger ones, Beavers (age range 5 &  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 8), have been roller skating, growing sunflowers and a day at the beach.

For the Cubs, (age range 8- 10 &  $\frac{1}{2}$ ) they have been carol singing at The Orchards, taken part in the District Hawaiian Day in November and completed their My Faith badge after Adam at The Stump spent a wonderful afternoon with them explaining all about the church and its artefacts. Thank you Adam.

The Scouts, (age range 10 &  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 14) have done their Masters at Arms badge, which included archery, catapults and throwing axes, learnt about Emergency Aid (and can use it successfully) and of course, done lots of fire-lighting!

These are just a very small sample of the activities that the Group does, there are many more fun and educational things that they join in with.

This could not be possible without the dedication of the adult leaders, who are all volunteers, who turn up each week, carrying various boxes of craft bits, cooking bits and other assorted strange items to use with the young people. The main thing is to make the programmes fun, and if the young people are enjoying it, then the leaders will have a great time too.

The Group is always happy to welcome new members, both young people and adults, so if you feel you could offer some time to support the St Botolph's group and join in with the fun that we have in Scouting, please speak to Jayne Maddy in the Rectory office.

## THE FRIENDS OF ST BOTOLPH'S CHURCH

The Friends met members of the Restoration Trust to discuss a partnership, sharing a chair, secretary and treasurer. The group would be split into two groups, each with a separate bank account. These would be an events group, managing projects under £10,000 (The Friends) and a fundraising group managing bid writing and projects over £10,000. (The Restoration Trust) This split would roughly match the present roles of the two groups. Mr Cooper confirmed that this would be acceptable under the current deed for the Trust. He explained that the restoration trust does have the flexibility to allow for what is being proposed, including specific provision for subcommittees and advisory groups.

The Restoration Trust title does need to be kept. The trust can have a minimum of three trustees and a maximum of eight. PC recommended five trustees.

It was proposed that the combined group be the Guild of St Botolph to be launched in 2019. The Guild would include various corporate benefits corresponding to different levels of support. It was agreed that the base level become the current basic Friends subscription.

There was a vote on the question of whether to amalgamate the Friends of Boston Parish Church with the Boston Stump Restoration Trust. The decision was agreed with one abstention. The Friends agreed that the current chairman should represent the Friends on the Restoration Trust as a trustee. She has attended two Restoration Trust meetings.

The friends were invited to the launch of the Guild of St Botolph by the Princess Royal in April 2019.

The first meeting of the new Management Group was held on Thursday January 17<sup>th</sup> 2019

We have in our Current account £4,109      Deposit account      £6,498



Alison Fairman  
April 2019  
On behalf of the Friends of Boston Stump