

# THE PARISH OF BRIGHTLINGSEA, ALL SAINTS' WITH ST JAMES'

St James' is the church at the "heart" of the High Street.



Church Office

Telephone: 01206 302378

Email: [brightlingseaparish@btconnect.com](mailto:brightlingseaparish@btconnect.com)

Website: [www.allsaintswithstjamesb-sea.co.uk](http://www.allsaintswithstjamesb-sea.co.uk)

## PARISH PROFILE

### Contents

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Summary .....                           | 2  |
| The Benefice .....                      | 3  |
| Church Life .....                       | 4  |
| Buildings .....                         | 7  |
| Our Vision.....                         | 9  |
| The Person.....                         | 11 |
| Diocese of Chelmsford .....             | 14 |
| St Osyth Deanery .....                  | 15 |
| <b>Appendices:</b> .....                | 17 |
| Statistical Data .....                  | 17 |
| Financial .....                         | 17 |
| MISSION STATEMENT AND ACTION PLAN ..... | 19 |



## SUMMARY

### Where we have come from

This is a parish with two churches - the mother church of All Saints' (The Mariners' Church) on the edge of town - and the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century St James' Church in the town centre.

We are a church that values the Eucharist, use Common Worship, have a team of servers and enjoy celebrating the Christian festivals in all their richness.

Over recent years a new vicarage has been built, there have been extensive renovations in St James' and there have been two major extensions to the churchyard at All Saints'.

### Where we are

We aim to be an inclusive, warm, welcoming and accepting Christian community, seeking to make Christ known in our community and to grow the church.

As well as having regular services, our church of St. James' is open for private prayer on weekdays and seeks, through various social activities and teaching programmes, to help all who are searching to discover more about Christian faith and the life of the church.

Our mother church, All Saints', although no longer the central place of worship, is an integral and essential part of our life together. We will continue to enhance its role within the affections of the community and worship there regularly.

The "Parish Church family" is involved in Churches Together in Brightlingsea with Catholic, United Church, Baptist and Salvation Army (who no longer have a church of their own in the town), working closely together in a collaborative and supportive fashion, meeting weekly for prayer and running a monthly Simple Lunch (soup, a roll and cheese, and a cup of tea or coffee) the proceeds of which go to Christian Aid and CAFOD

There is an active Mothers' Union which meets once a month

There are two home groups which meet fortnightly (a Bible study group and a Sea of Faith group) and home groups are held jointly with other churches in the town - one Lent Course group has reconvened later in the year for a 5-week course.

There is a thriving unit of the Church Lads and Church Girls Brigade (CLCGB)

St James' Singers lead worship on special occasions, e.g. Patronal Festival, Christmas, Easter, Civic Services.

### Where we are going

We don't do enough for young families and we are seeking to share our experience of Christ with others in our community, especially the young.

We are seeking to strengthen the ties between church and community in the future.

We want to grow!

## THE BENEFICE

Brightlingsea is one parish - two church buildings - in a small town of some 9,500 people - situated on the coast with easy access to Colchester, Chelmsford and London as well as being close to the border with southern Suffolk.

It has a rich mixture of civic activities, a wide range of voluntary clubs and organisations, businesses and small industrial units.

In the wider community the town has a strong civic tradition in which the church is a welcome partner. There is a Town Council and Brightlingsea is a Limb of the Cinque Port of Sandwich and each year the Freemen of Brightlingsea use All Saints' Church for its annual meeting which elects a Deputy to the Mayor of Sandwich and six Assistants.

Being by the sea, the town has a Yacht Club and a Sailing Club that has produced Olympic Champions. There is an annual Town Regatta, Pyfleet Week and a Blessing of the Waters.

There is a range of support networks including 4 Youth, Family Support Brightlingsea (The Autumn Centre) and a Food Bank, as well as strong sports clubs: football, rugby, hockey, gig-rowing, cricket and bowls most of which use the town's recreation ground facilities. The Bowling Club has its own grounds which it maintains and the Football Club has its own clubhouse and ground which includes its match pitch. The town has a very strong Brightlingsea in Bloom group that help to maintain a bright and floral town throughout the year. The town also hosts annually an increasingly popular Free Music Festival, a Carnival, a Town Show (horticultural), a Food and Drink Festival, a Classic Car Show and an Open Gardens Weekend - the latter organised by the town's Hospice Support Group.

The town has a Community Centre which is used by musical and drama groups and the weekly Lunch Club run by Family Support Brightlingsea. The Community Centre is also used for carpet bowls and dance groups among other things.

The parish has a highly rated Infant and Junior School and a large secondary school serving the town and nearby villages. The secondary school has a Sports Centre attached to it.

There is a Church Lads and Church Girls Brigade which numbers about 35 including officers. Ages range from 4½ to 17.

We are an ageing congregation, and we recognise that we do not have enough young people or families.

The church has links with the town's local Hospice Support Group and also The Royal British Legion Branch and Club.



## CHURCH LIFE



Our church values the Eucharist, uses Common Worship, has a team of servers and vestments are used. The Sacrament is reserved. Our congregation has a wide age-range from infants to members who are in their 80s weighted towards the higher end of this range. There are usually some children at the 10 o'clock Eucharist with their parents and provision is made for them. There are rarely any teenagers.

The CLCGB attends Parade Service at 10 a.m. on the first Sunday of each month and its band leads the town's civic parades.

Music is an integral part of our worship at 10 a.m. on Sundays. St James' Singers, a church-based choir, sings at all major festivals, at the annual boat laying-up service, civic service, and other special services.

We have an informal music group for some of the hymns most weeks and particularly the All-Age Worship and Parade services.

### Services are:-

|            |                           |            |          | <u>average attendance</u> |
|------------|---------------------------|------------|----------|---------------------------|
| Sundays    | Eucharist                 | 8.00 a.m.  | said     | 16                        |
|            |                           | 10.00 a.m. | sung     | 72                        |
| Tuesdays   | Parish Prayers            | 9.00 a.m.  | informal | 7-8                       |
| Wednesdays | Eucharist                 | 10.00 a.m. | said     | 16                        |
| Thursdays  | Churches Together Prayers | 8.15 a.m.  | informal | 4-5                       |
| Friday     | Prayers for the sick      | 10.30 a.m. | informal | 5-6                       |

On the third Sunday of each month both the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. are held at All Saints' church while 'Sparklers' is held in St James at 10 a.m. This is a recent initiative and the early signs are encouraging - the numbers increasing, most recently to 17. The children attending are aged from 3 to 10 years.

On Christmas Eve we have a Nativity Play at 5.30 p.m. (average attendance: 300 – yes, three hundred!)

We have Midnight Mass at 11.30 p.m. on Christmas Eve and on Christmas morning 10 am Eucharist with Carols

#### Other special annual services:

- Light up a Life (for the Hospice; average congregation: 205) and Christingle both in early December;
- Christmas Carol Service of 9 lessons and carols, average congregation: 181;
- Stations of the Cross in Lent
- Maundy Thursday, with washing of feet, followed by prayer vigil until midnight;
- United worship on Good Friday morning followed by walk of witness involving all the churches;
- Good Friday Meditation in the evening led by St James' Singers.
- Dawn Service of the New Fire on Easter Sunday at All Saints - and 10 a.m. at St James.
- Remembrance Service at 3.p.m on the nearest day to Remembrance Day in November (average congregation: 238).
- The Service of Remembrance on All Souls' Day
- Laying-up Service in November for the Colne Yacht Club and the Sailing Club;
- Advent Reflections
- Carols with Chris' (which is not a service of worship) at the end of the Christmas tree Festival (last attendance was 290).
- A Civic service, if requested by the Town Mayor, usually on a Spring afternoon: attendance approximately 200.

We have had occasional Songs of Praise, Taizé and Healing prayer services jointly with the other churches.

Communion is taken to the housebound and the local Care Homes by Authorised Lay Assistants.



Weddings and Funerals: in the 3 years between September 2014 and November 2017 we have had 23 weddings and 40 funerals.

Baptisms are held at least once a month as part of the 10 o'clock Eucharist on either the first or the third Sunday of the month. Average attendance at such services is 108.

There are two home groups which meet fortnightly (a Bible study group and a Sea of Faith group) and home groups are held jointly with other churches in the town - one Lent Course group has reconvened later in the year for a 5-week course.

### Lay Ministry

We rejoice in having a Licensed Lay Minister and an Authorised Local Preacher.

We have lots of volunteers who read lessons, lead intercessions, act as servers and chalice assistants, visit the sick and care homes, and offer preparation for baptisms and weddings.

### Retired Clergy

Although we have no retired clergy living in the parish at present, we call upon several who reside in the Deanery

### Outreach

We have recently introduced an All Age Worship service on the last Sunday of a month with five Sundays, attended by some 12 or 13 children and their parents / carers. We are keen to bring more people from the community into the family of our Church and, to this end, are seeking ways to bring in younger families. A new venture is a revival of “Sparklers” (our Sunday School) which meets at St James’ church on the third Sunday of each month when services are at All Saints’ church and this has attracted a goodly number of children (from 3 – 7 years) with their parents. The children also perform the Christmas Eve Nativity play, and have themed ‘Crafternoons’ for Christmas and Easter. Brightlingsea Bears, a parent and toddler group, meets once a month. A major part of our outreach is the weekly Saturday Coffee morning, with cooked breakfast on the third Saturday of each month, which draws in quite a few non-churchgoers. This has raised money for various local charities.

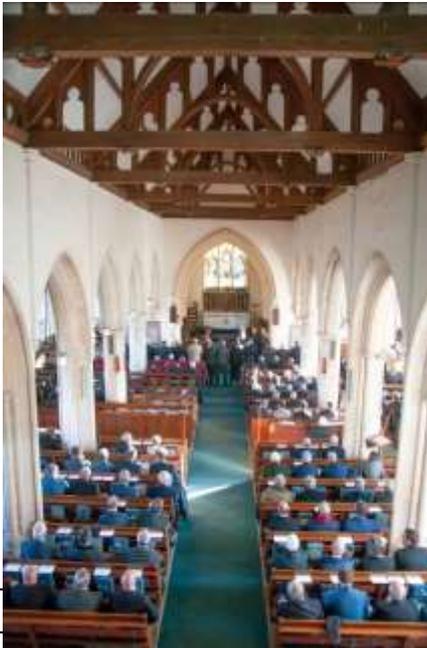
We have connections with all three schools: Infant, Junior and Secondary. The Vicar is involved with assemblies and school links. At the Secondary School the new incumbent may be asked to face quizzing by teenagers about the Christian faith!

We value these links with our schools as part of our mission.

### Widening Our Horizons

- 1 We have encouraged members of our church to train and take up roles as Licensed Lay Minister and Authorised Local Preacher. We hope to develop a pastoral care team.
- 2 We intend to continue to make St. James’ available to others following the first two phases of re-development by way of future plans.
- 3 We are thankful that All Saints’ occupies a special place within the hearts of the town and is used on various occasions throughout the year. We seek to improve the facilities of the church to draw people in further.
- 4 We recognise how inclusion in the proposed new Mission and Ministry Unit (The Priory Parishes) will help us to share skills and knowledge in evangelism.
- 5 We want to go further in strengthening our links with the three schools of the town.
- 6 Brightlingsea Churches Together really worked together to bring a nationally recognised singer before a huge audience to hear God’s message. We want to do that kind of thing again and again as a demonstration of what churches working together can achieve.

## BUILDINGS



Interior

All Saints' 'is the first building you see when you come into Brightlingsea and the last you see when you leave' mainly because of its outstanding tower. It is Grade I Listed. It is mediaeval, but there has been a place of Christian worship there probably from 653 AD. We hold the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Eucharists here on the third Sunday of each month. It is held in great affection, even by those who do not regularly attend church. Many do not want their funeral anywhere else. It is popular for weddings. On the second weekend of December, 2,300 come through the doors for the Christmas Tree Festival, now in its 15<sup>th</sup> year. Many of the 'Holy Mowers' who turn out to mow the churchyard on a Thursday morning have no overt faith but just love the old church. Occasionally it is the preferred place for a concert or Flower Festival. The Cinque Port Liberty hold their annual Choosing Day here with an attendance of some 200. We are currently exploring a substantial refurbishment project to include toilet and kitchen facilities.



The Friends of All Saints' was formed in 1969 by people in the town, both members of all the churches and members of none, to raise the money needed to bring the old church up to a useable standard and the Friends continues to raise the funds for the maintenance of the fabric of All Saints' church. There is an annual Christmas Tree Festival, run by a separate committee under the auspices of the Friends, which is now visited by many people from across this part of Essex.



The Churchyard

All Saints' Churchyard occupies some 6½ acres and is the burial ground for the town. It was extended in 2005 and has recently been extended again. This new extension will be maintained by the Brightlingsea Town Council. and is to be consecrated soon.

The large churchyard at All Saints' is maintained by a voluntary group - of up from up to 22 church and non-church people - called the 'Holy Mowers', and they have wrought a great improvement to the churchyard (from near derelict to a well-cared for "living churchyard") and, in particular, access to all parts of the churchyard. The 'Holy Mowers' meet on Thursday mornings at All Saints'. It is a sociable occasion which we regard as part of our outreach.

The Memorial Garden (the Ash Lawn) is on the North side of the church and is for cremated remains. It overlooks peaceful meadows and Alresford Creek.

St James' built in 1836, is the main centre of worship located prominently in the High Street. Galleries were added in 1866 and a chancel and vestries in 1958. Since 2014 the whole of the interior has been re-ordered with a new kitchen, parish office, accessible toilets and level access. New heating and lighting have been installed and the interior completely re-decorated.



All pews downstairs have been replaced by stackable upholstered chairs affording a more flexible space to vary services and social activities. We have another £100,000 in the bank for Phase 3 of the re-ordering which is to be our next project.

St James' is now a multi-purpose building fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, used not just for worship, but for CLCGB weekly meetings,

Saturday coffee, monthly breakfasts, concerts, church bazaars, harvest suppers and quiz nights. It is used by several secular organisations - for instance: choirs, dance groups, elderly persons teas and a bereavement group. Bookings are taken by our church administrator. There is more potential for serving the community. We really want to! A paid cleaner comes once a week.



There is a car park at the back for 14 vehicles.

The Vicarage is next door to St James'. It was built in 2014 in accordance with diocesan requirements for a modern eco-friendly vicarage. It is detached with a large garden, and has 4 bedrooms 2 bathrooms, kitchen, study, lounge, sitting room and double garage.

A very Des. Res.!



## OUR VISION

We have a Mission Statement and a clear Action Plan and the PCC will revisit it regularly

### Worship

Our aim is to continue the role of the church in providing:

- Good Friday worship each year with Churches Together in Brightlingsea;
- An annual Civic Service prepared with the Mayor and Town Council;
- The Blessing of the Waters organised with the Cinque Port Liberty and Gild of Freeman;
- The Laying-up Service each year in conjunction with the Colne Yacht Club and Brightlingsea Sailing Club;
- The annual Remembrance Day Parade working with The Royal British Legion Branch (traditionally in the afternoon to allow for dignitaries to attend the District wide Parade in the morning.
- We have recently re-started Sunday School (Sparklers) and introduced regular All Age Worship. Our Parent and Toddler Group (Bears) continues to prosper and the Church Lads and Church Girls Brigade which was re-opened in 1959 continues to this day.
- We recognise, for the future, the need to make children welcome as a central part of our worship by building onto our current work. We also recognise the need to look for ways of welcoming teenagers and young adults.
- We wish to explore different styles of worship and services.
- We celebrate strong links with the civic institutions through special services but would welcome opportunities to draw the wider community into different forms of worship.

### Communication

- In anticipation of further new housing in the town we need to produce appropriate welcome packs and plan for their distribution.
- We plan to re-start the Parish Magazine as a way of improving communication between church and community.
- We need to identify, from within our congregation, people who will explore ways of improving communication within our church via the Parish Magazine, web-site, social media, pewsheets and flyers.

### Areas Of Growth

We are looking to extend our areas of growth:

- With more housing in the area we need to be proactive in reaching new residents. Working with Churches Together in Brightlingsea to inform new residents of our presence and support in the community.

- To encourage the development of 'Sparklers' a recent innovation on the third Sunday of the month to revive our Sunday School. This has proved a worthwhile enterprise with the numbers of children increasing.
- A regular monthly evening service, be it evening prayer or said or choral evensong
- More opportunities for worship during the week.
- The opportunity to celebrate other services during the liturgical year, e.g. Pentecost and Ascension.
- Increase visiting sick members of the Church family
- More Bible study groups
- To continue to grow our involvement with local schools.
- To develop a Pastoral Care Team alongside encouraging other lay ministries.
- To acknowledge our aging congregation and their needs
- To give more support to the Mothers' Union so that it can grow.

#### Our weaknesses

There is little connection between the three congregations: Sunday 8 am. and 10 am. and Wednesday. Rarely do they mix.

One thing that the church feels should be strengthened is its links with Essex University whose main campus is situated five miles away at Wivenhoe.

We are an ageing congregation, and we recognise that we do not attract enough young people or families.

#### What we have to offer

We have a supportive team of people to share the burden, hardworking individuals who regularly lend their skills in dozens of ways, a committed PCC, loyal churchwardens, two churches and a new vicarage designed from the outset to be an eco-house.

## THE PERSON

We are looking for someone who is able to engage with our church and build our community links. He or she will value our various styles of worship, support our musical efforts and offer new ideas with sensitivity.

Our next vicar should be:

- An inspirational preacher
- Able to communicate with all ages
- Willing to listen and be sensitive to the needs of the congregation
- Keen to take God's work into the community.
- A team player who is able to lead when necessary, able to work in partnership with the MMU, Churches Together in Brightlingsea and other organisations in the community
- Someone who will help us to grow spiritually and build up our pastoral care team
- A priest capable of dealing with change and helping others to deal with change
- A person able to work with a diverse congregation and diverse Churchmanship in a gentle, loving and empathetic way

Our vicar is likely to be invited to be chaplain to the Royal Naval Association(RNA), Colne Yacht Club, Brightlingsea Sailing Club, lead Remembrance Day Services and all civic services in the town. He or she will also be chaplain to and support our Church Lads and Church Girls Brigade and the Friends of All Saints'.

We have already made huge progress with the development/refurbishment of St. James. We are also fortunate in the Medieval Church of All Saints, which is in demand for baptisms, weddings and funerals, concerts and regular services. This building is a beacon for those entering and leaving the town. Although, during the refurbishment of St. James, we were able to hold all our services here, we now turn our attention to this church to create basic toilet and kitchen facilities.

We are an 'open' church welcoming people from all denominations and differing traditions. We are a Church which is fully inclusive, welcoming people rather than setting rules to exclude.

The incumbent would be expected to embrace town life in Brightlingsea. Brightlingsea is a Limb of the Cinque Port of Sandwich with historical tradition, the incumbent may be expected to be chaplain to the Mayor Deputy.

MIGHT THIS BE YOU?

What the children in Sunday School said when asked what they would like the new vicar to be like:



What some adult members of the congregation said when asked to sum up our church in Brightlingsea (including doubts and reservations):

**As it is now:**

Friendly, welcoming, comfortable and with a sense of peace

A place of calm in a crazy world – with a very caring, Christian community

Open and welcoming – but not to everyone

At our best...we reflect and share the love of God through music and by caring for one another

Our church – warm and welcoming. A house of love

A welcoming, caring, friendly family

On the whole...a happy, Church family in a spiritual home

We are ready to blossom – fertile ground

A place filled with the grace of God

The church, to me, means a place of quiet and peacefulness and where prayer comes more easily

**In the future:**

Hope – that it becomes a place where people matter

Ambition – to see more people involved in every aspect of church life

Hope – to be welcoming to all-comers

## DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD

The parish of All Saints' with St James' is situated in the North East corner of the Anglican Diocese of Chelmsford. This is one of the largest dioceses in England and covers East London and the administrative County of Essex. It is extremely diverse with parishes in the inner city, suburbs, market towns and remote rural villages.

### **A message from Bishop Stephen:**

In the Chelmsford Diocese we believe that God is calling his church to be a transforming presence. Our vision is that the church - that is the people of God here in Essex and East London - should be a transforming presence in every one of our parishes.

These are our priorities -

- To inhabit the world distinctively
- To evangelise effectively
- To hold ourselves accountable to one another and to God for the stewardship of the gospel
- To re imagine the way we minister so that each ordained minister and each individual Christian discovers their part in God's ministry and so that each church flourishes.

To this end we are looking for priests who are excited by this vision of becoming a church which is itself transformed, and which is becoming a more visible and effective presence in the huge diversity of communities that make up this most exciting and energetic part of England. There are many challenges ahead of us. We are a diocese generously subsidised by the national church. We need to become financially self-sufficient.

Leadership often seems distant. We are creating patterns of leadership that are closer to the parishes. And we are looking to develop missionary leadership at all levels of church life. Nearly half our clergy will retire in the next ten years. We need to find out how to minister with fewer stipendiary clergy and with a re-imagining of how stipendiary ministry works. We need to re-organise the way parishes relate to each other and we are calling mission and ministry units.

Some of our congregations still think ministry is what Vicars do. We have a vision of ministry where the whole people of God are involved in the whole of God's ministry. We are also experimenting with new forms of authorised lay ministry.

Levels of church going are below the national average. We need to get evangelism into the agenda and into the lifeblood of every church. Each year we are inviting every benefice to put on a weekend of mission and outreach, and we are training people in every church for this ministry. One of our aspirations is that every benefice should have a trained lay evangelism enabler.

Despite planning for a future with fewer stipendiary clergy, we remain as committed as ever to the local church. And what is the local church, but that community of men and women gathered around Christ, and living and sharing the gospel in the networks and neighbourhoods of their lives? But we need priests to lead and to serve.

We know we need to change. We can only be a transforming presence when we have allowed God to transform us. Therefore at the heart of all we do is a longing for intimacy with God and a renewed life of prayer. First and foremost a priest is a minister of the word and sacrament. All ministry flows from this. But a priest shares the ministry of the bishop, therefore presbyteral ministry will increasingly be a ministry of oversight, guiding, nurturing and directing the mission of God's church in the communities we serve.

It is an exciting time to be part of God's missionary movement for the world, and the Diocese of Chelmsford is an exciting place to serve. We have a clear vision and we are looking to appoint clergy who will share this with us. In every parish we long to see each person and each community grow in faithfulness and ministry so that together we may serve in the world and Christ may be made known.

**+ Stephen**

## ST OSYTH DEANERY. THE AREA DEAN WRITES:

St Osyth Deanery covers the southern part of the Tendring Peninsula, running from Alresford and Elmstead in the West to Walton and Frinton in the East. Chapter meets bi-monthly and is usually well attended – we meet for prayers and lunch, sharing news of our parishes and discussing different topics and, although we cover different churchmanships and traditions, we get on well and are supportive of one another. Synod usually features a speaker chosen to be of relevance. There is also a Deanery Prayer Diary so that we can support one another in prayer. We have a Deanery Project set to launch in February 2018 of a new Christians Against Poverty Clacton Debt Centre financed by the churches of the deanery and helped, for the first three years, by the Diocesan Unit Development Fund. This project is being spear-headed by three of the Deanery churches – Great Clacton, Frinton and Alresford.

We are also working at forming into Mission and Ministry Units (MMUs) and All Saints w St James', Brightlingsea is set to be included in the Priory Parishes MMU.

The planned Priory Parishes Mission and Ministry Unit will comprise the churches of

- All Saints w St James', Brightlingsea
- St Mary Magdalen, Frating with Thorrington
- St Andrew's, Alresford
- St Anne & St Laurence, Elmstead
- St Mary the Virgin, Great Bentley
- St Peter & St Paul, St Osyth
- St Michael's, Thorpe-le-Soken
- St Andrew's, Weeley
- St James', Little Clacton

There are 5 clergy in this MMU, 4 of whom are Incumbents.

We are exploring new ways of working together and developing links that are already in place and are excited about the new possibilities in mission and ministry this will open up. We are looking to put forward our plan to become an MMU in summer 2018.

In conclusion, St Osyth is a very positive deanery, with supportive clergy and we look forward to welcoming a new colleague.

*Pauline Scott*

*Area Dean*

## APPENDICES:

**STATISTICAL DATA.** The diocesan website has statistical information about each parish. It uses data from the 2011 census and compares each parish with the diocese as a whole for each category of information.

It is entitled "Getting to know your parish". It describes itself as "a short spotlight which brings together a range of information about each parish, both in terms of congregation, but also the wider community living in the area. It covers areas such as Christian affiliation, population, age and ethnicity profiles, household structures, deprivation, employment, schools and qualifications, alongside church statistics such as attendance and giving."

The url for the Brightlingsea pages is: [www.chelmsford.anglican.org/pdfs/27.02.pdf](http://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/pdfs/27.02.pdf)

**FINANCIAL.** This is the Treasurer's review of the end-of-year financial statement 2015. The full report is available on request:

### **Financial Review and Governance Statement for the Year ended 31st December 2016**

To begin with a brief note about the layout of the accounts. The first page shows the Income and Expenditure across the various funds. The second page shows the Balance Sheet. There then follow notes to the accounts which it is hoped aid your understanding. A simple General Fund Income and Expenditure account is included on pages 11 and 12.

Total receipts on the unrestricted General Fund were £174,786 of which voluntary income was £48,869. This included identified Gift Aid recovered of £6,688. Planned giving through envelopes, the bank and not attracting gift aid was static, and loose plate collections reduced by £300. The PCC has joined the Parish Giving Scheme which enables givers to set up a direct debit with the church, the scheme also collects gift aid each month and is a more robust way of giving to the parish. It is to be hoped that gradually our regular givers will transfer to this scheme. The church has now started to receive some regular rental income of £2,853 for the use of the church and it is to be hoped that this will grow as it is a way of broadening the income base.

Total payments on the unrestricted General Fund were £79,090. The largest item of expenditure was the contribution to the Diocesan Parish Share at £41,983. This has risen 1.4% compared with 2015. This provides for the stipends, housing, support and training costs of the full time clergy. The diocesan cost per parish is approximately £60,000 as this also includes the cost of training ordinands and the Diocesan central costs. This parish therefore pays £41,983 but receives £60,000 plus benefits from the diocese. The balance of our contribution is paid by other more wealthy parishes.

The Parish Share is based on a formula that uses congregation headcount together with an adjustment to reflect the degree of deprivation in the parish. This helps to reflect the parish's ability to pay. As explained in the accounts the PCC 5% tithed giving for 2016, £1,900, has been transferred to the Mission Fund as no decision had been made for its distribution. The Church Family voted in the new year against a list of charities drawn up by the PCC.

The PCC has also changed its policy with burial, interment and memorial fees. Its share of the statutory fee is now transferred to the restricted Churchyard Fund to assist with the maintenance of one of the largest churchyards in England. In 2016 £3,862 was transferred.

Overall! the unrestricted General Fund showed a deficit of £10,066. The budget for next year is included with these statements and a similar position is anticipated for 2017. Our reserves can no longer support this level of deficit. The PCC is reviewing how it moves the cost of running the church to a more sustainable position. The unrestricted General Fund Reserves at the year end were £5,185.

Brightlingsea Town Council paid a grant of £1,213 towards the costs of maintaining All Saints Churchyard. Legacies were received from the Estates of the late P Hambleton £1,000 for the Churchyard and the late Louisa Elliot £1,000 for St James Church.

The PCC acknowledges these gifts and grant and gives thanks. In October the Church organised an evening with Paul Jones and Fiona Headley. The event was successful for Mission and Outreach and made a surplus of £1,174 which has enabled the PCC to create a designated Mission Fund.

Phase 2 of the St James Alterations was completed last year but the final account and instalment of proceeds due to the PCC are not yet finalised by the diocese.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Brightlingsea  
All Saints with St James

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)  
For the Year Ended 31st December 2016  
2 Income and Endowments

|   | Unrestricted Funds | Designated Funds | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | Total Funds 2016 |
|---|--------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
|   | £                  | £                | £                | £               | £                |
| <b>a) Voluntary Income</b>                    |                    |                  |                  |                 |                  |
| Gift Aid - Bank                               | 17,442             |                  |                  |                 | 17,442           |
| Parish Giving Scheme                          | 4,844              |                  |                  |                 | 4,844            |
| Gift Aid - Envelopes                          | 8,180              |                  |                  |                 | 8,180            |
| One-off Gift Aid Gifts                        | 1,249              |                  | 480              |                 | 1,729            |
| Tax recoverable on Gift Aid                   | 6,688              |                  |                  |                 | 6,688            |
| Other Planned Giving                          | 1,200              |                  |                  |                 | 1,200            |
| Loose Plate Collections                       | 5,619              |                  |                  |                 | 5,619            |
| Giving through Church Boxes                   | 350                |                  |                  |                 | 350              |
| Collections for Charities                     | 2,304              |                  |                  |                 | 2,304            |
| Donations appeals etc                         | 993                | 103              | 418              |                 | 1,512            |
| Legacies                                      |                    | 1,000            | 1,000            |                 | 2,000            |
| Non recurring one off grants                  |                    | 150              |                  |                 | 150              |
| Grants for building work                      |                    |                  |                  |                 | -                |
|   | <u>48,869</u>      | <u>1,253</u>     | <u>1,886</u>     |                 | <u>52,018</u>    |
| <b>b) Activities for generating funds</b>     |                    |                  |                  |                 |                  |
| Christmas Bazar, Quiz Nights etc              | 1,731              |                  |                  |                 | 1,731            |
| Other funds generated                         | 157                | 6                | 110              |                 | 273              |
| Ticket sales for events                       |                    | 2,269            |                  |                 | 2,269            |
| Bookstall Sales                               | 200                |                  |                  |                 | 200              |
| Coffee Mornings                               | 1,200              |                  |                  |                 | 1,200            |
|   | <u>3,948</u>       | <u>2,275</u>     | <u>110</u>       |                 | <u>6,333</u>     |
| <b>c) Income from Investments</b>             |                    |                  |                  |                 |                  |
| Dividends on CBF Investment Fund and Other    |                    |                  | 1,166            |                 | 1,166            |
| Bank and CBF Deposit Fund Interest            |                    |                  | 823              | 44              | 867              |
|   |                    |                  | <u>1,789</u>     | <u>44</u>       | <u>1,833</u>     |
| <b>d) Income from Church Activities</b>       |                    |                  |                  |                 |                  |
| Fees for Weddings and Funerals                | 18,779             |                  |                  |                 | 18,779           |
| Hiring of Churches                            | 2,853              |                  |                  |                 | 2,853            |
| Income for Cathedral Visit, Holding Cross etc |                    |                  |                  |                 | -                |
|   | <u>21,632</u>      |                  |                  |                 | <u>21,632</u>    |
| <b>e) Other Incoming Resources</b>            |                    |                  |                  |                 |                  |
| Church Hall Land sale Rec'd on account        |                    |                  |                  |                 | -                |
| Insurance Claims                              |                    | 1,410            | 594              |                 | 2,004            |
| Contribution toward Churchyard Mtc            |                    |                  | 1,213            |                 | 1,213            |
| Contribution from FOAS Lighting & cleaning    | 337                |                  |                  |                 | 337              |
|   | <u>337</u>         | <u>1,410</u>     | <u>1,807</u>     |                 | <u>3,554</u>     |
| <b>Total Incoming Resources</b>               | <u>74,796</u>      | <u>4,938</u>     | <u>5,002</u>     | <u>44</u>       | <u>85,370</u>    |

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Brightlingsea  
All Saints with St James

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)  
For the Year Ended 31st December 2016  
3 Expenditure

|  | Unrestricted Funds | Designated Funds | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | Total Funds 2016 |
|--|--------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
|  | £                  | £                | £                | £               | £                |
| <b>a) Church Activities</b>              |                    |                  |                  |                 |                  |
| Giving to Missionary Societies           | 504                |                  |                  |                 | 504              |
| Giving - Relief and Development Agencies | 731                |                  |                  |                 | 731              |
| Home Mission                             | 325                |                  | 46               |                 | 371              |
| Secular Charities                        | 1,204              |                  |                  |                 | 1,204            |
| PCC 5% Tithable Charitable Giving        |                    |                  |                  |                 | -                |
| Diocesan Parish Share                    | 41,983             |                  |                  |                 | 41,983           |
| Working expenses of Vicar                | 413                |                  |                  |                 | 413              |
| Vicar's Telephone                        | 405                |                  |                  |                 | 405              |
| Locum Clergy Expenses                    | 954                |                  |                  |                 | 954              |
| Upkeep of Services                       | 1,655              |                  |                  |                 | 1,655            |
| Organ/Piano Tuning                       | 239                |                  |                  |                 | 239              |
| Parish Training and Mission              | 67                 |                  |                  |                 | 67               |
| Sunday School running costs              |                    |                  |                  |                 | -                |
| Salary of Parish Administrator           | 2,750              |                  |                  |                 | 2,750            |
| Church running - Insurance               | 1,938              |                  |                  |                 | 1,938            |
| Church running - Electricity             | 1,503              |                  |                  |                 | 1,503            |
| Church running - Gas                     | 4,325              |                  |                  |                 | 4,325            |
| Church running - Water                   | 48                 |                  |                  |                 | 48               |
| Church Maintenance                       | 948                | 342              | 11               |                 | 1,301            |
| Cleaning                                 | 3,089              |                  |                  |                 | 3,089            |
| Caretaking                               | 1,440              |                  |                  |                 | 1,440            |
| Church Office - Telephone                | 723                |                  |                  |                 | 723              |
| Administration                           | 2,141              | 208              |                  |                 | 2,349            |
| Upkeep of Churchyard                     | 1,588              |                  | 2,662            |                 | 4,228            |
| Fees for Weddings and Funerals           | 9,914              |                  |                  |                 | 9,914            |
| Sundry Expenses                          | 100                |                  | 30               |                 | 130              |
| Major Church Maintenance                 |                    | 1,510            |                  |                 | 1,510            |
| St James Alterations - Chairs etc        |                    |                  | 7,434            |                 | 7,434            |
| St James Alterations - Kitchen equipment |                    |                  | 232              |                 | 232              |
|  | <u>76,965</u>      | <u>2,060</u>     | <u>10,415</u>    |                 | <u>91,440</u>    |
| <b>b) Generation of voluntary income</b> |                    |                  |                  |                 |                  |
| Costs of Paul and Fiona Evering          |                    | 1,045            |                  |                 | 1,045            |
| Coffee Morning Expenses                  | 125                |                  |                  |                 | 125              |
|  | <u>125</u>         | <u>1,045</u>     |                  |                 | <u>1,170</u>     |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>                 | <u>79,090</u>      | <u>3,105</u>     | <u>10,415</u>    |                 | <u>92,610</u>    |

**NOVEMBER 2017**

**All Saints' with St James'  
Brightlingsea  
MISSION STATEMENT AND ACTION PLAN**

*Forward in the name of Christ*

**MISSION STATEMENT**

St James' is the church at the "heart" of the High Street.

We aim to be an inclusive, warm, welcoming and accepting Christian community, seeking to share the love of God through worship, witness and service to our community and the wider world.



The PCC has produced this document which sets out clearly the aims members hope to achieve in the next three years and how these might be attained. It is offered as our intentions to promote and extend God's word. The PCC will review the document yearly.

The church in Brightlingsea already occupies a central role in the activities of the town and we seek to strengthen those community ties in the future.

As well as having regular services, our church of St. James' is open for private prayer on weekdays and seeks, through various social activities and teaching programmes, to help all who are searching to discover more about Christian faith and the life of the church.

Our mother church, All Saints', although no longer the central place of worship, is an integral and essential part of our life together. We will continue to enhance its role within the affections of the community and worship there regularly.



## **MISSION ACTION PLAN**

### **WORSHIP**

- 1 While we have continued to maintain work with young people we have recently re-started Sunday School and introduced regular All Age Worship. Our Parent and Toddler Group (Bears) continues to prosper and the Church Lads' and Girls' Brigade which was re-opened in 1959 continues to this day. We recognise, for the future, the need to make children welcome as a central part of our worship by building onto our current work. We also recognise the need to look for ways of welcoming teenagers and young adults.
- 2 We wish to explore different styles of worship and services.
- 3 We celebrate strong links with the civic institutions through special services but would welcome opportunities to draw the wider community into different forms of worship.

### **MISSION, OUTREACH AND WIDENING OUR HORIZONS**

- 1 We have encouraged members of our church to train and take up roles as Licensed Lay Minister and Authorised Local Preacher. We hope to develop pastoral care.
- 2 We intend to continue to make St. James' available to others following the first two phases of re-development by way of future plans.
- 3 We are thankful that All Saints' occupies a special place within the hearts of the town and is used on various occasions throughout the year. We seek to improve the facilities of the church to draw people in further.
- 4 We recognise how inclusion in the proposed new Mission and Ministry Unit (The Priory Parishes) will help us to share skills and knowledge in evangelism.
- 5 We want to go further in strengthening our links with the three schools of the town.
- 6 Brightlingsea Churches Together really worked together to bring a nationally recognised singer before a huge audience to hear God's message. We want to do that again and again as a demonstration of what churches working together can achieve.

### **COMMUNCIATON**

- 1 In anticipation of further new housing in the town we need to produce appropriate welcome packs and plan for their distribution.
- 2 We plan to re-start the Parish Magazine as a way of improving communication between church and community.
- 3 We need to identify, from within our congregation, people who will explore ways of improving communication within our church via the Parish Magazine, web-site, social media, pewsheets and flyers.