



Building God's House

**Knowing Jesus
and making Him known**

**Transforming Lives and
Communities**



**Annual
Report
2019**

Pages 1- 18

These pages represent our report to The Charities Commission in a format as required for charities with an income greater than £100,000

This report will be submitted for approval by Dorcan Ecumenical Church Council at the next meeting.

ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st December 2019
Legal and Administrative information

Chair of ECC

Revd Trudie Wigley
11 Merlin Way
Covingham
SWINDON
SN3 5AN

Charity number

1143702

Churchwarden

Mrs Diane Killick
15, Popplechurch Drive
Covingham
Swindon,
SN3 5EC

Churchwarden

Vacancy

**Acting ECC Secretary
(non-voting)**

Jackie Hancock
St Paul's Church Centre
Swindon
SN3 5BY

ECC Treasurer

Mr Anthony Prichard
1, Poltondale
Covingham
Swindon
SN3 5BN

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank,
PO Box 250,
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Independent Examiner

Mr Paul J Crowley FCA
Derrick Newman Limited Chartered Accountants,
29 Bath Road,
Swindon
SN1 4AS

Church Address Details

St Pauls
St Paul's Drive
Covingham
Swindon SN3 5BY

St Timothy's
Grundys
Liden
Swindon SN3 6HP

Church office at St Pauls: 01793 435987

www.dorcanchurch.org.uk



THE DORCAN CHURCH

*A Local Ecumenical Partnership between
The Church of England & the Methodist Church
serving the Swindon urban villages of Covingham, Nythe, Liden &
Eldene.*

Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the world has been reconciled to God, and in Jesus Christ unity has been offered to all people. Through the Word, we are called into a relationship with God and with one another as the children of God – a relationship inaugurated by Baptism into Christ through the Holy Spirit, nurtured and deepened through the ministry of word and sacrament and expressed in a confession of one faith and a common life of loving service.

(from the Declaration of Intent of The Dorcan Church)

OUR PURPOSE

“Transforming lives and communities
Knowing Jesus, and making Him known”

OUR PICTURE OF CHURCH

“A growing and vibrant church,
confident in its purpose and trusting in God”

a church which makes Jesus known
a church of disciples
a church in, and for, the community
a church which cares

ROLE OF ECC

The Trustees of the Dorcan Church are the Dorcan Ecumenical Church Council, which has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent(s) in promoting the activities of the Church in the Community. Members of the Dorcan Ecumenical Church Council are either ex-officio, elected at the Annual Church Meeting or co-opted in accordance with the Constitution Governing Document dated 10th April 2011, as amended from time to time thereafter.

MEMBERSHIP OF ECC

Elected Members (elected for a 3-year term)

Nicki Clinch	until 2020
John Davidson	until 2022
Nathalie Marshall	until 2020
Peter Mulcock	until 2020
Sue Morgans	until 2020
Jenny Poole	until 2021
Chris Rose	until 2020
Alex Scott	until 2020
Clare Smith	until 2021
Tony Prichard	until 2022
Janet Prichard	until 2022

(2 vacancies)

Co-opted Members (co-opted for 1-year term)

Paul Tayler	until 2020
-------------	------------

Churchwarden (appointed on an annual basis)

Diane Killick

Deanery Synod Representatives (elected for a 3-year term)

Viv Craig	until 2020
Jenny Poole	until 2020

Clergy

Revd Trudie Wigley	Rector, Church of England
Revd Andrew Wigley	Methodist Minister
Revd Stuart Fisher	Associate Local Minister
Revd Rob Smith	Assistant Curate

ECC officers

Revd Trudie Wigley	Chair
Tony Prichard	Treasurer
Jackie Hancock	Acting ECC secretary (non-voting)

CHANGES IN APPOINTMENTS OF AUTHORISED MINISTRIES

Mary Boitz: We are delighted that Mary Boitz was accepted by the Methodist Circuit to take up preaching responsibilities again from December 2019. This was agreed at the Circuit Local Preachers and Worship Leaders meeting in September 2019. Mary is a fully-accredited Methodist Local Preacher from a previous Circuit and felt called to continue preaching within the North Wiltshire Methodist Circuit now that she has settled within the Dorcan Church. This agreement authorises Mary to preach at St Paul's and St Timothy's and other churches across the Circuit. We have already appreciated her fellowship amongst us, and pray for God's continued blessing upon her ministry.

Rev Trudie Wigley: Trudie was collated as Rector on 16th April 2019, representing a change in legal office from Priest in Charge.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The method of appointment of ECC members is set out in the Constitution Governing Document dated 10th April 2011, as amended from time to time thereafter. All those who are part of the church are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and may then stand for election to ECC. The maximum number of elected members to ECC is 13.

Meetings of ECC

The trustees usually meet at least every other month, a pattern which continued in 2019. The trustees met seven times in 2019.

Committees

The aims of the charity are affected through a number of committees and teams, as follows:

Ministry team: The ministry team meet every two months and comprises clergy, Licensed Lay Ministers, and Local Preachers, and looks to the spiritual focus of church life.

Finance Committee: The team worked under the delegated authority of ECC and looks after our financial resources, managing the day to

day finances of income, giving and expenditure. It looks to prepare an annual budget for approval by the ECC.

Children and Young People: This committee looks to the ministry to children and young people, spanning our extensive schools work, missional outreach to young people in our community, as well as nurturing and caring for those children and young people who worship and are a part of The Dorcan Church.

Standing Committee: The standing committee is authorised by the ECC has the power to transact the business of the ECC between meetings, subject to any direction from ECC. It comprises six people, with a quorate of five from the Anglican and Methodist incumbents, Churchwarden, Treasurer and two others from ECC (currently John Davidson and Viv Craig). It met a number of times in the second half of the year, focusing primarily on the staffing review, interim running of St Paul's centre following resignations and shaping a longer-term solution.

Worship and Mission: The remit of this committee is currently being undertaken by the Ministry Team, particularly through the Building God's House Programme.

Centre Management Committee / Property Committee: The work of the Property Committee has largely been incorporated into the broader remit of the Centre Management Committee. The Property Committee met 'to co-ordinate Property-related matters across the Dorcan Church in support of the Church's Vision and Mission'. It provided a link between the 'do-ers' and the decision-making processes at Finance and ECC. The Centre Management Committee also sets out to balance the use of the centre both a) to help enable the mission of the church and b) to provide facilities for the benefit of the community.

Safeguarding: Safeguarding practice is central to the mission and ministry of the church. The safeguarding team work to ensure that children and vulnerable adults are safe in our churches, and that all those who are survivors of abuse are listened to, valued and supported. **Safeguarding remains the legal responsibility of the ECC.**

Electoral Roll

2020	2019*	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013*	2012	2011
146	147	162	161	159	152	135	137	154	154

*Full electoral role revision

Currently there are 146 people who are registered on the Dorcan Church Members list.

Sadly, during the past eighteen months, we've had to say 'goodbye' to seven Members who have passed on to glory, and two who have moved from the area. However, I'm happy to report that the number of people who are part of our inclusive Congregation list is 165.

If there are any of you who would like to become a Member, or find out more about what is involved, please speak to a Minister or Churchwarden, or to me. Being a Member gives you voting rights at the AGM.

It would be wrong not to mention other folk who have had contact with the church, whose numbers cannot be recorded here. I'm thinking of the families who have attended Messy Church, Tea, Toast and Talk, Tiny Tots, Men's Football and the Youth Clubs. Thank you to all who lead these groups, and thank you too for all those who encourage them and support them in prayer.

Barbara Wilcox
Electoral Roll/Membership Secretary

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Other non-trustee elected Positions

Church Stewards:

St Paul's

John Davidson

Josh Mulcock

Chris Rose

Clare Rose

St Timothy's

Viv Craig

Diane Mills

Sarah Paterson

North Wiltshire Methodist Circuit Representatives:

Diane Killick (ex officio as Churchwarden)

Viv Craig (Senior Steward St Timothy's)

Tony Prichard (ex officio as treasurer)

Additional Facts and Figures

Average Sunday Attendance (October count statistics):

St Pauls 72 adults 20 under 16s

St Timothy's 19 adults 0 under 16s

Messy Church (monthly) 22 adults 36 under 16s

Total 113 adults 56 under 16s

Typical week-day attendance:

Mid-week communion 7-11 adults

Tiny Tots St Paul's 20-25 adults 20-25 pre-schoolers

Tiny Tots St Timothy's 18-20 adults 15-17 pre-schoolers

Total 45-56 adults 35-42 pre-schoolers

Occasional offices:

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
Baptisms	12	10	15	14	15	8	10	24	27
Funerals	16	24	9	13	16	13	22	32	30
Confirmations	5	4	0	1	4	0	0	5	5
Weddings	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	1

Churchwarden and Senior Stewards reports

St Pauls remains a very busy building, hosting worship, fellowship, youth groups, and a variety of other groups and activities. In February we had our Quinquennial, which for a number of years has been attended by the same surveyor, (we have his coffee ready) The report was favourable, but what was really lovely, we were complimented on the flooring, chairs and screen, saying such a marked improvement, and a very pleasant place to worship.

A new Banner has been erected on the main wall, and our very grateful thanks to the ladies (and DM) who worked so hard, creating such a beautiful addition to the chapel. New lighting was installed, which is not only a lot brighter, but is much more cost effective! As the year came to a close, so did the boiler !! but we'll leave that report until next year!!

Diane Killick

St Tim's: During 2019 improvements have included the hall, vestry and passage lights being replaced and updated. Also, the heating has been serviced, and part replaced. Unfortunately, the flat roof over the entrance problem continues - blocked drain.

Viv Craig

Report from Swindon Deanery

I have been a lay representative for our church on the Swindon Deanery Synod for several years now and have found the meetings most informative. We meet quarterly in a different parish each time. As well as hearing news and updates from the diocese and The Uganda Link we have heard some interesting speakers. Topics covered this year have been The Swindon Food Collective, Safe Families for Children, the work of "Germinate" which runs courses and activities to support rural communities and some thoughtful reflections from Bishop Viv on "The Road to Emmaus".

Another focus this year has been to table a motion to the Diocesan Synod to pay the real living wage of £9 per hour as a minimum to all employees of church institutions in recognition of the harm caused by poverty.

Jenny Poole

Safeguarding Report

At Dorcan Church we take safeguarding very seriously and adhere to all the policies and procedures of Bristol Diocese because we know how important it is to look after children and vulnerable adults who are part of our church family. As we have now safely recruited 60 volunteers we have appreciated the team approach adopted by Trudie 3 years ago. Our team consists of Sue Morgans who is responsible for all the DBS checks, Dianne Lane who coordinates all the safeguarding training and Jenny Poole who is responsible for safer recruitment and safeguarding concerns.

The busiest part of the year was just before the summer holiday club when a large number of people had to renew their DBS checks as well as safely recruiting some new volunteers. Whenever concerns are raised, which is not that often, they are dealt with very quickly with the useful guidance and support of the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that it is everyone's responsibility in the church to look after each other and if there are any concerns, to bring them to the attention of our team.

Jenny Poole

CHARITY TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

The Dorcan Church is a Local Ecumenical Partnership between The Church of England and The Methodist Church, serving the Swindon urban villages of Covingham, Nythe, Liden & Eldene. The partnership includes the congregations worshipping at St Paul's, Covingham and St Timothy's, Liden. The Church continues to advance the Christian faith across the locality, both as a worshipping community but also as a serving community.

The church continues to provide for the development of children and young people, both in and out of the church building. The Mid-Week youth group and Blaze group has seen real growth numerically and also spiritually. This has been a great outreach to the community enabling to not just make new relationships with the children and young people but also their parents, carers and other family members. Some have come on a Sunday morning or to Messy church. The Schools work also continues to grow and develop through the help of many people with It's your move, Easter Cracked open and Christmas Unwrapped. We have also held Covingham Primary's Easter and Christmas Services at St Paul's, whilst Liden, Eldene and Nythe have had ministers go into their services to speak. There have also been ministers going in to take school lessons and help offer support to staff. The Holiday club in July 2019 was a great success in reaching out to the wider community with the love of Jesus and this has helped bring in more children to Blaze and build deeper and positive relationships with Liden and Covingham in particular. The church hosts the weekly meeting of the local Senior Citizens club, which is supported by church members, as well as providing fun and lively Tiny Tots sessions for little ones and their carers at both centres.

The church has strengthened its provision of pastoral care, offering support to the sick and bereaved and others according to their need. Members are also encouraged to support other charitable activities, both in Swindon through the Foodbank, Restore, the Breakfast Club and the Women's Aid, and abroad, through our links with projects in Uganda and Kenya.

The church centre also supports the local community in other ways, offering halls and rooms for local community groups to meet in, providing pre-school activities, acting as a Polling Station over the years, and hosting regular Blood Donor sessions.

Users of the Church Centre have benefited significantly from the major refurbishment of the church and main hall during 2017. Over this last year thanks to Chris Smith we are able to find new ways of thinking how to make the centre more active and available to other groups. Chris built positive relationships with many people during his time with us and created good links as a platform for the new Church Centre Development Manager.

The church has committed to support the ongoing provision of community library facilities within the premises, despite the withdrawal of funding by the Borough Council from 2017. We have worked with our local councillors and the Friends of the Library so that the library can remain open despite some loss of income to the church. This last year a lot of work behind the scenes especially by Chris Smith and Diane Killick has gone in to finding ways of helping the library at St Paul's to stay functioning. The library will have no money by the end of March 2020 and the church, friends of the library and councillors are trying very hard behind the scenes to come up with a way of the library still functioning but on a very smaller scale.

Another very successful beer festival attracted many new people to the church centre and raised precious funds in support of the church and library.

The Dorcan church is blessed by you all! All your faithful service, care and love is very much valued and appreciated. We look forward to see what God brings us in the new year as we strive to faithfully serve him, to love him and each other as we strive to draw closer to the heart of Christ and to not just talk about his kingdom coming but to live it out in all we do.

May God bless you and may you know his peace and love this day and forever more,
Rev Rob Smith

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2019

Overall financial report

Our income from all sources in 2019 was £144.9k against a total expenditure of £149.4k, giving an overall £4.5k deficit for the year. Note: £10k of income was outstanding at the end of 2019.

Our income was higher than 2018 by £10k for a variety of reasons.

Our major outlays were:

Renewing the floor in the Youth Room at a cost of £4.8K

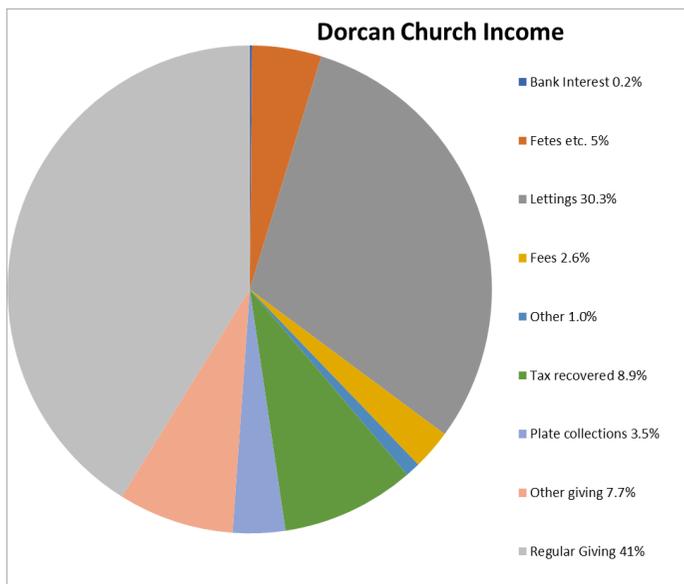
Purchase of two screen dividers at a cost of £2.9K

Note: £6.6k of expenditure was owed to others at the end of 2019.

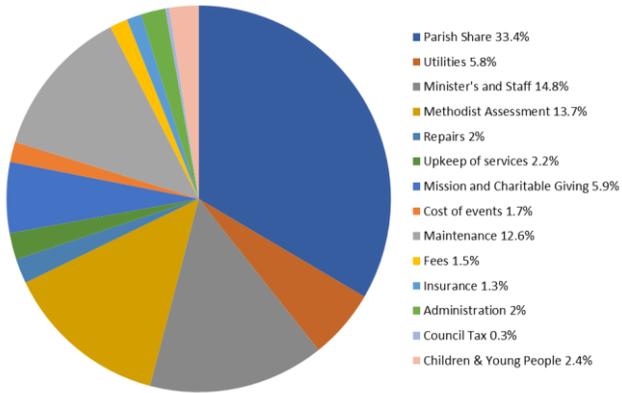
Taking the debtors and creditors into account would have made the budget in balance.

Our reserves remained broadly static, ending the year at £56.1k of which £52.5k are unrestricted general funds.

We continue to be able to move forward in our mission and ministry due largely to generous donations and gifts from the church family for which we are all very grateful. My thanks are due to the people who count and bank our weekly offerings which makes the job of treasurer so much easier.



Dorcan Church Expenditure



Budget

The summary budget shows that ECC have approved a budget with a £9k deficit. This was before the failure of the heating boiler.

Income						
Description	2015 Actuals	2016 Actuals	2017 Actuals	2018 Actuals	2019 Actuals	2019 Budget
Pledged Giving	55,176	56,025	61,586	63,607	67,437	63,500
Lettings (St. Paul's & St. Tim's)	36,607	33,192	38,081	48,762	43,967	49,600
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	10,991	8,506	12,818	13,694	12,908	16,000
Other Income	8,545	10,844	3,292	4,525	16,830	9,168
Occasional Offices Income	3,280	2,412	2,575	3,492	3,820	3,700
Total	114,599	110,979	118,351	134,080	144,962	141,968
Expenditure						
Description						
Mission, Evangelism & Charitable Giving	8,458	4,986	4,372	4,346	8,548	5,750
Ministry, Parish Share etc.	42,000	44,100	47,100	48,504	50,000	50,000
Methodist Circuit Assessment	17,271	17,453	18,450	20,295	20,600	20,655
Children & Young People	897	231	32	2,129	4,359	1,500
Fees due to The Diocesan Board of Finance	1,651	1,138	1,117	2,240	5,551	2,675
Other Church Costs	2,742	5,562	3,519	4,816	3,445	6,790
Working Expenses & Training	1,366	1,888	2,276	4,313	3,886	5,250
Church Running - electric, gas, water & Council tax	3,336	3,099	3,212	3,648	3,228	4,068
Church Running - Insurance	1,620	1,691	1,699	1,816	1,867	1,856
Church Maintenance - St. Paul's	16	403	835	398	5,774	1,000
Church Maintenance - St. Tim's	679	736	54	1,869	172	1,000
Hall Running - electric, gas St. Paul's	5,071	4,697	4,445	5,229	5,027	5,750
Hall Running - Maintenance - St. Paul's	7,616	8,878	8,645	9,453	14,404	9,500
Hall Running - Maintenance St.	247	228			1,357	

Tim's			928	575		1,000
Staff wages	13,975	17,420	17,592	18,745	21,033	19,200
Church Office - phone, internet, admin etc.	3,267	2,233	3,043	2,539	218	3,000
Total	110,212	114,743	117,319	130,915	149,469	138,994
Surplus / Deficit	4,386.89	(3,764.41)	1,032.49	3,165.18	(4,507.15)	2,973.78

2019 actuals versus budget

Income

Pledged giving was nearly £4k above budget and up on 2018 by £3.8k

Lettings were £5.5k below budget and down on 2018 by £4.8k

Tax recoverable on Gift Aid was below budget by £3k and down on 2018 by £.7k however there was £6K due at 31st. December which was paid in January 2020.

Other Income was £7.6k above budget and up on 2018 by £12k

Expenditure

£70k Parish Share and Methodist assessment account for just under half of our expenditure.

£30k is the cost of running our buildings of which the new lighting in St. Paul's accounted for £4k.

*Tony Prichard & John Davidson
Finance Committee*